EXCLUSIVE

BUNNIES CHICKS 'N A DUCK
by Cindy Mann Vitale
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PALETTE

DecoArt Americana Acrylics
Arbor Green*
Baby Pink #13031
Banana Cream #13545
Blue Haven #13553
Burnt Umber #13064
Cocoa #13253
Cranberry Wine #13112
Grey Sky #13111
Georgia Clay #13017
Grape Juice #13236
Hauser Dark Green #13133
Hauser Light Green #13131
Honey Brown #13163
Lamp Black #13067
Leaf Green #13051
Lemonade*
Light Buttermilk #13164
Lilac #13032
Mink Tan*
Mint Julep Green #13045
Oyster Beige #13549
Pansy Lavender #13154
Peony Pink #13215
Pink Chiffon #13192
Plantation Pine #13113
Pumpkin*
Purple Cow #13262
Razzle Berry #13266
Red Violet #13140
Sapphire #13099
Spa Blue #13267
Sweet Mint #13552
Teal Green #13107
Titanium (Snow) White #13001
Ultra Blue Deep #13100
Warm White #13239

SURFACES

Scroll Hanger #63242
Teacup Cutout #63240
12” Tombstone Plaque #63228

MISC. SUPPLIES

Wood Filler 4 ounce*
Multi Purpose Sealer #87392
Weathered Wood #84146

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Dura Clear Matte Varnish #87395
Americana Wood Glue*
Acrylic Sealer Finisher Matte Spray #70836
DecoMagic Brush Cleaner #84160
Pro Art Tracing Pad #83176
Grey Transfer Paper #70141
Water Basin #70174
Permanent black ink pen, .005 point
Wet palette or plain white coated paper plates
Pencil, eraser, ruler
Paper towels

BRUSHES

Papillon by the Artist’s Club
Round size 1 #20157
Round size 3 #20159
Round size 5 #20162
Shader size 12 #20131
Glaze Wash size 1 inch #20103

PREPARATION

The Scroll Hanger
Fill the holes with the Americana Wood Filler. Allow to dry, and sand lightly to smooth the surface.

Tombstone Plaque
Base coat with Titanium White. Allow to dry, then transfer the design.

Teacup Cut-out
Brush on an even coat of the Multi-purpose sealer and allow to dry.

TRANSFERRING THE DESIGN

I prefer to transfer the larger designs onto the surface and paint the background in, and around, the design. After the background base coating, and shading, have dried, I transfer the smaller designs elements, if needed.

The entire background can be based in before transferring the design if you prefer. Depending on the base coat color, an underpainting of white may be needed, for the best results. Honestly, I try to avoid this step, if possible.

Some details are added with the pen after the base coating, shading, and final finishing steps have been

*discontinued
image one

Bunny, Chicks n' a Duck

cindy mann vitale - copyright 2018

First base coating completed
with some details yet to be transferred
completed. Transferring may not be necessary if they can be drawn on freehand.

Since the teacup will be glued onto the plaque, transfer the outline of the cup onto the board. As you begin the painting process, paint ‘inside the transfer lines’ to provide an allowance for positioning the teacup cut-out during assembly.

The Teacup
Transfer the following: The four purple bands along the top of the cup and at the base, the checkerboard design at the base and on the handle, the outline of the daisy design on the handle. For the two Easter egg designs, transfer the two bands on the smaller egg, and the two wavy stripes on the larger egg.

Omit the following: The carrots, carrot tops, and leaf cluster designs in the blue inset area, the entire Easter egg and nest design on the bowl of the teacup, the daisy in the oval on the handle, the floral designs in the large and small Easter eggs designs on the handle, and the polka dots on the handle.

PAINTING INSTRUCTIONS
Note: The term ‘diluted’ for the shading mixture indicates a ratio of approximately 95% water to 5% paint. If a different ratio is recommended, the ratio will be provided.

The Scroll Hanger
Paint the scroll hanger, including the sides, with Burnt Umber. Allow to dry.

