

## **Materials for Taking Your Paintings To The Next Level**

with

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### **About the course**

*Taking your paintings to the next level is a matter of having a principled approach, knowing the best ways to practice, taking time to experiment, facing our fears, turning weaknesses into strengths, and getting some fair and honest feedback.*

*This workshop will focus on how to foster your own growth and have fun doing it.*

*Special emphasis will be placed on developing a principled painterly process that works every time for every subject.*

### **References**

In preparation for the workshop I encourage you to gather photos to use as reference for your paintings. Any subject you like is great! I strongly discourage using magazine pictures or photos taken by someone else. I will have reference photos available just in case you are not able to gather your own. I recommend bringing a laptop or tablet to class to display reference photos as you work. Printed photos are okay, but the electronic devices have a lot of advantages. We'll talk about that in class.

### **Painting Grounds**

I suggest a bringing a few sizes and formats so that you will have options when deciding on your subject and composition. We will endeavor to paint a couple small paintings as well as a medium sized painting. Sizes ranging from 6x8, 8x8 8x10, 9x12, 12x12, 11x14, 12x16. I use Centurion OP DLX Linen Panels or Classen's C13DP Landscape Painting Linen mounted on Gatorfoam. Acrylic painters should work on acrylic primed surfaces. Centurion makes an acrylic primed panel, too. The Centurion panels are very reasonable and readily available online.

### **Paints**

At the very least I suggest you use a warm and cool of each primary. Any brand you choose except for Winton. Winton is a student grade paint that has relatively low in pigment and mixing strength. I think you will do better with an artist grade paint. I use Williamsburg and Winsor Newton brand oil colors.

My palette is as follows:

- Ultramarine Blue (Williamsburg)
- Sevres Blue (Williamsburg)
- Winsor Violet (Winsor Newton)
- Viridian (Winsor Newton, Williamsburg or Rembrandt)
- Alizarin Crimson (Winsor Newton)
- Scarlet Red (Winsor Newton) This is the same as Cad Red Light in other brands.
- Alizarin Orange (Williamsburg)
- Cadmium Yellow Medium (WN or Williamsburg)
- Cadmium Yellow Lemon (WN or Williamsburg)
- Raw Umber (optional) (WN)
- Burnt Sienna (WN)
- Yellow Ochre Pale (optional) (WN)
- Titanium-Zinc White (Williamsburg)
- Ivory Black (WN)

### **Medium and Solvent**

- Painting medium such as Solvent Free Gel from Gamblin, Liquin is fine. I also like Italian Wax Medium by Old Masters. I should mention that I have medium on hand when I paint but I rarely use it. I like paint straight out of the tube best.
- Gamsol Odorless Mineral Spirits (OMS). This is primarily used for cleaning brushes. I do not use it in the painting process. No Turpentine or Turpenoid please.

### **Brushes and Painting Knife**

Using brushes that are too small or using stubby worn out brushes is the downfall of most student painters. Please consider acquiring an assortment of good brushes. I suggest long flats sizes 2, 6, 8, 12. At least two of each. Natural or synthetic.

I strongly recommend Rosemary brand brushes. I typically use the following sizes. (#12 Ivory Series Long Flat, #8 Ivory Series Long Flats, #6 Ivory Series Long Flats, #2 Ivory Series Long Flat, #2 Ivory Series Egbert, #4 Master's Choice 278 Longer Filbert, #10 Master's Choice 278 Longer Filbert.

You will need at least one painting (or palette) knife. Knives are not just for mixing but also for applying paint. So, I suggest a medium sized, tear drop shaped metal knife with

a wood handle. There are a variety of brands. I use Creative Mark #T19. I strongly discourage the use of plastic palette knives. They just aren't that functional.

### **Palette**

You will need a palette to lay out your paints and mix your colors on. A wooden palette is best. Masonite or plastic palettes are acceptable. Please do not use paper palette sheets, paper plates and Styrofoam meat packaging. Those items draw the oil out of your paints leaving them stiff and difficult to use.

If you choose a wooden palette you will need to season it before use. Apply a generous amount of oil (safflower, linseed, walnut, etc.) to the palette. Wipe off excess. Allow to soak in for an hour. Repeat several times.

### **Miscellaneous Supplies**

- 8oz. or 20 oz. Brush Washer: This is a stainless steel, sealable, leak proof jar designed for Mineral Spirits. It has a stainless-steel screen in the cup for cleaning brushes. Or other suitable container such as a jar with a lid.
- Viva half size paper towels,
- Johnson & Johnson hand lotion (good for cleaning oil paint off of your hands)
- Johnson & Johnson Q-tips.
- Small purse size package of klenex tissues

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