



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



2024 Online Workshops
Workshop 1, Mixed Media with Georgina Kreutzer available now



Artist Tutorial
Dynamic sketchbook tutorials by Minnie Small



Artist Spotlight
Strathmore Ambassador Soroush Barazesh

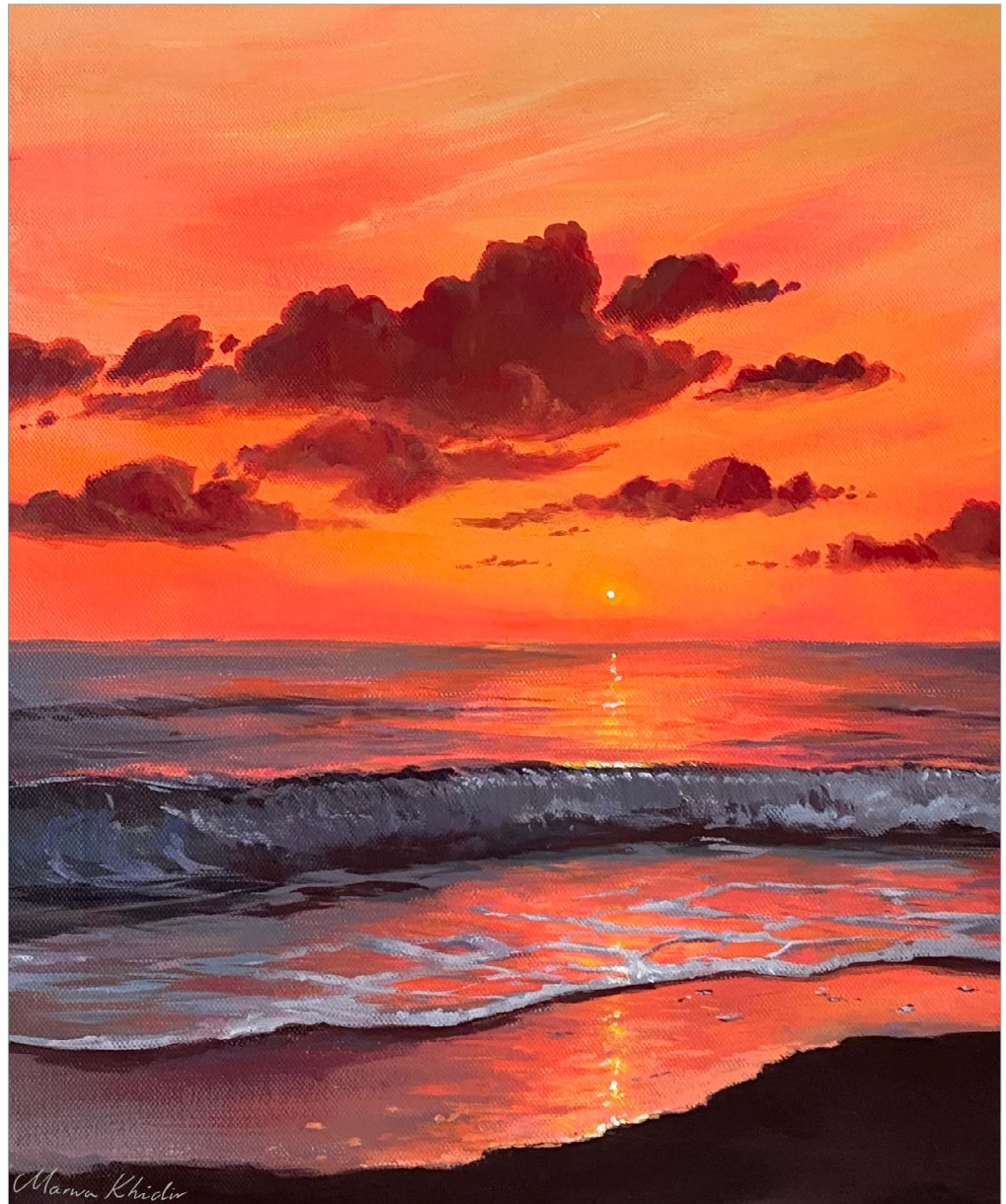


How It's made
Bristol plate

MAIN FEATURE

An Art Journey Inspired by Nature's Palette

By Marwa Khadir



I started painting seriously a few years back when I began sharing my art on Instagram as a personal diary for my paintings. Even though I was always known as the "artsy kid" in class, I stopped creating for a while until I got very stressed with my studies and needed to do something that gave me a break. When I began sharing my art, people started

noticing it and I made friends with artists and people from all over the world. While it's easy to become fixated on gaining followers, I believe it's important not to lose your authenticity. Remember to create art for your own enjoyment and cherish the creative process.

