

Missouri Botanical Garden

Material List – Watercolor classes with Judy Seyfert

I use professional transparent watercolor in tubes. The bulk of my art supplies are mail ordered. One company I do a lot of business with is **Daniel Smith Art Materials** in Seattle. They manufacture an excellent line of watercolors. The watercolors I will be using can **only** be ordered through them. Information on ordering from them is listed at the end of the supply list.

Susie Short Essential Set (Hansa yellow medium, Quinacridone Rose, French Ultramarine Blue, New Gamboge, Pyrrol Orange, Phthalo blue, *Quinacridone Burnt Orange) These are heavily pigmented 15ml tubes. **#285-250-188** \$34.00 (as of November, 09)

I am adding to this set a tube of **Phthalo Yellow Green: #284 600 124 (\$7.89)**. The last few spring classes I have had Phthalo Turquoise (**#284 600 080**) on the supply list. Returning students can still use this. I love this color but I felt that a lighter green might work with spring better. You can buy similar colors locally at Artmart and Dick Blick under the brand names Holbein or Winsor Newton. I like both brands but only their profession lines, not the student grade. Holbein carries a color called “Brilliant Orange” which is very similar to Pyrrol Orange. I am not sure if there is a good substitute for hansa yellow. I would suggest if you are going to buy paint locally to get Winsor Newton’s Winsor Yellow as a substitute for hansa yellow. *Winsor Yellow Green* would be a substitute for **Phthalo Yellow Green** although it is not as yellow or as light as the Daniel Smith paint. *Quinacridone burnt orange is similar to Burnt Sienna. Please note: *It will cost more to buy paint (and brushes) locally.*

Brushes

One of the major mistakes artists make is they buy brushes that are too small. Yes, sometimes a small detail brush is needed but to get the loose, juicy feel that is characteristic of watercolor, large brushes are a must. We will be using a combination of round and flat brushes. My favorite brushes are a blend of synthetic and natural hair. Good round brushes should have a rounded belly that comes to a fine point. Flat brushes should not split and have a nice chiseled edge. Brush sizes vary according to manufacturer. A size 12 round in one brand may equal a size 8 in another brand.

Daniel Smith offers a line of excellent and inexpensive brushes that I would recommend. Their rounds do run small though, but this does not affect the quality.

Platinum Series 24 Squirrel/Synthetic Watercolor brushes

Suggested sizes: Rounds: **#8** (#657 013 002: \$9.63) and **#16** (#657 013 004: \$16.83)
Flats: **1 inch flat** (#657 012 004) \$13.79 **and/or** $\frac{3}{4}$ ”flat (#657 012 003) \$10.55
Cat’s Tongue: $\frac{1}{2}$ ” (#657 014 002) \$11.94 ***optional but I use it a lot***

Prices may not be current.. You can check prices on line or call Daniel Smith’s customer service. (www.danielsmith.com, 1-800-426-6740)

Other brands of brushes I have used and liked are: Winsor Newton Gold Septre, Princeton, and Robert Simmons Sapphire series. You can buy these locally at Artmart in Richmond Heights. Brush sizes suggested: #8 and #12 round, and 1 inch flat. Dick Blick in Clayton also sells watercolor brushes. Do not buy brushes that are advertized “for water media”. They are more acrylic brushes than watercolor.

Paper: **Two sheets of** 140# cold press watercolor paper. I use Winsor Newton or Arches watercolor paper which is acid free, 100% rag cotton. Sometimes you can get it in packets of five a little cheaper. They come in 22X30 inch sheets which we will cut in eighths or quarters. How much paper you will need depends on how much you paint. I would suggest two sheets (22X30) to start. Bring one sheet cut in quarters to the first class. We will use both sides of the watercolor paper. You can purchase these papers locally or through mail order but most mail order places have a minimum purchase of ten sheets.

Palette: A covered plastic palette with at least twenty wells for paint and a large mixing area works best. Brands that work well are: John Pike palette, Frank Webb Palette, Tom Lynch Palette, ***Robert Wood Palette and *Stephen Quiller Palette (*I use the Quiller traveler size*).** Most of these can be bought locally. *Can be purchased through Daniel Smith.

Drawing: HB pencil and an 8B pencil, kneaded eraser, sketch book or bring some copy paper.

Board: to mount your watercolor paper on. I use gator board but it is hard to find locally. You can also use heavy cardboard or foam core but put contact paper on it to make it waterproof. Size should be 16"X23" **or** two pieces that are 12" X 16". Daniel Smith carries gator board cut to fit full, half or quarter size sheets of watercolor paper. You don't have to put contact paper on gator board. I bought two of the quarter size pieces to use in my class last year. I love it. It is light and easy to transport back and forth to class. Gator board is a little fragile. It can take repeated stabling but if you step on it, it breaks. Here is the order number. It is your choice as to whether or not you want to order it.

**Gatorboard, 1/2in x 12in x 16in Item #: 249 020 001 \$4.90
(recommend getting two)**

Other things: **large** cellulose kitchen sponge, roll of Viva paper towels, Kleenex (no additives), two quart-size containers to hold water, a spray bottle

Painter's tape: one inch or three quarter inch width. I like **Ace Hardware's store brand** painter's tape. It is low tack and a neutral color. White artist's Tape works even better but costs more. That is available at ArtMart and Dick Blick

*****Required: a sense of humor and an adventurous spirit**

Daniel Smith Art Materials

1-800-426-6740

www.danielsmith.com

Their catalog is on line. Their customer service is wonderful. Shipping will be extra but there is no sales tax.

The best places to buy art supplies in St. Louis are **Artmart 2355 South Hanley Road** and **Dick Blick at 6300 Delmar.** (Blick is moving to this new location January 6th.) Both stores are well stocked.

I am looking forward to meeting you all and sharing the watercolor experience. If you have any questions, please contact me through Missouri Botanical Garden Adult Education office at 314-577-9506.

Judy Seyfert