



# Color at the Cabin.

## WATERCOLOR!

by Michael Friedland, Instructor

**E**very Saturday morning, a fun and friendly group of people gather at the Cabin to enjoy the wonders of watercolor. For the past four years, I've had the pleasure of teaching painting with watercolor at the idyllic little Cabin by the creek. Most of the students start at some sort of beginner level and it's amazing to see how quickly they learn and are soon producing paintings...and, as importantly, enjoying how much fun it is to experience what can come out of a few tubes of paint and a little cup of water.

New students get an introduction to how painting with watercolor is different from other (opaque) media...and how that is the charm of it, seeing through layers of transparent color. Students learn the most basic ways to apply paint to paper (there are only four) and examine the basics of color theory and how their basic color palette can work for them. I demonstrate lots of watercolor techniques as well as tricks and tips. To facilitate learning, we also periodically do "paint-alongs"—an exercise where the students follow my step by step process as we make a painting. We paint from nature and from photographs.

As we progress, we move into more complex aspects of painting, such as the importance of values and composition, and, of course, the importance of basic drawing. As students progress and work on their paintings, there is plenty of one-on-one discussion of what they're working on and how to move it forward.

Sometimes we go out to nearby locations to draw from nature and come back to the Cabin to paint from our sketches. On nice days we paint outside on the picnic tables by the Cabin or in other locations.

If you're one of those people who's always thought it might be fun to paint with watercolor—you were right all along...it **is!**—and we would welcome you to join our group. I would be happy to send you a materials list.

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Saturdays – 10am-1:00pm  
Classes are ongoing every month  
\$25 drop in / \$85 / 4 classes

Classes are held at The Cabin, 60 Tennessee Valley Road, Mill Valley

