

TOTALLY STARTING FROM NOTHING?

Paint: Four tubes of paint is a good place to start:

- Daniel Smith's Ultramarine Blue,
- Burnt Sienna,
- Quinacridone Gold and
- Permanent Alizarin Crimson.

Buy the little 5 ml tubes; they're around \$6 each online.

Brushes: The Silver Round #8 is \$12 at Cheap Joe's, and (I've never tried them, but) I've heard good things about their "Golden Fleece" line of watercolor brushes. These are very inexpensive – a #8 round is listed as \$8.50, and a #12 round for \$12.

Paper: You can buy single sheets of watercolor paper and rice paper at NV Fine Arts; expect to pay around \$7 to \$10 for the WC paper and \$3 to \$5 for the rice paper.

Watercolor Paper: Look for 140 lb. cold press or rough Sanders Waterford, Fabriano or Lanaquarell. Arches used to be the "Go To" brand for everyone but has been bought out and they're having problems with their sizing, leading to poor results in washes.

Rice Paper: I found a very cool sheet of rice paper at NV Fine Arts with a little ½" square pattern. It produced some very interesting results in one class. I normally use a 25 gsm Unryu mulberry paper; I have more luck finding it online but sometimes NFA carries it.

Palette: Instead of investing in an actual palette, buy a metal butcher's tray from Resco or another restaurant supply store next time you're in Reno.

Michaels carries sketch books, matte medium and the foam craft brushes. And with a coupon...