



Greetings! And Welcome To May....

When Spring arrives so does my desire to paint and work outside.

Unfortunately for me I don't get to do as much of it as I like because my allergies always arrive at the same time... since sneezing and stroking paint at the same time is not a very good combination.... I find myself depending on photos more and painting on location less but "Plien Aire" is still one of the most challenging and exciting types of study for me.

I don't care what kind of camera you have , there is still something about standing out there and painting on location that can't be matched for the sheer exhilaration of being surrounded by the newly budded out world.

Another favorite way to improve my artwork and get regenerated again is to take a workshop from another artist I admire.

Usually two or three days where I can go and paint with others who are there simply to learn and improve , Some come to learn a totally new painting skill or work in a media that they have not explored before.

Workshops are a mini vacation , plus you get the added benefit of staying focused and feeling like you are not alone on the road to growing your art. Every one there has the same goal in mind... and everyone wants to help each other out in any way they can.

I have taken some workshops where the artist/teacher was really great at sharing and teaching... and I have

taken a few where I did not think the artist was a very good teacher...but I always learned something!

I have never felt like I had wasted my time or money at all.

I will be teaching some workshops this Spring and Summer, and I hope I will be put in the "She was a good artist/teacher" category by those who join me as students. It takes a lot of work to get ready for them, yet I really get revved up at the possibilities.

For an affordable price and a small amount of time, the students grow and enjoy the fellowship that a workshop brings to them.

If you can't go out of town, I will be teaching workshops from time to time locally so check the website for announcements and times on a regular basis.

But if you like working at a slower pacethen buy one of the Sunday Painter Workshops I offer for sale in the store.

They are illustrated step-by step so you can complete a painting from them...plus there is always information that is general and complete for any painting project.

Sign-up, Join in, and Paint along...

Jamie

P.S. I will be teaching "Florals with a Flair" in Paris.... Interested? E- mail me for more info. ASAP

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To read more about workshops go to
www.artlessonswithjamie.com
and look under Jamie's blogs



Sharing the Creative Journey

Congratulations!... to the online drawing students who have patiently and diligently worked on their lessons.

It was an amazing journey to see the online students grow and get better from week to week. Each lesson took me approximately 8 - 10 hours to research, do the artwork, and write and format on the computer; but it was worth every minute of my time. I am sure the students worked just as hard because it shows!

By having to go back and break down drawing fundamentals in each lesson...it re-“taught” me the **when, what, and why** all over again. I know I realized while writing and preparing examples for you just how “rusty” my drawing skills had become... I plan to keep drawing every day to stay in shape! I hope you will do the same.

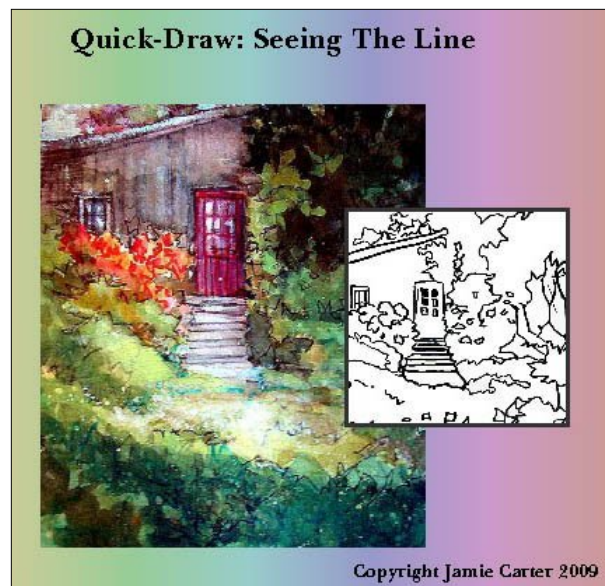
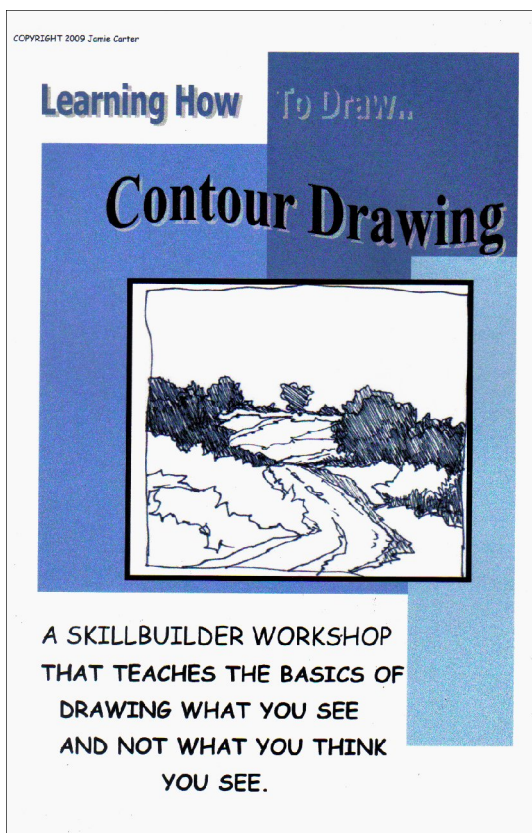
Thanks folks, for hanging in there and working so hard. I hope you will enjoy and continue to learn every day.

