

Expression in Oil & Cold Wax

MATERIALS LIST

Instructor: Jackie Kane

Welcome! I am thrilled to guide you through this upcoming dynamic and creative workshop. Cold wax is an incredibly freeing and tactile medium. While you may choose to work from your own ideas and/or reference photos, we will also be using the organic outlines and big shapes of the landscape—think horizon lines, paths, hills, and skies—as a structural springboard into gorgeous, texture-rich abstraction. We will explore the addictive process of building up thick "histories" on rigid panels, and then excavating them the following day to reveal unexpected, vibrant bursts of underlying color.

Please do not be intimidated by the lengthy Materials List, it's not really that much, there are a lot of descriptive details along with various options to choose from along with alternatives and recommendations.

Take a look at the Materials List below. You will notice that many of our best creative tools don't come from an art store—they come from your kitchen or the local dollar store! Look around your house for old credit cards, silicone spatulas, wide toothed combs, or anything that can drag a texture through paste.

Bring your favorite reference photos and/or creative ideas, and get ready to create your own personal masterpiece.

See you in the studio!

1. REQUIRED SUBSTRATES (BRING A SELECTION)

Because cold wax dries into a heavy, structural paste, flexible surfaces will crack if bent. **Stretched canvas and thin canvas boards are not suitable.** Please bring a selection of the following rigid surfaces. Smaller sizes ensure we can complete multiple layers within our workshop timeframe but feel free to work on one or two larger 11" X 14" or 12" X 16" solid substrates. Horizontal rectangles are best for those who want to try creating an abstract based on a landscape or sea scape reference. This will also be demonstrated.

- [Ampersand Gessobords](#): (Highly Recommended) **Bring 3 to 4 panels** in 6x6", 8x8", or 8x10" or one or two larger substrates such as 11" X 14" or 12" X 16". Feel free to mix sizes. Do not exceed 12"x16". These premium boards are pre-primed and ready to paint on immediately.

- **Cradled Wood Panels or Alternative Rigid Supports:** Small raw wood panels, sheets of copper, aluminum, or heavy mat board such as gatorboard are also acceptable. (NEED GESSO PRIMING)
- **CRITICAL NOTE ON ALTERNATIVE SUBSTRATES:** If you purchase raw cradled wood panels or unprimed alternative boards, **you must apply 2 to 3 thin coats of professional acrylic gesso at home prior to class.**
- Lightly sand between coats for a smooth finish (sponge sanding blocks in fine grit are great for this purpose and can be reused many times. Available at stores like ACE, DoltBest or HomeDepot). Raw wood or unprimed surfaces will absorb the oils completely out of your paint, ruining the chemical integrity and finish of the cold wax. (If you purchase Ampersand Gessobords, they are already factory-primed and ready to use immediately).

2. EASEL:

- **Portable stand or table top style.** Some will be available in studio. You may work on Studio table tops if you prefer.

3. REQUIRED PAINT & MEDIUMS

- **Traditional Artist-Professional Grade Oil Paints:** Bring a basic palette consisting of warm and cool primaries, plus a large tube of Titanium White. **Do not bring student-grade or craft-brand paints.** **Contact** jackiekanestudio@icloud.com **or 610-772-1198 if you prefer a list of specific paint colors.**
- *Important Paint Rule:* **No water-mixable or water-soluble oil paints.**
- **Cold Wax Medium:** (16 oz can) Gamblin or Dorland's cold wax

4. REQUIRED TOOLS & BRUSHES

- **Palette Knives:** Bring one or two stainless-steel, offset (cranked handle) palette knives in different blade sizes for creative effects and troweling structural layers.
- **MIXING Palette Knife:** You want a palette knife with a round tip SPRINGY (important for mixing) blade. Recommended: Royal & Langnickel High-Grade Steel Flexible Palette Knife, 3 in - \$8.22 on

AMAZON. Note: there is a set on Amazon that includes an assortment of palette knives AND various scrapers for \$9.99:

Painting Palette Knife - 5pcs Professional Stainless Palette Paint Knives With 6 Plastic Scrapers Art Paint Tool for Oil, Canvas, Acrylic Painting & Cake Decorating - AMAZON. While I strongly believe “you get what you pay for” especially in Art Supplies, even if some of these aren’t long lasting, for the price, it gets you an assortment of palette knives plus scrapers. Just another option.

- **Oil Painting Brushes (Bring Your Own Collection):** Bring your personal collection of oil painting brushes.
 - **Quality Rule: Avoid cheap craft-store or student brushes.** They drop hairs into the sticky wax, drag and lack the structural snap needed to push heavy mediums, compromising your painting experience.
 - **Instructor Recommendation:** If you want to add to your collection, I highly recommend **Rosemary & Co. Brushes.** Their synthetic **Ivory line** is a magnificent workhorse with a stiff snap, and their synthetic imitation Sable **Red Dot line**, while softer bristles, is perfect for soft upper glazes. To ensure quick shipping within the US, order them from their domestic distributor, [Wind River Arts](#).

5. PALETTE, PAPER and BOX

You will need a mixing surface such as a traditional palette or highly recommended:

- **GRAY MATTERS PALETTE PAPER** (avoid cheap brands including Blick’s brand as the paper is too flimsy) along with a:
- **Masterson’s Plastic Palette Box** (Blue lid for Oil paints - if you prefer Red, buy it and just remove the sponge that keeps acrylic paints moist.)
Purchase Paper Palette in size to fit Masterson’s Plastic Palette Box.

SAVE MONEY!: Buy Paper Palette in a size to fit a FREE Pizza Box. Ask price to purchase empty Pizza Box (size of your choice) for your Art Class, they will typically give them to you for free - BUT always purchase a Pizza FIRST! Otherwise be prepared to pay.

NOTE: Pizza BOXES are excellent for transporting paintings without damaging them or getting paint on your car interior. Various box sizes make them a great affordable OR FREE option!

6. SOLVENT-FREE CLEANUP SUPPLIES

- [The Masters Brush Cleaner & Preserver](#): (Cake or bar form)
- **Dawn Dish Detergent**: (Small bottle)
- *Studio Rule*: Traditional paint thinners and Odorless Mineral Spirits (OMS) are **strictly prohibited** in the classroom. All tools can be cleaned safely and effectively with Master's Brush Soap (non-toxic), Dawn dish detergent and warm water. Use of Warm water is important in melting the wax.

7. CREATIVE MARK-MAKING TOOLS (OPTIONAL BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

Cold wax responds beautifully to scratching and scraping.

(See AMAZON cheap set option ABOVE listed under **Palette Knives**.) Check your kitchen drawers or a local Dollar Store for these highly affordable, highly effective items:

- Silicone kitchen spatulas or bowl scrapers
- Expired credit cards or store gift cards (the absolute best tool for excavating layers)
- Pottery ribs, clay loop tools, old forks, wide toothed combs
- Soft rubber brayers (rollers)
- Oil pastels or oil sticks (e.g., Sennelier or R&F Pigment Sticks) for marks. Sennelier offers inexpensive trial sets of six in various color themes for about \$13.

QUESTIONS: Before or after registering: **Contact**
jackiekanestudio@icloud.com or **610-772-1198**