



Graphite Techniques for Calligraphers

Amity Parks

In this class, the humble pencil and its relatives become powerful tools in creating many effects from subtle to stunning. We will use pencils erasers, graphite sticks/blocks, powdered graphite and their water-soluble cousins to explore the possibilities of the medium for creating refined works of art to quickly made drawings in our sketchbooks. Starting with basic drawing principles like line quality and shading, we will experiment with each tool to discover the marks it can produce. We will then move to the drawing letters and designing work groups, both formal and casual. The monochromatic drawn letterform forces us to slow down and relate more organically to the forms we are creating. You will find drawing letterforms with care and thoughtfulness to be so helpful to improving your design and lettering skills and in allowing for more refined and subtle attention to detail.

Further time will let us explore how to integrate our letters with their backgrounds into designs that will grab our viewer's eye. Finally I'll show you some of the tricks I've learned to save time and ensure success when working with this versatile medium.

Amity Parks is an artist and calligrapher living in Missoula, Montana. For some years she has been studying calligraphy in weeklong and private tuition classes with internationally renowned instructors. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Tulsa, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Montana. Her work has been featured in national and regional exhibits and publications. She has been a long-term active member and teacher in her local and state calligraphy guilds and travels within the US and internationally to teach workshops, including serving on the faculty for the International Lettering Arts Conference in 2014, 2015 & 2017, for the SSIW Conference in Melbourne, Australia and the Midwest Art and Lettering Retreat in 2016. She spends many hours in her studio on her personal and creative work, finding a balance between her teaching commitments, her business and her



A Sharp Pencil and a Keen Eye

with Amity Parks

Date: November 11-12, 2017, 9-4pm
Location: Lane Community College -- TBA

Mail registration to: Yuki Tanaka, 1451 NW 17th St, Corvallis, OR 97330
541-740-0179 (art_yuki@comcast.net)

Workshop price: \$120.00 for VCG members and \$130.00 for non-members
---Please make checks payable to Valley Calligraphy Guild.
Payment must be received by November 4th, 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone _____