

MESSAGE FROM ERIC

- October -

USING A BRUSH TO DRAW

Utilizing a pencil to sketch on a fresh white piece of paper before applying paint is a well-established and respected initial step. However, those graphite lines sometimes lead to restricted brush strokes, as there is a tendency to feel bound by the pencil lines. This limited focus may result in feeling like we're "painting by numbers" rather than truly unleashing our inner creativity. Instead, experiment with drawing using a brush.

Drawing with a brush is not as daunting as it initially appears. Using a brush to draw, we acknowledge that anatomical accuracy does not need to dominate the painting. This approach enables us to transcend the constraints imposed by a pencil line, providing a wider range of options and greater creative freedom. In that freedom, you will find more expressive brushwork, infusing your paintings with a heightened level of artistic expression. I prefer to use the #5 mop brush as it carries a lot of pigment in water, a #12 round brush will work fine too. Let your strokes be free and unrestrained, this can add a nice touch to the finished painting. Embracing this method can lead to a more joyful painting experience!

Trust your intuition and act confidently. In the long run, it is better to be decisive, even at the risk of ruining your painting than to be timid and end up with a weak, overworked statement. Painting with confidence is often the difference between mediocrity and excellence. Be brave, my students and have fun!

Share your results and thoughts on the experience of drawing with a brush on Facebook or Instagram. #brushdraw or on our supportive private Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/338931387689920>

Keep your brush wet!

Eric



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