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Paint Lab: 52 Exercises Inspired By Artists, Materials, Time, Place, And Method (Lab Series)



Synopsis

Paint Lab is packed with unique and experimental techniques and ideas in painting. This hands-on book is organized into 52 units, which may, but don't need to be explored on a weekly basis. The labs can be worked on in any order, so that you can flip around to learn a new mixed-media technique or be inspired by a particular painting theme or application. The underlying message of this book is that, as an artist, you should learn and gain expertise through experimentation and play. There is no right or wrong result, rather you will find new forms of expression in your work and gain confidence in your skills.Â Designed to inform and inspire new artists and rekindle passion for painting in experienced artists, this book offers a range of exercises broken down by theme: Who (artist-inspired), What (tools and materials), When (a time-based concept), Where (a sense of place), and How (inspired by a technique or method). Â Â Paint Lab is illustrated with brilliant full-color images and multiple examples of each exercise. This book offers you a visual, non-linear approach to learning painting techniques, and reinforces a fun and fearless approach to creating art.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"In this latest title, artist and art instructor Forman offers readers 52 exercises designed to open up their painterly thinking and introduce them to a broader range of materials and techniques. Readers can explore painting by following step-by-step exercises in chapters on time, place, unusual materials, and color. Each lab is based upon a finished piece by either a working contemporary artist or by a 20th-century master such as Frida Kahlo, Paul Klee, or Helen Frankenthaler. Throughout, Forman emphasizes the value of play in creative endeavors. VERDICT Beginners and

more experienced artists alike will benefit from this guide." - Library Journal

Deborah Forman is a practicing artist and a passionate teacher of art with twenty years of experience instructing students from ages two to eighty. She is currently an instructor in continuing education at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). Deborah specializes in teaching the fundamentals: drawing, two-dimensional design, color theory, beginning to advanced painting, and conceptual approach to painting and materials. In her own painting practice, Deborah works within the realm of geometric abstraction, with emphasis on the phenomena of color interaction. Deborah earned her bachelor of fine arts degree in 1992 from Rhode Island School of Design. She went on to earn a master of science in art education in 1996 from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, a school that believes teaching is an art form, with an emphasis on process over product and the importance of play and risk taking for artistic growth. Deborah has a master of fine arts in painting from the Parsons School of Design, where the focus of the program was contemporary art and theory, graduating in 2001. Deborah has exhibited her paintings in Rhode Island as well as in various other venues throughout New England. She also provides a creative workshop series that can be used in a variety of settings. Visit her website at www.blueorangeworkshop.com. She is the author of *Paint Lab* (Quarry Books, 2013).

The book is beautiful and the content is great. However if you're looking for a step by step tutorial this isn't the book for you. It will introduce you to many well known artists and give you a history on them, and then tell you to paint like them. What the heck? Many of these techniques are highly complex. This book does very little to break them down. I think someone would have to have more than just a basic understanding of painting to really succeed at all the projects. I can realistically see myself doing 1/2 of them. I purchased it used for \$8, so I don't mind the disappointment.

The paint lab is well-written, fun, bright, vivid, and joyful. It's a pleasure to read and browse through. Owning it is like finally enrolling in the college art class that I always wanted to take: educational AND enjoyable. In fact, I tried an art project with my seven year old daughter, and we had a fabulous time and felt like real artists on what otherwise would have been a dreary rainy Saturday afternoon. With very few materials, and as complete novices, we each made a beautiful abstract painting. I cannot wait to do another project now. The paint lab is like my favorite Italian cookbook: tempting, easy to follow, and perfect to peruse and re-use (and luckily, it's far healthier than making (and eating) Tiramisu). This is an amazing book for any family to inspire modern, colorful, and

imaginative times!

I am not an artist, but I bought this book at a local craft store because it looked fascinating. As I read each unit, I felt inspired to look at my world of objects and natural beauty in a creative way. I began to see more color, texture, shadows and light...especially when I sat in my garden or admired the lake in the city where I live. Because I like texture and touch, I have begun to look for ways to create "art" with materials around me such as sunflower seeds, feathers, surprises washed up on the beach. Although Unit 3 (Exploring Your Media) did not specifically address the use of seeds or feathers, the author encouraged me to use my imagination in finding unusual media to play with. Unit 5 (A Sense of Place) matched my interest in conveying the spirit of my garden with various media. I found specific guidance and ideas to run with on my own in this book. I feel lucky to have found it and have a new perspective on art and my own talents because of it.

I really, really love this book. It's exactly what I have been looking for- it's not an "from start to finish" instructional book, but more of a collection of ideas and inspiration to change up your paintings a little bit. This is great book for any library, whether you are looking to dabble in paint or already have experience under your belt and just want to shake up your approach to painting. There are 52 "labs" in the book, each of which is a 2-page spread with lots of photos that either gives step-by-step instructions for a certain technique, an introduction to a particular artist and their style, or suggestions on how to use the world around you as inspiration for your paintings. Most of the labs in the book are based around abstract and intuitive art, so keep that in mind. I'm thrilled to have this book and go through the "Labs" inside of it. Wonderful inspiration!

[Jan 2015] Help is in the eye of the beholder so I hesitate to write negative reviews, but this book - in my experience - was really disappointing. REALLY disappointing. It's a very brief overview (pages) and the printed pictures for each art style were few, lackluster and uninspiring. selections due to paper quality. I didn't find there was enough instructional information to experiment adequately in any genre, and most examples were abstraction art. I sort of expected this focus, but examples and labs lacked depth and complexity of even that genre. I purchased this book to inspire students to expand their repertoire of skill, but there wasn't much for them to see, let alone pique interest. Unlike other instructionals, it was flipped thru it disinterestedly and never picked up again.

I don't love all the books in this series, but this one is worth buying. I have a BFA, but bought this to

gain some fresh ideas and it helped get me out of a slump. Good resource for home school too. The directions are complete enough to follow without a lot of art experience.

Not only very helpful in expanding the artist's bag of tricks (or repertoire of techniques, if you prefer), but great fun at the same time. Well worth the price and then some!

This is a neat book. Lots of great pictures and cool ideas.

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