Fashion Illustration Trip/Drawing Marathon to NYC, 06/14-06/27, 2017

The main purpose of this trip was to interview and photograph Fashion Illustration Artists in New York City. For the past 5 years, I have traveled to NYC to Meet and Draw alongside some of the best fashion illustrators of NYC. In 2014-2016, I conducted interviews at restaurants, visited Studios, and a couple of FIT and Parsons’ classrooms with Richard Haines, Bil Donovan, George Gozum, Steven Broadway, Richard Rosenfeld, Robert W. Richards, Glenn Martin, Lamont O’Neal, Carlos Aponte, Leonard Cadiente, Scooter LaForge and Robert Fontanelli. This year, I visited the Studio of Paul Caranicas, the Caretaker of the Antonio Lopez Estate. Paul is also a well know CityScape Realist painter in his own right. I also interviewed/photographed and filmed a few more Fashion Illustrators at Fashion and Figure Drawing events/workshops.

06/15 Sketch Night/Society of Illustrators. Hosted by Bil Donovan with clothes by Raul Penaranda.
During this session, I focused on the work of Clifford Faust. I sat right behind Clifford and studied his approach. I get to see Clifford at the Society of Illustrators every time I come to NYC. Samples of my work on the lower right of this page. Here is a link of Bil Donovan doing a demo at the Society of Illustrators:

http://www.cliffordfaust.com/, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-l2PgnE9pm0
06/16 Fashion Drawing Workshop with Richard Rosenfeld hosted by the New York School of Design

Before the Drawing Workshop, I volunteered to pick up Mr. Rosenfeld. When I got to his place, we had a short Studio visit, where he showed me a portfolio full of his published work. After the studio visit, we took a taxi to the New York School of Design. At the Workshop, Mr. Rosenfeld proceeded to give a lesson to a nice group of beginning students. It was great to see a master artist who has close to 40 years as a fashion drawing/illustration instructor. The photos below are from the workshop I attended. The attached link is of Mr. Rosenfeld in action at a different location.

https://youtu.be/_dRT4WnDIVI

06/18 Sketching at the New York Drawing Studio with Steven Broadway

Steven has always put on great get together for artists in NYC. In this particular session, we had the models start dressed and slowly remove their clothing as the night progresses, *Fashion to Figure*. Also in attendance were Neil Aristy, Chuck Nitzberg (see 06/21), model Omar from Puerto Rico and models John & Marcus visiting from Brazil.

Leonard Cadence http://www.thepicta.com/user/lcad60/1528627796
The Summer Fashion Exhibitions at the MET is something that I always try not to miss. Rei Kawakubo/Comme de Garçons was this year's subject for admiration and display. All visitors got to see up close the Artistry, Creativity, Technique, Avant Garde-ness of Kawakubo's genius of a true visionary in Kawakubo's work.

I was also delighted to see the photography of the great Irving Penn on display.

06/19 Visit with Paul Caranicas, executor of the Antonio Lopez and Juan Ramos estate.

The Highlight of this trip was a private tour of the Antonio Lopez and Juan Ramos art/photo Archives by its guardian, Mr. Paul Caranicas. The Archives consist of Flat files filled with Original Drawings/Tear sheets, Racks containing original paintings/illustrations and storage boxes for photos/slides and photo dairy albums. Paul recounted his own experiences living with Antonio and Juan, the team behind the Antonio Lopez Brand. Their time in Paris (when Paul met them) and their eventual move back to NYC. Antonio Lopez artwork is what inspired me to pursue the study of illustration and my enrollment at Otis. Paul came to Otis during a show of Antonio’s work, hosted at Otis/Parsons during my senior year back in 1987.

https://www.visuaiaids.org/blog/detail/paul-caranicas-antonio-lopez,
6/20 Drink and Draw at ReBar-Hosted by Richard Burrowes

With the great abundance of Artists in NYC, there is always a place you can go to keep up your live drawing skills. Most professionals do not want to draw in a classroom setting. The Sketching event at ReBar is an alternative place to meet up with fellow artists to draw, drink and chat. To my delight, fashion illustrators Renaldo Barnett and Warren Bradley were in attendance this particular night. I have greatly admired the fashion illustrations of Renaldo for several year. I still would love to attend one of Renaldo's fashion illustration Workshops.


06/21 Charles Leslie Drawing Studio-Hosted by Harvey Redding

Harvey Redding runs a super fun Drawing session every Wed., 7-10pm, at the Leslie/Lohman Prince St. project location. You gotta get to the place super early if you want to get a good spot. I even got to draw one of my alumni models from 7 years ago...model/photographer Sam Devries. Also in attendance was illustrator Chuck Nitzberg.

06/22 Fashion Illustrators’ Night at New York Drawing Studio. Hosted by Steven Broadway and Myself

My Friend Steven and I organized a Special night to which we invited working Fashion illustrators. This was a great opportunity to ask about technique and learn a thing or two from the experts. I hope to repeat this event next year with even more Fashion illustrators.

Carlos Aponte http://www.illustrationdivision.com/artists/carlos_aponte,
Sara Singh http://illustrationdivision.com/artists/sara_singh,
Leonard Cadiente http://www.thepicta.com/user/lcad60/1528627796,
06/23 Private Drawing session with Fashion/Lifestyle illustrator Bil Donovan

I first met Bil Donovan when I suggested a studio visit about 7 years ago. His studio walls were covered with gorgeous Fashion and figurative ink drawings. During my studio visit back in 2010, Bil was about to produce his first book, Advanced Fashion Drawing/ Lifestyle Illustration, published by Laurence King UK. I was honored to have a peek at the proofs. I immediately ordered the book as soon as it became available for purchase. I still use Bil’s book to this day with my upper level Model Drawing classes. This year, Bil invited me to do a private Drawing session with him, an opportunity which I could not pass on. We hired 2 models and experimented, drawing with ink and watercolor without fear. I watched Bil’s approach a couple of times before I went for it. Bil is a well respected Educator of Fashion Illustration as seen in the attached links:

https://www.youtube.com/user/bildonovannyc


06/25 Studio Visit with Abercrombie and Fitch artist Mark Beard aka Bruce Sargent.

Meeting Mark Beard at his studio was phenomenal. His surrounding matched his painting in all of their grandeur. We talked about his painting and sculptures from the Abercrombie and Fitch Stores. Mark revealed that all of the murals were painted on canvas and that he was getting all of them back, as well as the sculptures. He already has buyers for most of art and sculptures. Mark started learning to paint with private tutors and mastered the figure early on. The name Bruce Sargent comes from spoofing John Singer Sargent.


06 Other events

Paul Caranicas made arrangements with the Padilha brothers to take a few minutes out of their hectic schedule to sign their “Antonio” book (gift of Mr. Caranicas). It was nice to see their big “MAO” PR office filled with gorgeous clothes. Check out their Fashion PR company and info on their “Antonio” book on the links below.

A big thanks to Darren Waterston (Otis class of 1988), who let me stay at his place during my first week in NYC. He is such an inspiration on how to live and create. I got to hang out at his studio only on one occasion, checking out his latest projects. Darren’s studio is filled with beautiful paintings, drawings and objects. While in NYC, including at Darren’s place, I got to sketch/draw close to 35 individual models on my own. Since this was my NYC Drawing Marathon, I always keep myself busy from morning to night.