

book of days 2018 w/ effy wild



"dreams"

This week, I really wanted to demonstrate a spread that goes beautifully with last week's additions to Boot Camp. This is a super easy, super quick background that can be called upon any time you aren't sure what you want to create, but you know you want something shimmery and vibrant. Once you create the background, you can sketch in easy, simple focal images that anyone can draw, and then push and pull things with glazes and highlights.

This background technique starts with shimmer DecoArt misters, but you can use any ink spray you like. If you're using sprays you know aren't waterproof, it's a good idea to fix the background with some Krylon workable fixative before proceeding.

Despite the deep, interesting, and pretty nature of this spread, it only took about an hour! I know! Shocking! And if you are working smaller, it will likely take less time, especially if you work with less complex focal images, like love hearts or super simple florals.

Throw a sentiment at it, and voila! You've got yourself a super shimmery spread that will make your heart sing.

One note: It is extremely difficult to photograph these properly due to the reflective nature of iridescent paints and mediums. Don't let these photos fool you! These spreads shine like they're sent straight down from heaven. You'll see when you do one of your own.

Along with the iridescent paints (the brand I'm using is Pebeo, but any metallics, or fluid acrylics mixed with iridescent medium will do), the spotlight in this spread is on the gorgeous silver pen. It is a Unibal Signo brand, broad, very opaque ink, and excellent for doodles, outlines, and lettering. It is **very wet** as it comes out of the pen, though, so it is easy to smudge and smear. As often as you can, stop. Fix the pen. Dry the spread. This will help you avoid smudging your work out with a misplaced palm. The great thing about this, though is that if you make an 'oops', it is easily removed with a swipe of your finger, a baby wipe, or a wet paint brush.

Zinc white also plays a major role in this spread as it allows you to add highlights to areas you want to bring forward a bit without losing the patterning in the background. Zinc white is fantastic for creating an ethereal, almost gauzy layer that lets everything you did before shine through.

And, finally, a note on Iridescent medium. I've been finding it absolutely integral to my practice, since it is mixable with any acrylics product, and can be used in all the same ways we use polymer medium. It does have a wee bit of texture to it, too, which is just lovely when you brayer it on.

I can't wait to see what you do with this tutorial!



supplies

Deco Art misters. Or use any sprays you have that you like, but especially those with mica in them.

Iridescent or metallic paints. I'm using Pebeo High Viscosity acrylics. Alternatively, mix your fluid acrylics with iridescent medium from Liquitex to get similar results.

Stencils and white and black/black ish paint.

White paint marker.

Iridescent medium from Liquitex

Stabilo All pencil in black

Zinc White (or 'mixing white') fluid acrylic + Fluid acrylics in colours you like for glazing.

Faber Castell Pitt Pens (I used a purple and a cobalt green).

Unibal Signo silver pen

Workable fixative

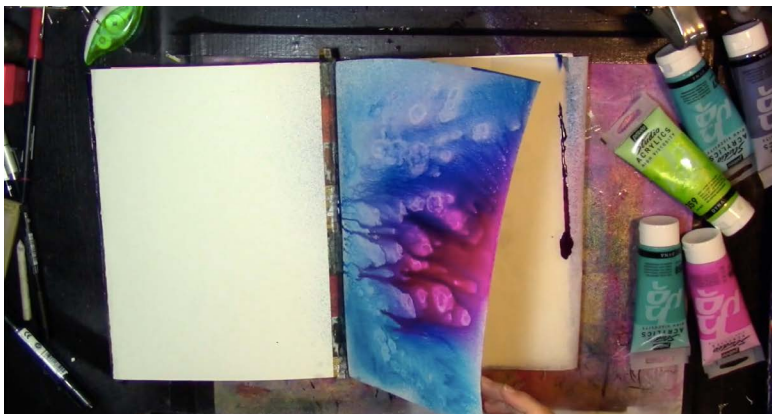
video links

[Facetime](#)

[Part One](#) | [Part Two](#) | [Part Three](#)

[Speed Painting](#)



