After Elisabeth-Louise Vigée Le Brun

Portait of Marie Gabrielle de Gramont
Portrait of Marie Gabrielle de Gramont

Surface
Portrait grade 20” x 22” portrait grade canvas.

Transfer Information
Transfer the design to the surface with gray graphite.

Palette Set up and mixing
The original piece was painted with Genesis Heat Set Oils. There is a conversion chart included if you care to use traditional oils.

| TW: | Titanium White |
| Y:  | Genesis Yellow |
| R:  | Genesis Red    |
| O:  | Orange (or mix R + Y) |
| QC: | Quinacridone Crimson |
| UB: | Ultramarine Blue |
| RS: | Raw Sienna     |

Mona Lisa Paint Thinner

Mixing Formulas
Formulas for mixing is given throughout this lesson. You will find that the mixes for the hue are given first. This is followed by a colour that will raise or lower the value. Once the value and colour are mixed, the next addition usually is meant to either brighten or dull the colour. Finally, a colour may need to be mixed into the pile that will adjust the temperature.

<table>
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Archival</th>
<th>Winsor &amp; Newton</th>
<th>Genesis</th>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Soft Titanium White</td>
<td>Titanium White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Cadmium Yellow Mid</td>
<td>Cadmium Yellow Pale</td>
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<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>QC or RV</td>
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<td>Alizarin Crimson</td>
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<td>UB</td>
<td>Ultramarine Blue</td>
<td>Ultramarine Blue</td>
<td>Ultramarine Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>BU</td>
<td>Burnt Umbre + R</td>
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<td>RS</td>
<td>Raw Sienna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blk</td>
<td>Mars Black</td>
<td>Ivory Black</td>
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<td>PB</td>
<td>Cerulean Blue</td>
<td>Cerulean Blue</td>
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<td>NY</td>
<td>Naples Yellow</td>
<td>Naples Yellow</td>
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<td>Olive Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>PG</td>
<td>Pthalo Yellow Green</td>
<td>Cadmium Green Pale</td>
<td>UB + Y + W</td>
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Stage One:

**Sepia Underpainting**

Review sepias underpainting segment on the video as this is your best reference. It will help train your eye.

Start with a white, primed canvas. Thin a mixture of BU + a small amount of Black with Paint Thinner. It should be thin enough that you can draw on the canvas. Paint in the dark sections of the canvas such as the lower left of the dress, the dark upright of the step and shadow work.

If a section becomes too dark, load a brush with Paint Thinner and scrub out the light sections.

Wash the flesh sections in with a very light value. This is the lightest section of the entire piece. Darken the outside edges of the arms and each finger and palm. Add a dark value in the eye sockets, under the chin, and nostril opening. Add a darker value to define the cheek/nose area.

The painting must be dry prior to moving to the next stage.

**Stage Two: Color Wash**

Wash each object with the colors listed. This is a transparent layer so as to begin to bring the objects to their local color. Thin each color with paint thinner so that the sepias underpainting glows through.

- Wash the **bows, skirt and peaches** with Red
- Wash the **bodice** with Blk
- Wash the **flesh** tones with Medium Flesh tone (see next page)
- Wash the **green basket leaves** with Y + B
- Wash the **straw hat and basket** with RS
- Wash the **grapes** section with QC + UB
- Wash the **sky section** with PB

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**Face, Hand and Feet**
Block in the face with the flesh tones without blending as shown on the placement guide sheets. Use a soft brush to create a smooth appearance. Block out the sepia tones underneath. Ignore details such as the eyes, mouth, nostrils, etc.

Blend the values together slightly. While blending, keep the brush half on one value and half on the other value. Blend using virtually no pressure. Just melt the sections together. All sections will be reinforced when dry.

**Flesh Tones**
- Medium: TW + R + Y + RS
- Light: Medium + TW + Y
- Highlight: Light + TW
- Dark: Medium + RS + Violet
- Low Dark: Dark + BU + Violet
- Reinforcing Dark: Burnt Sienna or BU + R

**Hair**
Add the hair with BU + Black. Keep it loose and not solid.

**Mouth Stage One**
Base lips in with Medium Flesh + R. Add light with WW. Add teeth with mid-value
Eyes Stage One (review step sheet and video)

Eyes Nose One (review video)

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Kingslan & Gibilisco Publications © 2010
Portrait of Marie Gabrielle de Gramont
Hat and Basket

Light: WW  
Medium: RS  
Dark: RS + BU  
Low Dark: BU  
Reinforce: BU + Blk

Dress

Base bodice with Black. Add highlights with Blue Tint (PB + TW)

Base skirt with Red. Add folds with QC. Add highlights with Orange.
Table Top
Mix the following values (see swatches below).

Medium: TW + PB + RS + Y
Light: Medium Mix + TW + Y
Dark: Medium Mix + Blk

Under the Table
Base with BU. Shade with Blk

Basket
Base with RS. Shade with BU. Add BU and Green in negative spaces. Highlight with YT (Y + TW) to create the look of the weave.

Repaint background with PB + BU + TW.
**Fruit**

Grapes: Base the right grapes with UB + QC and left grapes with QC + UB. Highlight with BT in the upper left. Add pass through light in the lower right section using a variety of tints such as Orange Tint and Yellow Tint.

Peaches: Base with Red and Red Orange. Add YT in the light section. Strengthen dark area with QC.

Leaves:
- Medium: TW + Blk + Y
- Light: Medium + TW + Y
- Dark: Medium + Blk

Add accents of Orange, BU, RS, QC

**Hands and Arms**

Repaint the arms and hands using the original flesh tones. Reference photos for placement.
Scarves, White behind Bows and Cuff

Base scarf in with mid-value gray wash. Create folds with a sparse amount of Blk. Add a variety of highlights with WW, BT, OT.

Bows on Shoulder

Base with Red. Shade with QC then Violet. Add Highlight with WW and/or BT.

Finish up Work

- **Hat**: Shade the hat with BU and then with BU + Blk. Add highlights with WW.
- **Hair**: Place with BU + Blk. Shade with Black and highlight with BT.
- **Face and Hands**: Strengthen all sections with original colors.
- **Scarf and Sleeve**: Drag WW, BT over the top of the highlight sections.
- **Bows**: Add highlight again with BT/WW. Shade again with Violet.
- **Fruit**: Add highlights and pass through light again.
- **Leaves**: Find edges with tints of the colors from the rest of the composition.
- **Basket**: Add highlights with YT. Reinforce darks with BU. Glaze left side with Blk + BU.
- **Shadow**: Add first with thinned down Blk. Reinforce with opaque Blk.
- **Skirt**: Add highlights with Orange and Shade with Violet

See closeups on the following pages for more information.
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How to paint an eye in oil step-by-step:

1. Plot out positioning of eyes.

   - How eye is positioned in the head.
   - Eyes are one eye width away from each other. The width of a head is usually five eyes across.

2. Paint in pupil with black. Must be round and in the center of the iris (colored portion of eye). Next add the pupil of the iris is perfectly round and is surrounded by a dark ring. Use BU + RS, UB for eye color.

3. Add highlight of WL in the upper left of the iris and pass through light in the lower right. Eliminate any upper build to WL. Reverse these lights if using an upper light source. This highlight stays as a "spark" of iris color. Reinforce as necessary.

4. Add last line to the upper lid. Use black and extend beyond the outside corner of the eye. This last line should hide part of the eye. The highest part of the eye is directly above the pupil.

5. Add shade from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye. Add final highlight from lid and lashes onto the eye.

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