



Strathmore 2021 ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES

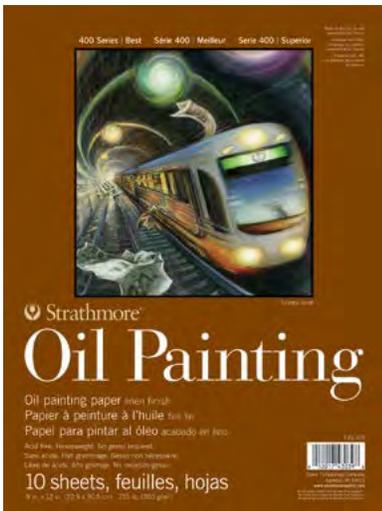
OIL PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

with Katie Jobling



LESSON 3: INTRODUCTION TO WATER-MIXABLE OIL PAINT

SUPPLIES:



Strathmore 400 Series
Oil Painting Paper
215lb / 350 gsm

Other supplies
Paper towel or an
old rag, a glass jar



Daler Rowney
Georgian Water Mixable
Oil Colors



Princeton Aspen Brushes



Daler Rowney Low
Odor Thinner
(Optional)



Palette

Introduction to Water-Mixable Oil Paint

In lesson 3 we will cover the basics of water-mixable oil painting, including learning different techniques and some fun exercises to build your confidence.

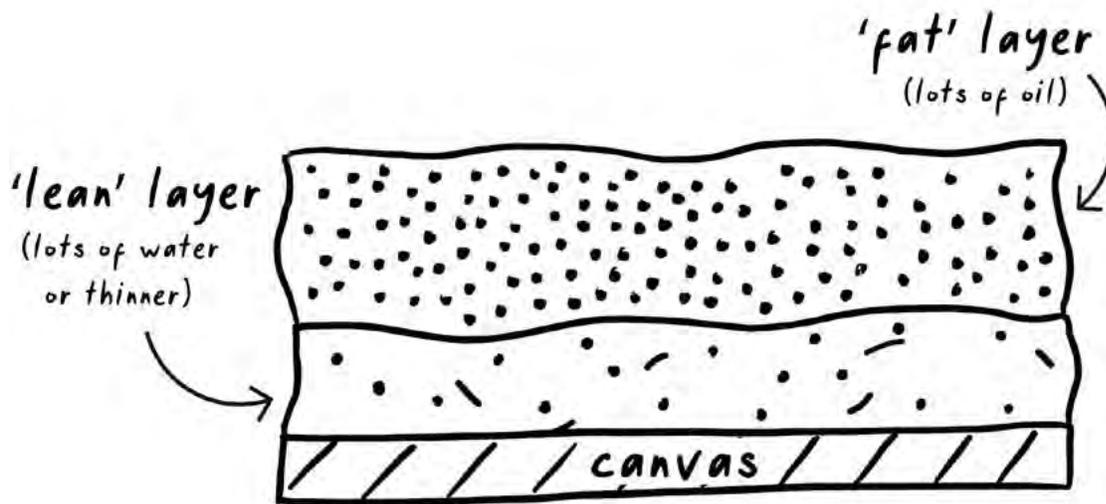
This class is all about experimenting, gaining confidence with oils, and having fun.

Safety: Try to use oils/solvents in a well ventilated space and avoid using a bedroom where you will be sleeping. Solvent fumes can have a negative effect if breathed in. Also take care not to get oils/solvent on your skin as much as possible. Feel free to wear nitrile gloves if you feel more comfortable.

What are Water-Mixable Oils?

Water-mixable oils are just like regular oil paints, but they have been chemically modified so that they can be thinned, mixed, and washed using

water. This means that artists can enjoy the benefits of oil painting without the need for harsh solvents.



WATER-MIXABLE OIL PAINTING TECHNIQUES

'Fat Over Lean'

The 'fat over lean' rule is one that you will understand the more you paint. It ensures the stability of your painting, so that it doesn't crack over time.

