

# REFRAMING THE ORDINARY

naming the moment

without words

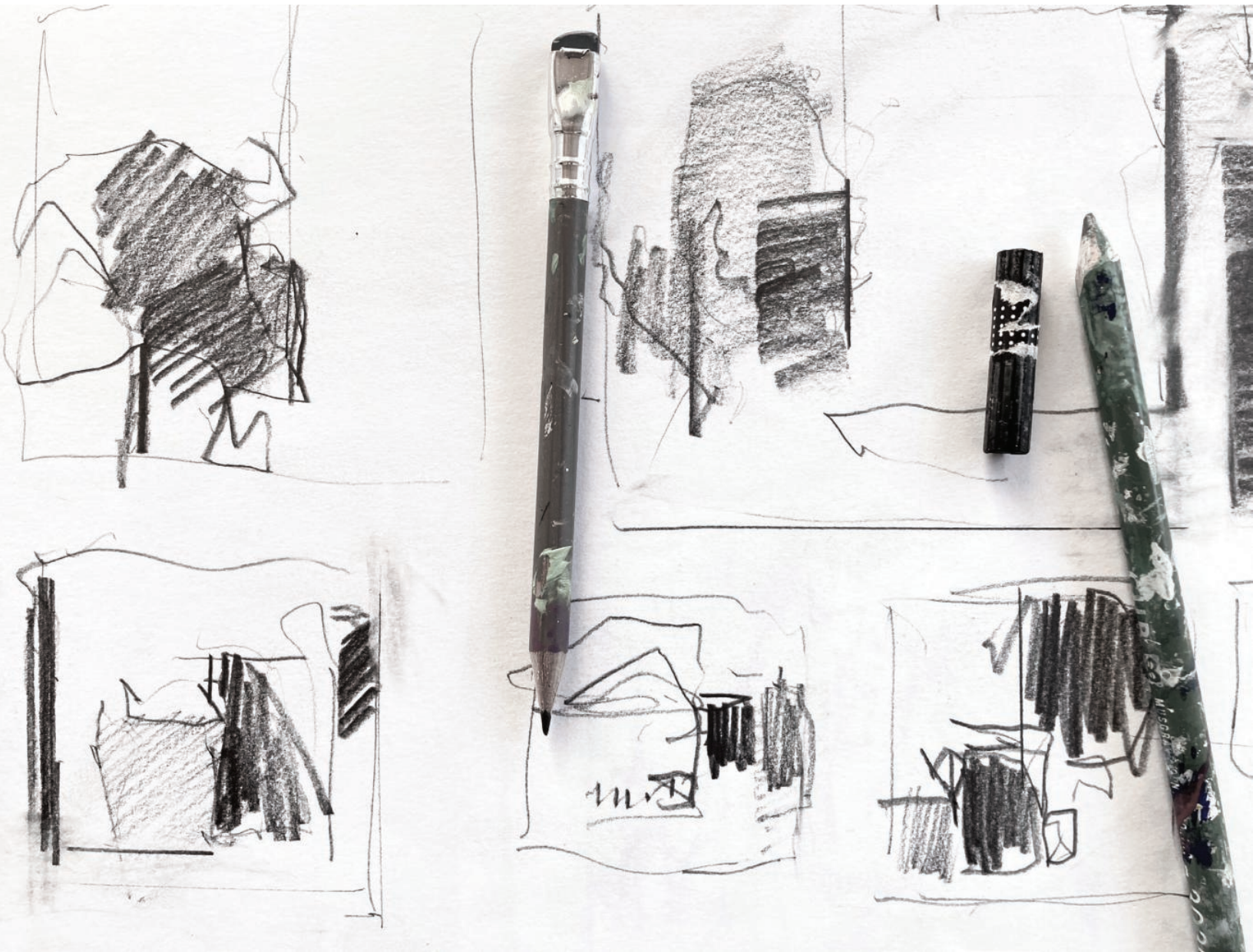
An intimate and participatory  
Zoom seminar for reawakening  
your eyes and nurturing an  
improvisational imagination.

