

**Roddenberry – “Finding and Using Your Painter’s Voice”**  
**Fall 2010 - 6 weeks**  
**Wednesday 10:00 – 12:30 (2 hrs. painting time; ½ hour cleanup)**

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**Intermediate to Advanced (All Levels Welcome) – Oil Painting**

If you have taken painting classes in the past, have been painting for years, and yet feel that you want to ‘kick your painting up a notch’, this class is for you. If you have never taken an oil painting class in your life, and you are wondering where to begin...this class is also for you. We will have a relaxed, fun studio class where you can develop your painting skills – regardless of your previous skill level – by finding your innate, creative “voice”; that part of you which is like no other, and by which you make your work unique.

Many artists know how to paint an image, but do not quite know the “why”; this is one reason many artists get stuck. We have all had plateaus of wondering “what” to paint, how to develop the focus that makes the visual statement we want, or even where to begin. With both individual consultations with the instructor, and group exercises, you will find the ways and means to discover and work with skills with which you have already been ‘gifted’...and you will work toward managing those skills as you discover your own ‘painter’s voice’ in your finished paintings.

Through lecture and demonstrations, class practices and critiques, Carol guides you to find, focus and refine your intention and to discover the expression that fits you best. As you discover and create new ways to say what you want, you will also find the honest expression of your own “painter’s voice”.

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## Oil Painting Supplies

You are responsible for bringing your own supplies to this class. Some other supplies may be provided by the instructor at a minimal cost (will not exceed \$25). For the most part, the quality of your supplies is important and you can see the difference in your end result. In other cases, you do not have to spend extra ‘art supply’ store prices, and you can find workable products from your hardware or grocery store. Some of these differences are noted in the list below. I will also bring handouts with additional information about the use of supplies and how you can save money.

Additionally, easels are in short supply, so if you have an easel, please bring your own.

### **Brushes & Other Application Devices**

Bring a variety of brushes – just bundle up some of your favorites, but only bring about two small (narrow) brushes. Bring a number of large and medium brushes of your choice. We are going to talk about what you like to use, and why.

If you have not painted before, or if you do not have the following brushes in your collection, please ensure you have:

- Several wide, basic brushes (hardware store). Don’t spend a lot of money on these, they are almost disposable. I will bring examples of these to the first class. You will need them for the second class.
- One each: small, medium, large fan brush
- One soft, natural sponge (not made in a factory, but pulled from the sea)
- Palette knife(s): Offset palette knife.
- An old comb, several sticks, and anything else that would make interesting marks. (Don’t buy these...just look around your home and bring in several things that you don’t mind getting paint on and/or throwing away.) Just pop these into a large baggie to transport.
- You may need to purchase additional brushes as your work progresses – your developing direction will tell you what other brushes you need, and I will work with you there. For now, the goal is to keep the initial work as free as possible.
- Oil pastels and/or sticks if you have them.

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### **Surfaces**

We will work with a variety of surfaces – students may choose to use different surfaces, but you will need the following:

- A sketchbook (at least 8 x 10) to work out designs and compositions, a drawing pencil, and a kneaded eraser. If you can find it, choose a “bound book” (without spirals) but make sure it is large enough to open well. The pages should not be thin paper.
- Wood or masonite panels (suggest one of each). You may choose your own sizes, but wait until later in the class to purchase. Some of the exercises that we cover in beginning classes may impact your choices. I have a source where I can order custom sizes, as well.
- One 18” x 24” stretched, primed canvas.
- One odd-sized stretched and primed, canvas, i.e., long and skinny, or other shape (we will discuss this in class)

### **Painting Medium (Please bring Eco-and-Studio-Friendly choices – see below)**

- **Oil Paint** – either water-based or traditional oil paint may be used.
- For traditional oil-paint, please bring Gamblin products. These products probably are the safest on the planet and the company was started by an artist who could not find the particular qualities he wanted in available oil paints. This is a great product to build on, and you can add other brands to their paint (but you may not want to). Go to their website to see the qualities of Gamblin products.  
<http://www.gamblincolors.com/> Click on “About Gamblin Artists Colors” link for product background.  
Sales and where to buy: Utrecht (Online) is running a 40% off sale on Gamblin products; check out Jerry’s Art-o-Rama (online), Binders (Atlanta) and Dick Blick (online or there is a store in Roswell).  
If you shop at Dick Blick you can get a student’s card for 10% off all products except sales items. I live near Dick Blick, so

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for those who order via phone, please let me know and I can bring your supplies up from the Roswell store. Please ensure you provide your contact information to the Dick Blick store (and me) and let them know I will be picking up your supplies (which would already be paid for via your credit card – be sure you get your discount). I will also bring a Blick catalog to class. Additional supplies may be found at Michaels and Hobby Lobby (Gainesville and Buford), but I don’t think they carry Gamblin products.

If you prefer another brand of oil paint, and do not wish to buy additional paint at this time, that is fine.

- For the best results in oil paintings, I don’t recommend water-based oil colors. While the cleanup is certainly easier, the colors are not necessarily archival quality, and they sometimes ‘grey-out’ a bit.
- **Colors** – If you are buying paint, do not feel you have to buy many colors for the first several classes – we are beginning with the basics (red, yellow, blue, black [small tubes]; and a large tube of Titanium White. You will work out your new color choices as we move through the class and you may purchase additional colors as needed – depending on your own evolving creative direction.
- **Liquin Painting Medium** (We’ll use this carefully) Not necessary for water-based painters.
- **GAMSOL - Odorless Mineral Spirits**  
Excellent solvent for thinning Gamblin mediums and for general painting, including studio and brush cleanup. Gamsol is 100% pure odorless mineral spirits (OMS). Some painters think OMS is more toxic because you cannot smell it. This is not true. Odorless mineral spirits is less toxic because harmful aromatic solvent has been removed. By using odorless mineral spirits (OMS), you can cut down on your exposure to solvent vapors. During a three hour painting session, about 20% of OMS evaporates in the air around you. Compare that with the evaporation rate of turpentine, which is so fast that during a three hour painting session, approximately 90% of the turpentine evaporates. Gamsol is available in the following sizes: 16 oz, 32 oz, 128 oz.

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**Other Supplies**

- **Palette** – Bring a pad of disposable, paper palettes (use rectangles – no holes for the thumb.) It also is good to have a cookie sheet (with sides) on which to keep your palette sheet so that if your paint becomes more liquid, the sides contain any runoff. Some artists also use a roll of Reynold’s freezer paper, tear off what they want, and put it on the cookie sheet for stability.
- Paper towels and/or Scott’s “Rags in a Box”
- Murphy’s Oil Soap
- Baby Oil
- Dawn
- Saran Wrap/Cling Wrap
- Couple of coffee cans and/or glass jars with lids
- Six to eight old magazines that you might be going to throw away...various topics. Bring these to the first class. (Don’t expect these back.)
- 1 piece of poster board (whatever color you want) – Bring to the first class.
- 1 glue stick – Bring to the first class.