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Making Color Sing





Synopsis

Through clear, illuminating excercises, this best-selling book stimulates new ways to think about color, generating responses that unlock personal creativity and allow artists to express themselves with paint as never before. Readers are shown how the interplay of complementary hues can trigger vibrations; how the push and pull of warm and cool colors can create a feeling of space; how to disguise one color in a scene to accent another; and many more tidbits of colorful advice.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages Publisher: Watson-Guptill; New edition edition (April 15, 2000) Language: English ISBN-10: 0823029921 ISBN-13: 978-0823029921 Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.3 x 11 inches Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (44 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #169,555 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #140 in Books > Arts & Photography > Study & Teaching #160 in Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Watercolor #417 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Techniques > Use of Color

Customer Reviews

The talented Jeanne Dobie does a lot of her work in the sun-drenched Florida Keys. While there are many good books on color and pigment, Dobie explains how light in a painting scene shifts moment by moment and how you have to be ready to capture that brilliant moment with the right palette. The book gives advice on which colors to put in a limited palette for brilliance. (As anyone who has done watercolor even for a short time knows, there are hundreds of colors available, but when you MIX them, sometimes you get a flat, dull result that looks like mud on the paper.) Choosing a limited and CORRECT palette for the painting you are going to do is one of the most critical steps after creating the composition. Dobie includes important facts about which paints stain the paper (and cannot be lifted up again), which are transparent and can be used as a wash or glaze, and which paints are opaque. And if you follow the "purist" rule of no white paint, you learn how to leave the whites (use the paper for brilliant whites) and no black paint (which causes a visual hole in the paper.) Instead, Dobie shows the student painter how dark colors like brown or a visual black can be mixed that still look luminous and interesting on the paper. This is a very difficult technique to master--shadow

detail can make or break a painting. I disagree with one of her points, however, on mixing greens. While it is true that green pigments direct from the tube are far more brilliant and transparent than any you can mix, I find certain mixed greens from yellows and blues to be subtle for shadowed foliage, and sometimes the pure paint greens are jarring and unnatural to me. I tried to follow this "use unmixed" greens rule, and I end up mixing mine anyway, though I own many shades of green paints.

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