

LIVING CRAFT: A Painter's Process

by Tad Spurgeon



A contemporary oil painting textbook, featuring:

- 12 years of research guided by technical art history.
- 408 pages about oil painting methods and materials
- 108 unique formulas for grounds, paints, and mediums
- Emphasis on safe practice and solvent free painting.

Once upon a time, long ago, and even far away for those of us in the New World, painters had a deep understanding of their materials. This came about through a combination of training and experience, in a world both simpler and more complex than own own. Under these circumstances, the complimentary routines of life and art fused naturally into a living craft.

What would happen if the craft were explored once again as it had been originally: step by step, by hand? Were the older systems lost, or could they be recreated in a contemporary way? *[Living Craft](#)* is about a twelve year journey into the labyrinth of older techniques and materials, what I found, and the development of these formulas and systems for contemporary painters.

[Living Craft](#) is about a hands-on approach to painting. Furthering awareness of methods and materials is the focus of the text. Like life, it explores a physical system with inherent philosophical implications. Nature does not economize, but is creative. Where do these infinite resources come from? How can we access this approach in our own work?

[Living Craft](#) explains many things that have never been explained before, and contains many traditional materials and methods that have never been documented before. It is a technical book with a soul.

Find out more about [the book](#)

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