



APS ADVENTURES IN PASTEL 2024

Adventure E-5

“A Winning Combo”

As artists, we all have some favorite photo that some day we intend to paint. But when we get it out, we realize that there are a few things about the photo that have kept us from painting it. In this Adventure, we asked you to combine the best of two or three photos so you can create the painting you always wanted!

Enjoy these “winners”!

Adventure E-5
A Winning Combo

"Forgot My Fork"
on 7" x 9.5"
Pastelmat with pan pastels and
pastel pencils.

Claire Benton
Riverview, FL



Adventure E-5
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Title: "Cheery Spot"
Size: 9"x12"

I took a photo of just a birdhouse and combined it with one of a clump of Brown Eyed Susan's. The background fence and lighting on the birdhouse were invented to finish out the painting. Not an original idea but fits the theme of the adventure.

**Deborah Chase,
Rutherfordton, NC**



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“Woodland Trilogy”

9 x 12 inches

During a wonderful hike in the Smokies with the Asheville Mushroom Club in April, we saw glowing mosses covering large boulders scattered among the trees along Big Creek. We found a few morels and many yellow trilliums and fiddlehead ferns. Yet nothing was located together for the perfect photograph reference for a painting. I combined the 3 images in the most natural combination I could imagine and did this painting.

Linda Cook
Asheville, NC



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You can see I really got involved in this challenge! This was my first use of Pastelmat and I loved the fine surface. Soft pastels just painted themselves. Wow. I couldn't stop having fun. I combined three of my photos: mountain with clouds, a barn and my Granddaughter Jasmine with her kitty. Departing from the sketch a little, and inventing ways to connect the images, I enjoyed making up the blend of all three. Looks like a story. Great idea to try again. Thanks for the inspiration! (And for a high school Graduation gift.)

"Jasmine and Binx"
16"x10" Pastelmat, soft pastels
and pastel pencil

Diane de Grasse
Black Mountain, NC



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I used 3 sketches to create my painting "Got an Axe?" (6"x9")
There are two guys standing there, judging this tree, wanting to cut it down because it's deformed and ugly. They stand in their own falsely perceived supremacy. Who is the weaker, the more misshapen? The battered, stoic tree that stands determined to survive against all odds? Or these flaccid men who live in a false belief that *they* are the stronger and more superior beings?

Beauty is not in perfection, but in the process of living and surviving. What in Spanish is "sobrevivir" .. *over living!* Living over all odds, living above the trials and challenges. I like that.

Terrilynn Dubreuil
Asheville, NC



Adventure E-5
A Winning Combo

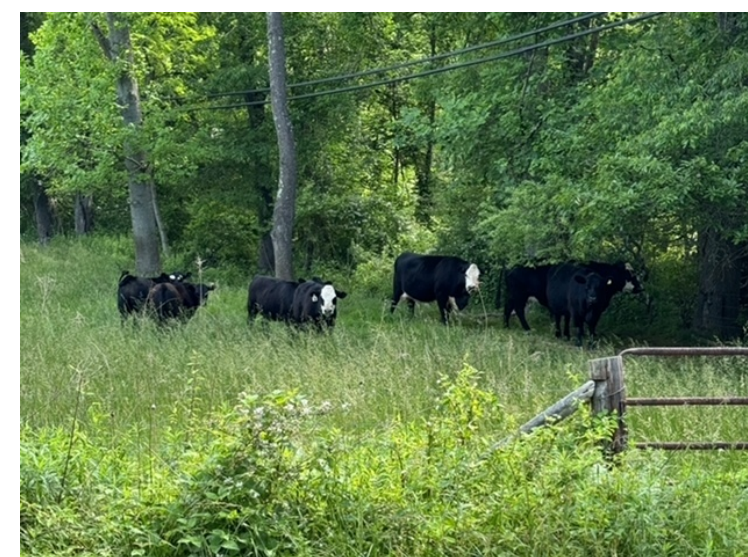
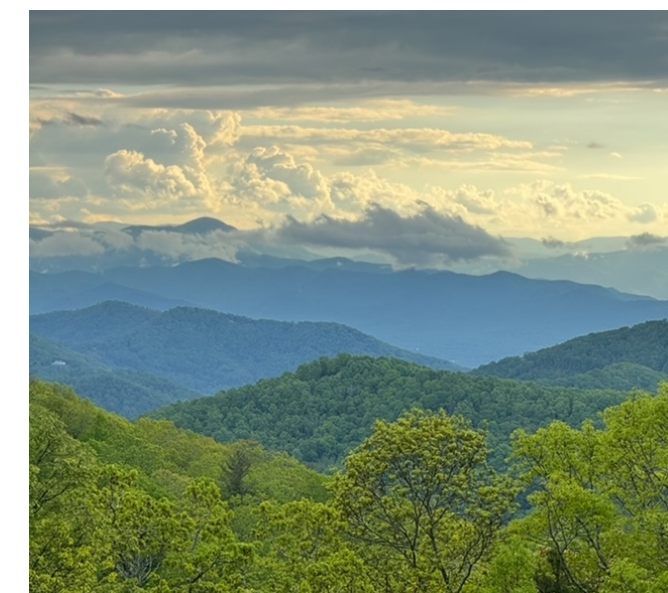
“Early Spring”

