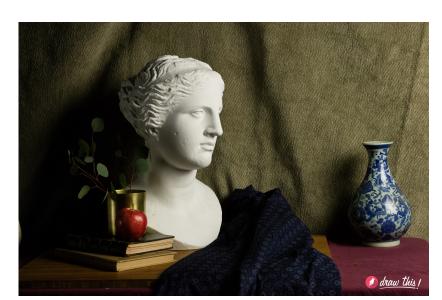
Still Life Drawing in Charcoal Drawing in Charcoal

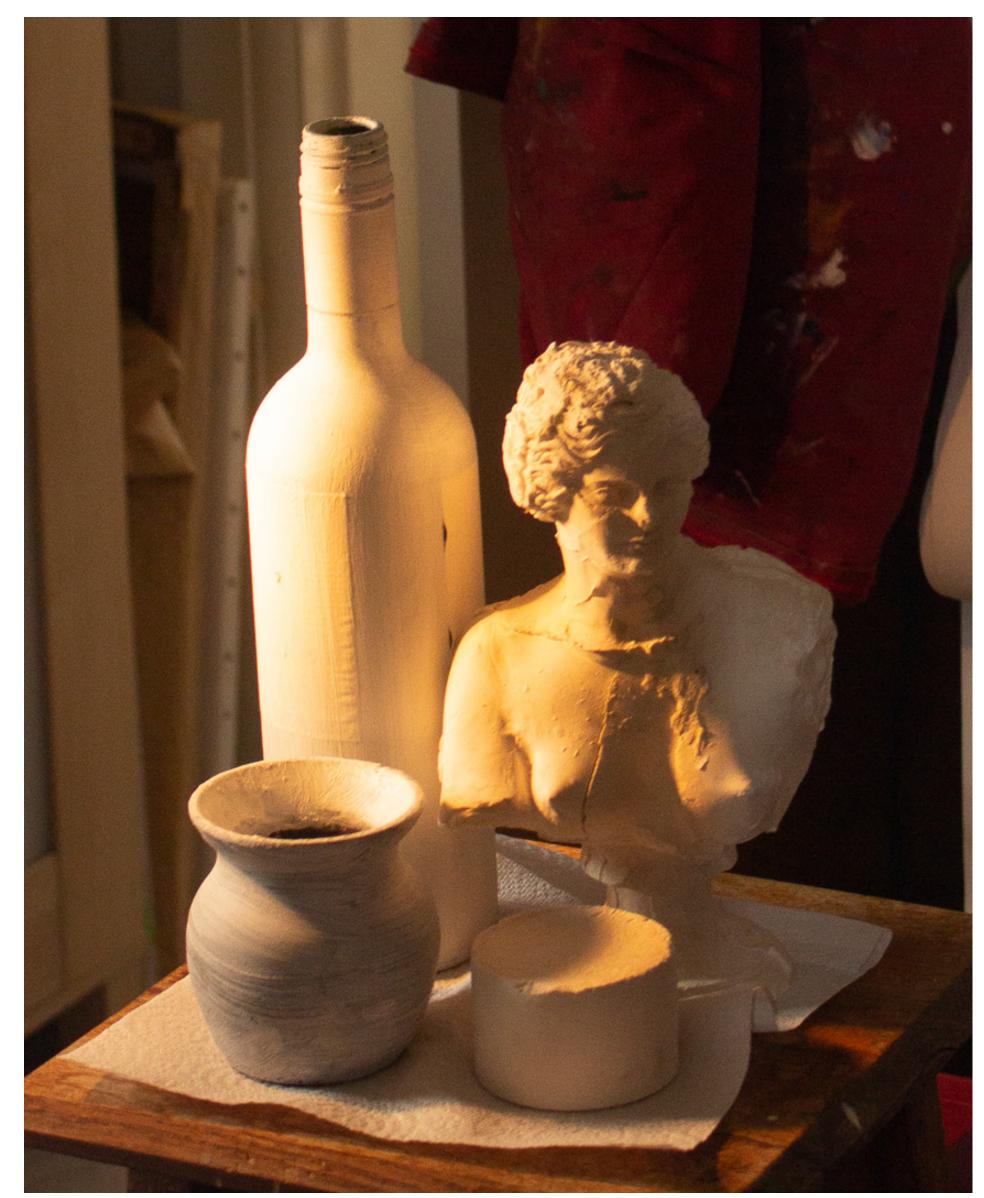
Still Life Group Arrangement

- Arrange your objects so they sit on a surface and have interesting variation of height and depth
- Light from one side slightly above the objects



