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“Adding a Person-ality to Your Painting” Workshop

People and Portraits in Watercolor with Carmen Gardner

Presented by Mendocino Art Center, June 30, July 1st and 2nd, 2010

This workshop is designed to give the participant hands on guidance in painting people from photographs. Painting a portrait, or telling someone’s story requires more than capturing a likeness. Award-winning artist, Carmen Gardner, will share technique and insight into how to approach this elusive specialty. In this three day workshop, participants will learn how to choose the subject and how to photograph/capture their personality; composition; underpainting; glazing and more.

Supplies List:

- Students should come prepared with one or two sheets of Arches 140lb paper and materials listed below. Instructor will provide a contour drawing and reference photo. (If desired: you may bring a photograph either ready to transfer or large enough to be used as a reference photo).
- One or two sheets of Arches 140lb Cold Pressed paper stretched onto a board. One ½ sheet in size (16X20 or 15X22) per board.

Sufficient paper for testing color, technique, etc. (At least three to four sheets from Arches 140lb 9X12 pad).

Brushes:

- One good wash brush. I prefer Isabey 6235 series Cat’s Tongue #6
- ½ inch flat
- Rounds: #12 kolinsky (or similar) #8 kolinsky or similar #2-4 kolinsky or similar for detail
- Small stiff bristled brush for lifting (or fritch scrubber)
- Any and all brushes you wish to bring

Artist Grade Paint: Daniel Smith (unless noted)

- Quinacridone Rose (or W&N Permanent Rose)
- Quinacridone Gold
- Quinacridone Burnt Orange
- Raw Sienna (Dan Smith or W&N)
- Indanthrone blue (or W&N Indanthrene Blue)
- Pthalo Blue (Red Shade)
- Carbazole Violet or (W&N Violet Dioxazine)
- Hansa Yellow Light

Any and all artist grade paint you wish to bring. If you do not have or cannot purchase the pigments listed above, you may contact the instructor for further information.

You should also bring:

Drawing paper

Paper towels and at least one wide mouth water container (like the ones from Costco cashews ;>)

Palette or mixing tray

#2 pencil, kneaded eraser, Ruler

1- 1½” masking tape

3” binder or an easel to use to work on a slant (for glazes)

If you prefer to work on 300lb paper it should be cold pressed and you should also bring a prepared board or plexiglass to be used to tape down the paper.

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Workshop Schedule:

Day 1:

9:30-10:15AM

Introductions

10:15-11:30AM

Lecture/discussion on my approach to figure painting:

1. Choosing a subject
2. What to look for in a photo
3. Telling a story vs painting a "portrait"
4. Technique

11:30-12:30

1. Transfer/sketch subject to stretched Arches 140lb paper

12:30-1:30

Lunch break

1:30-4:00

1. Begin painting background and underpainting

Day 2:

9:30-10:30AM

1. Discuss underpainting/glazing

11:00-12:30

1. Work on underpainting in some areas

12:30-1:30

Lunch break

1:30-4:00 PM

1. Work on finishing underpainting and background

4:00-4:30PM

Discussion/questions

Day 3

9:30-12:30

1. Discussion
2. Begin glazing

12:30-1:30

Lunch break

1:30-4:30

1. Glazing
2. Q & A