

Watercolour Basics:

Choosing the best photo to paint for the workshop

Thanks for choosing to be part of my workshop! I am very excited for us to get together and paint.

We will be turning one of your chosen photographs into a watercolor painting.

This is a guide to helping you choose the best photograph to bring to the workshop. Picking the right photo will give you the best experience and results.

Here are the things to consider:

- **Your skill** in drawing and painting (beginner, intermediate, advanced)
- **What you're interested** in drawing (your style or aesthetic)
- **The complexity** of the photo (small details may take more time and patience)

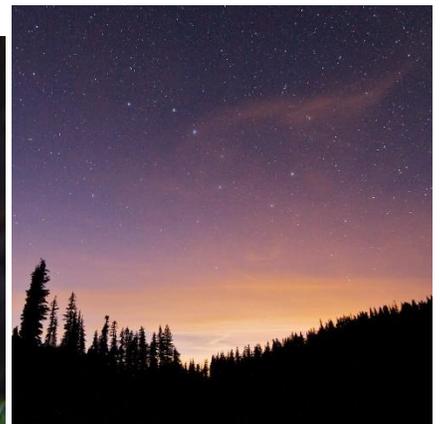
*Ideally the try to have your photo be a coloured, hardcopy, and 6X6 inches. It will be much easier to work with. But no worries if it does not meet the measurements.

*Avoid bringing your photo on your phone. It may be hard to work with

*No worries if you don't have any photos. Sample photos are provided.

Photo suggestions by SKILL LEVEL:

BEGINNER: minimal to no experience.



-simple compositions with **simple shapes**

-landscapes with **simple detail** and **subtle color changes**.

-pictures **focused on a single subject**

INTERMEDIATE: Familiar with painting and willing to try new skills.



-**More textured and abstract shapes.** (ex. grass strokes, water waves, curved lines)

-**Variety of shades in color.** (Color looks 3D instead of a flat shadow)

-**Pictures with other subjects in the background** or has **more specific detail.**

ADVANCED: Very experienced with watercolor technique. Done lots of work.



-**Very specific detail: very fine and precise features** (especially human faces and animal portraits)

-**Has wide range of shades and color** (ex. many different shades of the same color) (requires advanced color mixing)

-**Many elements in the background** (no main subject, but a variety of small objects) (ex. detailed landscapes)

**Human portraits and animal portraits require extensive experience in both drawing and watercolor. It is not recommended if you have not painted before.

Nevertheless, please bring in a photo you're passionate about. We can always adapt it to your level. If you would like advice or approval, you may email me your picture at 16im7@queensu.ca, and I will let you know my thoughts.