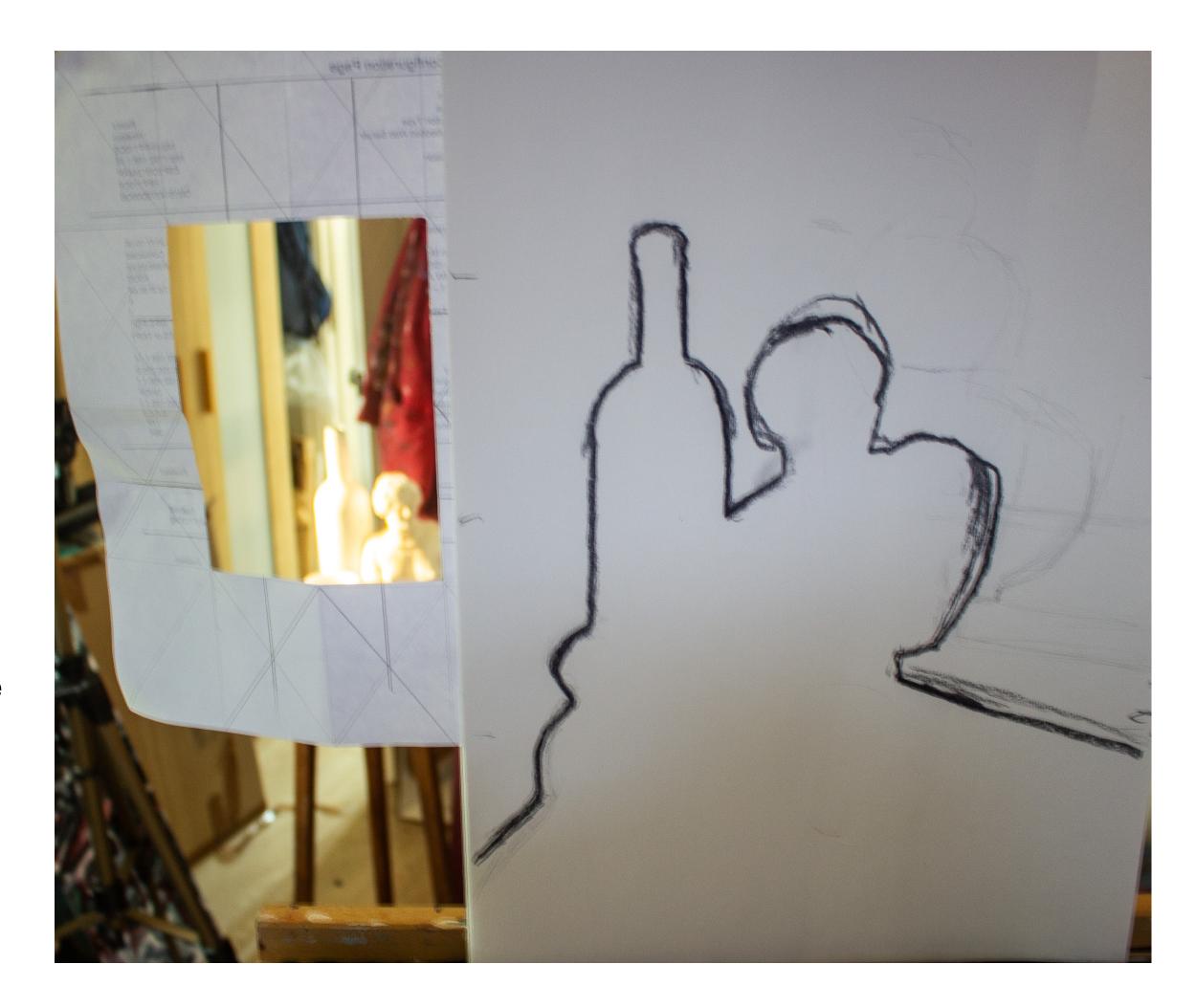






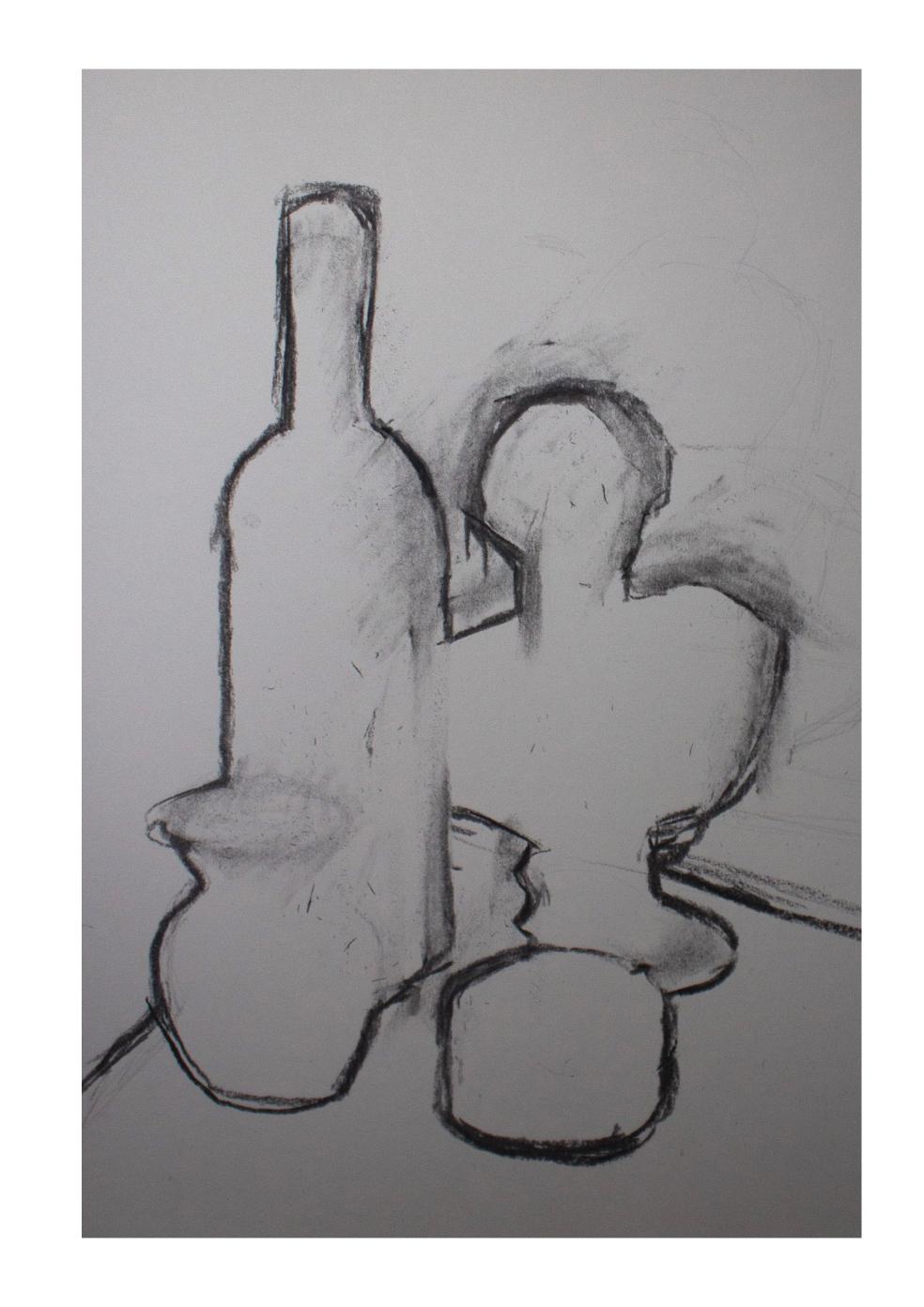
Viewing Frame Line and Shape

- Make a viewing frame in the same proportions as your drawing / painting surface
- Mark a grid around the edges into 1/3ds
- Hold the frame so you can view the subject comfortably edge to edge (this photo isn't accurate but gives you the idea)
- If possible tape it in position
- Mark the 1/3s on your paper
- Make a mark on the paper where the edge of the table surface starts (on the left) - do the same on the right
- Gauge the position of the maximum height of your group of objects and put in other marks to position the height and width of other objects. (Just the outer perimeter - don't worry about the internal objects yet)
- Draw the whole outline of the group from left to right or vice versa. Check you are happy with this outline



