



Nurturing Creativity

Marking A Moment

with Lily Mae Martin



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Lily Mae Martin is a visual artist born in Melbourne. She graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2008 with a Bachelor of Fine Art majoring in Drawing. Lily Mae was awarded the Lionel Gell travelling scholarship and went to Berlin and Wales, where she spent years refining her technical practice. Since returning to Australia, her work has been widely exhibited and highly commended in several prizes.

Lily Mae's distinctive style is influenced by the mark-making of etching and the layering techniques of master printers and painters, characterised by delicate and detailed cross-hatching with a fine pen. She is represented by Scott Livesey Galleries, Armadale, and currently resides in Regional Victoria.

OVERVIEW

In this workshop, acclaimed artist Lily Mae Martin will guide participants to look and develop the habit of drawing regularly to build their practice and get their hands and eyes working with each other. This isn't going to be about making a masterpiece, but about sharing tips and ideas – and sharpening your skills of observation and drawing. Considering what is in your everyday life - the objects, interiors, the people and possible pets. Think of it like a diary but with pictures. All you need is something to draw with and a piece of paper!

YEAR LEVELS

Suitable for All Levels

ART ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES

Line, shape, tone

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Look and develop the habit of drawing regularly to build their practice and get their hands and eyes working with each other.
- Sharing tips and ideas – and sharpening your skills of observation and drawing. Considering what is in your everyday life - the objects, interiors, the people and possible pets. Think of it like a diary but with pictures. All you need is something to draw with and a piece of paper!

MAKE

Step 1: Introduction to activities.

Step 2: Warm up exercise. Warmups are important to get you focused on what we are doing. Demonstrations: blind contour line drawing, drawing with your non dominant hand.

Direction on subject matter. (e.g.: Such as looking out their window, or even the computer screen!)

Explain that this is to be done in a minute or two.

Do not worry about the outcome and try to use most of the page.

Step 3: Continuous contour line drawing: participants cannot lift a pencil from the page. This can take a little bit longer.

Step 4: Drawing is mostly about observation and these exercises help train your hand and eye coordination.

Step 5: Longer form drawing – Use a few simple steps to plan your drawing. First; make a decision about what it is you want to draw. Lightly draw in pencil, keep the eraser away until you have marked in some lines that you are satisfied with. Stress the placement of your subject matter is the most important bit and the details can come later.

Step 6: While students are working perhaps give them your guidance on their drawing plan.

Step 7: Show and Tell. Talk about what you drew and why. Ask how they think it went. Discuss how these sorts of drawings - including the exercises we did at the beginning - can be used as a way of documenting, journaling, building a practice.

Step 8: Q and A

EXTENSION

This lesson could be extended with more lessons introducing new elements such as lighting - you could place objects under a lamp and introduce the shadows as a focus point in the lesson. Or place objects near a window.

Explore different textures - such as cloth, fur on an animal, the harder edges of crockery, something organic like a flower or fruit.

Set up timed challenges and get students to fill up as much of their page. Such as a blind contour line drawing in a minute or two.

Self-portraits and portraits of those close to them.

DISCUSSION / REFLECTION

- What part of the drawing did you enjoy? Why?
- What did you find challenging? Why?
- Do you think that drawing in different contexts would be something you would feel comfortable doing? Such as at home, in a cafe, outside at a park?
- Would you consider keeping a journal, even if it is only for you to see, with drawings in them?

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

- A3 Kraft Card
- 6 sheets of A3 200gsm Cartridge Paper
- Light Greylead (HB)
- Fineliner pen - a thin one and a thick one (i.e.: .1 + .5 or .6 or .8)

INSPIRATION RELATED ARTWORK, LINKS & SOURCES

Have a look at Graphic portraits by Julien Opie

https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/school_resource/graphic-portraits-inspired-by-julian-opies-walking-in-the-rain-series/

Drawing by Rachel Ang

<http://drawbyfour.com/about>

Gestural line drawings by Oslo Davis

<https://oslodavis.com/>