

Painting the Poetic Landscape

3-Day Studio Workshop in Pastel with Barbara Jaenicke

Sept. 10-12, 2021

Pittsburgh Pastel Artists League

Once you learn the mechanics of painting the landscape, it's time to learn how to add the magic...*the poetry*. We'll examine the difference between paintings that merely contain elements of the landscape, and those that convey a distinct visual message... and how to gain the skills necessary to accomplish this.

Specific skills addressed will include composition and editing, value structure, color temperature, and edge control. We'll also address how to make *every stroke count*, considering the particulars of how you apply pigment to surface and how the quality of the application will contribute to your painting's message.

Each day of the workshop will begin with a demonstration followed by students working on a specific painting exercise for the remainder of the day. Students will receive plenty of individual help from the instructor at the easel during their painting time.

This workshop is open to all levels, but those with at least some experience using pastels will benefit most.

Supply List

Pastels

Feel free to use your favorite soft pastels if you already have a good range of values, plus some hard pastels mentioned below. I highly recommend organizing your pastels by value. If you plan to stock up a bit before the workshop, here are some of my favorite soft pastels that I'll use in my demonstrations:

- Terry Ludwig
- Schmincke
- Sennelier (half sticks)
- Jack Richeson (Handrolled Soft Pastels) – Their Winter Landscape 80 pc. set is one I developed for workshop students, and is available through Dakota Pastels and Judson Art Outfitters. (One of my demos will be a snow scene.)

Hard Pastels – NuPastels or Rembrandts – I typically use the following NuPastel colors in my underpainting: 244 blue violet, 353 cordovan, 212 deep orange, 306 orchid pink and 254 hyacinth violet.

Surface

We'll use mounted UART paper for the first two days; Sennelier LaCarte paper for the last day.

Mounted UART – I use either the UART Premium Mounted Boards, available at www.dickblick.com or www.dakotapastels.com or the mounted UART panels on foamboard from www.ProArtPanels.com. I use either the 320 or 400 grit. My recommended workshop size is 11x14.

You can also mount regular UART paper yourself to foamboard with a spray adhesive. (Scotch PhotoMount works well. Spray back of UART paper and foamboard surface, and press down edges and corners firmly, ideally with a brayer). If mounting yourself, please have all paper mounted prior to workshop.

We'll be using liquid underpaintings for the first two days, so the mounted version of the UART paper will be important on those days.

Quantities/sizes: At least 2 11 x 14 panels (more if you're a fast painter)

Sennelier La Carte pastel card – two large sheets cut in half (just for easier transporting). Any color is fine; I use "Sand" for my demos. Or a smaller size pad of this paper in assorted colors also works well. This paper will be for multiple small studies.

Other supplies:

- Small sketch book
- Artists tape
- A couple of sharp pencils (any type) for thumbnails, and sharpener
- Pastel pencil, if desired, to draw in initial shapes for painting (I use Cretacolor 472)
- Rubbing alcohol for underpainting
- Small jar for alcohol
- Brush for underpainting – Flat bristle brush...size #6 or #8
- Cotton rag
- Backing board (slightly larger than your painting surface) such as foamboard to hinge panels, if working at a regular studio easel
- Hand wipes
- Paper towels
- Latex gloves or other hand protection if desired
- Portable easel if venue does not provide

Reference Photos:

If you have your own landscape reference photos, please bring them. I'll have extra copies of the photos I'll use for my demos, which you may use if you're a beginner or would just prefer to work from the same photo. One of my demos will be a snow scene.

You may work from printed photos or from photos on your laptop or iPad. (Please, however, do not plan to work directly from photos on your phone.)