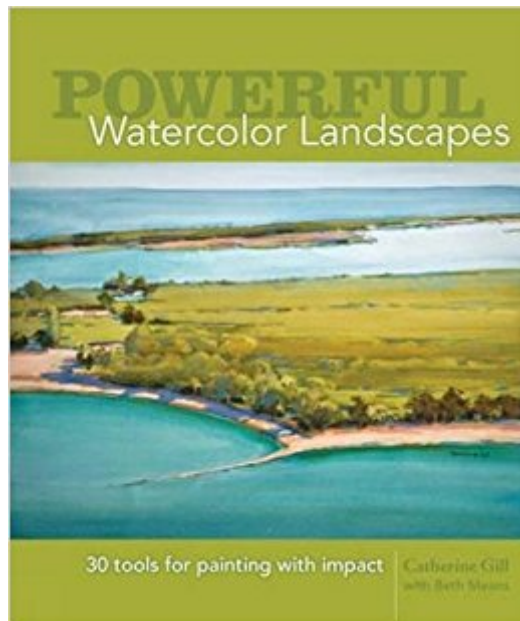




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Powerful Watercolor Landscapes: Tools For Painting With Impact



Synopsis

Banish boring watercolors forever! This guide gives you the "power tools" you need to transform dull, flat landscapes into robust, colorful expressions of your artistic vision. Each chapter focuses on a specific strategy for tackling tough challenges, complete with inspiring examples, hands-on demonstrations and instructional diagrams to make these strategies easy and fun to learn. Following this guide's masterful visual instruction, you'll learn how to: See beyond "what you see" to develop strong foundations in every composition Avoid repainting, overworking and frustration by focusing on a composition's unifying elements Become decisive with your values for heightened interest and impact Quickly and easily mix a huge range of clean, rich colors—including vibrant grays and greens—with no more mud! Put it all together following detailed step-by-step demonstrations of complete paintings from start to finish Whether you're new to watercolor painting or not, this guide will empower you to push shape and color into exciting new territory. Experience the satisfaction of painting with "power tools" and enjoy immediate results in your work.

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Customer Reviews

Catherine Gill is an artist of 25 years who has participated in Branching Out, a project sponsored by National Geographic involving scientists and artists jointly investigating the forest canopy. Her artwork has been featured in The Artist Magazine, Watercolor Magic, and has been exhibited throughout the world; visit her web site at www.catherinegill.com.

I think artists evolve much like art has evolved through the ages. Before photography artists recorded history with pictures of scenes and people of their era. But later impressionists and abstract artists no longer felt bound by reality and started creating art that showed their impressions and feelings. I have a small bookshelf full of how-to books on art and they have all been helpful and inspiring, even if somewhat redundant. Cathrine Gill's book goes beyond all of those and takes the artist from replicating a scene to powerful compositions with feeling that deliver a message of "what" the painting is about. I'm only sorry that there is a limit of 5 stars because this book is worthy of much more. It is helping me break through my mundane little sketches to exciting little sketches. I highly recommend this book to aspiring artists who have been practicing for a while and are looking for the next step in their evolution toward more impressive art. Sometimes people will stop and look at a piece of art: it will catch their eye. Cathrine can tell you why, and does.

Maybe WOW! would be the best way to describe this book. This is one of the best books about art I have ever read. I heard an art instructor recommend it. I'm glad he did because otherwise I would not have bought it. The title is misleading. On the back it says, "Power Up Your Landscape Painting" which would have been a better title. There is probably no more than 10% content strictly on watercolor painting, but the information on composition, color, value, contrast, shapes, etc. is invaluable. The sad thing is that anyone wanting to strictly learn about watercolor painting will be disappointed and people who want good art instruction for any medium may not buy it thinking that it is only on watercolor. Ms. Gill's paintings are very impressionistic. That is not my style but regardless, I was still able to learn from this well-written and informative book. If you want to paint better paintings and want true art instruction this book is for you. I will be referring to it over and over again. There is simply too much information in it to absorb in one reading. I would only read a few pages at a time between painting sessions. After reading I'd look at my painting and see something else that would have made the painting better. Many paintings from now I will still be learning from this book. I'm looking forward to a time when everything in it will be second nature to me, if that ever happens to us when it comes to art! I have purchased many art books. Sadly, most of them were a waste of money. This one is the exception. If you are serious about becoming a better artist, buy it. One word of caution though. If you haven't painted before you may be overwhelmed by all the information. But if that happens and you are serious about being an artist, keep the book because later you will understand how important the information in this book is.

I've been working in watercolor for many years and have collected many books on the subject. Not

only is Catherine Gill a master in this medium, but her book is very detailed in a way that's easy to read and entertaining, too. The format is wonderful insofar that it is a spiral book and can easily be opened to a page while you're working and stay put. Her watercolors are truly powerful and beautiful and I would highly recommend this book for beginners to advanced watercolorists.

..but I decided not to begin by looking at all the pictures. Instead I tantalized myself with the pictures as I read the book. Right away I found Catherine Gill's teaching clear and to the point. I have begun to use her terms as I paint. There are approaches that I have avoided before but her examples show me that, for instance, doing a value sketch is quick and easy. No, I have not finished the book but it is not only my desire to look at all of her paintings that has me hooked; Catherine's lively discussions, examples, steps in putting a painting together all call me back. I am savoring each chapter and every lovely painting. I am a pastelist and oil painter but as I read reviews of this book I was & am convinced that her lessons are valuable for these media as well as watercolor. Thank you Catherine, I will share your book with many.

IF you're looking for a book that will help you take your art to the next level this is it! Order now -- operators are standing by! Seriously, you will read this book over and over again. It's very well written, entertaining, AND the author offers lots of concrete examples of her ideas and techniques to create powerful pieces. Although the title notes it's for watercolor artists don't be put off by that. The tools she shares are invaluable for all painters. I have purchased many, many art instruction books. I would rate this in the top 5 of my library. (My library includes Carlson's Guide to Landscape Painting; Mastering Composition by Ian Roberts; Painting Better Landscapes by Margaret Kessler - these are the books I refer to often - lots of the other books are just dust collectors.) If you are serious about your art - Get This Book - the gems she shares are priceless!

This book simplifies the classic principles and elements of design into a format that is much easier to comprehend and apply than the rather cumbersome academic approach. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is not familiar with classic composition theory and to others who are familiar with composition principles, but who would like to see them from a different point of view. Watercolor technique is also well covered, but the emphasis is on composition, which is critical to any painting medium. I bought the hard copy and the Kindle version.

This book has a very easy to understand and effective series of power tools that teach you to plan

and execute a design for your work. The focus is on design and this makes it helpful for artists in all 2-dimensional media, not just watercolor. The book comes spiral bound and lays flat when open which is a huge plus. I will use this book often and highly recommend it for any landscape artist interested in improving their design process.

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