



PAINT YOUR HEART

& SOUL 2019

*Facing  
the light*

*with Katrina Koltes*

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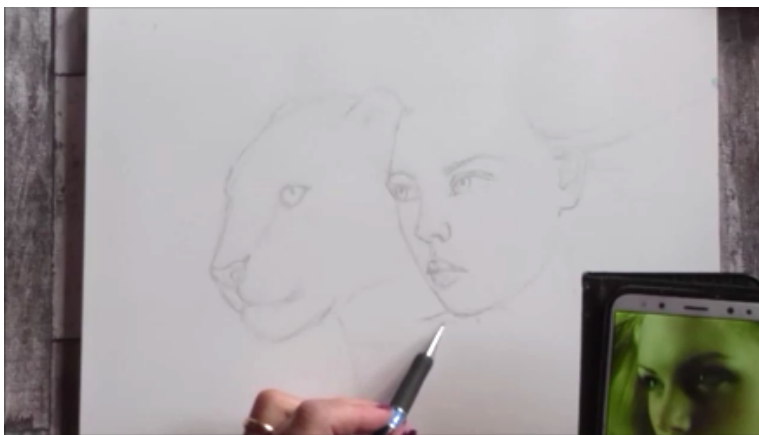
## SUPPLY LIST

- 1) **Watercolor paper** (I used a 9x12" Fabriano hot press)
- 2) **Pencil & eraser**
- 3) **Watercolors:** You only need a few colors of your choice. These are the ones I used in tubes:  
**Daniel Smith:** Quinacridone gold ( a golden yellow), Rose of ultramarine (warm, bright purple) , Bloodstone Genuine (dark purplish brown; or black is fine too).  
**Windsor & Newton:** Cobalt turquoise light (teal), Phthalo Turquoise (deep turquoise), Opera Rose (bright pink), Permanent Rose (darker pink).
- 4) **Paintbrushes:** A large round and a fine liner for details
- 5) **Palette** for mixing colors
- 6) **Water jar, napkins, salt, old toothbrush**
- 7) **White goauche or acrylic + white gel pen or sharpie**
- 8) **Color pencils** of the same tones as your colors, plus black



# Creating the painting

## Step 1



We begin by drawing the face and animal (in my case I chose the Leopard, but feel free to choose an animal that's calling you to be painted).

We want to keep our sketch light enough so that we don't risk ruining our paper when we erase. (Hot press paper can be quite delicate.)

## Step 2



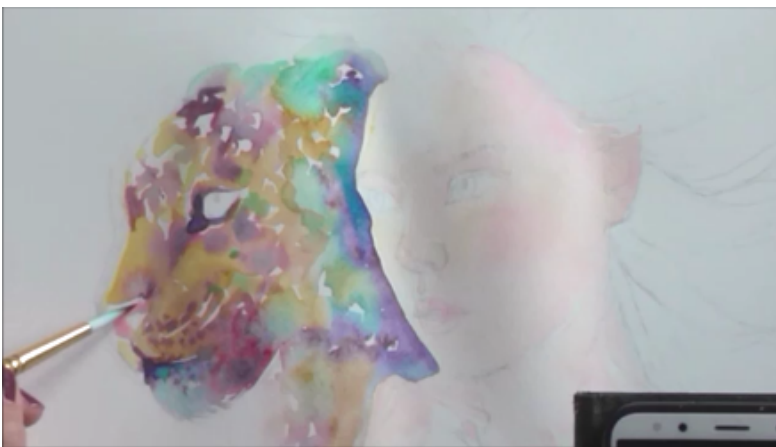
Before we begin our painting we can choose some colors that we feel like using today. Bright, saturated colors will give our painting more of an energetic vibe, and the cool color will be calming and soothing. I choose a bit of both as I was both very tired and in need of energy but also the purples and blues are wonderfully de-stressing.

## Step 3



We start to paint the first layer of her face with Quinacridone gold and Opera Rose. It's important to make this first layer very light and transparent to achieve the luminous effect in the end. We make sure to leave the lightest highlights white, softening the areas of transition with a clean, wet brush.

## Step 4



While the first layer of her face is drying we can paint the Leopard. We loosely add the quin gold and, rose of ultramarine, letting them mix and puddle on the paper. It's important to leave some white spaces to give the illusion of the Leopard's spots. For the shadow areas we drop in both of the turquoises while the paint is still wet so that they spread and mix together on the paper.

## Step 5



Now that the face is dry we can add more layers. I add another slightly darker layer of the pink and purple and start dropping in some of the teal in the shadow areas. This is the mid-tone layer, we aren't adding the darkest darks just yet. We also add those colors on to the hand as well.

## Step 6



We leave that to dry and start adding some of the colors for her hair. We want to add lighter colors where the light is coming from on the left side, and darker as it falls in the shadow behind her on the right. We drop in splashes of color and clean water to create puddles of water and lots of variety. We also sprinkle in some salt to add a sparkle effect.

Don't forget to paint her shirt, We use the same colors as the Leopard to make it more cohesive.

## Step 7



Now we start adding the last and darkest layers of shadow to her face. I leave some areas unblended to match the wildness of the hair. We also add a darker shadow to the right of the Leopard to bring out the white highlight on the left of her face.

## Step 8



Now we can start adding the details and the darkest darks. We paint her eyes with the light and dark turquoise, and add the pupil and lash line with the bloodstone genuine. We also add the pupil and, nostrils and mouth line on both her and the Leopard.

## Step 9



Now we paint the feathers with the quin gold and the teal, dropping in some of the other colors to add variety.

We also add some hair strands with a dark mix of the purple and turquoise. With both the toothbrush and our brush we flick paint splashes here and there to bring a feeling of energy into the painting.

## Step 10



With the white gel pen we also draw the whiskers of the Leopard and some hair strands on the girl.

We can also bring back in some of the highlights e lost in the face like in the eyes, nose tip and left line of the jaw.

## Step 11



Once everything is dry we can erase any pencil lines from our drawing. We add some last definition and detail with color pencils, drawing the lashes, a few flyaway hair strands, and some definition on her mouth, nose, etc. We do the same to the Leopard, deepening the darkest darks in the eyes, nose and mouth.

## Step 12



Last but not least we add some splashes and sparkles with the white goauche. We can also add some last highlights here and there on the face where we lost them before. You can also add some detail in the feathers if you like. And we're done!

I really hope you enjoyed painting with me!

Don't forget to be patient with yourself, and keep a playful mindset...

And remember that drying times are so important!

Watercolor can be so fun if we just let it do its thing and don't try to control it too much. We can learn to work with it by practicing and playing.

So have fun with this, and I'll be looking forward to seeing your work in the Facebook group!

Don't forget to reach out if you have any questions, I'm always happy to help!

Much love,  
Katrina

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