

DAVID MICHAEL SLONIM

## North Shore Art League – May 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm

### WORKSHOP SUPPLY LIST & SUGGESTED READING LIST

I will be painting in oils. If you choose to work in acrylic or watercolor, you'll need to already know how to use your materials. **\*\*Sorry, NO PASTELS\*\*** (*pastels create dust*)

**NOTE:** please, for your own sake, **do not use student-grade paints and brushes.** You will only be frustrated. It's worth buying quality paint so it will behave properly. Cheap paint will hinder you.

**OIL PAINT:** RECOMMENDED colors I have used Utrecht brand for over 30 years. [utrechtart.com](http://utrechtart.com)

Titanium White  
Cadmium Lemon  
Cadmium Yellow light  
Cadmium Red light  
Alizarin Crimson  
Ultramarine Blue  
Prussian Blue  
Ivory Black

Using this limited palette will help you master color—it's a warm and cool of each primary color.

#### **Brushes (suggestions- and only suggestions!)**

Palette knife – I like a trowel shape, 2-3" (use what's comfortable for you)  
Genuine Hog bristle: I use filberts & brights (4, 6, 8, 10)  
Sables, brights in various sizes (2, 4)

**Palette** for mixing colors

**DISPOSABLE PAPER PALETTE** or Reynolds **FREEZER PAPER (taped to a table or Masonite board)** works well for those of us who are traveling. Easy to clean up.

You can use MASONITE hardboard spray-painted with a medium gray, gloss enamel auto paint. A medium gray palette is great for judging colors.

**For Clean up: (Oil Painters): NO SOLVENTS / TURPS / MINERAL SPIRITS / "ODORLESS" PAINT THINNER**

Vegetable Oil  
Murphy's Oil Soap or Dawn dish liquid  
Foam or coated paper plates

**NO SOLVENTS: NO MINERAL SPIRITS, NO TURPS, NO "ODOR FREE" PAINT THINNERS**

**\*\* This workshop is solvent- free.**



**\*\*\* No thinner of ANY kind will be used during painting or clean up.  
You get to keep your brain cells and avoid depression and cancer!**

I have been solvent-free for over 23 years.

**I will show how to paint and clean up without solvents. Your health is worth it.**

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**PAINTING SURFACES/SUBSTRATES:** Canvases / boards / paper

- **CANVAS OR CANVAS PAPER:** 2 medium size canvases (12 x 16, 16 x 20, 20 x 24) **OR** you can paint on canvas paper 9 x 12 or 11 x 14 or your choice of size
- **TRACING PAPER PAD,** 9 x 12 or 11 x 14, for oil studies, charcoal studies, value studies

**Quantity=Quality.** The best way to do good work is to do a lot of work. You will be doing multiple studies during class time.

**DRAWING SUPPLIES - MUST HAVE**

- Soft drawing pencil. I like 7B. ○ Vine or willow charcoal, soft ○ Kneaded eraser
- sketchbook or sketchpad 8 ½ x 11 or so  
Optional: 3 x 5 cards, etc. for thumbnail studies

**CLEAN UP**

- Paper towels
- Vinyl gloves or Food handling gloves (prevents heavy metal absorption through the skin) ○ Plastic bags for trash
- Foam or coated paper plates / Vegetable oil / dish detergent for cleaning brushes

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

What you paint is a personal artistic decision. The choice of source material is part of your own creative process. You are free to explore. Bring your own materials to work from (any of these, your choice):

- Photos
  - Sketches
  - plein air studies
  - still life objects.
  - collages you have made
  - imagination / memory
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**RECOMMENDED BOOKS AND WRITINGS, etc.**

