



MAN IN THE MOON

PAINTING WITH WATERCOLOUR

INFORMATION SHEET

BRUSHES

MATERIALS

BRUSHES

There are lots of different types of brush and brands available but it is adviseable to go for the best brushes you can afford rather than unknown brands. Brushes, if cared for, can last for many years and as an artist you become attached to these tools that are key in determining the type of marks you make. Some of your brushes over time will actually wear in the way that favours the type of mark making you use the most. Sable is by far the best of watercolour brush material but there are now synthetic mixes that are very good and squirrel brushes that are very soft can also be very useful and are favoured by many artists.

It helps to get to know the most common types of brush that you can buy. Different brushes make different types of mark and with experience it can save you a lot of time to select the right brush for the mark you want to create. This must be learnt through constant practise but there is nothing more exciting than to discover a new mark with a different type of brush that you have been unable to make before. The size of the brushes you choose depends on the size of paintings you want to create, always try to use the largest brush you can for the task in hand.



Left to right
large round, small round, rigger.



Left to right
filbert, flat, flat or wash brush



Left to right
quill, squirrel mop, sword liner, fan

The above photos illustrate the most common brush types but it is not an exhaustive list. There are many other types of brush for making particular marks and strokes. However rather than spend a fortune on brushes your time and energy is better spent perfecting and increasing the type of mark you can achieve with each of the brushes you have. Always wash your brushes in clean water after use and dry them. I advise only using your brushes for watercolour as using them with other types of paint will cause damage. Leave them lying flat to dry off.