



COURSE TWO: PREPPING YOUR STRONG FOUNDATION

Lesson One Worksheet:

LINE DRAWING

WELCOME TO COURSE TWO OF THE REAL SCHOOL OF ART! Now we get down to the ART!
This is your first section, delving deep into the practical aspects of drawing and painting.

Before we start, as I mention in the video alongside this worksheet, I want to share this; *there is no right way to draw*. There is simply the amount of attention that you do or don't put into any drawing. Your eyes, brain, motor skills – your hand and eye coordination – can be fine-tuned to any degree you wish them to be. This is neither a disclaimer nor a copout – it's about you trusting **your** hand and eye, **your** feeling and intuition, as you approach your drawing.

Channelling your own unique mark is a whole other dimension – and this is what we're going to come back to again and again in this school. Anyone can learn to draw, but to learn about **real** drawing, you need to let a certain touch flow from inside of you...

Our first exercise in drawing is with line. This task involves taking an object that you like (which you're attracted to) and setting yourself an **hour-long drawing session** with it. You're going to focus in this first task on line: look at the overall outline of the object, and any distinguishing features, and translate them into line in your work. If you struggle to find an object to hand, head to the kitchen – fruit or veg are brilliant models – great for simple exercises like this one.

Remember to use the preparatory 'scaffolding' of structural pencil marks, to build up to making the final lines in your drawing – use light strokes to begin with, which you can easily rub out with an eraser later.

Use pencil and paper, then a pen to finish off the piece. Work to life size wherever possible... At least make sure that you're not doing a tiny drawing in the corner of a sketchbook. This first drawing should be right in the middle of a large sheet of paper, to give it space, and to allow your hand to start moving around as it wants and needs to.

Use any pencil that you have to hand: depending on how proficient you are with pencil, you might enjoy working with any hardness or softness of point *but* if you're starting from scratch, take your time to do just listen to the marks. Allow them to form in front of your eyes, and listen to the quality of the mark – really get to know what pencil you're using.

Listen to the guidance from the video, but don't get too tied up in instructions – so long as you're looking and listening as you draw, you're learning. Allow your eye to guide your hand – the brain will try to interfere and take control, but the cleaner the connection between hand and eye, the better. You may have all kinds of narrative popping up in your head at this early stage – all kinds of frustrations and self-defeating prophecies. It's vital that you allow them to bubble up to the surface, but **are not led by** any negativity.

On that note: *do not be afraid of making mistakes*. This is not about a finished piece to exhibit – it's about you finding your way with the medium, and learning to trust your hand and eye. At this stage,

anything can be rubbed out, painted over, destroyed or begun again. It's important to just **show up** and **do the work!**



Great work – see you in the next video!