

## **Learn the Basics of Gouache Painting**

with Kim T. Richards

Gouache, also known as opaque watercolor, is a water-based medium suitable for both sketching and finished artwork. It complements the practices of oil and acrylic painters because the process of painting from dark to light remains consistent across mediums. Its popularity is growing among plein air painters due to its lightweight nature, which eliminates the need for bulky equipment, allowing artists to create multiple small paintings in one location.

In this three-hour workshop, instructor Kim T. Richards will provide a thorough introduction to gouache. Participants will work from a still life setup in the classroom, exploring the capabilities of this medium. Kim will also cover techniques for using gouache outdoors, as well as the dry gouache method.

For more inspiration check out these artists doing beautiful work with gouache:

Scott Christiansen  
Mike Hernandez (IG: squatchgouache)  
James Gurney

Where:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
105 E. Washington Street  
Middleburg, VA 20117

Date and Time:

Thursday, March 14th  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Cost: \$100

Supplies: Bring your own supplies or pay a \$10 supply fee to the instructor.

## **Basic Gouache Supply List**

### **Paint:**

- Titanium White
- Azo Yellow
- Pyrrol Red
- Ultramarine Blue

Each brand names their colors a little differently, if you have one of each of the primaries you will have what you need.

My favorite brands are Holbein, Royal Talens, Windsor Newton, 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:**

- 1/2" flat
- 1/4" angle
- #8 round

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. If you want to splurge - Rosemary & Co. Evergreens are fantastic to use with gouache

### **Palette:**

- Masterson Stay Wet palette

If you have a Masterson Stay Wet palette, these work great for gouache. If you don't have one, I will have a few to try in the class. Watercolor palettes or palette paper work as well. 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:**

- Masking tape
- Q-tips
- Burnt sienna watercolor pencil or a 2H pencil
- Paper towels or rags

## **Kim T. Richards Biography**

Growing up in Brooklyn NY, artist Kim T. Richards had access to wonderful museums and an early exposure to the world's great art. After earning a BFA in illustration from Parsons School of Design, Kim pursued a career as a textile designer. Many of Kim's prints featured floral motifs, and that interest in flowers is still evident in her work. Kim is currently filling her own garden with all the plants she loves to paint. In good weather you can often find her outside painting the flowers there, or out with her friends painting all over Loudoun and Fairfax counties. When the weather is not conducive to spending time outdoors, Kim enjoys working in the studio painting bouquets of flowers, or reimagining some of the locations she painted on location in the past.

## **Artist Statement**

Painting flowers or landscapes from life creates a feeling of serenity in me that I strive to share with the viewer. Our modern lives have become so busy, we hardly have an opportunity to look around and experience the beauty of everyday life. When do we stop and look closely at a flower or the landscape around us? Painting is my way of taking the time to live in the moment and pay close attention to the beauty that surrounds us. Painting is like a meditation for me, but instead of focusing on my breath, I am focusing on my subject, noticing all the minute details about it, from the play of light on the petal of a flower, to the way the sky reflects in a pond. Painting from life brings a sense of peace in me that I hope to extend to the viewer.