Hello,

Well you hit it out of the park again. I sat in on seven classes today and I continue to be amazed by the quality of teaching that you are all capable of.

Jessica Leo did a full-on perspective class demonstrating a precise way to render ellipses that could form arches or other architectural elements. It felt exactly like sitting in on a class at school.

Kurt Kauper presented W.H. Auden’s poem In Memory of W.B. Yeats that was just beautiful and then moved on to Roland Barthes and photography. I can’t remember a time when I felt more intimidated.

David Ebony had his students do a deep dive into some of the most unusual paintings I have ever seen including a Sofonisba Anguissola and an El Greco Adoration of the Magi that made me feel dizzy. The students were incredibly engaged and thoughtful and again the Zoom share feature worked perfectly.

Dan Thompson had his students analyze the muscles of the arm and then render them so he could pull them up on screen and make notations in different colors to demonstrate how their movements altered their appearance.

I never understood how an egg yolk and stand oil could ever be mixed together to make a faster drying medium for oil painting, but John Jacobsmeyer demonstrated it from his home studio, and it works!

Later in the evening he had his entire Composition class do group critiques using the share function, and it worked without a hitch.

And finally, Matt White had his entire class working on plasteline self-portraits in real time after viewing another video he shot earlier in the day as a demonstration. His own self-portrait was remarkable!

Thank you again,

Peter Drake
Provost
New York Academy of Art

Tuesday, March 24, 2020