

Painting Peonies Workshop Four Day

In this workshop Katie will discuss the ins and outs of her method for painting peonies. Working with Katie's "petal-by-petal" technique, students will learn to create true floral portraits. We will work to slow down our painting process to observe the beautiful nuances of each flower.

We will begin the days of peony exploration with drawing. Using graphite and white chalk on toned paper, we will focus on the graphic qualities of each flower. Without worrying about color and brushstrokes, we are better able to study the form, anatomy, and petal formation.

After the first day of drawing, we will move on to painting.

Katie will explain how to create informed peony studies in oil, with accurate floral anatomy, light effect, and color. Starting with a simple drawing and underpainting, we will talk about how to take steps to make an accurate study while using time efficiently to record all necessary information.

Students will focus on painting and drawing just blooms, rather than a more formal still life setup. This narrowed focus will allow us to really dive into discovering the nuances of floral painting.

Floral painting experience recommended for this class.

Katie will provide flowers, but students are also welcome to bring their own.

Drawing Supplies:

- Graphite pencils - 2H, H, HB, B - I prefer the Tombow brand
- General's white charcoal pencil
- razor blade and sandpaper for pencil sharpening
- kneaded eraser
- Tuff Stuff eraser stick
- lightly toned paper, preferably a neutral tone—I like to use neutral grey paper or tone watercolor paper with a wash of neutral watercolor pigment
- drawing board

Painting Supplies:

- 8"x10", 9"x12", or 11"x14" canvas or painting surface - would recommend oil primed panels, can be purchased online from New Traditions, Sourcetek, Raymar, or Trekell. Blick Premier Artist Panels are Katie's preferred store-bought gesso panels. (Katie paints on wood panels she prepares herself with 2 coats of Rabbit Skin Glue and 2 coats of Natural Pigments Lead Oil Ground, and does not work on linen.)
- Please bring at least two panels for painting, or extra canvas scraps.
- Odorless mineral spirits, preferably Gamsol - please no real turpentine!!
- Jar - to contain mineral spirits

- paper towels or cotton rags
- palette (table top or hand held)
- palette knife
- medium - Katie uses Oleo Gel by Natural Pigments
- Brushes:

size 3, 6, and 8 Hog Hair Bristle Brush, Filberts - please, at least have one small and one large bristle brush for the underpainting I use Robert Simmons brand

size 0 - 8 soft filberts (preferably mongoose or sable) - please have a variety of soft brushes in different sizes. I use Rosemary and Co. Master's Choice long filberts. I prefer long filberts to rounds or flats. However, a mixture of brushes is fine too. Some people like to paint with synthetic brushes, this is perfectly fine too, I just prefer natural hair.

- Paint:

I have provided the current list of pigments I use on my palette, including the brand. By no means do you need to go out and buy each and every one of these paints (I am aware of how expensive that is!) Paint colors/brands are my most commonly asked question when I do a painting demo, so I wanted to provide the list for you ahead of time. I have also provided a "short list" of paints that I would recommend bringing for flower painting.

1. **RGH Cremnitz White Extra Fine with cold pressed linseed oil**
2. **Michael Harding Lead Tin Yellow Lemon**
3. **Michael Harding Genuine Naples Yellow Light**
4. **Winsor & Newton Yellow Ochre Light**
5. **W&N Cadmium Yellow**
6. **Michael Harding Cadmium Orange**
7. **Zecchi (Florentine art store) Genuine Vermillion**
8. **Sennelier Permanent Rose**
9. **Michael Harding Alizarin Claret**
10. **W&N Terra Rosa**
11. **Michael Harding Raw Sienna**
12. **Old Holland Transparent Red Oxide**
13. **Michael Harding Burnt Umber**
14. **Michael Harding Raw Umber**
15. **Michael Harding Italian Green Umber**
16. **W&N Permanent Mauve**
17. **Old Holland Violet Grey**
18. **Natural Pigments Ultramarine**
19. **Natural Pigments Terra Verte**
20. **Michael Harding Permanent Sap Green**
21. **Old Holland Golden Green**
22. **Michael Harding Viridian**
23. **W&N Ivory Black**
24. **Medium - Oleo Gel by Rublev Natural Pigments.**

Short List of Recommended Colors to bring to class:

***Lead White (Cremintz White)** — if you do not feel comfortable using Lead paint, Titanium is fine. I do believe, though, some effects in flower painting are not as successful with Titanium.

***Yellow Ochre Light** (natural, not synthetic)

***Cadmium Yellow**

***Vermillion** (or cadmium red)

***Alizarin Permanent** (I use Alizarin Claret by Michael Harding)

***Raw Sienna**

***Raw Umber**

***Burnt Umber**

***Violet Grey** (King's blue works very well also!)

***Ultramarine**

***Viridian**