



Kirtland Warbler- Lost Edges

With this first lesson we will paint the warbler with some simple tones and practice our lost edges. Lost edges give depth to the design. They are one of the most important tools we have as artists. The habit that many have is to paint the full shape of an object. You really don't need that. Look at this painting closely, where I just have some splashes of white petals you eye



will see a flower. We see this in nature everyday. You don't have to see the entire tree to know it is a tree. You don't have to see the entire rose to know it is a rose. The lost edge gives so much interest to the painting by letting each persons imagination finish the painting.

Paint fast, this take practice. You will see that I paint this lesson in about 90 minutes. Fast is important for casual. Many of my students desired to loosen up their brush and become more casual. Speed is a very important element in casual painting. Work fast, confident and let those edges be lost. This will take practice. This will take you painting many small compositions to loosen up and learn how to let some things go. This is a great design to start with. Casual bird and blossoms. Not too much details. Just work through the colors, practice using your finger and watch the consistency of your paint! Let's go!

Paint It Simply Palette

**Base Color- Medium White or White + touch
Black and Hansa Yellow**

Palette Colors

Paint It Simply Colors

Naphthol Red Light
Red Violet
Carbon Black
Phthalo Blue
Hansa Yellow
Titanium White

Additional Palette Colors

Pine Green
Burnt Sienna
Ultramarine Blue

Wood Surface

11 X 14 Wood or canvas panel



Step 1 Using a palette knife mix some Phthalo Blue with a little Red Violet to make more of a blue violet. Lighten with some white and thin with some Extender.



Step 2 Using the 3/4 inch brush go over the area of the bird and then just a few strokes in the lower left corner. Keep more opaque around the birds head.



Step 3 Mottle... not mix, some soft grey green with Pine Green, toned with Burnt Sienna and then softened with some sky color.



Step 4 Add to the area below the Warbler. Mottle the brush with some Hansa toned with touch Burnt Sienna and begin soft shapes for the blossoms.



Step 5 Use the corner of the fusion flat to make some stem movement with Burnt Sienna and Pine Green.



Step 6 Mottle Hansa Yellow with some Burnt Sienna and touch sky color to soften and begin breast of the Warbler.



Step 7 Mottle the Phthalo Blue with a little Red Violet, sky color and touch black or Burnt Sienna to tone. Keep the color mottled, don't over mix.



Step 8 Using the # 4 flat base in the wing and head with contour (shape) following strokes of blue. Let some streaks happen.



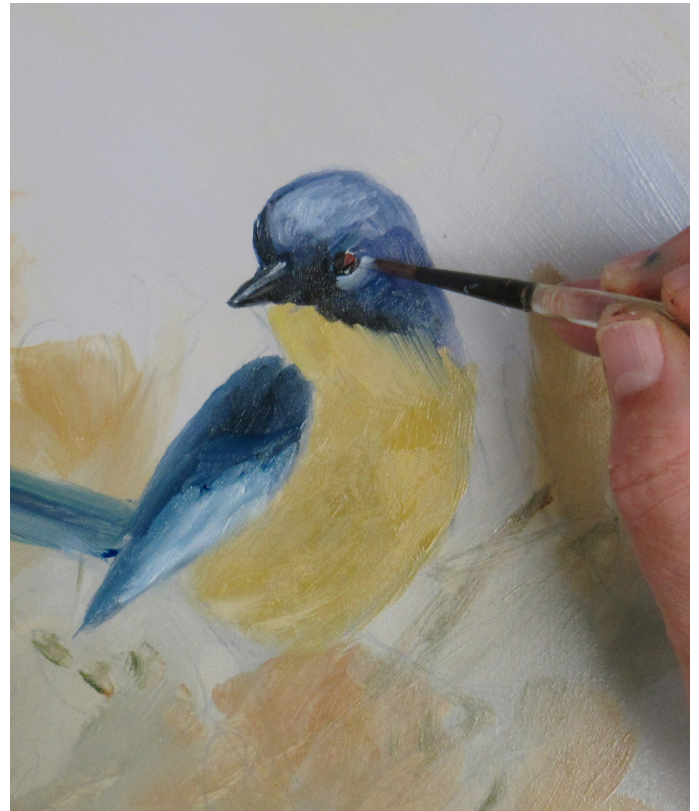
Step 9 Add some darker Phthalo Blue + touch black around the beak and then soften the color edge with your finger.