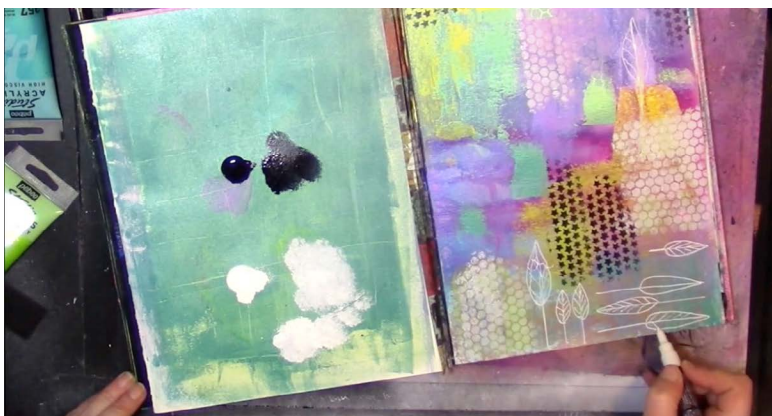


Start with whatever shimmery sprays you have on hand. If you know them to be waterproof, no need to fix (Deco Art Mistars are waterproof). If you know they aren't waterproof, dry and fix before proceeding.

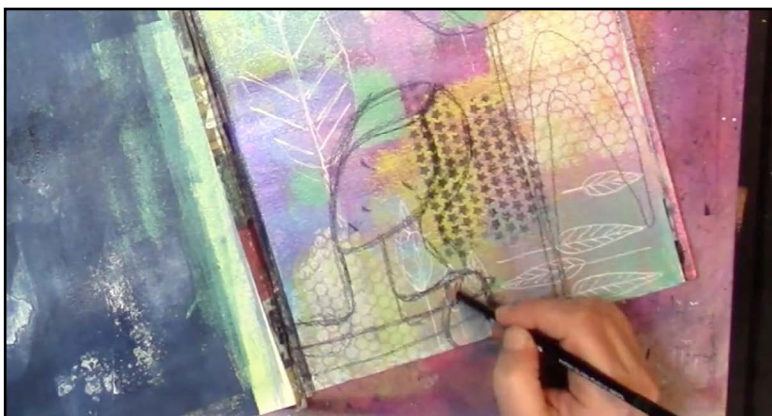
This sprayed background got a bit of water, and a bit of alcohol flung at it to create some really pretty effects. Dry thoroughly before proceeding.



Scrape iridescent paints onto the sprays using a palette knife. Dry thoroughly. Stencil in some background designs using white paint, and black (or Payne's Grey) paint.

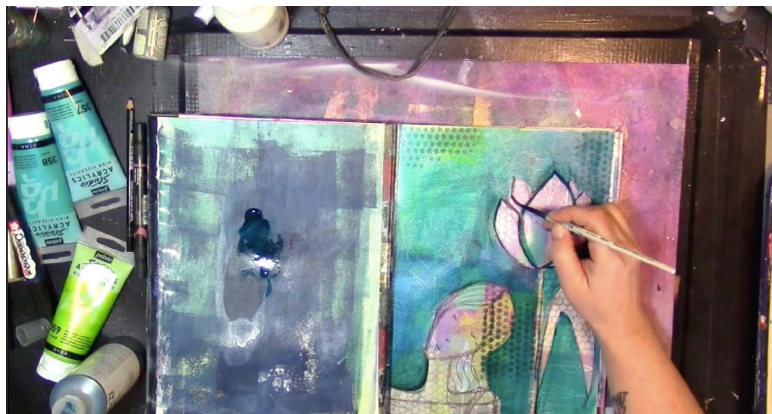


Add some doodles using a white Uniposca paint pen. Add a layer of iridescent medium to this dry layer. Brayer for texture, and allow to dry.

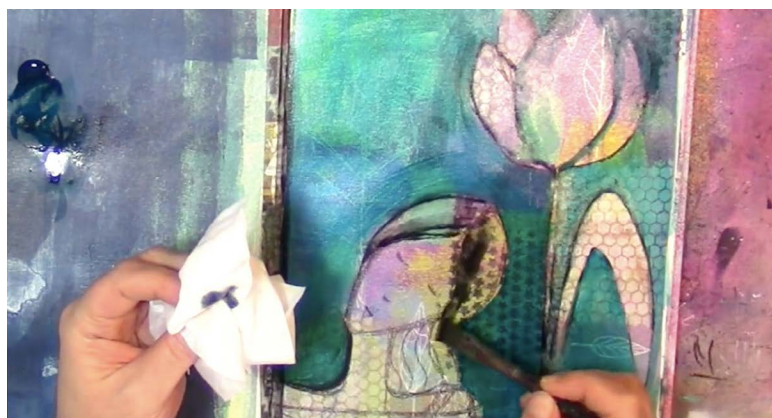


Add your focal images using a Stabilo All pencil. If your background is quite light, use a black pencil. If your background is quite dark, use a white pencil.





