

# ***PAINTING A PORTRAIT IN OILS***



***FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE VISIT***

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**ONLINE ART WORKSHOPS WITH JOHN SUTCLIFFE**

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW CLASSES LEARNING THE COMPELLING ART OF PORTRAIT PAINTING.

The course is appropriate for all levels of experience from beginners to advanced painters.

We will look at 2 methods of drawing the head;

The first is simply how to make a drawing from a photograph by scaling from a grid drawn on the image

The second is to learn how to apply principles of drawing the form of the head (understanding simple anatomical proportions) which enables us to draw any head in a variety of poses.

We then will look at the materials needed and the process of working from the drawing to the painting.

Moving on to the painting we will learn how to prepare the surface with a primer and coloured ground and draw the structure of the head ready for painting.

We will learn to lay out and mix coloured tints and tones using different shades to paint the different planes of the head and face.

Moving on to the finer details of eyes , nose mouth , hair etc we will complete the painting and develop a loosely painted background.

## **Materials**

**Source Image**

**Drawing Media**

**Surface**

**Primer**

**Ground**

**Colour**

**Drying Medium**

**Solvents**

**Jars**

**Rags**

**Kitchen Paper**

# MATERIALS

A source image or model (See website)

Pencil / charcoal to make the drawing. Ruler

Something to make your painting on. This can be Paper (you can get special papers for oil painting although you can use thicker papers such as watercolour paper\*, canvas or board (mdf is a good surface ). \*When working on any of these surfaces one needs to ensure it is primed so that the oil in the paint doesn't soak through - you will need some GESSO to do this and on canvas you may need to size the canvas first (this isn't necessary on shop bought canvases which are already primed - but will need a gesso coat to provide extra 'tooth' to enable the paint to adhere.

The next thing to think about is the Ground - the Gesso base and the colour / (and sometimes collage - ('Chine-Colle') which the painting will be made on. Even for oil painting the colour can be made with acrylic paint - if you have some Raw Umber acrylic paint that would be good. This is a traditional colour used (as is Terre Vert an earthy green).

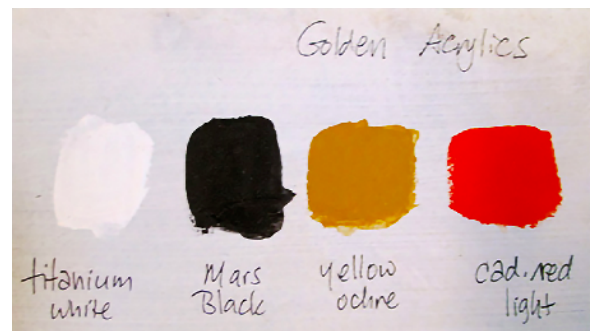
Colours needed for this painting will simply be these 4

Yellow Ochre, A warm Red (Cadmium Red or Scarlet), Black (Ivory Black or Mars Black, White (Titanium white and possibly flake/lead white)

Drying mediums - Winsor and Newton Liquin - I will be showing you how to make a drying medium with Stand Oil ( a linseed oil ) and Turpentine -

There is a huge range of painting mediums available and I will explain these during the classes although it is quite a technical area so we won't be needing these for the course

A palette to mix paints on ( wood / glass / acrylic surface )



Brushes - dependent on the size of painting - you will need some bristle brushes - filbert/flat/round and some soft hair brushes round incl a small round brush

Solvents

These can be spirit based white spirit and gum turpentine if you can tolerate the smell or Odourless mineral spirit (OMS) such as Sansodour or Gamsol (which I prefer)

Cleaning rags and kitchen paper.

Some small jars for solvents and mediums are also useful

Phew that's a lot to think about but don't worry it all will be made easy for you to manage when we're learning the process.



Source images are available from [www.johnsutcliffeart.com/education](http://www.johnsutcliffeart.com/education) or you may wish to use your own.

Suitable images are those which show a range of tones and its good to print it out in colour and black and white with fairly high contrast.

If this is your first time drawing the head I advise that you use the grid method as outlined during the lessons ( I will also post this on my You Tube Channel in the near future

Here are the links to the relevant videos

Grid enlargement

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6N\\_x2thP84](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6N_x2thP84)

Proportions of the head

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=avhk0smwQVM>

Speedy Drawing of the head

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nug-K1pHORU>

To be continued...