

BEGINNING METAL SCULPTURE

F807 Tuesdays, June 22-July 20, 2010

G807 Tuesdays, July 27-August 24, 2010

Instructor: Carey Netherton

Skill Level: Beginning

E-mail: careynetherton@gmail.com

Course Description

The purpose of this class is to introduce students to basic welding techniques and sculptural approaches to working with welded steel. The oxy-acetylene welding process will be the primary focus of the course. Methods and materials associated with the process will be discussed and demonstrations will be performed. Since the most fundamental essence of sculpture lies in its three-dimensionality, the focus of the class will be on making physical objects. Students will be given guidance in the safe and proper usage of those tools needed to complete any project. While it will be necessary for students to develop a capacity to use the basic tools involved in the process, the single most important tool for the creation of sculpture—or any artwork—is one's own creativity.

Preparation

Please come to class ready to work. Dress appropriately! This is a studio class, things can get messy. No open top shoes/sandals should be worn. Sturdy, leather topped shoes/boots are recommended. Wear only cotton or other non-synthetic clothing. Polyester and other synthetic fabrics readily combust and melt and are unsafe to wear when welding or grinding. Bring all the materials you will need for your projects. The more prepared you are the better. I am here to guide and help you, so take advantage of our class periods. Some time outside of class will likely be required to complete projects depending on their complexity.

Projects

While some suggestions may be given, students will be free to develop the idea and design of their own projects. Size limitations: no single piece should be larger than 36"x36"x36".

Sketchbooks/Journals

Students will be encouraged to keep a sketchbook/journal for this course and should bring it to every class. The importance of the sketchbook in the creative life of an artist cannot be overstated. It is a place to develop and compile ideas, comments, feelings and so on. Do not feel like you should only draw or write in your sketchbook. Glue pictures in it, paint in it, whatever. Consider it a constant work in progress—a close companion in your creative growth. I like to see preliminary drawings of sculpture ideas so that I can more effectively guide students through the process of bringing them to life.

Safety

Please work in the classroom/studio in safe and respectable ways at all times. All use of power tools and chemicals/solvents should be approved by the instructor. Safety glasses/face shields and/or dust masks are required when using equipment. Do not use tools unless you understand their correct and safe operation. I am here to help you learn. If you need help then ask. It is better to ask than to get hurt. During Open Studio Hours the Studio Technicians are there to help you—don't be afraid to ask them for help. Try to use the buddy system when working in the studio, especially during Shop Open Hours. This helps assure that someone will be around if something unexpected happens. Report any tool malfunction to me, another instructor or the Techs. If you cannot find anyone, put a note on the machine. This helps protect other students.

Classroom Usage

The art center is providing you with space and tools to work with, be respectful of this. The classroom/studio that you will be working in is a shared space, treat it as such. Not only do the other students in this class utilize the space but so do students in other classes. The last 15 minutes of each class period will be for cleaning up. You are required to clean and return all tools to the tool room, putting them back in designated storage areas. I will not tolerate messes left behind. Put newspapers or drop clothes down if you are going to be painting, spray painting or working with other messy materials. A clean and organized workspace is one that is easier to work in for everybody.

Materials

Below is a list of basic tools and safety equipment which you should have ready at all times. I would suggest getting a tackle box or other plastic container to store these and other supplies in.

- ~Sketchbook
- ~Safety glasses/face shield
- ~Dust masks
- ~Ear plugs/muffs
- ~Leather gloves
- ~Utility Knife
- ~Scissors
- ~Tape (Masking, Duct, Packing, etc.)
- ~Pencils
- ~Sharpie markers
- ~Tape measure

Contacting Me

Please feel free to discuss any special needs or questions you may have with me. Aside from discussing things in person, e-mail is the best way to contact me (careynetherton@gmail.com).

Please allow 24-48 hours for a response.