

Drawing as Seeing - Siena Art Institute

Siena School, Italy, June 5 - June 16, 2017

<http://www.sienaart.org/Special-Programs/Drawing-as-Seeing/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DrawingasSeeing>

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Instructors: Pamela Lawton and Annie Leist



Above, left: Drawing As Seeing, drawing in the Duomo. Right: Street view, Siena, Italy

To register for the class, or for more information, contact:

DrawingasSeeing@gmail.com

Registration Deadline May 1, 2017

Experience the art and architecture of Siena through immersion in drawing!

Explore a multi-sensory artmaking approach using touch, verbal description and experimental materials with artists Annie Leist and Pamela Lawton. Leist and Lawton teach regularly at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they apply innovative approaches to drawing. Additionally, they bring a range of educational expertise to this program, including teaching a variety of audiences in university, museum, and professional settings. Lawton attended an Italian art school and then became a college art instructor in Italy, as well as teaching other international locations in South and Central Asia. Leist is a professional artist who also leads the training and consultancy of Art Beyond Sight, a non-profit dedicated to equal access to the arts and culture for people of all abilities.

Using Siena as a studio, this ten-day intensive class will provide an unusual, interactive drawing experience. Engaging with Siena's rich heritage and culture through drawing using varied tactile materials, this class is geared towards students with a range of vision, as well as fully sighted students wishing to experimenting with an alternative approach. Students will make discoveries about their own perceptions, about Siena, and about the drawing process. These methods provide unique tools and skills useful to students' own studio practices.



Siena, Piazza Del Campo, with instructor Annie Leist

Students will meet four mornings a week to draw in the studio and in the surrounding Siena locale, in museums, churches, and different views in the city. Location visits in Siena may include Santa Maria della Scala, Pinacoteca Nazionale, Academia dei Fisiocritici, and Palazzo Pubblico. Students will have additional independent studio time, both on and off campus. Italian language courses will be offered in the afternoons, as part of the overall programing.

A trip to Florence will take place, with time for drawing as well as independent time for exploration. Locations may include the Uffizi Gallery, Galleria Dell'Accademia, Giardini dei Boboli and the Pitti Palace.

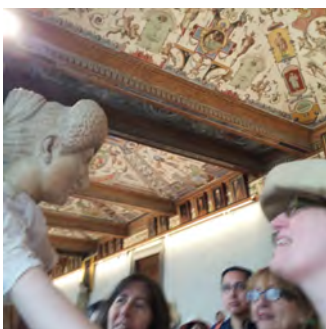


Above, left: Drawing in the Boboli Gardens, instructor Pamela Lawton

Total cost of the trip, \$2,500, will include:

Drawing instruction, Italian language classes, lodging (The school will provide housing close to campus), some art supplies, all museum admissions that are scheduled with the group, a weekend in Florence (transportation to and from Siena, lodging in Florence, some meals, museum admissions there), a final dinner in Siena and a wine-tasting event. The cost does not include airfare or most meals in Siena.

The school requires a minimum enrollment of 8 students. **Registration deadline is May 1, 2017.**



Left: Students and instructor Annie Leist at the Uffizi Gallery on a touch tour, touching a statue

Right, Drawing in the Boboli Gardens, Florence, Italy



About the instructors:

Pamela Lawton's multi-paneled paintings reflect the height of the World Trade Center, the cacophony of Times Square, and the rhythm of the Indian Ocean, all places where she has painted with zeal. Inspired by her students, she shares public art-making practices with them, including in the galleries of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, on the streets of New York while teaching for Eugene Lang College, and in places such as Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and Corciano, Italy, the latter while teaching undergraduate and graduate students for American University. She has exhibited in galleries and museums locally and internationally, including solo exhibitions at the Galeria Nacional in San Jose, Costa Rica, The Conde Nast Building, NY, 180 Maiden Lane, NY, The Atrium Gallery, NY, and the Galeria Isabel Ignacio in Seville, Spain. Group exhibitions in NYC include Pierogi Gallery, Sideshow Gallery, and Tibor De Nagy Gallery; also, The Artists' Museum, Lodz, Poland, and the Emmanuel Heller Gallery, Tel Aviv. Lawton is an Artist-in-Residence (AIR) at Chashama, NYC, and was an AIR at the World Trade Center through the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Her work is in collections in the US and abroad. Interviews featuring her exhibitions were featured on NY1 News, in 2011 and 2009. She received a BA from Bennington College in visual arts and an MFA from the City College of NY and Scuola Lorenzo De Medici in Florence, Italy. While a faculty member at Eugene Lang College, New School University, she created a study-abroad art program in Sri Lanka. She has been teaching at the Met for more than ten years. www.pamelalawton.com



Lawton teaching a watercolor class in Far Rockaway, NY, for the Met



Leist working with students in the Met's Seeing Through Drawing program

Annie Leist is an artist, born and raised in North Carolina, and currently based in New York City. She pursued undergraduate study at Wake Forest University, double-majoring in studio art and mathematics. As a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar she studied semiotics and cultural theory at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. She went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree in visual art from Rutgers University. Her paintings, inspired by her limited visual perception of light and life in urban spaces, can be seen in numerous public and private collections, as well as on her website <http://www.annieleist.com>. In parallel with her artistic career, Ms. Leist works in the accessibility field, specializing in enriching the cultural experiences of people with disabilities, and has significant expertise in working with individuals with vision loss. She has worked, consulted, and facilitated trainings at several institutions, including the Museum of Fine Arts; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, AR; the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC; and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art. Ms. Leist currently serves as Special Projects Lead at the New York-based nonprofit Art Beyond Sight, where she leads their consultancy and training arm, and spearheads initiatives related to accessibility and inclusion in contemporary visual art. She is also a museum educator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, working primarily with access audiences.