Step 10 Use a small flat or the round and add the beak with the blue and black. Lighten the blue with touch sky color and add the top of the beak.



Step 11 Mottle the blues with some additional light sky color and add some light strokes to the top of the head, following the contours of the head.



Step 12 Add the eye with some Burnt Sienna and then some black in the front. Lighten the blue with sky color and add a stroke below the eye for the lower eye ring.



Step 13 Tap a small highlight to the front of the eye and then make a smaller touch of dark under the eye to push the eye ring a little smaller.



Step 14 Add some additional darker strokes to the neck area with the #4 round and blue + black. Vary tones.



Step 15 Using the tip of the round and some black, make the spots to the Warbler. We will soften these later with some white. I usually paint back and forth.



Step 16 Add some streaks to the wing with the chisel of the flat or flatten the round and use it. Both work very well and you might want to do both.



Step 17 Mottle the brush with some Hansa and then toned with some Burnt Sienna. Add some various darker tones to the breast to mottle the colors. Vary the tones.



Step 18 Soften the color into the blue head. Not to much or you will make green.



Step 19 Mottle the brush with some Hansa to brighten the tone.



Step 20 Using the corner of the flat or the point of the round begin some lighter and brighter colors on the neck.



Step 21 Use the corner of the flat or the point of the round to add some dark blues streaking down and into the yellows.



Step 22 Lighten the Hansa with some white and add some smaller contour following strokes to the breast.



Step 23 Soften the yellows into the neck area.



Step 24 Mottle the brush with some darks and add some spots to the lower part of the body.



Step 25 Darken the blue with more black and add some smaller and darker spots to the body.



Step 26 Lighten the blues with some sky colors and add the streaks for the primaries and coverts. Add some of this color into the body to carry the color.



Step 27 Pick up some darker blues and negative paint the coverts and primaries to reduce the amount of light color. Leave some at the tips of the feathers.



Step 28 Mottle the brush with some yellows and soften the spots in the body.



Step 29 Mottle the brush with some Burnt Sienna and touch sky color to soften. Add some suggestions for the legs.



Step 30 Mottle Pine Green with some Burnt Sienna, Hansa, blues and whites to lighten. Make a soft medium green.



Step 31 Add some additional green into the center of the design and then use the chisel with some Burnt Sienna to add some more stems.



Step 32 Mottle the brush with some of the greys and greens from the palette and lighten with white and begin the daisies with some very casual strokes. Pull in and out with the strokes.



Step 33 Mottle the brush with some white and soften with some light sky color.



Step 34 Add some soft petals to the daisies in the back. Pull the strokes in and out for interest.



Step 35 Mottle the brush with the whites and add some strokes through the center to give the impression of more petals.



Step 36 Add some softer strokes to the petals in the back to suggest blossoms in the distance.



Step 37 Mottle the brush with some Hansa and some Burnt Sienna and using the corner of the brush add the centers to the blossoms.



Step 38 Add some additional white to the sides of the blossoms that are close to the center of the design. Pull out the outside ones to give some lost edges.



Step 39 Mottle the brush with some sky colors and add this to the insides of the blossoms to carry the color and lighten the feeling of the daisies blossoms.



Step 40 Pull some of the light blue in and out of the center to mottle the colors.



Step 41 Push in and out on the outside edges and soften the colors with your finger to create the outside lost edges of the blossoms.



Step 42 . Mottle the brush with some Hansa and touch Burnt Sienna and using the corner of the flat, tap in the centers to the daisies.