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with Stuart Shils

# LEADING WITH YOUR EYES

**REFRAMING THE ORDINARY**  
on ZOOM helps you to see  
what you don't know is there



**FOR ARTISTS  
ARCHITECTS  
DESIGNERS**

and everyone in pursuit of their inner eye

# A three day drawing seminar

devoted to interrogating the hypnotic grip of observation, **putting your eyes and mind in a metaphorical pencil sharpener**, casting new light on **how you are able to watch yourself watching**.

Within an intimate group of **12 participants** you will be empathically re-introduced to the *spell like nature of observation*, taking notice of, with heightened clarity and feeling, **what's right there in front of your eyes**.



Engaging with high minded but simplified ways of using drawing as perceptual notation to understand what really matters.

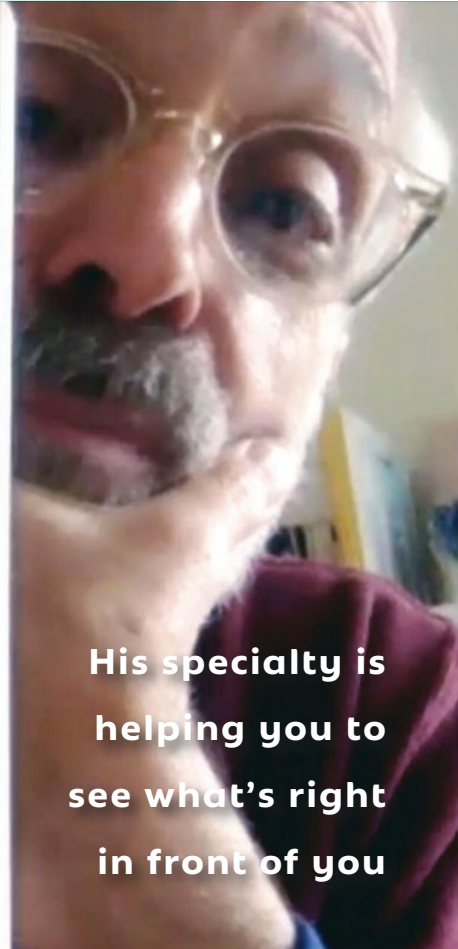
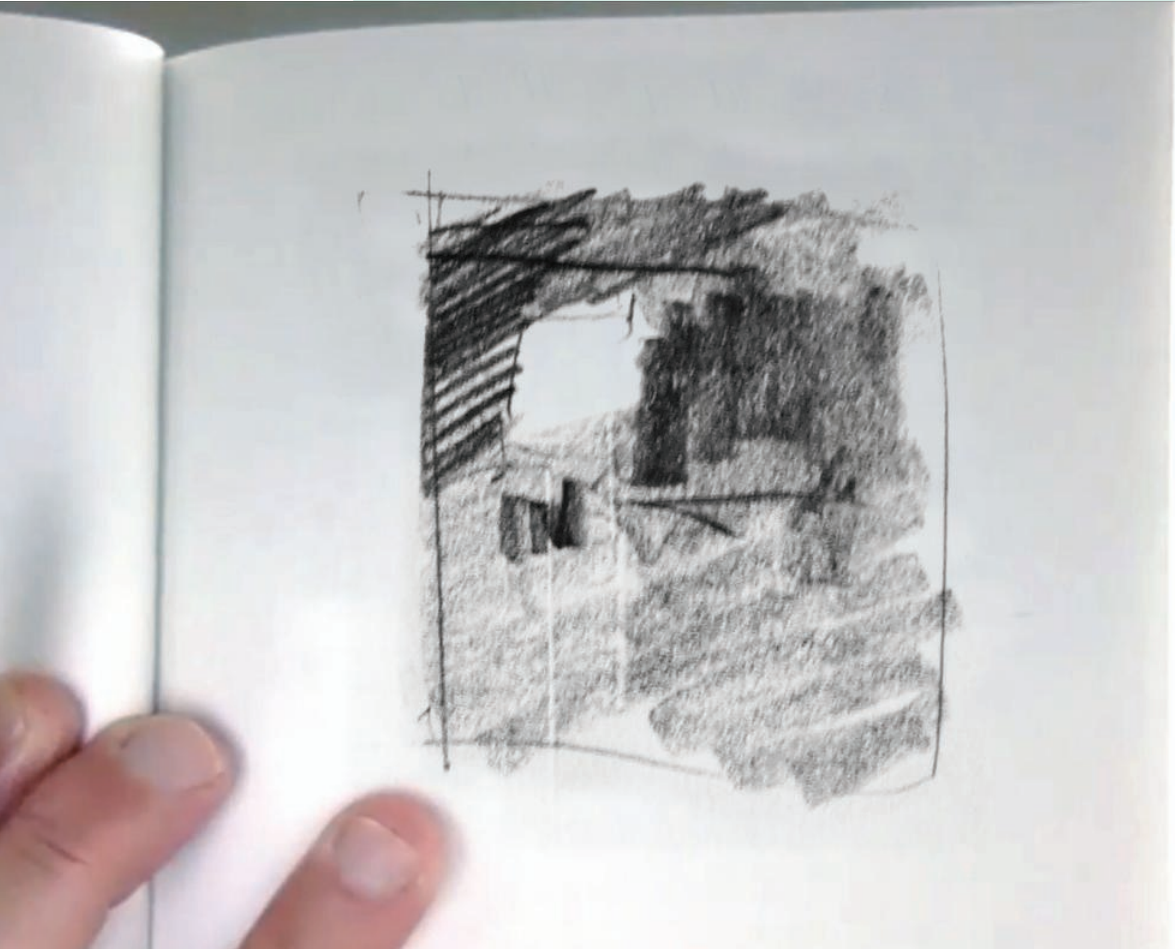
Our focus is on the **choreography of your visual decision making** and how you locate yourself in a moment of presence with confident intuition and **an authentic sense of wonder**.

