



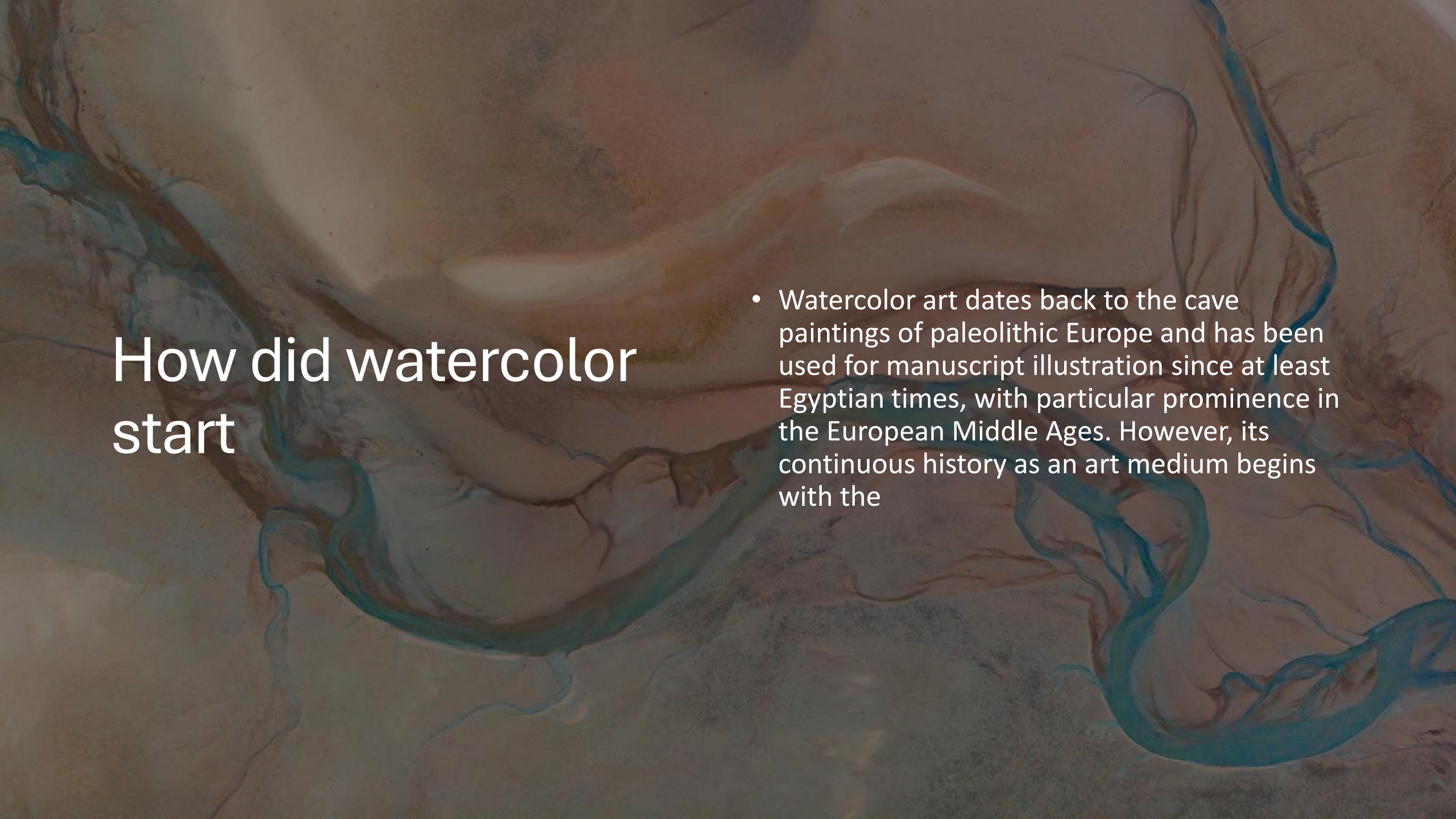
watercolor

By Rosalie 11/6/2024



Where the name watercolor came from

- The name "watercolor" comes from the French word aquarelle, which comes from the Italian word acquarello, and ultimately from the Latin word aqua, meaning "water". The term was first used in Cennino Cennini's 1437 treatise *Treatise of Painting*, which described a process for dissolving paint in water with vegetable glue.
- Watercolor is a painting technique that uses water-based pigments suspended in a solution. The paint is applied to a surface like paper, fabric, or vellum with a brush. When the water dries, the pigment sticks to the surface due to the binder.
- Watercolor paintings are considered to be one of the oldest visual art forms. The technique originated in China shortly after the invention of paper, and became popular in Japan as well. Watercolors were often used for sketching ideas, especially landscapes, and were considered to be the lowest form of visual art for centuries. However, their popularity increased during the Golden Age of Watercolor, which lasted from around 1750–1850.
- In American English, the term is spelled "watercolor", while in British English it is spelled "watercolour".



