

The Art Sherpa Presents
Acrylic August-Day 17
Autumn Bridge

Bridge Over Autumn Waters

Name credit to Patron: Laura Fast



14 Steps

Difficulty: Challenging - 3 Hoot 🦉🦉🦉

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAINT AND TOOL GUIDE	5
Video Chapter Guide	6
Step 1 - Block In Sky	7
STEP 1 PHOTO	8
Step 2 - Blocking In Scene	9
STEP 2 PHOTO	10
Step 3 - Building The Ground	11
STEP 3 PHOTO	12
Step 4 - More Trees	13
STEP 4 PHOTO	14
Step 5 - Deepening Hues	15
STEP 5 PHOTO	16
Step 6 - Water	17
STEP 6 PHOTO	18
Step 7 - Block In Bridge	19
STEP 7 PHOTO	20
Step 8 - Developing Tree Colors	21
STEP 8 PHOTO	22
Step 9 - Tree Branches Highlight	23
STEP 9 PHOTO	24
Step 10 - More Tree Highlights	25
STEP 10 PHOTO	26
Step 11 - Finishing Tree Highlights	27
STEP 11 PHOTO	28
Step 12 - Water Reflections	29
STEP 12 PHOTO	30
Step 13 - Highlight Reflections	31
STEP 13 PHOTO	32
Step 14 - Final Highlights	33
STEP 14 PHOTO	34
Traceable	35

PAINT AND TOOL GUIDE

Use this paint legend below to understand the symbols that I use to give you important painting information.

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Fluid White Paint = **FWP**
- Yellow Ochre = **YO**
- Golden's Acrylic Satin Glazing Liquid = **ASL**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Large Synthetic Oval Mop
- Medium Hog Round
- Medium Synthetic Round
- Large Synthetic Round Blender
- Medium Synthetic Angle
- Small Synthetic Round

TOOLS

- 8x8 Canvas (If you notice that your canvas started to warp, as sometimes happens, just turn the canvas over and put it back side forward on your easel, then mist the back of the canvas. It usually resolves itself. Let it dry before you proceed.)
- Optional: Sta-Wet Palette

SYMBOL GUIDE

- > Less than previous amount
- < More than previous amount
- + Equal amount

Techniques You Will Use In This Painting

- Color Theory
- Implying Foliage
- Expressive Painting Strokes
- Being Painterly and Loose
- Finding Value
- Dry Brushing
- Blending Wet into Wet
- Mirroring Sky in Water
- Color Mixing
- Dynamic Light on Water

Video Chapter Guide

Below are the timestamps we inserted in the tutorial video so that you can easily coordinate using the book and the tutorial video simultaneously.

Intro	00:00	
Step 1	2:18	Block In Sky
Step 2	4:05	Blocking In Scene
Step 3	8:34	Building The Ground
Step 4	10:43	More Trees
Step 5	14:54	Deepening Hues
Step 6	19:40	Water
Step 7	23:57	Block In Bridge
Step 8	30:42	Developing Tree Colors
Step 9	39:25	Tree Branches Highlight
Step 10	48:05	More Tree Highlights
Step 11	51:02	Finishing Tree Highlights
Step 12	52:07	Water Reflections
Step 13	56:00	Highlight Reflections
Step 14	1:00:18	Final Highlights
	1:02:45	Sign

Step 1 - Block In Sky

Timestamp 2:18
“So Light”

PAINT

- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Golden's Acrylic Satin Glazing Liquid = **ASL**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Large Synthetic Oval Mop x2

COLOR MIXES

- Sky Blue = **TW + ASL > PB**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Sky Blue mix**, and then roughly paint the upper third of the canvas until it is loosely covered. The application should stay light and nearly transparent. Paint in an almost “V” shape down towards the center of the canvas using back and forth sweeping strokes. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 1 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 2 - Blocking In Scene

Timestamp 4:05
“You Might See It”

PAINT

- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Mars Black = **MB**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Hog Round

COLOR MIXES

- Dark Brown = **BS + MB**

STEP DISCUSSION

With a slightly damp brush, load the **Dark Brown mix**. On the left side, about two inches from the bottom of the canvas, push up an uneven, angled line roughly three inches long. Across from where that line ends, create a similar shape on the right side, a little more rough and sketchy than the last. Rinse the brush.

