

# Creating Expressive Portraits in Watercolor

This one-day class is designed for students who want to put more expression and vibrancy into their watercolor portraits. We will not get into the more advanced techniques of design and composition, but will focus on painting technique, values, color, texture, and variation of edges.



## supply list

### GOOD REFERENCE PHOTOS

A good-quality reference photo is key. Here are a few tips:

1. Use natural light if possible. A flash tends to wash out the features.
2. Make sure the image is sharp and detailed. You can't paint what you don't see.
3. Print on high-quality photo paper and crop to make sure the face fills up most of the page.

### PAPER

Good-quality w/c paper, cold or hot press, 140# or heavier, approx. 11 x 14" or larger. I use 260# and 300# Arches cold press.

### BRUSHES

A variety of brushes and sizes. I use round brushes (sizes 1, 4, 8, 11, 18) and flat brushes (sizes 1/2", 1 1/2", 2"), as well as several cheaper, stiffer brushes for scrubbing or lifting. Your brushes don't need to be expensive. I use synthetic, as well as Kolinsky, brushes.

### PAINT

I use M. Graham and Qor paints, but any professional grade will do. My only (firm) request is that you throw out those old, dried up blobs of paint on your palette and use fresh paint. You will thank me later!

Below are the colors I have on my palette. ***Please do not feel compelled to buy new paints for this workshop.*** Color will not be as important as value in this workshop.

My palette: Quinacridone rose or Permanent rose, Raw sienna, Gamboge yellow, Pyrrol red light or Scarlet pyrrol, Phthalo blue, Cerulean blue, Ultramarine blue, Sepia, Neutral tint, Quinacridone magenta, Viridian green, Cadmium red light, Cadmium orange, Cobalt violet, Ultramarine pink, Burnt sienna, Cobalt blue.

### PALETTE

Please bring a palette that is large enough to mix color. I use an 11 x 15" Frank Webb palette, which allows me plenty of space to mix my paints in the center with a large brush.

### ADDITIONAL

Drawing pencil and kneaded eraser  
Water container  
Plenty of paper towels or a towel  
Cardboard or other firm support for your paper  
Painters or masking tape

### OPTIONAL

Random materials to create texture (bubble wrap, fabric, torn paper, etc)  
Masking fluid  
spray bottle  
table easel