Howling Wolf with the Blood Moon

Soft pastel on Velour

Introduction

This project is painted on light grey velour paper. Other colors are available, but the grey paper is most suitable because it is neutral in color. It can be purchased through many art suppliers. The paper is made by Hahnemuhel, a German manufacturer. It can be purchased from Dick Blick or Jerry's Artarama in the United States.

The project uses NuPastel hard pastels and Rembrandt soft pastels. Some projects also use French made Giraults soft pastels. Oil pastels are not suitable for this method of painting on velour paper.

A color chart of all the pastels used in the project is included. It will help guide you to know what color to place in your painting and aid you in matching colors, if the particular brands mentioned are not available to you. The pencils listed are made by Stabilo CarbOthello and should be available on the web.

When transferring your line drawing to the velour paper, use transfer paper. BE CAREFUL NOT to press hard, as it will dent the velour paper which is very soft. Once the paper is dented, it will be nearly impossible to remove. It is recommended that you experiment with this method prior to beginning your final project.

When you search my name, Kay Witt, on You Tube, you will find several demonstrations on my You Tube Channel. These will give you further assistance in the method of painting used in this project.

Feel free to email me at sleepingdogart@gmail.com with any questions you may have to help you through this process. You are also encouraged to attend one of my workshops listed on my website at www.kaywitt.com given at my Virginia studio.

Howling Wolf with the Blood Moon Color List and Materials

11 x 14 sheet Grey Velour Paper
Transfer paper

Nupastels (NP)

223 Burnt Umber

305 Spruce Blue

229 Black

353 Cordovan

211 White

235 Light Blue

314 Old Lilac

266 Pale Vermillion

207 Chrome Yellow

Rembrandts (R)

707.7 Mouse Grey

411.3 Burnt Sienna Dark

411.5 Burnt Sienna

508.5 Prussian Blue

(Unison Dark 18)

397.3 Permanent Rose

(Unison Red 15 , Unison Portrait 9)

700.5 Black

538.5 Mars Violet

Conte 2B White (Very Important) This comes in a 2 pack and you will need both. Search "Conte Crayons" to find on the Dick Blick Website

276 Buff

233 Raw Sienna

Pencils

9B Graphite Pencil

6B Charcoal Pencil

CarbOthello 440 Sky Blue

Caran d'Ache 011 Pale Yellow (Conte 47 Naples yellow)

CarbOthello 700 Grey 1

CarbOthello 704 Grey 3

Caran d'Ache 161 Light Blue (CarbOthello 440 Sky Blue)

General White Pastel Pencil, **General White Charcoal Pencil or other white pastel pencil**

Howling Wolf with Blood Moon

Photos Courtesy Monty Sloan

11 x 14 Light Grey Velour Paper
Transfer paper

Transfer drawing to an 11 x 14 sheet of light grey velour paper. Use a sheet of black carbon paper or other transfer paper. **Do not press too hard** or you will dent your paper. Press just enough to get a light transfer. Carefully reinforce any lines you are missing with your **9B Graphite Pencil** and add a few white hairs with your **White General Pastel Pencil** (or **White Charcoal Pencil)**. Add these mainly on the outside edges so that the edges of the fur will show thru the background colors.
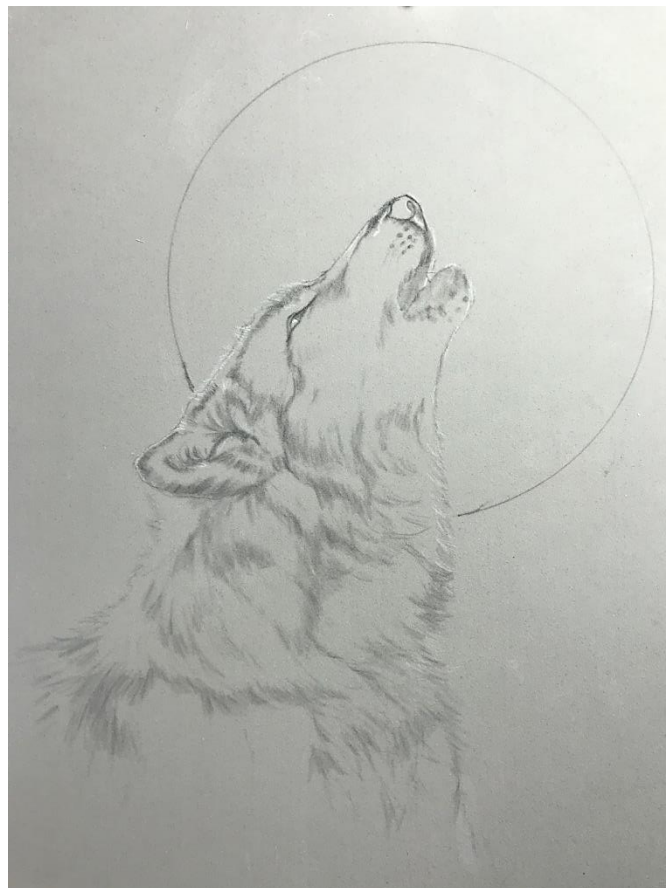
Using your **6B Charcoal Pencil,** add some of the dark areas to your drawing so that they will show thru the layers of pastel and act as a guide or map for you to follow. Darken around the eye and nose and place the dark areas of fur.

