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DRAWING PROGRAM:
Structural Figure Drawing
The Torso

OVERVIEW

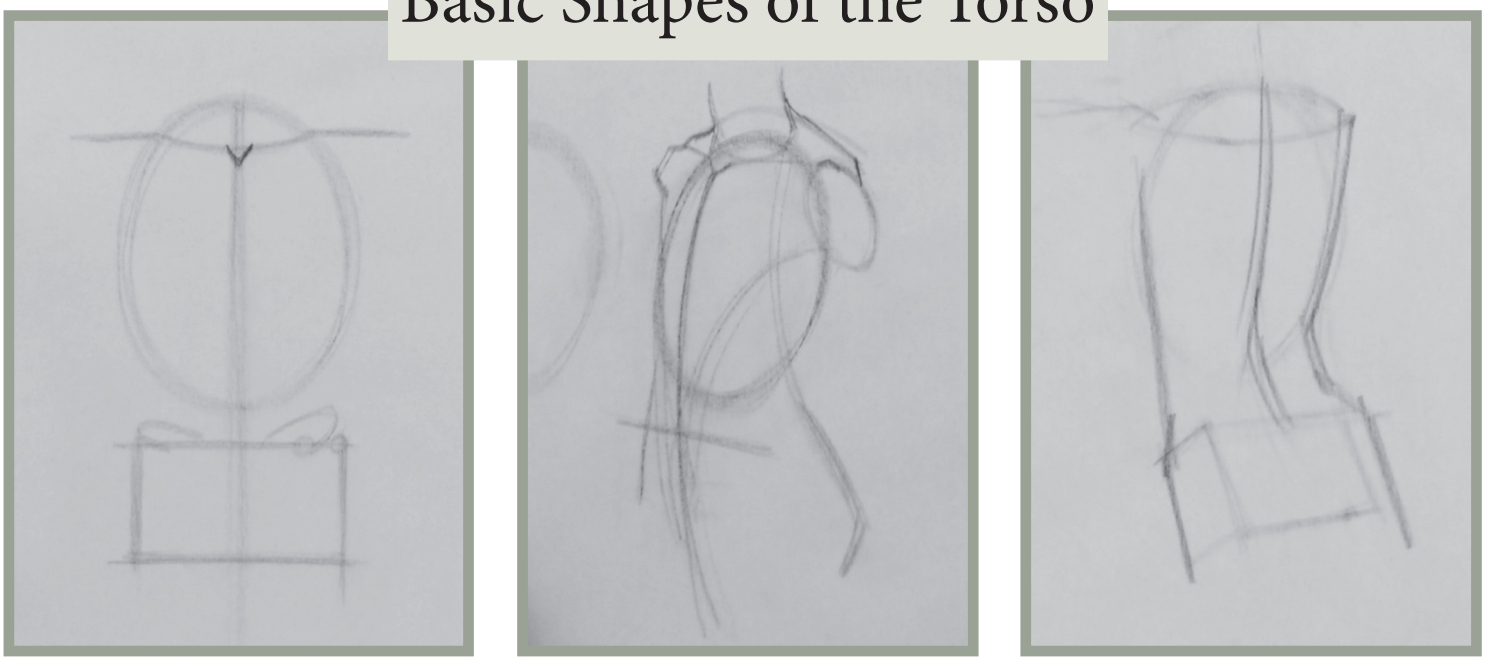
The torso is the center from which most other parts of your drawings will be built off of. Since it provides the central structure for the body it is very important to understand the different anatomical components and how they overlap and interlock. As with all other parts of the body we can break it down into its simple shapes and forms, and then start to build more on top of that. As with the other lessons in this course, we won't be getting into highly in-depth or advanced anatomy, but rather general structure and basic interlocking forms. Copy Brian's drawings and then apply that knowledge to the reference at the end and you will be surprised at how much you can learn.



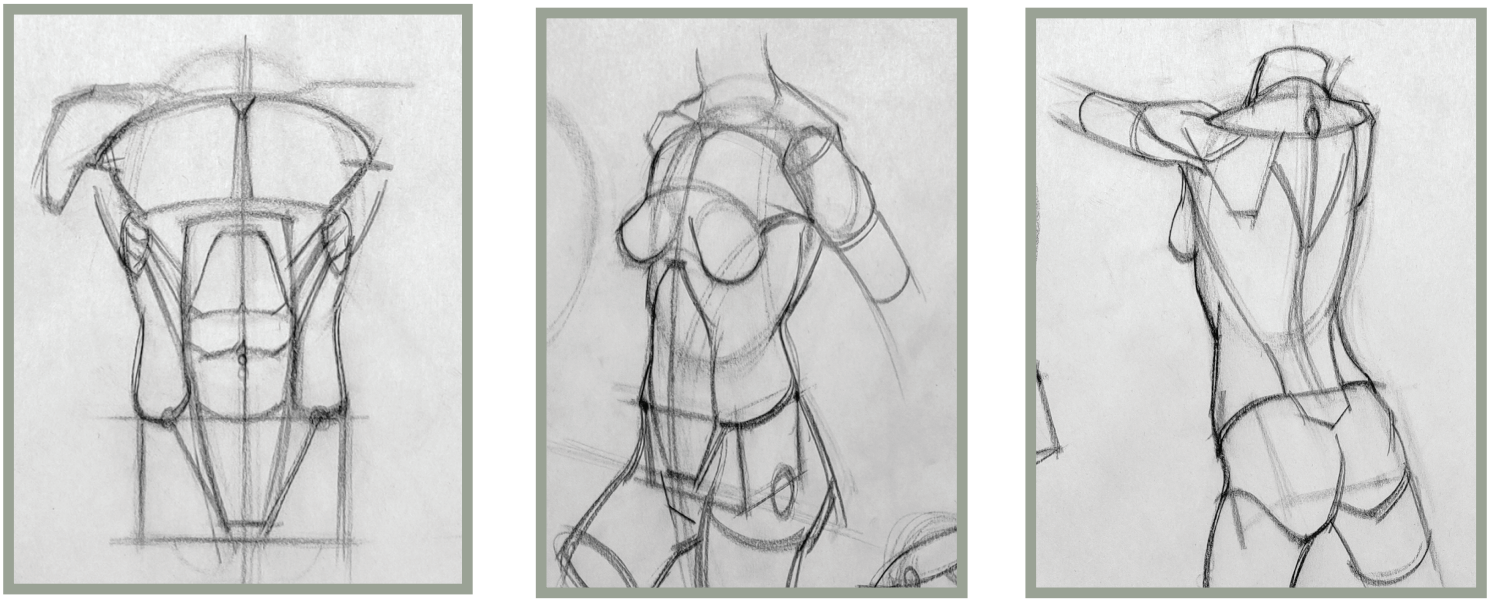
Preserving the Traditions of the Masters

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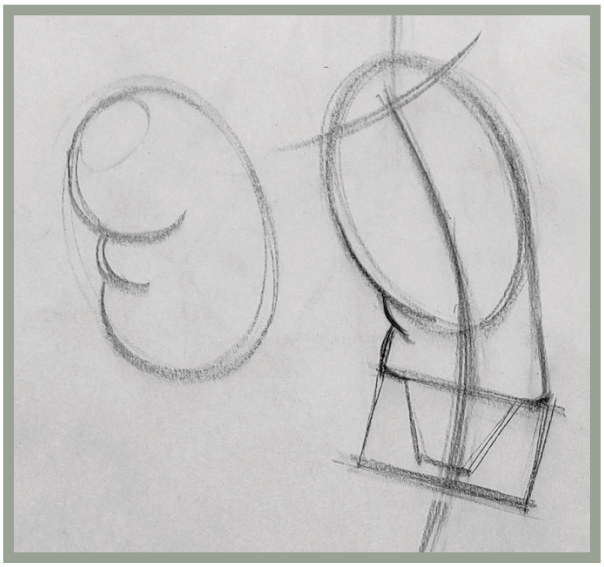
Basic Shapes of the Torso



We have covered some of this stuff extensively in the Figure Drawing and Quicksketch Fundamentals courses, but you shouldn't underestimate the importance of being able to draw these basic shapes well. If you're having trouble getting this down, you should practice just these shapes for a while. Three dimensional structure and anatomical information will be based upon these simple gestures and if your foundation isn't correct then adding more information to it won't save you. What will save you is a lot of practice!



