



Intense color versus Muted Color

Definitions:

Chroma- color Muted color- color plus the compliment to create a grayer color. Saturated Color- Color unaffected by the compliment, strong color Broken Color- A large color field in a painting that has the same value but a variety of color

How to Create Grays:

Mix 2 complimentary colors; violet and yellow, orange and blue or red and green.

Using muted color makes colors around it look brighter. A painting with too much saturated color doesn't make a statement, every color screams at you. But, a more muted use of color allows you to decide where some saturated color would be effective.

A Muted Limited Palette:

Ultramarine blue Burnt seinna Yellow ochre

A painting with this palette will have a muted, harmonious sense of color and will work with muted light conditions

A Pure Primary Palette:

Ultramarine blue Cadmium Yellow Light Alizarin crimson or cadmium red medium

A painting with this palette will give you the ability to have stronger color statements but you can achieve grays and it will always be harmonious.

Below are 2 paintings by Fedor Zachorov, he was a master at using muted and saturated color Allowing the gray to help the saturated color make stronger statements.



Here are 2 paintings from Chauncey Ryder, you can see the use of grayed and muted colors and how effective they are at creating harmony but also letting the stronger color stand out.

