

Brush pen Painting

When most people think of pen-work they refer to the use of fine delicate pen marks to achieve the style and surface texture that has been used since Victorian times. This style of working is used in a positive manner, building up the form, creating surface texture followed with hatching and cross hatching for the shadows. However, when using the brush pen you need to work in a different way. Here you paint in the shadows through being aware of the highlights. Its a form of negative painting, not putting in all the fine detail and making the viewer work! It works really well for images where the effects of strong sunlight bleaches out the mid tones. Its a great way of learning and being aware of Negative painting.

Below are a couple of images that you may like to copy to get a feel for this technique.



Figures are interesting, here I have brushed in the shadows to give the form and shape of the figures and grounded them by adding the cast shadows



With windows, block-in the window panes, adding shadows cast by the window sill and recess

To help understanding the negative, sketch the shapes you want to portray in pencil, these maybe the highlighted areas, apply the pen and then rub-out the pencil marks to give you the highlights.



Sketch these out in pencil first, to get the proportion right, then pen them up in the shadows, and add mid tones with a fine pen and rub-out the pencil marks.

