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Say Hello to Art Escapes Vancouver

Hi all you Vancouver Zbukvic workshopers. One more month before we get together and paint with arguably the finest landscape watercolour painter on the planet. Even though half of us are repeat devotees to the Zbukvic artistry, I guarantee like no other workshop you will leave fully alive, engaged and chalk full of ideas that you will want to incorporate into your painting life.

Your approach to painting will ineffably change.

Joseph is a brilliant teacher. He is voluble, funny, insightful and very generous. Regardless of your skill, Joseph will work at whatever level in which you are currently engaged. He knows that the techniques and knowledge of what he is teaching may be unfamiliar to many and he is enormously patient watching you progress. He is also the typical Australian Alpha male who doesn't suffer fools gladly. If he sees that you are serious about learning and pushing yourself, he will give you no end of help.

Our workshop is at capacity with 20 students with varying degrees of aptitude. I encourage all of us, especially weak painters like myself, to leave our egos, bruised or otherwise at the door. We are here to learn, experiment, encourage each other to higher levels and have a great time. The workshop is NOT the place to paint the masterpiece. It IS the place to engage in pushing boundaries and trying stuff we're too scared to do at home by ourselves.

To prepare yourselves a little for what to expect, please download Joseph's advance notes. [click here](#)

Z-man to come with cape



Our workshop runs a full 4-days, April 26 through 29th starting promptly at 9:00 am. Please come early, set-up your workstations and prepare for Joseph's demonstration and instruction that will start precisely on time. We will have an overhead mirror loaned to us by Opus Art supplies. Generally, those sitting in the first row have the best seats so we will shuffle folks during both the morning and afternoon sessions so everybody will get the opportunity for optimum view. Cameras are to be shut off during Joseph's teaching and demos. When finished, feel free to shoot away. Generally Joseph's workshop style is to instruct for half an hour or so, then paint a demo illustrating the teaching points, then everybody takes a crack at painting from the same reference (photo) that Joseph uses. You will work hard during this workshop; it will not be a vacation. Joseph gives 2-3 demos per day.

You will also want to take notes as Joseph teaches. Do not worry about getting "everything" written down. After the workshop, I will make available extensive class notes that I have compiled from previous workshops. These have been desktopped, loaded with demo photos and run 18-pages long. It is more important to experience Joseph's painting than looking down to take notes. As well, you can also share notes with others after class.

And speaking of after class, the daily class will end at 4:30 pm. At that time, Joseph is "off the clock." If there is a pub within olfactory distance, Joseph usually repairs himself there. The hotel is built around a brewery so he won't be hard to find. Please respect his privacy. The pub is not a classroom. Neither should we keep Joseph hostage after-hours. He will want to take some private time away from us all. Keeps him fresh.

This is our first experience with the Granville Island Hotel so there are some details of which I still am uncertain. Parking at Granville Island is impossible, so please bring whatever you need for the workshop on the first day. Guests of the hotel will have parking privileges. We will lock the classroom at 5:00 pm unless we can collectively orchestrate a way to keep the room open, safe and protected. No point in schlepping your gear back and forth every day.

Opus Sale

Opus Art Supplies has provided us with an overhead mirror, goodie bags, some advertising and good profile. As well, they have graciously given us a discount on all watercolour brushes they carry and will sell watercolour paper by the sheet at discounted prices. Please [print](#) and present this coupon at any Opus store during the month of April 2010. Opus is a great community resource and we are grateful for their support. They have a Granville Island store across the street from our hotel.

The 2010 Olympics buzz



As you can we imagine, the entire city of Vancouver is still quite chuffed about our stellar Olympic experience and you will find the town effervescent, bubbly and joyful. This also accompanies the onslaught of Spring and barring over zealous rainfall (we are in a rainforest), you should all have a delightful experience. Go to our website and look at the photos of Vancouver and Granville Island. When the sun is out and the nip has gone from the air, we all believe that we live in Paradise.

Bon Appetit published [this](#) last fall about Vancouver cuisine. Take a moment and perhaps pick out an eatery that you would like to sample.

Finally, I do so look forward to seeing old friends, meeting new ones and having a terrific week of painting with the Master. Gird your loins. Be prepared for some acerbic humour. Joseph refers to me sometimes as "Igor" but most often as "Mr. Bead". You'll understand why when we meet.

Safe travels. US citizens don't forget your passports!

Best,

Jamie

