

Froggy SBS for airbrushforum

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whistlingtom

The final piece

Here, I tried to achieve a painting in less time than usual by working on a smaller clayboard of 9x7inch (18x24cm). Also, I skipped the tedious step of mixing all the colours in sufficient quantities before starting to paint. Instead of paying too much attention to colour accuracy, I quickly mixed the colours directly in the cup in very small amounts.



Tools

- a. For generating highlights, transitions and textures I have employed a scalpel, eraser pencils (soft, medium, hard), glass fibre pencils (2mm + 4mm) and an electric eraser:



Painting

1			<p>Colours used/mixed: Chrome dioxide Green Brilliant green Permanent Green Neutral grey Sepia brown Carmine red Violet</p> <p>Background: After having masked the frog and some leaves loosely with a printed paper mask, I sprayed the background free hand and with the help of some stencils. Highlights were erased with a soft eraser</p>
2			<p>Colours used/mixed: Sepia brown Burned Umber</p> <p>Branch: The fine structure of the branch was painted free-hand. In some cases a ripped paper helped creating uneven edges. Some highlights were erased.</p>
3			<p>Colours used/mixed: Sepia brown Burned Umber Brasil Chrome dioxide Green Sepia</p> <p>Branch: The depth of the branch was increased using mixes of brown and sepia. Some areas obtained a dust of Green. Highlights were erased back in.</p> <p>The frog was cleaned of green overspray using the glass fibre pen.</p> <p>Eyes: Basic structures were laid down with straight black.</p>
4			<p>Colours used/mixed: Sapphire Blue Cyan Purple Neutral grey Chrome dioxide Green Sepia</p> <p>Frog: Blue mix was applied to legs, belly and first texture was created with the glass fibre, eraser pen. Spots are achieved by dipping the electric eraser quickly onto the surface.</p> <p>Some areas are darkened and receive some purple</p>
5			<p>Colours used/mixed: Chrome dioxide Green Neutral Grey</p> <p>Frog: More textures are created with a dark green. Essentially, after each layer of paint I bring back up the textures.</p>
6			<p>Colours used/mixed: Permanent Green Sepia</p> <p>Frog: Multiple layers of permanent Green are applied in different intensities.</p> <p>Some details and green veins are applied freehand at low pressure and small distance to the surface</p> <p>Large reflection areas on the frog's back are brightened up using a soft eraser.</p>
7			<p>Colours used/mixed: Brasil Brown Burned Umber Sepia Dark red Sienna Permanent Green Orange Red Sunbeam Yellow Candy</p> <p>Frog's body Brown areas were shaded with dark brasil. The white pattern on the frog's belly and lower lip was adjusted by a very bright sienna. Areas of reflection were covered with very diluted permanent green.</p> <p>Frog's feet Fingers were defined with burned umber/sepia. After a first layer of orange/red and texturing, fingers were dusted with candy sunbeam yellow</p> <p>Final touch: I increase contrast where needed with neutral grey, dark green/sepia</p>

Conclusion

For a small painting like I found it appropriate to directly mix small amount of paint in the cup instead of spending many hours at achieving a high colour accuracy. The latter does not does not play such a big role with animals, I think, and one avoids wasting the surplus of paint. In total it took me 8 hours to finish this piece (preparation/background/branch:2h, Frog: 6 hours). Although airbrushing is no race, I am happy to see, that I become more efficient with time.

Hope this SBS helps a bit.

All the best

Thomas