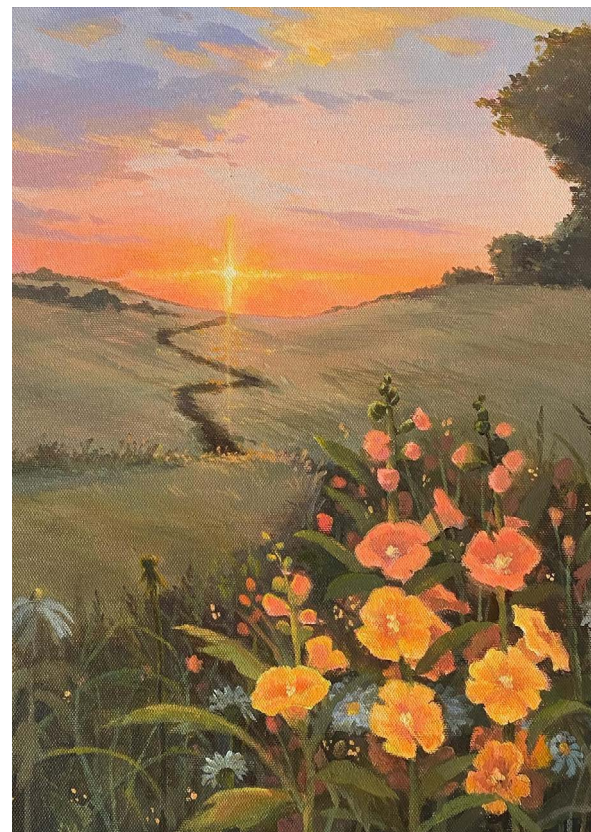


Inspiration

I have always found peace and calmness in nature, where I can spend hours watching and noticing small details, sounds and even smells that might not have been noticed otherwise.

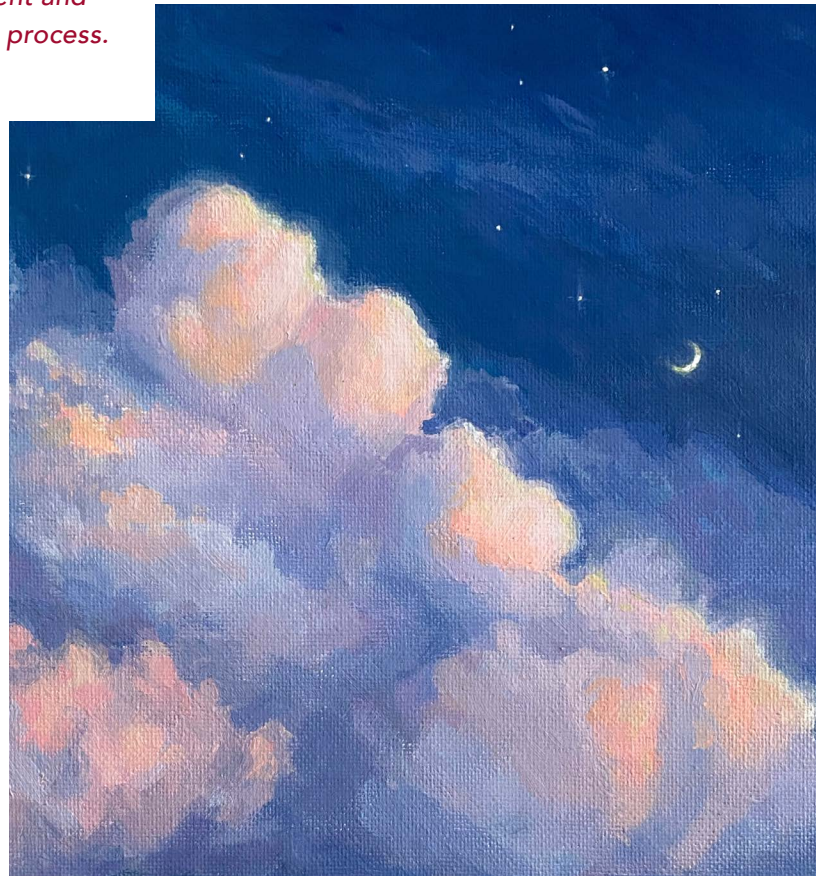
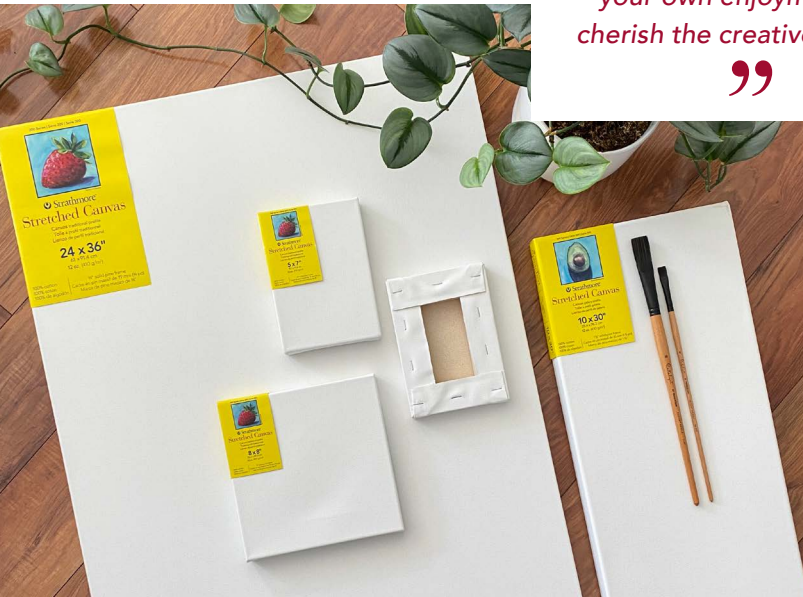
With spring and summer being my favorite seasons, it's not always easy living in Denmark where summer seems to last for only a week. The rest of the time consists of rainy days and gloomy clouds. Therefore I take pictures of inspirational moments, saving them in my photo gallery for future inspiration.