*an authentic sense of wonder*

# FOR US AS 'EYES PEOPLE'

the world for us is a feast, a non-stop graphic *meal of shapes*

Stuart Shils has been a much sought after teacher for almost 25 years and is a well know visual artist working in a variety of media.



His specialty is helping you to see what's right in front of you

*In class Stuart's intention is to immerse you in playful ways of*

- **challenging** the algorithms of habit
- **stretching** your assumptions about how you see
- pointing toward **out-of-the-box ways** of **building a graphic narrative** about how you see

# ACCESSING a haiku like graphic shorthand

*and falling in love with the pencil*

“

Stuart’s workshop takes you on a path of discovery of your own resources. With the focus on a few paramount concepts and by means of powerful tools, one learns that the key lies in ***asking the right questions,***

**from the technical**  
where is the light?  
what shape is the light?

**to the gestalt**  
what can I do without?  
what is missing?  
how does it feel?

**to the philosophical**  
what is the meaning?

***I feel like I went  
hoping for a fish  
and I came  
back with the  
fishing rod. ”***

*I.M. (a recent participant  
from Madrid)*



# BEGINNER'S MIND, RISK and the GROWTH EDGE



**Our days  
together  
will slow  
you down,**

examining  
inherited  
assumptions

about how you see what you see, while engaging with questions like:

**how is this moment different from other moments?**

or

**how do I see what I don't know is there?**

The exercises with pencil, scissors and paper emphasize beginners mind, and take you gently outside your comfort zone, addressing ways of subverting the grip of habit and underscoring the importance of risk for **recognizing the discomfort line as the growth edge.**

# LEARNING TO RE-SEE THE WORLD



Constructed around a sequence of guided prompts that bring close attention to what is in front of your eyes and to how you **think and feel with your hands**, RTO examines and enhances the relationship between **curiosity, imagination** and **play** as the analytical and feeling minds learn to re-see the world.

