

Negative Space Painting Assignment



So far....

You understand that there are 2 style of painting with watercolour

Wet on wet, and wet on dry.

You understand that the pigment floats on the water when we do wet on wet, and you are able to disrupt the flow of the pigment by using different flow disruptors.

You understand that it is best to play with analogous (similar/friendly) colours, and not complimentary colours (they make mud if you put them too close together).

Now we are going to experiment and learn how to layer watercolour paint from light to dark.

Materials

Watercolour paints, HB or H pencil or watercolour pencil

Watercolour paint brushes

Water and paper towel

Board and tape

Cold Press Watercolour paper - 9x12" sheet approx

Flow disruptors

Negative Space Rubric: **60 possible marks**

1. You created an even border on your paper (5 marks)
2. You filled the entire area within your border with your paint and images (5 marks)
3. You created interesting texture in your painting with various flow disruptors) (10 marks)
4. You created depth and layers so your shapes don't look like they are just side by side. They are set on top of each other. (20 marks)
5. You used 3 or more analogous colours of paint (20 marks)

1. Choose colours for your painting
2. Using Wet on Wet distribute your paint all over your page
3. Use some flow disruptors to create texture in your paint; place plastic wrap all over your wet paint, flick paint, use salt or alcohol
4. Allow to dry
5. Remove plastic wrap, salt etc and see what magic you've created



Putting down your first layer video



Take a photo of your first step (10 marks)





Step 2: Choose a shape!

Choose a simple shape for your painting. You don't want it to be too big or small.

1. Trace your shape in random locations on your painted paper.
2. Take care to try to trace your shape around some of the most interesting textures your flow disruptors created on your paper.
3. So your page should have maybe 4-5 shapes (windows) on it at this point



Take a photo of your second step (10 marks)



Step 3: Another layer!

4. Once you have created your shapes, the next step is to add another layer of colour/paint to your paper.

5. NEVER PAINT INSIDE YOUR SHAPE/WINDOWS!!!

6 Using the same or ANALOGOUS colours PAINT AROUND your shapes. DO NOT PAINT THIS LAYER TOO OOOO DARK.

7. The idea is to now have a second layer of value in your colours, by adding a light layer of colour on top of your first one.



Step 3-end Video



Step 4: More windows!

8. Once your second layer of paint is dry (you might help it with a blow dryer), you are going to draw some more shapes/windows.
9. You need to draw a couple of them underneath some of the others so they look like they are overlapping each other.
10. Some of them can be free standing and not touching anything.



Step 5: Next layer of paint

11. Now you are going to paint around ALLLLL of your SHAPES/WINDOWS.

12. Remember you never paint inside your windows.

Take a photo of this step (10 marks)



Step 6: Last set of windows

13. In whatever space you have remaining, draw some more of your shapes.

14. Remember to draw some “underneath” others like you did with your second layer. You can also draw some free standing in any empty space, not touching another shape/window if possible.\

Step 7: Last layer of colour

15. Add a last layer of colour, being careful to once again, **PAINT AROUND YOUR SHAPES/WINDOWS**.

16. Feel free to go a little darker on this layer as it is your last layer.



Step-by-step guide to negative space forest in watercolours

1



2



4



5



6



1. Negative space layering introduction. Circles is the simplest shape but any shape ie leaves, hearts etc can be used. Decide a colour scheme, wash the watercolour paper all over with diluted colours. Dry. Draw a range of different size circles, not overlapping, and use a slightly more vibrant palette paint only the negative space. Dry. Draw a second set of circles which can overlap with first set. Intensify the colours and again paint only the negative space between all the circles. Continue for about 4-5 layers. The last layer will be the smallest and visually the darkest. For a video tutorial demonstrating this and other negative space techniques, check out www.artcpd.com

2. Negative space layered forest
Same principle as shapes but this time the composition will build on the last version.

First layer. Wash the paper with a dilute mix of your palette.

4. First trees Draw the ground level and a large tree, bleeding off the sheet. Fill in the negative space with a slightly more intense palette.

5. Second row of trees. Draw the ground level a little higher than the first one and a line for the top of the trees a little lower than the first trees. Fill in the negative space with a slightly more intense palette.

6. Third /fourth row of trees. Draw the ground level a little higher than the first one and a line for the top of the trees a little lower than the first trees. Fill in the negative space on the last layer with a very intense palette.

7. Variations using this technique
This is an extremely adaptable technique and be used effectively to layer any shapes. Fish swimming in a pond is an excellent adaptation.

Last step

Once your painting is dry, carefully remove your tape.

Rub your finger along the green tape to warm up the glue before you remove it, to help prevent it ripping your paper.

Post your art on the bulletin board for a final **10 marks**.