How did watercolor start

- Watercolor art dates back to the cave paintings of paleolithic Europe and has been used for manuscript illustration since at least Egyptian times, with particular prominence in the European Middle Ages. However, its continuous history as an art medium begins with the

The ingredients for watercolor

Ingredients

Natural Watercolor Kit

or

Earth & Mineral Pigments

Gum Arabic Powder

Honey (if you want a vegan version, use glycerin)

Optional Ingredients:

Clove or thyme essential oil (preservative)

Sodium benzoate (stronger preservative)

Oxgal (increases flow, not vegan)

- **Tbsp hot water**
- **3 Tbsp gum arabic powder**
- **2 Tbsp honey**

Instructions for how to make watercolor

1. Pour gum arabic powder into the hot water and mix until fully dissolved
2. Mix in honey
3. Optional- add 1-2 drops clove or thyme essential oil or 1/2 teaspoon of sodium benzoate as a preservative and mix thoroughly

Notes: Watercolor medium must be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator until used (will last up to 1 year).

This recipe makes enough medium for 20-25 full pans

Mix 1 part watercolor medium with 1 part pigment (adjust as necessary). For example, if you're using 1 Tbsp. of the watercolor base, use 1 Tbsp. pigment.

Note: Each natural pigment has different properties and behaves differently, so you will need to adjust pigment amount accordingly. For example, we find that Ultramarine Blue needs a little more pigment than 1:1, and Terre Verte needs less pigment.

Scoop pigment onto glass palette and make a small indentation on top.

Pour medium onto pigment (or use a glass dropper) and mix with a [palette knife](#) on a [glass palette](#). If the texture feels a little gritty, add a drop or two of more medium and keep mixing.



More instructions

- **Optional:** For more thorough mixing, mix the pigment and the mixture with a glass muller by making circular motions over the paint, then using the palette knife to scrape the paint back into a pile and mulling again. See more notes on mulling at the end of this post.

How you store it

Scoop and scrape the paint into your chosen container with the palette knife. Store in airtight jars or small aluminum tubes, or let dry into cakes or pans. If drying into cakes or pans, let dry thoroughly - ideally 3 days to a week - in a warm, dry place out of direct sunlight. For best results, fill pan 1/2 way, let dry 1 or 2 days, then fill to the top and let dry.

To fill 1 full pan, start with 1 teaspoon watercolor medium and 1 teaspoon pigment.

Artist tips

Add 2 drops of oxgall to increase flow of paint. Add 24 drops of glycerine to increase flow and add more vibrancy.

If the cakes crack when dry, make a note of which color and add more of the Gum Arabic solution next time. Alternatively, adding a few drops of glycerin helps as well.



What does watercolor symbolize

- Watercolor paintings are considered a unique way to creatively represent dreams, illusions, emotions, and bright feelings using water-soluble pigments.

most famous watercolorists

Vincent Van Gogh. ...

Paul Klee. ...

Georgia O'Keeffe. ...

Wassily Kandinsky. ...

Paul Cézanne. ...

J. M. W. ...

John Singer Sargent. ...

Leonardo da Vinci.

Kristin van Lueven



Famous watercolor painting's



fun facts about watercolor

Watercolors were first created in China

They appeared shortly after paper was invented

Watercolor soon became popular in Japan

How old is watercolor

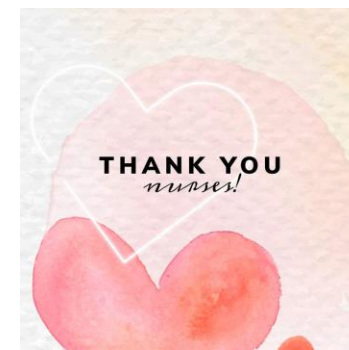
Watercolor painting is one of the oldest forms of art.



• The end



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Any questions