

Cindy Briggs 2026 Watercolor Supply List & Tips



Let's get you started right. As you see on the left, this is all you need for most of my online, studio and plein air workshops. **You are welcome to substitute your own supplies and use what you may already have.** I recommend specific tried and true quality brands in bold because they are worth it. You will have a much better experience with quality art supplies. Most supplies are available online and/or at your local art store.

WATERCOLOR PAPER - 140# Cold Press

Arches, Fabriano or Dick Blick 140 lb cold press watercolor paper in single sheets, block or a watercolor journal. The Canson watercolor journal is okay, my favorite sketchbook is the etchrlab.com Signature Series 2025. For online workshops I often use an 8x10 Fabriano Studio Watercolor Pad with 25% cotton is reasonably priced (shown above) for Quick Sketch and small paintings, for most 8x10 paintings I often use 100% Cotton Fabriano Cold Press Extra White Paper. It's up to you, just invest in good paper it will make a difference. While I demonstrate approximately a 6 x 8 to 8 x 10 painting size, you can paint whatever size you wish. Postcards will even work. Paper with cotton percentage not listed is manufactured, cheap, and can be harder to paint on.

WATERCOLOR BRUSH

Dynasty Black Gold Quill Brush size 2 and/or 0 (similar to a size 8 to 10 round brush) This is the best brush I've ever worked with!!!! It holds the paint well, has a great point and is under \$20. Get 5% off your entire order from www.TheBrushGuys.com, enter code: cbriggs You can find me in the Teachers section and find all my brushes in there. If the Quill suggested is unavailable - the Dynasty Black Gold 206R or Utrecht 6150-R in size 12 is okay **or the Rosemary Series 304** available in Europe and some US sites - is a new favorite. Avoid a floppy Quill Brush, you want a brush that holds water well, bounces back and has a nice point. One really good round will do and most of my Dynasty brushes are approx. \$10 to \$20.

WATERCOLOR PALETTE & PAINT

Choose a Watercolor Palette with a lid, generously squeeze in your watercolor tube paints & **let fully dry** a few days before painting. I use a **Mijello or Heritage Artist Palette 18 color wells or similar**. My select list of suggested colors is provided on the next page for your convenience. For this workshop you could get by with whatever colors you already have or even just the 4 colors listed on the next page. Note: If the colors don't mix well on your palette, try rubbing the white mixing surface with Mr. Clean Magic Eraser - also great for cleaning your palette.

PENS & PENCILS

Mechanical Pencil .7 and a Kneaded Eraser (your pencil eraser leaves fibers and bruises the paper.) For my Quick Sketch and Journaling classes I use the Faber-Castell Artist's Pen. 0.3 XF or Small Point in Black, Sepia or Sanguine. An extra fine point Sharpie will do. Other brands: Rotring and Micro-line are great brands of waterproof markers too.

WATERCOLOR Miscellaneous

Water Bucket, Paper Towels or Travel Towel, Holbein Squirt bottle or other small squirt bottle for spritzing your paint. White Artist's tape or Holbein Soft "Nitto" Tape may be used. Mr. Clean Magic Eraser (sponge or sheet/no soap version). **For masking fluid, I like the Fine line Masque Pen.** Sometimes I use plastic stencils with Mr. Clean to lift out patterns in specified classes.

Note: You can always use your own related reference photos in my classes. If you have any questions feel free to email me at CindyBriggsArt@gmail.com and/or visit www.CindyBriggs.com



^Cindy Briggs 4-Color Palette
 *Cindy Briggs 9-Color Palette
 Cindy Briggs 18-Well Color Palette

DANIEL SMITH EXTRA FINE WATERCOLORS

You can use similar colors in professional grade watercolors such as Windsor-Newton, Holbein, Cheap Joes. The watercolors come in a tube and you squeeze the paint in generously a few days before class or travel so they are mostly dry. Colors listed in order of placement in palette above from right to left like a color wheel. If you have a limited budget you can use my 4 color palette in [COLOR](#). Or my underlined 9 Color* [palette](#). Any colors you already have will be fine. Lavender is my "Magic" color.

