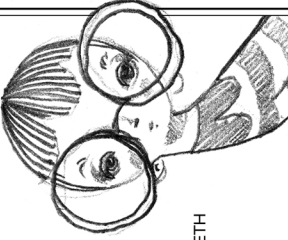


SWITCHING UP MY WATERCOLOR palettes

Editing together my August "Studio Notes" vlog I noticed an alarming amount of swatch footage... truly – a disturbing amount. I kept thinking how busy I was during the month and where on Earth I found time to swatch paints, change palettes, fill new palettes, swatch and change them again! I know it seems an odd thing to reflect on but being a good steward of my time is important and this footage was a slap in the face to the "productivity center" part of my brain. Thinking deeper, I actually needed it. The sad fact of the matter is that it was terribly relaxing. I needed to slow my brain down and there's something so cathartic about swatching palettes. Beyond the relief of a mindless activity, it dawned on me that these paints are the tools of my trade. Suddenly my feelings of "time wasting guilt" turned to an appreciation for the process. It's important for me to understand and know the resources I have available to my Creativity. It's valuable to know where everything is and how it works; time spent getting these palettes organized now is less time spent in the future searching for colors and making mistakes with my choices. Also, changing the options in my palettes reflects the changes in my Creativity. As the seasons change throughout the year we change clothes, we eat different foods, we celebrate different holidays,

constantly shifting and flowing through the patterns of our lives – does it not make sense that the tools/colors we use to create would shift and change too? I'm embarrassed it took this long to realize that building new palettes is not a waste of time but rather an essential process. So, I'm proud of it now. I chopped and changed colors throughout August because I added new tools to work with and my mood shifted out of a regular rainbow palette into a mega "favorites" palette. Here's my current watercolor palette and the list of as many colors I could find information on. I have been so blessed with so many gifts by all of you over the years that unfortunately I don't know where every color came from, but I'll try my best to describe the color if I don't know the name. In the past I have built palettes for different occasions like going to Disneyland, my trip to Japan and a "wannabe" rainbow mixing palette. This palette is built from all the half pans I WANT to play with right now; a true reflection of my current color/texture obsessions.



- KEY
- HANDMADE GIFT
 - ◇ SCHMINKE
 - ◇ VAN GOGH
 - ◇ WINSOR & NEWTON
 - ◇ DANIEL SMITH
 - ◇ GEKKOSO
 - ◇ DESIGNS BY RACHEL BETH
 - ◇ MUNGYO
 - ◇ XANADU ART STUDIO



THE SKETCHBOOK PROJECT



about it at LENGTH hahaha! Well, not to give too much away, I had this book out the other day as inspiration for the project and I think you can see why I appreciated the coincidence. I bought this book on Amazon last year for \$12 and it's currently listed for \$16 (gotta love Amazon's surge pricing). It's "The Sketchbook Project World Tour" by Steven Peterman and Sara Elands Peterman. Their foreword details how difficult it was to choose the spreads for the book, and after having picked pieces for the collaborative Daisy book last year I am sweating just thinking about it. They have done an incredible job though and the book is full of wildly different and super creative layouts from Sketchbooks sent in from all over the world. I love to flip through the book and disappear into everyone's mind, occasionally taking the time to read some of the artist interview pages. I'm particularly biased towards the "Australia" section, followed closely by Asia. If you're someone who loves to get lost inside sketchbooks and journals this is a fantastically simple book to devour. Highly recommend, five out of five.



happy mail from a mysterious mind-reader

I checked my mailbox the other day and found a peculiar package inside. I have no idea who sent it, but it's "The Sketchbook Project" book! It's so strange because I have been really curious to participate but never took the leap. I am so grateful to whomever blessed me with this gift. I have re-entered JOURNAL IS TOO PRECIOUS TO USE phase so I might need to attack this one like my Pocket Moleskine. It's also a little serendipitous considering a personal project I'm working on at the moment. It's the one I said I wouldn't say anything about and then continued to talk

"PERSONAL STYLE BEGINS AND ENDS WITH LOVING WHO YOU ARE" - MISS PIGGY

MY POOR FAUXBONICHI

It sits quietly in the darkest reach of my tote bag, buried deep beneath a growing pile of assorted responsibilities. I hear it cry out to me at night. It begs for my return, but I don't. It's not that I won't... I just can't. HAHAA! *writes an entire short story! I don't feel guilty about it, but it crosses my mind a lot: I have missed a whole month in my Fauxbonichi weekly journal. The spread was ready, I had plenty to write, I just didn't. At first, the neglect went unnoticed and it took a good 2 weeks for me to realize I really hadn't been in there. Should we look for an excuse now or at the end of the article? Haha, PATREON! IT'S PATREON'S FAULT ALWAYS! No, it's really not. I am extremely busy, yes, but all good things take time and I have the most immense pride for the work I have

done on PLAY2EST 2019 so far. All of my work takes a lot of time and energy but I still could have done it, I just didn't - and like I said... no guilt. I set up my Fauxbo in the MD Paper journal and it's undated so I don't have the REAL Hobonichi guilt of missing pages and pages of my journal with no hope to catch up. I have a Hobonichi 5 year journal in the A6, but it's so small that my entries take all of 1 minute, so I can catch up easily if I miss a few days. Sorry, I should have explained this earlier: Fauxbo stands for faux, or fake, Hobonichi and I document weeks and events in there. Anyway, I would like to put my 29th birthday in there and a summary of August on PLAY2EST. I'd be happy to document that and move right on in to September. I could always kill a flock o' birds with pebbles and do it on camera then pop it onto YouTube? Maybe I'll do that. If you see it on YouTube this Friday then that's what I did, if not... I didn't, and that's fine too.