

# **ADULT LEARNING OBSERVATIONAL LIFE-DRAWING**



Course Outline

**AUCKLAND  
ART GALLERY  
TOI OTAMAKI**

## **COURSE BRIEF**

This course introduces students to the art of observational life drawing, with an emphasis on accurate depiction of the human figure. Exploring various traditional and contemporary drawing techniques and experimenting with a range of materials such as graphite and charcoal, students will have the opportunity to cultivate a personal drawing style. Students will draw professional life models in various poses to develop an understanding of anatomy and proportion when rendering the human form.

One-on-one feedback will be given during each session to help students improve their drawing skills and foster a personal approach to life drawing.

Please note: the life drawing sessions will include a nude model.

# COURSE OUTLINE

## **Sessions 1–3**

**Tues 30 April, 7, 14 May**

In the first class, students will meet the tutor and be introduced to the course structure. We will discuss the specific drawing skills that will be developed during the course, including how to accurately draw from life and the importance of observational drawing in creating a personal drawing style. In the first few weeks of the course, we will be using a variety of drawing materials and exploring them to their full potential.

Working with a life model each week, students will learn the basics of figure drawing, including how to measure and accurately depict human proportions. We will be examining the approaches of both the Old Master painters and contemporary artists and apply some of their techniques to our work.

## **Sessions 4–6**

**Tues 21, 28 May, 4 June**

As the course continues, students will learn how to approach a range of timed poses, from 30 seconds to 30 minutes. We will reinforce and test our knowledge of anatomy and proportion and explore what an individual drawing style might look like. Students will be introduced to other fundamentals of drawing practice such as shading, perspective and foreshortening. We also will explore some more expressive poses to expand our understanding of human anatomy and proportion.

## **Sessions 7–10**

**Tues 11, 18, 25 June, 2 July**

In the final weeks of the course, students will continue to hone their drawing skills with an emphasis on developing shading techniques and the depiction of bodily forms using shadow and light. We will also continue to employ different approaches and styles of drawing in ways that maximise the duration of each pose.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of human anatomy and proportion as it relates to life drawing and will feel confident drawing the figure in a range of poses. They will have begun to develop an approach to life drawing that is unique to them, and we will discuss how to sustain a drawing practice.

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME  
ACTIVITIES MAY TAKE PLACE  
AT DIFFERENT TIMES DURING  
THE COURSE DUE TO STAFF  
AVAILABILITY AND CLASS  
REQUIREMENTS**

**THE LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS  
WILL INCLUDE A NUDE MODEL**