



## **Watercolor Explorations**

**Paul Alie**

### **Materials:**

- ☐ Small spritzer bottle
- ☐ 2 plastic containers for water
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Kneaded eraser
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Mr. Clean Magic Erasers (household cleaning product)
- ☐ Paper towels, kitchen sponges or absorbent rags,

### **Paper**

- ☐ At least 3 quarter sheets (11 x 15 in) of quality watercolor paper, 140 lb cold press. I use Arches almost exclusively but Fabriano and Saunders Waterford paper are very good also. Avoid Canson and other student grade papers. Starthmore w/c paper may be okay for practice.

- ☐ If you use sheets of watercolor paper (recommended) bring a corrugated plastic board or masonite board, slightly larger than the size of your paper, masking tape or bulldog clips to fasten the paper to the board. You may use a watercolor block of quality paper if you prefer. Bring a small portable table easel if you like to paint more vertically.

## **Paint**

- ☐ Winsor and Newton and Daniel Smith are the brands I use almost exclusively but you can buy any artist grade (high quality) tube paint. Holbein, and Sennelier are also good and there are other quality brands that I haven't tried. Avoid Cotman or other student grade paints that have less pigment and more fillers.
- ☐ The colors that I use primarily are
  - ☐ Permanent Alizarin Crimson (W/N)
  - ☐ French Ultramarine Blue (W/N)
  - ☐ Cobalt Blue (W/N)
  - ☐ Transparent Yellow (or Aureolin) (W/N)
  - ☐ Quinacridone Gold (W/N)
  - ☐ Burnt Sienna (W/N)
  - ☐ Raw Sienna Light (D/S) or Raw Sienna or Yellow Ochre
  - ☐ Payne's Grey (W/N)
- ☐ Occasionally I use

- ☐ Cerulean Blue
- ☐ Permanent Rose
- ☐ Quinacridone Magenta
- ☐ Indigo
- ☐ Feel free to use the colors you know and like

## **Pallet**

- ☐ Your pallet should have at least a few good square inches of mixing area. A pallet that folds to close or has a cover will keep paints moist. Keeping a damp sponge in your closed pallet between uses also helps keep the paints from drying out.
- ☐ Brushes (Again, use what you have and are comfortable with)
  - ☐ I recommend Rounds, #6, #12, #20 synthetic or blend, a #1 and/or #2 flat, # 3 or #6 liner or rigger brush
- ☐ Also recommended:
  - ☐ Masking fluid
  - ☐ A small, cheap, disposable round synthetic brush for masking fluid
  - ☐ Rubber cement pickup for removing masking fluid. You can also use crumpled masking tape to remove masking
  - ☐ Old toothbrush or spatter screen (available at art stores)

- ☐ Drawing pad or plain white paper for sketching
- ☐ Transparent acetate sheet, clear or tinted, and x-acto knife (with fixed or swivel head) to cut out stencils for painting or lifting paint
- ☐ Cut up old plastic cards (credit cards) without any raised printing

**May come in handy:**

- ☐ Granulation Medium (W/N)
- ☐ Tracing paper and transfer paper

**Questions?**

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