



MANIFEST DRAWING CENTER

Seeing and Sensing: Perceptual Approaches to Painted Abstraction

Wednesdays, 6–9 pm

Course Description

“Abstract’ literally means to draw from or separate. In this sense, every artist is abstract... a realistic or non-objective approach makes no difference. The result is what counts.”

– Richard Diebenkorn

“Abstraction allows a man to see with his mind what he cannot physically see with his eyes.”

– Arshile Gorky

In this course, students will engage with abstraction techniques that stem from both seeing and sensing. In a world rich with contradiction, incongruity, and oddness, objects, spaces, and figures are not always what they seem. Our homes, our favorite items, and the places we go hold emotional associations and sense memories that are completely unique and cannot always be observed. Objects and places *mean* something beyond their physical and visual properties. Abstraction in art allows us to explore the unreal, make the invisible visible, and actualize the impossible.

This class will expose students to:

- Methods for seeing abstractly
- Exploration in mark-making, composition, and color
- The creation of space and depth in a picture plane
- Efficient systems for capturing the essence of a subject
- A personal exploration of subject and form
- Paint as content

Materials List:

- Recommended pigments* (oil paints will be used in most class demos, but students may choose their preferred painting medium):
 - Titanium white
 - Hansa yellow
 - Cadmium yellow medium
 - Cadmium red
 - Permanent alizarin crimson
 - Ultramarine blue
 - Cerulean blue
 - Yellow ochre
 - Raw umber
 - Viridian
 - Ivory black

*As much as possible, try to avoid purchasing anything that says “hue”.

Register online at www.manifestdrawingcenter.org

The Manifest Center for the Visual Arts | 3464 Central Pkwy | Cincinnati, OH 45223 | (513) 861-3638

- Surfaces:

- 18 small surfaces for mark-making studies, between 8x10” and 11x15”
- 3-4 medium surfaces for color and texture studies, 16x20”
- 3-4 large surfaces for longer paintings, 18x24” or larger

Surfaces may include paper, canvas board, stretched canvas, Masonite or birch plywood panels, Arches oil paper... your choice, so long as the surfaces are properly prepared and ready to be painted on before the start of each class

- Brushes:

- Long-handle synthetic or bristle brushes in a range of sizes. I would recommend sizes 2, 4, 8, and 12 for variety. Brushes come in several shapes, including flat, bright, filbert, and round. A range of sizes of flats and rounds will be more than enough to begin.

- Miscellaneous:

- Palette (either palette paper, a piece of glass, or a handheld wooden palette...)
- Painting knife
- Rags
- 2 glass jars with lids for water or solvents