Sometimes I also use great photographers' works (with permission) or even just my imagination. By painting sunny landscapes I can have sunshine all year long.





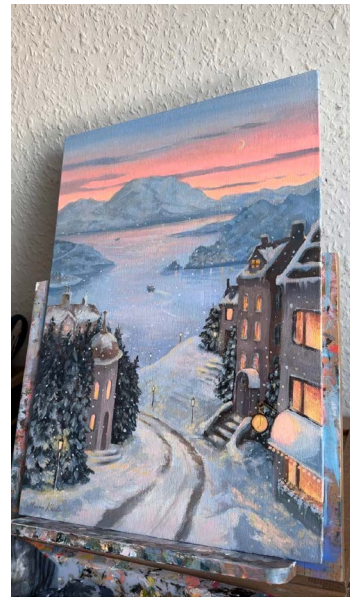
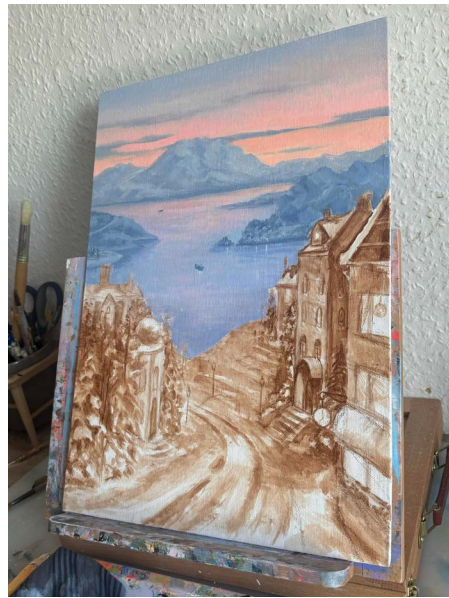
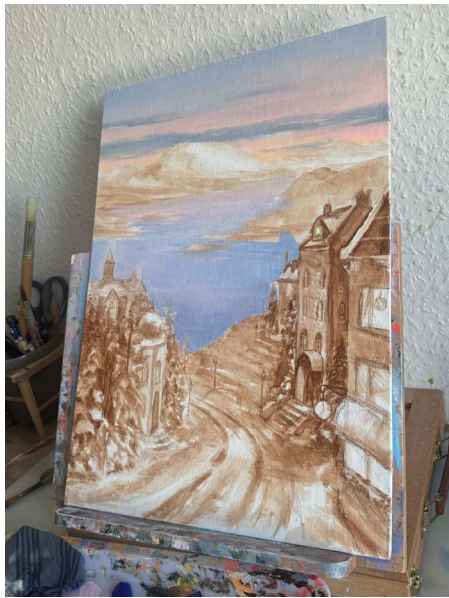
“
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”



Materials

I usually paint with acrylic paint which I have become very comfortable with. It's convenient for covering mistakes and it dries relatively quickly – perfect for the impatient artist.

