

**March Instructions
Willem van Aelst Study
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Video Links

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Video Lesson in 4 parts

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In this lesson we will continue with the grisaille painting developing a little more form and dimension. We will use some lighter values to help add definition to our mass tone flowers and leaves. Our goal is also to establish some of the first hounding technique which will push back the background and tie the flowers and background together.

Grisaille Continued

Step 1.- Flower 1



Tracing on the outside lines and the main petals to the large center hollyhock. Transfer the crossing petals etc. No need to transfer the center details yet. With this step we now want to add some petal separation and little movement without too much detail. Using a medium size filbert such as a 6, mix warm value 7 Medium White + Titanium White until you have a value 8 or 9. No lighter than 9. This is not the final color, just one to help us find the petal edges. Pull down from the tip of the petal towards the center leaving a few streaks. Make sure the paint is very thin so you do not

develop any texture. Use only water. Keep the edges soft nothing definite yet. As you move around the flower, add a little value 8 grey to darken just a little, but more important to cool the color. Apply to help separate the petals.

Add a little Value 8 Grey to the back folded small flower as shown in the video. Work around the flower. As you come back to the front, add more Titanium White and develop some streaks and movement to the forward petals. Use the chisel of the brush with a little Titanium White and develop the first fold or loop in the front right petal as shown in the video.

Step 2- Flower 7

This is the flower just to the right of the large main, top hollyhock. Transfer your line of the petal. The front flower is a 9. Right now this flower is about a 6 or 7. We need to make a lighter color that is lighter than the base but is not as light as the main flower. I took some Value 6 Medium Grey + Value 7 Medium White. This will make a 6 or 7 warm color a little lighter. Use this color to apply the petal separations as shown in the video. Since we see the sepals on this flower you can indicate them now with a few streaks.

Step 3- Flower 11

Mix Medium Grey Value 6 with some Dark Grey Value 3. The base of this flower is about a value 4 so make this one a little lighter but do not use straight Value 6. You want about a Value 5 or so. When this is done, pick up just a little Medium White and lighten a touch and apply the front streaks.

Step 4- Flower 9

Right now this flower sits about value 5. Mix a Value 6 and Value 3 Grey. Add a little Medium Beige Value 4 to warm just a little. No lighter than value 5 to 6. Should appear just a little lighter. Add a touch of Medium White if necessary for your flower. This does not have to be perfect. We are refining it slowly. Darken the back with a little Dark Grey Value 3. Add just a touch of Medium White for the front. The value of the flower should be about a 6 no lighter than a 7. Remember the values dry darker.

Add a little lighter colors to the hollyhock buds at the top of the design. Making the petal separation color just a little lighter than the base.

Step 5- Flower 2

Highlights for this flower will be value 8 no lighter than value 9. I used Value 8 Grey. Warm with Medium White and lighten with touch Titanium White. Cool the back of the flower with some Dark Value 3 + Medium Grey Value 6. Add a touch of Medium Beige to this to warm just a little since this is a forward flower. Lighten the front with Value 8 then darken as you go around. Pull from the tip of the petal towards the center allowing streaks which help with the movement in the floral.

Step 6- Flower 8

Base of this flower now is about a 5. Mix Value 6 Grey and some Medium White. This makes a perfect color to lighten the petals and add some definition.

Step 7- Flower 6

Establish a color just a little lighter than what you have. About a value 6 to 7. What we just used on the last flower. Do not paint the petals just add some movement. Darken down the color with a little Value 3 Dark Grey and add some streaks to the shadow side.

Step 8- Flower 10

Use some Value 3 Dark Grey and some Medium Grey Value 6 to make about a value 5 to add a few streaks. Keep the streaks soft because this is a back flower.

Step 9 – Flowers 3 and 4- Mums

Mix Medium White in the dirty brush and add a little more movement to the top edges of the mum. Use “choppy” strokes as shown in the video. No direct petals at this time. Just more movement.

Step 10- Flower 5- Rose

Mix Medium White + Medium Grey Value 6. You are not interested in perfect petals. Like the mums, we need to add some more movement. Pick up just a little more Medium White for the front areas. Work from the tips of the petals towards the bowl. Add some to the top of the bowl and inside with just a little darker grey. For the front of the bowl start near the top and pull the petals down. This makes the rose grow out. Refer to the video.



Dry well so we can do the hounding.

