Plein Air Painting with Byron Copland – Materials List

While there are wildly expensive plein air painting easels/setups available and if you haven't already, maybe at some point you would like to indulge in this but painting comfortably outdoors doesn't have to be expensive.

Aluminium tripod easels can be bought for around \$40 at a store like office works or likely your local art supply store, this would also require that you have a basic handheld wooden palette for colour mixing - unused paint can be stored and carried safely/cleanly in a plastic container and the wiped down palette transported in a plastic bag.

Oil paints - if you have a specific palette that you like to use then please do so. I will only judge it based on its ability to produce the range of colours we will encounter.

For example, my palette is - titanium white, paliotan lemon (cadmium yellow lemon substitute), pyrrole orange (cad orange substitute), magenta, ivory black, ultramarine blue and viridian. Fairly limited but with some highly chromatic colours that enable me to paint a large spectrum of colour. You may enhance a palette like this with some colours closer to neutrality, like browns. The main purpose of a colour on your palette is that you find it useful.

Palette knife - very important for cleaning up but can also be used for paint application

Solvent - solvents like odourless mineral spirits, turps etc. can be used during the painting process and a palette cup or a small jar of solvent is all that is required. I use solvent 75 by Langridge.

Something to carry your brushes, both clean and dirty, I use a canvas brush holder that rolls up, it can simultaneously carry dirty and clean brushes by grouping them in different parts of the roll. I don't clean my brushes until I get home so I don't have to carry around larger pots of solvent or soaps.

Surfaces - for our quicker studies the easiest solution is to use canvas paper or loose canvas simply taped to a wooden board, we can divide the paper into smaller formats using the tape, thereby having a single board with multiple surfaces for smaller sketches. As the term goes on students are more than welcome to use different surfaces like prepared panels or continue in the same fashion.

Paper towel

Plastic bag/container for dirty paper towels

*Any questions or advice needed before the start of class pertaining to gear/logistics I will address by email, further advice can be given in class.

Some equipment is available for use from VAS, like boards and basic tripod easels. Keeping in mind that all equipment has to be returned to the studio and we must have vacated the studio by 12:15pm to allow the following class to setup.

Class begins at 10am, the goal is to meet at VAS before this in order to have our equipment ready and be walking to our destination by 10am to maximise painting time. If the class wants, after the initial weeks, we can look at meeting on location to further maximise our time, but only in accordance with everyones needs.

Weather - there are a few undercover spots in the area that will provide shelter and interesting painting subjects. If the weather is too extreme we will have the opportunity to work in the studio where we can focus on exercises that will have a direct impact on our plein air painting. Days with poor weather forecast I

encourage students to dress appropriately for the rain/cold, with an umbrella to protect us when walking to our destination.