

Chris Morel Spring Workshop

Back To The Basics For Stronger Paintings
With Chris Morel

May 15 - 17, 2022 Bluebird Studio, Santa Fe New Mexico

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Fee: \$575

To register please contact Bluebird Studios at (720) 933-4022,
info@bluebirdstudiosantafe.com or at
www.bluebirdstudiosantafe.com



“Plein Air Magazine Cover”
Dec 2021-Jan 2022

Chris was featured on the cover of the January 2022 issue of Plein Air Magazine, with a corresponding article by Bob Bahr

About the Workshop

Skill level: Beginner through advanced

Materials used: Oil, acrylic

We will work outside on location, weather permitting, starting, and completing both a morning and an afternoon session. In case of inclement weather, indoor studio space is provided.

I will start the workshop with a quick demonstration highlighting processes and techniques of plein air painting and then students will get started on their pieces.

I'll focus generally and individually on helping students improve from their current skill level to the next.

We will touch on all aspects of painting outside: from choosing subject matter, composition, value, color mixing, and application.

Individual attention is given to each student as I get around to everyone at their easel throughout the day.

All you will need to bring is a great attitude, a desire to learn to paint from nature, and your supplies



About Chris Morel

Joseph Christopher Morel was born in 1958 in rural Maryland. Encouraged by his parents with paper, pencil, paints, and brushes, Chris pursued his artistic interests at a very early age. His father was an X-Ray tech and would bring home sheets of yellow paper that were used to separate X-ray film. These were his first sketchbooks.

The verdant rolling farmland and rustic structures nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains offered powerful inspiration and the subject matter for his earliest work.

As a young man working outside on farms he was fascinated with the forms and shapes of the landscape. The atmospheric moods of his Mid-Atlantic homeland were embedded into his psyche inspiring him to pursue an artist's life.

Chris graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Towson University in the Baltimore area and immediately began working in the printing industry as a graphic artist.

He was impressed with the complexity and structure of creating publications from concept to a final printed product. He became art director at a Washington DC-based printing firm. He was also pursuing his musical interests in bands as a guitarist playing in and around the Baltimore area.

In 1985 Morel moved to Austin, Texas taking a position with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a staff illustrator all the while painting in his studio at home. The illustrator position allowed Chris to illustrate in many different mediums ranging from watercolor, airbrush, oil, acrylic, pencil, etc.

In 1988 Morel decided to leave the TPWD and pursue a full-time career as a painter. In Austin Morel began his fine art career primarily as a watercolorist, transitioning eventually to oils as his primary medium.

1994 he moved with his family to Taos and opened the Morel Gallery next to the Historic St. Francisco de Asis Church in Ranchos de Taos, NM. Upon arriving in Taos, Morel began to paint primarily outside, on location in the spectacular Northern NM high desert region. The massive scale of the Taos landscape, the rich artistic tradition of the Taos Society painters, and the legendary Taos light provided the best environment for his continued development as an artist.

The tall peaks of the Rockies in New Mexico, Colorado, and north through Montana, the canyons and mesas of Utah and Arizona to the west, and the Oak covered hills of California have been a source of much of Chris's work. Morel has also painted extensively throughout Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the Northeast, into Mexico and abroad capturing the landscapes of the regions and celebrating the incredible experience of the "artist" life.

[VISIT CHRIS'S WEBSITE](#)

Supply list

Paints

- Large (150 ml) tube of Titanium White
- (37ml or larger tubes of) Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue
- Cadmium Yellow Light, (I recommend Gamblin, get the lightest yellow you can find), Cadmium Yellow Medium
- Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Orange

Use professional-grade paint in place of poor-quality student grade. You can certainly bring optional colors but we will be working with these split primary colors listed above, plus white, to develop an understanding of basic color mixing.



Canvases or Boards

- Boards are easier to work with outside. Sizes: 8 x 10, 9 x 12, or 11 x 14.
- Larger canvasses are fine if you are comfortable with those sizes. If you bring a stretched canvas, you'll need stiff cardboard to put behind your stretched canvasses to keep light from shining through.

Other Materials

- Small sketch pad and pencil
- Clamp-on Umbrella: (Optional but very helpful when the wind isn't a factor)
- Brushes: Flat and Filbert bristle brushes in sizes (#3, #6, #8, #12) and any other brushes you wish to try.
- Medium: Regular Paint thinner or Odorless mineral spirits for cleaning brushes!
- Generously sized containers to put it in such as a sealable thinner container or coffee can. You'll want to rig the coffee can with wire to hang from your easel.
- Portable Easel for working outside: (Must be equipped to hold palette, thinner container and brushes just below your canvas so you can reach everything easily from your standing or sitting position).
- Glass, wood, or Masonite palette
- Paint scraper for scraping palette: (Plan on scraping the mixing area of your palette several times each day to allow for a clean mixing area).
- Paper towels: 3 or 4 rolls (Viva's are the best)
- Trash bags: Wal-Mart or Grocery store bags work great
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Drinking Water
- Pack lunches for certain locations
- Chilled Wine with crystal wine glasses for the instructor (optional but recommended)



Red, White and Grey 8x16" oil

