

Taxidermy Bird: Still Life Painting in Oils

Materials

Here is a list of all the materials you will need for this course. I have endeavoured to suggest the most budget-conscious options where possible.

Panel Preparation

- Plywood Panel - 10 x 12 inches
- 1 Inch Soft Bristle Brush
- GAC 100 (or PVA Glue)
- Acrylic Gesso

Consumables

Oil Paints

- Titanium White
- Cadmium Yellow
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Red
- Burnt Umber
- Ultramarine Blue
- Ivory Black

Recommended Brands: Michael Harding, Old Holland, Williamsburg

Mediums

- Odourless Mineral Spirits
- Linseed Oil (Cold Pressed)

- Stick of Soft Charcoal
- Satin or Gloss Spray Varnish (any brand suitable for oils)

Equipment

Brushes

- 1 x Medium Flat (Square) Bristle Brush
- 1 x Medium Flat (Square) Soft Synthetic Brush
- 1 x Small Flat (Square) Soft Synthetic Brush
- 2 x Small Pointed Round Soft Synthetic Brushes

**Alternatively, you can use whatever brushes you have available - so long as they are roughly similar to these suggestions (a mix of small and medium flats and rounds).*

Miscellaneous

- Medium Cup (*any spare, small container will also do*)
- Palette (*any type - handheld, table etc. is fine*)
- Easel (*any type of upright easel will be fine*)
- Palette Knife (*any type / size will be fine*)
- Paper Towel or Cleaning Rag
- Mahl Stick (*basically a long piece of round wooden dowel that you use to keep your hand from resting on the surface or the wet painting*). Here's a YouTube video showing how to make Mahl Stick at home:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Gqot6O8ZIA>

Medium Mixtures

Throughout the painting process you will need to adjust the medium mixtures that you are using as you add more layers.

We will be following the principle of **fat over lean** which means that we will be adjusting our medium to have a greater proportion of oil to solvent (mineral spirits) as the painting progresses.

For this reason, I recommend that you mix mediums in the following ratios for these separate stages of the painting:

Wash Drawing

100% *Odourless Mineral Spirits (OMS)*

Dead Colouring

90% *OMS and 10%* *Linseed Oil*

Developing Form

75% *OMS and 25%* *Linseed Oil*

Glazing and Final Details

60% *OMS and 40%* *Linseed Oil*

If you have any questions about materials, equipment and setting up for the workshop feel free to email me at kieran@scumbleandglaze.com.