Brush the Weathered Wood medium over the entire surface in an even coat, including the sides. The application should not be too thick, or too thin, for the best results.

The Weathered Wood medium should be completely dry to the touch before moving to the next step.

Using Warm White, and the No. 12 shader, apply the paint in a ‘patting’ motion, laying the paint down onto the surface. Pulling the paint across the surface can move the Weathered Wood medium and ruin the effect.
Applying the paint in different directions as you lay the paint down onto the surface will also help to give good results.

Refill the brush with Warm White paint as needed, and repeat the steps given above until the entire surface has been covered.

As the paint dries, the separation will begin, giving the weathered wood effect.

**The Plaque**

**THE BACKGROUND:**
- Base coat the entire background of the plaque with Blue Haven. When dry, begin shading with diluted Sapphire Blue.
- Deepen with additional shading applications along the harlequin design and around the baby chick, duck and bouquet.

**THE HARLEQUIN DESIGN:**
- Base coat the green areas with Mint Julep Green. Base coat the white areas with Warm White.
- Shade the green areas with diluted Arbor Green, floating a little of the diluted Arbor Green over the white areas to soften.

**THE BUNNY FIGURINE:**
- Base coat the head, ears, and lower body area with Light Buttermilk.
- Transfer, or freehand, the following details: The eyebrows, outline of the eyes, the nose, and the mouth.
- Begin shading with diluted Cocoa, to create contrast around the ears, facial details, and the lower body area. Add light dots of diluted Cocoa under the nose, where the whiskers will be added later.
- Mix Baby Pink and Warm White in a 50-50 ratio to create a shading mixture. Using the diluted mixture, apply lightly to tint the area inside the ears.
- Paint on tufts of hair at the base of the ears, and create the eyebrows, with Warm White. Float a light wash of the diluted Cocoa over these areas.
- Base in the eye area with Warm White. Paint in the iris with Mink Tan, and deepen slightly with a wash of diluted Burnt Umber. Paint in the pupils with Lamp Black. Add a highlight with Warm White.
- Base coat the nose with Baby Pink. Shade with diluted Razzle Berry. Add a dot of Warm White to highlight.

**THE COLLAR, CUFFS AND GLOVES:**
- Base coat with Warm White. Shade with diluted Lamp Black.
- Transfer, or freehand, the stitching details on the gloves.
- Transfer, or freehand, the buttons on the cuffs. Base coat with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green.

**THE JACKET:**
- Base coat the pink areas with Baby Pink and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Red Violet. Apply an additional diluted shading mixture in some areas with Red Violet and Cranberry Wine in a 50-50 ratio.
- Paint on the plaid stripes with Lemonade. Shade with a diluted shading mixture of Leaf Green and Plantation Pine in a 50-50 ratio. Continue to add shading to deepen some areas for more contrast.

**THE TIE:**
- Base coat the green stripes with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green. Add another application of shading to a few areas to deepen with a diluted mixture of Leaf Green and Plantation Pine in a 50-50 ratio.
- Base coat the blue stripes with Blue Haven. Shade with Sapphire Blue.

**THE PAINT BRUSH:**
- Base coat the handle, and the bristles, with Oyster Beige. Shade with Mink Tan. Paint on some of the wood grain details with diluted Burnt Umber.
- Base coat the paint on the brush with Lilac. Shade with diluted Grape Juice.
- Base coat the ferrule of the brush with Grey Sky. Shade with diluted Lamp Black.

**THE PAINT BUCKET:**
- Base coat the paint drippings on the bucket with Lilac. Shade with diluted Grape Juice.
- Transfer, or freehand, the handle with Grey Sky. Deepen with diluted Lamp Black.
- Base coat the paint bucket with Hauser Light Green. Shade with diluted Plantation Pine.
- Transfer, or freehand, the grey markings on the bucket. Base coat with Grey Sky. Shade with a little diluted Lamp Black.
THE BASKET WITH EASTER TOYS:
- Base coat the basket with Oyster Beige.
- Transfer, or freehand, the basket design.
- Paint on basket weave details, and shade, with diluted Mink Tan. Add a second application of shading with diluted Burnt Umber to deepen contrast.

