

## **Embodied Drawing**

December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 (Thursday & Friday)

Tutor - Katie Sollohub

Cost - £200

Embodied Drawing is an experimental 2 day drawing course embracing the physicality of drawing on a large scale - using your own body, gesture and sensation as your subject. Using the generous space of the Seawhite studio there is almost no limit as to how large you can go.

This course is for anyone wishing to expand their drawing practice and find new limits, beyond the scale of your average drawing, by working large, freely, involving body and breath. You will be your own model, working on 2 or 3 large scale drawings, guided by Katie's exercises and meditation. She will encourage you to experiment, layer, develop and change the drawings over the course of 2 days.

### **Course details**

Imagine shutting your eyes, and drawing yourself from the inside out. What does it feel like to be standing here, like this, breathing, still, steady; and now, on one leg, wobbling, stretching out to the top of the page, then crouching, curled into a tight ball, charcoal crunching underfoot? Working intuitively, drawing can be like a dance; full of movement, breath, weight, balance, repetition, grace, or imbalance and clumsiness.

By connecting the process of drawing to our own physicality, we can harness directly the power and sensations of the body to create marks; to fill space, to rub out, to scratch the surface, make our mark, to press into, walk through, push, pull, fight, or dance with, find harmony or discord, create movement or find stillness.

On day 2 you might cut up the large drawings, rub out, paint over, start again with collage, using the fragments to make smaller work. The outcome is perhaps not as important as the process. However, the results may surprise and inspire you in your approach to drawing and painting beyond the course, helping you to discover a fresh way of working from the figure, reinventing your visual response to the physical body.

## Artists you can refer to;

Avis Newman - fragmented figure (1980s work)

Julia Mehretu - massive scale wall drawings, space, line, layers

Amy Sillman - large expressive paintings often starting from quite cartoon like figure drawings

Gail Elson - Emily's colleague, who dressed in flouncy skirts and high heels to paint a self portrait - in Emily's book - "Drawing and Painting People" Crowood Press (available on Amazon)

John Virtue - large scale black and white paintings, often destroys most of the work, only keeping a section

Devra O'Shea - large wall based drawings, layers, suspended, transparencies

Rebecca Horn - Bodyscape drawings using her body gestures, making tools or machines to attach to the body, body extension

Jenny Saville - her drawings of herself with a baby in her lap - charcoal, moving, layering, rubbing out

Alice Kettle - large scale thread and free stitch drawings on fabric, figurative, colour

Hughie O'Donahue - large canvas in the corner of his studio for a year, on which he painted over and over again, taking risks, covering over, helping his other paintings along the way

Rachel Whiteread - sculptural forms, casts of spaces eg under desks

Louise Bourgeois - 3d sculptural work about the body

Tracey Emin - large drawing/paintings about the figure, self, narrative

William deKooning - large, collaged, figure paintings

Matisses - cut outs, blue nude

## Materials

- We will provide enough paper for at least 2 drawings of this scale, approx 1.2m x 2.5m
- **We will also have some of the following materials in case you need unable to bring your own - there will be a small surcharge for this**
- You will be working on the floor, and or wall
- You will be using plenty of charcoal and other drawing materials eg pens, posca pens, pencils, chalks (black and white or colour, the choice is yours)
- Inks
- Black and white paint for editing
- Black and white paper, and glue for collage editing
- Rags, drawing and painting tools, hand made tools, household tools - to make marks with e.g brushes, scrapers, broom, mop, twigs
- Additional props could include a mirror, costume (a hat, a feather boa, old clothes, some uncomfortable shoes), fabrics to wrap yourself in, household objects, things around the studio
- Sewing materials could be an optional extra for making marks in stitch