- **The Creative Act** by Rick Rubin (\*\*excellent book!)
- **Interview with a Gallery Dealer: Steven Harvey**  
Huffington Post [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-eckhardtcoehler/post\\_12516\\_b\\_10822546.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-eckhardtcoehler/post_12516_b_10822546.html)?
- **Composition** By Arthur Wesley Dow (\*\*written in 1899. One of the best books I've read on painting)
- **Carlson's Guide to Landscape Painting** by John F. Carlson
- **The Art Spirit** by Robert Henri (\*\*a classic written in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century)
- **Fill Your Paintings with Light and Color** by Kevin MacPherson
- **Orthodoxy** by G.K. Chesterton, Chapter 5 "The Ethics of Elfland"
- **Art** (essay) by Ralph Waldo Emerson
- **Two Worlds of Andrew Wyeth** by Thomas Hoving  
(An extended interview--offers great insight into this master's thought process)
- **Problem Solving for Oil Painters** by Gregg Kreutz
- **Oil Painting Secrets from a Master** by Linda Catuera and David Leffel
- **The Drawings of Rembrandt** Dover Press (\*\*you will feel your blood pressure drop)
- **Art and Fear** by David Bayles and Ted Orland

**“If you hear a voice within you say,  
‘You cannot paint,’  
then by all means paint,  
and that voice will be silenced.”**

- Vincent Van Gogh



**Some Masters to study:**

- **Vermeer** (figures, interiors, drama)
- **Velasquez** (figure, drama, dignity)
- **Andrew Wyeth** (mood, composition, process)
- **Chardin** (still lifes)
- **Rembrandt** (figures)
- **Isaac Levitan** (landscape)
- **Ilya Repin** (figures)
- **Richard Diebenkorn** (ABSTRACT composition, paint texture)
- **Gauguin** (color, line, shape)
- **Cezanne** (unity, color)
- **Edward Hopper** (mood, drama)
- **George Inness** (landscape, mood)
- **Henry Twachtman** (landscape)
- **Wolf Kahn** (landscape, color)
- **Bonnard** (memory work, color, interiors)
- **Chagall** (color, fantasy)
- **Picasso** (line, composition, humor)
- **Van Gogh** (color, harmony)
- **Cassatt** (figures)
- **Sargent** (figures)
- **Degas** (figures, composition, line)
- **Andrew Wyeth** (mood, design – especially his watercolors)
- **Nell Blaine** (color, abstracted representation)

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- **Fairfield Porter** (flattened shapes, figures, landscapes)
- **Willem de Kooning** (abstract expressionism)
- **Joan Mitchell** (abstraction, color)
- **Helen Frankenthaler** (abstraction, color)
- **Robert Motherwell** (abstraction, color)
- **Joaquin Torres-Garcia**
- **Grace Hartigan** • **Milton Avery**
- **Milton Resnick**
- **Joan Miro**
- **Jean Michel Basquiat**
- **Joseph Albers**

What masters stir up your desire to create something? Do you know *why*?

### **Living artists who make me want to go paint something:**

- Anselm Kiefer
- Larry Poons
- Eric Aho
- Sean Scully
- Mark Dutcher
- Kyle Staver
- Peter Geerts
- Stuart Shils
- Allison Gildersleeve
- Brenna Goodman
- Cecily Brown
- T. Allen Lawson
- Jacob Collins
- Tracey Emin
- Daniel Anselmi
- Gary Komarin
- Tomory Dodge
- Lloyd Martin
- Christopher Wool
- Albert Oehlen
- Oscar Murillo
- Taylor Anton White
- Tal R

DAVID MICHAEL SLONIM

We become like the people we spend the most time with.  
Choose your mentors and companions wisely!

**some favorite poets and selected poems:**

- **Robert Frost**
- **T.S. Eliot**
- **Emily Dickinson**
- **e.e. cummings**
- **Langston Hughes**
- **Gerard Manly Hopkins** *The Grandeur of God*
- **George Herbert** *Love III*
- **Billy Collins** (former poet laureate of the United States)

IF YOU ARE NOT SOLVING A PROBLEM  
**YOU ARE NOT MAKING ART**

[www.davidmichaelslonim.com](http://www.davidmichaelslonim.com)

**Thank you** for trusting me to be part of your painting journey.

My goal is to send you home equipped, encouraged, and inspired, ready to paint the best work of your life.

Looking forward to painting with you-

← David