

Intro to Gouache Workshop

Supply list and class info:

Gouache (opaque watercolor) is a versatile medium that I find particularly suited to sketchbook work, painting on location, and creating finished paintings. This easy to use and forgiving medium is lightweight and perfect for sketching while on vacation. I think you will fall in love with gouache, but if you are trying it for the first time, I recommend you purchase a bare minimum set of supplies to start with. I only use tube gouache. If you already have pan gouache, go ahead and use them, (maybe purchase one tube color just to see the difference in texture and workability.) Technically, you can reconstitute gouache once it is dry, but it's not the same and I'll talk about this more in the workshop.

Bare minimum supplies:

- Paints: Titanium White, Azo Yellow, Pyrrol Red, Ultramarine Blue. (each brand names their colors a little differently, as long as you have one of each of the primaries you will have what you need). My current favorite brand is M. Graham, but I also like Royal Talens, Windsor Newton, Holbein and Schmincke. Windsor Newton is the easiest brand to find locally, but the others are available from online art suppliers. Be careful to not buy Acryla Gouache from Holbein, because it does not reconstitute with water and you will lose the ability to soften edges or lift paint.
- Brushes: Any white synthetic brush you have will do. I particularly like the Princeton Summit brushes, but for many years worked with the incredibly cheap Windsor Newton University line. I also love my Escoda Barroco Sinetico #8 round for adding details at the end. I recommend starting with a ½" flat, ¼" angle, and a #8 round.
- Paper: 140 lb. Cold press watercolor paper - either in sheets, a pad or sketchbook. Gouache works best for small work - under 6 x 8" , so scraps of paper or a small sketchbook is all you need.
- Palette: If you have a Masterson Stay Wet Handi palette, these work great for gouache. If you don't have one, I will have a few to use in the class, so there is

no need to buy one for the class. If you have a regular watercolor palette, you can use that as well, and I will show you how to keep the paint moist and workable. I have tried every gouache palette under the sun, and I'll go over the pros and cons of each type in the workshop.

- Other supplies: masking tape, Q-tips, burnt sienna watercolor pencil or a 2H pencil, paper towels

To get inspired - check out these artists doing beautiful work with gouache:

- Scott Christiansen
- Mike Hernandez (on Instagram as @squatchgouache)
- James Gurney
- Jared Cullum
- Jeremy Duncan
- Tiffanie Meng
- Julia Kamenskikh
- Gary Geraths
- Kathleen Dunphy

James Gurney, Jared Cullum (Jared Loves to Draw) and Tiffanie Meng also have great gouache tutorials on YouTube.