

Perspectives

Part 1: Premise: Re-representing Gehry

Before we embark on learning the theory and methods associated with constructed perspective drawings, we will spend the next three days, trusting our eyes and intuition in exploring perspectives. To that end we will use Frank Gehry's recently completed Stata Center as our object of study.

After walking around and through the building, each of you will be required to draw multiple images of an aspect of this most unusual building. You are to frame the view of part of this building so that its composition and content represents an idea or observation you have made or wish to explore through drawing about the building. For instance, you may wish to focus on the relationship between the building's "skin" and the structure supporting the skin. Therefore your images might focus on special connections. More detailed drawings might zoom into a particular condition, while a wider panned image could illustrate the relationship between the detail and a larger system of connections. Similarly, drawings can focus on the relationship of materials, surfaces, geometry, light / reflection, transparency, relationship the ground / sky, etc.

Draw what you see, trust your intuition while testing it against what you perceive. What observations can you make about the drawing itself and its relationship to perspectives? How does the perception of the building and its parts change depend on how you view it from different vantage points and orientation?

Use charcoal or pastels energetically, and swiftly in producing your drawings. Cover as much of the sheet in charcoal as possible, (i.e. no chicken scratching!)

You are encouraged to visit the site again between now and Wednesday, so that you can study the change in light as well as to devote more time to producing some stellar drawings.

Part 2: Perspective Warm-Up Exercises

Develop the following perspectives. All perspectives should be 2 point. Also show construction lines and partial plans on the sheets.

1. Draw a 10' cube viewed from a height of 5'.
2. Draw a tower 50' high with a base of 10' square viewed from 5'.
3. Draw the same tower viewed from a height of 55'.
4. Draw a pyramid with a base of 10' by 10'. The height of the pyramid is 10' and is viewed from a height of 5'.

For the Ambitious:

1. Draw a cylinder 10' in diameter and 30' high. On top of the cylinder is another cylinder placed on its side, which is 10' in diameter and 10' in length.
2. Convert the original drawing (the 10' cube) into a one point perspective with a tiled floor pattern.

Part 3: Constructed Perspectives

Drawing on your last project (and other work), we will construct architectural hard lined perspectives. Instructions and methods will be described in the studio.