



# The Art of Watercolor

AN EXTENDED EXPLORATION OF THE MAJOR TECHNIQUES, STRATEGIES, AND CONCEPTS USED PAINTING W/WATERCOLOR.

**Ten individual four-week classes** (a live, remotely instructed, course using Zoom & other digital technologies) We'll be focusing on essential skills and knowledge to aid those who want to begin, re-introduce themselves, or further explore painting with watercolor. Choose the sections you want, one of the three series (Basic Skills, Intermediate Techniques, Advanced Projects), or the entire course.

**Try any 4 week class for \$169**

**Seniors (65+) get a 15% discount. Anyone taking them all gets a 25% discount for the full package.**

*“... art is that in which the hand, the head, and the heart ... go together.”*

John Ruskin

Watercolor really doesn't have to be mysterious. By concentrating on the basic skills and the visual wonder of working with colors held in the fluidity of water, we can begin to create watercolors that are exciting and personally significant. By embracing both patient and careful techniques as well as intuitive experimentation, we'll unlock lessons found in traditional and contemporary watercolor.

Let's open up watercolor's myriad possibilities and allow ourselves to use or even experiment with naturalistic, expressive, and/or abstract styles in this course. By employing a mindful use of brushwork, deliberate as well as playful design, healthy strategies for using both planning and improvisation, and sometimes the fearless willingness to revise an image, you will begin to make the painted images YOU want to create.

Whether you're picking up watercolor for the first time, or just brushing up on your skills after a break from painting with watercolor, The Art of Watercolor may just be the perfect place to start. This ten-class series offers a foundation in basic observational and image creation skills. The traditional, historic, modern, and contemporary concepts and strategies of watercolor will be explored so that you can incorporate them into your practice. I will even share some of my more personal and quite idiosyncratic efforts with watercolor in an effort to guide you to unite hand, head, and heart in your own painting.

**Levels:** All levels are welcome. The first two to three segments of The Art of Watercolor Course are geared towards absolute beginners and those who wish to brush up on their basic watercolor skills. The subsequent segments are designed to help you move to a more self-assured intermediate and advanced level of painting. Each class within a segment will feature short demonstrations, specific lessons, and individual feedback for each student.

**Fee: Individual 4-week Classes: \$169**

**Senior Discount 15%**

**Full Series Price (all ten courses): \$1250 (25% discount)**

**Minimum Enrollment: 4 (max 10)**

## AoWC Course Plan

(4 Meetings per each class)

### Basic Skills Series

Basic Skills #1:

**Simple Brushwork, Small Washes, & Basic Design**

Basic Skills #2:

**Layered Washes & Intro to Color Mixing**

Basic Skills #3:

**Wet-Into-Wet & Gradation**

### Intermediate Techniques Series

Intermediate Techniques #1:

**Techniques for Creating Form, Volume, & Depth**

Intermediate Techniques #2:

**Expanding Our Expressive Use of Color**

Intermediate Techniques #3:

**Getting A Lot More Out of Studies & Photographs**

Intermediate Techniques #4:

**Channeling Your Old Master & Exploring Their Techniques**

### Advanced Concepts/Projects Series

Advanced Concepts/Project #1:

**Texture, Expanded Masking, & Altered Surfaces**

Advanced Concepts/Project #2:

**Creative Opportunities with Formats and Cropping**

Advanced Concepts/Project #3:

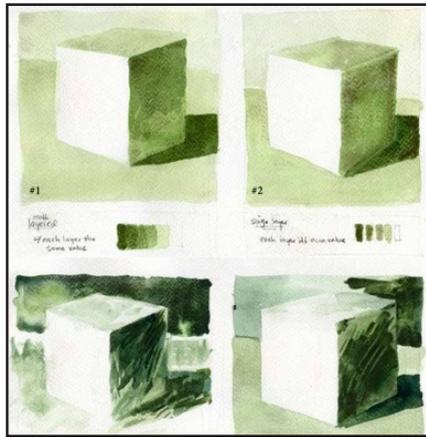
**Experiments with Additional Watercolor Media**

