

School of the Arts 2009

## **Guided Instruction for Experienced Oil and Acrylic Painters with Mary Diman**

**You probably have oil or acrylic paints and supplies you enjoy working with. This is a list of suggested supplies.**

**EASEL** - An easel is **needed** in the studio at SOA. A table easel is acceptable, but even better, is an adjustable, full-sized easel.

**LAMP** - (optional) a small unbreakable light source and some extension cords will be helpful at your work-station in the studio.

A small **HAIRDRYER** (optional) to speed drying is useful - if you work in acrylic.

**NEEDED** in every artist's toolbox:

a small ruler

a small mirror

a pair of scissors

masking tape

a bar of gentle soap to clean brushes

a large roll of good paper towels (Viva is the best)

pencils, erasers, vine charcoal for sketching

small pliers or tool for opening stuck paint tubes

small sketch pad, for working out composition problems

a smock, old shirt, apron, etc., will help keep your clothes clean.

your painting ideas, photos, sketches, favorite still life materials.etc.(Some still life materials will be provided by the instructor but you may have your favorites if you plan to paint still life)

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### **OIL PAINT**

Painting using oils is the most traditional kind of painting. Water soluble oil paints are now available. Many artists do not care for how they handle - others love them. Water soluble oils can dry more quickly than traditional oils and are handled almost the same.

### **OIL PAINTING BRUSHES**

Good quality bristle artist oil painting brushes, either natural hog bristle or synthetic bristle are fine. Brushes come in Flats, Rounds, Brights and Filberts.

If you can find filberts they combine the best attributes of all the others. Either way get a variety of shapes and sizes - #2, 4, 6, 8, 10. And one round - #1 or 2 nylon or red sable.

### **OIL PAINTING SURFACES** (called the "support")

Artist painting panels (cardboard covered with primed canvas) are inexpensive, lightweight, easy to handle, and archival.

Or pre-stretched and primed canvases are readily available and, in addition to offering an archival and pleasant surface, also provide a subtle "bounce" that many artists enjoy.

Either way get a variety of sizes. You may do a painting a day or more, so bring enough canvases.

8" x 10" 11" x 14" 12" x 16" or larger, (or smaller, if you like miniatures) depending on your preference.

## **OIL PAINT**

You probably have a palette (color selection) you prefer. Suggested color are:

Cadmium Yellow Light

Yellow Ochre

Alizarin Crimson

Cadmium Red Light

Ultramarine Blue

Viridian or thalo green

Burnt Sienna

Titanium White (an extra large tube Weber Permalba White Oil Color is best)

Ivory Black

The following are optional, but useful

Thalo Blue (lovely, but very strong blue-green color - be careful, can be overwhelming)

Sap Green (a lovely, warm, transparent green)

Cadmium Orange (easily mixed)

Dioxazine Purple (the instructor's favorite)

Lemon Yellow (a light greenish yellow)

Cobalt Blue

## **OIL PAINTING THINNERS & MEDIUMS**

The most traditional thinner is pure gum spirits of turpentine, but the fumes can be offensive to some.

The traditional medium is linseed oil, but drying time can be long.

Both are recommended, however, for convenience you may use the following

1. Any odorless turpentine substitute, mineral spirits
2. A premixed painting medium. Windsor & Newton's Liquin is good because it is easy to use and dries rather quickly.

*Note:* If you are using water soluble oil paints, water is the solvent. You do not need turpentine or mineral spirits. Then get a quick-drying medium made just for water soluble oil paints to speed drying and enhance paint application.

**OIL PAINTING TOOLS** - Also get the supplies listed at the top under NEEDED, above.

Two palette/painting knives - one small, one medium, in the "stepped handle" style.

A wooden palette - medium size. OR disposable paper palette sheet OR a sheet of window glass (not good for taking in the field).

A clip on well or pair of metal wells for your palette.

Jars, bottles, to hold your medium and solvent.

Soft rags, or good paper towels.

Tool box, tote bag.

## **ACRYLIC**

Acrylic paint is highly versatile. In some ways it offers the best of both watercolor and oil painting wrapped into one medium. It is odorless, considered non toxic, thins with water, is very fast

drying, consistent, stable and archival. But it requires special handling and has some unique characteristics.

### **ACRYLIC PAINTING BRUSHES**

Good quality bristle artist oil painting brushes will work for acrylic but you can use nylon instead. You can also use watercolor brushes. An assortment is good. Any brush used with acrylic requires special care or it will be ruined. (Keep the brush wet at all times and clean it carefully after use.) Brushes come in Flats, Rounds, Brights and Filberts.

If you can find filberts they combine the best attributes of all the others. Either way get a variety of shapes and sizes - #2, 4, 6, 8, 10. And one small Round - #1 or 2 nylon or red sable.

### **ACRYLIC PAINTING SURFACES**

Acrylic paint may also be used on paper or canvas or almost any surface. Used thick or thin it is fully compatible, and used very thin it works like watercolor. For a traditional "oil painting style" get artist painting panels (cardboard covered with primed canvas). They are inexpensive, lightweight, easy to handle, and archival.

Or pre-stretched and primed canvases are readily available and, in addition to offering an archival and pleasant surface, also provide a subtle "bounce" that many artists enjoy.

Either way get a variety of sizes. Since acrylic dries quickly we tend to paint more quickly using it. Be sure to bring enough canvases or paper. You may do a painting a day.

8" x 10"      11" x 14"      12" x 16"      or larger, or smaller.

### **ACRYLIC PAINT**

Acrylic paint in tubes, traditional or heavy-body recommended. You may get the same colors as oil painters (above).

### **ACRYLIC MEDIUM**

Gloss or semi-gloss medium, 8 or 16 oz. bottle, or more, if you work large.

**ACRYLIC PAINTING TOOLS** - Also get the supplies listed at the top under NEEDED.

Two palette/painting knives - one small, one medium, in the "stepped handle" style.

A disposable paper palette - medium size, or a sheet of glass at least 10 " x 12" (not good for painting in the field). Stay-wet palettes work well with acrylic, or any waterproof smooth surface in a light neutral color.

*Another palette option for acrylic* is a home-made stay-wet palette which consists of two cookie sheets (with a lip) the same size/kind, a sheet of medium/heavy watercolor paper that fits inside the cookie sheet, and roll of wax paper (like Waxtex). One cookie sheet can be reversed over the other to serve as a lid at the end of your painting session. Then also get a couple of binder clips to hold the two cookie sheets firmly together.

Jars, bottles to hold water. A plastic water container, if you plan to paint outside.

Small paint containers to "save paint" (optional). They should have tight-fitting lids. A good idea is to get a mini muffin tin to hold paint and keep it wet for several days if covered with...

Cheap plastic wrap (cling film - but not the super cling type) and/or plastic bag(s) large enough to hold your paint saver (muffin tin).

A SPRAY BOTTLE (important!)

Plenty of paper towels (VIVA is the best).

Tool box, carrying case, etc.