

Power Up Your Palette!

Color and Contrast in Watercolor

with

Cheryl Knowles-Harrigan
(cknowles@atlantic.edu)



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Agenda:

- Introduction and Presentation

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- The Ball and Counterchange
 - Achromatic
 - Orange and Blue
- Still Life Exercises – The Fig on Black
 - Monochromatic Brown Value Study with Black Foil
 - Full Color Still Life Value Study with Black Foil
- Landscape Warm Cool Study
 - Monochromatic or Achromatic (Neutral) Landscape Thinking in Layers (Front, Middle, Back)
 - Limited Color Study with Warm-Cool Palette
- Things to Think About While Working
 - Reserve or White
 - Focal Point (or not)
 - Contrast (Overcompensate Darks!)
 - Color Intensity and Palette Choice

GLOSSARY

Achromatic – Black, white, and shades of gray.

Atmospheric Perspective – The natural phenomenon when the atmosphere interferes with perception of objects near and far.

Color Intensity – The saturation of the color which in watercolor is dulled with more water as it thins.

Complement – With an **E**. Opposite colors on the color wheel. (Red vs. green; blue vs. orange; yellow vs. purple.)

Counterchange OR Foil –Something that serves as a contrast to another object especially in the background.

Light Source – The direction of the light, which is critical to the direction and length of shadows.

Local Color – The natural color of an object.

Monochromatic – All one color; one color family with tints and shades.

Reserve – The white of the paper.

Saturation – The intensity of the color in its purest form.

Value Pattern – A pattern of lights and darks that relates directly to the source of light.

Value – Light and darks in a work of art.

Vignette – the edge fades into the white of the paper and uses the paper to create a border (which is usually irregular).

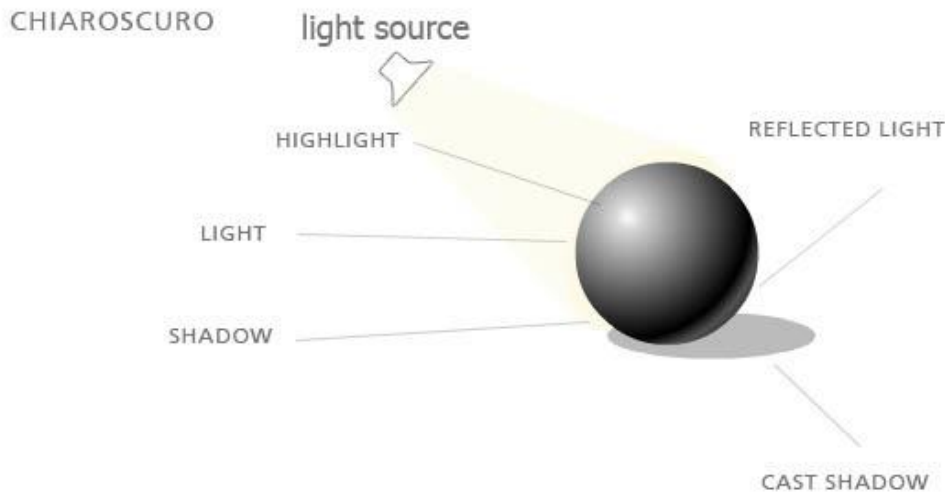
Visual Weight – The imaginary population of the picture plane where certain objects or shapes precede others.

Symmetry – matching sides from a vertical center line. (Typically dull.)

Approximate symmetry – Sides are weighted very closely from a center line. (a little more interesting)

Asymmetry – weight falls to one side from the center line.

(Counterbalance – weighting one side to balance the other with different shapes.)



SOME MORE THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Decide Your Palettes
 - Achromatic
 - Monochromatic (all one color)
 - Warm-Cool
 - Complementary (opposites on the color wheel – can be warm cool but specific to complementary pairs)
 - Full Palette
- Consider antiquing paper with browns or grays. Blues work great too. Dye colors are less forgiving.
 - Use a limited palette to paint on this surface and heighten with white gouache.
- Consider a cool background with a warm focal point **closer** to the viewer.
- Unless a portrait, try to put your weight off center.
- Consider a dark foil against a light object. (This is called counterchange.)
- Buy a red filter, glasses, or a red sheet of Duralar red mylar (Dick Blick) to see values simplified.

Places to Get Your Art Stuff

Ratings: 1-5 dogs (5 dogs = best "overall" rating) 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Cheap Joes Art Stuff

1-800-227-2788

www.cheapjoes.com

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Shop the sales. Shipping can be expensive. Usually very, very nice too!
Sign up for email promotions.

Daniel Smith

Sales: (800) 426-6740

www.danielsmith.com

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Good products, well stocked. Watch for sales.
Sign up for email promotions. Great for pigments - that is their new focus!

Dick Blick NEW!

1330 Chestnut St in Philadelphia

www.dickblick.com

(215) 545-3214

Rating: Have not been there.

Advice: Have shopped through the catalogue. Compare prices! They seem to have EVERYTHING!

Jerry's Artarama

www.jerrysartarama.com/

800-827-8478

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Shop the sales. Shipping can be cheap if you shop the sales. Usually very, very helpful! Sign up for email promotions to take the most advantage of their discounts. My personal favorite online vendor for watercolor AND oil and anything drawing.

Utrecht Art Supply is now owned by Dick Blick

www.UtrechtArt.com

215-546-7798

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 Great for beginning oil and acrylic painters!

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