

WALT THACKER – OIL PAINTING

Ordinary Midwestern landscapes and small towns are what I paint. I may live here in Hamilton County but I love being in the country and where country roads lead me. I see so many ordinary scenes around that have a spark of beauty and sense of interest that can be brought out in an artistic expression. I have a passion for antiques and days gone by which is captured in a surreal sense. My artwork is always colorful and upbeat.

I use the Winsor Newton's "Winton" oil paints because they are available in most art stores and are competitively priced. I use about eight different tubes of color and sometimes up to twelve. All colors are mixed on the "painting pallet" and no color is used straight from the tube. Paints are thinned with low odor mineral spirits and this is used to clean brushes. As far as brushes go, a 3inch flat brush, a #10, #6 round bristle brushes, and #4, #2, #0 liner brushes. I'm painting on a 16 x 20 inch canvas board which is my favorite size.

Starting a painting you work background to foreground. I begin with the sky and paint it to the horizon line, about two thirds the way up on this painting. At the horizon line I paint the background trees and buildings. This will be greatly detailed and will take some time. A good time to get lost in your

artwork. Midground is the hill with the family walking up with a fresh cut holiday tree. This is the story. The foreground needs to be open and empty to be able to see the family but the snow in the foreground needs to be detailed in texture with lights and darks.

After this is done, you will have a great painting!

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