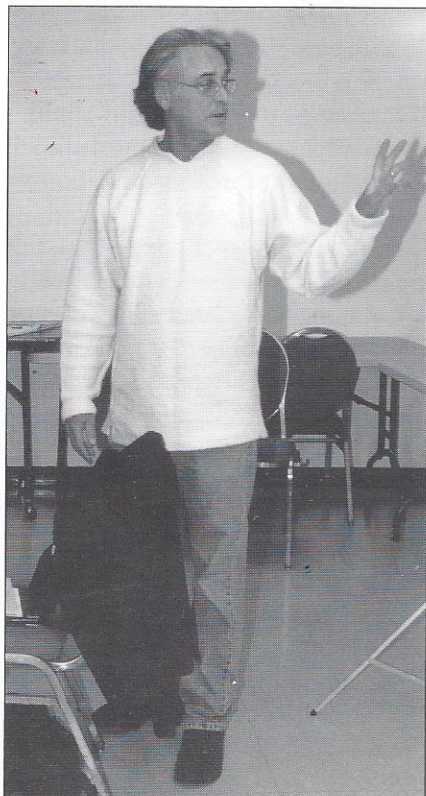


**“Draw everything – even something as seemingly simple as your morning cup of coffee”.**

## PSA Drawing Workshop with Marc Chatov

Sponsored by the Portrait Society of Atlanta, Advisory Board Member Marc Chatov's Fall 2005 Drawing Workshop was an eye-opener that provided a wealth of information.



Mr. Chatov first explained the difference between a sketch and a drawing. A sketch is made quickly and simply to record and gather visual information, he says, whereas drawing is used in direct preparation of a piece of artwork. He also pointed out the importance of drawing every day in order to develop one's skills of hand and eye coordination. “Draw everything,” he says, “even something as seemingly simple as your morning cup of coffee.”

Mr. Chatov discussed breaking down simple shapes into a “drawing alphabet” of flat and three-dimensional shapes. For example, converting triangles and pyramids, rectangles and boxes, circles into spheres and tubes, and a spool into a bowtie shape can create an alphabet to find and simplify the various shapes within a larger form.

Mr. Chatov went on to emphasize the importance of understanding anatomy and knowing the human form from both the inside and outside. He suggested squinting to better see basic shapes, and then starting with light gesture drawings, spiraling and massing the form, and then finding those salient points where the various

skeletal points protrude. The importance of this, he said, is being able to use the fixed skeletal points from which the muscles attach and move. By establishing the figure's pivotal, that is, weight-bearing, point with a line from the trapezius at the base of the skull to the floor, the artist is able to determine the correct center of gravity. It is then possible to measure the distance of other points on the body from that line and correctly gauge angles to form a construction framework. With further observation, one can note the obvious body landmarks, differentiating and comparing the subject's proportions to the classical norms.

Discussing the geometric and anatomic construction of a face, Mr. Chatov also explained how to incorporate all this into a finished drawing. From his gesture drawings and working through construction, he demonstrated each segment of his presentation as he talked. After his initial demonstrations it was our turn to try everything! Although only a portion of Mr. Chatov's presentation is covered here, this was a highly informative, useful and excellent learning experience for all who attended his workshop. ■

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### PSA MEMBER OF EXCELLENCE/MERIT STATUS ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Three distinguished artists are serving on the 2006 jury panel: Marvin Mattelson, Dean Paules and Dawn Whitelaw. Eligible PSA members were mailed a prospectus and invited to submit slides by the July 22, 2006 deadline. Results of any member status advancements will be announced this fall. For information contact June Blackstock, ME/MM Chair, [jebportraits@juno.com](mailto:jebportraits@juno.com) or 229-623-2705.