

Value Scale

## **Design 1**

Adam Jacono

### **Materials**

Stonehenge paper

black Paint \*\*\*

white paint \*\*\*

palette knife

x-acto knife

ruler

triangle

glue

palette

brushes

water container

paper towels

\*\*\*see syllabus for proper make (acrylic)

### **Assignment**

Make a value scale of 10 Achromatic values — including white and black

Achromatic means without color hue. White, gray and black are achromatic. The mixing of black and white pigments creates many gray values. This range of grays is important because it can indicate depth and the relative distance within the visual field.

Create a 10 step gray scale using mars black (or other specified) and titanium white acrylic paint. Paint twenty or more different gray tones onto Stonehenge paper. Cut 3" x 3" squares from Stonehenge paper, keep a 90° with two sides — this will make trimming the swatches easier later. Be sure to number all swatches on the back-side. Keep them in proper order.

First start by making a 3" square of white. Then add a very small amount of black paint to the white base. Mix this very well. Then on the same Stonehenge paper paint another 3" square of the new value. Continue to slowly add black paint to the gray mixture to darken the value.

Clean up then start again using the black paint. First paint the black swatch. Then add white to the black paint (it's harder to lighten the black paint — so you will have to add larger amounts of white paint). Paint about 20 of these or as many needed to reach the same value that you ended up with when using the white paint.

- Make clean swatches that aren't clumpy or see-through
- Make sure the paint is completely mixed or your swatches will have streaks.
- Clean your brush very well before painting each swatch to avoid streaks from paint caught in the brush.

From these 40 swatches chose 10 swatches for your value scale. Cut the chosen swatches to 1" x 1 1/2" — making sure that you have **90° angles**. Once the proper 10 values have been chosen, remix value number 5 and paint a long strip, 13" long and 1 1/2" wide. Cut from this a 1/4" wide strip the length of your value scale.

Mount the swatches to a piece of cold press illustration board. Do not leave any space between swatches. Trim all edges clean, carefully glue the middle value strip to the value scale as illustrated above.