Painting The Allure Of Nature
Synopsis

Watercolor artists will find it easy to paint realistic, atmospheric nature scenes when artist Susan D. Bourdet takes them under her wing. She starts with the basics of watercolor nature painting, then illuminate the finer points from start to finish. It’s just the kind of instruction they’re looking for. They’ll learn how to: Create a reference library of photos, sketches and field notes; Choose and mix colors; Combine reference materials to design realistic compositions; Master invaluable watercolor techniques, including 12 steps for successful washes; Render realistic birds, flowers, leaves and other foliage; Capture realistic textures of atmospheric snow, fog, bark, moss, lichen, rock, wood, cobwebs and weather; Create close-up compositions that suggest a story; Capture the essence of the seasons in four full-size step-by-step demonstrations; No matter what their skill level or experience, Susan D. Bourdet can help make every artist’s watercolor work richer in personality, drama and realism.

Book Information

Hardcover: 143 pages
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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (11 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #426,107 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in Arts & Photography > Painting > Still Life #211 in Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Landscape #433 in Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Watercolor

Customer Reviews

I’ve always been captivated by the beautiful realism of nature art, but the majority of books I read that covered detail-style nature painting focused mostly on opaque media, particularly oils and acrylics. While I do enjoy both of these media, I’ve longed for a good book that captured the meticulous detail and inherent beauty of nature, in watercolor. This book is exactly what I was longing for. If you love meticulous detail and realism in nature painting, and the soft, flowing feel of watercolor, but never envisioned putting them together, hold on to your paintbrushes! Susan D. Bourdet captures the incredible details and textures of nature with watercolor, while also embracing
the soft, free-flowing beauty unique to this amazing medium. Better yet, in Painting the Allure of Nature, she shares her mastery of both subject and medium, to take the reader on a step-by-step journey through various techniques and breathtaking projects, one right after another. The chapters in this book include:- Materials, Preparations and Choosing Pigments; - Ideas from Nature; - Background Techniques for Nature Painters; - Painting Flowers and Leaves; - Painting Birds; - Painting Nature’s Textures; and- Putting it All Together, Step by Step. I found the chapters on backgrounds and textures to be particularly enjoyable as they really show the uniqueness of the medium, and how it can be harnessed to create incredible, realistic nature paintings. If you’re interested in capturing the realism of nature with watercolor, this is the book you’ve been looking for. It is definitely one of the better books on the subject. I can’t recommend it enough.

I learned about this book from a fellow art student. If one likes birds and painting nature, you will love this book. Susan takes one through several painting projects step by step in a way that is inspirational and easy to understand. Did you ever wonder how to capture the illusion of a hummingbird’s wings beating so fast you can hardly see them? Susan shows you how. She teaches one how to capture the details of birds and flowers that you might find in your own backyard and put them on paper using watercolor techniques that are easy to learn with practice. She has inspired me and left me excited to start painting using some of the new techniques that I have learned from this book. I have read and studied a lot of art books on watercolor through the years and this one is one of my favorites!

This is a five star book for those looking for a pure painting style and that are in love with the birds and the blooms. It is detailed, explained and I learned a lot from it already.

Very good book for explaining her technique and great masking tips I hadn’t considered. Lovely artwork. Inspiring artist and instructor.

I bought this product for my wife who paints in water color. She loves the book and uses the contents to improve her artistic skills.

Beautiful book and good instructional advice. A good book to help you improve your painting skills.

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