

CNU 20 Art Room

Are you interested in learning sketching, painting, photography and other graphic visualization techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism’s leading practitioners? Here’s your chance! The CNU 20 Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops led by many artists featured in “The Art of the New Urbanism” exhibit. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration experience is needed.

All sessions will be held in the Palm Beach County Convention Center - Room 1L

Thursday May 10th

2:00pm-3:15pm

Photographing the Building, Street, and Town

Sandy Sorlien - Transect Codes Council

Learn critical fundamentals to keep in mind when photographing urbanism. You’ll also learn to use simple digital image editing tools to adjust and correct problematic photos and improve your visual communication.

Bring a laptop with some photographs that you wish were better and would like to work on. Or just learn by watching as Sandy adjusts her raw images to improve their effect. Was the subject compelling but the light was too flat? Do the buildings look distorted? Are there distracting elements we should get rid of? You’ll learn to use five simple image editing tools to improve your visual communication: Levels, Rubber Stamp, Perspective Correction, Color Adjustment, and Crop. A quick virtual tour of the Transect Collection image bank will provide models for more effective composition the next time you go out to shoot New (or old) Urbanism, ensuring that frontages are legible and that skinny streets look skinny.

Thursday May 10th

3:45pm-5:00pm

Rendering in Pen and Ink

Eric Osth - Urban Design Associates

Effective line drawing is fundamental to the delineation of architecture and urbanism. You’ll learn a classic, easy-to-follow line drawing process combining the study of architectural proportions with time-tested pen and ink drawing techniques.

In the early part of the twentieth century, pen and ink perspective illustration technique for delineating architecture and urbanism reached a zenith. Drawings of this era were famous for their use of composition, tones and white space to create remarkable, memorable images that are still valued today.

In this session, Eric Osth, AIA, Principal at Urban Design Associates, will explore the process and techniques for creating these illustrations. As an illustrator and a designer of architecture and urban design, Eric uses three-dimensional illustrations in both presentation and design. Eric will teach an easy-to-follow process that combines study of architectural proportions with drawing technique that can benefit future design efforts and drawing exercises alike.

The session will start with the basics of drawing set up including selecting your subject, your viewpoint, and drawing ‘focus’. A simple, easy-to-follow drawing exercise will put basic and advanced techniques to use, and at the same time, identify future areas for learning. Handouts, paper and pens will be provided.



John J Zanetta - Zanetta Illustration

Friday May 11th
10:45am-12:00noon

SketchUp as a Foundation for Quick Charrette Hand Drawing

Kenneth Garcia - Dover, Kohl & Partners / Eduardo Castillo - Castillo Arquitectos

Are you interested in learning how to produce quick charrette renderings? First, you'll learn how to build a quick 3D model in SketchUp to use as a drawing base – then we'll concentrate on accelerated charrette hand drawing overlay techniques.

Join Eduardo & Kenneth for this session in which they demonstrate how to use SketchUp as a foundation for quick, hand-drawn renderings. Charrettes often require multiple renderings to be produced during a very short period of time. Using a combination of 3D computer modeling and hand drawing techniques gives these illustrators the ability to work with the speed and flexibility needed to produce convincing, artful renderings within the short deadlines required by charrettes. The first portion of the session will concentrate on how to build a quick 3D model to use as a base. The second portion of the session will focus on accelerated hand drawing techniques. Bring your laptop with Google SketchUp installed to try out the ideas presented.

Friday May 11th
2:00pm-3:15pm

Watercolor: Composition and Technique

David Csont, ASAI - Urban Design Associates

Watercolor painting bridges the gap between hardcore information and artistry. You'll learn how to begin with a quick sketch and value study, and then how to use a simplified palette of watercolors for maximum effect in your painting.

Digital rendering has become the standard choice of many architects and planners today. But when the project calls for the image to convey a strong sense of mood and character, no media does this better than traditional watercolor. Bridging the gap between technical design communication and artistry, watercolor painting leaves a lasting impression in the eye of the viewer.

Explore the possibilities of watercolor with David R. Csont, Principal and Chief Illustrator with Urban Design Associates. With over 25 years of experience rendering architecture and urban design, David has developed an internationally known and award winning style of painting in watercolor. His technique focuses on the use of a bold color palette, dynamic use of composition, and strong line drawing that transports the viewer into the world of the image. This session will include discussions about using a quick sketch as the framework, creating a value study as a reference for your painting, using a simplified palette of colors to get maximum effect, and other opportunities to use watercolor to strengthen the message of your drawing.

