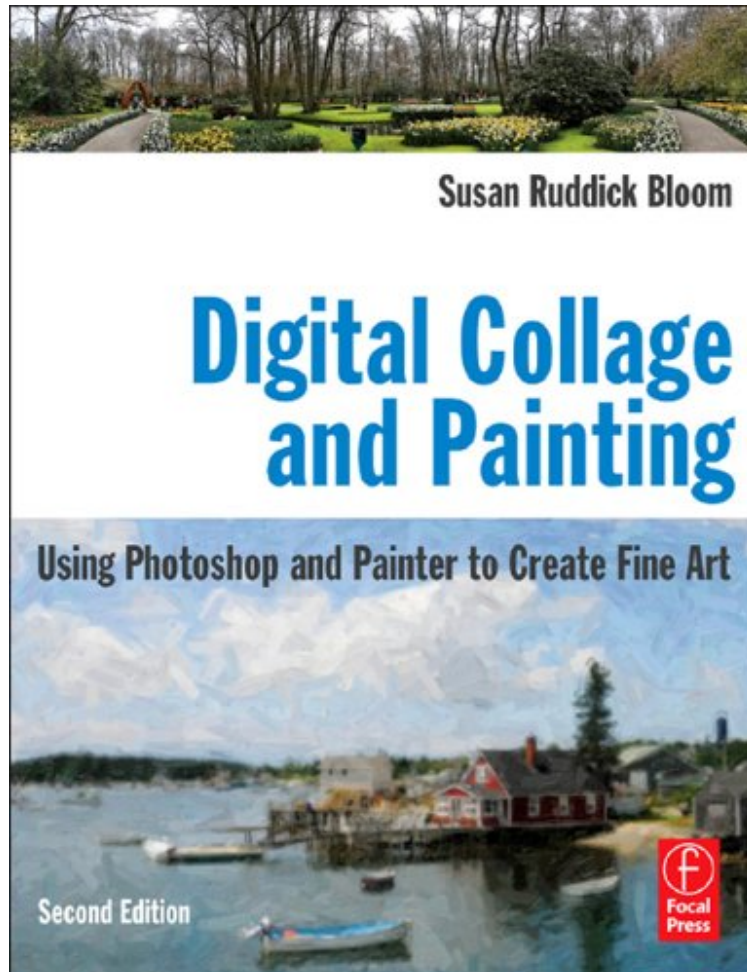


(Download pdf ebook) Digital Collage and Painting: Using Photoshop and Painter to Create Fine Art

Digital Collage and Painting: Using Photoshop and Painter to Create Fine Art

Susan Ruddick Bloom

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Susan Ruddick Bloom : Digital Collage and Painting: Using Photoshop and Painter to Create Fine Art before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Digital Collage and Painting: Using Photoshop and Painter to Create Fine Art:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Everything was dandy. By chkmtn The book arrived on time and as described in the notice. It is virtually a new book and I put it to work immediately creating digital art. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Beyond my wildest expectations. By tachi11 I am both impressed and overwhelmed by the amount of pertinent and useful information in this book. Every topic, chapter, and section is important--no filler, no repetition, nothing necessary left out, nothing unnecessary thrown in. How my opinion dovetails with yours depends on the commonality of our experience and our intended purposes for getting this book. I am, primarily, a photographer both for business and pleasure. I am very competent in the use of Photoshop, and just got Painter as a

