

Capturing the Mono Basin in Pastel



Mono Lake tufa, pastel by Ane Carla Rovetta

Ane Carla Rovetta • July 13–15, 2012

\$160 per person / \$145 for Mono Lake Committee members
\$35 materials fee to be paid to the instructor*
limited to 12 participants

The goal of this weekend is to work outside, on location, as much as possible. We will be challenged by wind, weather, and our copious gear, however, the exuberant brilliance of “plein aire” paintings make them worth the effort. We will concentrate our vista paintings in the morning when the wind and insects are most likely to cooperate, then move inside for after lunch lectures. Our late afternoon painting will be of a smaller scene in a “sheltered” place. Each participant will go home with at least one small finished painting and several sketches, color studies, and value experiments that will fuel future artistic endeavors.

Landscape painter Ane Carla Rovetta is known for her realistic depiction of our golden western lands. She will guide students through a value system she modeled after Ansel Adams’ work that will help organize the overwhelming hues of the summer terrain.

ITINERARY

Friday, July 13: Meet at 6:30pm at the Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore in Lee Vining. After introductions, Ane Carla will hand out supplies and talk about them. She will provide a small set of grey chalks that are organized according to Ansel Adams’ “zone system” of light and dark values. Participants will have a chance to do color exercises that will help illuminate this new way of organizing color and prepare the way for Saturday’s morning painting session.

Saturday, July 14: Meet at 8:00am on the back patio of the Forest Service Visitor Center just off Highway 395 on the north side of Lee Vining. Once everyone gets settled, Ane Carla will demonstrate your morning “assignment.” We will work outside until lunch, which will be an extended break. At 3:30pm we will meet in the gallery of the Mono Lake Committee. In the cool shade of the room Ane Carla will give a brief technique lecture, after which we will head to a sheltered location to paint in the late afternoon light. Although instruction will end at about 7:00pm, many students choose to paint until dark.

Sunday, July 15: Meet at 8:30am at the South Tufa parking lot (\$3 per person fee). We will paint at South Tufa until lunch. Meet back in the gallery at the Mono Lake Committee at 2:30pm for our final critique and lecture. The class will end at 4:00pm so participants can make the drive home.

Altitude and Dehydration Cautions: Remember to bring (and drink!) lots of water because your body loses more water at the higher altitudes of the Mono Basin. Experts recommend that you begin drinking extra water as you drive to higher elevation in order to prevent dehydration and headaches. Also, the sun is rather fierce at high elevations, capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat.

MEALS

The midday break will be the longest break on both days. Supplies for sack lunches can be obtained at the Mono Market, or you can use the break time to visit a local restaurant. On Saturday we will work until almost sunset to catch the beautiful light, so bring lots of snacks. Don’t forget—your hands will be dirty, so take that into account when planning your snacks.

TO BRING

Ane Carla will provide a gray-scale set of chalks, charcoal, and sanded pastel paper. You must bring your own set of pastels (a minimum of 36 colors, but the more chalks, the better) and any other art supplies you already own. *For a \$35 materials fee, Ane Carla will provide you with a set of 72 pastel chalks. *You must reserve your set ahead of time when you sign up for the class!*

- a set of at least 36 pastel chalks
- tablet of newsprint measuring 18" x 24"—you will be taping your paintings to this tablet
- 1 roll masking tape
- pencil & erasers
- 2" flat house-painting brush to brush off paintings
- a small hand mirror
- notebook for taking notes
- 1 small package of baby wipes for cleaning hands on location
- 1 favorite art book/scenic calendar/photograph to paint from in case of inclement weather
- folding chair (will be dragged about)
- canvas bag to hold all your things
- sun protection (sunscreen, sunglasses, hat—these are *essential*)
- insect repellent
- lots of water



Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

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