

# MESSAGE FROM ERIC

## - November -

### LOOK FOR THE COLOR IN THE SHADOWS

*To show sunlight in a painting, we need strong value contrasts representing the change from light to shadow. But it is easy to go too far and push the value so dark that the feeling of sunlight is negated.*

*A black, dead shadow can look more like a black hole in our painting than a shadow. Shadows really do have color in them! Step into one along a busy street or in a park and you'll see.*

*In photos, shadows are all the same dark lifeless gray. The camera simply cannot read the color in the shadows.*

*In painting, I have found it very helpful to keep my light pattern very light. This allows my mid-tones to be on the lighter side, and the same with my darks.*

*Creating a lighter dark allows for ample use of reds and yellows, along with a variation of blues. You will find that the colors in the shadows have life now. The feeling of reflected light in the shadows makes the painting look like it is filled with sunlight.*

*Look to the shadows for your light!*

*If you would like to learn more about this topic, check out the third DVD in my Painting Loosely series, Color in Shadows*

*Keep your brush wet!*

**Eric**



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