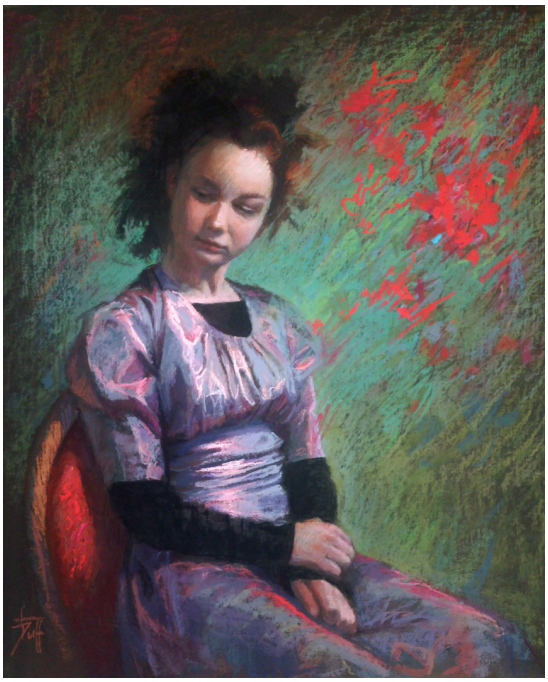
Leoni Duff



Workshop 3 non-model Figures…

Composing Powerful Figure Paintings from Photographic References

The participants will learn to use their references to compose powerful and emotive figure paintings.

- They will learn how to identify the concept or story they want to tell.
- They will identify the essence of the subject by finding the essential and non-essential elements.
- They will explore the subject in charcoal to experiment with the possibilities of the subject's tonal pattern and edges.
- Choosing the support or underpainting and limiting the pallet of colours for effect.
- Develop an awareness of style and approach.
- Complete a figurative painting from the photo references.

Students can bring their own photo references, however they will be provided with various quality images from which to work for the purposes of the workshop.

DRAWING/PAINTING MATERIALS:

- Vine and willow Charcoal sticks (at least 5 sticks).
- As wide as possible selection (at least 60 mixed set) of soft pastels in all colours, labels removed and broken into approximately 1-inch pieces ("half-stick" purchases also work well).
- A good general set is the 'Paris Collection' by Sennelier
- Recommended brands for soft pastels: Girault, Mount Vision, Schmincke, Terry Ludwig, Unison, Art Spectrum, Rembrandt etc.
- Vibrant and Dark colours should be included in your palette; traditional "flesh tones" often tend towards lighter tints with white pigment added so try to have as many colours that are brilliant and pure, and can't be created by mixing other colours.
- See below for some extra recommended colours to include in your palette.

Reccommended Individual pastels

- Art Spectrum (AS) Flinders Blue Violet (very dark)
- AS Flinders Red Violet (very dark)

- AS Australian Grey
- AS The whole set of Raw Umbers
- AS The whole set of Burnt Umbers
- Conte Crayons in various dark colours: dark brown, sepia, sanguine, black, and assorted greys
- Willow charcoal sticks (thin and long)
- A sheet of ArtSpectrum Elephant Grey Colorfix Paper or similar MiTientes
- A sheet of ArtSpectrum Soft Umber Colorfix Paper or similar MiTientes
- A sheet of ArtSpectrum Burgundy Colorfix Paper or similar MiTientes
- A sheet of ArtSpectrum Australian Grey Colorfix Paper or similar MiTientes

EQUIPMENT:

- Workable Matt Fixative
- Wet-ones or similar (the cheaper the better)
- 20x 24” drawing board (smooth, rigid board such as MDF or Gatorboard)
- Masking Tape
- Scissors or craft knife
- Kneadable eraser , hard and soft rubber
- Alcohol and a synthetic bristle brush IF you prefer underpainting
- Black Sharpie Marker
- Drawing pencils (Hb - 4B)
- BBQ Skewer or Knitting needle