

## **Lauren McCracken Watercolor – The Basic Equipment**

This is a basic list of equipment that I use in my studio and workshops. You may use whatever manufacturer of watercolors you prefer. I use Daniel Smith watercolors. Please choose the watercolor manufacturer you want to work with long term, but please do not use student grade products, such as Cotman or Grumbacher.

### **Paints: This is what I refer to as a basic palette of colors:**

Cadmium Red Medium Hue  
Permanent Alizarin Crimson  
Cadmium Yellow (Medium Hue), (Light Hue) and (Deep)  
Phalo Blue (Red Shade)  
Prussian Blue  
Cerulean Blue  
Burnt Sienna  
Burnt Umber  
Quinacridone Gold  
Carbazole Violet  
Quinacridone Burnt Scarlet  
Neutral Tint  
McCracken Black  
Additional specialty colors will be available to try

**Brushes:** A selection of watercolor **rounds**, such as #2, #4, #6, #8, I prefer Kolinsky Sable, a 4” round Acrylic brush and/or a ½” flat synthetic brush for use in lifting and as a “scrubber.” I use Escoda Brushes. I recommend their “Versatil” brushes. These are synthetic Kolinsky and are much less expensive than true Kolinsky brushes.

**Palette:** White plate/platter or white plastic palette with multiple pans for your paints and a small multi-pan palette for mixing multiple shades of a color. I use a John Pike palette as my primary palette.

**Water containers:** Two, clear containers, quart size or larger

**Pencil and Eraser:** Wood or mechanical pencil (recommended) with **2h** lead, and one with an **F** or **2B** lead and a white eraser, such as Staedtler Mars

**Paper Towel:** white (no colored printing)

**Paper:** One sheet of Fabriano Artístico 300-pound soft press paper will be provided. Bring a book or pad for notes. A block of watercolor paper would be useful for testing.

**Backing Board:** A plywood, gatorboard or other stiff board to support your Quarter sheet painting on a slant, at least 15” x 20” and a piece of Matte board or other board for use with the X-acto knife, approximately 10”x15”

### **Additional Items Recommended:**

Liquid masking fluid (I recommend Daniel Smith), a pad of 11”x14” lightweight tracing paper, a roll of 1” “Art Alternatives Masking Tape”, X-acto knife with #11 blade or equivalent. Suggest a roll of Duck Brand, Clear, “Easy Liner” shelf liner for masking large areas.