Basecoat

Basecoat the wolf with **707.7R (Mouse Grey).** Break stick in half and sand wiping the dust off before using the flat edge to add color.
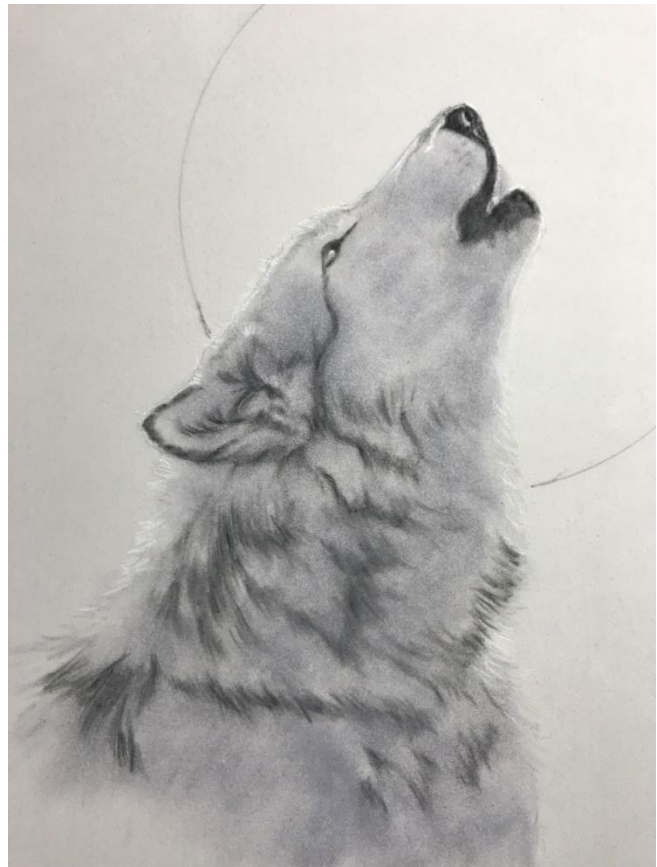
Add a light layer of **411.3R (Burnt Sienna Dark)** (or you can use **223NP (Burnt Umber)** in the areas that have brown fur and **411.5R (Burnt Sienna)** in the red orange areas on the right hand side of the wolf.

Break off a small piece from a **305NP (Spruce Blue),** sand it and wipe off the dust. Use the side of this blue to rub the dark blue color into the dark areas of the wolf.

By layering the **305NP (Spruce Blue), 223NP (Burnt Umber)** and **229NP (Black)** we can achieve colorful shadows and grey tones. We are building beautiful color with complements.

Add **353NP (Cordovan)** to the other colors and continue to alternate the colors to make dark under layers. The colors are compliments (blue and brown) and make a much more interesting color than simply adding grey.

Add more black to the black fur areas with **229NP (Black).**

Basecoat the leg area with **707.7R (Mouse Grey)** and add dark fur areas with **411.3R (Burnt Sienna Dark)** and **223NP (Burnt Umber)** and **305NP (Spruce Blue).**

Background

Put an even layer of **508.5R (Prussian Blue)** around the moon and wolf. Sand the pastel as needed to keep the color coming off. This is a hard pastel and requires more sanding than other pastels. Add **397.3R (Permanent Rose)** over the blue and work down to the bottom of the painting. These combine to make a lovely violet color. If you have soft pastels, like **Unison or Mungyo, you can use these for the background color.** They work great on velour paper for backgrounds. The trick is not to use too heavy an application. Use **Unison Dark 18 (Dark Blue), Unison Red 15** or **Unison Portrait 9** (for the red violet color) or any other soft pastel colors that are similar that you might have.

Add a layer of black around the moon and gradually blend into the navy blue color as you work to the wolf with **700.5R (Black).**

Moon

Basecoat the moon with **411.5R (Burnt Sienna).** Leave the top right edge free of color to add the light areas.

