Evan Kitson

Painting Materials List

**OIL PAINT**

Whatever you use in your studio is fine with me brand wise. Please keep in mind when

painting around others that your medium may be abrasive in the space with all of us, and I recommend using an odorless version of your paint thinner. The NYAA requires you to use GAMSOL Odorless Mineral Spirits as your thinner. Please observe this.

To Start, bring this palette:

Raw Umber, Titanium White, Ivory/Mars Black

This simple, tonal, palette lets you focus on drawing issues over color issues, but doesn’t ignore warm/cool temperature relationships.

A complete list of pigments will be discussed on the first day of class.

**PAINT PALETTE**

I use a glass palette, which is very easy to clean and mix paint on top of. I usually buy a really cheap frame from a craft store, and remove the glass (most of my palette’s are 8x10”, or 11x14”) and put duct tape around the sides, so I don’t cut myself on the edges, and put an “X” on the back to give it more support incase it falls.

**PAINT SURFACE**

A regular stretched canvas is fine, but I highly recommend working on primed panel or canvas

mounted to a panel. More on that and other material tips can be found here:

<https://newamericanpaintings.wordpress.com/2013/05/16/painting-youre-doing-it-wrong/>

Your surface should be 9”x12 - 18”x24”. If you’re working on a long painting, over five weeks or more, please bring an 18”x24” surface.

I also highly suggest priming your surface with a gray ground. This gray should be as neutral as

possible (not warm or cool) and should be a mid-tone, so your darks look dark and your lights look light. This way you won’t be fighting the bright white of your surface and can locate tonal clarity with greater ease. This ground can be accomplished with acrylic paint (That’s what I use) rather quickly.

**BRUSHES**

A nice selection of various brushes is recommended- I use a lot of flats, old beat-up filberts, and fan brushes when I paint. You can’t go wrong for the most part. Bring whatever you work with in your studio. I will say that I highly recommend having at least six brushes available to you when you work. I personally also separate brushes for my darks and for my lights. I also much prefer natural hair over synthetic if possible.

**PALETTE KNIFE**

A good palette knife is important- I prefer to have a ~3-4” long, non-tapered one, personally. They come in all sizes. Metal is always better than plastic in this case.

**RAGS/TOWELS**

I use two things when I paint to help clean my brushes, first I use Glass Towels- the blue ones that are really wonderfully absorbent and don’t leave extra fibers after you use them. (Viva Paper towels leave some of the towel material when used- I’m not a big fan.)

And an old phone book. That cheap paper is great for absorbing oil and scrubbing your brush on to clean extra paint/medium off of. Something to think about for studio use.

**TRASH BAG**

I also make sure I have an extra trash bag of my own for used paint towels/rags so I don’t make an unmanageable mess. I get so caught up in the act of painting that I tend to forget about my working space- any thing I can do to help keep the space clean while I work is fantastic.

**SAFETY**

Paint thinner/mediums should be kept in a sealable glass or metal container, no plastic. Each container should be labeled with your name, the date it was mixed, and what’s in it. My typical medium is Stand Oil mixed with GAMSOL Odorless Mineral Spirits, 1:1 ratio. So my label would be something like this:

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Stand Oil, Gamsol 1:1

We do this incase something is spilled or misplaced. Safety first.

**SKETCHBOOK**

I’d recommend you bring a sketchbook to do some smaller drawings in, as well as take notes. We’ll be going over a lot of concepts in this course