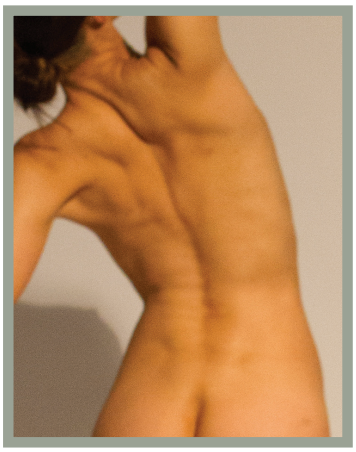
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Try to see if you can identify the active vs. inactive and overlaps. Some are more subtle!

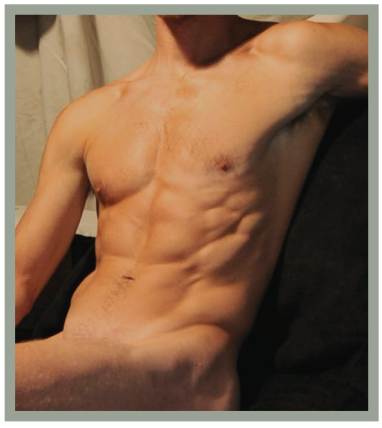
The Pinching Effect

A very important concept to familiarize yourself with in drawing torsos is the