



Brush Strokes



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WONDERFUL

Watercolor Results Using Transparent Tube Color

In this issue you'll see two unusual paintings from two different artists. The dramatic effect these paintings have on the viewer would be the same if you saw them in a big museum or gallery in a big city. Why is this?

Number one is because of the subject matter. The second thing is because of the composition and the third and probably most important is because of the color and composition with color being more prominent in the finished painting.

The painting on the left is of a blossom from the tulip tree painted in all its glorious color with the negative spaces lending to the aura of dramatic. This means that the composition had to be well thought out before the Susan began the painting.

Susan Bedwell has been a student for at least four years in the Wonderful World of Watercolor class conducted at the Fountain City Art Center. She is a very meticulous painter choosing her colors and always leaning toward the dramatic as you see here. She is now teaching as well in her community and has a following due to her knowledge and understanding.

The painting on the right was inspired by a quilt hand made by the artist, Ruth DeBusk. She also wanted to make a gift to her granddaughter by painting the dog under the quilt. She named the painting "My Quilt" which it certainly is.

This painting became a challenge not only for the artist but also for the teacher. Drawing the quilt and placing it on a chair required actually draping the quilt on a stool in the middle of the art room and then deciding on how to paint all the folds and make the quilt look like it was thrown there.

Ruth also decided to mask out a doily lying on the back of the chair. The whole painting became a challenge in skill and color, and the end result is extremely dramatic.

In your own paintings, be sure and plan the center of interest and the negative spaces. Both of these need to be well defined so your painting ends up capturing the viewer's interest and holding it.

I've visited many galleries during my lifetime of art and have observed viewers as they go through the exhibits. To be able to hold their interest longer than half a minute on one art piece, these two basics must be executed.

