

# Tips from workshops taken by Marty

## Walt Bartman

[www.walterbartman.com](http://www.walterbartman.com)

Use a palette knife for highlights and blending

Knife and brush strokes in logical direction

Pink, blues, unexpected colors in grass, sky

Add a shadow even if you don't see one

Compose with shapes cut off at bottom

Use broken lines instead of solid

"Paint what you see, not what you know"



## Valerie Craig

[www.valeriecraig.com](http://www.valeriecraig.com)

"Fall in love" with what you're going to paint

Paint small canvases in changing light

Palette has warm and cool of each color

Make building windows smaller than real life; show windows catching light

Paint behind gates first

## Hui Lai Chong

[www.hiulaichong.com](http://www.hiulaichong.com)

Use phone to convert photos to B&W for values; helps see lights and darks

Palette knife in foreground for texture, especially grasses

Sky: use a dominant color with other colors added

## Bethanne Kinsella Cople

[www.bethannekinsellacople.com](http://www.bethannekinsellacople.com)

Favorite palette knife: rectangular, trowel-shape

Engage viewer with interesting marks to get close to painting

Can always find something to paint outdoors ... turn around



## Hai-Ou Hou, Chesapeake Fine Art Studio

[www.haiouhoufineart.com](http://www.haiouhoufineart.com)

Not sure of what color to use? Gray made with a mix of Ultramarine, Alizarin, Naples, small amount of white

Unless a painting about the sky, don't overdo clouds ... "Look at me, look at me!"

## Try these at home!

**Scumbling:** Uses opaque, thick paint with a dry brush or knife over a dry area allowing under-painting to show, creating a broken-color effect.

**Flat Application:** Scoop paint onto the underside of the knife and spread it flat against the canvas like butter on toast.

**Impasto:** Load a heavy, unmixed amount of paint and press it firmly to create bold, three-dimensional highlights and textures.

**Double Loading:** Place two different colors side-by-side on the knife. When applied in a single swipe, it creates beautiful, unblended gradient strokes.

**Sgraffito:** Scrape away the top layer of thick

wet paint to expose the contrasting layers underneath, creating depth and age.

**Line Work:** Use the sharp side or edge of the knife to drag a precise, fine line (perfect for distant wires, branches, or wave crests).

**Knife Rolling:** Roll the tip and edge of the knife over the paint to create organic, abstract patterns

## Suggested videos

Two alla prima painters using triangular palette knives

Sean Fear:

<https://youtu.be/Oimm5h6RF5Q?si=CmpDiU8MchXDLot4>

Maria Iva:

[https://www.youtube.com/live/adaNNd2d4Ek?si=PNcoI5J\\_rfW8QeoD](https://www.youtube.com/live/adaNNd2d4Ek?si=PNcoI5J_rfW8QeoD)