

# WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

## GARY D. CURTIS

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The exciting and often challenging medium of watercolor will be explored in this workshop with an emphasis on sound art fundamentals. Students will learn how to control watercolor, which is commonly thought to be elusive with a mind of its own. Whatever skill level you are at, you will see your work grow as you discover new directions in color and composition. Through demonstrations, lecture and individual critique you will experience a different approach to this provocative medium.

### WORKSHOP OUTLINE

- I Review material list
  
- II Mounting paper
  - A To stretch or not to stretch
  - B Soaking paper
  - C Staple or tape
  - D Ready-made systems
  
- III Color
  - A Nature of watercolor compared to opaque mediums
  - B Color wheel and color mixing
  - C Seeing and identifying colors in nature
  - D Color primaries or “triads”
    - 1 Non-staining
    - 2 Staining
    - 3 Opaque and sedimentary
  - E Using darks for impact-expanding the value range
  - F Glazing for intensity
  - G Mixing rich, transparent darks
  
- IV Techniques
  - A Painting on dry paper for control
  - B Hard and soft edges
  - C Painting transparent or reflective objects
    - 1 Mixing neutrals
    - 2 Emphasis on transparency
    - 3 Reflection
    - 4 Distortion

## V Demonstration

The first day I will be doing a demonstration of a selected subject featuring glass. I will provide each student with a photo of the still life setup which you are encouraged to paint. I will get far enough along in the painting so that you can apply some of the techniques demonstrated. You will have time to begin your own painting and then finish on day two.

## VII Critique

The second day will be filled with student painting time and I will provide personal observations about your progress. I will also finish the painting begun the day before.