

OLD MASTERS ACADEMY

'Favstine'

Charles Bargue

3rd-31st May 2022

This is the fabled Roman Empress Favstine. (Born 130A.D)

She is a noteworthy deified Roman figure about whom we shall find out more during this wonderful study from the brilliant French 19th century Artist Charles Bargue.

This study taken from a cast of a Roman Statue of Favstine will serve as our resource for the month of May

Materials:

2B, HB, 2H pencils. Eraser, eraser pencil (optional) putty eraser, knitting needle or length of string.

Quality drawing paper (cartridge), tinted if preferred to a light tone.

Clean soft brush.

Objective

In studying this resource we will create a beautiful classical drawing. The study provides the necessary under drawing...or 'construct' which artists use as the sub-structure or framework for the 'block-in'.

The 'abstraction' of the dark and light shapes of the form are the central concept to this approach.

The 'block-in' is done with a dark-middle value rendered into the shadow shape.

From here the artist will then render to the middle value, the light mid-value and the light. Finally a dark accent may be used to complete a formal study.

This process was taught in the classic atelier systems during the 19th century and would lead the student to study in the 'cast room'.

It forms the basis of the 'Classical Realism' approach.

Image is a copy of the original lithograph from the Drawing Course designed and illustrated by Charles Bargue. The image is in the public domain and the original artifact remains in the Victoria Albert Museum.