Load pure Cadmium Yellow Medium with a smidge of **Dark Brown mix**, and starting in the middle of the canvas, a bit above where the previous blue application ended, scumble in irregular leaf shapes. Bring this color down just below where the sky stops, curved towards the right. Wipe off the brush to help with control and make a scratchy look. Add a bit of Phthalo Green to the dirty brush, and continue filling out the leaves using a loose painting style, eventually completely filling the space to the right. Bounce back between the colors to make a green-biased variance of shades. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 2 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 3 - Building The Ground

Timestamp 8:34
“Forest Floor”

PAINT

- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Mars Black = **MB**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Hog Round

COLOR MIXES

- Dark Brown = **BS + MB**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Dark Brown mix**, and fill in the space above the angled stroke on the left, curving upward off the canvas. Add a bit more Burnt Sienna for depth, and then do the same on the right side, bringing this bush underpaint into the bottom of the tree line from the previous step. Rinse the brush.

Bias the **Dark Brown mix** with Mars Black, and dry brush the left side a bit, matching the height of the other side. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 3 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 4 - More Trees

Timestamp 10:43

“Foliage Basis”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Hog Round

COLOR MIXES

- Brown Orange = **CRM + CYM > DP**
- Fall Yellow = **CYM > CRM > DP**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Brown Orange mix**, and scumble leaves on top of the ground to the left. Blend it into the sky somewhat, thinking about where and how many trees there might be. Blend it down into the ground as well. Bias the mix with Cadmium Red Medium, and scumble it into the space directly above the ground. It should match the right side in irregularity and scratchiness. Rinse the brush.

Now, load the **Fall Yellow mix** and dash it above the brown leaves, almost but not quite to the top of the canvas. This will be the top of our tree canopy. Leave a bit of sky showing through during this stage, and scumble the mix down into where the water line is. Continue scumbling this toward the center until you connect with the green leaves in the middle, and keep blending until you are satisfied. Rinse the brush

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 4 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 5 - Deepening Hues

Timestamp 14:54

“Coming Together, Right Now”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Hog Round

COLOR MIXES

- Fall Red = **CRM > DP**
- Lime Orange = **CYM > CRM > PG**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Fall Red mix**, and scumble it along the foliage on the right. Bring it in front of a sizable section of trees, adding more Cadmium Red Medium as you blend. Fill in the space all the way to the right side of the canvas. Just a hint of green should be showing between the ground and this new layer, and it should not extend too far towards the middle. Rinse the brush.

With the **Lime Orange mix**, scumble along the ground below the right side trees, making growths of flowers, or maybe fallen leaves. Push the pigment around in irregular shapes, even adding a touch of Mars Black as you blend down to the bottom. The land here should have a bit of a divot on the left, before it tapers offscreen, so maintain that and a bit of the brown as you scumble. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 5 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 6 - Water

Timestamp 19:40

“It Shows What It Sees”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Angle

COLOR MIXES

- Fall Yellow = **CYM > CRM > DP**
- Sky Blue = **TW + ASL > PB**
- Autumn Brown = **CRM + DP**

STEP DISCUSSION

Bias the **Fall Yellow mix** with a touch of Cadmium Red Medium, and brush it down from the middle foliage onto the river below. Add Phthalo Green to the dirty brush for the space below the green foliage, only bringing it down an inch or so. Fill in the space to the left with the mix, adding Cadmium Red Medium as you near the bottom corner. These will be the reflections in our river, so keep the center light, and completely empty towards the bottom of the surface. Use the angle of the brush to help with edges and control. Rinse the brush.

