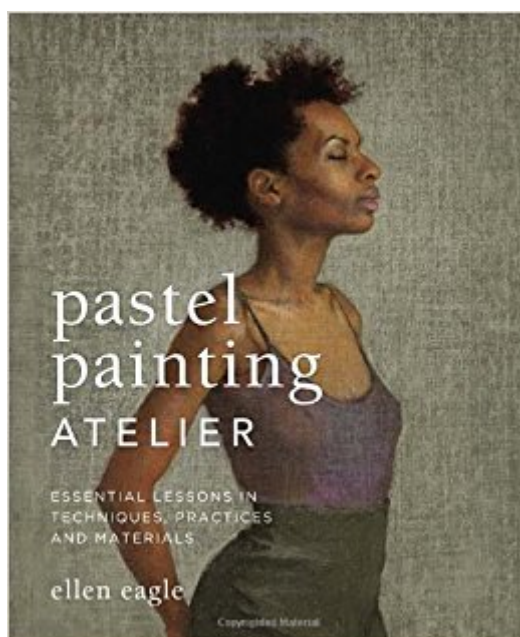


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# Pastel Painting Atelier: Essential Lessons In Techniques, Practices, And Materials



## Synopsis

Revel in the luminous and vibrant qualities of pastel with Ellen Eagle's essential course in the history, techniques, and practices of the medium. In this comprehensive yet intimate guide, Eagle explores pastel's rich but relatively unexamined past, reveals her own personal influences and approaches, and guides you toward the discovery and mastery of your own vision. In *Pastel Painting Atelier*, you will find:

- Advice on basic materials: guidance on building, storing, and organizing a collection of pastels; choosing the right paper; and the importance of experimentation
- Studio practice suggestions: ideas for creating your ideal working environment and recipes for making your own pastels and supports
- Study of the working process: lessons on proportion, gesture, composition, color, application, identifying and correcting problems, and recognizing when a work is finished
- Meditation on subject: cues for extrapolating the subtle details, presence, and temporal features of whatever you choose to paint
- Step-by-step demonstrations: Eagle's acute insights into her own works as they progress

A magnificent selection of works by masters such as James Abbott McNeill Whistler, Rosalba Carriera, Mary Cassatt, and Eugene Delacroix augment this guide, as do works by contemporary artists including Harvey Dinnerstein, Elizabeth Mowry, and Daniel Massad. Aimed at serious artists, this guide enlightens, instructs, and inspires readers to create brilliant and sensitive works in the historic medium of pastel.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Pastel Painting Atelier: Essential Lessons in Techniques, Practices, and Materials isn't simply

about pastel techniques, but how to truly capture a life and its full worth on paper. Read it like a novel, as Kingston's foreword implies, and you'll gradually pick up on Eagle's ability to read a face and translate it to the surface."-The Artists Magazine, December 2013"Unlike most books about art, unlike most books written for creative people, this one provides several hours of quiet time with the artist at work in her studio, in her mind, with her eyes, with her hands. She sees beauty in the tiniest of details: the curve of the silhouette of a woman's face, the arrangement of the old pipes beneath the even older sink in the corner of a Manhattan studio, the private thoughts that take shape in a best friend's eyes. This is a gentle book, an inspirational one with the promise of some instruction for the visual artist, but you need not be an artist to see what she sees, and to enjoy the way that Ms. Eagle perceives and so lovingly sees the world."-Digital Insider, September 2013 "I don't think I've ever seen a book that deals with pastel in such breadth and depth."-artbookreview.net

ELLEN EAGLE holds a BFA with Distinction in Drawing from the California College of Arts and Crafts. Her work is represented by Forum Gallery, New York, and has been shown in the National Academy Museum, the Butler Institute of American Art, the Frye Art Museum, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, and in the Lingnan Museum of Fine Arts in China. Her paintings and writing have appeared in the New York Times, American Artist, The Artist's Magazine, the Pastel Journal and numerous other publications. She is the recipient of several grants from the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation and the Dodge Foundation. A sought-after teacher, Eagle is on the faculty of the Art Students League of New York and has given workshops throughout the United States and in Italy. Visit her at [EllenEaglePortraits.com](http://EllenEaglePortraits.com).

Ellen Eagle's book, "Pastel Painting Atelier" is the most complete, informative book on pastel painting I have seen. I am a pastelist, and have a collection of pastel books, and NONE compare in clarity of information, or quality of photography. I Have studied with several different pastel artists, the instruction in the book is like being in a pastel workshop. Delightful to read, and a beautiful book to add to my collection. I highly recommend it for beginners and experienced artists alike.

A marvelous book in every way. The demo alone is worth the price of admission. Valuable information about pastels, about how to use them, and even about the history of this beautiful and expressive medium. And the reproductions are first rate.

Ellen Eagle is a brilliant pastelist. I read and watch everything she publishes and desperately want to study with her one day... If you want to understand the medium, this is a terrific book... She even provides her formulation for pumice board priming... It's a wonderful and very helpful book as well as providing background into the material itself.

This work covers the history, theory, material and methodology of pastel painting at a degree rarely found in art media publications. But beyond that, this book is an intimately personal exploration of the creative process. It is a good read. I opened the book and was unable to put it down until I reached the end all the while, taking copious notes. In this book, Ellen Eagle is extremely generous in sharing her vast knowledge of and passion for the medium. A potential purchaser might wonder if the book covers subject matter beyond portraits. While portraits are the primary focus, landscape and still life are examined as well. Thank you for this obvious labor of love, Ellen Eagle.

Gives you insight into how one professional artist goes about the process of creating a magnificent portrait, one that not only displays the subject realistically, but also somehow shows you the soul and mood. Ms Eagle shows you her tools and studio, and techniques she employs in her work, which is very enlightening. I think anyone with an interest in any medium, but especially pastel, would get a lot of knowledge and enjoyment from this book.

Ellen Eagle's new book about pastel painting is a great addition to the field. It is not just another 'how-to' book, but goes into the thought process of the artist. Understanding the mental process of painting is more important than just being able to copy something's appearance. I thought it was very interesting to read about her interactions with her models. I read the book first on my Kindle, then got the colour one from the library, so I appreciated both the technical parts, then seeing her work, which is top notch.

An excellent guide for all levels of artists, written by a master pastelist. I've been a fan of Ms. Eagle's for years and was so happy that her book is not only beautifully printed but very informative for anyone wanting to learn this challenging medium.

I read this book from beginning to end, word for word. It unfolded like one of her exquisite paintings, revealing the artist's insights and instruction layer by layer until I felt I really understood how I, too, could paint with pastels. Ellen Eagle is not only an accomplished artist but also a sensitive and

intelligent writer. I will re-read this book over and over and use it as an instruction manual and for inspiration as I draw and paint in pastel.

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