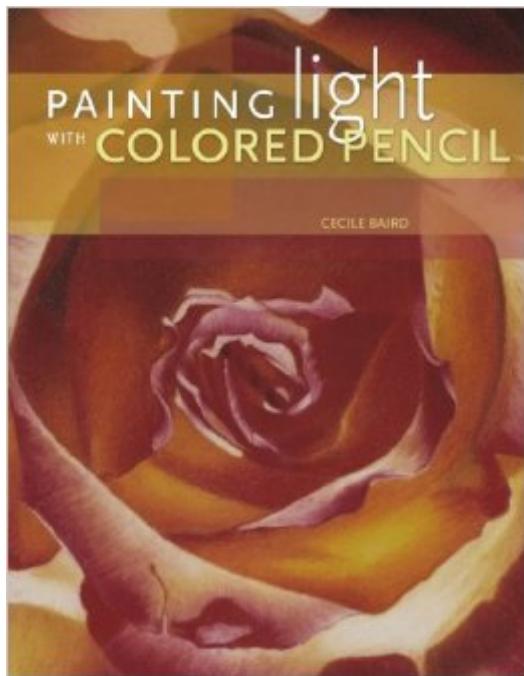


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# Painting Light With Colored Pencil



## Synopsis

Give your colored pencil paintings that extra glow! Capture the qualities and textures of light! Create the light-filled quality of oil painting with the ease of colored pencils—one of the safest, most convenient and easy-to-use mediums available to artists today. Whether you're a beginner or a more experienced artist, your colored pencil paintings will take on new life with the guidance of author Cecile Baird. Using her simple burnishing technique, Baird will show you how to transform an ordinary colored pencil painting into a light-filled masterpiece. Capturing light is one of painting's most common quests; no matter what your medium of choice is. Cecile Baird, a signature member of the Colored Pencil Society of America, provides 20 easy step-by-step demonstrations that show you how to create beautiful luminescent paintings with colored pencil on a wide variety of subjects, such as fruit, flowers, water, light, and glass. Put your skills to work in two extended demonstrations that lead you through the painting process from start to finish to create your own refined, detailed paintings. Start creating your own realistic, light-filled paintings using colored pencils today!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is of somewhat limited use if you have anything other than ultra-realism on your mind. But having said that, Cecile Baird presents a flawless technique with colored pencils that will have your jaw dropping at her gorgeous work. This book is inspiring and there is plenty of eye-candy here to admire. There are many demonstrations of example paintings, and some are quite stunning; water spilled on a tile counter, a bubbling, spurting fountain, translucent honeydew melon and kiwi,

glistening shells, smooth crockery. Each texture is discussed and the technique of blending with a colorless pencil or with solvent is explained. There is also a section on how to photograph your subjects (assuming you do still life a lot, which this artist favors as her subject matter.) There is a good discussion on how many pencils to buy (hint; start with the largest assortment you can find, 72 or more) --and she lists what colors of one particular brand she chooses for each demonstration. The materials needed such as stumps for blending, solvent, etc are covered well in the text. The demonstrations are not as complete as a beginner would need, but a good artist can follow her progress from sketch to final work. Likewise, excellent draughtsmanship is required for this technique. If you do naif works, cartoons, abstracts, or other non-realistic, stylized techniques, this book is of limited value. Therefore, I recommend this to people who want to work from photographs and obtain beautiful realistic results with colored pencils.

I'm not a beginner, but I think an artist on any level of experience and using almost any medium could benefit from this book. It's a jewel, and the emphasis on capturing light is inspiring. Cecile Baird generously shares her wonderful technique, as well as every aspect of creating a painting. Great presentation, valuable tool! There are numerous demos covering many textures. While time constraints have prevented my trying all of them at this time, I've found the ones I have done easy to understand and follow. Information and insights.....that's what I wanted, and that's what I got!!

I did enjoy the book and found it to be informative with good information of her wonderful and innovative techniques. I would have liked more definitive instructions on how "Shades of Green" was done, not just a small section on rendering Kiwi fruit. The beginning 50 or so pages were on information commonly found in any CP book and therefore of little value to me and perhaps to others who have a library of books already. But if you are a beginner with no books it would be of value to you.

Cecile Baird is an expert with colored pencil realism -- a slow, layered, difficult medium that depends on good drawing skills and a patient attention to detail. Her artwork is spectacular, but unlike some colored pencil books, so are her step by step lessons. She'll take one element from a major work of hers and go through it step by step till you can create something similar -- and from there set up your own still lifes to convey the light of a candle, the rich textures of brass or wax with light shining through it, the soft petals of a rose. Her style creates something reminiscent of the Old Masters, a still life with musical instruments will have lavish textures throughout, brocade that shines in the light

of a lamp, brass that gleams and glass that's transparent. This book solves all of those technical mysteries and is wonderful if you want to draw chrome or glass or cloth or light. Ms. Baird has a great way with words too, her explanations are clear and easily followed as she breaks down what seems to be an intuitive process into understandable principles you can apply to your own ideas and subjects. Be prepared to make some intelligent substitutions on which colored pencils to use for the projects, or visit several art stores for open stock pencils. Like most authors of colored pencil books, she has her favorites and they range across several brands. But having tried the projects by substituting similar colors in Prismacolors, they work fine with the substitutions.

"Painting Light in Colored Pencil" is a wonderful book if you are interested in technique applied to still life compositions. She does a great job of moving reader through process of the creation of a "mood" that is related to light. Most of her examples involve fruit, flowers, and ceramics. If this is your interest, you will find the book helpful. If you are interested in landscapes or more unorthodox subjects I believe you will feel the book is too limiting. The first 31 of 126 pages is dedicated to materials, photography, and composition. For a beginning colored pencil artist this may be very helpful section. For advanced artists, you will probably skip over this section. I liked the book since it contains interesting techniques and a good message -paint what you like (what inspires you) and have fun at it.

Fabulous book. I am a beginner with color pencils. The author gives not only examples of objects she has completed, but also techniques and colors used to achieve that piece. Highly recommend both this and "The Color Pencil Bible.". For me, the two books are complementary. Where one is a bit light in details the other is strong in that area and vice versa. This book doesn't give much info on paper and various brands of pencils. Other book does give info on that. Highly recommend both books. Between the two I have created some lovely pieces of "photo realism."

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