THE RIBBON:
- Base coat with Warm White and Sweet Mint in a 50-50 ratio.
- Shade with a diluted shading mixture of 50 % Teal Green and 50 % Hauser Dark Green. In some areas, I used only diluted Hauser Dark Green. Adjust the ratios if needed for the desired results.

THE STUFFED BUNNY:
- Base coat with Light Buttermilk. Shade with diluted Cocoa.
- Transfer, or freehand, the facial details. The whiskers, eyebrows and mouth will be added later with the pen.
- Paint in the eyes with Lamp Black.
- Paint on the nose and inside of ears with Baby Pink. Float a small amount of diluted Razzle Berry to add a little tint of color.
- Base coat the shirt with a mixture of Pumpkin and Warm White in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Pumpkin.
- Transfer, or freehand, the button. Paint on with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green.
- Base coat the bib overalls with Blue Haven. Shade with diluted Sapphire Blue.

THE TWIN CHICKS:
- Base coat with Banana Cream and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Honey Brown.
- Transfer, or freehand, the facial details and the bow ties and collars.
- Paint on the eyes with Lamp Black. The eyebrows (as well as the tufts of hair) will be added later with the pen.
- Paint on the nose with Pumpkin and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Pumpkin.
- Paint on the collars (which is a simple white band, more visible for the Twin Chick in the front) with Warm White.
- Paint on the bow ties with Grey Sky. Shade the bow ties with diluted Lamp Black. Float some of the diluted Lamp Black over the white collar to soften.

THE WHEELBARROW:
- Base coat with Spa Blue.
- Create a shading mixture of Teal Green and Ultra Blue Deep in a 50-50 ratio. Using the diluted mixture, shade the wheelbarrow to create contrast for the interior area and the legs. Float a very light amount of the diluted shading mixture of the entire wheelbarrow to tint and soften. Use the undiluted shading mixture to paint on the wood grain effect.

THE LARGE EASTERN EGG IN THE WHEELBARROW:
- Base coat the egg with Pink Chiffon. Shade with diluted Razzle Berry. Add more applications to deepen the contrast.
- Transfer, or freehand, the blue daisies and leaves.
- Paint on the petals with Warm White. Float on diluted Blue Haven to tint the petals.
- Paint in the centers with Banana Cream.
- Base coat the leaves with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green.

THE LITTLE CHICK FIGURINE:
- Base coat with Banana Cream and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with dilute Honey Brown.
- Base coat the hat with Oyster Beige. Shade with diluted Mink Tan.
- Paint on the hatband, and the ribbon tie, with Pink Chiffon. Shade with diluted Razzle Berry.
- Transfer, or freehand, the daisy and stem. Paint the daisy the same as the instructions given above for the purple daisies, with the exception of adding black dots around the center.
- Transfer, or freehand, the facial details. Refer to the painting instructions as given below for the Baby Chick.
- Base coat, and shade, the skirt with the same instructions as given above for the ribbon tie. Transfer, or freehand the polka dots. Paint on with Warm White. Float diluted Razzle Berry over the dots to soften.
- Paint on the purple edging with Lilac. Shade with diluted Grape Juice.
- Base coat the legs and feet with Pumpkin and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Georgia Clay and Pumpkin mixed in a 50-50 ratio.
- Base coat the top of the base with Blue Haven. Shade with diluted Sapphire Blue.
- Paint on the checkerboard squares with Warm White and Lilac. Shade the purple squares with diluted Grape Juice. Float some of the shading over the white squares to soften.

THE PINK TULIPS:
- Base coat with Pink Chiffon.
- Transfer, or freehand, the petal outlines.
- Begin shading with diluted Baby Pink, to deepen the inside areas of the tulip, around the tulip base, and to define the petal areas.
- Add one more shading application with diluted Razzle Berry, maintaining the light contrast of the Pink Chiffon base coat.

