COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Continuing with Oil Painting

Instructor: Brian Kearney
Brian Kearney is a writer and artist from County Clare in Ireland. He is a graduate of the Creative Writing Masters program at St Andrews University and trained in the techniques of classical realist drawing and painting with Tenaya Sims at the Georgetown Atelier in Seattle. A specialist in oil portraiture, his writing and illustration have also appeared in Hobart, The Florida Review and Denver Quarterly.

Course Times: Thursdays 1:00-3:00 (October 17-November 7, 2019)

Course Location: Ruffatto Hall, Room 334

Course Description: This class will continue to where the first four weeks left off – highlighting the fundamental concepts and techniques that enable the artist to capture the world around them in oil paints. Through discussion and demonstration of the concepts of drawing, value and color, students will gain a further familiarity with the medium of oil paint and move toward using this medium to recreate the beauty of the world they live in.

Session #1 – Principles of composition: This session will introduce some basic compositional principles and show students how to make use of them in their own pictures.

Session #2 - Planning a composition in three values: This session will combine the lessons of the previous one with value simplification to produce satisfying, readable designs in three values.

Session # 3 - Learning from the masters with poster and value studies: In this session we’ll talk about how making simple value and poster studies from other paintings can help us master the principles introduced so far.

Session # 4 - Exploring composition with still life objects: In this session, we’ll discuss how still life painting can be used as a laboratory to explore everything we’ve learned so far about value, color and composition.

Recommended Books or Materials (note if they will be supplied by instructor): Session #1: A pad of 18x24 smooth newsprint paper; a soft or medium charcoal pencil - General’s, Conte and Prismacolor are good brands. Subsequent sessions: bristle brushes for oil painting, Ivory Black, Titanium White, Yellow Ochre (or similar), Cadmium Red (or similar) oil paints, Gamsol Odorless Mineral Spirits, canvas paper and a palette. The expense and variety of oil painting supplies can be endless – the first session will include a discussion of how students can get started without breaking the bank or spending a lot of money on things they don’t need.