

Charter Painting

The Basic Two Dimensional Technique

MEDIUM:

It is recommended that you use Gouache. Gouache is usually a mixture of pigment, water and gum-arabic and is considered opaque. Gouache can be thinned with water to produce something more akin to a transparent watercolor paint.

Do NOT use Colored Markers, Colored Pencils, Pastels, Crayons or Acrylics when painting Kingdom Charters.

PREPARING THE PAINT:

You do not need a large amount of paint out of the tube. Put only very small dabs of color into your palette cups until you are experienced with how much paint actually meets your need. Gouache can be rehydrated, so don't wash out your palette, instead, keep a few palettes so that you have enough cups for all your colors and add another palette of cups to mix colors in.

When mixing colors, remember that you will probably not be able to exactly match your mix again and so you will need to make enough for the whole piece.

To create the correct consistency in your gouache, add drops of water, one at a time, and mix it well until it feels like thick runny cream. The mixture will dry in the palette as you paint and you will need to continue to add water to keep the same consistency.

LAYING ON THE COLOR:

Color can be placed upon the paper in one layer so that the effect remains flat and two dimensional or it can be placed, using slightly differing colors in several layers or by blending to produce a three dimensional effect giving depth and dimension to your work.

For Two Dimensional results, to begin, load your brush with paint and set it close to the paper so that the paint makes contact with it, then immediately make strokes with the brush to pull the surface tension of the paint across the paper filling the space with color.

Continue pulling the paint over the area you want to cover, loading the brush with more paint as needed. Do not let the brush become empty so that it begins to make dry brush strokes, as you want the paint to appear as one continuous area of even color. When the paint in the palette starts to thicken, add water to keep its consistency creamy. For small areas, begin by loading the brush with less paint.

Another technique is to use a clean brush to fill the space that you want to cover with a light layer of water. You then touch your color loaded brush into the dampened area and the color spreads across the surface tension of the water. This technique totally eliminates any brush strokes but also lays a less opaque layer of paint. Ox Gall is often added to the water in this technique as it makes the water wetter and lets the paint spread more smoothly. You need only a few drops of Ox Gall to one cup of water.