*“My goal is to make this course's disciplined and playful explorations an enriching experience for you. Whether your artistic goals are for personal pleasure or professional growth, I believe that anyone can learn to paint and, in doing so, develop a deeper appreciation of ourselves, of what we make, and of our intriguing world.” jh*



## The Art of Watercolor • Basic Skills Series

The AoWC Basic Skills Series consists of three independent 4-week classes. Each course will focus on the introduction of basic watercolor materials and tools and skills. This will include simple design and composition, the basics of brushwork, rudimentary color mixing, small flat and graded washes, as well as both wet-on-dry and wet-on-wet painting skills.



### Basic Skills #1

#### **Simple Brushwork, Small Washes, & Basic Design**

Let's jump right in and start to see how water loaded with a paint can create complexity and beauty. We will push our and limits as well as the limits of a brush loaded with watercolor!

After an intro, we'll explore design ideas for enlivening our painting through several basic exercises that will expand how we see the page and can use brush and water for creating line, shape, value, and color.

### Basic Skills #2

#### **Intro to Color, Mixing Color, & Layered Washes**

We know a lot about color; and yet it can be one of the hardest things to get right in our work! We'll explore color through the Qualities Color, the Nature of Paint, and the Basics of Color Mixing!

As we work with three of the major types of color mixing, you'll gain insights into the how paint and color interact and how to make and get the colors we want on our paper!

### Basic Skills #3

#### **Wet-on-Wet, Gradation, Design & Composition**

We are already pretty skilled when it come to using and coping with water. But really wet brushes, sopping wet paper, and color suspended in water can be a bit, well, like we are bit out to sea!

There really are some quite wonderful things we can do with all that water when it is infused with color! So we will learn how to manage the types of fluidity of the medium and achieve a bit more control of the image.



## The Art of Watercolor • Intermediate Techniques

The AoWC Intermediate Techniques Series consists of three independent 4-week classes. Each one explores traditional and contemporary techniques to help you begin to become really comfortable using the various watercolor materials and tools, as well as the principles of design, to create ever more successful paintings.



### Intermediate Techniques #1 **Creating Form, Volume, Depth, and Space**

Whether we are working in a realist, abstractionist, or any manner in-between, creating illusions of 3-D form or depth on flat paper sheets with watercolor can be a daunting task. We'll focus on how to use edges, layering, transparency and opacity as well as shading and shadow to create an evocation of depth and space. And we will also explore how you can use volumetric line and shape to help us depict form!

### Intermediate Techniques #2 **Expanding Our Use of Expressive Color**

We know color is beautiful but it so very frustrating! To get a better handle on color, we will revisit the Nature of Color & Paint, Color Mixing, and explore some ideas about Harmony & Contrast!

While working with three major techniques for mixing color (and demos of a few others), you'll get a chance to gain insight the relationship between paint & color. All to help you create bolder or more subtle color design!

### Intermediate Techniques #3 **Getting More Out of Studies & Photographs**

We love the improvisational potential in watercolor and we won't forget that in this short class. And we can find more info in our photos and quick sketches to help us find solutions to improve our painting's design issues ... all while gaining freshness and beauty in our watercolors!

So let us learn how to think more like jazz masters or improv poets by learn how to better use these powerful visual resources!



## The Art of Watercolor • Adv. Concepts & Projects

The AoWC Advanced Concepts & Projects Series has three independent four-week classes that offers you the opportunity to create more personal, complex, and/or ambitious watercolor images in the styles you choose while also exploring exciting historic and contemporary watercolor/watermedia concepts and strategies.



### Advanced Projects #1 **Texture, Bold Masking, & Altered Surfaces**

Watercolor on paper is, physically, an extremely flat medium and will therefore challenge us wherever we want to create images with the appearance of texture.

So, embracing that we will employ some strategies to successfully create visual depictions of texture and textural depth. We will also explore altering the paper's physical surface to increase visual effects and interest.

