

## **Spring Trees!**

It's spring in New Jersey and things are blooming - it's beautiful! After all, New Jersey is known as the "Garden State." In this video we are going to paint a scene from the NJ State Botanical Gardens located in Ringwood, NJ.

We will paint a simple clear day sky with Cobalt Blue and Winsor Blue (green shade), use art masking fluid to paint a forsythia bush (and other other flowering trees) and paint with a fusion wash to generate a shapely Japanese Maple.

I hate art masking fluid because I once accidentally wrecked my treasured Swiss Army Knife when a broken bottle of the fluid spilled all over it. But, I have to admit there are times when it's useful, especially when painting spring blossoms.

After you finish your drawing, use art masking fluid to paint in the forsythia and other spring blossoms. Slightly soap up your brush before using the liquid latex and clean the brush every 5 minutes while working to prevent the latex from sticking to the brush hair.

### **Art Masking Tools Checklist**

Art Masking Fluid - choose either colorless or tinted (orange or yellow)

The Incredible Nib - used to apply the art masking fluid instead of using a good brush

Rubber Cement Pickup - use this to remove the dried masking fluid

We have a complicated landscape so let's keep the sky simple. - we either feature the sky or the landscape, but don't do both.

Progress the sky from dark to light as we go from the sky's apex toward the horizon. Progress the sky greenish blue (Winsor Blue green shade) to true blue (Cobalt Blue) as we go away from the sun. Don't stop painting the sky where the treetops end, paint right over them - don't worry the sky should be light enough so as not to influence the tree's colors.

Mass in the landscape starting with the pump house and Japanese maple. Let your washes fuse together and vary often. When you are finished massing in and the painting is dry, peel away the art masking fluid and carefully fill in the forsythia and other flowering trees.

Generate shadows and add additional texture. Think about a focal point for you painting - will be the pump house or the forsythia?

### **Colors for this painting:**

Cobalt Blue

Winsor Blue (Green Shade)

Winsor Violet

Permanent Magenta

Permanent Alizarin Crimson

Cadmium Scarlet

Cadmium Yellow

Cadmium Yellow Pale

Cadmium Lemon Yellow

Winsor Green (Blue Shade)

Ivory Black