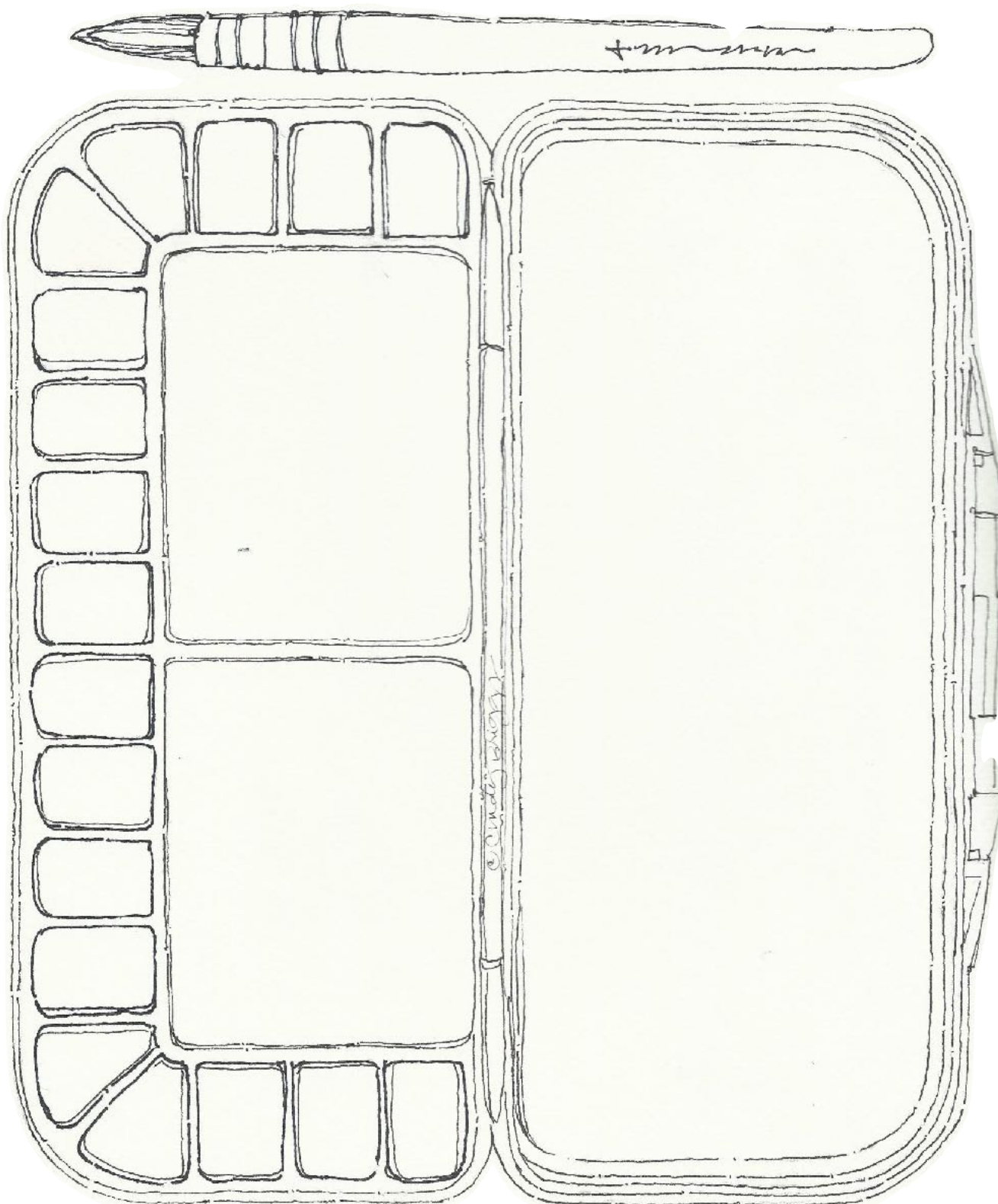
- [Lemon Yellow](#)^ - primary color - cool yellow mixes well with most colors
- **New Gamboge** - a warm sunny yellow, love it for sunflowers
- **Naples Yellow** - a warm creamy sunny yellow used on European Walls, sand & in portraits
- **Yellow Ochre** - warm earthy yellow great for landscapes and portraits
- **Quinacridone Gold*** - warm glowing yellow mixes well with greens and roses
- **Permanent Brown*** - warm earthy rich red brown, add some blue to mix Burnt Sienna
- **Pyrolle Orange** - warm color that I often drop into shadows for reflective light
- **Cadmium Red Hue*** - warm traditional red - hue means it doesn't have cadmium in it.
- [Quinacridone Rose](#)^ - cool red primary color that mixes well with other colors
- **Rose of Ultramarine** - interesting violet that separates and creates unique effects
- **Lavender** - amazing color for shadows, French shutters, I use it in most of my paintings
- **Cobalt Blue*** - cool blue for skies and sometimes in shadows
- **Ultra Marine Blue** - traditional blue
- [Phthalo Blue Green Shade](#)^ primary cool blue - mixes well with other colors
- **Cobalt Teal Blue** - cool opaque blue that you can drop in for a surprise accent
- **Green Apatite Genuine*** - earthy warm green, add Quin. Gold to make Rich Green Gold
- **Phthalo Yellow Green** - sunny green used where the sunlight hits trees, plants, etc
- [Neutral Tint](#)^ - MIX with all your colors for rich darks and neutrals.

