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Digital Painting
Artrage Mobile

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MDAC 2021

with Daniel Ibanez

Painting in Artrage Mobile and Artrage Vitae

Here are some helpful tips for getting started:

- Bring in the reference photo I have supplied from this post as a "reference" image in ArtRage. This will really speed up your workflow.

Painting Steps:

1. Line - Begin with angular and simple lines... choppy marks not sinuous contours please! Rough in the general shape... don't fuss too much with any detail (use the oil brush tool with "thinner" set to around 50% - KEEP IT SIMPLE. This is a simple practice, don't worry about drawing it perfectly, just get it close. Close is great (we are going to be painting over all of your lines anyway... so don't waste time fussing).
2. Begin to block in your values (use the color picker tool to "grab" the darks and get painting. Pro tip... Squint. Squinting helps reduce detail and enhance contrast. Squint to help learn to SEE the lights and darks. - The most important thing is to remind yourself that you are not painting fruit, you are painting LIGHT (you are painting shapes of light and dark values). Try to paint in each dark as though it was a simple shape. Simplify! Just block in the areas of dark that you see! Try to match the shapes in the reference photo. Don't be afraid of the darks... they are the key to making this pop!
3. Once all the darks are blocked in (the cast shadows, the left edge of the orange, some of the background) then you can begin blocking in the mid-tones. Use the same process as before.
4. Once the mid-tones are generally finished, move on to the highlights. Now you are getting the hang of this!
5. When the canvas is covered with color we can actually start... painting!
6. At this point you need to work with edges. Edges are where the magic happens! Edges typically fall into 3 categories: Hard, soft, and lost. Think of each "edge" (meaning each transition of value) as one of the three types, and diligently get to work making the edges match the ones you see in the photo.
7. Keep at it until you feel ready to let it go and start anew! Rinse and repeat!

