
Painterly application

Using Watercolour
from Stephen Quiller's "Painter's Guide to Color"

One way to use and apply paint

HOW DO YOU APPLY PAINT?

The "painterly application and lifting off" is one area you could explore. This is the 2nd paint application technique we are practising, the first was "Glazing" also available to download on the online projects

Materials needed:

(Ideally) a good watercolour paper that is externally sized such as Fabriano Uno or Winsor & Newton paper. You will need to tape your paper on all sides to a board

Transparent Watercolours

Various sized watercolour brushes

Kitchen Roll or soft cloth

Drawing equipment



METHOD:

"Transparent paint is applied as usual, but while semi-wet or after it is dry, a damp, clean brush is used to massage and lift some of the color back out. When the painting is dry, a glaze of color can then be added over the existing area."

pg 30, Painter's Guide to Color

SUBJECT:

You can try this paint application technique with any subject. I have picked a log cabin in woods.

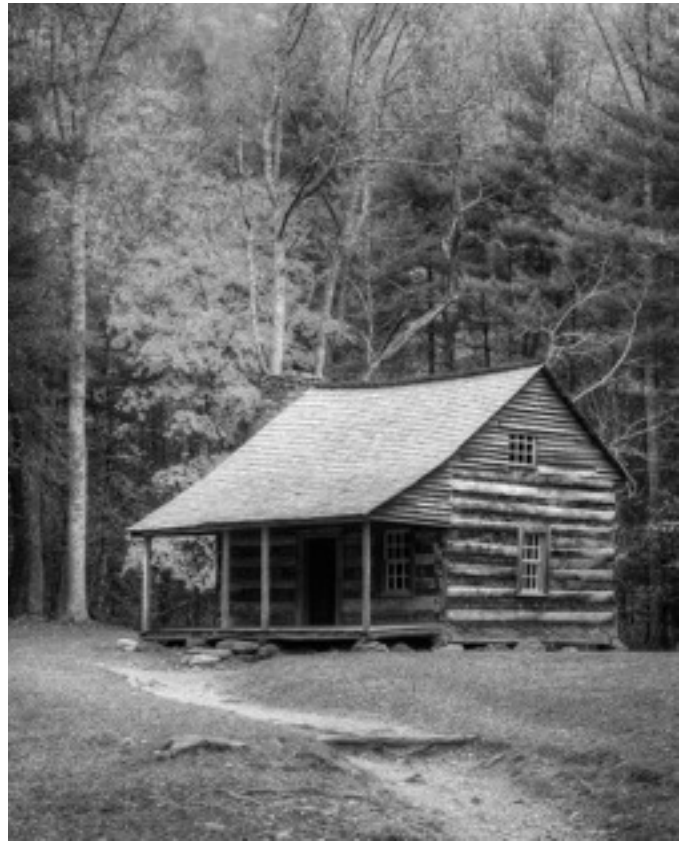
I have put the image in black and white, this simplifies my “tones” of lights and darks.

Colours used: blue-violet and yellow orange

1st step: wash of blue violet over most of the area, vary the strength of the colour by paying attention to the photo

2nd step: whilst “semi-wet or even after it has dried” a damp, clean brush is used to massage and to lift some of the colour back out

3rd step: when the painting is dry, apply a “glaze” of colour (yellow orange) over the existing areas you wish to change



Painters Guide to Color, Stephen Quiller, Watson-Guption Publications / New York

Here are the stages painted on the next page



Above: ultramarine deep blue applied to log cabin drawing in various strengths. Pale blue watery areas left for later colour but you can lift off, it is your choice

Here the painting has had more of the same wash applied as it dries, this creates darker areas. It is important to note that I made enough colour for all these stages and that it was applied whilst looking at the black and white photo. The lighter areas are lifted off with the damp brush. Spend time on both points



Left: after the blue washes had been applied and the areas lifted off where I wanted paler areas, I left the painting to dry before the next colour went on.



Yellow-orange transparent watercolour was then applied in a similar fashion to the first phase of blue. This painting is not yet finished but you can see how soft and "painterly" it feels with quite an atmospheric quality.

NOTES:

1. work from light to dark
2. work from large areas to detail
3. use the same wash colours
4. lift off where you want softness and lighter areas
5. use different brushes to lift off and apply paint