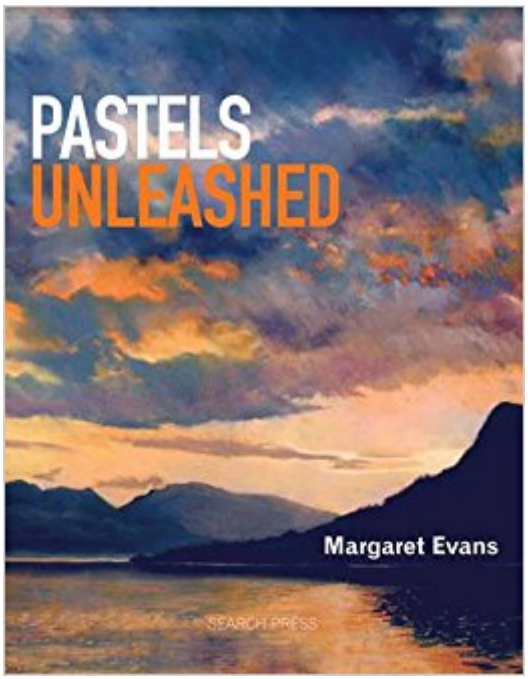
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Pastels Unleashed



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Synopsis

Margaret Evans shows artists how to unleash the creative power of pastels. She shares her huge enthusiasm for the medium and her expertise in the properties of pastels, showing how to choose papers or use underpainting techniques to make the most of them. She demonstrates the stages: sketching in, blocking in and then building up, that lead to a successful painting, and then the dry and wet techniques that really unleash the potential of pastels. She shows how to use turpentine and how to dilute or intensify colours, and there is information of composition, perspective, painting figures and mood and atmosphere, all helping equip the reader to paint in her fantastically creative way. She also shows how she develops painting ideas from her wonderfully inspiring photographs, workbooks and travel diaries. There are then six beautiful step by step demonstrations.

Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages
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Customer Reviews

Feb 14 I'm always a bit wary of saying that something may be the best ever, because almost immediately something else comes along and I have to find a way of saying it's even better. I'm probably on safer ground with this, though, as pastels are definitely the Cinderella medium, with relatively few books written about them. The strange thing is, though, that there are almost no truly bad ones. It may be that the medium only really attracts the committed artist who's spent time developing their craft, or maybe publishers are more selective. Whatever it is, most pastels books are good and this is quite possibly the best ever. Let's start by saying what it's not: it's not a beginner's guide. Yes, there are step-by step -demonstrations, yes there are chapters on materials and techniques, but they all assume a degree of prior knowledge. This isn't a way of warning you off if you want to learn the medium, though there are enough basic guides available that you should

maybe start with. Rather, it’s a whoop of delight to find a book that treats you as a grown-up, that says, "Add highlights to the centre of the right hand poppy. Tidy up the edges of the main flowers and freshen the colours" and assumes you don’t need any more detail than that. This is a book that sells itself. All you need to do is pick it up and flick through the pages and there’s no chance you won’t buy it. There’s just so much variety, from people and animals to landscapes and seascapes, fine-detail and broad-stroke work. Techniques include the relatively new idea of adding water and spirit to free the pure colour the medium contains. I usually manage to come up with a list of things a book is packed with, but this is packed with everything. It’s a celebration of the medium that’s going to delight and enthuse any pastellist. Artbookreview.net May 14 In her new book on pastel painting, experienced artist and tutor Margaret Evans hopes to dispel the myth that pastel isn’t a serious medium and is only suited to loose sketches. Margaret feels it is the most spontaneous medium you can paint with, a pure and direct medium suited to many different styles. Here, she shows us just what it can do. Composition, perspective, mood and atmosphere, figures and animals are all dealt with separately, before Margaret moves on to her step-by-step demonstrations. These include atmospheric mountains, woods and water, a Tuscan hillside, evening in Venice, a coastal scene off the coast of Arran, and finally, garden poppies. Each demonstration is accompanied by up to 36 stages so they are very clearly explained and illustrated with Margaret’s inspiring pastels. Leisure Painter, The Jan 14 Pastels are an underrated art medium. Many artists regard them as just coloured chalks, messy and unstable suitable only for loose sketches. Margaret Evans disagrees and in this book sets out to show just what can be done with pastels. She demonstrates a range of innovative techniques, such as dry glazing, scumbling and impasto which combined together in a painting can make a spectacular impact. Advice and suggestions are made for creating mood, atmosphere, figures and animals within this medium. Several step by step designs are provided: Atmospheric Mountains, Woods and Water, Tuscan Hillside, Evening in Venice, Coastal Scene, Garden Poppies. Taken together, they demonstrate the full range of what pastel useage can create. All her examples are backed up by clear instructions, drawings and paintings so that artists can see immediately what can be done, and how to do it. A useful and creative book, which is guaranteed to stimulate any artist. Monstersandcritics.com Apr 14 If you have wanted to learn how to use pastels and discover what they are capable of, here is a book all about it. Hard, soft and pan pastels are all used and you can find out what paper to buy, what else you will need and tips on working indoors and out. You can use them wet to make washes and other effects, or dry of course and you can even mix them - all of this is covered in the early part of the book. They are certainly more versatile than I ever realized (I didn’t know you could use them wet for example) so expect the most