Now, use the **Sky Blue mix** biased with a bit more Phthalo Blue to fill in the center of the river, covering the empty space, and blending into the reflections a bit. It may even drag those colors into the pure mix, this is what you are looking for. Rinse the brush.

Then, with the **Autumn Brown mix**, brush it up and down to the right of the previous area. Try to match the color from above, if not darker or deeper in areas. Continue to use the angle of the brush to skirt around the land evenly. Rinse the brush.

Back with **Sky Blue mix**, continue blending the center of the river, this time overlapping the right side somewhat. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 6 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer

Step 7 - Block In Bridge

Timestamp 23:57
“Brushy Bridge”

PAINT

- Mars Black = **MB**
- Golden's Acrylic Satin Glazing Liquid = **ASL**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round

COLOR MIXES

STEP DISCUSSION

With a wet brush, make a very fluid Mars Black, and make two placement markers on each side of the river, about half an inch below the top of the ground. Then, connect them with a slight curved arch. Make a second curved, slightly longer line above, and then fill in the empty space between them. Also use this chance to make small shadow marks along the river, and then thicken the bridge with one swooping stroke. Make two vertical posts on each end of the bridge, roughly a half inch high, with four thinner ones evenly spaced across. Next, make an arching handrail connecting them, overhanging the last ones just a touch. Lastly, make a middle support beam connecting the posts. Rinse the brush.

Then, add Glazing Liquid to the Mars Black, and bring a bridge reflection across the water in an opposing arch shape. Dry brush the shadow, bringing it out using small marks. Darken it somewhat with pure Mars Black, and scumble this color a bit into the land, down the river. Rinse the brush, and then with the damp brush, trim back the reflection a bit, making it look more like water. Keep using Mars Black to blend this reflection, it should pick up or show the pigment beneath it because of the dampness and Glazing Liquid. Go over it one last time with Mars Black, and make any changes necessary. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 7 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 8 - Developing Tree Colors

Timestamp 30:42
“Out Of Bloom”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Hog Round

COLOR MIXES

- Dark Burgundy = **DP > CRM**
- Orange = **CRM + CYM**
- Fall Red = **CRM > DP**
- Lime Orange = **CYM > CRM > PG**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Dark Burgundy mix**, and make brief shadows in the top-right canopy. Blend it in irregular shapes and patterns for added dimensionality, implying there are many trees overlapping. Rinse the brush. Then, continue blending the right-side leaves with **Fall Red mix**, layering it over top a few shadows, and bringing out highlights in a few places. Rinse the brush.

Next, load the **Orange mix** and scumble it loosely over the outer edges of the trees on the right, bringing it over, down, and around the canopy. Also make small pops of color along the darker areas. Rinse the brush.

Then, use the **Lime Orange mix** biased further into Cadmium Yellow Medium, and then scumble along the right-side ground area. Use a bit of Titanium White to further dramatize the highlight and continue blending along the growth here. You can imply something like flowers, or they may look like a big bush of leaves. Rinse the brush.

With pure Cadmium Yellow Medium, scratch it along the leaves in the middle of the canopy, and up towards the left. Also scumble it along into the orange area somewhat, adding Cadmium Red Medium to the brush as you do. Closer to the middle section, add pure Dioxazine Purple, and continue to scumble, almost blending as you go down. Continue blending and mixing until you are satisfied. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 8 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer

Step 9 - Tree Branches Highlight

Timestamp 39:25
“They Fit Right In”

PAINT

- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round
- Small Synthetic Round

COLOR MIXES

- Grey = **MB + TW**

STEP DISCUSSION

Use the Small brush and Mars Black to begin making tree branches along the backside of the trees..They will be particularly thin here. Make the main trunk, and a few branches going up through the leaves, or off to the side. If you paint over the bridge or something you did not mean to, you can use water and a towel to remove the paint, and add anything back as needed. Rinse the brush.