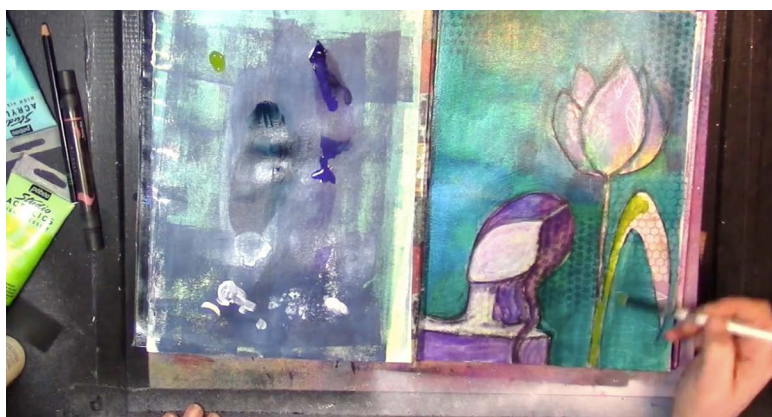
Glaze around your focal images using a transparent paint. Use the same colour to add some refinement to your focal images where needed.



Activate and remove excess Stabilo. If you're using black stabilo, you can use it to add some shading.



Doodle inside with a finer pen. In this lesson, I'm using the Uniball Vision which is waterproof once cured. I like to heat set mine.



I glazed my girl's hair and garment with purple, and the foliage with green gold. I also added zinc white to the insides of your focal images to 'light them up' without losing your patterns. Let this dry.

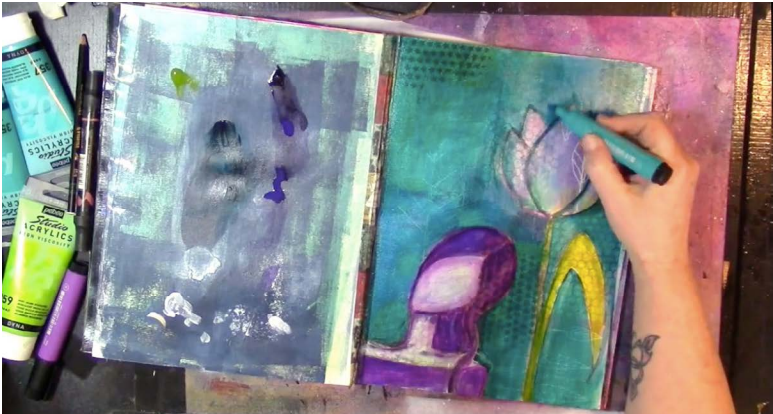




Spray with water, and remove any excess Stabilo All Pencil.



I used a purple Faber Castell marker to shade, and refine my girl.



I used a cobalt green Faber Castell marker to shade around my flower, and add some refinement around the shape.

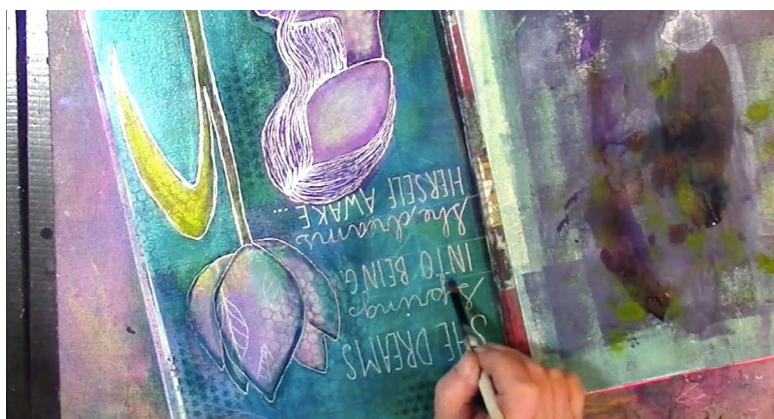


Now for the fun part! Use a silver gel pen to add outlines and details in your focal images. Fix this layer before proceeding using Krylon Workable fixative.





Create some journaling lines using a ruler and a white Stabilo All pencil.



Add your text, and then 'paint out' the Stabilo All with a wet, clean brush. Remember that the Unibal will move, so avoid it.



Using the silver pen, add more doodles as desired. Use a wet, clean brush to correct any misplaced lines.



I went over my letters one more time and added a doodled banner to the top. A layer of workable fixative was all it took to finish this spread, since it is already glossy and shimmery enough.

TA DA! Your turn!



