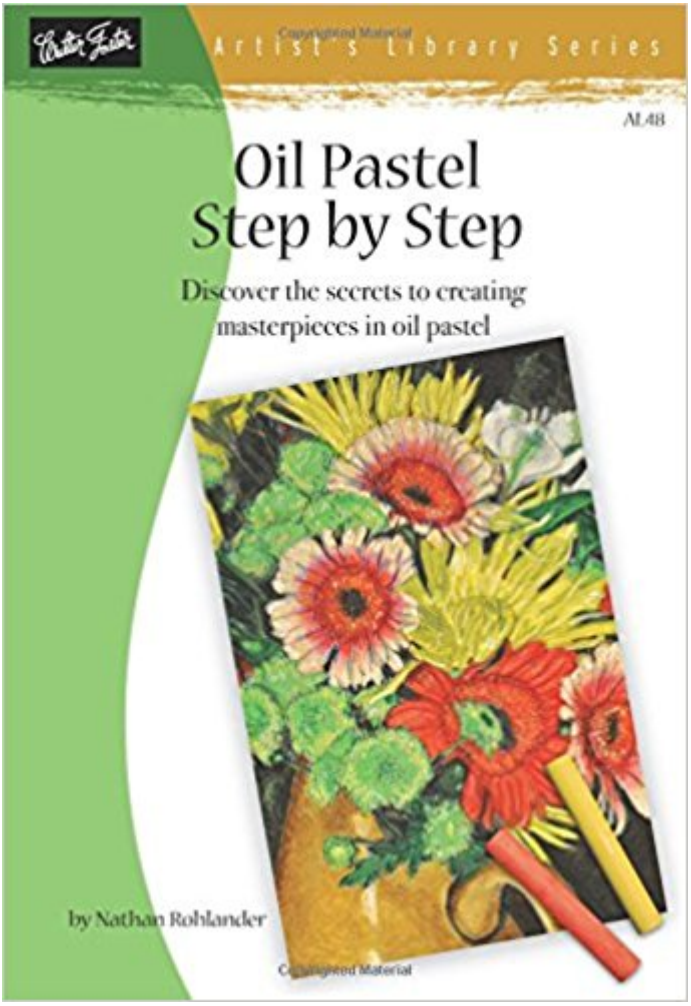
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Oil Pastel Step By Step: Discover The Secrets To Creating Masterpieces In Oil Pastel (Artist's Library)



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Synopsis

This comprehensive, 64-page book offers in-depth instruction on creating vibrant paintings with the often overlooked but versatile medium, oil pastel. A relatively new fine-art medium, oil pastel is inexpensive and may be used directly in dry form with minimal setup and easy clean up, so beginners can get started right away! The book opens with a thorough introduction to basic oil pastel tools and techniques. Then, artist-author Nathan Rohlander shows aspiring artists how to render a wide range of subjectsÃ¢â ¬â •from flowers and animals to landscapes and portraitsÃ¢â ¬â •with simple, step-by-step demonstrations and stunning illustrations.

Book Information

Series: Artist's Library

Paperback: 64 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #330,947 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Pastel

Customer Reviews

Nathan Rohlander's bright, vibrant paintings have been featured in the pages of Esquire and Shuz magazines, on the cover of Coast magazine, in Super Bowl commercials, in numerous television shows, and even in MTV videos. Having graduated with honors and a fine arts degree from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, Nathan is currently working toward a master of fine arts at California State University, Long Beach. Nathan lives and works in Los Angeles, but he has spent considerable time in Europe, South America, and Asia, where he has been able to gain creative inspiration and refine his global perspective. Nathan's work is featured in two Walter Foster Publishing titles: Acrylic: Still Lifes, in the How to Draw and Paint Series; and in The Artist's Source Book: 80 Acrylic Painting References. Nathan lives in Los Angeles, CA.

As an introduction, I think this book is okay, and it shows what can be done with an art medium that

many look down on (as they used to do with coloured pencil, and especially water-soluble pencil). This book does suggest some marks to make with oil pastels, but it doesn't give any advice for actually APPLYING the pastel. The author provides some examples of paintings that take you through his stages, in that you can see the paintings as they develop -- but he does not, and this is key -- share his actual PROCESS of creating them. This is a how-to book that should do more in terms of showing *how*, especially since oil pastels come in thick and clumsy sticks or rounds (I'm thinking in particular of Senneliers but Holbeins aren't much easier to create small areas of colour with). How does one achieve fine lines and precise detail with such a medium? It seems to me that this is absolutely essential, and the author doesn't address it.Where I also wish the editor had intervened is in the matter of defining categories. We are told that needed materials include 'matte medium' and 'gesso'. I am not new to art and yet I don't know what either material is, how to use it, or how it is useful to the oil pastel artist. A brief discussion of each material, rather than a mere listing, would have been more helpful.

I guess I shouldn't blame the book for failing to make an artist out of someone who doesn't have even one gene for Art!! It just seemed to me that the information in the book was far too advanced for someone who had never picked up an oil pastel in her life. The reason I gave it 3 stars is that it didn't seem to be for brand new beginners.

Not for a beginning artist. Meant for experienced artists wanting to delve into a new medium

I hadn't drawn since art school, 28 years ago when I decided to give it a go again. This book provided the basics in getting acquainted with oil pastel. I was surprised at how nice my oil pastel drawings looked while just beginning to use them. This book was very helpful.

I bought this for my granddaughter. I have not given it to her. So, I can't really rate it.

Good book for beginners and intermediate artists wanting to further explore the medium. Good pointers on technique, good instructions and illustrations.

Good book!

Not very useful in learning to use oil pastels.

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