

# Trihue Discoveries: *Discovery favors the prepared mind!* Jerome Bruner

ASSIGNMENT #1: An introduction to painting with the TRIHUE palette. The criteria for this first assignment centers on a discovery process designed to expose the student to the inherent qualities of the watercolor medium, along with the possibilities and advantages of the TRIHUE palette. This highly structured procedure allows little creative deviation, but provides the foundation and tools for a future of creative independence. This independence occurs when the participant is no longer a prisoner of her own ignorance as she becomes aware of her many options.

STEP #1: Cut full sheet of 140# Watercolor paper into four worksheets of equal size.

STEP #2: Soak both sides of the first sheet briefly. Minimize any scrubbing action as it will hasten the removal of the all-important sizing in the paper. Without sizing, the paper is a blotter.

STEP #3: Starting with YELLOW, paint 5 squares of 100% saturation as shown in diagram TRIHUE A below. Below this line create similar rows of 70%, 50%, 30% and 15% saturation as shown.

STEP #4: Repeat this procedure with MAGENTA, changing the configuration according to diagram TRIHUE A.

STEP #5: Repeat the same procedure with CYAN, changing its configuration according to diagram TRIHUE A.

Step #6: Select at least a dozen colors found on the final painting and try to match the color by mixing it on the palette and painting it on a separate worksheet. This provides a second and much faster means of color mixing. It also provides an opportunity to develop an intuitive sense of color relationships.

Step #7: Paint a second matrix following the configuration TRIHUE B below. Repeat assignment if motivated.

Step #8: Demonstrate this lesson to someone else if you truly want to make this your own.

Use "Trehue Discovery Check List" as you paint this assignment. Start a second worksheet while waiting for the first to dry.

How many colors?  
Unlimited Palette!

Additional colors can be created by changing these configurations or adding more swatches of varying percentages of saturation.

**GRAY SCALE**  
When all three colors are equal in saturation, they create a gray scale.

**TRIHUE A CONFIGURATION:**  
Yellow 100% Saturation at top  
Magenta 100% Left vertical  
Cyan 100% Saturation on bottom.

**TRIHUE B CONFIGURATION:**  
Yellow 100% Saturation at top  
Magenta 100% Saturation at bottom.  
Cyan 100% Saturation on Right vertical.

100%  
70%  
50%  
30%  
15%

Notice that the staggered arrangement of squares on the left lets us see more secondary mixtures, as well as seeing more equal areas of each primary tint, than the diagonally aligned arrangement on the right.