

# Oil Painting Class

Instructor: Craig Stephens

## Materials

1. **Panels:** At least six small painting panels 5"x7" or 6"x8" are good sizes. I will be using primed hardboard panels, but canvas boards come in those sizes and are very inexpensive. Regular cardboard can be coated with gesso to make a perfectly adequate painting surface as well.

2. **Brushes:** I recommend one small round (but not too small!) and a half-inch flat or bright, but you can use whatever you're comfortable with and have available.

3. **Palette knife:** I have a variety of them but one will do.

4. **Paint:** Oil paint. At minimum you should have a version of the three primaries (red, yellow and blue plus white). For this class I recommend:

Cadmium Yellow Light (green bias)

Cadmium yellow medium (orange bias)

Cadmium red light (orange bias)

Alizarin crimson (violet bias)

Cobalt blue (violet bias)

Cerulean blue (green bias)

Plus titanium white (cool) and flake white (warm). If you can't get a hold of flake white, just titanium will do.

I'll be focusing on color bias as well as temperature, transparency and of course value. Over the duration of the class you may get some new ideas regarding your palette.

5. **Palette:** Whatever you're going to use to mix your paint on. I use a large piece of tempered glass, but oiled wooden palettes, disposable paper palettes and old dinner plates work well too.

6. **Your stage:** Basically a horizontal surface to set your subject on and a plain backdrop behind it. A tabletop with a blank wall works great or you can easily make something out of a cardboard box. I'll be working on a white or off-white background. A couple of sheets of drawing paper lining your stage would work well for this.

7. **Light source:** I use a clamp light, they're inexpensive and versatile but just about any lamp will do

**NOTE- THE STAGE AND LIGHT SOURCE ARE ONLY NEEDED FOR YOUR HOME STUDIO. I will have those set up for class.**

8. **Clean up:** Oderless mineral spirits only (e.g., Gamsol) – NO turpentine (I'll discuss solvents and brush care); rags or paper towels.

9. **Safety:** Oil paint is pretty toxic. I encourage the use of solvent resistant gloves. Disposable nitrile gloves work well.