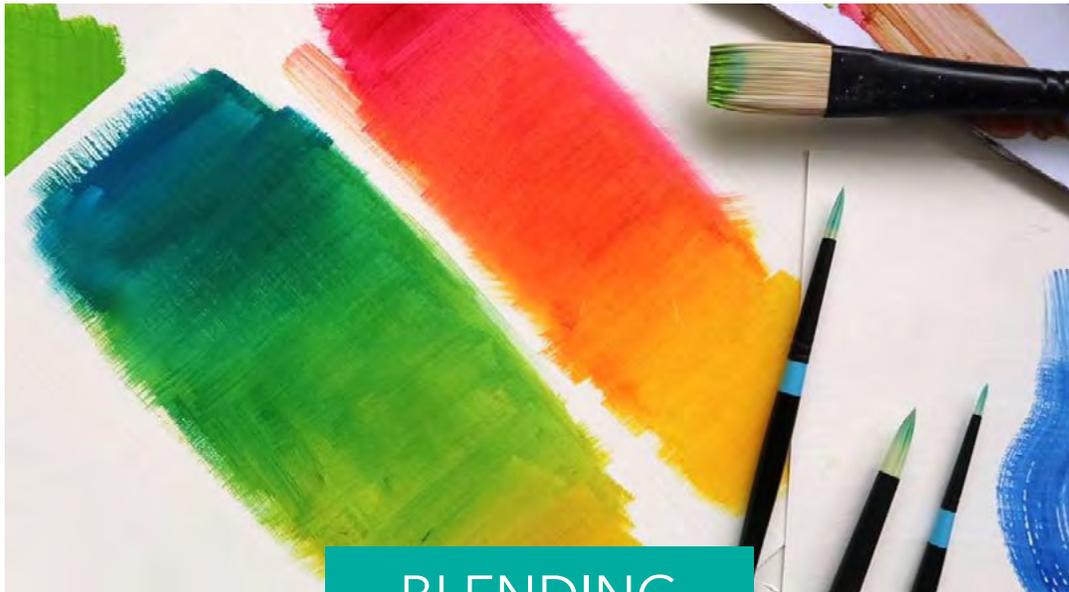
Lean: The idea is that the first layers of your painting are 'lean' or 'thin'. This means there is less oil in them and that they will dry quickly. A lean layer can be achieved by adding water. (Think of it like adding ice cubes to a drink. They bulk it out, but essentially they dilute your mixture).

Fat: The latter layers of your painting want to be 'fat'. This means there is more oil content in

them, either with the paint itself or by adding a medium. Having more oil in your mixture will slow the drying time unless you have a fast drying medium, that is the exception.

If you ensure your lower layers dry first, there will be no movement underneath once your top layers are drying which prevents cracking.