THE TULIP LEAVES AND STEMS:
- Base coat the leaves, and stems, with Lemonade.
Shading in progress. More details transferred and painted. Painting and shading almost completed for teacup.
• Shade with diluted Leaf Green. Add another shading application to deepen with Leaf Green and Plantation Pine mixed in a 50-50 ratio.

THE DAISIES:
• Base coat the petals with Warm White. Shade the areas closest to the centers with diluted Pansy Lavender.
• Base coat the daisy center with Banana Cream and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio.
• Shade around the base of the daisy center with Banana Cream. When dry, deepen the contrast by shading with diluted Honey Brown.
• Create dots around the base of the flower center, applying some dots on the petals, with the tip of a liner brush dipped in Burnt Umber. Add a few dots of Honey Brown.
• The swirl design in the center, and the line work on the petals, will be done later with the pen.

THE DAISY STEMS AND LEAVES:
• Base coat, and shade, following the same colors as given for the ribbon on the basket. The interior leaf details will be done later with the pen.

THE BABY CHICK:
• Base coat with Banana Cream and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Pull out some tufts of feathers at the top of the Baby Chick’s head with the liner brush.
• Shade with diluted Honey Brown, to give contrast around the eyes, head, neck and wing areas.
• Transfer, or freehand, the facial details.
• Paint in the eye area with Warm White. Add Lamp Black to create the pupils. Add a small dot of Warm White to highlight. The eyebrows are added later with the pen.
• Paint on the beak with Pumpkin and Warm White mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Pumpkin and Georgia Clay mixed in a 50-50 ratio.
• Paint the interior of the beak with the shading mixture given above. Darken the bottom of the open beak with diluted Burnt Umber.

THE POLKA DOT BOW TIE:
• Base coat with Blue Haven and Warm White, mixed in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Sapphire Blue.
• Transfer, or freehand, the stripes with diluted Warm White. Float some of the diluted Pansy Lavender over the stripes to soften.

THE PURPLE AND WHITE STRIPED BOW:
• Base coat the bow with Lilac. Shade with diluted Pansy Lavender.
• Transfer, or freehand, the stripes with diluted Warm White. Float some of the diluted Pansy Lavender over the stripes to soften.

The Teacup

PURPLE BAND AT TOP AND BASE OF TEACUP:
• Base coat the bands with Lilac. Shade with diluted Pansy Lavender.

THE BLUE INSET WITH THE CARROT DESIGN:
• Base coat with Blue Haven. Shade with diluted Sapphire Blue.
• Transfer, or freehand, the carrots, carrot tops, and the leaf clusters.
• Base coat the carrots with Pumpkin and Warm White in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with diluted Pumpkin and Georgia Clay mixed in a 50-50 ratio.
• Paint on the carrot tops with Lemonade as a base. Paint over the base with diluted Leaf Green.
• Base coat the leaf clusters with Lemonade Shade with diluted Leaf Green.

THE BOWL OF THE TEACUP:
• Base coat with Warm White. Shade around the outside edges with diluted Sapphire Blue.

THE EASTER EGG NEST DESIGN:
• Transfer the outline of the egg and nest. The daisies, and leaves, will be transferred later.
• Base coat the egg with Lilac. Shade with Grape Juice.
• Transfer, or freehand, the polka dots. Base coat with Warm White. Float a little of the diluted Grape Juice over the polka dots to soften.
• Base coat the entire shape of nest area with Oyster Beige. Shade the area around the egg with diluted Burnt Umber.
• Begin creating some of the twigs with a liner brush using diluted Mink Tan. Start working in some twigs of diluted Burnt Umber and finish by painting on some twigs with diluted Oyster Beige. Pull out a few twigs with a few of each color.
• Transfer, or freehand, the daisies and the leaves.
• Paint in the daisy centers with Banana Cream.
• Base coat the daisy petals with Pink Chiffon. Shade the area next to the center with diluted Peony Pink.
• Base coat the leaves with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green.