Christmas gift (two weeks ago). I wish to start turning some photos into illustrations (line drawings, soft images, collages) but for my own use and pleasure, not for commercial purposes or public display. After seeing the book, I might (later) be seriously tempted to go beyond that, but there are so many options, so many styles, so many directions I would want to take that I'm overwhelmed by the choices. However, while the book is not intended for beginners, a beginner who is familiar with at least one of the programs isn't going to find it difficult to wade right in and tackle a project. It's just a question of finding a simple one that applies to the type of photography you have in your collection. I have to add that having a certain amount of artistic eye, skill, and background would be a big help because these projects cannot be approached in a purely mechanical way, regardless of how well you use Photoshop, Painter, or the additional programs, plug-ins, filter and action packs mentioned. The book merely provides the techniques, methodology, and inspiration. Every step is amazingly well explained and illustrated. (Although it isn't done in the usual tutorial style so common for software users: numbered steps, captioned screen shots, the "recipe" laid out in sequence.) There are some more structured sections but, by and large, this is a purely narrative style in long blocks of paragraphs, as if you were learning with the teacher seated next to you and explaining as you go. This requires reading the entire section before you start, wrapping your head around the general theory, adding post-it tabs and highlighting the parts you need to pay attention to, and starting your project. I think that, for this type of photographic project, it's actually the ideal teaching method to use because it explains what you absolutely need to know, then lets you implement the idea your way. I see absolutely no negatives in this book. It is clearly and intelligently written and well edited and organized. The content is fascinating, from the detailed and informative artist interviews to the full spectrum of styles and options offered to create art and collage based on photographs. I would have enjoyed reading it and learning from it just for the pleasure of it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully written, visually beautiful, and very comprehensive book on using Photoshop and Painter to create digital paintings. By f?Ž?Yuml; ??ge;?? hearts;???????????? Fuzzy Wuzzy's Summary:???? Recommended with warm fuzzies! Susan Ruddick Bloom's second edition of this thick (almost 600-page) tome is packed with information on using Photoshop and Painter to transform your photos into images that look like fine art paintings, pastels and sketches, and innovative collages, montages, and assemblages that often look surreal with the final constructed images. First of all, I should mention that this book is targeted at the intermediate to advanced users of Adobe Photoshop and Corel Painter software. There is no introductory hand-holding that gently leads you into the basic usage of both software's features. There are plenty of beginner-level Photoshop books that you can read to get acquainted with Photoshop before referencing the workflows in this book. I consider myself to have solid intermediate-level skills with both Photoshop and Painter. But when I started out using Painter 11 two years ago, as a very advanced serious-amateur photographer using Painter for the first time, I bought Martin Addison's excellent book Painter 11 for Photographers: Creating painterly images step by step that helped me out considerably to effectively navigate through workflows. Martin has since updated his book for Painter 12: Painter 12 for Photographers: Creating painterly images step by step. But assuming that you are familiar with the features and tools of Photoshop and Painter, this book presents a multitude of workflows, ideas, and inspirations for transforming your photos into images that really look like photos of fine art paintings. The book begins with a discussion of factors and variables that you should consider when working with photos and deciding which ones to create digital paintings with. This is followed by a Chapter 3 called "Inspiration" where 20 digital artists were invited by Susan to submit one of their digital works, and each artist describes the equipment, workflows, and creative process that they used to create the images. The variety of approaches used by these artists shows just how much power and flexibility you can have in altering and morphing your photos. Chapters 4 and 5 cover the main topic of transforming your photographs into digital paintings using Photoshop and Painter, respectively, while Chapters 6 and 7 discuss creating digital collages/montages/assemblages using Photoshop and Painter. While Painter is better and more powerful and flexible than Photoshop for creating digital paintings, Photoshop is far better than Painter at slicing and dicing photos for assembling collages. The book ends with chapters discussing the photographing of overlapping images for panoramas, using Photoshop filters to achieve different effects, and a very useful, albeit brief, Chapter 11 lists "Essential Photoshop and Painter Techniques To Master". While Chapter 11 mentions that you should master the use of layers and curves in Photoshop, if you are not that familiar with these two aspects, then you really need another book or resource that covers these Photoshop topics fully. My one main gripe with this book involves its layout, and this is the only reason why I rate it 4 stars instead of 5, but I feel that this book's usefulness is reduced due to its page layout enough to warrant a 1-star downgrade. Nearly every page in the book includes a "sidebar" column that occupies about one-third of the page space. This sidebar is just used to display the captions for the numerous images and screenshots that are included on just about every page. Along with these figure captions, there are a large variety of inspirational quotes from artists, authors, and poets that are really fun to read. I really like how Susan includes these inspirational quotes on art, color, design, and the creative process throughout the book. However, with only a few brief figure captions and a single quote being inserted into each sidebar that occupies the outer one-third column of most pages, there is a lot of blank space on each page. All of the blank unused (and wasted) space on the pages would not be an issue, normally, other than resulting in a thicker-than-necessary book, but the screenshots of the Photoshop and Painter examples are all way too tiny to see what

settings are being used. Some of the settings and numbers that are being used in the screenshot are barely discernible only if I squint hard, but with most of the screenshots, I cannot tell what values and numbers are being used for important settings like 'Opacity' or 'Saturation'. The book's text mainly describes WHAT tools are being used, but it would be really helpful to the reader to see HOW the tools are being used with their settings on these numerous screenshots. I think that the book could maintain the same number of pages by increasing the size of the screenshots by at least 20% or 30%, putting the figure captions underneath each figure instead being positioned in their own spacious sidebar column, and placing the quotes either inserted within each page or at the bottom of pages in a footer section. Hopefully, the next third edition of this book can include larger screenshot images. Overall, this is a great inspiring book that will give you lots of ideas on using Photoshop and Painter to make your photographs look like fine art paintings. You do not need to know how to draw or paint to take advantage of these techniques, but you do need at least an intermediate level of expertise with the software to make full use of the processes that are described.

If you already know your way around Photoshop and Painter and want to use these amazing programs to take your skills further, this book is for you! Much more than a simple "how-to" guide, Susan Ruddick Bloom takes you on a full-fledged journey of the imagination and shows you how to create incredible works of fine art. Supplemented by the work of 20+ world renowned artists in addition to Sue's own masterpieces, you'll learn how to create watercolors, black and white pencil sketches, texture collages, stunning realistic and fantastical collages, and so much more, all from your original photographs. If you are eager to dive into the world of digital art but need a refresher on the basics, flip to Sue's essential techniques chapter to brush up on your Photoshop and Painter skills, and you'll be on your way in no time. Whether you're a novice or an established digital artist, you'll find more creative ideas in this book than you could ever imagine. Fully updated for new versions of Painter and Photoshop and including brand new work from contemporary artists, Digital Collage and Painting provides all the inspiration you need to bring your artistic vision to light.

Bloom's Digital Collage and Painting giveaway on AdvancedPhotoshop.com About the Author Susan Ruddick Bloom is a Professor of Art and Chair of the Department of Art and Art History at McDaniel College in Maryland. She has a BFA and an MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and is well known for both her traditional wet darkroom alternative processes and her digital darkroom work. Sue has been teaching digital classes since the beginning of Photoshop and has used a Mac from the very first one on the market (128K, with a screen the size of an index card). Trained in drawing, painting, and printmaking, she was at one time a courtroom artist for television and newspapers. Her painterly skills enhance her photographic ones, and her images frequently combine techniques. Sue's work has been exhibited and collected widely.