

# Painting in Vermont

In 2007 I traveled to Vermont to spend three weeks immersed in painting. I spent the first week studying with Peter Scroth, “Landscapes, the Quick Sketch”. We painted between four and ten paintings a day. I wanted something that would loosen me up, and boy, this did!

The second week I studied painting *en plein air* (in open air, outside) with a palette knife under Ken Beck. It became life-altering. I heard angels sing when I picked up the knife, and I never looked back. Since that week I can count on one hand the number of paintings I have done with a brush.

The third week was a studio week. I was given a studio by myself, and I spent every day traveling between dormitory and studio, painting outdoors and indoors, incorporating all I had learned, comparing techniques.

I did this because I knew that if I went home after the two weeks, everything would have been ‘unlearned’. Instead, I used that third week to internalize what I had learned, and make it my own.

BEST. MONEY. SPENT. EVER.