



MICHAEL CHESLEY JOHNSON MAY 1-4, 2019

For Gathering Reference Materials

Small sketchbook (9x12 or similar) plus 6B graphite pencil and eraser.

View finder, color sketching materials of your choice in a small format (5x7 up to 9x12) - materials can be anything you choose, such as oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolor, etc., and also include a good supply of inexpensive matboard, gessoed paper, etc., to sketch on. If your medium won't allow you to sketch in your lap, you will need a field easel. Digital Camera. We won't plan on printing out photos; if you need a physical photo, that will be your responsibility. A tablet would be most useful for viewing images on.

Miscellaneous Outdoor Gear

Easel: For oil, I use the "Daytripper" from Prolific Painter; for pastel, the Heilman "backpacker" box with easel; plus a tripod for each. Whatever you use, it should be portable and lightweight and above all stable. You may also use this in the studio.

Umbrella: Not necessary, but helpful in intense sunlight.

Stool: Not necessary, but if you must sit to paint, I strongly suggest a camp stool or collapsible chair.

Paper towels and small garbage bags

Hat, sunblock and water bottle

Appropriate clothing and footwear.

Photos and/or color Studies to work from. In the event of inclement weather and we are unable to gather reference material, we will work in the studio from these. They can be of anything that appeals to you.

For Studio Work

I work in two mediums, oil and pastel. What follows is a list of what I suggest for these, but please bring whatever you're comfortable with. (Some people are used to canvas and not Gessobord, some are used to Canson paper and not sanded paper.)

General

The following are for making value sketches in preparation for creating studio paintings.

Vine charcoal

6B pencil

Hard grey pastels: Set of greys in a variety of values from light to dark, hard pastels preferred

Sketchpaper pad (9x12 or bigger)

For Oil Painters

Paints: Split-primary palette with cool and warm versions of yellow, red and blue. My personal palette consists of: Hansa Yellow Light, Hansa Yellow Deep, Naphthol Red, Ultramarine Blue, Phthalo Green (or Viridian), Titanium-Zinc White, Raw Umber, Burnt Sienna, Yellow Ochre, all from Gamblin.

Thinner: Gamsol or the equivalent OMS (please, no turpentine)

Medium: Gamblin Solvent-Free Gel (optional)

Panels: Ampersand Gessobord (9x12 for field studies, 12x16 or larger for studio pieces) or homemade panels (I prefer to make my own as they are more absorbent)

Brushes: Hog Bristle Flats (#10, #8, #4)

Also: Wet panel carrier, container for thinner. Good wet panel carriers are from www.panelpak.com and Handy Porter.

For Pastel Painters

Pastels: Full set or hard pastels; plus a good selection of softer pastels. My personal palette includes Polychromos for the hard pastels, and for the softer ones, Mount Vision, Terry Ludwig, Girault, Blue Earth, Unison, Rembrandt.

Paper: Sanded pastel paper (9x12 for field studies; 12x16 or larger for studio work.). I use UArt 500-grit.

Backboard to tape paper to

Masking tape

Solvent (optional): either alcohol or Gamsol. If you plan to use solvent for a wash, also bring an old bristle brush and a container for the solvent.

Remember: Part of the day we will be working outdoors! What this means is:

Everything should be portable. You should be able to carry everything in ONE trip.

Think ahead to what you might need in the field, such as drinking water, snacks, baby wipes for your hands, sun hat, sunblock, etc. But remember -- you still have to carry whatever you bring in ONE trip. (Most likely, we'll be walking very little distance from the car, but you never know!)

Restrooms may not be immediately available. The nature of plein air requires a certain amount of flexibility on the part of both instructor and student, and although we will try to find locations that have restrooms, you may have to use the facilities the Great Outdoors provides.

Be flexible! Some locations may be better at certain times than others depending on weather and time of day.

Suggested Reading

My books, *Outdoor Studio to Studio: Take Your Plein air Paintings to the Next Level* and *Backpacker Painting: Outdoors with Oil & Pastel* have lots of information plus demonstrations. (Order from my website, www.MChesleyJohnson.com or from Amazon.com.)

The "Bibles" of Outdoor Painting:

Guide to Landscape Painting by John F. Carlson.

Composition of Outdoor Painting by Edgar Payne.

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.