Step 11- Hounding

Whip up some Raw Umber and some Burnt Umber with Extender Medium. Apply some Extender to the center area. Work small areas at a time. Using the $\frac{3}{4}$ inch oval watercolor brush, smooth the extender. Dress the watercolor brush in the Raw Umber + Burnt Umber vary for interest. Apply casually in the center area. This keeps the center areas warm for now. Go over the edges of the flowers. Use a small brush dressed in just water to remove excess umber but

leave some on the edges to soften them and marry the background to the flowers. Continue working small areas at a time. Apply some to the table and back edge which will cause the background and table to come together. **Don't play too long it will dry. If at any time the color starts to dry a lift or pull a hole, stop, dry the surface and then repeat or continue.**

Step 12- Protecting the surface

Lightly remove your graphite lines. Give the surface a light even coat of Multi-Surface Sealer and dry well. Multi-Surface Sealer has no matting agent in it so we use it so our painting will not become cloudy.



Step 13- Cool Houding

This will be a real light glaze of Extender and cool color. We want to darken a little in the center area and cool. Give the surface a light even coat of Extender. Whip up some Ultramarine Blue, Carbon Black and Raw Umber. Mix the 3 together with you brush and vary for interest. Start in the center as shown on the video and work out in small areas. Let some of this color stay on the edges of the flowers.

This dark color step will allow us to paint another layer using pretty much the same values, but they will appear lighter because the background is now darker.

Back to Grisaille

Step 14- Light direction- Flower 1

Establish some shadow with cool Grey Value 3 and some Carbon Black. Shadow around the center area which will help separate the center petals from the outside reaching petals. Make this transparent with some water and glaze back some of the back petals. Add a few transparent darks to the font reaching petals which will help us give the look of

ridges. Take some Medium White and Titanium White to about a value 9. Redefine the front edges of the petals. I did this with a #4 filbert. The smaller brush will start to give just a little more definition. Darken the color down as you move around the petals and head to the back flowers. Flowers behind on the left top side should be about a value 5 or 6.



Step 15- Flower 7

Mix some Value 8 Grey with Some Medium Grey Value 6 to about value 7. Add some more petal interest to the front. Add the sepals etc. Lighten the flower 11 with value 6, almost to a value 7.

Step 16- Flower 2

Mix some Dark Grey Value 3 with water and glaze back the back edges of the flower. Start with a Medium White Value 7 in the front of the flower, working this color around the flower from the front. Darken a little with some Value 3 Grey as so go back.

Step 17- Flower 8

Lighten with 6 to 7 grey + touch Medium White. Add the front petals and petals separations. Glaze around the areas with some transparent Dark Value + some Raw

Umber and use this to help separate if necessary. Make a color just a little lighter but no lighter than flower 2. Add to the front of this flower which will help with the roundness.

Step 18- Flower 9

Build the front of the flower with some Value 6 Grey and some Medium White. Add some Dark Grey Value 3 to the back petals.

Step 19- Top Hollyhock buds

Mix some Value 3 Grey and Medium Beige. Add some light petals and a little interest to these without getting too light. Keep these pretty much mass tone still until we develop our center of interest better.

Step 20- Center Leaf A

Mix a value 5 to 6 warm grey, Medium Beige + Value 6 Grey. and add the streaks and interest to the center leaf A. Define the edges a little. Try to keep it no lighter than flower 8. Add some light to the bud just to the right and to the main stem area.



Step 21- Mums, Flowers 3, 4, 10 and 6 etc.

Lighten and add a little more movement. Add additions streaks and interest. Keep this still a little soft until we develop the center of interest more. Add any petal separation if necessary with Raw Umber to Raw Umber + touch Carbon Black.

Step 22- Rose Flower 5

Add some light effects with Value 7 + water. Keep this very transparent and use a technique very similar to what we used when we first based it in. Very watery and puddles, establishing movement and edges. Darken with some Value 6 grey then Value 3

Grey as you go out towards the back of the flower. The 3 will now look light as we go back because we have pushed back the background with hounding.

Step 23- Accent Areas

Add some lighter colors to the buds and forward leaves. Use Value 3 Grey + Value 6 Grey, then warm with some Medium Beige. Add streaks and interest to leaves B and C. Add some to the others leaves. I added a fold to leaf D which is not in the original painting but I like to see a little more design interest there. Artist choice if you want to do this. Lighten the mouse a little on the legs and head.

Step 24- Container

Give the surface a light even coat of Extender. While wet add some shadows with Dark Grey Value 3 + touch Carbon Black. Shadow under the leaves. Mix some Medium Beige + Value 6 Grey and choppy into the center of the container to add some roundness. You do not want the center of the container lighter than the forward leaves B through E. Lighten the front of the foot with just a touch of Medium White Value 7.



Step 25- Darks

Mix some Raw Umber and touch Carbon Black. Add to the bottom of the container and then add a little through the painting to carry the dark. Dry and give the surface a coat of Multi-Surface Sealer.

Step 26- Whites.

Add some Titanium White to the front top Hollyhock, flower 1. This makes sure it stands out. Add some water so it is not a value 10. This will give about a 9 when it is dry. Move down through the painting add some lights in the crescent shape and dropping the values as we go down.

Dry well and your ready for the April Lesson.