

# Watercolors By Sherryl Perez

## News, Events & Helpful Tips



### Painting Crystal in Watercolor

#### Step-by-Step Approach

One subject that I have really enjoyed painting over the past year is cut-glass crystal. This is one area that previously scared me to death. It seemed so complicated and intimidating so I stayed away even though I have always admired these types of paintings. One day I pulled

out some art books and researched how others accomplished this. I tried it, and to my surprise, if I took a step-by-step approach, it wasn't so daunting.

First, I needed a good photo reference so I took many with different light sources, back drops, crystal vases, flowers, fruits, etc. I also took close ups of the glass and the flowers (and/or fruits). After selecting the image I wanted to use, I drew this onto the watercolor paper. This was carefully done so that the vase was symmetrical. (I usually draw either the left or right side, then overlay with tracing paper and flip it over to draw the opposite side.) I didn't try to draw in all of the crystal cuts but tried to get in the larger shapes.

Next, I painted the flowers because this is a subject I feel comfortable with and can paint fairly easily. To start the crystal, I usually work in small areas with a limited palette. In this case, I used the colors in the flowers (yellows, reds and green from the stems) and indigo and dioxin violet mixed with the flower colors to get the darks and grey tones. Here is where the close up photos of the crystal vase becomes useful. I zoomed in the photo on the computer and painted the "shapes." I try not to get too hung up on the fact that this is crystal. This is about as abstract painting as I get! The white paper itself is utilized for the highlights. I worked methodically through each section until it was done. Then I applied the first background wash. This was a little dull so I applied a darker, second wash for the completed painting.

### Art in Bloom Events at Menne's Nursery:



#### Winter Barn

Saturday, January 21, 11:00 a.m.



#### Tea Roses

Saturday, February 11, 11:00 a.m.

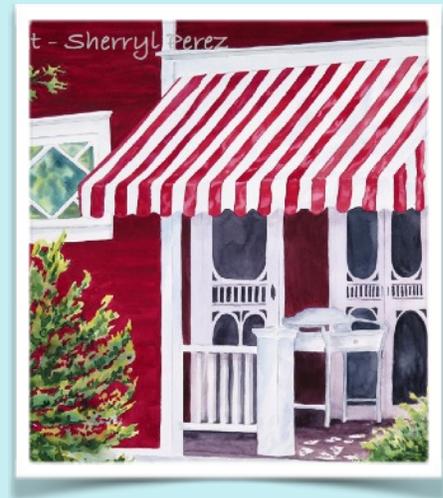
Please see Menne's website for class registration: [Click here to Register](#) .

## WEEKLY CLASSES

Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 11

12:30-3:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Classes are \$10 each (\$15 if you require supplies). The subject matter will vary throughout the year. Demonstrations will last approximately 20 min and then the remainder is spent working independently with my assistance. I provide examples and alternatives with a similar subject matter to what I am demonstrating that you can use as inspiration. You can work with a simple or difficult subject matter—all levels of experience are welcome! Or, you can bring your own project to work on. It is a fun and relaxing atmosphere for all to enjoy.



## DEMONSTRATIONS/ EXHIBITS

1. Albright Knox Art Gallery: Picasso-The Artist and His Models. On view through February 19, 2017.
2. Burchfield Penney Art Center: 50 Years with Charles E. Burchfield. On view through March 26, 2017.
3. Kenan Center: Celebrating Alice Pomroy: Women Artists of Western New York. On view January 8 - February 12
4. Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society—Monthly Meeting, Thursday, January 19 @ 7pm - Marty Kutas.
5. Williamsville Art Society—Monthly Meeting, Friday, January 13 @ 7 pm - Jan Agati Abbamo - Artist of Mixed Media.

## Art in Bloom Workshops

Do you want to host a watercolor workshop in your home?

All of the supplies and step-by-step instruction are provided. You and your guests will complete a watercolor painting ready for framing. It's a fun evening (and you even learn something new)! Hostesses are free with at least four of your friends/family attending. Contact me for additional information and samples of available projects.

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