

# EXPLORING TEXTURE

**with René Eisenbart**

Creating a textural substrate may be the first place in the creative process to add the marks of the artist, enhancing and supporting their concept behind the work. A textured painting feels more dynamic. Texture creates a sense of depth, causing the viewer to emotionally connect with a painting.

Texture is sometimes visual (on the surface) and other times dimensional (raised above the surface). It can be applied under the painting, over the paint or even collaged or applied at a later stage. In this workshop we'll use texture to create expressive paintings in watermedia.



SAGE OF THE SEA



WALKING FUNNY

**DAY 1:** Rene will demonstrate how to make highly textured watercolor paper using gesso, then you'll do it. Demo: pouring paint over textured paper for a background start. Demo: making a quick drawing, painting over the texture with watercolor.

Design and sketch a subject over a textured background by first making a value study. Begin layering fresh color. Try working extra wet to encourage pigment texture.

**DAY 2:** Design lesson with Slide Talk for inspiration and direction. Make several starts to experiment with different types of texture and design. Work on paintings with Rene's guidance.

We'll end with an art share to celebrate our successes and consider what we might improve.

# SUPPLY LIST

## PLEASE BRING:

PAPER: Two 22x30 sheets cold press 140pound  
arches if untreated, Fabiano artistico OK if treated

Paper can be treated with

50% matte medium, 50% water...

or left untreated, or some of both

Or bring a mix of surfaces - yupo, hot press, shizen, etc

Or wood cradled panels - watermedia or panel with  
paper attached

Maybe an old painting or two to reinvent

REFERENCE that breaks easily into simple value shapes

maybe something you've already painted

Large SKETCHBOOK or sketching pad or loose sheets

PENCILS: soft lead graphite / KNEADED ERASER

PAINTS and brushes for watercolor

Water pot

Towels and/or paper towels

Silicone Scraper or old plastic hotel key cards

Spray bottle

A lunch

Wear old clothes — this is messy!



DAY LILY



OCEAN SPRAY

## OPTIONAL:

**Bring your own mediums**

**or with a \$15 materials fee, use Rene's**

Matte medium — Golden or Nova Color\*

Gel medium, matte

Watercolor Ground (Daniel Smith)

or Absorbent Ground (Golden)

White gesso — Utrecht Professional Grade\*\*

MSA Varnish (spray, semi-gloss) Golden

Small flat acrylic brush or two, 1/4 inch to 1 inch

Tracing paper (Canson Pad)

Water Soluble Graphite — LYRA 9B

Blue tape or half-inch Green 3-m automotive tape

Scissors

Stamps or stencils, natural sponge

Large palette knife

\* Nova Color is online only —

<https://novacolorpaint.com/orderform.htm>

\*\* BLICK sells this

MOST MATERIALS I USE are listed at MERRI ARTIST

<https://merriartist.com/collections/rene-eisenbart>

use the 10% discount code: INST16