Friday May 11th
3:45pm-5:00pm

Observational Painting in Oils

James Howard Kunstler - Author

For years, James Howard Kunstler has used the process of plein air painting in oils to help focus his gaze and clarify his observations of the American built landscape. Please join us as James Howard Kunstler leads a discussion of his observational paintings in oil.

James Kunstler has been focusing his keen critical eye on the American public realm for many years. His writings and lectures have lucidly expressed the strong challenges that New Urbanists face every day with the advent of the new century. For years, James Kunstler has used the process of plein air painting in oils to help focus his observations. His luminous paintings seek to capture the spirit and nature of things as they are, warts and all. Please join us as James Kunstler discusses his ever-growing portfolio of beautiful and informative observational oil paintings.

Saturday May 12th

10:45am-12:00noon

Special Art Room Double Demonstration!

1. Architectural Rendering in Watercolor Wash

Jennifer Griffen - Hartman-Cox Architects / John Griffen - Torti, Gallas and Partners

Learn the fundamentals of this classic watercolor rendering process. Technique demonstrated will include drawing setup, running a basic wash, laying a graded wash, painting skies with clouds, and conventions for painting reflected light, shades, and shadows.

This workshop will demonstrate the technical art of traditional Beaux-Arts rendering in watercolor wash through the example of painting architectural elevations. An overview of the rendering process will include a brief discussion of the selection and preparation of watercolor paper, mixing paint, and working with an appropriate brush. Various techniques will be demonstrated including running a basic wash, laying a graded wash, painting skies with clouds, and understanding conventions for reflected light, shades, and shadows. Hands-on participation will be encouraged throughout this interactive session with the possible inclusion of more advanced techniques such as rendering marble, reflected shadows, and entourage.

2. Evocative Pastel Travel Sketching

Andrew Georgiadis - Dover, Kohl & Partners

Soft pastels are a vivid medium well-suited to the representation of architecture through luminous fields of color. Learn to use pastels when you travel to capture the fleeting play of light on urban space through blending, texture, and layering.

Soft pastels are an imprecise medium, less suited to representation of architecture through lines, but well suited to creating fields of color. Though it is dry, pastel is a painterly medium, which may be smudged and blended more easily than other media. Bring your pastels and some “toothy” paper upon which to sketch. We will be working from photographs, but will pretend we are sitting outdoors in an Italian piazza, capturing the fleeting aspects of the urban space through texture, blending, and layering of pastels on our drawings.



Kenneth Garcia - Dover, Kohl & Partners

James Dougherty - Dover, Kohl & Partners



David Csont - Urban Design Associates



Joe Skibba - Urban Design Associates



Andrew Georgiadis - Dover, Kohl & Partners

Saturday May 12th

2:00pm-3:15pm

Digital Painting with the iPad and with Photoshop

Joe Skibba, ASAI - Urban Design Associates / JJ Zanetta, ASAI - Zanetta Illustration

Digital painting is a powerful new tool full of possibilities for urban illustrators. The first half of this session will demonstrate rapid application of color to an image using the iPad. In the second half, more detailed digital painting techniques with Photoshop will be explored.

This workshop is co-presented by two traditional artists who have incorporated digital rendering techniques into their workflow. For those of you who produce drawings and would like to apply some quick color to an image, the first half of the workshop will be very interesting. Joe Skibba will demonstrate how to enhance your drawings by applying quick color using the iPad. In the second half of the workshop, J.J Zanetta will take a closer look at more careful digital painting using Photoshop. He'll demonstrate how you can create a more highly refined digital painting starting with line art or a model wireframe. We will examine creative digital tools, brushes, and textures, software and hardware options, and the process of digital painting.

Saturday May 12th

3:45pm-5:00pm

Photo-Realistic Before and After Sequences in Photoshop

Steve Price - UrbanAdvantage

Learn to construct a convincing change-over-time transformation in Photoshop. Techniques covered will include: placing architecture, creating realistic shadows, adding paving and roadway markings in perspective, placing trees, and other tricks of the trade.

Steve Price will demonstrate how the remarkable tools hidden in Photoshop give urban designers the means to demonstrate positive urban change in a highly convincing way. By creating a photo-transformation based on a photograph of a familiar place, designers can assist citizens to evaluate design and development interventions compared with what is there now. Steve will demonstrate construction of a photo-transformation while explaining important techniques such as: placing architecture, creating realistic shadows, putting in paving and roadway markings in perspective, placing trees, and showing change in steps.



Steve Price - UrbanAdvantage



The CNU 20 Art Room is organized by James Dougherty - Dover, Kohl & Partners
Please contact jdougherty@doverkohl.com with any questions or comments