

Anatomy drawing tips

by Sven Trebard

II Drawing lessons from the great masters (Hale)

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- Draw lines to describe form
- Cultivate the habit of forcing everything into its simplest geometric form (II 16)
- Draw lines of outer edges, change of planes, colors, tones and functions (II 33)
- Details in highlight are drawn lightly (II 64)
- Hatchings usually follow muscle fibres
- Ribcage like egg from front, block from side
- Spiral contour lines are linear symbols of rotation
- Simplify masses to blocks, spheres, cylinders, cones and eggs (II 87)
- Simplify lighting to one direct and one weaker, indirect from the other direction.
- There is a dark shade (plane break) between light from direct and indirect source.
- Normally, do not draw cast shadows (II 61)
- See what you know.
- No concave lines on outer body edges, just series of convex.
- Value of shading of details are close to value of local shading of mass
- Always consider what light is creating a shade
- Bottom of scapula and nipples are in line.
- Front edge of tibia follows axis line of thigh on straight leg (II 240)
- Try to keep highlight close to the plane break for contrast (II 246)
- When a form points in the direction of the direct light, it is necessary to alter the direction of the light source (II 246)
- Hooks on hatchings may indicate plane break (II 264)
- Most muscles in the face move skin, not bone (III 206)
- Muscles in face tend to converge toward the oral region (III 206)
- Wrinkles form about right angles to the direction of muscles (III 206)
- Crow's feet by the eye suggest a tendency to smile frequently (III 218)
- Sharp contrast attracts attention