Strathmore 2015 ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES

EXPRESSIVE ACRYLIC PAINTING

with **Patti Mollica**

Bold & Colorful Rooster

Supplies

- **Strathmore 500 Series Mixed Media Board** (your size of choice – instructor uses 11"x14")
- **Brushes** (1", 2", 3" and other smaller sizes of your choice)
- **Heavy Body Acrylic Paint**

  Instructor's Color Palette*
  - Ultramarine Blue
  - Cerulean Blue
  - Phthalo Blue (Green shade)
  - Teal
  - Green Gold
  - Cadmium Primrose Yellow
  - Cadmium Yellow Medium
  - Yellow Ochre
  - Cadmium Orange
  - Cadmium Red Light
  - Alizarin Crimson
  - Quinacridone Magenta
  - Burnt Sienna
  - Carbon Black
  - Titanium White

*these are the colors the instructor has in her palette, but are not necessarily the colors you need to use

In all my videos will be working with the same colors that I mentioned in my materials video. They are all squeezed out of the tube into a plastic bead box. That way I have all my colors in front of me as soon as I'm ready to paint, and don't have to spend the time to put out each dab of color on the palette. Plus, I don't worry about having any colors left over and wasting it. If some paint is left over I can easily put it back in its compartment.

REFERENCE PHOTO:

Sketch out your drawing on the Mixed Media Board. You can start out sketching in a very light color. Rather than erase or white out any drawing mistakes, you can then adjust the drawing by using a darker color. Or you can draw a light sketch in vine charcoal, which erases very easily if you don't press down hard.

Use whatever brush size is comfortable for you. I happen to like big brushes but some people feel more control with smaller brushes. The most important thing is to feel like you are putting the color and the stroke down in whatever size you feel most control with.

I like to start with the darker side of my subject and leave the middle and lighter tones for the end. Many artists who work with acrylics and oils start with darker colors and then work their way to light. Give it a try!

Start by drawing the rooster in very general strokes, with a light color. At this stage you do not have to put in any detail, just try to get the general proportions correct.

Once you have the rooster sketched in, start painting with as big a brush as you are comfortable with. I've started with yellow ochre with a little cadmium red light mixed in.

Then I dip into the reds for the next "set" of colors. Use a variety of reds to get the most interest.

Then move to your purple/blue feathers by mixing ultramarine and alizarin crimson. This will provide some nice contrast to the lighter, warmer reds and yellow hues.

Next move into the lighter blue tail feathers. Again, use several blues. You can even mix a little yellow or green into your blue hues for some variety.

The leg is put in next, a greyer tone. You can either add a little white plus black to make a grey, or try some ultramarine plus burnt sienna plus white.

The rooster's head is painted using various shades of reds, some a little lighter and some a little darker, to create dimension. See if you can get the smaller detail accomplished using a larger brush.

Next you can work on the lightest feathers at the top, which are being hit by light. This is a mixture of yellow, yellow ochre and white.

The Background is a combination of various greens, created by mixing blues and yellows. The brightest green you will get is Cerrulean Blue plus Cadmium Yellow Light. You will get more of an olive green by mixing Ultramarine plus Cadmium Yellow Medium.

Mix various greens, some more yellow, some more blue, some lighter/darker, for visual variety. You should “carve in” around the rooster carefully, so that you don’t paint over areas that you like.

Give it a try and have fun!