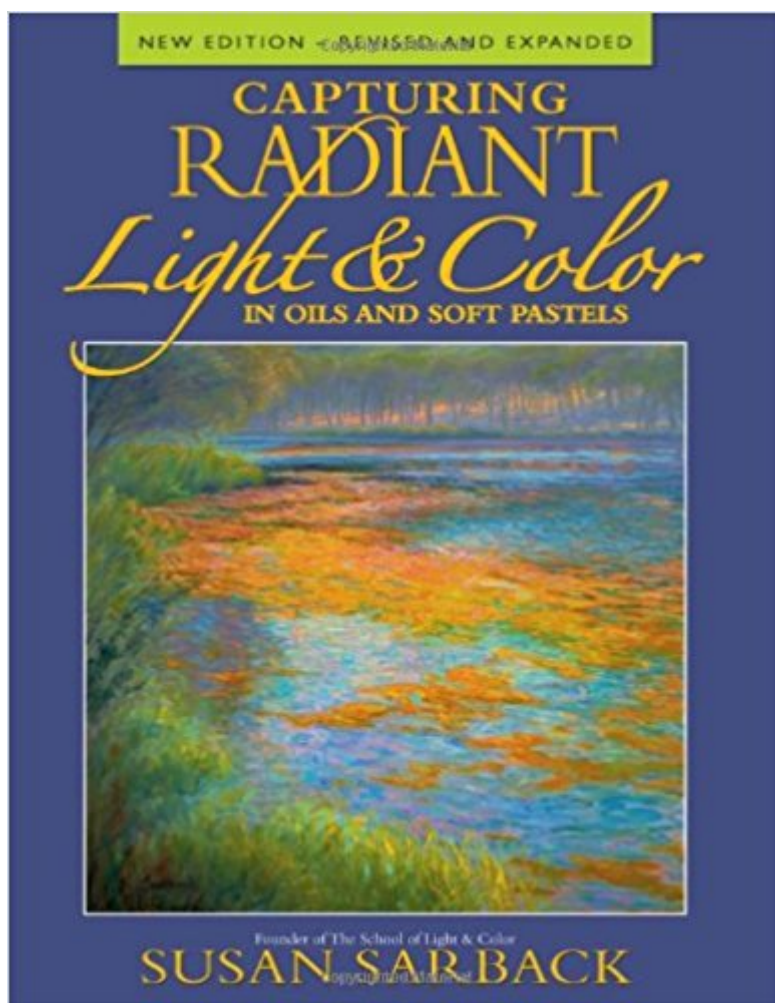


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Capturing Radiant Light & Color In Oils And Pastels



Synopsis

"Everything was alive, pulsing with light and color."—Susan SarbackThis is more than a how-to-paint book. It's a how-to-see book...specifically, how to tune in to nature's glorious subtleties of light and color.Forget complex theories. "Full-Color Seeing" is based on direct observation. It's about overcoming preconceptions and perceiving true color based on the colors that surround it, the way light hits it, time of day, season, weather conditions, and too many other factors for a mere formula to incorporate. You'll learn to see your subject—any subject—just as life truly presents it to you. This is the secret to capturing the living, breathing sense of atmosphere so celebrated in the works of the Impressionist painters.A revision of Susan Sarbacks' illuminating Capturing Radiant Color in Oils, this book offers twelve more years of fresh insights, new paintings and expanded coverage on soft pastels. The concepts explored here have been handed down through generations of artists: Sarback was taught "Full-Color Seeing" by master painter Henry Hensche, who learned it from Charles Hawthorne, a contemporary of Claude Monet. This step-by-step approach will add greater vitality to your artwork and forever change the way you see.

Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: North Light Books; Expanded edition (February 16, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1581809999

ISBN-13: 978-1581809992

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (44 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #76,020 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Pastel #11 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Oil Painting #215 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Techniques > Use of Color

Customer Reviews

Detailed teachings from a master painter -- can it get better? This is the absolutely best how-to book on painting in the Hensche/Hawthorne tradition that is out there right now. It is a bit surprising that it is called a revised edition, as, IMHO, it is a new and even better book. The method is explained clearly and logically, easy to follow. Many step-by-step demonstrations with clear explanations teach how one can see and paint one's own still-life or landscape.Although, in honesty, a book can't beat

studying with a master in person, I'm convinced that Sarback's new book is so clearly written that a beginner in this method can learn as much of it as is possible. For those who already paint with the light-and-colour method, it is invaluable, and can take you steps and leaps further on seeing and painting light. My impression is that master painter Sarback does give it all, and does not "keep secrets". The very best teachers encourage students to become even better than they are, and does not hold back on advice and teaching. This book is a cornucopia of principles, method, and practical advice. I will wear it out, as I progress as a painter of light-and-colour.

In my opinion this book must be compared with "Painting the impressionist landscape", from Lois Griffel; the focus of both books is the same: explaining a simple step-by-step method to paint with full-spectrum color. In Sarback's:-The "block studies" (painting colored wood blocks) are not so well explained. Griffel gives a lot more insight in the selection of colors, and the cloudy day example is completely missing in Sarback's.-There are more step-by-step "real landscape" demonstrations, but they are not so well explained as in Griffel's. Just 4 pictures of preliminary states of the painting. Nevertheless the final pictures of these demonstrations are much better in Sarback's.-There is a comparison of different color approaches to painting that is interesting: expressionist, abstract, local, etc.-She does not explain how to select colors (which warm? which cool?) or how to compare their values. There is nothing similar to Griffel's idea of a chart for comparing values.-She gives tips about brushstrokes or using different types of edges. These subjects are not included in Griffel's.-Portrait and figure paintings are not covered at all. Griffel's at least shows some beautiful paintings of this kind.-The pages are almost full of text and beautiful paintings. There are no quasi-empty pages.-The soft pastels coverage is minimal, but oils coverage is also lacking. The book talks about general principles: do not expect low-level (paint layering, I mean) advice. A "must have" book? I am not sure, but I think that if you follow Sarback's tips, you will paint beautiful "masterpieces". If you are a beginner consider buying Sarback's DVD "The difference a day makes". The DVD is too short (30 min or so) and a bit disappointing, but if you want to observe the way she paints wet-on-wet, may be it is cheaper than a trip to California to attend Sarback's workshops.

I purchased Susan's first book when it came out and recently picked up this second book. The book is really excellent. I have been painting for 40 years and have found the info in these books extremely helpful. Several years ago I purchased 'The Impressionist Landscape' by Lois Griffel. Also indispensable. All of these three books may be the most important books in my library of

hundreds of books. If you want to learn basics in color application from pure color Griffel's book is a great book to start with. Sometimes I think that Sarback's books are a little more advanced because she is not specific about what colors to use when laying in a color. Lois Griffel spells out exactly what color she used. That is why Lois's book is important to mention. Both of these painters learned from Henry Henche in the Famous Cape Cod School of Art and when you read these books you will find that they both have very different painting methods and color theory. And that's OK. Lois Griffel recently, just last year, sold the Cape Cod School building in MA and move west, and this is how close to the vest both of these astounding, living, artists are. Henche must have taught thousands of students, but these are the only books that I know of that teach oil painting in the original Monet method that was delivered to Hawthorn from Monet's studio apprentice directly. All three of these books will start you painting color blocks. Copy the demonstrations, then set up your own blocks in real life. Start each book from page one and two and read each page. It is just like being at a workshop. I have done this with many books and have grown in leaps and bounds. Although it is not my style to paint like this, you will find that this color theory can carry over into any style or form of art you create. Color is so important, and if you are just starting out, or have been painting for years.....These books will blast you into a new direction in which you will never return.

This book is excellent and very helpful. There are many tips and stages presented in a carefully thought out way. I have Susan Sarback's earlier book and this is a stellar update! She shares much of her immensely improved talent and knowledge. Although I am a beginner, I believe this to be helpful to artists of all experience. I highly recommend it.

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