

THE NEW SCHOOL OF ART

EXPRESSIVE LANDSCAPE PAINTING WITH LOUISE BALAAM

Suggested materials list for online course

Drawing materials

Sketchbooks or loose paper - it's good to experiment with a range of sizes and formats. Sketchbooks are quite a personal choice. It's good to have thick enough paper to take water-based media.

A range of materials to draw with - pencils, charcoal, pens. Media to make drawings in colour is particularly useful - watercolour, oil or soft pastels, acrylic ink, felt pens, or water-soluble sticks such as Derwent XL.

Oil paint - suggested palette

Large tubes (ideally 200ml)

Titanium white
Ultramarine
Yellow ochre
Burnt sienna
Burnt umber
Raw umber

Small tubes

Lemon yellow
Cobalt/Cerulean blue
Ivory black
Sap green
Cadmium red (not essential)

Most of the colours I use are Series I so not expensive pigments - student quality paints are fine. I use a range of brands, including Spectrum, Senellier Rive Gauche, Lukas Studio, and Jackson's Artist Oil Paint.

Palette knives

I use a medium-sized straight palette knife for mixing, and a cranked knife for painting. It's fun to use big cranked palette knives for painting, eg by Liquitex.

Brushes

I use mostly cheaper round hog hair brushes and larger household brushes, up to 2 or 3 inches, eg from Homebase or B&Q. Brushes don't need to be expensive.

Palette or mixing surface

As large as possible. Hardware shops such as Homebase, Wickes or B&Q sell clear acrylic sheet (like Perspex) in sheets 120x60cm, which can be cut in half to make a palette 60x60cm. Basically you need a smooth, flat and non-absorbent surface to mix paint on, the bigger the better. It's really important to be able to mix up enough paint to paint quickly and stay in the flow, without having to stop to mix up more.

Canvases and panels

In a range of sizes - they don't need to be expensive. As you paint more you become more aware of which surfaces you prefer, but for experimentation and exploration you don't want to be inhibited by expensive materials. Great Art or Jackson's have a good range of surfaces.

Linseed oil

I buy big cans from somewhere like Great Art.

Low-odour solvent

eg Gamsol, Sansodor, or Shellsol-T. Bartoline Low-Odour White Spirit (from Homebase) is a low-cost alternative.

Containers for solvent and mediums

eg jam jars - a big one is good for brush cleaning, plus lids

Rags or kitchen roll

Masking tape

Large bulldog clips or spring clamps (from hardware stores)

Heavyweight cartridge paper, A2

A drawing/sketching board (A2 size if possible, 6mm MDF), from Cass Art or Jackson's, or you can have MDF cut to size somewhere like Homebase. You can tape your cartridge paper to the board for studies and painting on paper.