

Watercolor Foundations

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Week 3 Recap

Well, I tried to demo painting a sky. Yikes, they are difficult! Oh well, I'll keep practicing:) Really, though, painting skies are an excuse for practicing painting wet on wet. And a lovely excuse they are!

Kudos to you all! You created beautiful studies. I saw some amazing blossoms and back-runs. Some beautiful brush marks. Some soft, gorgeous, rich applications of paint onto wet surfaces. Doesn't matter if they look like skies or not. You learned some things about working wet on wet. That's what's important.

Keep in mind, when embarking on practicing skies at home, that the photo you're working from is a launching pad. Not to be taken literally. Not to be copied. It's inspiration. Exaggerate.

What we learned:

- Paint goes where the paper is wet.
- How your chosen pigments behave on wet paper. How they disperse... or not.
- To keep our eyes on the wet surface of our paper. Watch as the water soaks in. Watch for shiny, mat and in between. Where does it pool and bead?
- The effect you're looking for depends on the moisture in and on your paper. You'll need to experiment. Learn how pigments behave on different dampness's of paper.
- Different brands of paper take in water at different rates. And dry at different rates. Some are more absorbent than others. Some very resistant and literally require scrubbing (Arches).

I uploaded my sky painting demo. It underwent a lot of changes over the course of 50 minutes. I also uploaded another mixing on paper demo. Was ready to upload another mixing on paper demo then the lights went out!