**FUELING  
YOUR  
INNER EYE**

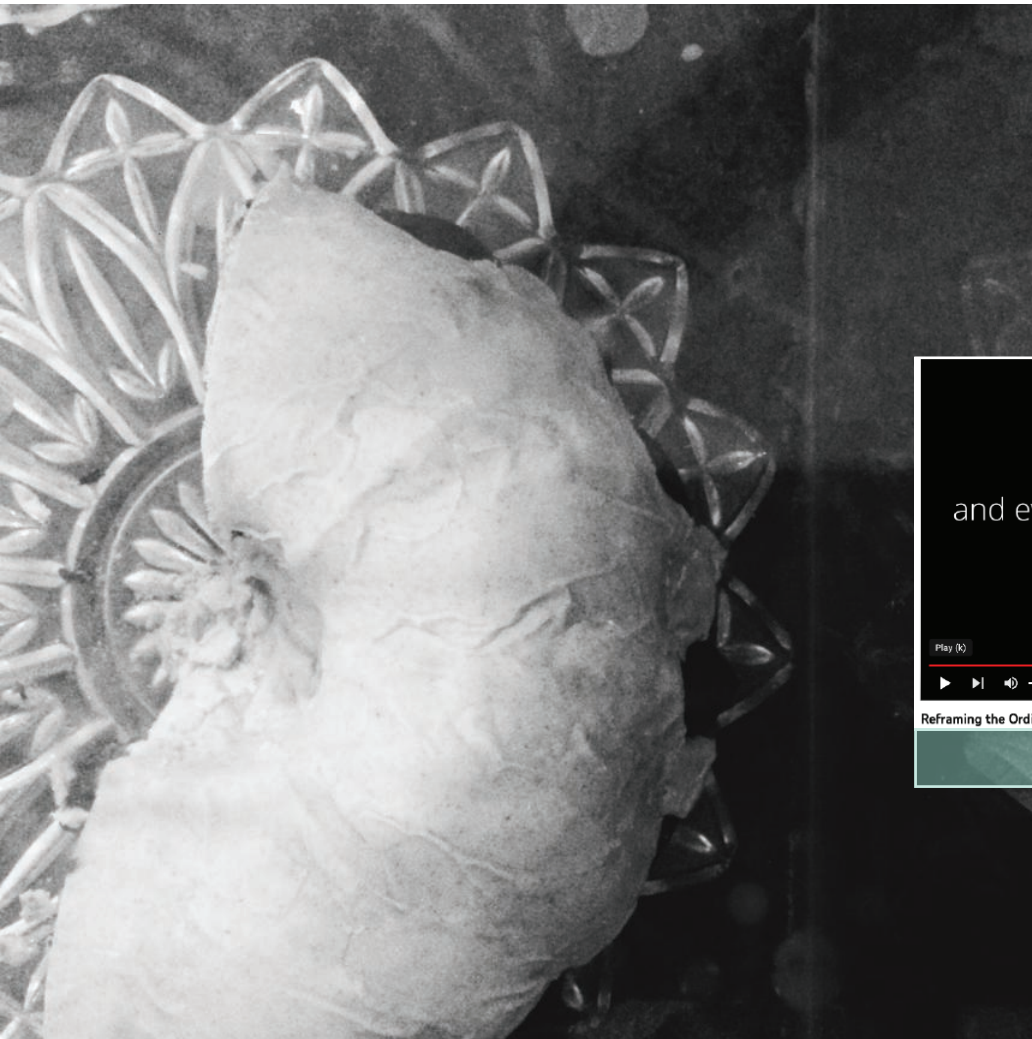
**WITH GRAPHIC PLAY AND A SENSE OF WONDER**

# “*The weekend was like a drawing meditation...*

each day built on the previous day's openings  
of the unconscious mind by way of words  
organized into an encouraging dialectic.  
By asking us to move through each exercise...  
with only myself as both actor and witness...  
and absent to the fear and favor of an instructor  
over my shoulder -

