

François Auguste René Rodin

"François Auguste René Rodin

(12 November 1840 – 17 November 1917) was a French sculptor generally considered the founder of modern sculpture. He was schooled traditionally and took a craftsman-like approach to his work. Rodin possessed a unique ability to model a complex, turbulent, and deeply pocketed surface in clay. He is known for such sculptures as The Thinker, Monument to Balzac, The Kiss, The Burghers of Calais, and The Gates of Hell."

Tate Modern website.





The Ey Exhibition: The Making of Rodin at Tate Modern is an insight into the way Rodin worked. It focuses on the importance of plaster in his process. Fragments of plaster casts, joined together and manipulated into create expressive figures give the viewer a feeling they could be in Rodin's studio.

Today we are going to draw from photographs of the

plaster casts. We are going to start with warm up

exercises so grab paper and drawing materials...



- 2 minute sketch
- 1 minute with the other hand
- 2 minutes with both hands (a pencil or pen in each hand).
- 1 minute continuous line
- 1 minute not looking at the drawing.
- 2 minute negative space drawing.
- 2 minutes breaking down the image into several 2D shapes.
- 3 minute tonal study.

Spend 20 minutes making a study of this head. Look at the lines in the plaster and use them as guidelines for your drawing.



Spend as long as you like from the next few photographs. Focus on tone and form.

Look at the negative space. Use any lines or joins in the plaster as guide lines.