For those who are interested in “sharpening” their drawing skills ... You can re-read “The Sketchbook Habit” online or sign up to audit the **Start With A Mark Drawing Course**. It is not too late.

It has 8 very complete lessons that teach you how to go from drawing symbolically to drawing with a flair.

The Essential Elements of Design are broken down and taught to you one by one.

Learn how to make them work for you. **Sharpen that pencil...then You can Sharpen your Skills!**



Tools Of The Trade.....

Here are two programs for sale that will help you stay on track to learning and improving. Each one is a complete essay and step-by step workshop that can teach you some of the basic elements to learning how to draw or paint. Order from the store at

www.artlessonswithjamie.com

Ask Jamie.....?



Dear Jamie,
Can You please tell me if it is all right to paint oil over acrylics, or is it acrylics over oil?
I can never remember which goes on first.

Thanks, Catherine

Dear Catherine,
It is totally acceptable to use acrylics as an under painting with oil paint on top [after the acrylics are completely dry.]

But It is never alright to paint acrylics over oil. They will peel off. Oil paint is pigment that is suspended in linseed oil... versus acrylics are pigment with a polymer base. A form of plastic...and water is used to break it down. It will not adhere to the oily surface from the oil paint.

Just remember thiswater rolls off a duck's back...[because the duck has oil in his feathers.]
That will give you a key phrase to help you remember. Acrylics first... oils second. Hope this helps.

Jamie

Finding Her Voice
a Celebration of Women in Art

April 10th thru May 15th 2010

Hurry ! there is still time to see this great art exhibit at The Dutch Art Gallery on Northwest Highway in Dallas. The show ends soon...but I was honored to be asked to participate and lend my skills and voice to the art exhibit and discussion about the challenges that women have being accepted and being taken seriously as professional artists.

Some of the questions that came up were mind boggling and insightful. And sort of bittersweet.

I knew that I had had some uphill battles in my career, but thought it was more because I started out showing and selling in the "Wildlife" art field... a KNOWN male area of art. [Used to laugh that my name Jamie probably got me in... since they thought it was a man until they saw me...] but was floored that there is still so much confusion about women who choose art as a profession. Only a small percentage of artwork painted or sculpted by women is represented in the art museums of the world... whereas a large number of artworks by men are paintings or sculpture of women as their subjects...LOL

Pg.3 Go See This Great Art Show And Add Your Voice To The Discussion.



Artist Expo Houston

July 20th - 24th, 2010
(Tuesday - Saturday)

Join me as I teach two different workshops during the Expo. Registration is just about over so if you think you would like to take advantage of a teacher roster from all over the United States call or email now to receive a catalog and or register.

Go to my website and click on the link you can find there.


I will be teaching a workshop on "Using Photos For Dramatic Paintings" in oils

and another workshop in acrylics called

"Painting Pillows: Painting Fun" Both classes are very affordable ...but I am just one of 50 or more teachers and projects. You can't beat this if you are a beginner... or if you are looking to have a vacation with your friends for a few days. Register soontime is running out and classes are filling up!

