

Iris and Girl

MengJia Guo

My major artwork started with an interest in nature and color. In many paintings, artists use natural themes to present emotion and ideas. Landscapes, climate and plants can increase the richness of an artwork. I personally like to study different types of flowers; I think that flowers can help to show a character's emotion in the paint. In history and art, people often anthropomorphize flowers, compare them to girls, and give them different meanings. I thought it would be a very interesting idea to represent different girls with different kinds of flowers. I wanted to study their facial structure, including the five senses, in their expression and eyes. At the same time, I wanted to try to create the temperature of the skin and increase the three-dimensional and richness in the work picture. With these ideas, I set the theme on flowers and girls.

When searching for topic information, I refer to the artworks of Da Vinci and Van Gogh, researched on Da Vinci's skin tone of his characters. And the cool tone that Van Gogh often uses. When I started creating, I put my thoughts on the cool tones, I chose irises for the theme and created a lonely cold girl. The meaning of iris flower is "messenger", to convey your mind to the people away from you. This is the reason I chose irises. To match the color tone, on the creation of facial expressions, I chose the profile and an indifferent expression. In the process of painting, I found it hard to tone and color, especially the skin, I tried to reflect the temperature in the skin. After many attempts, I understood the skills and methods. Use small amounts of color in a small area, and be bold when mixing skin color with red, yellow and blue. Color of under tones needed to be darker, and some parts need to be highlighted. Different layers represent different light sources and tones. I spend most time on creating skin temperatures. I added fine white lines on the painting to represent transparency in the iris bloom. I am very satisfied with the result.

Simultaneously, I learned to experiment with how people present their own thoughts by using nature and symbolically represent emotion with a realistic technique. The authenticity of the painting, lines in thought, meaning and emotion to make it more precious.

#