Still Life Shape Isolating the lower area

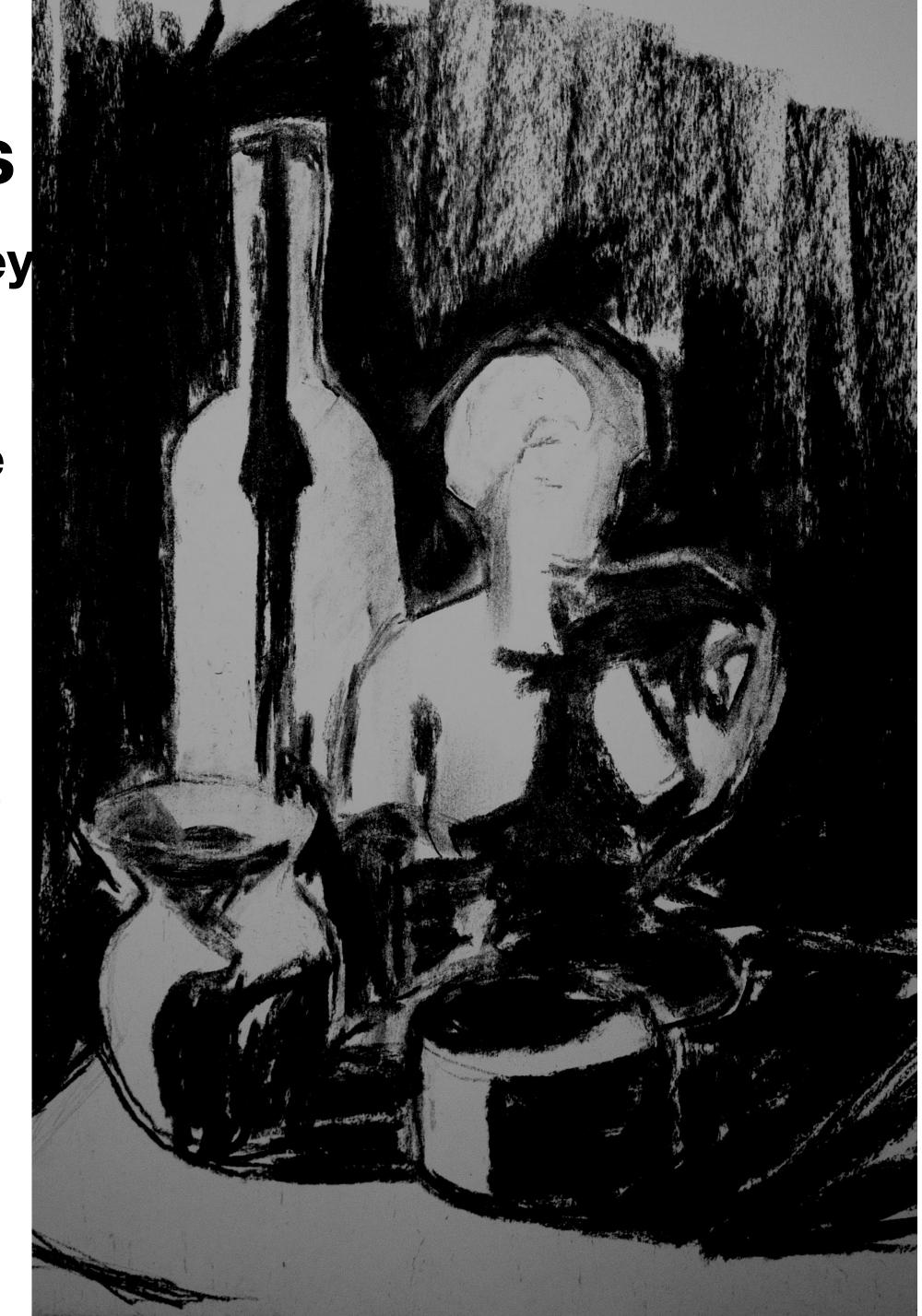
- Begin at the same place to the left and draw the lower limits of the shapes with one line
- This is so you can make adjustments to the drawing and enables you to observe the objects as shapes rather than 3D objects.
- Try to do this with one line and as it develops it may touch the upper line.
- It helps to put in positioning marks before you do this - to train your eye in positioning points in space to a 2D surface