pinching effect. One side will be "active" and the other "inactive". If we look at the drawing, the side that is being pinched, the left side, is the active side. Since there is less going on in terms of forms and overlapping, the right side is considered inactive. Sometimes on poses you will have to make a judgment call on what is active vs. inactive. Not every pose has a definite active or inactive side. Sometimes a symmetrical pose will not make a good drawing because it is missing a key component that makes art appealing: dominance and sub-dominance. In other words, **contrast.**





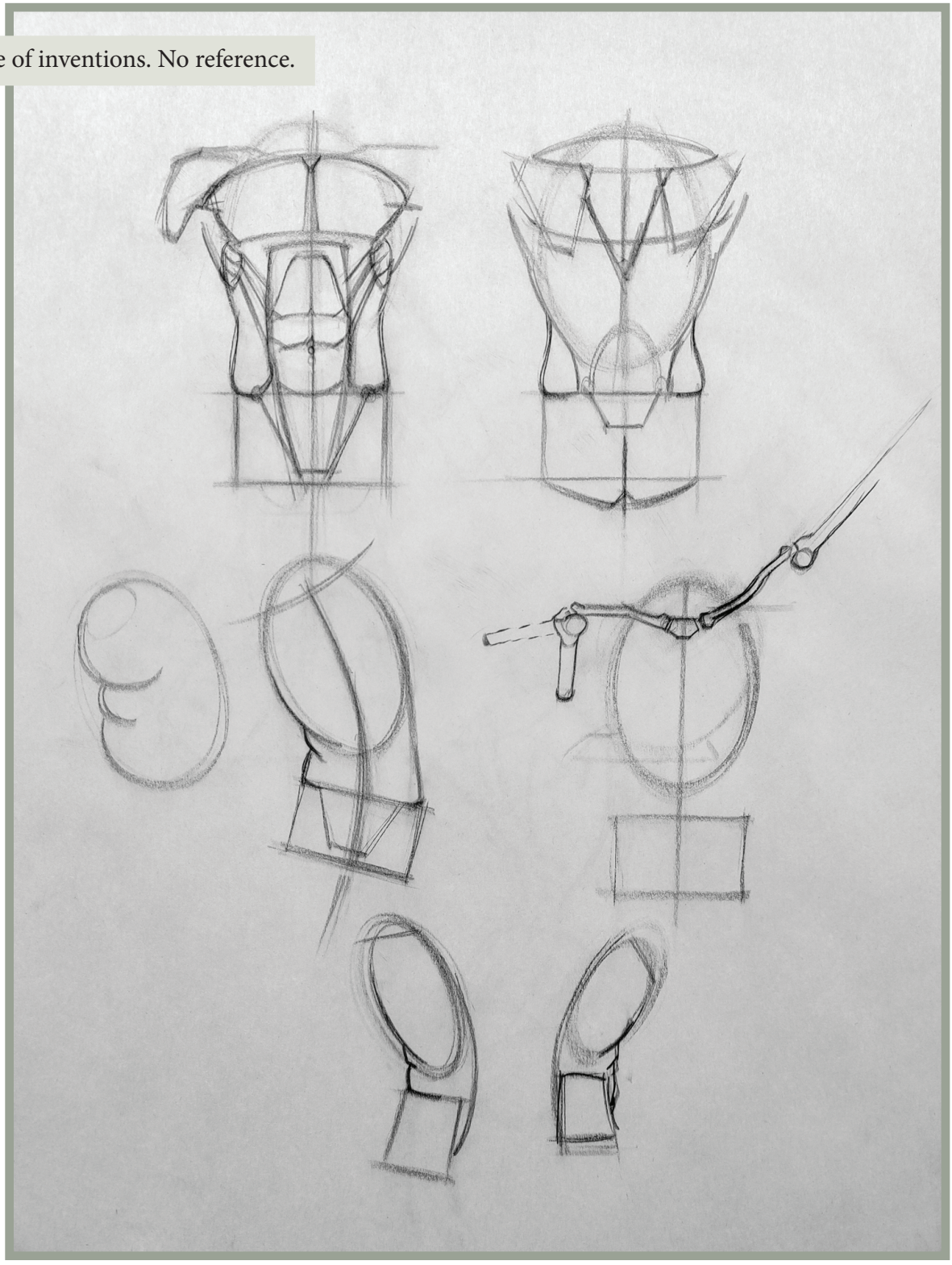


