

ACRYLIC LANDSCAPES FOR ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

Acrylics are a forgiving and versatile medium, perfect for those new to painting or wanting to try working in opaque media. Paul will focus on the basics, including colour mixing, paint application, brush skills, composition and the importance of tonal contrast, as well as the process for developing a simple landscape painting from start to finish. Some drawing experience will be useful.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

SUPPORT - For acrylics you can paint on a wide range of supports such as thick watercolour paper, heavy cardboard (the backs of old sketch pads are perfect), MDF, canvas or canvas covered boards.

Whilst acrylics can be used in a watercolour style, this workshop will focus on using them to create textured brush strokes in an oil style with thicker paint.

I suggest priming mdf and cardboard with Gesso or matt emulsion if you wish to use this.

Don't work too large as it can become difficult to complete when learning, 10" x 14" or similar should be fine. Please allow for 2 - 3 studies.

PAINTS - I suggest a palette of: Alizarin Crimson, Yellow ochre, Cadmium Yellow, Naples Yellow, French Ultramarine, Cobalt Blue, Phthalo Green, Burnt Sienna and Titanium White. If you have other colours and want to try them, please bring them along.

PALETTE – You will need something to mix on (not too small!). There are many options available such as stay wet palettes or pads of paper palettes. I have also found the lids of old family sized ice cream tubs to be very effective!

BRUSHES – I use stiff synthetic hair designed for acrylics. Flat brushes are best for blocking in and the majority of the work, round brushes with a point for details. You will need a large flat for blocking in (Approx 1" wide) plus smaller sizes (Approx ½ inch and ¼ inch flats) for details. A pointed round nylon brush will be useful for the fine details. (Optional - please feel free to try a palette knife if you wish)

REFERENCE – Reference will be available, but please bring images of simple landscape subjects if you have them.

USEFUL EXTRAS – A large water pot, Roll of Kitchen towel, masking tape, A4 sketch pad and pencils or charcoal for tonal sketches, drawing gear, easel if you use one etc.