

## Design for Painters Seminar

In this one-day seminar, I discuss the elements and principles of design, and how they can be applied to make all types of paintings more successful. In addition, I explain the basics of perspective, shadows, and reflections, which must be executed well to make any representational painting convincing.

### Summary

This seminar is primarily lecture using a **PowerPoint** presentation format supplemented with live sketches and group discussions. I first explain the importance of good design in creating successful paintings. I then review in detail the seven major design elements that artists have at their disposal, and explain the seven major design principles that artists can apply to their paintings. I also present a number of practical guidelines based on these principles. Finally, I cover the basics of perspective, shadows, and reflections. I illustrate the application of all of these topics with numerous examples from my own paintings.

I discuss how to employ these principles in the planning stage, during the actual painting process, and in a self-critique after each painting is complete. I wrap up the seminar with brief critiques of the design (**only** the design) of paintings brought to the seminar by the students in order to reinforce the lessons of the seminar. Students leave the seminar with a comprehensive understanding of how to apply design principles to their paintings.

This seminar is valuable for students of all experience levels and working in any painting medium.

**Materials:** Students should bring a notebook and pens or pencils for taking notes, and a painting or two for use in the design critique (this is optional).

### Testimonials

You covered so much, so well, that it's hard to think of suggestions. Excellent workshop! - *Louise K.*

The workshop is great for beginners... I learned a lot, and my creative juices were stimulated. - *Audrey S.*

Plowed lots of new ground for me! - *Don P.*

You covered all points, gave good examples, and your presentation was engaging. – *Barb S.*

For information on sponsoring a **Design For Painters** seminar at your location, please contact Jim at 501-984-3178 or via email at [jim@jimoberst.com](mailto:jim@jimoberst.com).