



Community Outreach

Venice in a Limited Palette



Using only two colors, French ultramarine and raw sienna, the Oakland veterans created captivating and atmospheric artworks showcasing gondolas in the foreground and St. Peter's Square in the distant background. This exercise was inspired by Fiona Peart's book, *Thirty Minute Watercolours*.



Guided by Michael Friedland, the group began by painting a series of washes. Once dry they built up layers of color into smaller areas deepening the color and defining the composition. The blending of complementary colors produced a range of appealing neutrals, while the combination of raw sienna and French ultramarine created a striking interplay of warm golden tones and cool shadows. For the dark posts holding the gondolas in place, a thick mixture of French ultramarine and raw sienna was applied.



Although most veterans followed the group instructions, a few took inspiration from the project and approached their Venice paintings in their own unique way. Only one participant managed to complete the painting within the given thirty-minute timeframe. Overall, the entire group was pleased with their artwork and delighted to discover the potential of creating a complete piece using just two pigments.

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