

June 16, 2018 Artbarn School Toronto 10-4 p.m.

Painting Contemporary Realism – Peter Doig

In this relaxed fun approach to contemporary realism, inspired by the work of contemporary painter Peter Doig, and his C20th mentors, their techniques and vision, paint a 'cinematic' narrative with intriguing juxtapositions of figure and landscape using fluid shapes and rich dramatic colour counterpointed by dramatically contrasted black. Learn to invent, to dare and be spare, and to amplify the expressive effect of colour. Oil (no solvent) or acrylic.



Peter Doig *Cricket Painting (Paragrand)* 2006 oil on canvas
Art Gallery of Ontario

Supply list:

Subject matter: some advanced consideration for this workshop.....

Doig-inspired subject matter for this workshop: Doig's subject matter is drawn from real life, from everyday events and scenes or landscapes. Notice, in looking at Doig's work online, that there is often a figure or figures. Doig's work has a cinematic quality as one might expect from his love of film.

By that I mean that the figures in the paintings seem to have a heightened relationship with their environment. There is a sense of mystery as if we have come upon this scene as a frozen moment in time. Time and space – the feeling of a space constructed to draw attention to the figures and the figures to draw attention to their context.

Doig's work does not have a posed or staged feel but rather the feeling of being caught on camera. Often the figures in the work are oblivious to the viewer, and therefore to the artist who has "framed" this scene and heightened the sense of unanswered questions. In this quality of cinematic viewing, Doig is inspired by American realist Edward Hopper. He also is a big fan of Canadian ex-pat in Paris at the beginning of the C20th, James Wilson Morrice who snaps the everyday around him in small pochades on site.

Choose and bring your own subject matter references. You will likely reference more than one image to create your own composite. Place a dominant

person or object, with or without more people or objects, in a related environment.

You are seeking a tension, a relationship between the figure and the environment: the simplified shapes of the environment (“background”) bring your eye to the figure(s). For this quality, also see Doig’s other mentor, American Milton Avery.

You will focus on the construction of the “stage” space and the placement of the figure or object in the landscape within that frame - both for the narrative and the composition of the painting.

Sketchbook or piece of paper for planning the painting in a drawing

Drawing tools including colour. For example: pencil and black pen or fine black Sharpie marker pen and watercolour or gouache paint or coloured pencil or pastel.

Canvas approximate size 16 x 20”. You can adjust the format to suit your subject matter.

Paint kit in your chosen medium and the appropriate gear. You may email me if you have questions. andreamossop@me.com

Oil painters please note, there will be no turpentine, no mineral spirits, no odorless mineral spirits or solvents. Clean-up will be with Murphy’s oil soap or baby oil, soap and water. You can request my handout on Safe and Non Toxic Handling of Traditional Oils if you have questions. Please write *oil handout* in the subject line.

Mediums: to increase fluidity

Doig is by times a positively liquid and drippy painter. This can be achieved, if you want this effect, in initial washes with acrylic and water or even one or two colours of water-based oils plus water.

For oil painters: mediums to increase flow of regular applications of paint include linseed oil and walnut oil. If you choose linseed or walnut oil with alkyd resin dryer i or if you choose the use of Winsor Newton Liquin Thinner, then please provide a cap to keep them covered on your palette as the drying agent off-gasses.

For Acrylic painters: Glazing Medium or a *fluid* matt or gloss medium to increase flow and transparency.

For info on Peter Doig:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Doig

And the interview at the Musee des Beaux Arts:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJ64HDOtflc>

I look forward to working with you discovering Doig!
Andrea