

# ESSENTIAL MATERIALS FOR PAINTING

by Jose L. Nunez

## 1. BASIC COLORS: (names may vary depending on the brand)

- Titanium White (approx. 5 fl. oz or 120 ml tube or bigger is recommended)
- Cadmium Lemon Yellow (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Cadmium Yellow medium (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Ochre Yellow (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Cadmium Red light (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Quinacridone Crimson (approx 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Burnt Umber (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Chromium Oxide green (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Ultramarine blue (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Phtalo blue (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)

### Optional colors:

- Naples yellow (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Sap Green (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Indigo or Prussian Blue (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Cobalt blue (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)
- Cadmium orange (approx. 1.5 fl oz or 40 ml tube)

There are several reliable general brands including Rembrandt, Talens, Windsor & Newton, Grumbacher, Da Vinci, Daler-Rowney, Maimieri, Gamblin, Sennelier, Lukas, and Utrecht. Liquitex and Golden are reputable brands that specialize in acrylic paints. I like Golden Open Acrylics because they are slow drying. Student quality is good enough to begin and is more affordable. Most paint makers sell student grade paint (like Winton or Van Gogh) and professional artist's grade. Alkyd oils can be mixed with regular oils. **Beware: Water mixable oils cannot be mixed with traditional oils, so if you want to use water mixable oils, you must buy only those. Some people prefer painting with water mixable oils to avoid the use of turpentine and potentially toxic solvents.**

## 2. BRUSHES:

- Synthetic brushes should be used to paint with acrylic. I have found Liquitex Basics Flat brushes good and affordable. Get at least one #2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.
- Bristle and synthetic can be used to paint with oils. You can use the same brand mentioned above or Princeton, Langnickel, Robert Simmons, Winsor & Newton, or Royal Brush. Get flats # 2, 4, 6, and 8.
- Kolinsky brushes are ideal to paint with watercolors, but there are very good synthetic substitutes that are more affordable. Some watercolor brushes are sold by width, and no need to buy wider than ¾" flat. Get two round brushes, one smaller and one medium size.
- One small round painting knife (espatula T14). Watercolor painters don't need this.
- One long thin sable brush for signing and details. If you already have other brushes (sable, acrylic, etc.) just bring them, there is no need to buy new brushes.

## 3. MISCELLANEA:

- Stretched canvas, canvas panel, or paper support: please bring two 9" x 12" or something similar but no bigger than 12" x 16".

- Thick paper roll or cotton rags for cleaning purposes. Many painters are using Scott's Shop Towels from Costco.
- Oil painters: odorless mineral spirits (Gamsol, for example) in a sealed container.
- Acrylic and watercolor painters: water containers.
- Painting palette" Watercolor palettes are normally white. As for oil and acrylic painting palettes, try to buy a neutral color: gray or wooden. Wooden palettes should be varnished.
- Shopping online is an option that can be considered. Check websites like dickblick.com, utrecht.com, jerrysartarama.com, and cheapjoes.com, etc.
- Also check San Diego stores like:
  - Artist & Craftsman Supply, 3804 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, CA, 92103
  - Blick Art Materials, 1844 India St, San Diego, CA 92101
  - Stores like Michaels and Hobby Lobby also sell art materials.