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2D2427: The Ins and Outs of Observational Painting with Hector Acuna

Days: Tuesday - Friday

Dates: August 27 – 30, 2024

Times: 9am – 4pm

Required Materials:

- Opaque paint. I use oils, casein, and gouache. These are the colors I use most of the time.
*Marks minimum colors that are highly recommended.
 - Titanium White*
 - Cadmium Yellow Light / Hue / Hansa Yellow Light
 - Cadmium Yellow Medium / Hue / Bismuth Yellow*
 - Yellow Ochre
 - Burnt Sienna
 - Cadmium Red Light
 - Alizarin Permanent / Crimson*
 - Ultramarine Blue*
 - Phthalo Blue
 - Raw Umber
- Painting medium for oil paint. I prefer to use solvent-free mediums called Oleo Gel and Velazquez Medium, both made by Rublev Colors. Gamblin also makes solvent-free gel mediums that work well. One solvent based medium I've used and like is Neo Megilp. Liquin works well too. I prefer mediums that have a higher viscosity when painting en plein air. You can use more fluid mediums so long as you have containers for them.
- Gamsol odorless mineral spirits. PenArt is a turpentine-free zone.
- Brushes, 5-10, varying in shape and size. I prefer to use a mix of flat bristle brushes, soft synthetics that vary in shape and size, and a few round sable hair brushes. Bring whatever style and hair types you like. I recommend having at least one or two larger brushes (cheap house painting brushes or chip brushes work well for blocking in!)
- Palette knife

- Portable easel and contained palette or tripod mounted pochade box. I use a camera tripod and a wooden mast to hold my panels. For my palette I have a folding box that attaches to the tripod. The most important requirements are that your easel is comfortable and stable enough to make your work in a variety of wind conditions and terrain.
- Painting supports or surfaces: I like to paint on canvas or linen mounted to ¼" or ½" plywood. You can also paint on primed stretched canvas, mounted paper, Masonite, or plywood. I recommend bringing a variety of sizes from 6x8" up to 16x20". You're welcome to bring non-traditional sizes or ratios if you have them too. In terms of quantity, it's better to have more options than to run out or feel limited. Most of our paintings will be single session paintings up to 4 hours per session. I would plan to have between 6 and 12 painting supports of varying size.
- Brush cleaning container. I use a 20oz stainless steel brush cleaner made by Artists Loft.
- Small lidded container for your medium. Optional if you plan to use gel medium.
- Paper towels (preferred) or rags
- Sketchbook, I recommend one between 5.5x8" to 9x12"
- Graphite pencils. Minimum HB, 2B, and 6B pencils.

Optional Materials:

- Hat
- Bug spray
- Sunscreen
- Bag for garbage
- Folding chair or stool
- Phone
- Water bottle
- Umbrella
- Wet panel carrier to transport wet paintings
- Clips
- Tape
- Pencil sharpener
- Gloves. I use blue nitrile latex-free gloves when painting with cadmium colors and mineral spirits.

Reminders:

- Wear comfortable shoes or bring a cushion mat to stand on. I've made temporary ones that work well enough from taped pieces of cardboard.
- Apron or Smock.
- Sweater, the studios are air conditioned.

The items listed above are recommended by the instructor. You may be asked to bring more than you will actually use. The acquisition and cost of these items are your responsibility.



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