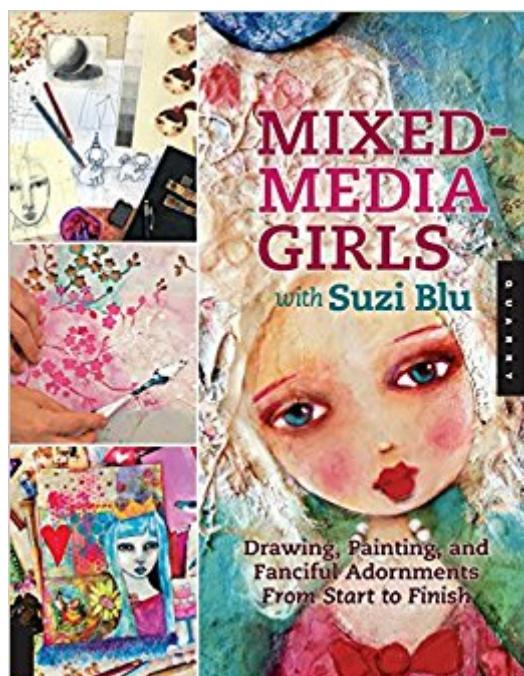


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# Mixed-Media Girls With Suzi Blu: Drawing, Painting, And Fanciful Adornments From Start To Finish



## **Synopsis**

Growing out of her popular online workshops and videos, Mixed-Media Girls with Suzi Blu takes you step by step through the process of drawing a folk art and stylized girl's face. You will learn to create simple, balanced features and add shading with colored pencils and paint. From there, you will learn how to draw the rest of the figure and put it into a unique, textured, mixed-media background. - Learn to design costumes and personalities for your girls and adapt them to fit your own artistic style. - Create vivid, exciting backgrounds by layering paint, collaging with fabric, carving beeswax, distressing wood, and building up texture with mediums and pastes. - And the accompanying online videos include a mini workshop full of whimsical mayhem, motivation, and real-time video with Suzi Blu, showing you detailed drawing and shading techniques for faces, beeswax finishes, and how to make a mixed-media art journal start to finish.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Known for her quirky videos and down to earth style, Suzi Blu is a leader in teaching art to women all over the world through her online school Les Petit Academy. She lives in a gypsy cottage in San Diego, California with her best pet friends Gigi Rainbow Sparkle and Finnegan Glitter Sunshine Magic. She encourages everyone to be an artist. Visit her blog at <http://suziblu.typepad.com>.

This book is wonderful and full of information. The pictures are amazing. Certainly makes you want to start drawing right away-I am just learning to draw so I got some of Suzi's stamps. They are fabulous too. I am 63 and can't draw a stick figure but learning with Suzi has helped tremendously

to get over my fears and try. And I'm doing pretty good-it takes practice and that's fun now. Thanks for carrying this book.

Love Love Love this book! I painted my first girl within the hour of receiving this book. There are some beautiful pictures and plenty of inspiration! I couldn't wait to start and I went right through the whole book in one sitting. Lots of yummy ideas. She directs but does not require you to follow exactly. She encourages you to do your own ideas which I like. I highly recommend this book.

Wow, I'm surprised by some of the negative reviews for this book, but to each his own. I'm new to mixed media so from that perspective I thought it was super great, lots of very clear, detailed step by step directions for drawing a face using her style. She said she wanted to teach her way of painting because she was tired of seeing pictures of "dead victorian people" all over the mixed media world. I'm thinking from Suzi's perspective "cute girls" are her "girly grunge" (as she says) are a reaction to what she was tired of seeing. I got a little bored at the end of the book because all the faces were cute. I think ugly is cute too. She embraces imperfection but insists on perfect symmetry for the face, the rest of the body can "imply" a theme, nothing realistic. There is one picture in the book of a collection of old dolls that inspire her work. I don't know what era they came from but definitely pre-Barbie. I always thought her art work had really sad eyes but in this book all the samples have what she calls "dreamy" eyes. I was surprised to the extent to which she divulged her technique. You can also take online classes with her - her method of sealing her paintings with wax would be interesting to see on video. Btw, the cute image of the doll on the front is Marie Antoinette which she refers to as a kind girl, I think Suzi made this version of her as a kind girl, but the infamous "let them eat cake" reminds us that she wasn't so kind. Overall, even if you don't want to paint folk art dolls, as she refers to her drawings, there is great information in the book on practicing the art of mixed media - much more comprehensive than anything else I've read. Up till now it seemed like a great mystery to me but between her theory and practice explained in the book, I feel like I get this now, at least enough to start. Be prepared for a large shopping list - art is expensive. If you just want to buy artwork in this style there is a great Etsy shop called Art and Dreams by Lana Coffill where she sells her art as prints for \$10 - \$15 dollars. They look identical to Suzi's work. For the people who wrote about concerns over copyright issues, why not just write the artist and get her consent on what you propose to do with what you learned from the book in any kind of commercial endeavor? There was a famous knitter who was extremely popular in the 80's and everyone accused her of that too. It was a lot of hogwash and just not true.

Thank you Suzi Blu, I love this book! I have been scrapbooking for 15 years and my projects were lacking happiness and were not coming together easily. I knew I needed a jump start and a new perspective. I am interested in whimsical and this book brought whimsical right to me on a silver platter. Suzi also brought back to inspiration which I was lacking. I want to incorporate drawings of girls to my card making and Suzi has made that look so simple whether you paint, draw, or whatever medium you choose you can do this. I am so excited to begin! She is detailed in her instructions and makes the projects look totally fun! She also brings the ideas of adding textures and color and she shows you how to bring your creative style to any project. I am very pleased with this Book, Mixed Media Girls

Suzi takes us through her process with clear instructions and beautifully done photographs. If you want to learn her style this is the book for you.

I've never taken a mixed media class and so I didn't know any techniques used in mixed media. As others have said, the book is wonderful eye candy and it inspires my imagination. What I like most is that the book comes with a DVD where Suzi Blu further demonstrates how to do her mixed media techniques. I really needed that as I am a visual learner. On the DVD, Suzi Blu explains that although she gives you templates for her own designs and recommends that you go ahead and copy what she has done so that you can learn first, she says that eventually you will develop your own style of art. She has included some of her student's artwork and you can clearly see that some have already developed their own styles. I purchased the book not only to learn mixed media, but to also learn how to create the "fairy-like" quality you see in her paintings. Her art reminds me of the art of other artists that I admire including the art of Stephen Mackey which you can see in Jane Yolen's book, "The Fairies' Ring". I am very excited with this book and DVD set and can't wait to get started learning how to do mixed media and create beautiful art.

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