



Why Color and Value are Relative

Definitions;

Hue= color

Value= dark and lights to suggest light

Color Temperature= warm and cool to suggest sunlight and shadow

Our goal in painting is to suggest the light.

Sometimes, to make an object lighter or darker you have to adjust the values around it. The same goes for color, to make a color brighter, you have to mute or gray the color around it. Practice mixing colors with a limited palette. Learn to mix with fewer colors to better understand color.

Below is a detail from an Edgar Payne painting. The shadows look cooler because the lights are so warm. The reverse is also true; the lights look warm because the shadows are so cool.



This is another Edgar Payne painting, and the light reds look light because of the darker shadows.

