



Lessons in Classical Drawing: Essential Techniques from Inside the Atelier

Juliette Aristides

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The practice of drawing...distilled to its essential elements.

In this elegant and inspiring primer, master contemporary artist and author Juliette Aristides breaks down the drawing process into small, manageable lessons; introduces time-tested principles and techniques that are easily accessible; and shares the language and context necessary to understand the artistic process and create superior, well-crafted drawings.

The companion DVD enclosed inside, beautifully filmed in Florence, Italy, provides real-time drawing lessons so that any gaps in the learning process are filled in with live instruction.

Lessons in Classical Drawing: Essential Techniques from Inside the Atelier Details

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From Reader Review Lessons in Classical Drawing: Essential Techniques from Inside the Atelier for online ebook

Richard Haddad says

Juliette Aristides is brilliant in her art as well as her teaching skills. The way she brings forth the points she's trying to make are easy to understand and clear as a bell.

In this book, Aristides highlights important topics that any beginner artist will require in their art. These are issues you are constantly faced with whenever you draw and making a good practice of them early will help you through your journey.

She begins with putting down basic lines and contours, and then leads on to different relationships in your art, composition, and finally, lighting and shadows.

I highly recommend this book!

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Rosa Laguna says

Great book

I bought this book because it had great reviews and it didn't dissappoint me. Highly recommended. Looking forward to read Lessons in Classical Painting.

Parka says

(More pictures on my blog)

This is a wonderful book on drawing by Juliette Aristides.

It covers the essential techniques to making a good drawing. These are subjects like understanding lines, contours, proportion, depth, tonal composition, light and shadow. They are the usual subjects taught for drawing. The text is insightful and filled with tips, supplemented by beautiful illustrated examples from artists and old masters.

This is not an immediately hands-on book where you can dive in and draw straightaway. It focuses on the understanding of different techniques. After which, each chapter ends with a guided practical lesson on learning points.

The book also comes with a DVD containing 1 hour of video with Juliette Aristides demonstrating what was

taught in the book. It covers blocking in general shapes before defining them with more detail, and finishing them up with tones to give the illusion of light and shadow. The video reinforces the drawing techniques as used in real life.

This is a well written and presented book. It's really insightful.

Highly recommended to anyone learning to draw. A great value for money.

Kevin de Ataíde says

Back to basics with the drawings. It's odd coming back after years to basics like line, form and contrast. It's also surprising how much of this basic information is internalised simply by practice. If everyone received this sort of training at the very beginning, the learning process would be speeded up. Anyhow, a beautifully produced and detailed analysis of the science of drawing, with particular assistance for students of art who may never have been taught to draw. The current sickness in art schools today, as presented by the author, is that painters cannot always draw. A trip down to the library or bookstore will show racks of books on painting, but next to none on drawing. This book helps that much.

Lynn Van kaam says

This book could be, should I dare say, a great lesson in drawing without having to attend an art class! It covers everything I learned in my first semester at art school

Martha Smith says

This book teaches classical drawing lessons that emphasize learning drawing principle before starting drawing practice. This book comes with a DVD on how to draw. I really enjoyed watching the instructor. And I learned a lot from the DVD. The book has many helpful photos and diagrams. I would categorize this as a good textbook for drawing students. If I could afford to go to Juliette Aristides classical drawing atelier in Seattle Washington I would go in a heartbeat. She is a very talented instructor.

Cheryl R. says

A beautiful and insightful work detailing with care and thought the practice of drawing from inside the incredible environment of the artist's atelier. The companion DVD is a fantastic addition to the text and serves to further enrich the meticulous delivery of the content of this very useful book.

Serge Pierro says

Classical Drawing Atelier by Juliette Aristides was a wonderful book, and this book makes an excellent

companion to that one. Once again, there are excellent examples and insightful text throughout. The included DVD brings to life many of the approaches touched upon within the book. I would love to see more in depth coverage of shading techniques and values - especially on the DVD - a time lapsed lesson would be invaluable, to show how the graduation of tone is laid down.

Jim says

Juliette Aristides is part of the growing return to classical beaux arts training for artists. This beautifully illustrated book includes several step-by-step exercises to help the student explore the basic elements of traditional atelier practice. She also includes an inspiring DVD with the hardcover edition. While the lessons on the DVD do not correspond directly with the book lessons, they nevertheless provide additional guidance for the topic as a whole.

This type of atelier training isn't really feasible for the absolute beginner, but instead would be good to use after the student has spent at least one year studying with a good drawing instructor. Prior familiarity with basic materials, terminology, and techniques will greatly increase the usefulness of this book, since the level of these lessons is fairly complex.

All in all, an excellent book and worth the price for any serious student of drawing and painting.

John Wise says

I've always wanted to learn how to draw. This was a great place to start, full of beautiful illustrations for encouragement.

James Hurley says

An excellent book on drawing for someone with a rudimentary knowledge of drawing and some experience. A beginner might be a bit confused, but it still works well for an absolute beginner if this was the only book they were going to read on drawing. The video goes well with it, and I took copious notes from this book for my own class room.

Manoj says

A lovely read! Sort of like a crash course in everything art from art history to step by step drawing instructions for difficult subjects. A lot of other books might also offer similar information, but it's the videos where it truly stands apart from other similar books. Juliette is an excellent teacher, IMHO; and she tries to actually show and explain what she's doing and why as she demonstrates the application of the concepts (yes, she herself draws a couple of figures). The videos really complement the lessons and, for me, it's very insightful and formative to be able to observe how a professional goes about it.

Chris Griffith says

Outstanding! The definitive and best book I've ever read on learning how to draw. Principled and practical as well as beautifully illustrated and well-written. Aristedes is a modern master artist. A careful study of this book is like sitting at her feet and absorbing what she's learned over many years of careful and disciplined research. She humbly and graciously wants to pass that knowledge and wisdom on to others. If you desire to learn to draw, you owe it to yourself to get this book.

Castles says

Different from her other book in this series, this one is much more technical and useful for artists, with actual drawing methods and ideas to apply.

While I didn't see the DVD that comes along with this book, it's still an inspiring reading and I appreciate her serious approach to classical drawing and learning methods.

Kei says

A good reference book, but...

I get annoyed when reading too many "when I did this and that...", "when I went to somewhere..." or "when I studied with so-and-so"... No, I'm not a fan in those personal life stories from an art textbook.

Besides, there's not too much update or new perspective from the author's other book on Classical Drawing Atelier. The DVD seems a bit redundant but at the same time not informative enough.
