

EXPRESSIVE ACRYLIC PAINTING

with Patti Mollica

Three Pears



Supplies

- **Strathmore 500 Series Mixed Media Board** (your size of choice – instructor uses 11"x14")
- **Nylon Brushes** (1", 2", 3" and other smaller sizes of your choice)
- **Heavy Body Acrylic Paint**

Instructor's Color Palette*

- Ultramarine Blue
- Cerulean Blue
- Phthalo Blue (Green shade)
- Teal
- Green Gold
- Cadmium Primrose Yellow
- Cadmium Yellow Medium
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Orange
- Cadmium Red Light
- Alizarin Crimson
- Quinacridone Magenta
- Burnt Sienna
- Carbon Black
- Titanium White

*these are the colors the instructor has in her palette, but are not necessarily the colors you need to use



In all my videos will be working with the same colors that I mentioned in my materials video. They are all squeezed out of the tube into a plastic bead box. That way I have all my colors in front of me as soon as I'm ready to paint, and don't have to spend the time to put out each dab of color on the palette. Plus, I don't worry about having any colors left over and wasting it. If some paint is left over I can easily put it back in its compartment.



Start out by sketching out a quick drawing on the Mixed Media board.



I started with the "shadow" side of the pears, the side that is not being struck directly by light. I am using a burnt sienna color to block in the big shapes.



I dip my brush into a lighter, Ochre color and paint right into the sienna color to give it some hue variety.



Some touches of orange and red also give it some interesting color variety.



I save my lightest colors - the light yellows - for later.



A few touches of light yellow-green offset all the warm colors nicely and add some accent colors.



I put in the stems with one stroke so they “bend” nicely.



The pears are casting a shadow and I use burnt sienna mixed with some other warm colors to depict them. Shadows are a little darker when they are right near the object that is casting them, and they get lighter in value as they move further away from the object.



The darkest part of the shadow is right near the base of the pears.



I use a warm neutral color to put in the background. Ochre mixed with some white and black paint gives a nice neutral that will harmonize with the colors of the pears.



The dark background at the top provides some nice contrast and drama so the pears will pop out more. I used burnt sienna, black, alizarin, and some ochre too.



My lightest highlights on the pears are the last touches.

Pears are a great subject to practice on because they are so forgiving. They are lumpy, bumpy, and come in over 3,000 varieties worldwide. So you have plenty of leeway with color and shape. Don't sweat the details; just have some fun painting them!

