



*Watercolour* with Mike Kowalski

## **Materials List**

### **Paper**

Pad, block or sheet of minimum A4 sized cold pressed or slightly textured paper. 10 x 14 is a great size.

Rag paper “professional” brands like Saunders, and Fabriano are the best.

Decent cheaper papers are Canson Montval, Fabriano Studio or “1264”, and Strathmore.

You will struggle with any cheap paper pads. Baohong watercolor paper available only through Seniors art is a good choice for an artist’s paper that is not too expensive.

Look for something with a minimum of 50% cotton. The better the paper the better the painting will turn out. Bring a small drawing board and clips and/or tape if needed.

### **Watercolour palette**

Anything portable with enough mixing space will do.

John Pike is a good “studio” palette. Mijello brand is good. Masterson Aqua Pro Watercolour Palette #1014. I cannot stress enough how important a good-sized mixing surface is. Small palettes are fine for tiny paintings.

### **Colours**

Use ARTIST QUALITY paints whenever possible. I find tube colors are better than pan colors. 5 ml size colours may be an economical start. My favourite brands are Daniel Smith (5 ml size available) and M. Graham. W/N are good as well. For student grade paint, W/N Cotman, Van Gogh are good. Better to stick to a name brand paints and stay away from cheap color sets.

- Recommended colours:
- Ultramarine Blue: a must
- Cobalt Blue: a great neutral blue
- Cerulean: cool blue green...sky blue
- Lemon or a “cool” Yellow
- Quinacridone Rose or Alizarin Crimson...a cool “wine” or deep burgundy red
- Cadmium Red light or scarlet (a warm medium red)
- Raw Sienna: wonderful warm earth tone
- Burnt Umber: rich dark brown
- Burnt Sienna (medium reddish brown)
- Viridian: A cool green

## **Brushes**

I use Round sizes 8/12/16

Or, simply bring whatever you already have

## **Other items**

- Simple thin flat kitchen type sponge
- Old credit card or pocketknife for scraping.
- 2B or 4B pencil and white eraser + sharpener
- Sketchbook size A4 minimum
- Water bucket with handle. An empty yogurt container works. Pop up silicon cups are great but a little small
- Small spray bottle