



LEO KAHL

WATERCOLOR INSTRUCTION

Introduction...

Insightful and independent minded, artist Leo Kahl senses and documents the art hidden within our everyday lives with passion, honesty and a keen sense of the moment. Proficient in multiple mediums, he primarily chooses watercolor to quickly express his reactions to mood rich scenes.

An intuitive and sophisticated use of color and light romantically captures the character and mystery of his subjects. **His enthusiastic and infectious love of art and watercolor is matched only by his energy and passion for teaching others to find joy in their own artistic journeys.**



Philosophy..

More important than basic watercolor handling techniques are “Watercolor Whys™”.

There is nothing worse than simply showing and telling a student what to do!

A watercolor student must understand “why” with respect to all the myriad aspects of watercolor painting. *My students are thoroughly informed as to “why” great watercolor art looks the way it does.*

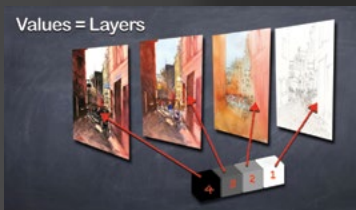
“Watercolor Whys™” topics include:

- Understanding importance and differences in materials and tools.
- The paramount objective of creating light within a watercolor painting.
- Choosing subject matter, simplification and dynamic composition design.
- Utilizing a 4 layer, 4 value strategy to create “un-muddy” paintings that “pop”.
- A simplified approach to color, color mixing & color temperature.
- The importance of the “5 Chair Legs” to every good painting. (Composition, Value, Color, Edges & Story)
- Using opaque details to bring a painting to life!



Methodology...

Workshop students are engaged with innovative and sophisticated multi-media presentations composed of computer animations, video, 3D modeling and in-depth dissection and analysis of world class examples.



This technology along with methodical live painting demonstrations, one-on-one coaching and class critiques are all designed to further student understanding of the watercolor medium and its amazing potential for personal expression and enjoyment.

Objective...

My main objective is to help students overcome their fear and hesitancy and learn to embrace the quirky and unpredictable nature of watercolor.

My goal is to help them fully understand the medium and to truly find joy when painting... not stress!



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Comments from my students....

“Leo has covered the fundamentals very well: graded washes, negative painting, layering, edges, foreground/middle ground/background, tonal study, form, focal points, color, composition, and other concepts. But as a talented artist in his own right, Leo Kahl brings another element to class that I most appreciate, and that is his artistic flair which he generously attempts to share with his students. Therefore in class, he walks around to each student to give them individualized attention, so that they too can achieve a more artistic piece.

He also incorporates multimedia into his lessons, using step by step handouts, videos, computer presentations, and step by step demonstrations start to finish. In addition to working on specifically planned lessons, students also have the flexibility to choose their own subject matter in order to apply the techniques presented. And very importantly, the class atmosphere is relaxed, positive, and fun.

I have learned so much and have appreciated the opportunity to take Leo's class. I would recommend it to anyone, from an adventurous beginner to the advanced watercolorist.”

Yvonne Wagner

“You make me think all the time about glow layers, mop brushes, values, colors, mixing colors, paints, dry brush strokes, brushes, rough cold press paper, jewelry, people, animals and shadows. I am sure I left something out! You have a nice way of sharing what you know about watercolor painting. Your talent is not only in being a watercolor artist, but also in your ability to help others to learn techniques and to share your enthusiasm. I really enjoyed your class and I hope you will continue to teach.”

Pat Anderson



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