

Sketchbooking with Susan Cornelis

Materials List

Strive to simplify and free yourself from the awkward bags and boards and cases we drag around to make art. **Portable** is the key word here, meaning “fits in your purse or fanny pack”. If some “art stuff” doesn’t live there, then it won’t get used, and you’re back to not having time to do art! Here’s what I recommend bringing to the workshop in a purse or bag. . .and bring a ziplock bag to protect your purse.

1. A Sharpie ultra fine tip permanent marker (or equivalent pen that you like). Pencil and eraser if you’re uncomfortable with the “permanent” idea.
2. A small folding watercolor palette. Mine is 4” X 8”. If you already have tube watercolor paints, you can squeeze your own into the palette or you can purchase a set of tubes (recommended colors attached). There are many alternative travel palette-and-pan watercolor sets like Winsor + Newton Cotman.
3. A spiral bound sketchbook no bigger than 6” X 10” with 140 lb watercolor paper (like Arches Travel Book, cold pressed paper preferred).
4. A few sheets of paper towels folded up.
5. A small closed water carrier, like a small cosmetic bottle, or a Niji water brush, medium or large sized, which fills with water. An empty film canister filled with water doubles as a water well and can be stuck to your palette with putty.
6. One watercolor brush will do it! The Niji water brush will work for fast applications. For more flexibility I recommend a round brush about size 8 with a good point. Make sure it has a cap on it. Travel brushes are preferred because they’re protected.
7. One small glue-stick and tiny scissors. Sunscreen, hat, and portable stool.

Note:

If you are purchasing watercolor pigments in tubes I would recommend buying professional grade paints such as Winsor + Newton, Daniel Smith or Holbein. Mixing brands is fine. Graham and Maimeri paints are fine, but tend to be runny in your sketch palette. These are the colors I recommend in order to have maximum color flexibility. Different manufacturers have different names for the same pigments! The starred ones are basic:

- *Hansa yellow medium or Cadmium yellow light
- *Quinacridone gold or raw sienna
- *Quinacridone burnt orange or burnt sienna
- Cadmium orange
- *Cadmium red or cadmium red light or Scarlet Lake
- *Quinacridone rose or permanent rose
- Violet
- *Ultramarine blue
- Cobalt blue
- *Phthalo blue or Winsor blue (green shade) or Prussian blue
- Cerulean blue
- *Paynes Gray

You are safer not having a green on your palette unless you are an experienced painter! You can easily mix greens with your blues and yellows.