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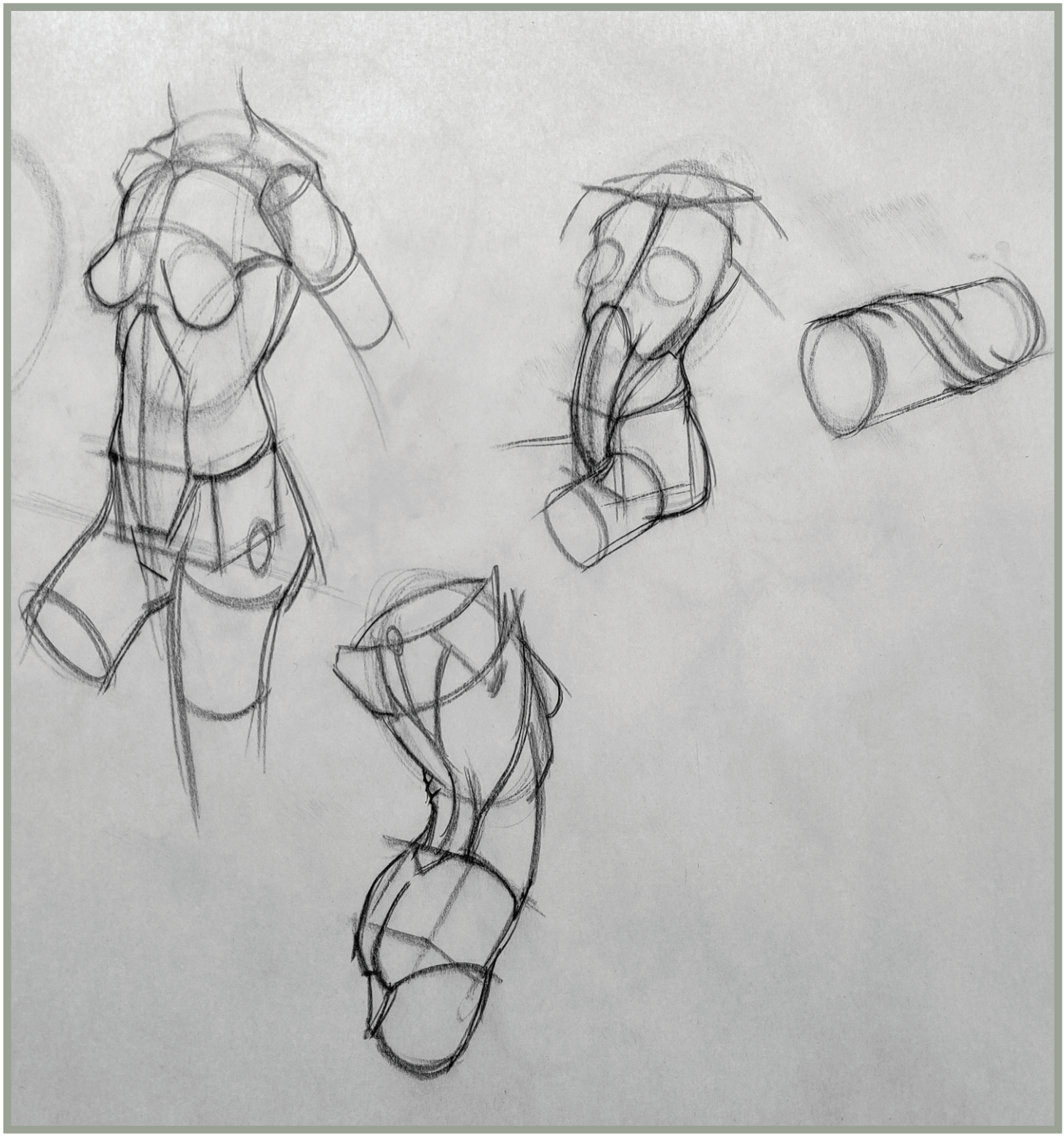
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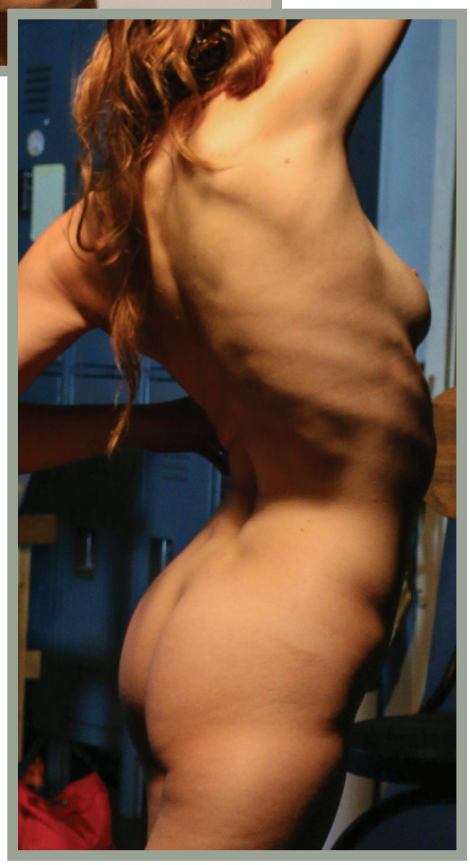
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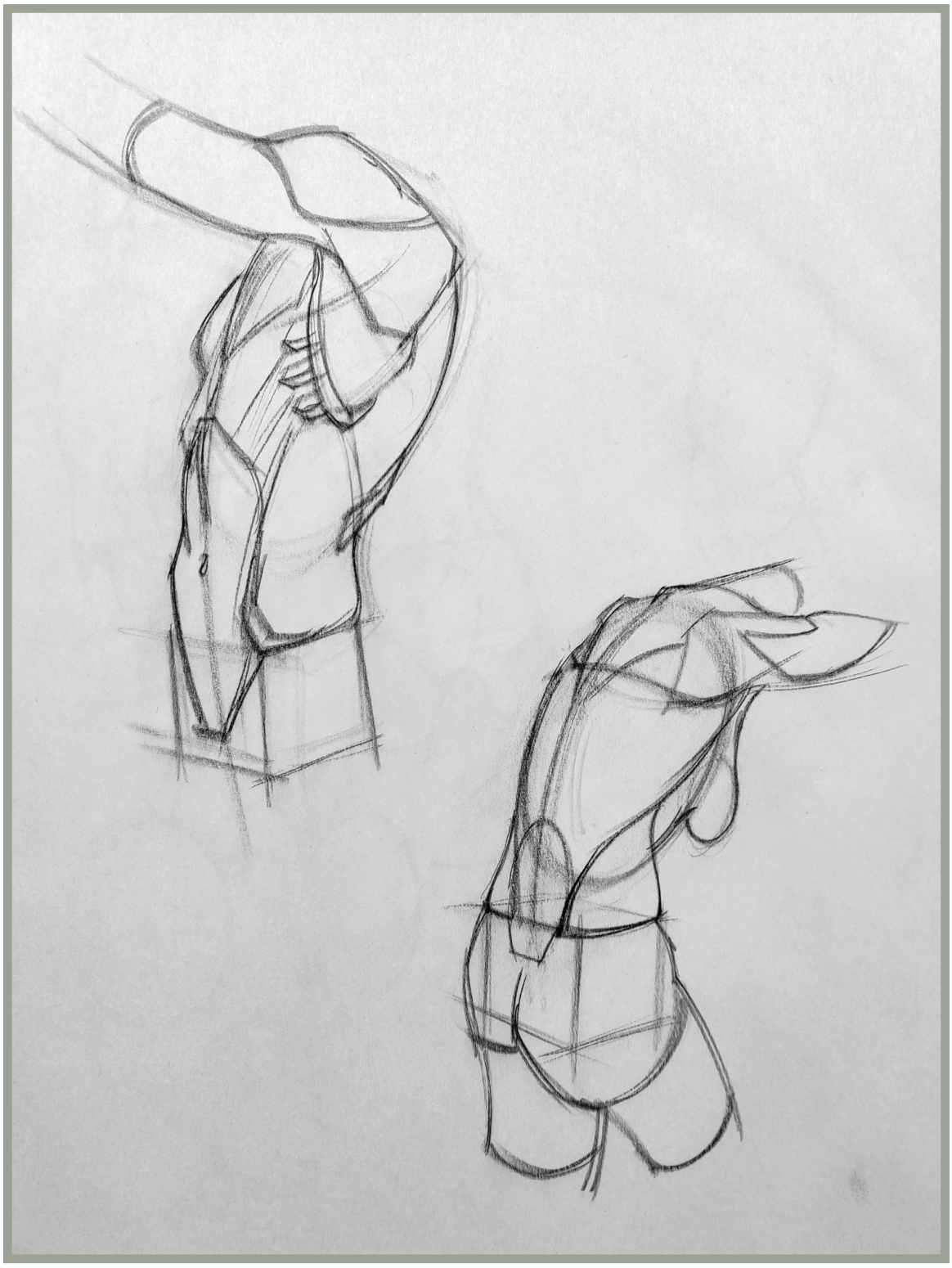
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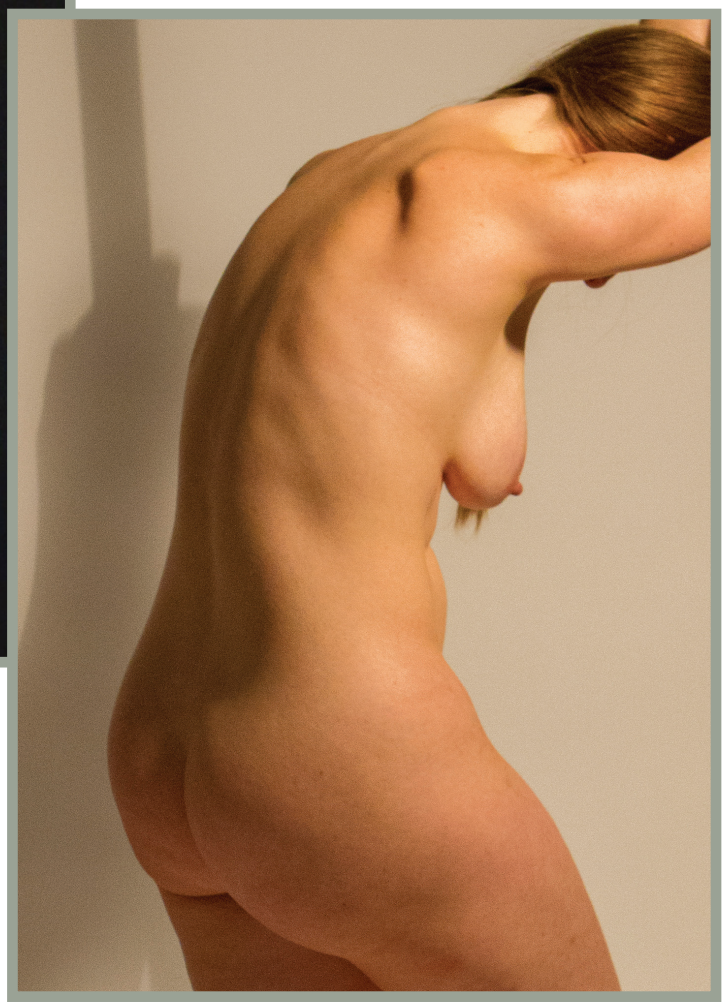


