

# JAMES SONDOW

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[www.sondowsculpture.com](http://www.sondowsculpture.com)

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## EDUCATION

- Ilya Repin State Academy** **2007 – 2012, 2015-2017**  
**Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture**, St. Petersburg, Russia  
*The Academy, founded 250 years ago, was modeled after École des Beaux Arts in Paris and has maintained its rigorous academic program of representational art with a heavy emphasis on constructive anatomy and draftsmanship. I am the only American to complete their seven-year intensive training in Drawing and Sculpture and to graduate with highest honor from this, Russia's most prestigious Art Academy.*  
<https://www.facebook.com/RTDocumentary/videos/1626827977373805/>
- Bridgeview School of Fine Art** Queens, NY **2003 - 2007**  
Figurative Drawing, Sculpture, and Painting in the tradition of the Russian Academy.
- The Art Students League of New York** New York, NY **1990 - 1992 & 2003 - 2007**  
Figurative Drawing, Oil Painting, Anatomy.
- Repin Academy & Mukhina Academy** St. Petersburg, Russia **Summers 2005, 2006**  
Intensive study in Drawing, Painting, and Sculpture.
- School of Visual Arts** New York, NY **2000 - 2003**  
Life Drawing, Oil Painting, Figurative Sculpture.
- Oberlin College** Oberlin, OH **1992 - 1996**  
*Bachelor of Arts, in Mathematics; Also completed Pre-Medical coursework.*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Princeton Academy of Art** Princeton, NJ **2018-present**  
*Instructor*
- Teaching various year-long courses and intensives including: sculpting the head and bust from life, sculpting the figure from life, écorché, figurative composition from memory and with a model, cast drawing, figurative drawing, portraiture, still life composition, and master copying.
  - Museum tours and daily lecture on anatomy and art history, including in-depth constructive anatomy with an emphasis on the skeletal and muscular systems' syncopated rhythms and their effect on figurative composition.
- <https://www.princetonacademyofart.com/instructors/>
- Art Students League** New York, NY **summer 2023**  
*Instructor*
- Teaching extended Portrait bust workshop emphasizing clearly constructed planar anatomy, likeness, and facial expression.
- [https://workshops.artstudentsleague.org/course/Sondow-WS-Sculpture\\_cd\\_6471\\_5866](https://workshops.artstudentsleague.org/course/Sondow-WS-Sculpture_cd_6471_5866)
- Beaux-Arts Academy** Rome, Italy – Salt Lake City, UT – New York, NY – Washington D.C. **2014-2015**  
*Professor*
- Leading drawing tours of major Museums, classical monuments, and architectural masterworks in Rome, Florence, Naples, Siena, Salt Lake City, New York City, and Washington D.C.
  - Teaching cast drawing, drawing from life, still life composition, sculpting the head, master copying, and plaster-casting.
  - Organizing daily drawing/art history excursions during the program's three months in Italy.
  - Collaborating with the Architecture, Painting, and Art History Professors to refine the inter-disciplinary curriculum we created the previous year in NYC, with a heavy emphasis on the mutual interdependence of these sister disciplines

**Grand Central Academy** New York, NY

2014

*Instructor*

- Teaching full and part time students to sculpt the figure.
- Presenting lectures on the Russian Academic tradition.  
<http://grandcentralatelier.blogspot.com/2014/04/examing-russian-academic-tradition.html>  
<http://grandcentralatelier.blogspot.com/2014/04/james-sondows-evening-sculpture-class.html>

