

# Painting with Gouache

Gouache is an **opaque watercolor** paint. Transparent watercolors allow you to see the "white" of the paper below the paint, while **gouache can be applied in solid colors.** This allows an artist to paint in layers from dark to light.

# Gouache Paints

- Opaque (not see through)
- Pigment + Chalk + Binder
- Water-soluble (can be dissolved in water)
- Fast-drying
- Matte-finish when dry (no shine)

# Gouache vs Watercolors

## Gouache

1. Pigment + **Chalk** + Binder
2. Water-soluble (easily thinned and cleaned with water)
3. Fast-drying
4. Matte-finish when dry
5. Can be re-wet
6. **Opaque** (not able to be seen through)

## Watercolors

1. Pigment + Binder
2. Water-soluble (easily thinned and cleaned with water)
3. Fast-drying
4. Matte-finish when dry
5. Can be re-wet
6. **Transparent** (see-through, allowing light to pass through) and usually applied to white surface

# Gouache vs Acrylic

## Gouache

- Pigment + **Chalk** + Binder
- Water-soluble (easily thinned and cleaned with water)
- Fast-drying
- **Matte-finish when dry**
- **Can be re-wet**
- **Opaque (not able to be seen through)**
- Can mimic the quality and consistency of watercolors when thinned with lots of water

## Acrylic

- Pigments + Binders (contains synthetic polymer binders)
- Water-soluble *when wet* (easily thinned and cleaned with water)
- Fast-drying
- Glossy, water-resistant when dry
- Can mimic the quality and consistency of watercolors when thinned with lots of water
- Texture and consistency can be modified with acrylic gels, acrylic mediums, or pastes to create various effects































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