

NEGATIVE SPACE DRAWING

Classwork Assignment: do a negative space drawing in charcoal of the still life in the center of the room (ladder, stool, chair, pitcher) and depict it as flat space. Find interesting shapes to draw within the central area of the drawing AS WELL AS the four sides that meet the border.

To start, lightly draw a 1" border with pencil around the edges of an 18" x 24" piece of drawing paper. Next, make a viewfinder -- take a piece of cardboard and cut a rectangular hole in the center, measuring 3" x 4". Look through the viewfinder and position it to find a compelling composition.

Do an outline drawing (as opposed to a contour drawing) of the negative shapes lightly in pencil. Once the entire layout is sketched out and spatially correct, fill in the negative space with charcoal. Play with smudging, scribbling, and smearing the charcoal until you find an aesthetically pleasing effect. Leave the positive shapes white.



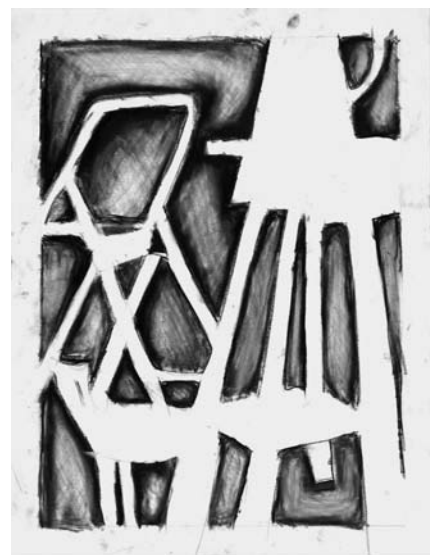
Fits the criteria of the assignment, but the composition is lackluster.



Has a better composition. The shapes that meet the border have interesting spaces to explore.



Nice composition, nice craftsmanship.



Ambitious composition, but some problems exist with craftsmanship.