VCA Summer School   Drawing Workshop
Rob McHaffle

Course Objectives:
To aid the student with the key artistic practice of drawing and to help locate and express their personal ideas and contexts through the act of multi-faceted mark making. Participants will gain a greater insight into the variants of specific materials with the aim of discovery what materials are best suited to what ideas. The key aim is to assist the participants to discover the role drawing can have in their own practice and to see how it as an action of thought.

Course outline:
The course begins with an exploration of media. Students are instructed in the use of ink, pencil, charcoal, crayon and pastel, using a variety of drawing exercises to loosen up and explore their own territory and approach to drawing as a tool for communication. The course also aims to develop technical skill in the areas of line, special relationships, light and shadow and perception of the whole whilst drawing a chosen subject.

Day 1.
Exploring drawing - we work with different media, pencil, ink, charcoal and crayon. Today is about loosening up and exploring mark making and your own raw talent and style.
Complete an un-assisted self-portrait using a chosen medium

Day 2
Produce two drawings, a hand drawing and a chair drawing. Developing the skill of line drawing and leaning about the importance of negative space and tonal variation. We look at some examples of contemporary drawings using their techniques.

Day 3
Sighting angles and proportions - produce a sighting drawing of a building or internal space. Analysis of depth and perspective and discover techniques to portray different surfaces like brick, floorboards and fabric.

Day 4
The drawing the human face learning proportion, the use of light and shadow and the manipulation of facial features to convey different expression. In the afternoon students complete a detailed portrait Discuss it in comparison with their first drawing on Day 1.