Read the letter I received from the organizer below.

From Photos To Paintings
Using Photography To Inspire and Lead You To Painting Successfully



Free Extra Bonus Photos

Last Days Of Summer

LEARN HOW to insert your creative vision into a painting while using photographs for a reference. Jamie Carter will teach you how to go from a transparent monochromatic underpainting to composing and planning your painting in full color.

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Dear 2010 Artist Expo Teacher,

We have heard nothing but compliments about the classes offered this year at Artist Expo so thank you for submitting your best work.

Registration for the 2010 classes started on March 7th

P.S. At this time both of my classes have 15 students in them... the limit is 20.



Painting Pillows: Painting Fun

Art Lessons For the Sunday Painter...

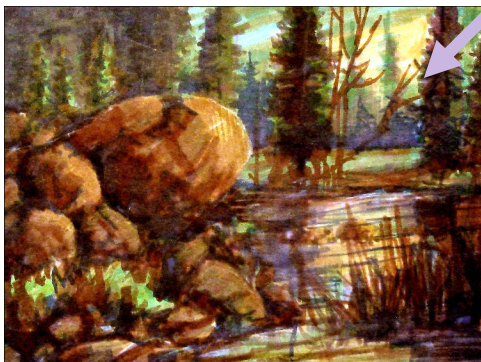
Listening To The Creative Muse: Painting with Expression and Leaving An Impression. Where do you get all your ideas and how do you know how you want to paint them?

This is a question that I get from folks probably more than any other. Since it is asked so often I thought I might give you a little lesson on the way to plan a painting.

It doesn't take a lot to get me started, but often I need a particular element to inspire me or make me want to investigate the possibilities further. When I do find a photo, scene, or even a phrase or sentence... I start by gathering or looking for mentor ideas... or styles or methods that I might want to use. If the subject matter lends itself to big areas of color I may want to just paint very loose with big strokes ... skies, flowers, trees, and water all lend themselves to an impressionistic style of painting. I would then plan my color palette... and I do not necessarily use what is in the reference. ... especially if I am painting from a sketch in my sketchbook... they are in values or black and white.. I like that it leaves me free to invent color schemes. When I am painting this way I will use a palette that is analogous, monochromatic, or complimentary. The reason for this is when you are working impressionistically, you are also using thicker paint. These types of color palettes lend themselves to mixtures that are compatible and will not "mud" up until I want them too! Let's look at a sketch and I will tell you how I would start.



My reference photo...colors too blah and dark so I play around with a few sketches to help me get familiar with the different elements in the picture that I like... the trees on the right contrasting against the sky and distant hill on the left. It is a natural composition ... I know the big rock could end up looking like a big blob so I play with some shapes and colors in a few marker sketches... I decide to use a lighter color scheme than the photo shows... So I play with a few colors . I decide I will use a pastel scheme with a natural warm cast on the rocks, hills , and grass.



My palette would be a modified complimentary scheme of orange and blue... tints... [colors mixed with a touch of white.] I squirt out Cerulean Blue ,Alizarin Crimson, Viridian, and Yellow Light. The orange is made with A.C.+YL....I mix white into each color to make a light mid tone light and highlight..... My darks will come from the clean unmixed original color straight from the tube. Go to the next page to see the finished painting and color scheme

Art Lessons For the Sunday Painter...



The finished painting... just remember the warmer browns are alizarin crimson plus yellow light to make orange... then add cerulean blue ... this makes the soft grey browns... for some darker contrast colors use the pure alizarin crimson with the viridian ... then a touch of yellow. If it turns green you have too much viridian and need more red. Notice the loose handling of the strokes. This is thick paint.. use as few strokes as necessary. **PRE-MIX THE COLORS OR IT WILL FAIL!** You cannot skimp on paint when you paint impressionistically. A painting of this kind is very satisfying for the person who does not feel like they need to spell out everything they see in the reference photo. An impressionistic painting **suggests**... it is not a photographically realistic painting. Free yourself from “persnickety” details that do not add anything to the expression of the painting. Use a large brush , a few strokes, and let the creative muse lead the way... for more on being an artist and the top myths of being an creative artist go to the website and read all about it. copyright