

# Shapes, Colours and Stories

## Hudson River Valley Art Workshops

*Shapes are what we see, colours are what we feel, and stories are what we tell.*

### The Creative Journey:

- **Meet and greet and find a spot**
- **Look at the visual features that surround us and chat**  
Look at the big shapes, think about the colours and tones, and notice any patterns that jump out.
- **Find a subject and decide on the focus**  
Think about what might go in and what might stay out  
Think about the composition. Where will we begin? How does it relate to the page?

### 1. Outline

Focus on big shapes and talk about composition. Discuss the relationship between those first shapes and lines, and the edge of the page.

### 2. Big shapes

This adds realism and more information.

### 3. Watercolour

Discuss colour choice - local colour, emotional colour, technique and choice of brushes. Also what we don't paint is **SOOO** important!

### 4. Brush Pens

To add tone and depth to the composition, and also to calm down the colours.

### 5. Detail part 1

Looking for patterns and textures. Drawing inside the shapes and on top of the watercolour.

### 6. Detail part 2

Noticing and recording the little stuff.

### **Evaluate session and share experiences**

Give feedback   take photos   review what we have learnt

This creative journey, like any process, can be adapted, so we may return to painting at the end. We may also have a break in between. What's important is we learn and have fun in an exciting and visually dynamic environment, and at the end we produce a record of what we've been looking at.

## Supply list

1. Spiral Bound A3 Sketchbook 140lb HP or loose paper
2. Tombow Brush Pens – black and a range of greys, particularly the lighter greys – N15, N79, N89, N95, N60
3. Fine liner pens – from 0.1 – 0.8  
Pilot, Staedtler, Faber Castell, Derwent – any of these brands are fine.
4. Watercolour pan set– I use Winsor and Newton but any good brand will do

Selected colours include black, white, Prussian blue, ultramarine blue, winsor blue, cerulean, manganese blue, cobalt turquoise light, burnt sienna, raw sienna, burnt umber, alizarin crimson, transparent orange, cadmium red, indian yellow, magnesium brown, green gold, winsor violet

5. Watercolour brushes. I use the Pro Arte brand – variety of sizes from ¼ “and ½ “flats to 0 and 3 riggers.