

Nancy Steele: Spring into the season en plein air

Good afternoon everyone and looking forward to painting tomorrow with each of you.

Tomorrow we will look more in-depth into materials that make painting outside more enjoyable and more portable. But for the first class please bring what you have. For painters in oils or acrylics you will want to have a least two yellows, reds, and blues, one cool and one warm. Also include white, black, burnt sienna or umber, a green and a purple. Again bring what you have rather than buying anything new yet. If you don't have any paints and feel you need to buy some it is best to purchase artist grade. Here are some suggestions: cadmium yellow light, cadmium yellow lemon or yellow ochre, cadmium red light, alizarin crimson, ultramarine blue, cerulean blue or cobalt blue, sap green or viridian, dioxide purple, titanium white and ivory black.

For brushes bring what you have. I like the filbert long hogs hair and some synthetic for finish work. I also like the dagger brush and use a fist full of various sizes. I always start with large brushes and work slowly down to smaller brushes for tighter spaces.

For acrylics bring something to use for water and for oils you will need some vegetable oil to clean you brushes with. We are not allowed to use solvents in the KSOA.

You will need a palette and the disposable are good but if you want to buy one try to get the disposable that is mid grey in colour. For acrylic painters the wet palette is very useful for painting outside. It has a sponge base that helps to keep paints wet. Also, a spay bottle helps and a medium like retardant or glazing medium works to keep paint liquid. These fall days are not as bad on acrylic painters as the hot summer days tend to be. The canvases should be small 11 x 14 the largest as you will be painting quickly but general one a day. You might want to also bring along a sketch book or notebook and pencils.

A portable easel is the best to support your work and I will be showing you a variety of ideas. A small stool is nice to have. But again bring what you are comfortable with using.

Of course bring drinking water, sunscreen, sunhat and warm clothes if it gets cold.

Some people may want to paint with water colours. I suggest you bring the colours you have and a backing board to support water colour paper(140 lb). You will also need tape to hold the paper on the board, a palette to mix on, water colour brushes (something that soaks up the pigment nicely) and a water container.

Everyone should bring cloth or paper towels to wipe brushes with and a bag for storage of the used rags.

Hope that this helps to get you started. See you tomorrow at 1. Nancy