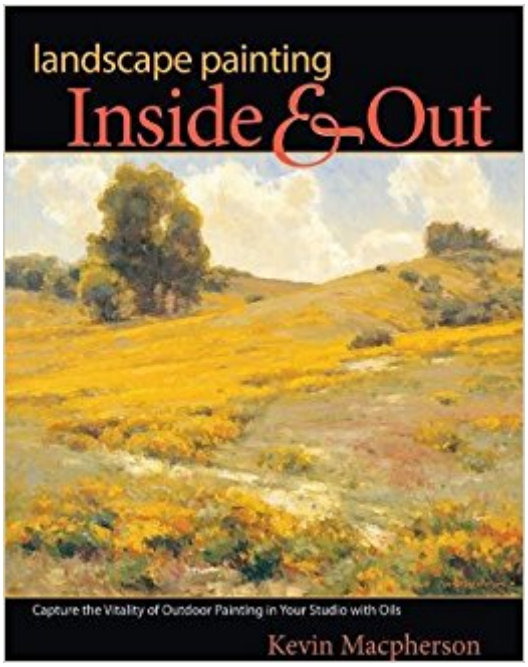
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Landscape Painting Inside & Out



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Synopsis

Paint with passion, purpose and pleasure.What do you want your landscape painting to say about this place, this moment? How do you use the visual vocabulary—line, shape, value, color, edges—to say it? With this book, your conversation with nature will direct your brush. With an exhilarating, synergistic combination of indoor and outdoor painting, Kevin Macpherson shows you how to create personal, poetic landscapes that capture the feeling of being there.Learn how to:Use a limited palette in a way that is more liberating than limiting.Experience nature to the fullest and capture its vibrancy back in the studio through photos, sketches and outdoor studies.Cope with the fleeting qualities of atmosphere and light by establishing a value plan early and sticking with it.Incorporate impressionistic touches of broken color to give your landscape a depth and vibrancy that enhances its realism.Approach painting as a layering and corrective process that encourages non-formulaic solutions.Stimulating warm-up exercises in the studio prepare you for your adventures outside, while eight step-by-step demonstrations show you how to put these methods into action. Throughout, Macpherson’s own light-filled landscapes illustrate the power of these techniques.Full of fresh air and fresh art, Landscape Painting Inside and Out will guide and encourage beginners while challenging more accomplished artists to bring greater vitality and a more natural, less formulaic finish to their paintings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kevin Macpherson is a highly respected artist of oil paintings and a sought after workshop

instructor. A founding member and past president of the Plein Air Painters of America, his work is seen regularly in art magazines including The Artist's Magazine, American Artist and International Artist.

This is an encouraging, informative, and altogether lucid book. I've begun doing art pieces and I started with pastels, which I still love. I bought this book at the same time that I bought Mitchell Albala's Landscape Painting, and both books give very practical advice, and great examples of using value, hue, composition in your work. I'm interested in plein air painting, and both books discuss the process and need to prepare yourself for that work. I love this book. I'm using acrylics, not oils, but the color theory, practical aspects of seeing and interpreting what you see with brush and medium are equally apt. I have already learned essential technical principles (the execution of which he honestly shares will take much experience, gained by doing many works). He is totally encouraging, warm, and humorous. I just love this book and would recommend it to anyone who is in need of reference materials and guidance. It does everything that you could hope for from a book, so as long as you are realistic about what you can learn from reading (versus classes with a teacher or many years of personal experience), I don't think you will be disappointed. Worth it!

I read Kevin's earlier book and mentioned it previously here on and yes, I thought it was great but THIS one...this one is...is...damn...words fail me. It's just simply the best book on plein-air painting I've ever read (and I must have 30 or more on this subject alone). Kevin has outdone himself with this one. He's taken all the valuable info contained in his previous book and just added to it and added to it. I'm looking and looking but I can't find ANYTHING that he may have left out or not talked enough about.Years ago, before he established himself as The Man when it comes to teaching people how to paint outdoors, I took a couple of workshops with him and, during the first couple of days outdoors and trying to be somewhat easy in his suggestions to improve my picky little paintings, he finally got frustrated with what I'd continued to put on the canvas and, took his thumb and WHOOSH--smeared out a laborious passage I'd painstakingly put in there and wiped off his thumb and WHOOSH, did it a second time and I'll never forget how much BETTER the painting looked after those two swoops. My biggest mistake was in not stopping right there, putting it away and saving that thing for me to look at again and again. That same mentality permeates his book; you can't help but improve your paintings if you read this book and apply the principles therein.Another note is the two back-pages by his wife, Wanda, who was only just beginning to paint when I knew them. She can really paint now but shemaintains that being really good (which she is)

is not the point, but that just getting out there and not being afraid to fail and just enjoy yourself should be a reward in itself. I found her remarks to be in good juxtaposition to Kevin’s solid, on-target prose about well, "Landscape Painting Inside and Out".Buy it. Better yet, go to his website and see if you can get into a workshop with him. You won’t be disappointed.

Besides a beautiful display of full-color examples of Kevin Macpherson’s work, this book offers valuable help for landscape artists. It provides clearly stated concepts and advice on ways to significantly improve the way we produce our art. If you’re looking for a book that offers a step-by-step tutorial on how to paint a particular landscape, this isn’t it...but rather a wealth of ideas and inspiration that in turn help to rekindle the passion for painting in the rest of us.For me, personally, I’m using Kevin’s explanations and advice as a means to try to break out of my need to paint "too" realistically. I love the broad brushstrokes and impressionistic air of his paintings and hope to move my own work more in that direction. It remains to be seen as to whether or not I’ll be able to reduce my palette to just 3-4 colors like he recommends.

Well written and illustrated by a master oil painter. If you ever have the opportunity to attend one of his workshops, do it!They are fabulous and more fun than you can possibly imagine. Kevin and Wand McPherson run a great workshop.

If you desire quality reproductions of Macpherson’s paintings this conservatively priced book serves as a great collection of his works. If you desire plenty of meaty, in-depth information on the real challenges the painter faces when confronted with the countless variables of nature this book is a bit disappointing.The beginner to intermediate painter will find the basics here. Macpherson knows how to simplify the often esoteric language of the arts and break a complex process down into very manageable bits. For the hungry intermediate to advanced painter, however, this book will leave you wanting something more - the kind of information that can be found in Richard Schmidt’sÃ Â Alla Prima: Everything I Know About Painting, orÃ Â Carlson’s Guide to Landscape Painting, or even James Gurney’sÃ Â Color and Light: A Guide for the Realist Painter.Also, the reader may wonder at the artfully pleasing but informationally lacking amount of white space on many pages, the redundant summing up pages, and even a generous but irrelevent chapter on Macpherson’s wife’s work.

I paint with acrylics. MacPherson uses oils. Even so, all he suggests and demonstrates is useful. I

have his other book, too, and it is equally good. He is the best artist I have read yet in terms of learning how to paint. For me, he is as good as attending a workshop, which I've done. A workshop was a good place to start and MacPherson helped me advance from there.

This is a must-have for plein air painters and those who wish to improve their craft.

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