

“Painting is so easy when you don’t know how, and so difficult when you do.”

By Edgar Degas

Do you ever feel confused when working on your art, especially when using the unpredictable watercolour medium? Know different techniques but struggle to use them in the right places? Want to paint more complex pictures, but not sure how to simplify what you see? Uncertainly how to form a value study to lay the foundation for a successful composition? This course will help you tackle these challenges.

The course structure is based on key techniques and focuses on dealing with some difficulties through painting the local scenery including seascape, landscape, urban and countryside views. Whether you are looking to improve your ability to choose a scene, capture natural light and colours in your studio work, or enhance your natural and urban compositions, you'll receive valuable guidance and achieve better results in your artwork.

Materials List

A. Paper

18 x 26 mm block or pad of watercolour paper for practice and value studies. Good quality paper, 56 x 76 cm sheet (cut into four 28 x 38 cm sheets), for paintings. I use Saunders Waterford Rough 300 GSM.

B. Palette

Watercolour palette with at least three separate good mixing areas. A bigger palette is better.

C. Pigments

Any good quality pigments. Colours that I recommend:

Cerulean Blue, Cobalt Turquoise, Cobalt Blue, Ultramarine Blue, Violet, Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, Neutral Tint, Paynes Grey, Burnt Umber, Burnt Sienna, Quinacridone Gold, Yellow Ochre, Cadmium Yellow, Lemon Yellow, White Gouache. (These are suggested colours, you're welcome to use what you have)

D. Use brushes what you're comfortable with. I normally use:

Squirrel mop brush #14, #18 for the first wash. Synthetic brush #10, #12, #14 for the intermediate washes and detail work. Rigger for tiny details and lines. Sable or any soft brush #10 for foliage and trees.

E. Board: Hardboard, Plastic Board or Plywood. Minimum size: 45x35cm.

F. Others

- 2B pencil and kneaded eraser
- Small Spray Bottle
- Water container
- Household sponge or natural sponge
- Paper towel
- Roll of Artist's tape
- Hairdryer