



Painting with Acrylics

Week Two

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Color Theory In Action

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How Painters Create Value

In acrylic painting, value is created by:

Adding white (tints).

Adding dark color or black (shades).

Mixing neutral tones.

Control matters more than speed.



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Element of Art: Color (Hue, Temperature, Harmony)

- Review primary + secondary mixing
- Introduce tertiary colors
- Understand warm vs cool versions of primaries
- Build a usable color wheel for future paintings

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Warm vs Cool: Same Color, Different Personality

- Warm Red (leans orange) vs Cool Red (leans violet)
- Warm Blue (leans green) vs Cool Blue (leans violet)
- Warm Yellow (leans orange) vs Cool Yellow (leans green)

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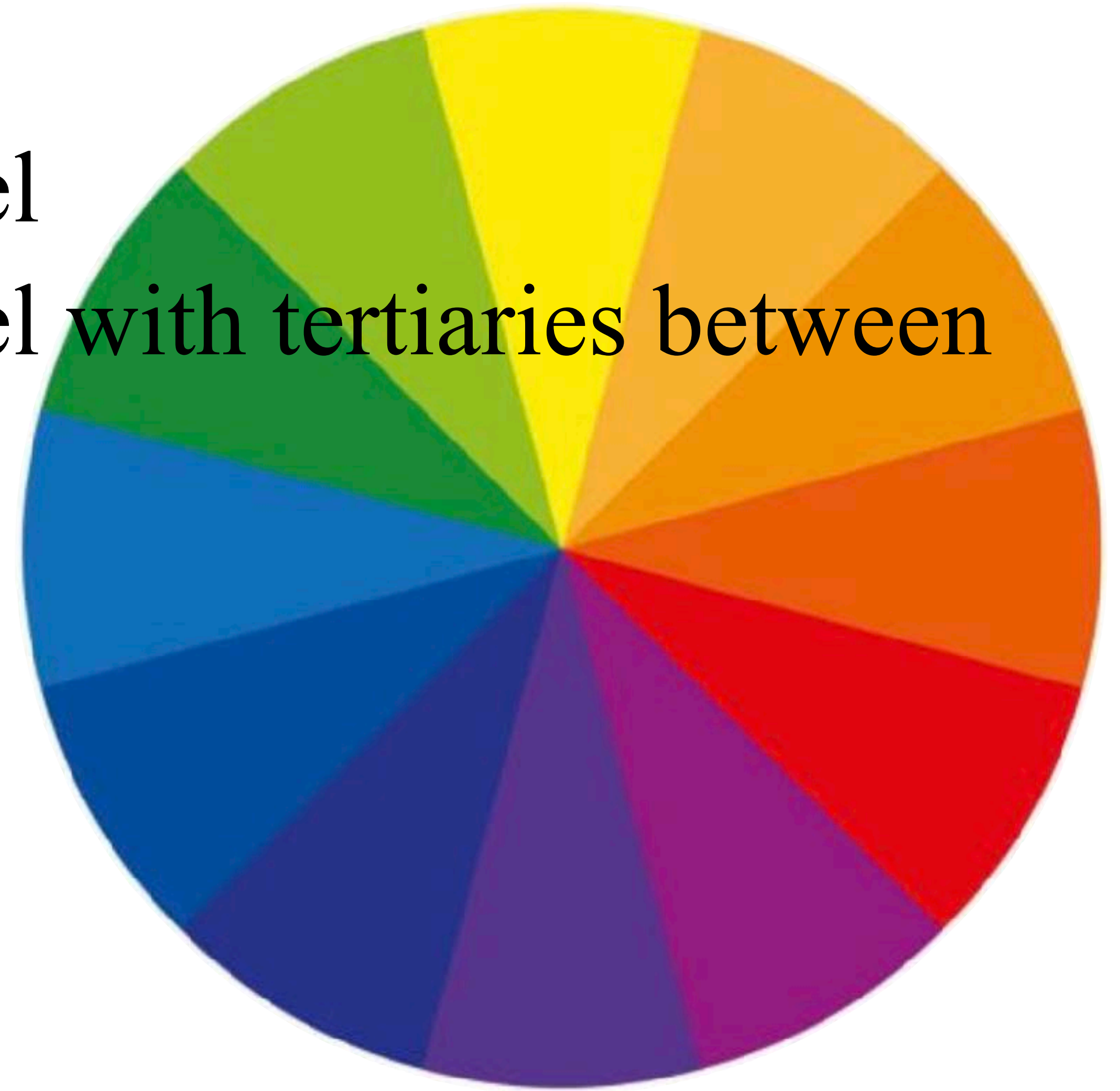
LET's PAINT!

