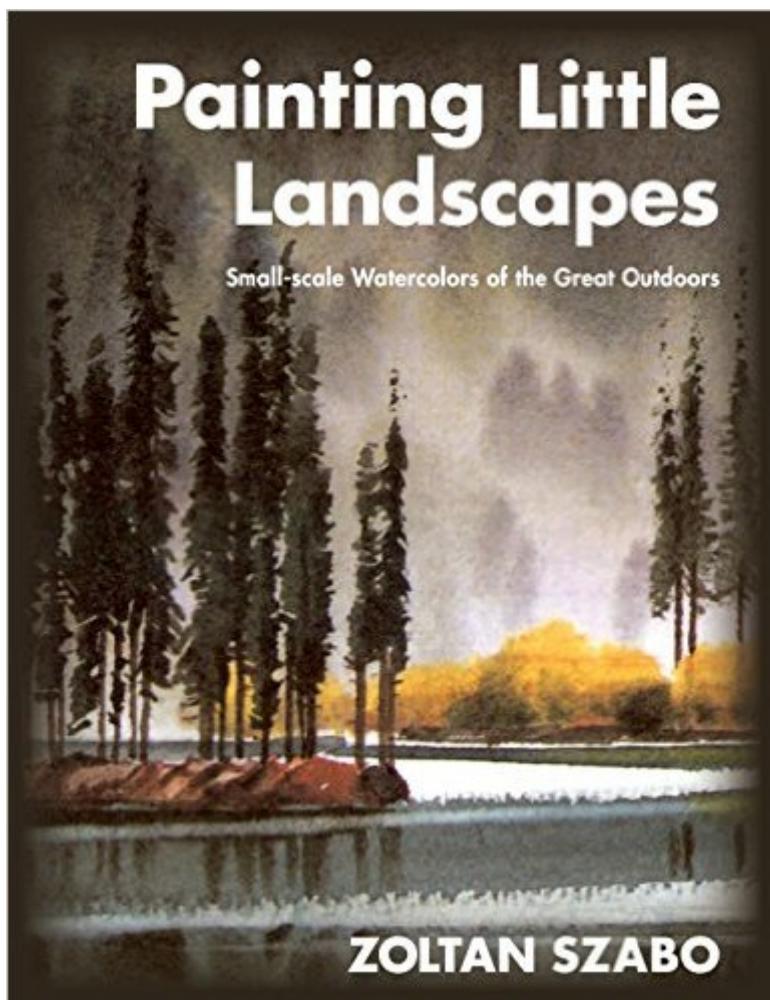


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# **Painting Little Landscapes: Small-scale Watercolors Of The Great Outdoors**



## Synopsis

Internationally acclaimed watercolorist and art instructor Zoltan Szabo demonstrates how to create charming little watercolor landscapes in this instructive volume. Taking readers step-by-step through his finished works, Szabo shows how to take advantage of the benefits offered by a small format (not exceeding 10" x 11"), which include spontaneity resulting from rapid drying and the textural effects granular pigments yield on a small surface. Szabo walks the reader through the creation of each painting, beginning with a reference photo and a pencil sketch and moves on to palette choices, pigment interactions, and brush techniques. Painting Little Landscapes includes assignments, in addition to 180 full-color plates, to help watercolorists create their own miniature landscapes. Each of the seven chapters covers one aspect of nature in its various forms: water, mountains, trees, snow, rocks, skies and clouds, along with flowers and close-ups. Szabo invites artists to see nature in its finest detail and ingratiate themselves in the pleasure of small-scale painting. Learn from the best in this beautifully illustrated comprehensive guide to the magic of watercolor. Zoltan Szabo was born in Hungary in 1928 and studied at the National Academy of Industrial Art in Budapest. He emigrated to Canada in 1949, and made a name for himself as one of Canada's foremost landscape painters. In addition to teaching workshops and seminars on watercolor painting, Szabo has exhibited his work in London, Canada, and the United States. Zoltan Szabo's paintings are found in public and private collections worldwide, including those of the prime ministers of Canada and Jamaica and in the National Gallery of Hungary. Other books by Zoltan Szabo include *Landscape Painting in Watercolor*, *Painting Nature's Hidden Treasures*, and *Zoltan Szabo Paints Landscapes*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

5 stars for the content of the book, but a mere 2 stars (or less) for the quality of the publishing itself. Each page features Szabo's inspirational photos and preliminary sketch for a particular finished work always shown on the facing page. Szabo shares the palette of colors he's chosen for each work and then goes in detail regarding his thought process, planning, and execution of each finished painting. Each section follows this same structure. While some may prefer more abstract tutelage, I find it very useful to be able to see into the mind of the artist and understand how each piece was created brick-by-brick, so to speak. It's always interesting and often helpful to become familiar with different workflows that various artists use. Regarding the publishing itself... it's terrible. I had noticed that people who had purchased the paperback version of this book complained about the quality of the paper inside the book so I bought the hardcover version hoping it might have better paper than the cheaper version of the book. It does not. It's the same horrid newsprint type paper that the paperback buyers had taken issue with. Being familiar with Szabo's work, I know what lustrous colors and values he utilized in his art and all of those things are reduced to overly dark and barely perceivable value ranges due to overall excessive saturation and high contrast produced by printing on such shoddy paper. It really is shameful. If I didn't find the content so valuable for my personal needs, I'd send the book right back. This is not a cheap book, so I cannot begin to rationalize how printing on crummy paper could have possibly been justified.

The content of this book deserves 5 stars but I am very disturbed by the quality of paper, it seems akin to newsprint to me. You can hardly tell a photo from a painting because the images just don't have the clarity or crispness of a good art instruction book. Also, there aren't any intermediate painting steps, although he gives a detailed written explanation of his steps. But hey, we're artists, we like to look at pictures. The paintings are wonderful, explanation (written) is very good, my complaint is printing quantity.

This is an incredible book and find at the price! It's my second book purchase from Szabo and I really couldn't be more pleased with the depth and quality of the material. Plentiful with tips and techniques on various outdoor settings, color palette assistance, and how to sketch and simplify the outdoors. Not a step by step and I appreciate that because it allows you to expand your creativity and thought process, in order to better develop your own skills. Won't be the last book I get from

him!

It is a great little book. It has inspired me to do landscapes both small and large and plein aire as well.

This book is a treasure trove of small landscapes, and lessons on creating different effect. It is the wisdom of a lifetime condensed into one small book,

Like all of Szabos work, Great! It is a good book to do small projects and learn technique from doing them.

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