

Make Art & Change your Life art supplies

My favorite art supplies

Below you'll find a list of my favorite art supplies. The materials that I use in the Make Art & Change your Life course are made **bold**.

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- Golden Fluid Acrylics: especially the color Quinacridone Nickel Azo Gold. This is a fantastic, very high pigmented fluid acrylic paint. It's very translucent and gives a beautiful warm atmosphere to your paintings. Very highly recommended. I sometimes also use Green Gold (a beautiful transparent yellowish green), Quinacridone Magenta and Turquoise Phthalo. I often use the black and white fluid acrylics for drippings; because the paint is fluid, it's easy to let the paint flow.
- Golden High Flow acrylics. A relatively new discovery for me, but I use them all the time right now, especially the Carbon Black and the Titanium White High Flow Acrylics. The High Flow Acrylics are a very fluid type of paint, much more fluid than the Fluid Acrylics (the names are a bit confusing). They work very well for fine lines and splattering, and I even fill empty Molotow markers with them. (See below).
- Simple white cardstock. In the course I've painted them black before I started making collage on them.
- Caran d'Ache Neocolor II Watersoluble Crayons. These are very highly pigmented professional grade crayons. I love to use them on top of paintings. Some of the brighter colors tend to smear, so if you want to put paint on top of the crayon, it's better to seal the crayon first, for instance with a matte medium. I often heat the surface of the painting and the crayon itself: then the crayon becomes softer and makes thicker lines. You can buy the crayons in huge wooden boxes, but you can also buy the crayons one by one. Perfect! I mostly use the turquoise, the black and the white crayons.

- Molotow ONE4ALL Acrylic markers. I love these markers. Contrary to the Neocolor Crayons that make for rough, natural lines, these markers give very clear and sharp lines. I often use the <u>black</u> and white ones, in different sizes. After a while, they dry out and need to be replaced. Lately, I've also started using <u>Molotow Empty</u> <u>Markers, that I fill with black</u> or <u>white Golden High Flow Acrylics</u>.
- Matte Medium. I use this glue all the time for making collage and glueing paper on my paintings. Also, I use it on top of my collages as a protective layer. Matte Medium dries completely transparent, you don't see it anymore once it's dry, so you don't need to be careful if you happen to spill something. I use a Dutch brand (Van Beek), but you can also buy <u>Golden Matte Medium</u>.
- Spray Paint. I love to use spray paint since it gives such wonderful little drops on your painting. If you make small collages, these tiny drops can look spectacular. There is one drawback: the spray paint bottle tends to clog very easily, which has caused me lots of frustration. Another annoying thing is that the spray paint tends to dry very slowly, much slower than other acrylic paints. This long waiting time of spray paint is certainly worth it, though!
- Amsterdam Acrylics. There are many brands of student grade paints, and I haven't tried out all of them of course. But the Amsterdam Acrylics Series is until now the best I have found. I often use <u>Green Turquoise</u>, <u>Quinacridone Rose</u>, <u>Quinacridone Rose Light</u>, <u>Titanium White</u>, and <u>Oxide Black</u>.
- Fineliner. I love to work with fineliners! They make for very delicate details, especially in small collages. But also I like to use them on bigger paintings. Big paintings also need tiny details ;-)!
- Mechanical Pencil. While a fineliner gives pure black lines, a mechanical pencil creates a very thin, grey line. Beautiful for small collages.

- India Ink. You can create beautiful lines that have a lot of 'personality' with India Ink and an ink pen. When you turn your ink pen around and around, you can create very large and rough lines. Also, India Ink is fantastic for 'splashing': the small black drops look very appealing, especially against a white background. It's wise to use waterproof Indian Ink, otherwise, it might bleed through the top layer of acrylic paint.
- Foam Brushes. I use these brushes all the time: they are relatively cheap, you can wash them out very easily, and they make beautiful strokes. You can buy them in different widths.
- Letter stamps. I got these from <u>Amazon</u>. If you google them, you most probably will find other places to get them.
- Foam Roller. You can buy the foam roller in the hardware store. They are cheap, and perfect for painting large surfaces. But what I especially love about the foam roller, is its ability to apply very thin layers of opaque paint (I often use titanium white), which gives a beautiful veiling effect.
- Sharp knives. I love to carve in the wet paint of my paintings and collages with something sharp. I love to use the knives that you can buy in the hardware store. Also, I use sharp things like screws for scratching.