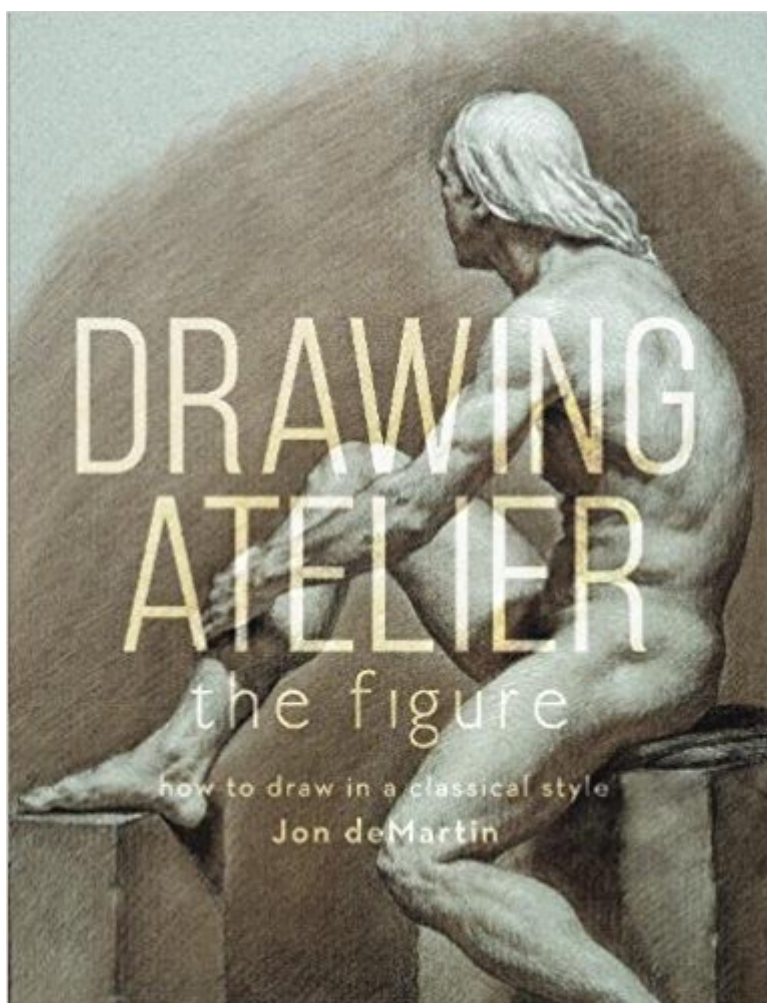


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# Drawing Atelier - The Figure: How To Draw In A Classical Style



## Synopsis

Arguably the most challenging of subjects for the artist, the human figure also offers opportunities for works of incredible beauty and complexity. In this book, one of today's leading figurative artists shares techniques and approaches for drawing the human form. With a reverent grounding in the methods of the Old Masters and keen perspective developed over Jon DeMartin's 20+ years of making and teaching art, this comprehensive workshop focuses on the power of line and how it can be used to achieve a convincing sense of dimension and life. Beautifully illustrated with classical drawings as well as step-by-step progressions, these lessons explore the enlightening practice of copying, how to use proportion and measurement wisely, drawing the head and its features, rendering the figure in motion, short-pose exercises, and much, much more. Throughout, artists will master techniques for achieving a compelling "living force" in their drawings, while building a base of understanding that will ultimately make the process more intuitive and enjoyable.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jon deMartin is among the leading figurative artists working today and has taught life drawing and painting for over 22 years at the most prestigious Academies and ateliers in the country. Among them are Grand Central Academy, The New York Academy Art, Janus Collaborative of Art, Studio Incamminati, Arts Students League (New York City), Parsons School of Design. He has also exhibited at prestigious national and international galleries such as the Hirschl & Adler, John Pence gallery, Arnot Museum, The Butler Museum and the Beijing World Art Museum.

This is a definite for the library of a modern artist. The author takes the oldest techniques of the

masters and presents them in a format that's simple and easy to understand for anyone. I pre-ordered the book based on my experience with the artist and it beat my expectations which were very high. As an art student I purchased so many art books and this is by far one of the best.

Legendary figure drawing teacher Jon DeMartin lays out a systematic and proven methodology for learning to draw the most challenging and rewarding subject in art history: the human figure. DeMartin breaks down the infinitely complex aspects of drawing the figure with clear and elegant diagnostic illustrations, many of which have been featured in the world's top artists' magazines. DeMartin approaches the subject with humility and practicality, and a deep reverence for this most ancient and meaningful art form. The book is an essential guide for contemporary artists who care about skill and beauty in art. For art lovers, historians, and critics it is a valuable look under the hood at how art is made and provides a refreshing antidote to the shallow gimmickry of the contemporary art world.

The supply lists that he included were useful and he did include some helpful tips, but I wasn't blown away by this drawing book. It's a good one to have in your arsenal of books, but it's not a must-have. I would recommend "Force" by Michael Matessi instead if someone asked me about my favorite figure-drawing book. I feel that Matessi's method leads to drawings that have a little more spark and life in them.

Great book for experienced draftsmen as well. Too often form or core shadows become automatic when working with the figure. This was fun to take some of the lessons and visually try to see them as you work. Excellent book for your working collection. Probably not going to help those without a repertoire of renaissance shadow system, or those that won't make the effort to visually measure. This a good read, reinforcer and yet another tool for your arsenal.

This book presents the study of the figure in a logical outline and develops the technical skills needed to become proficient in an easy and thorough manner. This is a good book for instructors of the figure and for students of all levels.

The pictures are excellent, but the drawing explanations are not helpful. I have read many art books, thus, the explanations tend to repeat rather badly. Practice is always recommended, but little is said about what makes effective practice. Does covering the drawing and tracing the artwork help

improve one's skills? Should the beginners block in the darkest shadows first? How does a person manage a straight line? How do the best draftsman draw a smooth circle? What is a good first step for drawing hair? If blocking in the hair doesn't work for me, is there another method? Of course, all this means little if the personality of the subject is lost. How important are the corners of the mouth? How should the highlights of the eyes be approached? How do the surroundings impact the personality of the subject? These issues are not well handled in *The Drawing Atelier*, but I can't say where they are well handled. One of the important downsides of being taught by experts is they have either never struggled with such mundane matters or they solved the issues very early on and do not recall them being problems. Thus, they cannot tell a person who is struggling what to do. In a book they will assume you have mastered these basics or have access to people who can help. So, *The Drawing Atelier* falls into the range of nearly all art books. Great pictures, good luck drawing them.

I do not review many books but I felt this one to be a superb work. Having studied and taught figure drawing and artistic anatomy for a couple of decades I have a pretty solid understanding of the concepts involved in the making of good drawings. If I were to do a how-to/understand book it would have been pretty much in this same groove. Anyone who understands that the Julien plates are better than the Bargue plates gets to move to the head of the line. Too many books and ateliers rely on surface mimesis without the understanding of the principles and construction involved. I highly recommend this book and plan to cover it page by page (again) Some books I thumb through, some I read, and a few I study, this one is serious study. Good work Jon

Great book!

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