

Watercolor Workshop
Project for March 21, 2018
Shared Objects – Composition Challenge

(taken from a DVD by Shirley Trevana and modified for our group)

Led by Betty Redmon

Objective: Create a dynamic composition inspired by several objects. The term composition means 'putting together' and in painting is the placement or arrangement of visual elements. In a more general sense, it can also be thought of as the organization of the Elements of Art (form, shape, line, color, value, space and texture) according to the Principles of Art/Principles of Design (balance, proportion, emphasis, variety, movement, rhythm, harmony).

Preparation: Don't make drawing at home or decide on what objects you will paint. Instead, read the article "Wikipedia Composition (Visual Arts)"

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Composition_\(visual_arts\)#Principles_of_organization](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Composition_(visual_arts)#Principles_of_organization)

Materials: Bring to class two objects plus a sack or scarf/material and your usual painting supplies and good paper (quarter-sheet size or larger).

Discussion: We will briefly share gems of wisdom ("rules" to be incorporated or ignored) that we've picked up over the years about what makes a good (dynamic) composition.

Process: We'll put all objects on a table from which you will select your first object to paint (not necessarily what you brought). Take the object back to your table, then return it when you are ready to go to the next object. Decide what interests you about the object: paint your objects from same or different angles. Perhaps paint only part of object to allow for overlap. You may choose to do a still life, one large shape combining all objects, or an overall pattern with a focus area. You may choose to be photorealistic, impressionistic, abstract, or other style. A guided step-by-step lesson will be provided for beginners. More experienced artists are encouraged to give free reign to imagination and creativity.