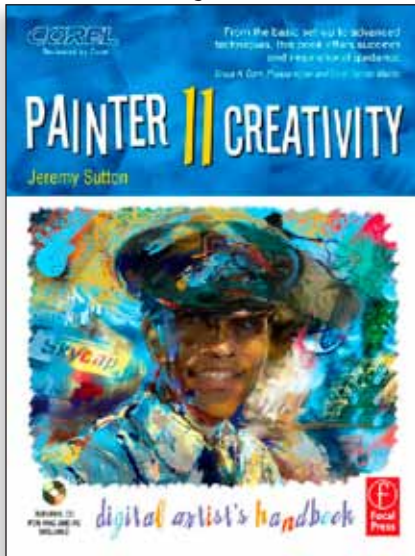


# Painter 11 Creativity

Donna Kamper

Corel *Painter* is a painting program. You create a canvas and work with brushes, markers, pens, colored pencils and other digital equivalents of an artist's tools. You can open a photograph and use it as the basis for a "painted" version, or begin to paint on a blank canvas. Jeremy Sutton's *Painter 11 Creativity* teaches you how to accomplish this, working your way through *Painter's* dizzying array of tools, including the new Hard Media ones added to this version of *Painter*.

Appropriately, the first three chapters begin "at the beginning," Chapter 1 is a guide to the workspace, the toolbox and various palettes and some basic features. Chapter 2 is a 35-page guide to the brushes. Considering the number of brushes (see



screenshots), this is a great visual resource. Knowing how a brush will "paint" is important.

The screen shot shown at far left lists the brush categories that are installed with the program.

The screen shot at near left lists the brush variants – just for the Acrylic brush category. Now look back at that list of brush categories. Each one has its own list of variables. Now you have an idea of how many brushes and other drawing tools there are.

And these are just the brushes and variants installed with the program. There's an endless number available on the internet, both free and for sale. Or create your own variant(s) for any particular brush, changing its size, opacity or other qualities to suit your needs. Those skills are covered in Chapter 3.

The real meat of the book is found in Chapter 4, beginning on page 91. Starting here through Chapter 6 you learn the process of converting photographs into "paintings:" the different steps involved, how to use the tools, working with colors, and finalizing the digital image.

Chapter 7 is "all about color." If semi-abstract impressionism in bold colors is your thing, this is the chapter for you. Sutton's style is exactly that and he teaches with exuberance in a step-by-step method.

Chapter 8, "Collage Portraiture," is actually a combination of different subjects. You learn how to combine images to create a new picture, to create and save papers (textures for your canvas) and he touches on post-print treatment. This last involves adding paint or gel to your finished print to add more depth and resemblance to an actual painting.



That part of the book ends on page 219. The rest of the book (67 pages) is a “Gallery” showcasing Sutton’s work and a “Student Gallery” with work from four of his “Master Students.” All show beginning, interim and final stages of a number of images.

If you leave out the first three chapters and the “Galleries,” a little math tells you the book you’re actually paying for is only 128 pages long. Is this worth the cost? Well, if you’re a fan of the type of work Sutton creates, it may well be. The image on the cover of the book (previous page) is an example of his work.

On the other hand, if you’re looking for instructions in painting something more akin to Sargent or Velázquez, you may not find this that helpful. Styles and tastes differ, and you have to take that into consideration.

A DVD is included, bound into the book. It has five Quick Time movies that run 5 to ±30 minutes long. The tour of Sutton’s studio played, but without audio. The others ran without incident, but these are not instructional videos, more general background about Sutton and his painting style.

The Resources folder on the DVD has several items of interest, including two sets of brushes and their variants and other resources. There are no source images for any of the lessons. Full instructions in PDF and movie format cover how to install the resources so *Painter 11* can access them.

Recommended for *Painter 11* users who appreciate the bold style Sutton teaches. There’s enough basic information that a really interested beginner wouldn’t have too much trouble getting up to speed, even if this were the only book they had.

**About:** *Painter 11 Creativity*

**Author:** Jeremy Sutton  
**Publisher:** Focal Press (an imprint of Elsevier)  
[www.elsevier.com](http://www.elsevier.com)  
**ISBN-10:** 0240812557  
**ISBN-13:** 978-0240812557  
**Price:** \$49.95, \$33.30 @ Amazon