Christmas Traditions

by Tracy Meola

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Palette:
DecoArt Americana

Antique Maroon #13160
Charcoal #13088
Evergreen #13082
Mississippi Mud #13094
Tangerine #13012
Tuscan Red #13255

Buttermilk #13003
Cool White #13240
Light Avocado #13106
Spicy Mustard #13284
Terra Cotta #13062

Surface:
Canvas Banner #40130

Misc. Supplies:
Gray Graphite paper #70141
White Graphite paper #70139
Stylus #70125
DecoArt Fabric Painting Medium #70084
Jo Sonja Clear Glaze Medium #83106
Wire Hanger with Star #70175 (optional)

Brushes:
Papillon by the Artist's Club

Script Liner, size 1 #20141
Shader, size 6 #20127; size 8 #20129; size 14 #20132
Angular Shader, size 1" #20114

Preparation:
Iron canvas to remove wrinkles. To accommodate the Wire Hanger with Star, I turned under 2" at the top of the banner and stitched it down on my sewing machine (this could also be glued, or if you're not using this hanger, this isn't necessary). Transfer the design elements.

Painting Instructions:
General Instructions: *Basecoat each design element with the color listed using the brush that best fits the size of the area unless otherwise specified. All floated shading & highlighting is done using the brush that best fits the size of the design unless otherwise specified. When shading and high-lighting soak the area with clear water or fabric medium before side-loading and floating the shade color on. This will allow the paint to glide on smoothly and not drag or dry out. If necessary, you can also add more water to your brush than when you are painting on wood, the water will help the paint blend. (Anywhere that you see a mix with the numbers in parenthesis (2:1) it is the mixing ratio - 2 parts of the first color to one part of the second color.)*

Paint the background & table around the design elements leaving them white. Use the 1inch wash brush and add water to the brush as you basecoat, making the paint move easier and absorb into the canvas. The background should appear mottled, not solid or opaque. Basecoat the table with Terra Cotta, work in some Tangerine now and then to the top half of the table tapering off to just Terracotta. Work some Mississippi Mud in with the Terra Cotta now and then for the table's bottom half. Add the line that suggests a table edge using Mississippi Mud. Highlight above the line on the top edge of the table with Tangerine. Paint the rest of the background with Charcoal.

Wreath: Using the script liner brush, stroke long wavy vine lines on the wreath, first with Terra Cotta, then Mississippi Mud and then Terra Cotta + Buttermilk (1:1). Create the binding vines with wider strokes of Mississippi Mud. When completely dry, wash Mississippi Mud over the wreath. Move on to the next element and come back to the wreath when dry. When dry, go back and stroke more wavy lines on using Terra Cotta, then Terra Cotta + White (1:1), then Mississippi Mud + White (1:1). Highlight the binding vines with Mississippi Mud + White and then again by adding more White. Shade beside the binding vines on the wreath on both sides with Charcoal.

Candle Holders: Paint Tuscan Red. Shade Antique Maroon under the top lip, under the center portion of the stem of the holder on to the bottom lip, and on the two outer edges of the top lip where they appear to go behind the candle. Highlight Tangerine along the center of the top and bottom lip and in to the right of the center area of the stem. When this dries add more Tangerine in a smaller section of each area. Apply a final sparkle with Cool White.

Candles: Paint the candles Buttermilk. Shade with Mississippi Mud down the two sides, across the back top and under the front top. Shade around the outside of the wax drip. If the shading looks too stark, apply a coat of Buttermilk back over to quiet the shading. Lightly tint a few small areas with Terra Cotta. Highlight by blending Cool White down each candle to the right of the center, along the top above where you shaded and on to the bulbous part of the wax drip. This may take 2 or 3 applications. (Flames are done later.)

Box Bottom: Paint Buttermilk. Shade with Mississippi Mud on the left end, to the right of the center corner and on both sides of where the ribbon is on the right end of box. Highlight Cool White to the left of the center corner.

Box Top: Paint Tuscan Red. Shade Antique Maroon on the left side of the box edge, to the right of the ribbon, to the right of the center corner and on the right edge, along the top of the box edge where it meets the top and under the bow on the box top. Highlight using Tangerine along the top of the box where it meets the edge and on the box edge down the left of the center corner. Add a touch of White to Tangerine and with the liner brush stroke a line down the edge of the box corner and along the top where it meets the edge but in the center only. Use the liner and pull a line along the bottom of the edge of the box top with Antique Maroon.

Ribbon: Basecoat with Light Avocado. Ornament: Paint the ball Tuscan Red. Shade along the left bottom, right side and top with Antique Maroon. Highlight the center of the ball (slightly to the right) with Tangerine. Add a final shine in the center of the highlight with White. Stroke a small line of Tangerine on the shading at the bottom left.

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The metal cap is painted with Spicy Mustard. Shade down the two sides with Terra Cotta. Highlight down the center of the cap with White. Use the liner brush and stroke a small faint White line across the top of the cap. The wire hanger is painted Spicy Mustard using the liner brush. Shade where the hanger twists behind itself with Terra Cotta + Antique Maroon (2:1). Highlight with White.

