

Mixing Flesh Tones for Portraiture

February 2nd, 2024 from 10-4pm

Description:

Have you ever found it to be a challenge to mix accurate flesh tones when painting a portrait? Do your colors turn into “mud”, making the person feel lifeless? In this workshop we'll focus on how to use a limited palette to correctly identify and mix effective flesh tones. Basic color mixing principles will be discussed along with a discussion regarding how to take color temperature in consideration when mixing colors. Students will complete color mixing exercises before executing a small portrait color study of a subject of their choice.

Required Materials:

- 1-3 portrait references; be sure to choose photos that have good lighting with a range of light/dark on the face
- 3-5 8x10 canvas panels or painting surfaces of your choice
- Your normal palette of colors
 - I work with a limited palette and recommend the following: Titanium White, Hansa Yellow Light, Cadmium or Napthal Red, Alizarin Crimson Permanent, Ultramarine, and Burnt Umber
 - I will be using water-mixable oils to teach this class but you can use whatever you are most comfortable with
- Set of brushes; include a variety of sizes/shapes from large to detail
- Palette to mix paint on
- Palette knife
- Solvent of your choice; Gamsol or OMS for regular oils, water for acrylic/water-mixable oils
- Cup or jar to rinse brushes in
- Pencil or other drawing instrument
- A good attitude and willingness to have fun :)