

Demo Description:

Amanda Gress is a classically trained painter who works in oil paint, chalk pastel and watercolor. In her own artwork she combines both direct and indirect painting methods. She will be demonstrating with oil paint the direct painting method of Alla Prima with a simple still life. The focus of the demo will be on how to successfully use a limited palette of colors to create a dynamic and cohesive composition along with how to convey expressive, accurate brush strokes.

Long Bio:

Amanda Gress is a contemporary figurative artist working in Colorado. After being raised in Colorado, Amanda moved to Southern California for her art training in 2001. Educated at Laguna College of Art and Design, she received her BFA in 2005 and completed her MFA in 2008. Her classical training in both drawing and painting are rooted in historical techniques covering several media including oil paint, watercolor and chalk pastel. Amanda's work has been widely exhibited and collected throughout the western United States and she has spent time as an artist-in-residence in both Japan and Italy. Recently, Amanda's art and working methods were featured in an article in the Pastel Journal Jan/Feb 2020 issue.

Besides creating and exhibiting her work, Amanda has dedicated her time as an art instructor both privately and academically for the past sixteen years. While Amanda lived in California she taught at three major art schools: Mission Renaissance, The Brentwood Art Center, and Laguna College of Art and Design. Leaving the Los Angeles area in 2016, she moved back to her hometown of Loveland, Colorado where she taught at a local art school, Schissler Academy of Fine Art. In July 2019, Amanda launched the opening of her very own art school, Gress Art Studio, a vision in the making for many years. Gress Art Studio, a small art atelier, offers art instruction in a variety of media including oil paint, acrylic, watercolor, chalk pastel, pen and ink, charcoal and graphite pencil. The mission of the studio is to train and equip each student with the skills and techniques that will carry them through their artistic journey. Specializing in classical methods, the studio teaches techniques passed down from the old masters as well as incorporating contemporary studio practices.

Short Bio:

Amanda Gress is a classically trained professional artist creating and exhibiting her work in Northern Colorado. Amanda is also owner/principal instructor of Gress Art Studio, a small private art school in Loveland that specializes in classical drawing and painting for children, teens and adults. After 20 years of experience creating and teaching art, her desire is to give back to the local art community through educational programs, public art projects and local art exhibitions.

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