Shapes of Shadows

Developing a tonal / value key

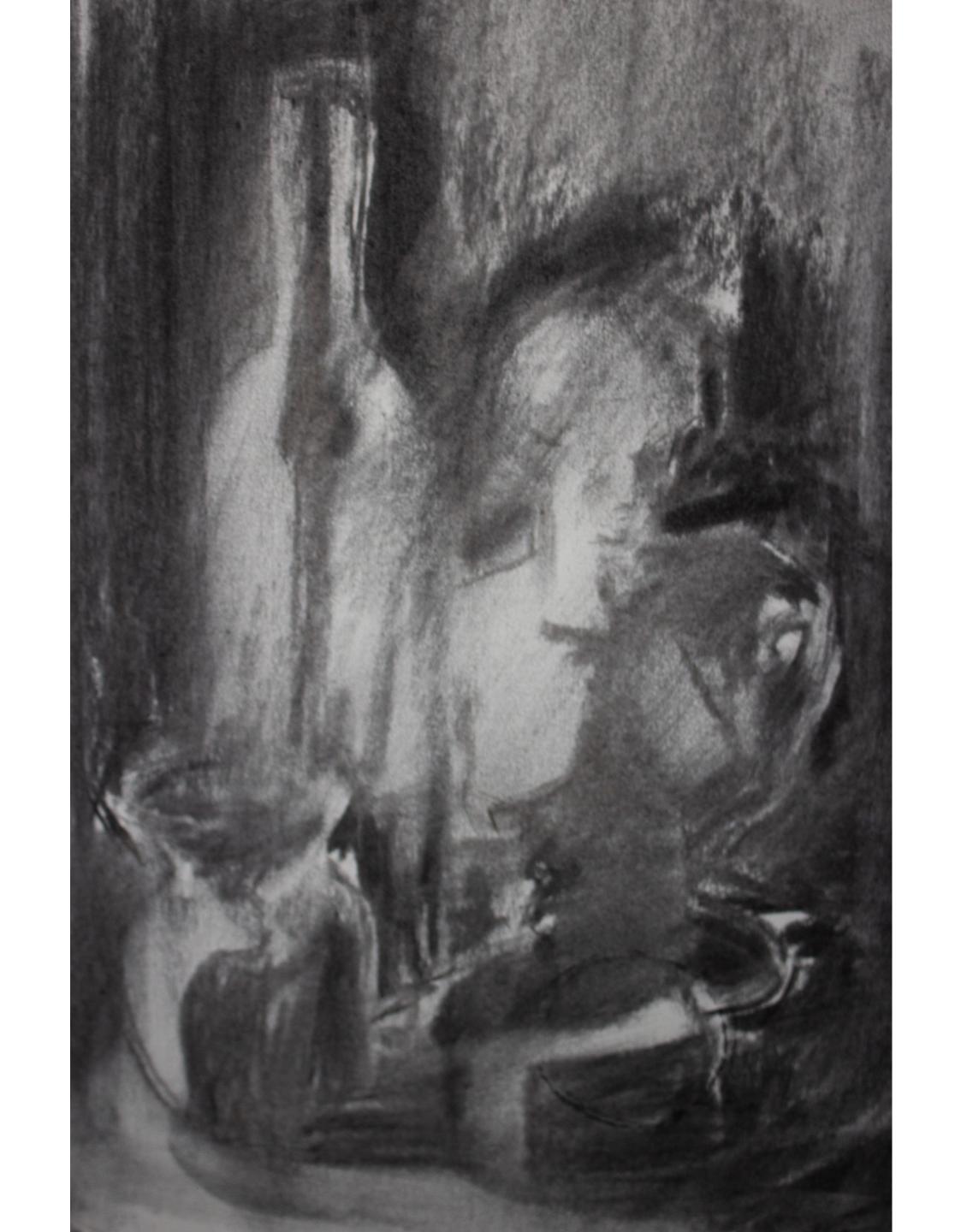
- Look for the darkest shapes
- With your charcoal begin at the centre of the shapes press on hard and work to the edge of the darkest shapes on the objects, background and surface.
- You will start to see the form of the objects appear
- Don't differentiate between surfaces - if its dark on the object and dark on the surface they may merge - you are just looking for the darkest tone.





Mid Tones

- Look for the mid tones shapes and add these in
- You may find it easy to blend your dark tones to the mid ones
 but remember to add the dark tones back in as they will lighten if you do this



Detail and highlights

- You can now sharpen the charcoal and add detail.
- Use an eraser to pick out highlights - the lightest lights
- Look for some reflected light on each of the objects / surfaces and lift these gently
- Congratulations you're now ready to apply this to a painting which we will work in a similar way