up-to-date advice. There are six projects to work through to help you get the most out of what you have learned (in here called demonstrations), and subjects range from flowers to landscapes, townscapes and seascapes. Also included is plenty of information about composition, perspective, getting the mood right, working out of doors (in plein air sounds so much better!) and collecting subjects to paint. Anybody like me who thought that pastels were a rather limited medium will find this book instructive. Myshelf.com Mar 14 This is one of the best books I have seen on using pastels. Unleash the potential of this medium with the help of this fantastic book. Margaret shows you the techniques, both dry and wet. Great step by step projects and tuition are included. I particularly like the flowers, but the landscapes, buildings and figure work are all excellent. Beautiful colour is captured with excellent photography. Margaret has a keen sense of colour, an open mind to experimentation and the ability to produce stunning work. I admire Margaret's innovative techniques. The book contains the usual information in painting books on materials and so on. Tonal value, technique, subjects, composition, perspective, mood and atmosphere, figures and animals are all discussed. There are 6 demonstrations including scenes of mountains; woods and water, Tuscany; Venice; coast and poppies. These are easy to follow. The book is illustrated throughout with outstanding work. This book is certainly worth purchasing. It is a must-have for any pastel artist. Karen Platt Yarnsandfabrics.co.uk/crafts Aug 2014 In Pastels Unleashed, artist and teacher Margaret Evans provides an empowering, user friendly approach to getting the most out of your pastels. Whether you're a beginner or seasoned pastelist, you're sure to benefit from her considerable insight and tips for exploring the medium. With easy-to-understand instruction, step-by-step photos, works in process and finished paintings, Evans effectively translates her 30 years of teaching experience into approachable topics, including materials; set-up; colour; value; techniques (both wet and dry); inspiration; composition; perspective; mood and atmosphere; and figures and animals. More than half of the 144-page softbound book is comprised of six detailed step-by-step painting demonstrations of various landscapes, including mountain, woodland and coastal scenes. This book is a front-row seat to the process and potential of paint in pastel. Pastel Journal, The

Margaret Evans is a well-known artist and practical art teacher who specialises in figure work and portraiture, as well as pastel painting. She has exhibited her work with the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, the Pastel Society and the United Society of Artists and now runs extremely successful painting courses from her studio in Scotland, as well as working on commissions in all media. Margaret is an established contributor to the leisure painting press and has made a number of

practical art videos.

Great book for pastelists and Margaret does a good job for beginners and provides nice examples of her work. Would recommend

Beautiful book, some really wonderful paintings that are very inspiring.Artists in other countries approach art making differently than we do in the USA and so her explanations visually as well as verbally (written) were refreshing and different. I enjoy the book and have recommended it to many.

Excellent instruction and step by step demonstrations of landscape pastel painting and flowers.

I loved this book. It gives a good introduction to pastels, but then moves on to more advanced techniques. The in depth demonstrations then allow you to work through the techniques, and see how they apply to different circumstances.This book will not get outdated, as Margaret avoids using brand names, instead she is descriptive, of the colours used and paper types.

I found this book very helpful. It has several step-by-step demonstration and discussions of techniques.

Yes, I liked this book.

The illustrations and examples are gorgeous and the information and recommendations helpful. The explanations are clear and understandable and makes one hopeful of being able to follow them successfully. Alas, that’s not always the case but one can try!

ok not great

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Pastels - A Complete Course on Practical and Creative Techniques Creative Cloth Doll Faces: Using Paints, Pastels, Fibers, Beading, Collage, and Sculpting Techniques Painting with Pastels (Pastel Painting Tips & Techniques) Renoir (113 Drawings and Pastels) Creating a Palomino in Pastels Canyon Visions: Photographs and Pastels of the Texas Plains Odilon Redon: Pastels An Introduction to Pastels (DK Art School) How to Paint With Pastels (Watson-Guptill Artists Library) Animation Unleashed: 100 Principles Every Animator, Comic Book Writer, Filmmaker, Video Artist, and Game Developer Should Know

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