

Palette Colors, Basic Brushes, and Paper

Below is listed the colors I use in my traveling palette. These colors have worked well for me for quite awhile, after many years of trial and error. There are both warm and cools in each color family except purple, which I only have a warm. My cool purple would come from French ultramarine and permanent rose mixed, so I don't need a cool purple. All my colors are now Daniel Smith, an american manufacturer out of Seattle. Awesome stuff. Here's the link:

www.danielsmith.com. I do also like Winsor Newton, and Holbein.

Also, French ultramarine and manganese blue will give you a cobalt blue equivalent. I use no cobalts, as they are toxic to humans. I also don't use cadmiums for the same reason. Don't throw yours out; I will help you find a good substitute the next time you need to buy a tube.

Don't go out and buy all these colors because I use them. Palettes are a very personal thing, and you should paint with the colors that work best for you.

Yellows (cool) - lemon yellow, nickel azo yellow

Yellows (warm) - new gamboge, quinacridone gold

Green (cool) - perylene green, (also prussian green is awesome)

Greens (warm) - Daniel Smith olive green (very different from other olives), cascade green, undersea

Blues (cool) - Idanthrone blue, French ultramarine

Blues (warm) - manganese blue, Phthalo turquoise (sometimes)

Purples (warm) - moon glow, shadow violet (I use this for grey occasionally)

Reds (cool) - quinacridone pink (or red), perylene maroon

Reds (warm) - deep scarlet, organic vermilion (same as scarlet lake)

Red (neutral) - pyrrol red

Oranges - permanent orange, quinacridone burnt orange

My traveling brushes are mostly Winsor Newton Series 101. They are a combination of sable (holds the water), and synthetic (holds the shape). They are all about 15 years old, and holding up pretty well! I use:

Rounds: 4,6,8,12

Flats: 1/2", 1", 2", 3"

1/2" mop brush

I have a bunch of whacky brushes I've picked up along the way.

I also have a toothbrush, a Fritsch Scrubber, a yucky brush for masque, and a chisel edge makeup brush.

Miscellaneous:

Salt, old credit cards, atomizer, sponge, paper towels, exacto knife

I use Richeson 140 lb. paper. It's more absorbent than Arches, and less absorbent than Fabriano. It has a better tooth than Cheap Joes or Canson. I'm happy with it. I think you can get it from Blicks or Cheap Joes.... not sure. Arches,

Fabriano are also fine papers. The important thing is that the paper is 140# or more, and 100% rag/acid free.

Please let me know if you have any other questions. You can check out my website, too. www.dragonflywatercolors.com

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