

# **Gouache Painting Workshop with Don Yang**

## **Old Town Art Center**

1763 N. North Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60614, (PH) 312-337-1938, [info@oldtowntriangle.com](mailto:info@oldtowntriangle.com)

## **Syllabus**

- Date and Time: Saturday, June 28, 2025, from 10am to 5pm

- Location: Triangle Center (Old Town Art Center) 1763 N. North Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60614

- Workshop description:

In this workshop, participants are introduced to unique material and working method of gouache painting. Participants will begin the process by exploring compositional possibilities working from their own pre-selected photograph(s). They will paint one painting in gouache using the photograph as reference material.

- Learning Objectives: through group and individual instruction, participants will,

1. create an aesthetic composition based on design principles of visual art.
2. gain knowledge of unique working properties of gouache paint and related materials of brush and paper.
3. produce a painting that shows cohesive value structure that creates convincing sense of realism.
4. create a painting that demonstrates harmonious color relation.

- Instructional methods:

Workshop is comprised of instructor lecture, demonstration, and the participants working independently with the guidance of the instructor as he makes rounds of instruction for individual painters. Workshop will conclude with group critique of their finished paintings.

- Workshop schedule:

- 10am–12pm: Introduction to material, instructor demo, value/composition thumbnails, begin painting.
- 12pm–1pm: Lunch (individual and flexible schedule)
- 1pm–4pm: Continue and finish painting.
- 4pm–5pm: Group critique and conclusion.

- Supply List:

- Watercolor paper or block, 9"x12" or larger, cold pressed, 140lbs or heavier. Canson or Arches brand recommended but other compatible quality brands are acceptable.
- Students bring their own brushes, watercolors, palette and water container (small bottle or jar) and a hard board to tape their paper to if they choose to use a single paper instead of paper block.
- Full set of gouache paints is NOT necessary. A tube of White Designers Gouache (14ml or more) is a must.
- Students may use full set of gouache paints if they already have them (\*recommended list below).
- Brushes: Participants will use their own brushes of choice they are familiar with.

Some recommended brushes are:

Synthetic brush, flat, 1/2 inch wide

Synthetic brush, round, #2, #4, #6 785 series, Robert Simmons brand (or similar brand/size).

These are just recommendation. Students may bring different brands, shapes and sizes.

· Watercolors: mixed with White Designers Gouache to create a gouache painting.  
These colors are 'recommended' colors, except White Designer's Gouache which is a must.  
Participants may bring their own colors of choice if they already have them.

1. White Designers gouache (must)  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-1172>)
2. Ultramarine Blue (or French Ultramarine), watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-5271>)
3. Alizarine Crimson (or Permanent Alizarine Crimson), watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-3061>)
4. Burnt Sienna, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-8041>)
5. Cadmium Yellow, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-4201>)
6. Yellow Ochre, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-4041>)
7. Sap Green (Permanent), watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-7391>)

#### Optional additional colors

1. Indian Red, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-3251>)
2. Raw Sienna, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-8061>)
3. Viridian, watercolor paint, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-7431>)
4. Cobalt Blue, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-5181>)
5. Cerulean Blue, watercolor paint  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-professional-watercolor-tubes/?Item=00319-5161>)

\*If prefers to use full palette of gouache paints instead of watercolors, here is a list of recommended colors.

Ultramarine Blue, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-5252>)

Alizarin Crimson, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-3062>)

Burnt Sienna, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-8042>)

Cadmium Yellow, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-4202>)

Yellow Ocher, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-4042>)

Sap Green, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-7092>)

· Additional gouache colors (optional)

Red Ochre, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-3682>)

Raw Sienna, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-8062>)

Viridian, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-7102>)

Cobalt Blue, gouache paint

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-5182>)

Cerulean Blue

(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-designers-gouache/?Item=00801-5162>)

If any questions, contact Don Yang at donyangart@gmail.com

• About the instructor:

After serving 7 years in the U.S. Army, Don Yang pursued his childhood dream of living as an artist by studying at the American Academy of Art in Chicago where he earned BFA with honors and later MFA with emphasis on fine art and traditional illustration.

After graduating from the Academy, Don has taught figure drawing, oil painting, and artistic anatomy at the American Academy of Art for 22 years and served as chairperson of Fine Art Department and Foundations Department. An avid plein air painter, painting both outdoors and in his studio at the historic Fine Arts Building in downtown Chicago, he frequently exhibits his work both locally and nationally.