

# Painting from the Subject: Still Life & The Figure in Oil

**Instructor: David Tanner**

## Materials List

*(Please print this out and bring to class for further recommendations.)*

**We'll talk about materials & the reasons behind my suggestions during the first class, but do try to have the materials *before* our first class!**

### **CANVASES**

You'll need **one canvas panel** per class each day or night we meet for weekly classes or workshops. One exercise/one canvas per class session will result in a "finished study" in oil, but if you are quick, I strongly suggest having an extra canvas handy even if you just keep it in your car.

- 12x16, 14x18, or 16x20 are my recommended sizes.
- Stretched canvas is fine too, although more expensive.

### **BRUSHES**

We will use filberts & flats (these describe brush shape) made from **bristle** and **synthetic** with long handles. Plaza's house brand, Windsor & Newton, Robert Simmons, Silver Grand Prix, Grumbacher, Rosemary are examples of good and reasonably priced brushes. Try to get one of each:

All long handled:

- Bristle FILBERTS Size 4, 6, 8, and 10
- Synthetic FILBERTS Size 6 & 8
- Bristle FLATS Size 6 & 8
- Synthetic FLATS Size 6 & 8
- Synthetic Fan Brush Size 8

Also, have one **metal palette knife**: RGM Painting Knife #40 or #41

### **PAINT THINNERS/MEDIUMS**

- **Gamblin Odorless Mineral Spirits (OMS) 16 oz.** will be our thinner/solvent. Turpenoid is fine too, in the blue & white container.
- **Gamblin Galkyd Lite 2 fl. oz.** is a suggested oil painting medium, as you will notice it increases drying time during a short painting session.

***Turpentine or mineral spirits found in hardware stores are not allowed in the classroom!***

### **OIL PAINT**

I recommend tubes approximate 37 ml. and you'll need one tube of each color. **Gamblin** is my recommended brand. Their more economical yet dependable "**Gamblin 1980**" oil is absolutely fine.

*(If you already own these colors in other brands, you do **not** need to buy replacements. Your existing tube in another brand is probably fine. We can determine that in class).*

- Transparent Oxide Red (versatile substitute for Burnt Sienna)
- Indian Red
- Alizarin Crimson
- Quinacridone Red (aka Permanent Rose)
- Cadmium Red Light (not “Medium”)
- Cadmium Orange
- Indian Yellow
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Yellow Light
- Sap Green
- Thalo Green (if not Gamblin, make sure tube indicates a blue/green shade, not yellow/green)
- Cerulean Blue Hue (I like this better than regular cerulean blue, this is stronger)
- Ultramarine Blue
- Quinacridone Violet
- Ivory Black
- Titanium White (if available, get larger size 150 ml. tube for this white)

*Again, if you already own some of these colors in high quality brands like Winsor & Newton/Winton, Utrecht, Williamsburg, and Old Holland etc., that's fine. Bring 'em.*

### **PALETTE**

- **Masterson Palette Seal** (a blue-lidded palette box) 12”x16”.
- **Glass palette** to drop inside of box, 12”x16” (Plaza will cut & safely border this with duct tape for you) and a **12x16 piece of gray illustration or mat board for underneath the glass.**
- Also, have a razor blade **paint-scraper** to clean glass of unusable paint residue.

### **HOLDER FOR MEDIUMS**

Please get the **AA Double Plastic Palette Cups**, or even Masterson's Solvent Cups (lidded plastic in economical ten-packs). One cup is used for medium and the other for thinner.

### **TONING THE CANVAS**

Please have a tube of “**Golden Acrylic #6 Neutral Gray**” acrylic paint. We will use acrylic for toning due to the speed of drying, and we'll tone a canvas during the first day of class. *Alternatives—Plaza Acrylic Neutral Gray #1553, or Liquitex Basics Neutral Gray #5.*

### **TONING BRUSH**

“**Economy 1 & 1/2 inch Gesso Brush**” for the toning. *Or, just a plain old hardware store 2-inch brush in fine.*

### **PAPER TOWELS**

Please have a roll of **Viva Paper Towels** to use as paint rags. You'll need to go to a supermarket or Target for these. Honest to god, they are the best paper to towels in history (at least for using as paint rags).

### **DIGITAL CAMERA**

Please bring a digital camera to photograph demonstrations, still-life set ups, or model (with permission of model) if you run out of time and would like a record of a classroom set-up. Please have a basic understanding of how to use your camera...like how to turn the flash off.

### **SMALL SKETCHPAD or NOTEBOOK**

Please provide a **sketch-pad of 5.5 x 8.5** so I can draw a design explanation in the form of a small sketch you can keep when we talk individually in class. Also, you can use it for preparatory thumbnails before painting or taking notes when I demonstrate.

Bring a **pencil and eraser!** A plain old #2 pencil is fine.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

An empty **pizza box is a good way to transport a wet canvas** home without dirtying your hands or car interior.

**Suggested Reading:** If you don't already, read The Artist Magazine, Plein-Air Magazine, and Fine Art Connoisseur. These publications feature articles on both contemporary and historical painters working in the representational traditions we will be studying in class.

**Books: Tons of great ones out there, here's a few good ones I've seen at Plaza:**

- Fill Your Oil Paintings With Light & Color, by Kevin Macpherson
- Everything You Ever Want to Know About Oil Painting, by Appelof
- Drawing the Human Head, by Hogarth
- Dynamic Figure Drawing, by Hogarth

**Materials can be purchased at Plaza:**

#### **Plaza Art**

927 W Grace St, Richmond, VA 23220  
(804) 359-5900  
[www.plazaart.com](http://www.plazaart.com)

*Buying from the nice folks at **Plaza Art** will make your life a lot easier, particularly if you have not purchased oil supplies before. Don't count on staff at craft stores like Michael's or AC Moore to be able to answer any questions, and Plaza's staff will have great suggestions for alternatives if certain items are out of stock.*

**Questions?** Get in touch thru the contact link on my website:  
**[www.DavidTannerFineArt.com](http://www.DavidTannerFineArt.com)**