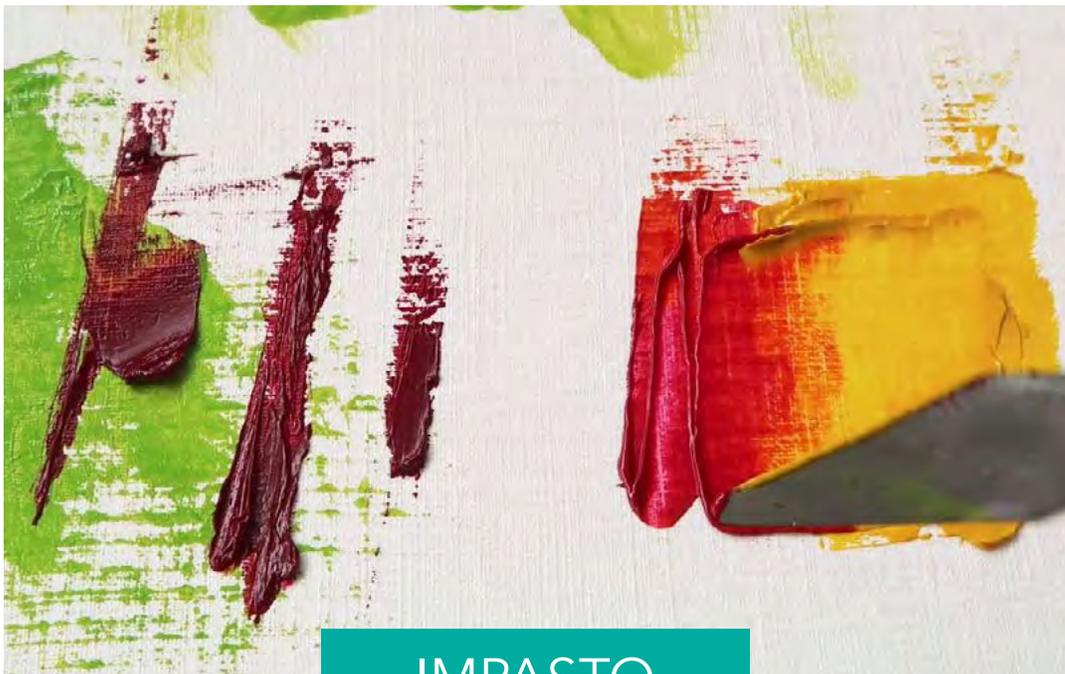
It's also worth noting that technically speaking, oil paint doesn't 'dry' but oxidizes. For the purpose of this class, we will be using the term drying, as it is easier to understand.



BLENDING

Oil paints are incredible at blending, it is one of their best features. You can blend with a clean brush, but I usually like to blend with a color into another. You can use a mixture of diagonal and

horizontal brush strokes to create a soft blend. You can also use a palette knife to create a seamless blend with lots of texture.



IMPASTO

Impasto is an oil painting technique where the paint is applied thick creating lots of texture. It can be achieved by using a palette knife or thick oil paint with a stiff brush.

Remember: Some pigments are stronger than others. Mix colors in small amounts first, then when you've mixed your desired color, add more paint.



BRUSHES

The most common brush shapes are round, flat, filbert, and bright. Experiment with brushes and brush strokes to see what feels easiest for you.

Remember: Use a big brush for a large area and a small brush for details.



SKETCHING

Wait - before you grab your pencil! You can use a watered down paint mixture to sketch your painting. This works brilliantly because it adds another layer to your painting, rather than creating indents or adding graphite into your

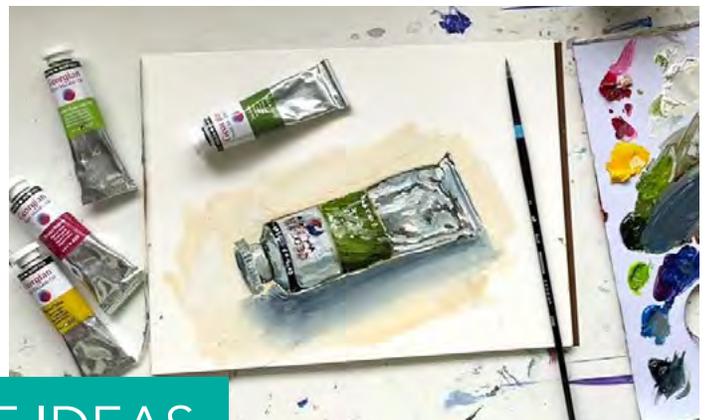
painting. It is also easy to 'erase' with a bit of water, to wipe away your sketch lines. Try sketching something out in your sketchpad using watered down paint. It could even be a paint tube as a still life!



CLEAN UP

Clean up with Water-Mixable Oils is super easy! Just like acrylics, you only need water to clean up. I like to rinse my brushes in water, then use a

small amount of soap to get the last bit of paint out.



EXERCISE IDEAS

Here are some fun exercise ideas that you can try out to build your confidence with oils and get ready for the next lesson:

1. Swatch List
2. Practice Brush Strokes
3. Try blending some colors together
4. Experiment with a still life painting