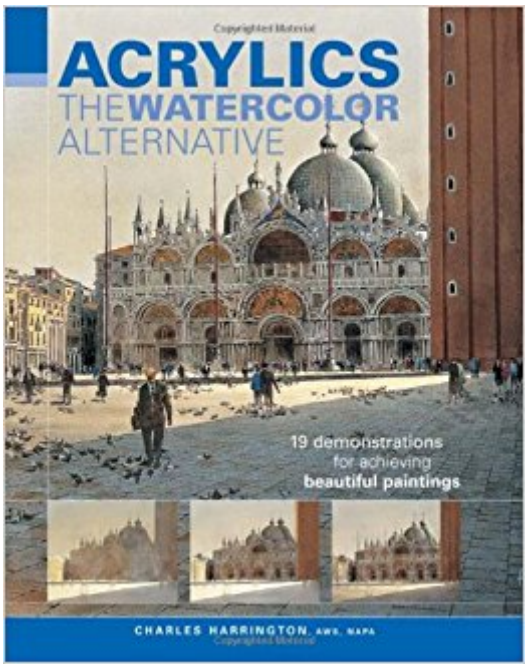
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Acrylics - The Watercolor Alternative



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Synopsis

Experience the look and feel of watercolor... without the limits!You never imagined acrylics could appear this translucent, this fluid - this much like watercolor! Acrylics: The Watercolor Alternative shows how you can capture the versatility and the permanence of acrylics with the aesthetic beauty of transparent watercolor.Through 9 basic technique exercises and 10 step-by-step demonstrations, watermedia expert Charles Harrington introduces you to the perfect alternative to watercolor for beautiful, easier transparent painting. With his simple acrylic techniques, you can:attractively combine transparent, translucent and opaque passages within a single paintingreduce the risk of muddy color when applying multiple glazeseasily rework failed areasexperiment on a variety of different surfacesWith Acrylics: The Watercolor Alternative, discover how to take advantage of the flexible, forgiving nature of acrylics for surprisingly watercolor-like results. Whether you are an acrylic painter who’s after the luminous effects of watercolor or a watercolorist seeking the same with fewer hassles, this is the book for you!

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Charles Harrington’s work has appeared in many US watercolour magazines. Harrington has taught at university level for over 20 years, and teaches workshops for beginners and advanced painters.

Having read dozens of painting books, I’m sometimes disappointed to find that the next book I read is simply a rehash of basic information from older books, sometimes leaving out the better parts. Not the case here. While this book is appropriate for a novice painter, it’s strengths will also be evident

to painters with more experience. I tend to be a bit suspicious of run of the mill art books that filled with weak demos. That's also not the case here. Most of these demos are of award-winning quality, and the author takes the reader through all the steps to produce them, even describing the paint mixes for each layer. He works with a limited pallette, mostly a red, blue, and yellow, drawing on other reds, blues, and greens to brighten up the earthy background colors. His use of gesso for white and gray is unusual, but it works well for him. He uses masking, spatter techniques, straight lines, and multiple layers of washes or glazes very well, and also achieves or implies exceptional details and realism for watercolors. While he prefers to work with watercolor paper, his demos run include canvas, masonite. Most of the usual watercolor techniques are explained and demostrated, with an explanation for how acrylic's permanence calls for a few differences, though some discussion on stretching watercolor paper would have also been in order. There's also the usual information for beginners on paints, additives, brushes, tools, workspace, reference photos, compostion etc., and a few excellent words about discovering your passion. If you are interested in watercolor effects with acrylics, I can't think of a better book. Highly recommended.

Charles Harrington give lots of examples to follow. I have been painting in watercolors for over 25 years and wanted to switch to acrylic. I like his style of painting. I briefly looked over this book. I will have to try out some if his exercises, but with different photos of similar subjects to make it my own. I will have to check over my supplies to make sure that I have everything that I need, but I have a lot of supplies so I can even make choices of different colors if need be.

I found that this book certainly delivered what was promised in the title--how acrylic pigments could be treated with the methods common to the watercolor medium. Harrington emphasizes that one can experience the joy of watercolor painting without the usual worries of watercolor. Indeed, he provides demos using watercolor paper, board, and watercolor canvas as supports and keeps the reader informed about his methods, materials, and interesting special techniques used to achieve the illusions of transparency and translucence in painting stones in shallow water. Good for the bookshelf of any artist working in water-based media.

A very good book on using acrylics.

The author knows his craft. Examples in the book illustrate a wide range of landscape examples with many demonstration paintings. I would say if you want to investigate and experience the art of

landscape painting with acrylic paint then this is a great place to begin.

Easy to understand. Explains the pros and cons of color use in this medium. Simplifies the preparation toward the final composition by identifying design, value, visual path and color. The demonstrations present well, the photos are clear and the colors are crisp, clean and bright.

I ordered a used book, but it was exactly like new. There are beautiful examples and explanations of how to paint different settings both opaque and translucent. The author thoroughly explains his unique method of development. Anyone wanting to increase their skills in this medium would benefit from having this book.

excellent book

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