***I have been deeply touched and sensitized  
to my own creative learning.*** ”

*L.W., a recent participant*



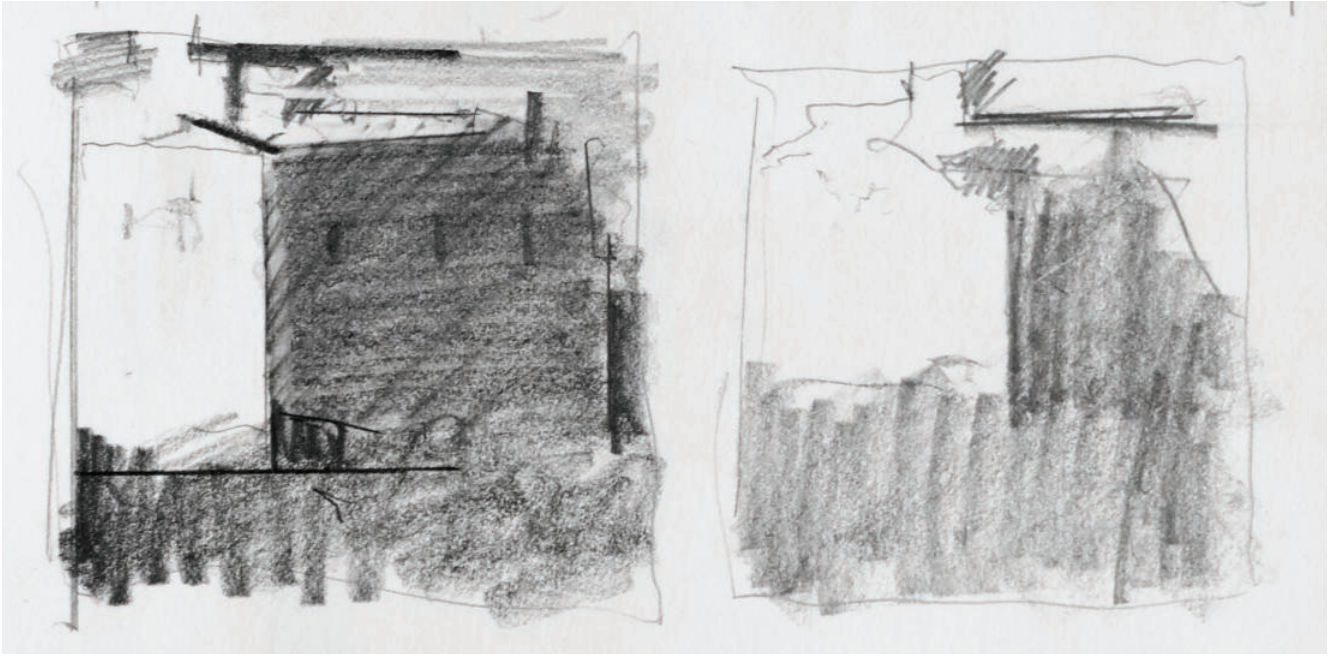
Reframing the Ordinary

**WATCH**  
**"REFRAMING  
THE ORDINARY"**

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# AN INVITATION TO STRETCH BEYOND WHO YOU THINK YOU ARE



*exploring large themes like:*

- ‘relational seeing’ and the ability to make multiple readings of the moment
- confidence with rapid summation of circumstances
- seeing ‘accidents’ as full of potential
- the nature of line and mass
- the meanings of simplification
- how time influences decision making
- the reshaping of expectations
- the impact of conditioning



# FEELING IS EVERYTHING



A short clip from  
REFRAMING THE  
ORDINARY Zoom class,  
with Stuart Shils

[View Here](#)



[View Here](#)

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# MATERIALS are simple-

pencil, eraser, black construction paper, white copy paper, a small ruler, scissors and a marker or crayon or two (*materials list provided in advance*)



The class begins on Thursday night before the first working day with a 90-minute slide talk that sets the stage for the next three days.

Followed by Friday at 4 hours and Saturday and Sunday at 2.5 hours each, but typically the classes on day 2 and 3 go a bit longer, so please leave time at the end of each session for that possibility.

*Other combinations and lengths of class time are available depending on need.*

**Also included** with the class is a **30-minute individual conference** with Stuart Shils after the class is over, at a time of your choosing, to explore any aspect of your work or your work life that you'd like to discuss. Could be by zoom, phone or whatever works for you.

a visual Zoom seminar rooted in

# OBSERVATION

a non-judgmental group experience exploring  
the interiority of perception:

**curiosity** and the nature of **play**,  
the **joys** of uncertainty and not knowing,  
**seeing** what we don't know is there.

Limited to 12 participants

**“ You have reignited a love of drawing in  
me that I haven't felt since childhood. ”**  
*A.W., a recent participant*



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and collaboratively open eye as designer of these pages*