Bow: Basecoat Tuscan Red. Shade with Antique Maroon onto the loops behind the knot and tails under the knot. Shade the bottom of the knot. Use the script liner and pull some pucker lines on to the loops and some short ones coming down the tails. Highlight with Tangerine on the two outer ends of the loops, on the outer sides of the knot and between the puckers that were painted in Antique Maroon.

Star: Basecoat with Spicy Mustard. Paint the edges that you can see with a mix of Spicy Mustard + Terra Cotta (2:1). Highlight the Star with White. When dry add more White to brighten the center of the highlight. The string is Buttermilk.

Greens: Basecoat using #6 flat brush with Light Avocado. Paint negative spaces with Evergreen. Mix Light Avocado + Buttermilk (2:1) and stroke over greens with the liner brush. Add more buttermilk to the mix and add more strokes to greens. Add glints to the greens with a few strokes of Buttermilk.
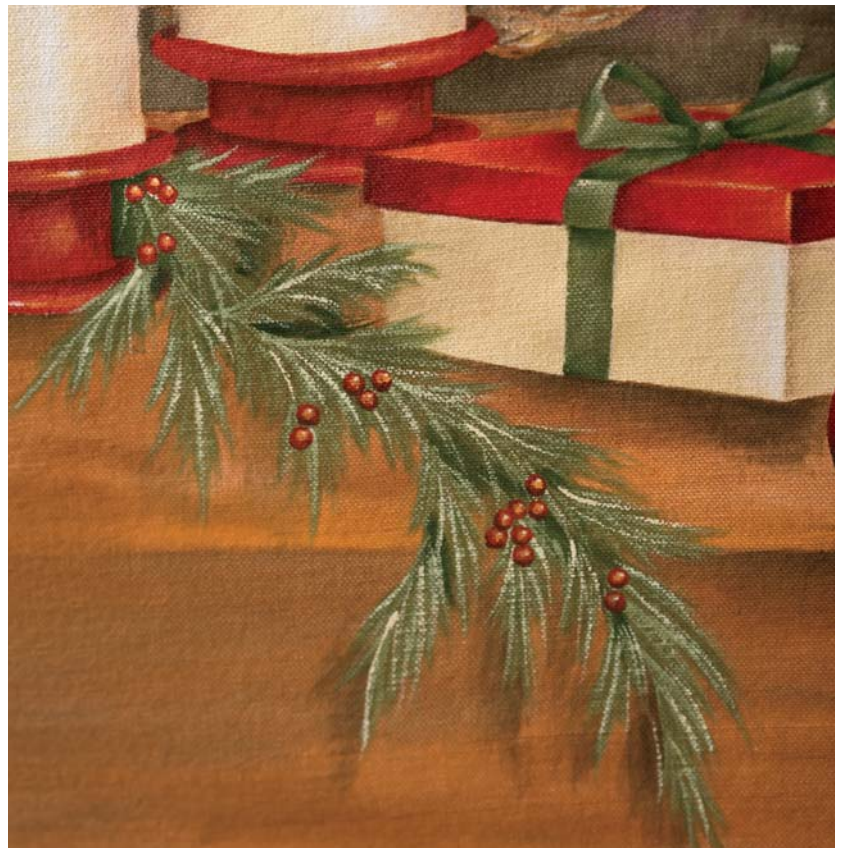
Berries: Paint Tuscan Red. Add a highlight in the center of each berry with Tangerine. Add a sparkle dot with White to the top of the Tangerine highlight.

Wicks & Flames: Note that the wick on the candle that is dripping is shorter. The flame will lie lower on this candle than the other one. Use the script liner and paint the wicks with Mississippi Mud. Go over them with Mississippi Mud + White (1:4). Be sure and apply water to the flame area, then add Tangerine concentrating the color at the bottom of the flame and letting it lighten as the flame gets higher. Apply some Spicy Mustard at the bottom center of the flame to show more intensity where it is closer to the wick. Add a small amount of White close to the wick.

Lettering: Paint the letters with Spicy Mustard using the #6 brush. While wet, stroke some White into the center areas of the letters to highlight.

Shadows: Sideload the #14 Shader brush in Charcoal and float to the right of each letter. Float under the bow tail that is outside the wreath. Shade next to the wreath on the inside, left of the star. Use Mississippi Mud and create the shadows by floating under the greens hanging off the table, under the candle holders, under the gift box and under the ornament. If these need to be darker, add a little Charcoal to the Mississippi Mud.

Tint the background with Tuscan Red to the right of the star, inside the wreath (right of the left side), to the right of the greens on the wreath, and to the right of each of the letters.

Finishing:

When completely dry, iron the canvas again by setting your iron on
a light, NO STEAM setting and covering the banner with a piece of brown paper and ironing on top of the brown paper. If you did not use fabric medium during painting, apply one coat of Clear Glaze Medium for protection.

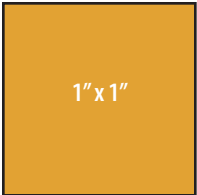The banner is intended for inside use only.

Pattern at 100%

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Pattern at 100%

1" x 1"

To ensure your pattern is at 100%, this box should measure 1" x 1" when printed.

Pattern at 100%