Use **411.3R (Burnt Sienna Dark)** and **538.5 R (Mars Violet)** to add the dark spots to the moon. You could also use **223NP (Burnt Umber)** and **353NP (Cordovan).**

To add the light to the top of the moon use **235NP (Light Blue) or CarbOthello 440 (Sky Blue) or Caran d'Ache 161 (Light Blue)** and **211NP (White)** on the very edge. To add the pink just underneath, use **314NP (Old Lilac).**

Use **266NP (Pale Vermillion)** with **207NP (Chrome Yellow)** over it to create the intense orange color at the base. You can also add an additional coat of **411.5R (Burnt Sienna)** if needed to blend the colors.

Face

Blacken the nose with **229NP (Black)** and also add the whisker holes. Use **CarbOthello 440 (Sky Blue)** or **235NP (Light Blue)** to add a blue light to the nostril. Use the **266NP (Pale Vermillion)** and **207NP (Chrome Yellow)** to make an orange tone to add the reflected moonlight on the tip of her nose.

Begin adding the hairs with short strokes using a **Conte 2B White** (or a **White Pastel Pencil**).

Add the highlight on the top of the head with **Caran d'Ache 011 (Pale Yellow),** or **276NP (Buff)** or **Conte 47 (Naples Yellow).** The brightest yellow denotes the moonlight. Using a very sharp **207NP (Chrome Yellow)** creates an even bigger color impact.

Add in a few black hairs as needed with **6B Charcoal Pencil**. Use **276NP (Buff)** or **Conte 47 (Naples Yellow)** under the eye to add a few short hairs(were the moonlight strikes). Use a **CarbOthello 704 (Cold Grey 3)** to pull out some little short hairs on the side of the face that aren't as bright as the Conte 2B. Pull out a few whiskers into the background with **White Pastel Pencil or Caran d'Ache 011 (Pale Yellow).**

Use **276NP (Buff)** or **Conte 2B White** for the hairs in the ear. Use the **CarbOthello 700 (Grey 1)** for light grey hairs and **233NP (Raw Sienna)** for the little gold hairs in shadow.

Continue to move across the face to the right using the **Conte 2B White**, **CarbOthello 700 (Grey 1)** and the **233NP (Raw Sienna).** Add the strongest bright hairs with **276NP (Buff)** or **Conte 47 (Naples Yellow)**. Use the **Conte 2B White** to go back and brighten some white areas on the face for instance on the muzzle.

Add more black hairs by the ear and other shadow areas with **229NP (Black)** and **353NP (Cordovan)**. Continue adding hairs moving to the right with **233NP (Raw Sienna)** and **276NP (Buff).**

Going left, use **276NP (Buff)** on the left edge and **Conte 2B White** and **233NP (Raw Sienna)** for middle value colors. Use **Caran d'Ache 161 (Light Blue)** for blue tones in shadow (alternate colors would be **CarbOthello 440 (Sky Blue)** or **235NP (Light Blue)** but these colors do not have the color impact of the Caran d'Ache). If you need darker hair add them with the sharp edge of a **229NP (Black)** or **305 NP (Spruce Blue). Figures 1 and 2**

Figure 1

Figure 2

Continue using the **233NP (Raw Sienna), Conte 2B White**, **276NP (Buff) and Caran d'Ache 161 (Light Blue)** and **Caran d'Ache 011 (Pale Yellow)** to add fur. Use the **CarbOthello 700 (Grey**1) or **White Pastel Pencil** to add wisps of hairs to create the tangled appearance of the fur.

Finishing the Painting

Continue finishing the fur on the wolf in the same way as before. Going left, use **276NP (Buff)** on the left edge and **Conte 2B White** and **233NP (Raw Sienna)** for middle value colors. Use **Caran d'Ache 161 (Light Blue)** for blue tones in shadow (alternate colors would be **CarbOthello 440 (Sky Blue)** or **235NP (Light Blue)** but these colors do not have the color impact of the Caran d'Ache). If you need darker hair add them with the sharp edge of a **229NP (Black)** or **305 NP (Spruce Blue)**.

Use the **538.5R (Mars Violet)** to add brown tones on the right and also add some dark fur with **229NP (Black).** Use **233NP (Raw Sienna)** for medium tone hairs and **Conte 2B White** for white hairs. Use **CarbOthello 700 (Grey 1)** for light hairs to create intricate fur details.

Finish the background by adding a layer of **508.5R (Prussian Blue)** and also **397.3R (Permanent Rose)** over the blue and work down to the bottom of the painting. Add a layer of **700.5R (Black)** to fade out the colors.

Use the **229NP (Black)** to even the edges around the moon and provide an even transition into the background. Add any additional hairs to the fur that you would like.

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