

Painting The Lone Canoe



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The Lone Canoe:

Here in Hawaii when it storms, canoe owners haul their boats up the beach for safe keeping. Kailua Beach has a wonderful group of ironwood trees where you can find outriggers like this all the time, either waiting out a storm or for their owners to come play.

The challenge....

The shadows in this painting really challenged me - as did the lighting and the pontoon. See if you can find the refinements.

I hope you enjoy seeing this move from sketch to finished work!

Angela Treat Lyon

February 22, 2014

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The finished painting. Follow the process on the next pages....



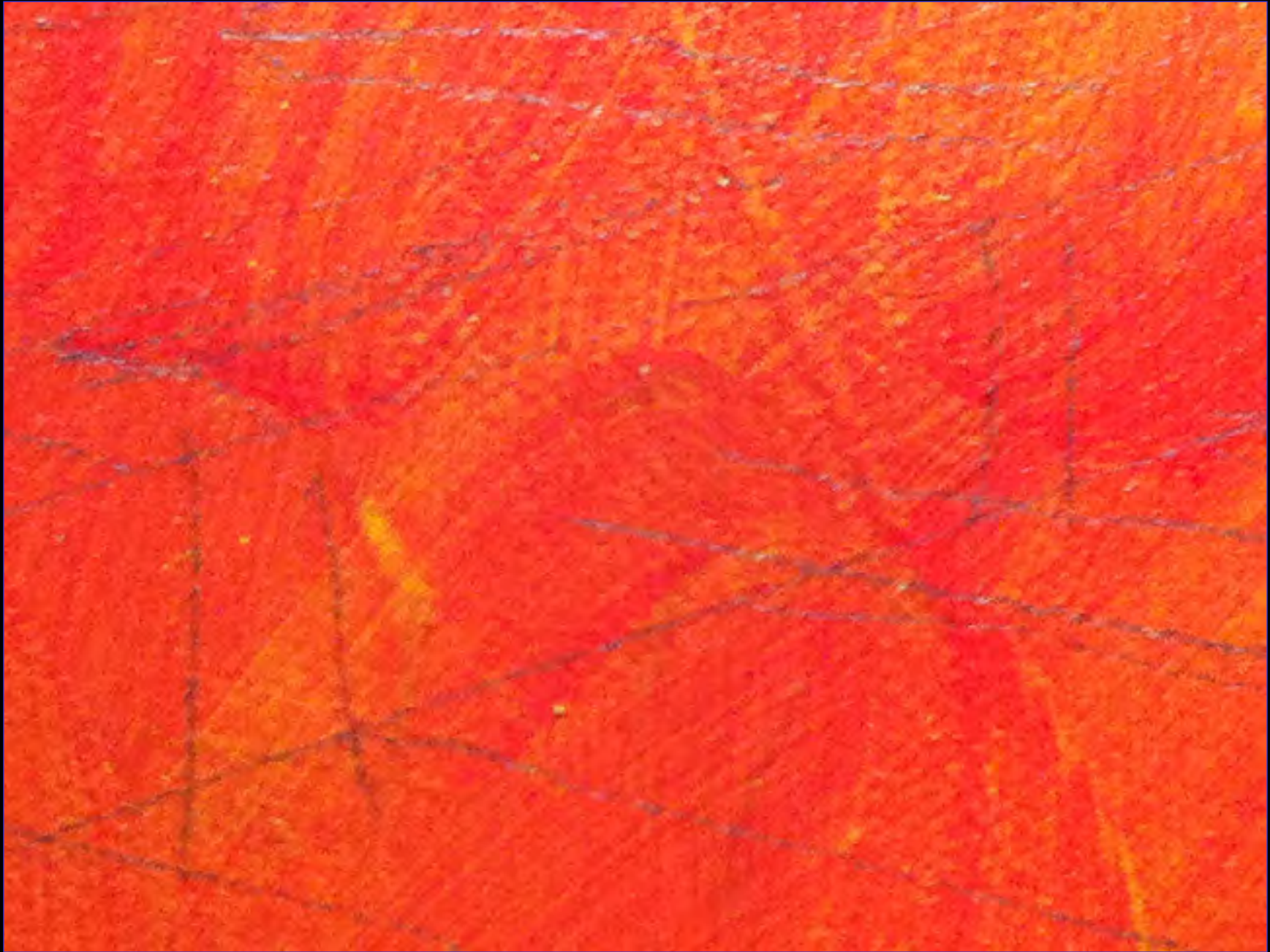
This is the original sketch. Watch to see what those trees end up doing....



The basic start: white Gesso on the canvas. It has Burnt Sienna in it for a neutral color background, plus thick for a little texture.



I wanted a red glowy feel under the painting, so Carmine Red came next.



First cover the red with yellow to get it to glow through the finished painting. Then sketch the drawing in pencil.



I like to put a bold black outline around the whole painting. Not sure why.



I do loose black outlines to create a 'feel' of the scene.



First color surfaces. Checking the light, where it comes from, the intensity....



Didn't want that tree in there....



Darken the sands, rough in the sky and water....



Lightening up the foreground with yellow, fooling around with the pontoon....



Refining the trees a bit, darkening the pontoon....



Didn't like that huge shadow. It was just wrong. Gesso over the whole area. Keeps edge marks from the previous brush strokes from showing and distorting light refraction.



Making the horizon level; adding red to the filled-in part.



Yellow over the red; adding the mountains in the background; continuing the ocean and sky....



Sketching the shadows back in.



Removing the palm trees, making the sand lighter; pontoon sketch....



Trying a very white sand, redoing the trees, more contrast in the sky.



Blending the sands and the sky areas; complete the pontoon and struts; trying a coconut palm leaf....



Leaves.



Hated the leaves - too prissy-busy. Took the palm trees out, replaced with ironwoods trees. If only horticulture was that easy!



Darker sands, added leaves to trees....



Lighten sand, refine shadows; finish!

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