

Painting in a Day (oil) with Ruthie Vosberg

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2009

Title: Autumn Hideaway

Supplies:

16 x 20 canvas

Sharpened lead pencil

Extra fine "Sharpie" permanent pen

Palette (something flat and firm) I use a smooth acrylic cutting board (I use a 12"X15")

The little paint trays work well with water colors, but not with oils.

Palette knife (preferably metal instead of plastic) used for mixing paints with medium and sometimes used for adding detail to the painting.

Oil Paints: (for former students, we've used these colors before)

Titanium White

Permanent Magenta or Alizarin Crimson

Sap Green

Black

Cadmium Yellow Light

Ultramarine or Prussian Blue

Permanent Red or similar red

Medium (for thinning paints) for workability :

Mix 2/3 odorless paint thinner and 1/3 linseed oil.

(I use a clear plastic squeeze container like the one I use for catsup)

Paper towels or rags

Older clothes or apron or smock

Brushes:

1" and 2" Bristle Blending/Foliage/Background (used for all these purposes)

Liner (small round) – for tall grass, twigs, highlighting, small details, etc.

Medium or large Fan brush (also for blending and foliage)

1/2" and 1/4" or smaller Shader (flat, square or angle edge - not bristle, but firm)

A few things I've learned about brushes:

Besides the main brushes, I use some cheaper ones (from ordinary paint dept.) like stiff bristle and soft blending brushes. I try to make sure they don't shed, and not the black plastic ones with the blunt edges. Older brushes that most people would trash, I think work great for leaves, ground foliage, and sometimes for blending.

My theory is to use the biggest brush possible for the particular job.

Brush cleaning method I use:

About an inch of paint thinner in a large coffee can with a grid on the bottom that I cut from an old French frying basket, using this to remove most of the unwanted paint. Tap brush on the side of the can. When finished painting, I use MURPHY'S OIL SOAP, rubbing in a circular motion in the palm of my hand. Works great – cleans and keeps brushes like new.

PREPARE FOR A FUN AND RELAXING DAY.