Now use the Medium brush, and make a much thicker tree on the left side of the canvas, extending up from the ground into the leaves above. Continue to make smaller branch shapes using the tip of the brush, leaning towards the right barely. Do the same on the right side of the canvas, with a few more thin trees going over and behind one another. If it helps, you can look at any empty space and ask yourself where there might be trees holding all the leaves up. Make a few more branches on the left side, and continue until you have a forest you like. Rinse the brush.

Now, load **Grey mix** and brush it very thinly along the bridge, both the handrail and the bridge itself. Then, make little stone shapes along the side of the bridge facing forward. Rinse the brush. Next, add more Titanium White to the mix, and bring it up along the right side of the big tree on the left. Do the same for its branches, making a rough birch-like highlight. Do the same for a few background trees, as well as the trees on the right, this time angling the highlight on their left sides. Refine the bridge a bit with this mix as well. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 9 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 10 - More Tree Highlights

Timestamp 48:05

“Gone But Still There”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round

COLOR MIXES

- Light Yellow = **CRM > TW**
- Orange = **CRM + CYM**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Light Yellow mix**, and scumble it along the canopy of the trees on the left. Go over a few of the branches from the previous step, and up along the edges of the leaves. Continue dashing the pigment around the leaves, ending in the middle of the surface. Rinse the brush.

Repeat this process on the right side with **Orange mix**, dabbing it a little more sparsely because of the difference in pigment. Rinse the brush.

STEP 10 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 11 - Finishing Tree Highlights

Timestamp
“Autumn Steps”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round

COLOR MIXES

- Amber = **CYM + BS > CRM**

STEP DISCUSSION

Use the **Amber mix**, and dash it along the ground to the left of the bridge. Get a bit of Phthalo Green into the mix, and continue filling in the ground down towards the river. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 11 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 12 - Water Reflections

Timestamp 52:07

“Lighter Than It Appears”

PAINT

- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Mars Black = **MB**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round
- Large Synthetic Round Blender

COLOR MIXES

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the Medium brush with Titanium White and a smidge of Phthalo Blue, and make tiny highlights along the space where the river and land meet. Less is more with these. Use a bit more Titanium White to make flat reflection lines across the river in between the bridge and its reflection. Rinse the brush.

Next, load the Blender brush with Mars Black and Glazing Liquid. Then, pull down jagged reflections along the river to the left, not going too far down near the center. These reflections will go off the canvas near the bottom outside edge, it may help to fill in the space below the land reflections and body of water so that you do not overpaint. Repeat the process on the right side, making jagged looking reflections to the edge of the surface. Add more Mars Black to the brush, and go over the reflections once more. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 12 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 13 - Highlight Reflections

Timestamp 56:00
“Lea-flections”

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round
- Large Synthetic Round Blender

COLOR MIXES

- Fall Yellow = **CYM > CRM > DP**
- Orange = **CRM + CYM**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the Blender brush with **Fall Yellow mix**, and bring it down along the previous reflections on the left side. Rinse the brush.

Now with the Medium brush, use the **Orange mix** to make brief, straight reflections spaced out across the surface of the water. Some of these may be light reflections, others may be leaves coasting along. It may help to load the mix unevenly, and have the brush shade for you. Push a few more reflections around, and then bias the mix with Dioxazine Purple, brushing it along for a few leaves or even alone for added dimensionality. Rinse the brush.

STEP 13 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 14 - Final Highlights

Timestamp 1:00:18

“The Final Highlight”

PAINT

- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Golden's Acrylic Satin Glazing Liquid = **ASL**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Medium Synthetic Round

COLOR MIXES

- Sky Blue = **TW + ASL > PB**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Sky Blue mix**, and make a few more brief reflections in the water, skipping them along in both light and dark places. A few may go over or under previous reflections, or exist on their own. Rinse the brush.

Sign.

STEP 14 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Traceable

