Lesson: Drawing a Still Life

Workshop Name: Beginning Drawing
Teaching Artist: Michael Leonard

Brave Space/Lugar Seguro: How are you feeling today? (Circle or color one.)

Goal/Meta: How to Draw a Still Life

Art Terms/Términos de Arte

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Still Life</td>
<td>A still life is a work of art with mainly inanimate subject matter (not living), typically commonplace objects which are either natural (food, flowers, dead animals, plants, rocks, shells, etc.) or man-made (drinking glasses, bottles, books, vases, jewelry, coins, etc.). Often, these objects are placed on a table using cloth or drapery to add to the composition.</td>
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One advantage of the still life genre of art is that it allows an artist much freedom to experiment with the arrangement of elements within a composition of a drawing or painting.

Tip/Consejo

When drawing man-made objects like glasses, bowls, and bottles, it is helpful to lightly draw in the axis lines. The axis line will be the center line of the object. Drawing this line helps you keep the object symmetrical (even on both sides).
The drawing below left is completed in charcoal using the side and the tip of the charcoal stick. It is drawn from life. The drawing on the right is in pencil. Note the overlapping and grouping of the four pears. The grouping, or arrangement, of the still life is very important.

Teaching Artist Demonstration

Yujin Song

Drawing a Still Life Activity/ Actividad de Dibujo
Use the still life photograph to help you complete the drawing to the right. Use your pencil to create values and contrast in your drawing. Focus on the shapes and their different values.

Reflection
How helpful is Drawing a Still Life to you? (circle or color) And why?

Fill in the stars (more stars = better)

☆☆☆☆☆
Example/Ejemplo
Setting up a still life often includes adding a light source, like a lamp, or using the light through a window. The drawing demonstration below is using paper covered with black charcoal and erasers to complete the drawing. It’s like drawing in reverse!

Teaching Artist Demonstration

Drawing a Still Life Drawing Activity/Actividad de Dibujo
Complete the drawing of a still life by matching the values in the photograph below. Use your pencil filling in the background to reveal the light on the vase and top of the pear.

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<td>Beginning Drawing</td>
<td>Still Life Drawing</td>
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Drawing a Still Life Drawing Activity/Actividad de Dibujo

Complete the still life drawing below. Use your pencil to darken in the tones. Try to fill in the shapes completely making the forms look three-dimensional.

Reflection

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Self | Peer (if possible) | Teacher