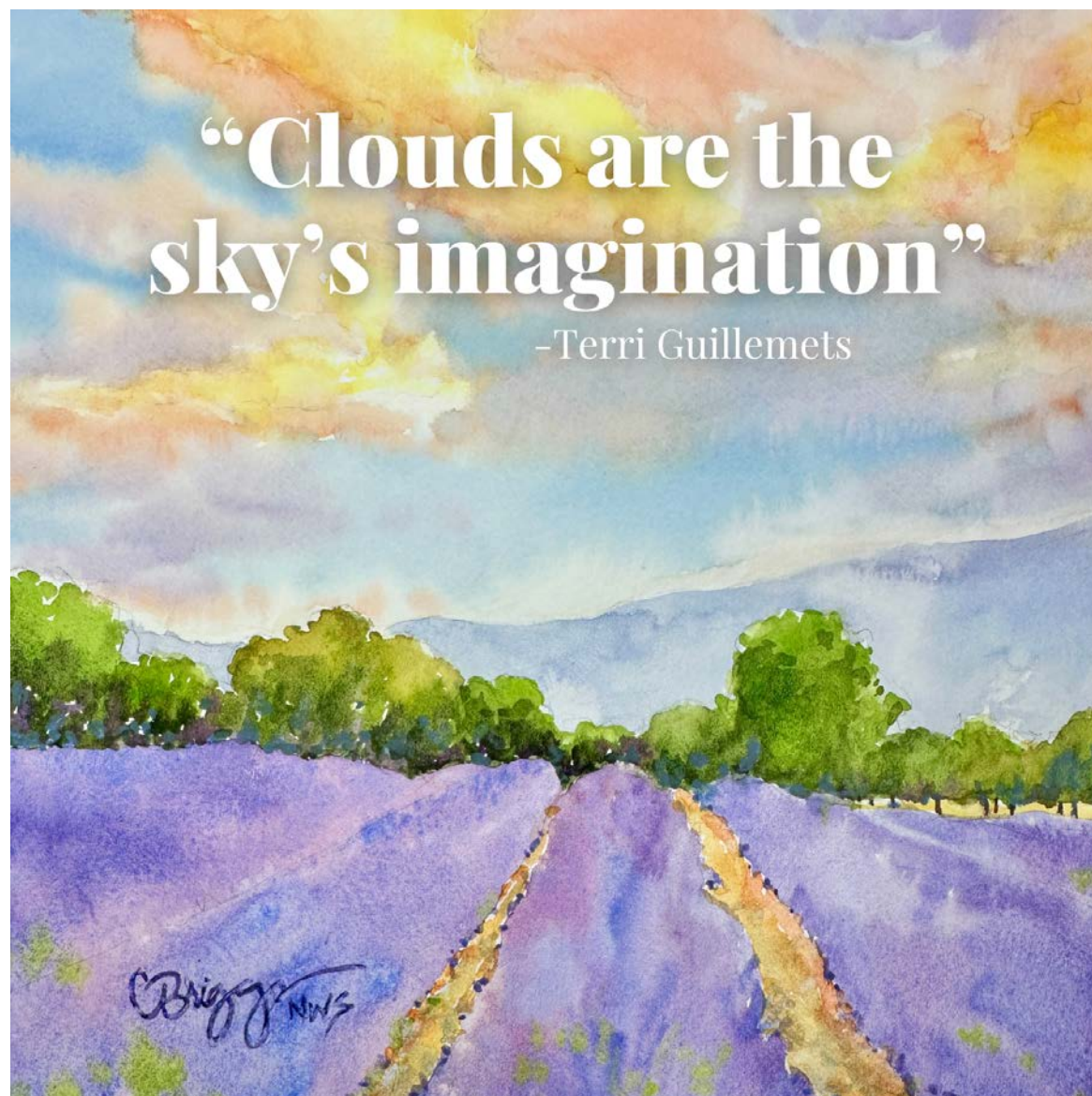
FYI Optional: Only used fresh out of the tube: Titanium White, Buff Titanium. Mix with other colors create more opaque colors. Buff is a warm off-white great for sand and European walls, etc. Lunar earth is nice for "Zion" and related subjects.

Cindy Briggs
FINE ART

18-Well Palette Map

Bonus: Trace onto watercolor paper then paint in your own colors. It's a good idea to know your color arrangement.





You are invited to visit my website at

www.CindyBriggs.com

and subscribe for a free lesson video, tips, and invitations to workshops, online programs and painting trips throughout Europe.

Any questions? Email me at

CindyBriggsart@gmail.com

Cindy Briggs FINE ART