

MATERIALS for “PAINTING CALIFORNIA COASTLINES” at SCVWA, June 2023

PAPER:

One of the most important things you should have for painting watercolors is good quality paper. One way to make sure the paper is of good quality is to make sure it says **100% Cotton and 100% Acid Free**. Brands like Arches, Hahnemuhel, Fabrinio, Fluid, Saunders, Windsor & Newton are acceptable. Make sure you get **Cold Press** not hot press. Paper weight should be 140lb./300gm. Watercolor paper comes in pads, blocks or large single sheets. Pads have one side that is glued, blocks are glued on all 4 sides. The minimum size to have is 9” x 12”, the maximum is 12” x 16”. If you are bringing a pad or cutting up a large sheet you will need a stiff board to tape your paper to. FoamCore boards are inexpensive but don’t last. GatorFoam is best (but expensive). MDF board or Masonite are also fine but weigh more.

Recommend: 9” x 12” or 10” x 14” Cold Pressed, 140lb. Arches Watercolor Pad (12 sheets). Gran Fin (green cover) or Rough (orange cover).

PAINT:

Watercolor paint can vary between manufacturers. Brands like Windsor & Newton, Holbein, Daniel Smith, M. Graham, Sennelier and PWC are excellent. 5ml tubes will be less expensive than 15 ml tubes, but not all companies make the smaller tubes. Paint also comes in pans or cakes, but it will be difficult to match the colors listed below in pans. Tube paints are preferred.

Colors needed for this workshop include...

Cadmium Yellow or Yellow Light, Naples Yellow, Cadmium Red, Alizarin Crimson, Cerulean Blue, Cobalt Turquoise, Prussian Blue or Ultramarine Blue, Yellow Ocher, Burnt Sienna, Burnt Umber, Raw Umber, Hookers Green, Payne’s Gray, Titanium (opaque) White. *Ancillary Colors:* Juane Brilliant #1 (Holbein or PWC), Dusk Yellow (Van Gogh), Lunar Black (Daniel Smith), Neutral Tint (any brand).

PALETTE:

It’s important to have a mixing palette with individual wells. It doesn’t have to be large, but you will need a good size mixing area. Some inexpensive palettes can be found on Amazon. Search for an airtight watercolor portable palette with 18 wells and 2 mixing areas, about 5” x 10.5” for about \$10. If you find a palette without a large mixing area have a small white (no decorations) porcelain plate. Porcelain pallets are the best but expensive, heavy and easily breakable if working outdoors.

BUSHES:

One can easily spend a fortune on brushes but it isn’t necessary. You really only need about 3 or 4 in this class. Brushes come in 4 basic shapes; flat, round, oval (or mop) and filbert. Synthetic brushes are less expensive than natural hair and may last longer. I like using flat brushes with a longer hair size to hold more paint. Make sure you have one large 1” or wider flat or oval brush for large washes. If you can afford it, a Princeton Neptune Series 4750 Synthetic Squirrel Brush Quill, size 4 to 8 is a great brush.

Brush set recommendation: Princeton Gold Synth Brush Set, #4 round, #8 round, 1/2” flat, 1” flat.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES:

A water container. A couple of pencils from 2H to 2B, nothing harder or softer. A gum (kneaded) eraser. Avoid using pink erasers because it can score the paper and leave crumbs that get into the paint. Have a roll of 1/2 or 1/4 inch “artist” or (acid-free) masking tape. Buy a reusable sponge cloth for blotting water from your brush. Also have some sheets of paper or a small drawing pad for sketching.

Reference photos will be supplied to download and print. Highly recommend getting laser prints at FedEx because office inkjet prints may not have accurate color and are unstable if they get wet. Avoid using a mobile phone to view your reference. The screen is small and water and electricity don’t mix.

Please email Rafael at desotostudio@gmail.com with questions.