

# SHARI BLANKOFF

## Location Sketching in Watercolour

### SUPPLIES YOU WILL NEED

Here is my list of supplies. If you have preferred supplies you may of course use them. I will help you with whatever you usually use. Please don't purchase supplies if you don't intend to use them afterwards. The following list is only a recommendation.

#### GENERAL:

- ViewCatcher (gray plastic crop/view finder tool) available at most art stores
- Mechanical pencil or 2B pencil, kneaded rubber eraser for sketching
- Ink pen: I use a variety of Micron or Pitt pens, but any fine waterproof pen will work
- Sunscreen, bug spray and a hat for being outdoors all day
- Paper towels for blotting or spills

#### PAPER AND SKETCHBOOKS:

I use a variety of papers for painting. I like Handbook Watercolor Journals best. I will be demonstrating in watercolour sketchbooks (8" x 8" or 9" x 12") and on watercolour pads (Arches or Winsor & Newton). You will also need a small drawing sketchbook for value sketches.

#### PIGMENT AND PALETTE:

Any folding watercolor palette with spaces for pigment and a large mixing area is fine. One with a rubber seal is useful, as pigments won't dry out overnight. You'll also need a water bottle with a reliable seal for your painting water. I have several Nalgene bottles because they are leakproof.

Ideally you'll have a range of tube watercolors. I prefer tube colours to pans since they are creamier and need less water to dilute them but if you have pans that is fine as long as they are not dried out!

Here the the colours I generally use. If you already have colours you like, please use those. I use many brands of paint including Daniel Smith, M. Graham, Holbein and Winsor Newton.

#### ***ESSENTIALS (I use these twelve often):***

**YELLOWS:** Azo Yellow, Quinacridone Gold

**BLUES:** Cerulean Blue, Ultramarine, Cobalt Blue, Prussian Blue

**REDS:** Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, Quinacridone Rose

**EARTH COLORS:** Burnt Sienna, Raw Sienna, Burnt Umber

#### ***OPTIONAL (I use these sometimes):***

Translucent Orange (Schminke), Naples Yellow, Turquoise Blue, Phthalo Green, Cobalt Green, Sap Green, Yellow Ochre, Lavender, Cobalt Violet, Indanthrene Blue, Indigo, Sepia, Payne's Grey, Titanium White (I use this straight from the tube so it is never on the palette)

**BRUSHES:**

I use a wide variety of brushes. It's not necessary to purchase all of these.

If you have one good travel round (#8 or #10) with a sharp point (synthetic or sable) and a squirrel mop (#8) for big washes, you can paint most of your sketch with these. I also like to use a rigger brush for wires and branches (#3). Good travel brush brands are Rosemary, Da Vinci and Escoda.

I have also recently partnered with art supplier Jack Richeson & Co. to offer brush sets. There is a really nice small plein air set that comes packaged with a great viewfinder. I love the variety of rounds and flats in the set. This is the same set that James Gurney uses, if you follow his work.

These are available at Judson's:

<https://www.judsonart.com/products/shari-blaukopfs-plein-air-brush-set>

There's also a bigger set that I use for larger plein air paintings:

<https://www.judsonart.com/products/shari-blaukopfs-basic-watercolor-brush-set>

**FOLDING STOOL AND EASEL:**

I travel with a folding stool. You can use anything from a \$2 dollar store stool to a \$75 Walkstool but it should be something you are comfortable sitting on for at least an hour, and one that is not too tall so you can reach your paints if they are on the ground.

We will certainly be outdoors, so you should be familiar with working on your lap or on an easel.

I travel with a folding watercolour easel for demonstrations. If you have one, feel free to use it or work on your lap if you are more comfortable that way.