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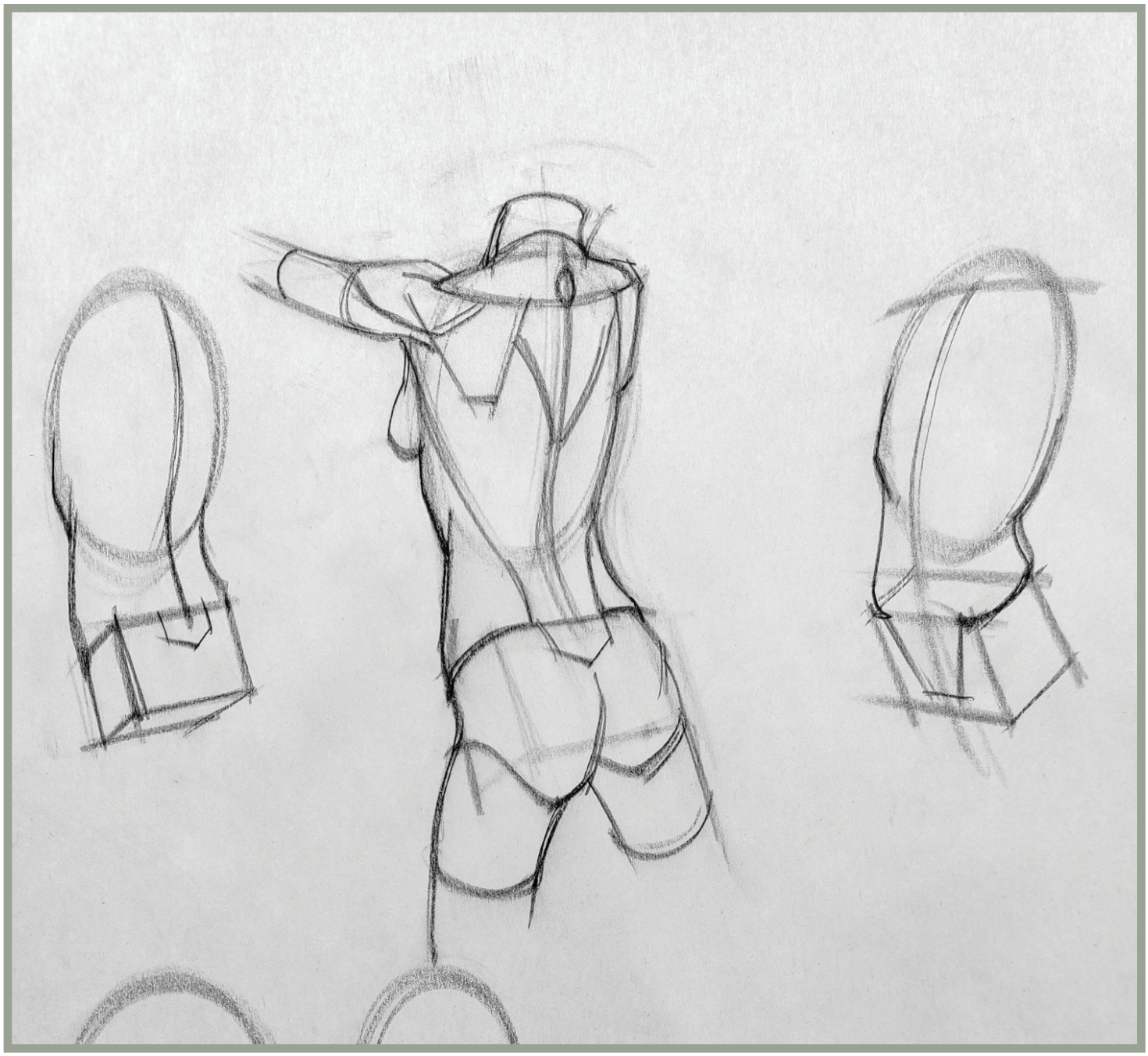


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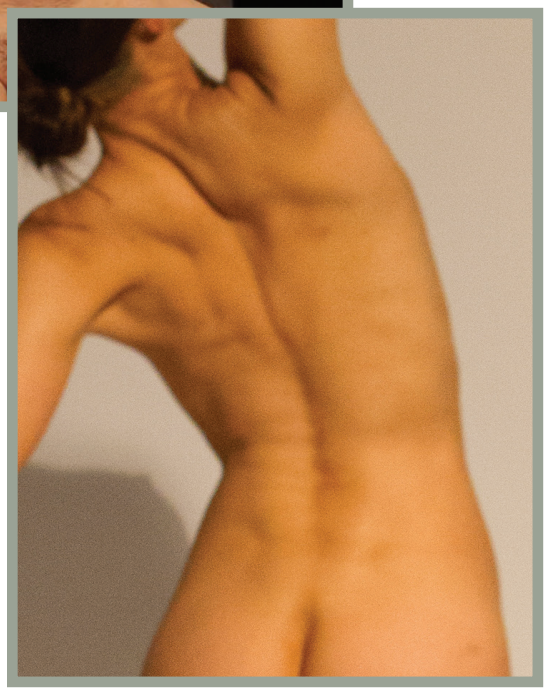
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ASSIGNMENT: Use the reference photos below and apply what you've learned about drawing torsos. Make sure to identify the active and inactive side and the overlaps of the anatomy based upon Brian's drawings. Don't forget about the Reilly Rhythm connections and drawing from side to side! Please fit all three drawings on one page.







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