**Ilya Repin State Academy**

2015 - 2017

**Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture, St. Petersburg, Russia**

2007 - 2012

*Master's Degree Recipient and Teaching Assistant*

- Creating figurative sculpture including: medals, reliefs, and in the round, in a range of scales including larger than life size.
- Drawing from the model 4-7 hours a day, six days a week for 7 years in a variety of materials and scales.
- Working from live models both nude and clothed; developing compositional skills designing poses.
- Creating frames to Stretch and tone paper in preparation for large scale multi-figural drawings.
- Welding large-scale armatures.
- Casting in plaster, ceramic, various plastics, and bronze using a variety of plaster and rubber molds.
- Using a galvanized metal process to cast smaller pieces and small reliefs and medals.
- Creating scale model maquettes of my sculptures and their proposed buildings for critique.
- Transferring plaster sculpture to wood and stone using a pointing machine.
- Painting pieces cast in plaster with a patina to look like bronze.
- Mastering artistic anatomy through years of drawing and sculpting human and equine bones, casts of Houdon's anatomical sculptures, and Michelangelo's David and Sculpting a half-life size écorché
- Drawing and sculpting from numerous casts of Greek, Roman and Neo-classical sculptures from the academies cast collection – one of the oldest and largest in the world.
- Three summers drawing, and sculpting horses at the Russian Institute of Horse Breeding (VNIK), learning differences in proportions of various breeds of horses with a master sculptor of horses and learning comparative anatomy from the horse veterinarians working there.
- Summer copying from original old master drawings in the Département des Arts Graphiques at the Louvre (Paris, France).

As a Teaching Assistant fulfilled the following roles:

- Coordinating quick-sketch classes.
- Identifying and scheduling new models
- Facilitating new student orientation
- Organizing materials for class
- Assisting new students with welding, casting, and building armatures

**Beaux-Arts Atelier** New York, NY

2013-2014

*Instructor*

- Leading drawing tours of museums and outdoor sculptural monuments in conjunction with the art history instructor.
- Researching not only the curriculum of the Russian Academy, but also of the premiere fine art high schools in Saint Petersburg where most of the students are trained for many years before the Academy.

**Studio In a School** New York, NY

2004 – 2007, 2012-2014

*Teaching Artist, Facilitator*

- Facilitating the use of technology to create formative and summative assessment strategies in collaboration with art teachers for grades K-12 in the New York City public schools with support of a grant from the Department of Education.
- Exploring artistic modalities including drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, collage, and animation.
- Developing and implementing curriculum consistent with and exceeding the Blueprint for Teaching and Learning in the Arts.
- Designing and supervising permanent installations of students' art.

**Rubin Museum of Art** New York, NY

2004 - 2007

*Educator*

- Developing art programs exploring the museum's collection with support of an NEA grant
- Administering and implementing semester-long art projects in a variety of public schools in NYC with grades K –12 culminating in an exhibition of the children's art at the Rubin Museum.
- Creating professional development programs for public school teachers about the success of this collaborative model.

**Saint Ann's School** Brooklyn, NY

1997 - 2007, Summers 2008 &amp; 2009

*Art Teacher, Master Teacher, Associate Teacher, Mathematics Teacher, In-House Tutor*

- Creating multi-disciplinary curricula to develop students' academic and artistic skills, relying heavily on visual arts and creative writing while training and supervising associate teachers to help implement curriculum.
- Teaching stop-motion animation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzB8ugvC2H0>

