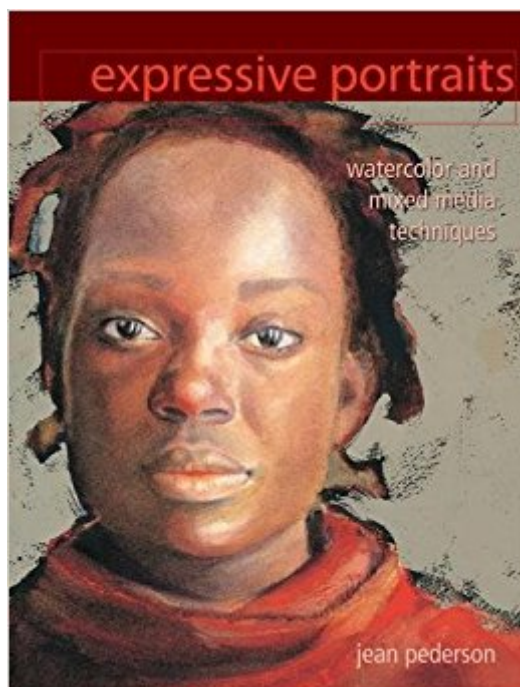


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# Expressive Portraits: Watercolor And Mixed Media Techniques



## Synopsis

Paint beautiful and expressive portraits by combining watercolor with other mediums! What makes an eye-popping, eye-stopping portrait? It's all about contrast and the play of opposites, round shape against square, light against dark, transparent against opaque. Combining mediums allows you to push the inherent properties of each for a lively play of opposites. You'll be able to paint glorious lights, richer darks, intriguing texture and mysterious passages that create mood and a strong sense of place, space and character. Jean Pederson gives you all the advice and instruction you need to paint beautiful, expressive portraits filled with life and spirit. Let your portraits speak to the world! In this essential guide to expressive portrait painting you will: Stretch your watercolor skills to the limit. Achieve darks deeper and richer than you ever dreamed; let colors mingle in imaginative ways on your paper; accomplish radiant skin tones by daring to layer vivid colors from the start. Journey into the "what-if" zone. What if you paint on the vertical and direct the paint with a spray bottle? What if you add heavy body paint to watercolors for one-of-a-kind texture? What if you accentuate your subject with pencil, crayon or gouache? Don't "what-if" about this book. Grab it today for dynamic results in your portrait painting!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jean Pederson, AWS, is a workshop teacher and contributor to The Artist's Magazine, Watercolor Artist, International Artist and Splash: Best of Watercolor series. She also belongs to the Canadian Institute of Portrait Artists, Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour and other organizations.

What an amazing artist. I love her contemporary take on portraiture. I'm hoping to adapt her techniques to acrylics or oils on board and/or canvas, rather than watercolor and gouache on paper. She does use some acrylics however, and overall I give this a thumbs-up. Very inspiring!

A BIG disappointment. This book is clearly aimed at the traditional portrait painter that wants to wander a bit into the "expressive side" of portrait with color and a little mixed media. Coming from an abstract point of view, the book does little to really show how to bring expressiveness into the portrait. It's a nice book if you like watercolor techniques that have you finish with a pretty traditional looking portrait.

**EXPRESSIVE PORTRAITS** By Jean Pederson Jean Pederson's book, *Expressive Portraits*, is a must for every artist's library and, particularly, for the portrait artist. Artists at any level will find Jean's book both innovative and instructive. This well-written and pictorially illustrated book of 125 pages divided into five 5 chapters packs a wealth of knowledge from choosing one's materials to innovative methods of using mixed media in painting the portrait. Along with reviews of the body's proportions and a guide to drawing and painting the facial features and proportions, Jean reviews the principles and elements of design and instructs how to use these elements in planning one's composition. Next, she explains and illustrates the actual painting of the portrait including color strategy and layering paint. Finally, through demonstration, she incorporates creative methods of using various water media within the portrait and background that brings the painting to an exciting completion. The reader will find *Expressive Portraits* easy to read, enjoyable, and informative. Review by Claire Hall, GWS June 12, 2009

There are a lot of books on watercolor technique (I have several), but this one has a unique approach. It's a slim book and probably not for a beginner, but I've learned quite a bit and been inspired by the pictures. For instance, Pederson uses photographs to illustrate how light on clothing affects skin tone and she uses a portrait painted with different backgrounds to show how this can change the feel of a painting. Several times while reading this book, I thought, "Oh I didn't know you could do that with watercolor." She touches on using mixed media, which I haven't really tried before, but now I might. If you're looking for a step-by-step "how to paint with watercolor" book, then you might not like this book as much as I do, but I'm very happy to have *Expressive Portraits* in my library.

This is a pivotal book for me. It has helped me to pull together all the different watermedia techniques I have learned throughout the years and begin communicating in a visual language that is one of my own. While it is a book that is part technique and part inspiration, getting the most out of this book is also dependent upon what you, the artist, brings to it. If you let it, it will be your personal workshop. Thank you Jean! I'm sure before long I will actually be one of your workshop attendees, but for now, your book has given me what I need to take the next step....

I own more books on painting and more paintings than I've done myself, but I was truly moved by the artist's work. I saw the book while browsing, came home and had immediately hook me up! I'm proud to own Expressive Portraits; I just can't quit admiring it.

Instructive and motivational. One of the few art books I've read from cover to cover. I'd recommend this book for artists at every level.

I'm not finished reading this book, but it has a lot of great information and lovely photos. Would be a good buy for anyone doing portrait painting.

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