

Thanks for attending my Wednesday evening Cloudscape demo!

As promised, I'm sharing a few final steps I took to complete this painting, along with my reference, my palette, my thumbnail, and a couple of other goodies.

The painting was nearly complete at the end of our two hours. In addition to requiring the careful addition of a few more boats to the water, when I stood back from the easel, I decided it needed a bit more punch so made the following changes to increase contrast, working about another hour to bring the painting to completion.

1. I added increased **saturation contrast** in the form of a punch of high chroma color, by adding an extra glow of deeper orange into the left center of the cloud shadow. This adds luminous glow, and also a sense of depth to the cloud.
2. I added increased **light contrast** by layering a bright warm yellow-white in the brightest, warmest parts of the top of the cloud. This gives more volume to the cloud, suggesting a more complex form.
3. I added **temperature contrast** in the left, shadowed side of the cloud in several areas by layering a cool blue grey next to warm areas to give the sense of misty clouds in shadow in the foreground.

The concept for this piece has to do with the dramatic light, the exuberance of the cloud shape, and the scale, which dwarfs human perspective. SO, I titled it Celestial Celebration.

Celestial Celebration, 16x16



Below are my thumbnail value study, palette and reference, as well as a link to the pastel surfaces article I mentioned.

If you enjoyed this demo and would like to join me next time:

Next Live Demo:

THE SHINING SEA. WEDS JUNE 3, 2026.



At certain times of day the light effects on water become brilliant and dazzling. How to convey sparkling, moving water, and the skies above that create them? Join me for an eye opening demo and bring your sunglasses!







And, here's the link for the article on pastel surfaces, which first appeared in *The Artist's Magazine* this past fall, and was reprinted in the current issue of *The Pastel Journal*.

Thanks again so much for joining me. I hope the demo inspired you with ideas for creating your own cloudscapes!

Happy painting,

Jeanne