

Tip #48

MORE Making Time For Art



One of my most popular tips here was on making time for art-so here are a few additional ideas, that have worked for *me* - once you try some out you'll think of more on your own!

Work small! It takes less time to do a painting that's 5 x 7" than a huge canvas or full sheet watercolor.

Think of everything you do, creatively, as making art. Even doodles while you're on the phone!

Sketching is making art, too, and takes very little time. Practice some of the quick-sketch methods, like gesture sketching or blocking in - don't get hung up on details until you have more time to devote to them.

If some wonderful idea occurs to you but you don't have time right now to explore it, at least take time to make a note or two in your journal. Even the roughest of sketches will help bring you back to that point when you can give it the attention it deserves!

Recognize that you DO have time to make art-you can do a few sketches here, expand on them later when another few moments surface, spend a little available time collecting materials you'll need, think out your "plan of attack" while occupied doing more mundane things, then when you can, you're READY.

Don't let yourself get hung in negative self-talk - don't imagine that taking this time isn't a worthwhile activity, or you can't afford it, or you're

being selfish, because you're NOT. This is essential to your wellbeing, and you'll be more able to help family, friends, and co-workers for taking this time to be what you truly are.

Garner time-saving tips from other artists - if you don't have time for an art group, per se, check out your field of interest in something like Yahoogroups or one of the blogging communities (just don't waste TOO much of that precious time online)!

And of course with that thought in mind-turn off the computer, the TV, and the phone ringer, and take time for your art instead. You won't miss them!

And good luck! Do let me know what other ideas you come up with for making time where you think there is none...

Be sure to look for my NEW CDs for artists in my CafePress store, http://www.cafepress.com/cathy_johnson.

