



ART WORKSHOP RETREAT

Tara Sweeney

WATERCOLOR PORTRAITS: COLOR THAT GLOWS

September 7-12, 2020 (Four Teaching Days)

Returning for the 2nd year in 2020

www.tarasweeneyart.com [REGISTER NOW](#)

PAPER: Minimum size of 9x12 good quality watercolor BLOCK, or quarter sheet and surface to mount it on. You are welcome to work larger if you wish but generally the quarter sheet size is good starting point. I use Arches or Winsor Newton 140# cold press.

PROFESSIONAL QUALITY TUBE WATERCOLORS: no hard pan cakes please. I primarily use M. Graham and occasionally Daniel Smith watercolors. If you already have professional quality tube colors, use what you have. At a minimum be sure to have a split primary limited palette of at least 2 yellows, 2 blues, two reds, and paynes gray. Split primaries lean in different temperature directions. For example, pthalo blue leans toward yellow (it's a green-blue) and ultramarine blue leans toward red (it's a violet blue).. My minimum palette is typically: quinacridone gold; hansa yellow; quinacridone rose, naphthol red, pthalo blue; ultramarine blue as well as paynes gray and cobalt blue. I often include transparent pyrrol orange; mineral violet; hookers green; and burnt umber if I want to expand the palette.

PALETTE: must have wells or space for laying out tube colors AND a good-sized mixing tray. I use Jones Travel round with four bigt mixing wells in the lid.

BRUSHES: I use three brushes: Silver Black Velvet jumbo round small mop or a squirrel mop for wet into wet first layer washes; a #12 sable or pseudo sable watercolor round for middle layer washes; and a springy synthetic #10 watercolor round for controlled final layer dry brush and details. At a minimum bring these three brushes or equivalent shapes, sizes and quality to deliver the same load.

OTHER TOOLS:

- 2B drawing pencil and hand sharpener
- kneaded eraser
- 3 rinsing containers
- small spray bottle
- small household sponge
- old absorbent hand towel
- tracing paper
- graphite transfer paper
- 3/8 inch NEUTRAL color artist tape. No bright blue painter's masking tape please.

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- table easel or something that can prop your block or support at an angle as you paint

REFERENCE PHOTOS: 3 or more photo references for portraits you'd like to paint, printed out as 8 1/2x11 color and B&W print for each. (A detailed handout for how to select a good photo for a portrait will be emailed before the workshop.)

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