

David W. Mayer
3 Hour Opaque Water Color/Gouache Class
Louisville Art Association, Louisville CO 80027

David W. Mayer is a nationally known, award winning landscape fine artist working in oils and opaque watercolor. His work and fine art resume can be seen at www.dwmayer.com.

***David recently won Best of Show and the Purchase Award at the
2024 National Watermedia Show in Evergreen, CO.***

Opaque watercolor or Gouache (pronounced “Gwash”) has become quite popular recently as a medium of choice for studio and Plein Air studies because of its quick drying time, intense color and matte finish, and can combined with both translucent and opaque areas in a painting.

In this class, we’ll “discover” the versatility of gouache, focusing on the goal of making light-filled paintings. We will familiarize ourselves with the characteristics of gouache, how it behaves by mixing colors, trying different papers and experimenting with this medium. Open to all levels, some landscape painting/drawing experience would be helpful.

CLASS DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

- About Gouache — what is gouache, samples of instructor’s work.
- Instructor demo, mixing color, tips for papers and using the medium.
- Choosing subjects — We will work from a selection of my photos and/or your photos.

PAINTING IN OPAQUE WATERCOLOR

- Focus on shapes and values in your composition.
- How to use gouache as pure watercolor and then add opaque brushwork and passages.
- Editing and repainting areas of your work.

MATERIALS

Gouache Paints: Permanent white (a large tube), cadmium yellow, yellow ochre, cadmium red, alizarine crimson, ultramarine blue, cerulean blue, sap or olive green.

Optional Additional Colors: Naples yellow, violet, cobalt blue, burnt umber, burnt sienna, gray.

Brands: Holbein or Windsor Newton, (Holbein is best).

Paper: 300 lb. Arches watercolor block is best. 140 lb. will warp and buckle too much.

Brushes: Watercolor brushes, various sizes, round and flat.

Palette: Watercolor kit with individual (empty) sections for various color and flat mixing area.

Containers: Cups and jars(several) for water, paper towels.

Easel: Plein air easel or pochade box on tripod if you have it. Otherwise the art Association with provide long tables.

