

## WEEK 3 - THE "VALUE" OF DESIGN

### **In this first week, you will:**

- Focus on Design and Value.
- Apply principles of design in your compositions: Create Variety and Hierarchy to create powerful images.
- Paint! Organize your shapes into groups of light and dark values.

### **WELCOME TO LEARNING TO SEE - WEEK 3!**

In Weeks 1 and 2, you learned how to design compositions and create scenes using thumbnails and combine references using organic perspective.

In Week 3, you will raise your thumbnails and compositions to the next level as you learn how to design your work with clarity by applying the principles of Variety, Value, and Hierarchy.

Whether abstract or representational, we want to establish some unity in our work so we can guide the viewer through the painting. This week we'll use Value to establish and maintain that clarity in our work. Value is one of the most difficult, and probably the least understood, elements of painting. Learning to See provides creative systems to simplify the application of Values in your work. Once you master the grouping of Values, and pair that with strong composition, everything else begins to fall into place.

Take your time this week. Play with the exercises multiple times. You'll discover that the spontaneity and freedom you're looking for in your work is right around the corner.

**STEP 1**      **Check your Supplies and Materials for this week** □

*These are recommendations – as always, use what you have as creative alternatives.*

- Sketchbook: Minimum size Inches 8 ½ x 12, Cm 22 x 28
- Pencils: F, H, HB, 2B, B
- Art Panels: Start with at least 2-3 panels this week.
  - Canvas boards, 8mm ( ¼”) plywood, Masonite or MDF (Must be gessoed before you use it).
  - SUGGESTED SIZES: Inches: 9x12, 12x12 or 16x20 (Cm: 22x30, 30x30 or 40x50)
- Depending on how you decide to transfer your design to your panels, you may need one or more of the tools discussed in Week-2: Use Transfer Paper, Light Box, Projector, or just Sketch your design freehand directly onto the panel!
- Gel Gloss Medium (Optional. Gabriel uses this in his demonstration in Lesson 5 to glue images to a panel.)
- Acrylic Paint (or your chosen alternative): Ivory Black and Titanium White
- Palette: For Acrylic paint, parchment paper over wet paper towels works well. It can be stored in a baking sheet or a Masterson Sta-Wet palette with a lid.
- BRUSHES : 3/4” bright (flat) and minimum 3 other filbert or flat brushes of smaller sizes (no smaller than a #3) I even like house paint brushes for big stuff.

**STEP 2**      Make sure you are logged in <https://8paint.net/classlogin>   
Go to your Course Dashboard and head to Week 3!

**STEP 3**      Watch all the lessons in the Week 3 class first and download all the handouts:

 Allow yourself about 2 hours to watch all of the Lessons this week.

**LESSONS**

☆      Introduction - The Value of Design

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1      Variety

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2      Hierarchy

**HANDOUT: Hierarchy of Design**

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3      Light and Dark

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4      Strong Shapes (Drawing)

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5      Grouping Your Values

**HANDOUT: Split Value Light and Dark**

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6      Re-establishing the Hierarchy

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7      The Value of Color Fitness

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8      Creating a Scene (Part 2, Continued from Week 1)

**STEP 4** Watch all of the lessons first! Then work on the Assignment(s)

- 1 **Hierarchy of Design Exercise, Lesson 2:** Put your new knowledge to work by completing the Hierarchy of Design Handout.
  
- 2 **Clarifying Your Design:**   
Use your black and white thumbnails or compositions as a jumping off point. Create a value study using light and dark groups of values. Organize your shapes. Keep the two groups of values separate as you compose and create your design.
  - Choose your compositions:** Choose one or more (as many as you would like) of your favorite designs from either your Week 1 thumbnails or Week 2 perspective scenes.
  
  - Transfer your design to your substrate:** You can use any method you choose to transfer your design (or paint freely without an outline). Use board, canvas, or any substrate that works for you.
  
  - Prepare Your Palette:** Using black and white paint, mix and organize your paint into groups of light and dark values. Your darks won't have pure black - and your lights won't have pure white. Refer to the Split Value Light and Dark Handout.
  
  - Start Painting!** Keep strong, simplified shapes in mind as you design. Use variety to create differences in scale, shape, and spacing. Build your compositions around the principle of Hierarchy. And - HAVE FUN!
  
- 3 **POST some of your work in the Learning to See Facebook Group!**

**STEP 5** Join the discussion in the Comments section under each of the Lesson videos! Ask questions and share your thoughts! Read what others are saying!

**STEP 6** Submit an image and question for adjustment.

Each student is invited to post one new image of their artwork-in-process in the **Week 3 Group Q&A Album** in our **Learning to See Facebook Group**. When asking a question, be specific.

"I'm lost, help!" doesn't give us any insight into the specific problem you are trying to solve.

**Submissions must be uploaded to the Group Album by Wednesday PST, to allow the team time to review them before the Friday Live Q&A call.**

You can still submit work in a Weekly Group album from a previous week's lessons. There is no falling behind. For example, if the Group album is in Week 6 and you are in Week 3, you can submit your Week 3 work in the Week 6 album. Everyone will be at different stages throughout the course. Work at your own pace – we will meet you wherever you are in your Learning to See experience.

*Please Note: As much as we would love to discuss every student's work in the calls, sometimes, not all artwork submitted for the Friday Live Q&A calls can be discussed live due to time constraints. However, you will still receive feedback in the form of comments in the Weekly Facebook Group Album.*

**STEP 7** Join the Friday Live Q&A Call at 10:30am PST

Gabriel and the 8paint team will field some of your questions that have come up over the week, walk through image adjustments and talk about what's coming up next.

You can join the call using the **Zoom** link (that will be in your email on Friday morning) or by watching the live stream in the **Learning to See Facebook Group**.

MY NOTES & COMMENTS for Week 3

**Questions that I encountered:**

**My key takeaways, discoveries and Ah Ha! Moments:**

**My goals moving forward:**