### Advanced Projects #2 **Creative Opportunities w/Formats & Cropping**

Most of us get stuck in a rut using the only the most standard paper sizes and formats for their work. These are obviously quite convenient but our art may grow stale.

We'll experiment, explore, and even try to be a bit more playful with formats so that we can create more visual excitement through these alternate formats and the creative power of image cropping.

### Advanced Projects #3 **Experiments: Additional Watercolor Media**

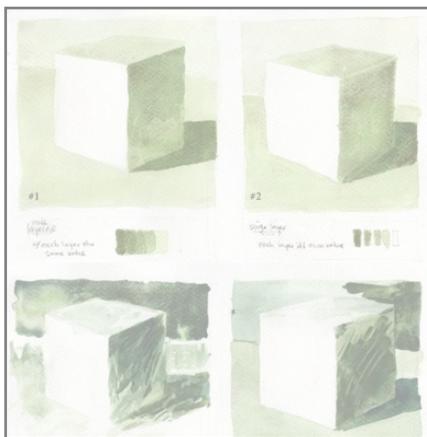
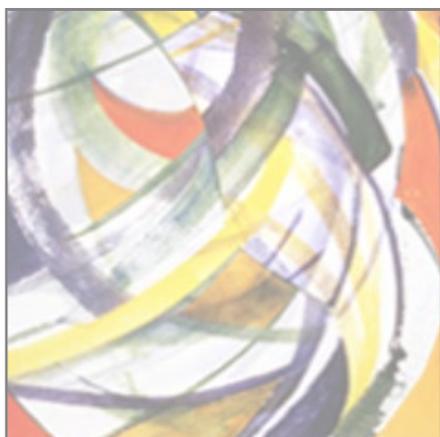
As we become more skilled and proficient watercolor, we might want to elevate or even spice up our art making process a bit.

In this series, we will push to alter, add to, and/or replace some techniques and materials with ones from other watercolor traditions and experimenting with new, modern aqueous painting materials that we can add to our tool kit!



## AoWC • Supplies for Basic Skills

We will start our 1st class (Simple Brushwork, Small Washes, & Basic Design) with just two brushes, four paint colors and a few other items. As we progress through the later courses, we'll add a few additional tools and supplies along the way. Please feel free to ask about substituting similar supplies from your current kit.



### Basic Skills #1

#### Simple Brushwork, Small Washes, & Basic Design

- 1) a 3/4" or 1" flat, short handled, watercolor brush.
- 2) a #8, #10, or #12 round, short handled, wc brush.
- 3) Paint: Hansa Yellow medium, Perylene Red, Ultramarine Blue & Burnt Umber
- 4) a 2B, HB, or 2H pencil
- 5) a Kneaded & a Vinyl eraser (Magic Rub, Facticis etc.)
- 6) 140 lb. cold pressed water color paper, suitable size range: 9"x12"-15"x18"
- 7) Paper towels or a couple thin absorbent pieces of cloth
- 8) 2 cups/bowls & a palette

### Basic Skills #2

#### Intro to Color, Mixing Color, & Layered Washes

- Supplies from Basic Skills #1 plus
- 1) Paint: Cobalt Blue, Lemon Yellow, Quinacridone Rose, Neutral Tint
  - 2) small bottle of a waterproof black ink (India Ink or other permanent ink)

#### Optional

- 3) Artist value scale
- 4) Artist's color wheel
- 5) Perhaps a small sketchbook with watercolor or mixed media paper for taking notes, recording your ideas (in words and/or visually) and maybe doing small sketches.

### Basic Skills #3

#### Wet-on-Wet, Gradation, Design & Composition

- Supplies from Basic Skills #1&2 plus
- 1) Masking Pen (by Molotow, Pebeo, Schminke, or Daniel Smith)
  - 2) one or two hand-sized (or smaller) natural or synthetic sponges
  - 3) lots more clean small towels or paper towels for picking up wet paint
- #### Optional
- 4) Small misting spray bottle



## AoWC • Supplies for Intermediate Techniques

For the AoWC Intermediate Techniques Series classes, we will add a few new paints to our palette. There will be a few additional tools and supplies, mostly optional ones, we can consider along the way. As always feel free to ask about substitutions!