Surface: Paper

- Classic 12-part color wheel
- OR simplified 6-part wheel with tertiaries between

Process:

1. Trace Circle
2. Place primaries
3. Mix secondaries
4. Fill in tertiaries



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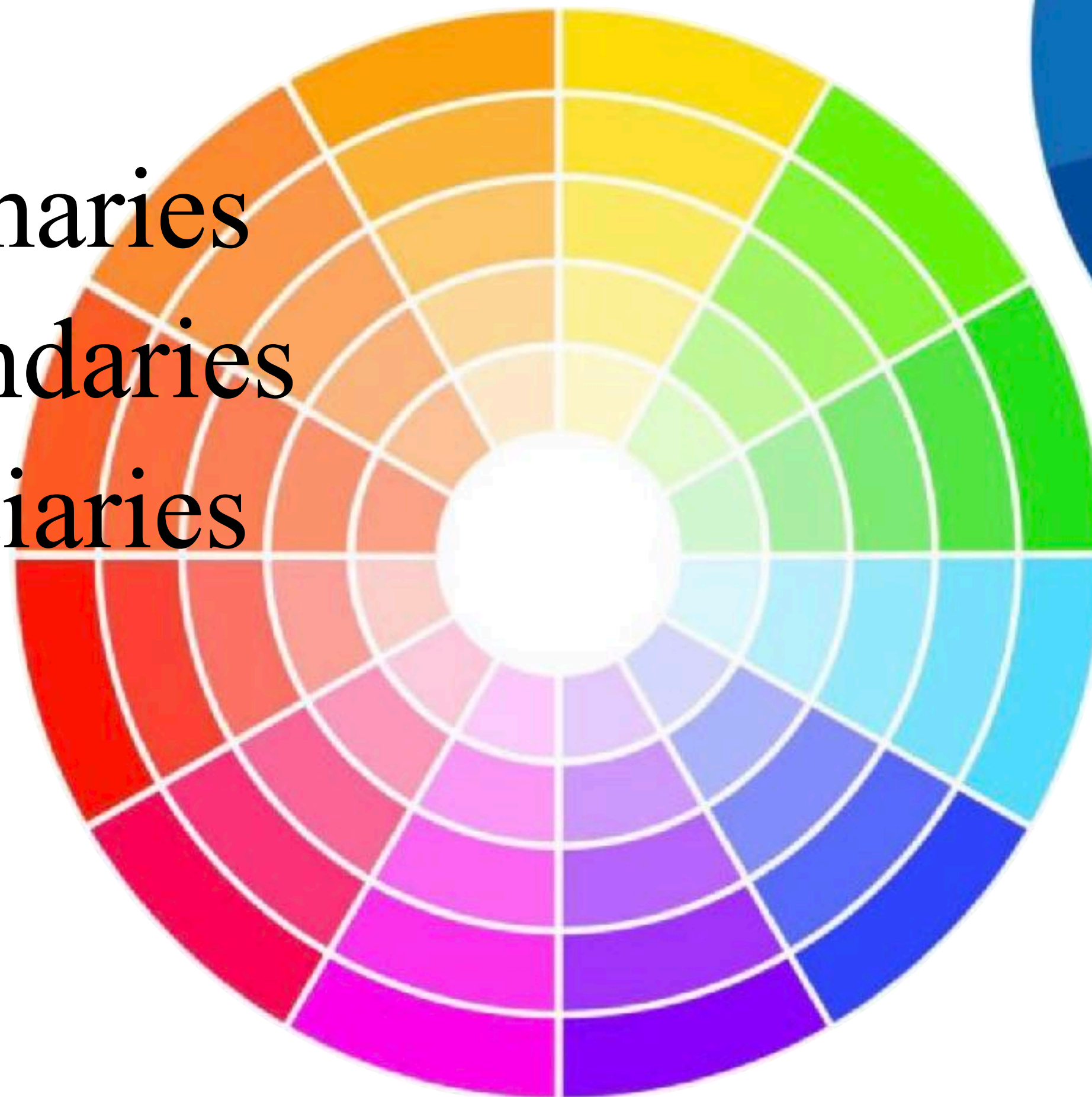
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Create a Color Wheel “Coaster”

Surface: Clay Tile

Process:

1. Place primaries
2. Mix secondaries
3. Fill in tertiaries



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- From Wheel to Painting – Real World Color



- From Wheel to Painting – Real World Color



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From Color Wheel to Canvas: Painting From Life

Surface: 11×14 Stretched Canvas

Focus:

- Apply warm vs cool color mixing
- Use tertiary colors intentionally
- Learn to paint from a photo reference



Understanding the Surface: Stretched Canvas

- Canvas has texture (tooth)

Choosing Your Reference Photo

- Your Photo, Your Painting
- Using Your Phone as a Reference
- Choose a photo with clear light and shadow
- Look for warm and cool areas
- Simple compositions work best

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Using Your Phone as an Artist Tool

- Zoom in to study color
- Notice warm vs cool areas
- Look for tertiary colors in shadows
- Don't copy every detail — paint the color relationships
- Your photo is a guide, not a rule

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Putting it all together...

8 x 10 - Unity

11 x 14- Prep & Underpainting