I have been creating many of my paintings on [Strathmore 300 Series Stretched Canvases](#) and [Canvas Panels](#).



Process

Every process is unique, but my usual approach involves beginning with a base in either fluorescent pink or burnt umber. I start the painting process by working on larger shapes, using a big brush, and gradually transition to smaller details with a smaller brush. Typically, I start by filling in the background and major shapes, progressing to the middle ground, and finally, completing the foreground along with smaller details and highlights.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

I'm a 24 year old self-taught artist born and raised in Denmark with roots from Iraq. In the day I fix teeth as a dentist and at night I paint on canvases. I have always loved painting and being creative since childhood. I started to paint seriously once I started uni as a way for me to relax and forget about my daily life stress.

Instagram: [@marwak_art](https://www.instagram.com/marwak_art)

Strathmore® ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES

Join us for Strathmore's FREE 2024 Online Workshops!

Strathmore's Online Workshops feature free video lessons and downloadable instructions created by experienced artists. Follow along in the online

classroom as instructors guide you through various art topics. After a lesson is released, it remains on the site for viewing the rest of the year.

Share all the fun on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) using [#StrathmoreWorkshops](#)

Workshops start March 4 and continue through December 31, 2024



NOW OPEN!

WORKSHOP 1

The Beauty and Power of Mixed Media Instructor: Georgina Kreutzer

Using a single medium can be limiting, but diversify your toolbox and you have a powerful array of options to render your subjects. This four-part workshop touches on the beauty and power of mixed media to create small, captivating works.

[LEARN MORE & FOLLOW ALONG](#)



WORKSHOP 2

Tropical Botanicals in Watercolor

Instructor:
Tin Bejar

Start Date:
May 6, 2024

This workshop is packed with easy-to-learn techniques perfect for painting tropical botanicals. We'll learn watercolor skills like how to create graded washes in a monochromatic palette, glazing, variegated washes, wet-on-wet, and adding gouache backgrounds.

[LEARN MORE about Workshop 2](#)



WORKSHOP 3

Drawing Imaginary Scenes in Ink + Color

Instructor:
Sam Gillette

Start Date:
August 5, 2024

Using pens, markers, acrylic inks & watercolor washes, you'll learn how to draw 4 magical scenes showcasing misty castles, a cozy greenhouse and more. Sam will detail how he uses perspective, simple line techniques, shading and details to make ink illustrations pop on paper.

[LEARN MORE about Workshop 3](#)



WORKSHOP 4

Painting the Seasons with Gouache

Instructor:
Tiinasdiary

Start Date:
November 4, 2024

We'll create 4 different gouache paintings through the seasons; spring, summer, autumn, and winter. The most important goal is to have fun painting landscapes, but also learn new techniques, use vibrant colors, and get inspired by the beautiful nature that surrounds us!

[LEARN MORE about Workshop 4](#)

Join us for our free workshops at: strathmoreartiststudio.com



Green is in our Nature

You'll find a longstanding tradition of environmental stewardship at Strathmore. We are proud to have pioneered the industry's first recycled artist papers in 1972.

Strathmore 400 Series Recycled Papers

Today we manufacture an entire line of papers made with recycled fibers that are rated Grade A for cleanliness to ensure paper performance and appearance are not compromised. Any Strathmore pads with green covers indicate the paper is recycled. Below is a listing of our recycled papers and the amount of pre and/or post-consumer fiber they contain.

400 Series Toned Sketch



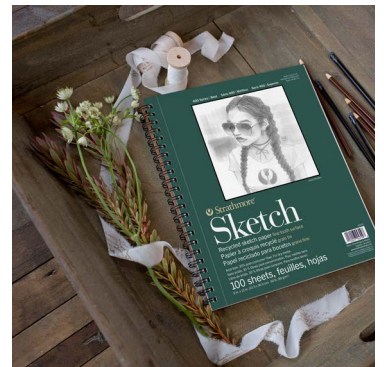
Recycled Material Content:
100% Recycled
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

400 Series Toned Mixed Media



Recycled Material Content:
100% Recycled
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

400 Series Recycled Sketch



Recycled Material Content:
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

400 Series Recycled Drawing



Recycled Material Content:
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

400 Series Artagain Paper



Recycled Material Content:
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

Recycled Drawing Art Journal



Recycled Material Content:
30% Post-Consumer Fiber

DYNAMIC SKETCHBOOK ILLUSTRATIONS USING PAINT & PENCIL

With Minnie Small



Join us with Illustrator Minnie Small where we'll explore a range of subjects while combining and layering mediums in your sketchbook to add depth, texture, style, and finish to your paintings.

