



MITCH ALBALA APRIL 4-6, 2019

Media: You may work in oil, acrylic, watercolor or pastel. (Composition is universal and not media-specific!) If there are special supplies you need to work in your particular media, that are not mentioned here, please bring them. For some exercises, I specifically recommend acrylic. See "black and white acrylic paint" listing below. If you have specific questions about supplies for your particular media, please email me.

Acrylic Painters:

- In this workshop, acrylic painters MUST use a Sta-wet palette. You can use either one large palette, which will hold your colors and serve as a mixing area ... OR ... use two small palettes, one to hold your colors and one for mixing.
- Fine mist spray atomizer
- Retarder
- Acrylic medium of your choice; e.g., matte medium

PHOTOGRAPHS

We will be working from photographs in this workshop. I have a large collection of landscape photos, but you are welcome to bring your own (usage subject to my approval). For tips for selecting photos, visit this page at my website.

<http://blog.mitchalbala.com/guidelines-photos/>

Note: The photos do not have to be full 8.5" x 11". 5" x 7"-ish or 6" x 8" is fine.

Note: In several exercises we will crop the photo and trace. (You cannot do this with photos on your iPad.)

BRUSHES

For oil painters ... a range of hog bristle brushes are best. A few softer synthetic brushes are also helpful for working wet-into-wet.

For acrylic painters ... soft bristled synthetic brushes are preferred. Note: Some synthetic brushes are strictly for acrylics, while others are rated for both acrylics and oils.

For watercolor painters ... please bring the brushes you are accustomed to working with. Do not bring old, stiff, encrusted brushes as this will make paint handling very difficult.

For oil and acrylic painters:

I find filbert-shaped brushes to be the most versatile. However, if you like flats and are accustomed to working with them, that's fine. Brushes in sizes #2 – #8 is a good range. Since the sizing systems used by brush manufacturers vary, here are the brush sizes in inches.

(This is the width at the ferrule, not the length of the brush.)

1 (one) large #10–#12 bright or short filbert (7/8" to 1")

1 (one) #2 filbert or flat (approx. 1/4" wide)

1 (one) #6 (approx. 1/2" wide)

2 (two) #8 filbert or flat (approx. 5/8" wide)

Additional brushes of these same sizes will allow you to assign different colors to different brushes.

COLORS

Most of our exercises will be done in black and white. Depending on how we progress, we may do our final exercise on Saturday in color. Since we will only be doing one exercise in color, you do not need to bring every color you have. A limited palette that includes a cool and warm variety of each of the primaries, a few neutrals, and white is what I recommend. If you would like some direction on what colors to bring, please see this article at my website: <https://blog.mitchalbala.com/split-primaries-landscape-painting-palette/>

Watercolor painters are likely to have other colors in their palette. This is fine.

For Pastel Artists: Please have a set of pure grays, from white to black. For color... pastel artists travel with sets that are an edited version of the full set they use indoors. This should be adequate for our purposes. To ensure that you have enough "colors," please bring a set that offers a good range of values, and in particular, adequate neutral colors.

Black and white acrylic paint - Even if you are an oil, watercolor, or pastel painter, a few of our exercises will work best in acrylic. Because it dries so quickly you can make changes more readily. If you absolutely hate acrylic, and think you will be hindered by working with them, then you can forgo it and do the black and white exercises I have planned in your desired media.

If you do work with the acrylic, please bring 1 small tube of black and 1 small tube of white, and a paper palette. Inexpensive student-grade "Amsterdam" acrylic paint is fine. Do not get "open" slow-drying acrylics or liquid acrylics, just "regular."

PAINTING SURFACES

All our exercises and paintings will be done on relatively small surfaces — approx. 8" x 10" or smaller — and some of them will be done on tracing paper or the paper from your sketch pad.

For oil and acrylic painters: canvas panels, or any gesso primed surface that you are comfortable with.

Watercolor painters: the paper you are comfortable with. Should have some weight because you may work back into it with opaque pigment. Bring extra paper. Consider a small watercolor pad that will give you lots of extra sheets.

Pastel painters: a sanded paper or similar option, as long as it allows you to make changes.

Quantities: For canvas panels around 3 to 4 8" x 10" panels. The rest of the exercises will be done on tracing paper or sketchbook paper.

OTHER SUPPLIES

Tracing paper - 9 x 12 pad. Be sure it is very translucent and that you can see through it easily (some varieties are very milky and opaque).

Scissors

Pencil(s) - soft, dark 6B pencil Pencil sharpener - small Kneaded Eraser

"L"-Shaped cropping tool (right) - These can be made by simply cutting an 9" x 12" or 8" x 10" picture mat diagonally in half. Or make your own from thin cardboard. Do not make them out of very thick cardboard

like corrugated cardboard or foam core. And they don't need to be overly large.

Paper towels and rags

Small sketchbook - approx. 8" x 10". Essential since several of our exercise will be done on paper.

Paper Palette - 9" x 12" or 12" x 16". With paper palettes, the extra-small bulldog clips are handy for holding down the edges of the palette.

Masking tape - 1/2 or 3/4 inch. White, black or standard beige.

Marker: Black and 50% gray: Prismacolor double nib marker. Or Dick Blick's line of similar markers, equally good and a little less expensive.

Solvent (for oil painters) Gamsol is the only solvent allowed in the Dakota studio. Do not bring a whole can: instead, I suggest placing a small portion in a small 6-8 oz. small plastic bottle, the type with the flip-open spout. Tip: It's easier to pour the solvent into this small-mouthed bottle with a tiny plastic 2" or 3" inch funnel. Transfer the solvent to the plastic bottle before you come to class. For those traveling by air, we will have some for you to use.

Plastic containers for water for acrylic painters - we have these at the studio Solvent cup for oil painters. Small 2 to 4 oz cup.

You may purchase your art supplies at Dakota Art Pastels at an additional workshop discount of 10%. Call us at 888-345-0067 two weeks before class and we will have your order ready the day of registration.