



Brush Strokes



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Teacher Suggests Best Class Performance

This teacher has collected recommendations from some of the great teachers listed in a Collector's Edition of *Watercolor* magazine and amended by Mary, shown on the right in a classroom. They are listed below in order of their importance to Mary's Wonderful World of Watercolor group.

- Select the most appropriate teacher for your skill level.
- Focus on the "How" as well as the "Why."
- Always choose the materials from the teacher's supply list. Obviously he/she has mastered the colors and knows what they do, as well as the paper, brushes and other supplemental supplies.
- Learn about your supplies and how to use them
- Align yourself with artists believing watercolor demands careful forethought, planning and skill.
- Keep your standards high. Creativity depends on discipline.
- Making art is a search—not a final discovery.
- Always challenge yourself. Strive for personal content.
- Differing opinions—set your own goals, standards and pace.
- Don't change mediums until you master the one you chose.
- Use your previous paintings to learn and grow.
- Don't expect instant success, and the three final words, "Practice, Practice, Practice!"



To quote one of the nation's finest's artists, "The misconception that watercolor is only for sketching or for amusing oneself while on vacation is part of the reason the medium had such a bad reputation." by Andrew Wyeth. He goes on to say "Watercolor is a personal medium that allows artists to get into their souls. It's not about clever tricks or academic study. It offers the promise of something much deeper."

John Singer Sargent (1856-1925) is well known for his lifelike and life sized portraits that hang in the Biltmore Mansion in Asheville, NC. However, his many transparent watercolors say more about his life and ambition in my opinion than the many portraits attributed to him. Winslow Homer (1836-1910) is probably known best for his oil paintings but spent much of his later life successfully painting watercolors. Another famous watercolorist is John Pike who lived from 1911-1979 and authored a watercolor book in 1966 titled *Watercolor*.



What is this? A new palette—Weber/Fusin 33, Model #91-WP3033 approximately 6 x 12½" which will fit perfectly in your paint bag. Store it flat after use until the paint is dry. It has 33 wells and a removable mixing tray for easy cleaning. Use a Sharpie/Fine Point Permanent Marker to identify the colors right on the palette for more "on the spot" learning.