

# Foundations of portrait drawing & painting

## MODULE 4: Beginning Portrait Painting

John Singer Sargent's portrait study of Rosina Ferrera (Capri Woman) is an excellent starting point for the beginning portraitist. It proffers a solid structure that is accessible to the beginner's understanding of facial form.

Having now acquired the skills of striking shape and fixing proportion you are now well equipped to venture into portrait painting in oil.

Mixing flesh tones is a large hurdle to cross. Hence, we'll begin with only four colors from which you will begin to master flesh tones.



### SUPPLY LIST:

Canvas or panel. I'm using a  $8 \frac{3}{4} \times 11 \frac{3}{4}$ " toned with an imprimatura of yellow ochre and a touch of vine black. See **401: Part 1: The arabesque**. You can also use a larger canvas or panel. i.e., 9 x 12 or 11 x 14"

Oil Colors: I strongly recommend using professional grade. Old Holland, Rublev and Williamsburg are excellent brands. Student grade pigments are a false economy, quite like bargain grade dish detergent. And the likelihood of color collapse is guaranteed.

You'll need: titanium/zinc white, yellow ochre, indian red, vine (or ivory) black.

A wood palette that has been well seasoned with cheap linseed oil.

Two palette knives

Linseed or walnut or poppy oil

Artist quality rectified turpentine

[If you are adverse to turpentine you can use painter's mayonnaise which is an emulsion of equal parts white vinegar, egg yolk and 20% linseed oil. Shake vigorously and store in the refrigerator. It will last about a week.]

A range of round and/or filbert bristle brushes. Every manufacturer has a different numbering system. Mainly, do not paint with overly small brushes. It is better to paint with a brush that is slightly larger than your comfort zone. My personal preference is the Escoda Classico chunking bristles.

Small glass jars or medium dippers

A measuring stick (knitting needle)

Cotton rags

A small level to ensure that your painting is square upon your easel.

## **MODULE 4: Beginning Portrait Painting**

Module 4 is comprised of twelve chapters. Four hours, forty minutes

Each chapter is numbered beginning with 401-MODULE-4-BEGINNING PORTRAIT PAINTING-Part-1-The arabesque This keeps everything in order so that you can readily match up the video lesson with the reference image.

Each lesson proceeds in numerical order. To wit: 401, then 402, then 403, etc.

I highly recommend keeping your downloads in a dedicated folder on your computer. It is also a good idea to back them up.

However, should your computer or tablet be traumatized and your files lost you can write me at ***michael-britton-workshops@artacademy.com*** and a fresh download link will be sent to you.

## THE LESSONS:

401-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 1: The arabesque. Running time: 31:44

402-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 2: Blocking-in. Running time: 33:13

403-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 3: Three half-tones. Running time: 07:30

404-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 4: The ebauche - window shading. Running time:

405-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 5: The ebauche - continues. Running time: 23:42

406-410-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING

Part 6: The Pentimento: Part 1 Running time: 30:47

Part 7: The Pentimento: Part 2 Running time: 09:28

Part 8: The Pentimento: Part 3 Running time: 31:14

Part 9: The Pentimento: Part 4 Running time: 33:06

411-MODULE-4-BEGINNING-PORTRAIT-PAINTING  
Part 11: The finire. Running time: 23:58

