

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW A BIT MORE ABOUT THE ART SUPPLIES WE HAVE IN STOCK??

And first of all perhaps, why and how did I go about choosing what to stock?

I come from a family of many painters and even a painting restorer... so if there were two things I did know about art supplies when I began researching them, they were these: quality lasts *and* quality gives a much more beautiful result in the first place but also *quality is pleasure!* Yes, just as you should have your most reliable car at twenty, giving good brushes and paints to a beginner is going to make it possible for them to produce a much better painting (whereas a confirmed artist's skill could perhaps compensate for some of the technical limitations). And for those holding that brush day in and day out, well it's up to them but most know that in the long run quality truly IS cheaper.

Because of course... young drivers and artists are poor! So finding a balance between quality and price was uppermost in my mind... As you'll see, we've tried for most products to offer you 3 levels: good, very good, excellent. (Less than good... pencils have no colouring power, brushes loose their hairs, canvases warp... it's simply not fun and I didn't go there!)

When there was a huge choice, as in oils for example, and qualities were on par we've chosen the cheapest (i.e. between Old Holland and Blockx, we've chosen Blockx, between Sennelier and Smincke or Rembrandt, we've gone Sennelier, etc.) Some of these names might not be familiar to you but, trust me, they are well worth discovering... Quoted prices are valid from 01/03/09 but subject to change without prior notice (especially in the current financial context unfortunately!). We guarantee however to keep our prices lower or equivalent to the *Recommended Retail Prices* from our suppliers and **a lot of our stock is still cheaper than in this catalogue (2008 prices) so it may be a good idea to restock soon!**

We know that if you are a professional artist we might not always carry the size/quantities you might need but are happy to order whatever you want and we will not charge you any freight for prepaid orders. If you have technical queries regarding any products, we will try to answer these as best as possible, however most companies also have great websites, full of information about their products and more (go to "professional links" in our website). We are working on having some technical / informational evenings with suppliers and fellow artists at the centre so please subscribe to our mailing list if this is of interest to you: www.the-centre.com.au

Also, if you do *not* find something in these pages that you would like or know works well, please let me know, I love discovering new things and will follow all the trails you give me with delight! I've tried to tell you in the next pages a little bit about the companies behind the labels of these pretty tubes and boxes because I enjoy knowing where things come from, the long line of tradition and passionate research behind a product being not only a warrantee of its quality and longevity but, in the case of art I feel, also connecting us to all those artists who struggled to attain "perfection" and, sometimes, got the taste of it in their mouths...

Hope you enjoy reading it! Sabine

PS: Quantities undelined are those that we have in stock, other quantities show availability and can be ordered.