SUPPLIES:

Strathmore [500 Series Softcover Mixed Media Art Journal](#), 100% cotton (5.5 x 8")

[Maimeri Gouache](#), 12 color set

Daler-Rowney [Aquafine Watercolor](#) Half Pan Set, 12 colors

Princeton [Velvetouch](#) Long Round 2 and Round 6

Lyra [Rembrandt Polycolor](#) Pencils, 12 color set

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE
FULL TUTORIAL SERIES
& GIVE IT A TRY!](#)



Soroush Barazesh
Strathmore Ambassador

Website: koteriink.com
Instagram: [@koteriink](https://www.instagram.com/koteriink)

ARTST SPOTLIGHT

Strathmore Ambassador Soroush Barazesh, better known as [Koteri Ink](http://koteriink.com), is a comic artist and writer. He is most recognized for writing and illustrating the graphic novel series [Kings of Nowhere](http://kingsofnowhere.com).

We interviewed Soroush to learn more about his background, experiences, styles, techniques, and perspective as an artist. Let's hear what he had to say.

Q: What's one art tip/technique you can share with us that you find really helpful?

A: An art tip that I swear by is... use reference! I have become known as the guy who can draw things from imagination, and that's only possible because of one thing. I've studied countless subjects and have filled the shelves of the library of my mind with a sea of images.

Imagination is stored memory being rearranged in ways to create something new. A dragon is a mixture of a bird and a lizard, and if you've studied both on numerous occasions,

then you have the potential to create a very believable creature, and in turn, create magical worlds that fuel the imaginations of others.

Q: What is your favorite Strathmore paper?

A: I look for three traits when I search for paper: thickness, smoothness, and cost. For those reasons, I am a huge fan of the Strathmore 300 Series Bristol Smooth. Whether I'm inking with a brush or rendering with graphite, the thick Bristol holds back from buckling under wet ink and holds its shape brilliantly when erased under hard pressure. Furthermore, the ultra-smooth, textureless surface of the thick Bristol allows for all the minute details that I enjoy including in my linework. And lastly, because of its affordability, I'm not afraid to experiment and potentially make mistakes that could ruin the canvas. It's great paper for someone who's seeking to get better but also looking for professional-grade paper that they could make their masterpiece on.

[READ THE FULL INTERVIEW HERE](#)

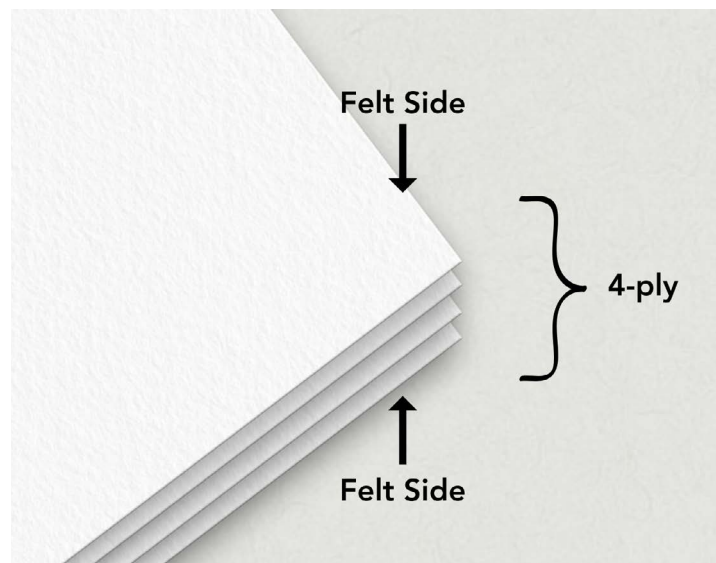


Strathmore®

Bristol

Created in 1893, Strathmore 500 Series 100% cotton Bristol is an industry standard beloved by artists for its exceptional quality.

It is made by pasting multiple drawing sheets together to create a stiff, strong surface to work on.



VELLUM



PLATE

Strathmore Bristol comes in two distinct surfaces:

Vellum surface has a toothy finish that is excellent for pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, pastel, oil pastel, pen & ink, and airbrush.

Plate surface has an ultra-smooth finish that is unsurpassed for detailed work with technical pen, airbrush, colored pencil, pen & ink, and marker.

The term "plate" comes from a process that is exclusive to the Strathmore® brand. The finish is created by hand: Bristol sheets are layered between smooth metal plates to create a "book." The book is run back and forth between pressure rollers, compressing each sheet and creating a very consistent, ultra smooth surface like no other.



[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE PLATING PROCESS.](#)