



rty ART ACADEMY

OIL PAINTING *fundamentals*

COURSE COMPANION GUIDE
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PREFACE

THIS BOOK

This book is intended to accompany the video lessons in this course. It won't cover every aspect of painting, but will give you a reference guide to come back to for information that might be useful as you go through this course.

In it, I've compiled information from each lesson that might be useful to you as you go forward. You can read first and then watch the videos, or watch the videos first and read up later to refresh your memory. How you choose to use it is up to you!

GETTING STARTED

Painting with oils can feel intimidating at first, so my goal is to make sure you have everything you need to get started without doubts and confusion about what you should be doing.

Module 1 is completely dedicated to the materials we'll be using, for example, and in this book I will explain further than I'm able to do in the video lessons alone to make sure you are confident with everything the video lessons cover.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL COURSE

Getting the most from this course is going to require patience and persistence, especially if you are completely new to painting. However, I hope this course will give you all the information and resources you need to start off strong and improve quickly.

I've included some exercises and ways to practice as suggestions throughout this book. These are not one-and-done solutions, but exercises you can incorporate into your painting practice to continue to improve well beyond this course.

My suggestion to you is to experiment constantly. Make lots of small quick paintings, following the same philosophy behind the Rapid Learning Reps I often talk about.

"Sketch" paintings are a wonderful way to gain experience quickly. Rather than jump into a big, impressive painting right from the beginning, start small and focus on painting often to solidify the things you are learning.

HOW TO CHECK YOUR PAINTINGS

Lastly, I want to equip you with some techniques for checking your drawings and paintings when something seems off. This is a crucial step in successful painting. In order to fix something, you first have to know what's wrong with it!

Here are some methods you can use to check your painting:

- **Look at your painting in a mirror.** Seeing something in reverse often reveals problem areas. It's kind of like getting an objective view again. See if anything sticks out as "wrong" when you look at it in the mirror.
- **Take a photo of your painting with your phone.** Taking a photo is kind of like standing very far away from the painting (also a good technique). When we can't see the details, we can sometimes see the whole picture more clearly. It might reveal something you couldn't see before.
- **Measure and compare.** Look for landmarks in your reference photo and spend time discovering how they relate to one another. Make measurements, compare angles, and go slowly as you do so. See if they line up the same way in your painting.

With all that in mind, let's get started!