A challenging but interesting adventure. I used a photo of a nearby field, my MRP, added a mountain range because it's Asheville and for good measure some cows, because the field often contains a small herd. The trees were still dormant but the fields were showing early color.

I used 8"x10", Pastelbord base, mostly Terry Ludwig pastels.

Many thanks!

Will Evans
Fairview, NC



Adventure E-5

A Winning Combo

Title: Connection

Size: 9" x 12"

Surface: UART 500 grit

Combining reference photos is a great way to build a composition that tells a story and/or creates clarity for what the artist is trying to convey.

For this painting, I used 3 reference photos, all of which were taken at the same equestrian event. The main photo was too busy; it had several horses, riders, and spectators watching the event and waiting their turn to enter the ring.

I wanted to focus on just one horse and moment that showed the close connection that often develops between the horse and rider before, during, and after the event. It is what makes them a team.

The other two photos were used to add some color and depth to the composition without distracting from the focal point, i.e. the close relationship between horse and human.

Alec Hall

Hendersonville, NC



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Mercy me, I feel like I need to apologize up front. Why? Because my E-5 is a mess. My combo plate is over saturated with soft pastels. LOL.

As you can readily tell this is a repurposed piece (Pastelmat.) the reflection of the woman is a giveaway. So I decided to try a fish plate (recently painted fish in an Alain Picard class).

The lemon is from my photo of my one and only Meyer Lemon that I harvested last summer.

Here's my messy combo plate.

Thank you for all you do Chris.
The APS Adventures are always fun and challenging!