### Intermediate Techniques #1 **Creating Form, Volume, Depth, and Space**

Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class supply lists for suggestions)  
plus

- 1) Paints: Indigo and an earth red that is slightly or semi opaque (Venetian Red, English Red, or Light Red, *any of these will work!*)

### Intermediate Techniques #2 **Expanding Our Use of Expressive Color**

Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class supply lists for suggestions)  
plus

- 1) Paints: Get some color YOU are intrigued by. Consider at least one of each of the secondary hues (orange, green, and violet). Look for rich bold hues that are permanent, transparent, semi-transparent, and note if they are sedimentary or staining.

#### **Optional**

- 2) Artist's color wheel

### Intermediate Techniques #3 **Getting More Out of Studies & Photographs**

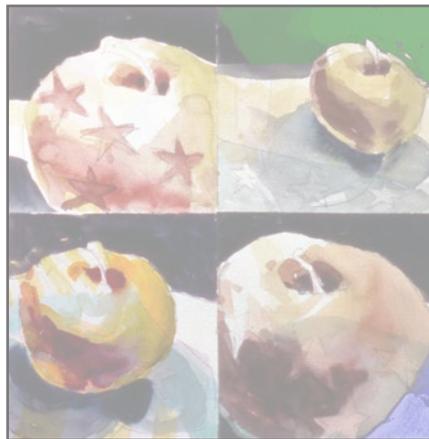
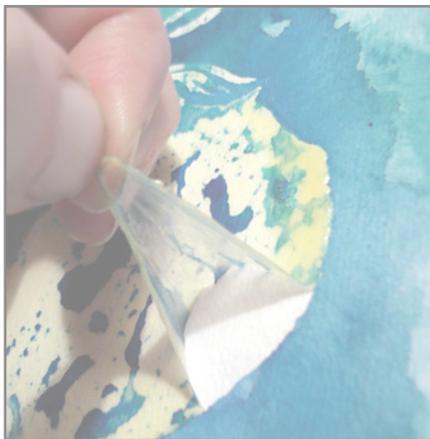
Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class supply lists for suggestions)  
plus

- 1) Tracing paper
  - 2) 12"-18" ruler/straightedge
  - 3) a fine line fiber tipped pen that doesn't "bleed" too much ink (Pitt, Micron, etc.)
  - 4) a sharp craft (x-acto?) knife
- Optional**
- 5) one or two discarded mats or a sheet of stiff paper cut into four 2"-3" wide strips
  - 6) Saral Transfer paper
  - 7) Artist's value scale



## **AoWC • Supplies for Advanced Concepts & Projects**

During the three Advanced Concepts and Projects series, we will need only a few new items. We will look at some helpful upgrades and possible additions to our basic supplies but almost all of these are completely optional.



### **Advanced Projects #1 Texture, Bold Masking, & Altered Surfaces**

Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class  
supply list for suggestions)

plus

- 1) Masking Fluid (small bottle)
- 2) disposable brush

#### **Optional**

- 3) Wax (natural or synthetic)
- 4) Acrylic Gesso, Golden Light and/or Molding Paste
- 5) Alternate brands & types of (R & HP) watercolor paper
- 6) Asian styles of cotton fiber paper (aka "rice" paper)
- 7) Yupo (white) or Duralar (frosted),

### **Advanced Projects #2 Creative Opportunities w/Formats & Cropping**

Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class-  
supply list for suggestions)

plus

- 1) a sharp craft (x-acto?) knife
- 2) 12"-18" ruler/straightedge

#### **Optional**

### **Advanced Projects #3 Experiments: Additional Watercolor Media**

Your current basic supplies;  
(see the Basic Skills #1-3 class-  
supply list for suggestions)

plus

#### **Optional**

- 1) Watercolor Pencils
- 2) Watercolor Crayons
- 3) Watercolor Markers
- 4) Watercolor Inks