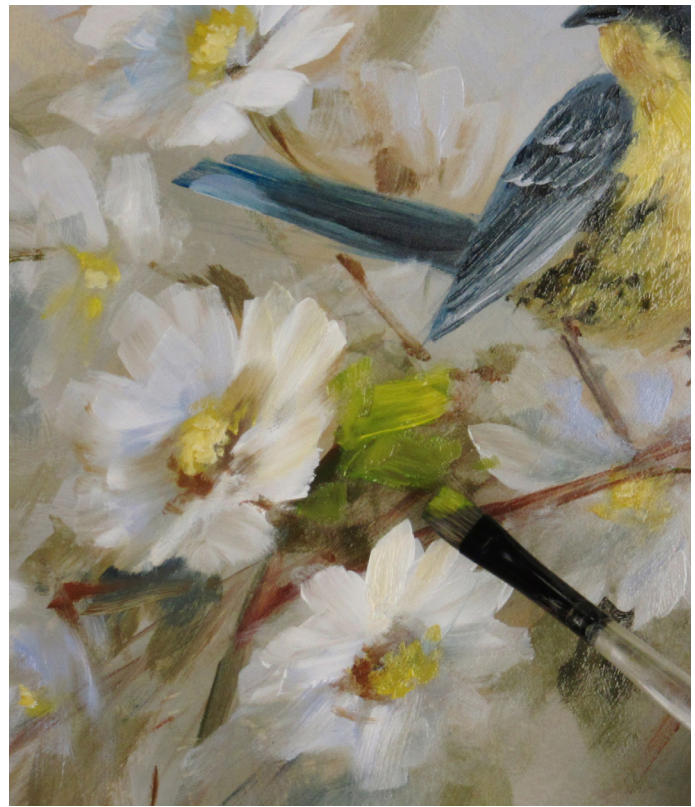
Step 43 Mottle the brush with a little Hansa and white and tap into the centers to make some lighter colors. Lighter on the center in the center of the design.



Step 44 Soften the edges of the yellow centers into the white petals with your finger.



Step 45 Add the soft blossom behind the centers one. Keep the colors a little darker and more toned to recede.



Step 46 Mottle the Pine Green a little lighter and brighter with more Hansa Yellow and add some brighter leaves into the center of the design.



Step 47 Mottle the black with a little sky color to soften and begin the shape of the bee. Soften with your finger and do again.



Step 48 I repeat the colors a few times to blur the edges and build the body. Keep soft.



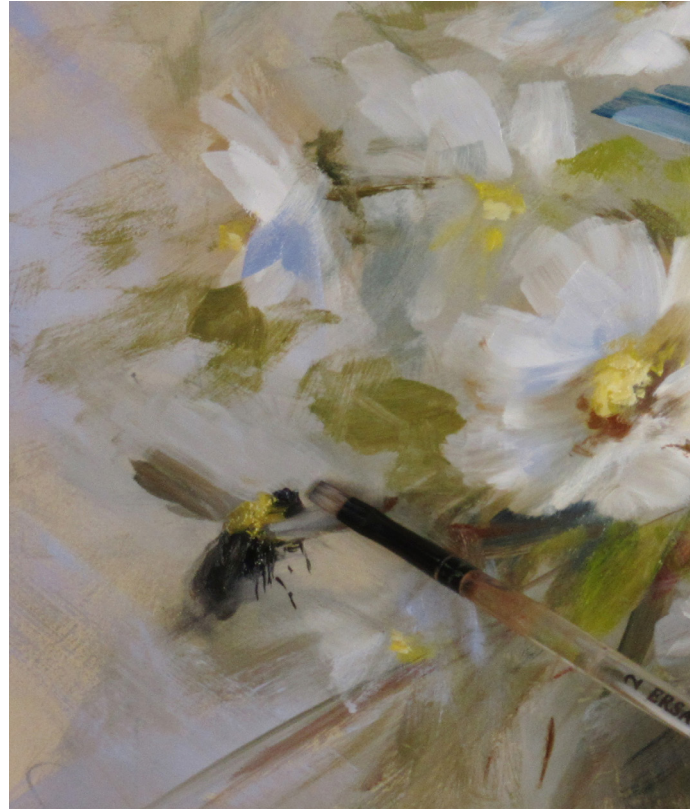
Step 49 Mottle the brush with some additional black and add in the center of the body. Add some toned yellow for the main part of his body.



Step 50 Using the corner of the round add some Hansa to highlight the body and then tap in the head of the bee with some black. Lost edges.



Step 51 Mottle a soft grey and add some sky color to soften. Add the wings and then push with your finger to soft the edges.



Step 52 Clean up around the bee with some sky color and then add the legs with the point of the round and black to finish. Enjoy!

Enlarge as Desired

Kirland's Warbler



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