

# Park Hill Art Club workshop

Watercolor with Randy Hale - December 5th - The Art Gym

## A SNOWY WINTER LANDSCAPE

### Today's "Take-Aways" — for **BOTH** Painting Exercises

- ☑ Working wet-in-wet — both with **landscape elements** and **architectural shapes**
  - ☑ Soft feathery edges
  - ☑ Adjusting amount of **water-to-paint** on **brush** when painting into wet surfaces vs onto dry surfaces
- ☑ Planning & Preserving white paper for negative shapes
- ☑ Knowing when to have well-defined edges vs soft or lost edges
- ☑ Deciding when and where to emphasize value contrasts - should be around center-of-interest vs out nearer edges of composition (farther away from focal point)
- ☑ Color choices
- ☑ How to create atmospheric effects - falling snow, rising mist or blowing snow

### DEEP FROZEN REFLECTIONS

- **Winter water** - *darkest of darks to create value contrast next to snow covered ground*
- **Distance** - *use wet-in-wet applications; softer edges; suggest shapes, don't define!*
- **Middle ground or closer** - *use dry brush; create harder edges where you want viewer to "look;" value contrast tells your viewer where they are supposed to LOOK!*
- **Reflections** - *are always vertical, should be looser, more fluid, not hard-edged. introduce subtle echos of local color, little jewel-tones or pops of color appear in reflections.*



**STEP ONE:** wet paper, lay in soft subtle undertones, sky, distant shapes - all SOFT

**STEP TWO:** Lay in some far distant tree shapes while paper is still damp. Introduce some darker pigments that are juicy, saturated tree shapes. BENEATH these distant darks on the horizon, drop in some clean water from the end of your brush. The water will repel the darker pigment creating soft feathery blooms reminiscent of rising mist or blowing snow.

**STEP THREE:** Thoroughly DRY the paper. Then using dry brush, apply pigment shapes of middle distance tree groves. Let some clean water react with the rich darker pigment to create lost edges, lighter values within tree shapes.

**STEP FOUR:** Define river with dark wet shapes - PROTECT the WHITE snow fields. Leave some dry splotches of white paper in a few places within the wet reflections of the river. As reflections run vertically, drop in some jewel-tone colors (orange, teals, burnt Sienna - these warm hints within the cold darks will provide relief, a balance between dominant cool and hint at local color).



## Second Painting Exercise - SNOW BARN

We will make this a little more interesting by choosing to add some pops of jewel-tone color within the barn siding (much like we did with the water in our previous exercise).

We will create the illusion of distance with soft wet-in-wet background shapes, barely visible

We will protect the snow-covered rooftop as a negative shape, but create some strong value contrast between snowy surfaces and the darks of the barn's siding.

You will add some "falling snow" that's visible against the darks of the barn siding using a fine spray of white gouache - toothbrush and rigger splatter.

**Small value study -**  
*a small thumbnail sketch will help you determine the best scale & placement on your paper*





## Step-by-Step process: Painting Snowy Winter Barn



### Step One -

Protect foreground and dominant barn shape... keep the fence, foreground & barn dry white paper.

Wet the sky and background

Mix up sedimentary pigment colors for sky and distant tree shapes - soft, simply suggested shapes.



### Step Two -

Dry background and sky.

Paint in barn's siding using wet flat brush. Keep rinsing and switching between warm and cool color choices. Let colors bleed one into the other.

Leave some flecks of dry white paper exposed at the bottom where there is some snowcapped vegetation.

Protect the rooftop - keep it a dry white negative shape.



### Step Three -

Add soft washes and glazing into foreground.

Add definition to siding, hayloft opening, planks. Pole & wires.

Soften snow covered rooftop shape with a subtle glaze (don't leave just plain white negative shape).



### Step Four - Finished Painting

Decide if you need to darken any of the glazes.

Use a misting bottle to soften any glazing in foreground.

Mix up some white gouache on a piece of scrap paper and work it into a tooth brush. Lightly splatter a film of white falling "snow" over dark areas.