## EXHIBITIONS

- 2023**      **Audubon Artists** New York, NY  
*81<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition*
- National Sculpture Society** New York, NY  
*Melting Pot: The Diverse Cultures of the Americas*
- 2022**      **Audubon Artists** New York, NY  
*80<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition*
- 2021**      **Princeton Academy Autumn Salon** Princeton, NJ  
*Annual Exhibition and Auction*
- 2020**      **Kate Oh Gallery** New York, NY  
*“In the Present Tense.” Two Person Exhibition*  
[Wall Street International Magazine](#)  
[New York Jewish Week](#)
- 2019**      **The American Artists Professional League** New York, NY  
*91<sup>st</sup> Grand National Exhibition*
- Allied Artists of America** New York, NY  
*106<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition*
- Art Renewal Center**  
*14<sup>th</sup> Annual ARC Salon*
- Manhattan Arts: Healing Power of Art**  
*Art That Lifts Our Spirits*
- Hudson Valley Art Association** Old Lyme, CT  
*86<sup>th</sup> Annual National Juried Exhibition*
- Bronx Canvas** Bronx, NY  
*South Bronx Open Studio*
- Hell Gate Arts** Bronx, NY  
*South Bronx Independent Artists Coalition*
- Vero Beach Art Club** Vero Beach, FL  
*“New Dimensions”*
- Salmagundi Club** New York, NY  
*“Figuratively Speaking”: An Exhibition of Portraiture and Figurative Art*
- 2018**      **It's the Bronx** Bronx, NY  
*Bronx Art Festival*  
<https://www.facebook.com/james.sondow/videos/10155950501120778/>
- The American Artists Professional League** New York, NY  
*90<sup>th</sup> Grand National Exhibition*
- 2 Americans At the Saint Petersburg Academy of Art** Saint Petersburg, Russia  
*First solo exhibition of sculpture by an American in the Repin Academy's 250 year history*  
<https://news.jeps.ru/lichnaya-istoriya/dzhejms-sondou-evrejskij-xudozhnik-iz-ssha-intervyu.html?fbclid=IwAR3NBOCm22G65R7Pp28aX93LGMcrSdzHIJWw-0H763OtFE6b5ykZ6Dv-Rag>
- 2017**      **Kate Oh Gallery** New York, NY  
*“All In One” group exhibition*  
<https://www.kateohgallery.com/aiojames-sondow>

<b>2015-2017</b> <b>2008-2012</b>	<b>Repin Academy</b> Saint Petersburg, Russia <i>Annual Fall and Winter Exhibitions</i>
<b>2011, 2015, 2016</b>	<b>Union of Artists</b> Saint Petersburg, Russia <i>Annual juried sculpture exhibition</i>
<b>2015</b>	<b>Grand Central Atelier</b> Brooklyn, NY <i>Exhibition of Professors' work</i>
<b>2014</b>	<b>Classical Art Conference</b> Salt Lake City, UT <i>Exhibition of Professors' work</i>
<b>2010, 2011</b>	<b>Russian Institute of Horse Breeding (VNIK)</b> Ryazan, Russia Summer Exhibitions of Equine Sculpture and Drawing
<b>2004 - 2007</b>	<b>MadArts Gallery</b> Brooklyn, NY <i>Annual Fall, Winter, and Spring Exhibitions</i>
<b>2005, 2006, 2007</b>	<b>Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition</b> Brooklyn, NY <i>Participated in annual Park Slope Open Studio Tours</i>
<b>2005</b>	<b>K-Place Gallery</b> New York, NY <i>Group Exhibition</i>
<b>2004</b>	<b>Chelsea Art Museum</b> New York, NY <i>Group Exhibition</i>

## HONORS

<b>Audubon Artists</b> New York, NY <i>81<sup>st</sup> Annual Exhibition</i> <i>Marion &amp; Gil Roller Memorial Award in Sculpture</i>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Audubon Artists</b> New York, NY <i>80<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition</i> <i>Gold Medal of Honor in Sculpture</i>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Allied Artists of America</b> New York, NY <i>106<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition</i> <i>Rhoda Sherbell Award for Portraiture</i>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Portrait Society of America</b> Atlanta, Georgia <i>21<sup>st</sup> International Portrait Competition</i> <i>Certificate of Excellence</i>	<b>2019</b>
<b>The National Sculpture Society</b> New York, NY <i>Elected Member</i>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Hudson Valley Art Association</b> Old Lyme, CT <i>86<sup>th</sup> Annual National Juried Exhibition,</i> <i>Agop Agopoff Memorial Award for sculpture</i>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Ilya Repin State Academy Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture,</b> St. Petersburg, Russia <i>First and only American to graduate with highest honors.</i> <i>Only American Sculptor Offered an Exhibition at the Academy,</i> <i>with <a href="#">Exhibition Opening video</a>, <a href="#">press</a>, and <a href="#">national television coverage</a></i>	<b>2017</b>
<b>The National Sculpture Society</b> New York, NY <i>National Sculpture Competition, Gloria Medal</i>	<b>2013</b>
<b>The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts</b> Philadelphia, PA <i>XXVI National Sculpture Competition, 2<sup>nd</sup> place</i>	<b>2005</b>