

"Landscapes: Textural Effects with Acrylics and Mixed Media with Metka"

Saturday & Sunday 23rd and 24th July 2022

EXPERIMENTING WITH COLLAGE AND ACRYLIC

Regardless of the medium you choose, the basic processes in painting remain the same; designing and composing, determining values and colours and varying edges to provide boundaries or allow passage. Collage can help you become more aware of these processes and refine your skills. By experimenting with collage you become a more proficient painter and better to express yourself visually.

This is an exploratory attitude toward painting, involving trial and error, experimentation and a questioning approach. The ultimate goal is to loosen your approach to painting, to explore alternative avenues of expression and try new techniques and methods of saying what you wish to say- whatever the medium you choose. Try to do these with a spirit of adventure.

Regardless of the medium, style or subject matter, art as visual expression should not be regulated by rules. You should use whatever materials you need to make a good painting. Your goal as an artist is to communicate and make the best paintings you can.

To remain fresh and creative in their approach, artists need the stimulation of diverse working methods. The acrylic and collage technique provides an alternative to wet in wet and dry brush techniques. With the addition of collaged papers, you can build surfaces that are visually stimulating and exciting to use.

Because the collage process involves the introduction of whites in the form of opaque papers, it gives you greater freedom to design the surface while painting. Visual movement, transitions, balance, pattern, emphasis, and contrast can develop initially, but they can also be altered, adjusted and strengthened as the painting progresses. This flexibility helps you to understand and master the principles of design as you work.

Most of all acrylic and collage can free artists from restrictions of traditional approaches to painting and permit them to use their brushes and paints in loose and expressive ways.

Extract from a book by Gerald Brommer