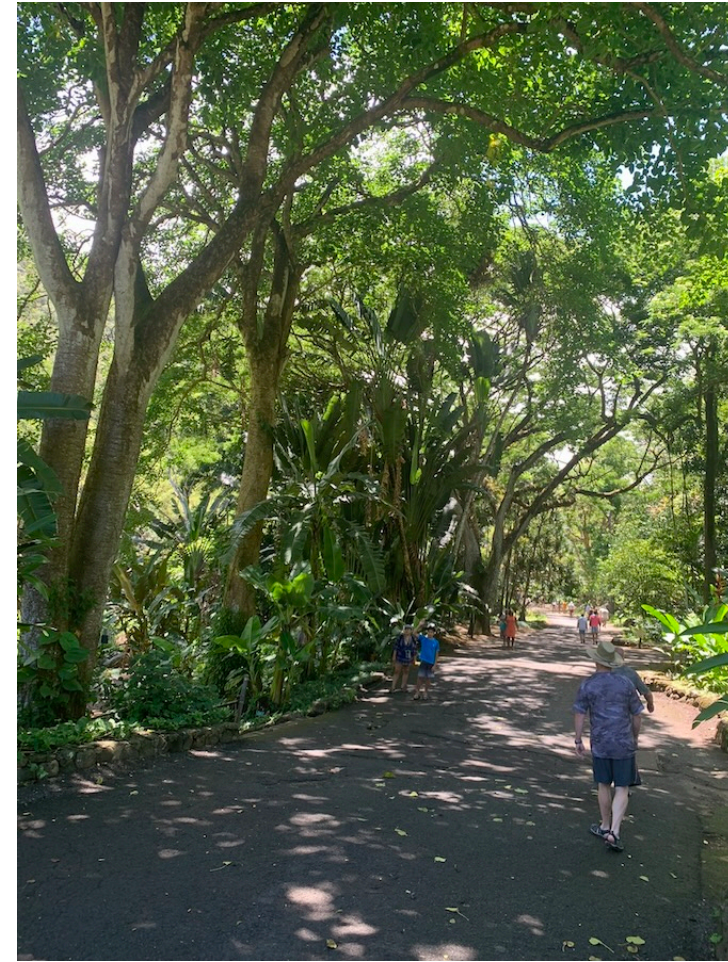
Vernona Hearne
Matthews, NC



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This was a fun challenge and I learned a lot. I recently got materials to do a Rita Kirkman under painting on water color paper and I was anxious to try it out. So I started with that. The 1st pic of three kids was taken over 20 years ago on vacation in Croatia. I always thought it was so cute of my cousins kids. The 2nd pic is from last winter, when we hiked a park in Florida. I have to say that I did not like the texture of the water color paper with this technique of pastel ground and acrylic paint. I felt that the pastels didn't lay down as well. I will try it again.

Karen Knaub
Lake Lure, NC



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Attached is my painting "Rocky Beach" done on Sennelier Pastel Card, 14x11; these never seem to turn out as anticipated. In addition to using photos of a beach area, a rocky area, and sky, I also removed a person that was in one of the photos. Thanks for the adventure.

Cindy Lidd
Garner, NC



Adventure E-5

A Winning Combo

Composition 9x12

This was more about putting the elements together rather than execution...a photo of an angled field and horses the fence was last minute.

Margaret V. Lyn-Soroken
Black Mountain, NC



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“Carnival Illusion”
4x6

NOT FINISHED -- started the horses then got the dumb idea to put a in fancy background /.... well that did not work so had to remove it. Not enough time to complete this.

Linda Medders - Jackson Cross, SC



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Roan Mountain Bald in the Fall : color study
9 x 12 Soft pastels on Burnt Sienna La Carte Pastel

My photo had some aspects I liked, however it looked like there was a dark hole in the middle caused by a tree's shadow. My thumbnail helped me. I made changes by toning down the shadow and adding complementary colors to the hill. I looked away from the reference. I removed a couple of trees and attempted to focus on the hill with the orange flowers and grasses all around. I found a similar photo on Pinterest which helped me along with color. I overworked it. I was not used to La Carte and remembered it takes very soft pastels. A challenging Adventure, indeed.

Meryl Meyer
Weaverville, NC



Adventure E-5

A Winning Combo

Hello: Here's my combo submission of yellow wildflowers on a rocky coastal cliff. Always wanted to visit these cliffs in Ireland in spring but never got the timing right. So here's an attempt to put those flowers where I thought they might be. Next time, I'll reconsider how the lighter flowers would look against a darker background, but as always, these challenges get you going and help you learn. I've included the main reference and the flower pic.

Title: Near and Far
Soft pastels on LaCarte

Thanks all,

Pat Quigley
Norristown, PA



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I used 3 different photos to create this painting: one for the water, one for the dunes, and one for the fences. Still needs a little work.

Title: Don't Fence Me In

Size: 16h x 20w

Andrea Stutesman
Black Mountain, NC



Adventure E-5

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“Bees, Balm and Hummingbird”

I have lost my reference photos. One was of the brick wall with pink bee balm and bees. The other of a ruby throat hummingbird on a pink bee balm flower. I made this more abstract than the photos. I also changed the flowers to purple and put in less flowers. 11x14 on a Crescent drawing board. Assorted soft pastels and a few pastel pencils.

**Ruth Whitaker,
Newnan, GA**

