Birds in Trees


## Birds in Trees

By Shirley Koenig

## Palette:

DecoArt Americana Acrylics
Black Green \#13157
Burnt Umber \#13064
Cadmium Red \#13015
Foliage Green \#13259
Hauser Medium Green \#13132
Lemonade \#13246
Slate Grey \#13068
Tuscan Red \#13255

Blue Harbor \#13283
Butterscotch \#13518
Cool White \#13240
Hauser Dark Green \#13133
Lamp Black \#13067
Persimmon \#13516
Soft Black \#13155

## Surface:

Puffed Trees - set of 3 \#62600

## Misc. Supplies:

Sea Sponge Pack \#70391
Cotton Swabs (dampen \& use to wipe small mistakes)
Saral Sampler Pack \#82069
DecoArt DuraClear Varnish - Satin \#87394

## Brushes:

Papillon by the Artist's Club
Glaze Wash, size 3/4" \#20102
Angular Shader, size 1/4" \#20109; size 3/8" \#20110
Round, size 1 \#20157; size 3 \#20159
Filbert Comb, size ¼" \#20105

## Painting Instructions:

TREES - Lightly sand the trees and stands. Paint all three trees - front and back and the three stands BLACK GREEN. Dampen the sea sponge and lightly sponge the three trees front, back and bottom edge with HAUSER MEDIUM GREEN and FOLIAGE GREEN. Transfer the birds to the rounded front of each tree. Use a \#4 round and paint a wash of SLATE GREY over the body of each bird on all three trees. Use a $1 / 4$ angular brush - a mix of FOLIAGE GREEN plus a touch of HAUSER MEDIUM GREEN to float and pat lighter green around all six birds. Pat and blend into the sponged background. Paint the birds on all three trees then finish the trees.



THREE CHICKADEE'S on the tall tree. Use a \#4 round - LAMP BLACK and paint the tails - top of the heads - throat and eyes. Paint the wings and the back of the middle bird with a dark grey mix of SLATE GREY plus LAMP BLACK. Use the \#4 round to add lighter streaks on the wings, tail and back of the middle bird and paint the beaks with a light grey mix of SLATE GREY plus COOL WHITE. Float and streak BUTTERSCOTCH on the tails, wings, lower breast on the top and bottom bird, top of the wings and the white section on the heads and a touch on top of the beaks. Use a \#1 round - COOL WHITE and add highlight streaks to feathers, beaks and dot the eyes. Float BLUE HARBOR on top of each head, on the lower section of the breast, base of the tails and a few streaks on the wings. Top birds legs are LAMP BLACK -highlight with BLUE HARBOR plus COOL WHITE.


TITMOUSE on the small tree - Brush mix BLUE BARBOR plus a touch of LAMP BLACK - streak and shape the wing, tail and around the edge of the head and paint the beak. Paint the eye LAMP BLACK. Paint the breast and around the eye COOL WHITE. Brush mix BLUE HARBOR plus a touch of COOL WHITE - streak on the head, wing and tail. Float this same blue mix on the white breast below the wing. Brush mix a lighter blue with COOL WHITE plus a touch of HARBOR BLUE and streak the tail, a few streaks on the wing and the head. Legs are LAMP BLACK with streaks of the lighter blue mix. Dot the eye and streak the beak with COOL WHITE. Float and streak BUTTERSCOTCH on the tail, wing, lower breast and a small streak behind the eye.

TWO RED BIRDS on the wide tree - Red Bird on the left - Use a \#4 round and base paint the body with a light red mix of CADMIUM RED plus BUTTERSCOTCH. Paint the black mask with LAMP BLACK and the beak BUTTERSCOTCH plus PERSIMMON. Use a $1 / 4$ angular brush - a dark mix of TUSCAN RED plus LAMP BLACK and float a streak around the top knot, down the outside of the head, back, tail, base of the tail and under the wing. Streak and float TUSCAN RED from the top knot to the tail, the lower body, around the wing and mask. Float and streak highlights on the head, wing, chest and tail with BUTTERSCOTCH plus CADMIUM RED. Add a few light streaks with BUTTERSCHOCH. Outline the eye with a thin line of BUTTER and highlight the beak. Dot the eye COOL


## WHITE.

FEMALE on the right - Use a \#4 round and paint the breast and head with BUTTERSCOTCH. Paint the tail, wings, around the breast and streak along the head with BURNT UMBER plus a touch of SOFT BLACK. Add lighter brown streaks to the same area with BURNT UMBER plus PERSIMMON. Add a few TUSCAN RED plus CADMIUM RED streaks. Brush mix BUTTERSCOTCH plus PEERSIMMON - paint the beak, streak the head, pat and float the middle of the breast and streak the tail. Paint the eye and around the beak with LAMP BLACK. Float and streak highlights on the head, under the beak, around the breast and the tail with BUTTERSCOTCH plus a touch of BUTTER. Highlight the beak with BUTTER and dot the eye COOL WHITE.

## Finishing:

Transfer the pattern for the limbs, berries and cones. The green needles are easier to freehand. Use a \#1 round - paint the limbs on all three trees with SOFT BLACK - dot and streak highlights with SLATE GREY. Use a $1 / 4$ filbert comb and paint the dark needles with HAUSER MEDIUM GREEN, FOLIAGE GREEN and FOLIAGE GREEN plus LEMONADE. Use a liner brush and paint the needles on the tall and small tree using FOLIAGE GREEN plus LEMONADE - lightest is LEMONADE.

BERRIES on the wide tree - Use a Q-tip - touch the tip into PERSIMMON, a touch of CADMIUM RED on one edge and a touch of TUSCAN RED on opposite edge. Lightly dot the berries. Brush mix TUSCAN RED and a touch of SOFT BLACK -lightly outline the berries. Add a few stems with SOFT BLACK - highlight with BUTTER.

BERRIES on the small tree - Touch a Q-tip into CADMIUM RED - a touch of TUSCAN RED on the edge and BUTTERSCOTCH on opposite edge. Add stems and highlight a few with LEMONADE. PINE CONES for the tall tree - Base paint all the cones with BURNT UMBER plus a touch of SOFT BLACK. Use a \#4 round or the tip of a $1 / 4$ angular brush - start at the lower tip and work up. Paint one stroke petals using PERSIMMON plus LEMONADE - lighter shade is BUTTERSCOTCH plus a touch of LEMONADE. If needed - separate petals with a float of the base mix. Highlight a few petals with LEMONADE.

Paint the tree stems with BURNT UMBER plus SOFT BLACK and sponge with SLATE GREY. Sponge the round base with HAUSER DARK GREEN and BURNT UMBER - adding spots of HAUSER MEDIUM GREEN.
Finish with several coats of DuraClear Varnish - Satin.


## Pattern at 100\%




