

ONLINE STUDIO

AGE 12-18

Architecture and the Body
with artists

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Architecture and the Body 01: Inside and Outside

with artists
Anna Brass and Paul Patrick Fenner

In this session we think about inverting scale and stretching space. The first drawing explores the experience of being inside your home, moving from room to room. The second drawing looks at your home from the outside, as an object you can hold in your hands.

Two drawing tasks: the first is 10 – 30 minutes,
the second is 30 – 60 minutes.

Materials

Each drawing task has possible combinations of materials to use, but these are just suggestions – you can use whatever you like.

For this session we've suggested:

- pen, ink, charcoal and acrylic paint
- in a sketchbook, on sheets of paper of different sizes and colour
- masking tape might also be useful



My Mother Alone in Her Dining Room, Anthony Green, 1975 – 76, Sainsbury Centre

Drawing 1:

Drawing the inside of your house from memory,
starting with the room you are in and working outwards.
10 – 30 minutes

You can use anything you like, but these combinations
of materials might work well:

biro or fine line pen across a double sketchbook page
or
ink on separate sheets of A4 paper
(taping them together as the drawing expands)

Drawing instructions:

1. On a loose sheet of paper draw the room you are in. Start with the tops of the walls and the lines of the corners of the room, as if you are looking down into an open box.
2. Make sure to include yourself. Draw the furniture, objects, cupboards and fittings around you. Don't forget doorhandles, light switches and radiators.
3. When you get to a doorway, join on the room on the other side. If you run out of space on your sheet of paper, add another one and expand your drawing outward. Think hard and try to include everything you can remember of what is there.
4. If your home has more than one storey, make sure to include the stairs. You will have to twist and pull and squeeze the space in your drawing to fit in all of the rooms.



Saint Thomas Aquinas, Carlo Crivelli, 1476, The National Gallery

Drawing 2: drawing yourself holding the building in which you live
30 – 60 minutes

Possible combinations of materials:

charcoal or ink on a big sheet of paper

or

acrylic paint on plain or coloured paper

Drawing instructions:

1. Draw your home as seen from the outside (the whole building if you live in a block of flats). Make sure to make it quite small in the centre of your sheet of paper.
2. Then, draw yourself around the building, holding it in your hand. Start with your hands (you can do this in front of a mirror and mime the action of holding): is the building balancing on top of one hand? Or are you grasping it with your fingers? Are you holding it with one hand or two?
3. Include the rest of your body. Look carefully at the details of your clothing in the mirror. Are you standing or sitting? Feel free to add on extra sheets of paper if you can't fit your whole body in.

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