THE PINK AND WHITE CHECKERBOARD DESIGN:
• Base coat the white squares Warm White. Base coat the pink squares with Baby Pink.
• Shade the pink squares with diluted Peony Pink. Float some of the shading over the white squares to soften.
Shading process continues to deepen contrast.
More design details yet to be transferred and painted.
image four

Bunnies, Chicks n' a Duck

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All painting and shading completed.
Ready to varnish and antique.
THE MINIATURE DAISY DESIGN:
• Base coat background area with Warm White. Shade with diluted Peony Pink.
• Transfer, or freehand, the daisy.
• Paint with the same instructions as for the daisies on the nest.

AQUA BACKGROUND WITH THE WHITE POLKA DOTS:
• Base coat with Sweet Mint and Warm White in a 50-50 ratio. Shade with Teal Green.
• Transfer, or freehand, the polka dots. Paint on with Warm White. Shade over the dots with diluted Teal Green to soften.

THE EASTER EGG DESIGNS:
Paint the small egg as follows:
• Base coat the ends of the egg with Lilac. Shade with Pansy Lavender.
• Base coat the center area with Warm White. Paint on the two blue bands with Blue Haven. Shade with diluted Sapphire Blue. Float a little of the shading over the Warm White area to soften.
• Transfer, or freehand, the posy garland. Paint on posies with Baby Pink. Deepen with a wash of Peony Pink. Add a center dot of Banana Cream.
• Paint on the leaves with Lemonade. Shade with diluted Leaf Green.

Paint the large egg as follows:
• Paint, and shade, the same as for the small egg above.
• Paint the pink daisy and leaves with the same instructions as the daisies and leaves on the nest.

FINISHING
The sequence of the final steps are as follows:
• Varnishing
• Antiquing
• Inking
• Assembly
• Spattering
• Spray Final Finish (optional)

Varnishing
I dilute the varnish in a 50-50 mixture with water.

Apply in a thin even coat over the scroll hanger, the plaque, and the teacup after all the painting, and shading, has been completed.

Allow to dry. I apply a second coat, working in the opposite direction, to ensure complete coverage.

Antiquing
I antique all my surfaces, if only with a very light application. My antiquing medium is Burnt Umber mixed with approximately 95% water and 5% paint. Test to see if the solution appears too dark, and adjust with more water, or paint, if needed.

Begin at the along the edges of the surface, or in a corner. Be sure to always keep the edges soft, working toward the center until the brush is empty.

After the first application of antiquing has thoroughly dried you can decide if you are pleased with the results. For a darker effect, apply another light coat of the antiquing. A word of caution is that applying too much antiquing creates a dark and muddy result.

I suggest applying a very light coat of the antiquing for this design then adding a second application of antiquing along the edges of the plaque, the arched top, and at all four corners.

Inking
• Inking details are added after the varnish, and antiquing, have been applied and the surface has thoroughly dried.
• Outline, or trace, around each shape/element of the entire design that you want to emphasize. Inking the design pulls out design elements, but you can be selective by choosing only certain elements of the design for emphasis or inking the entire design.
• Inking is an easy way to add details that would be more difficult, even impossible, with paint and brush.
• Use the line drawing, and the photo, as a reference.
• Make shorter, broken lines, instead of trying to draw longer, straighter lines if your hands are unsteady.
• Inking mistakes can be ‘fixed’ by filling in with more paint, or even painting over an area, and starting again. It takes a few applications of paint to cover the ink, but it can be done.
• NOTE: As I work through typing the instructions, I put up a photo of the completed design on my computer monitor. For this design, I saw many places that I missed during the inking process. They aren’t as noticeable, when glancing at the finished project, but they are quite pronounced when enlarged. My sincere apologies!

Assembly
Place a few drops of the Americana Wood Glue on the back of the scroll hanger and press in place along the arch of the plaque. Repeat to attach the teacup in the correct position.

Spattering
Spatter the entire surface with Warm White. Since I don’t mind getting paint on my fingers, I use a toothbrush. Test the spatter pattern on a piece of paper before applying to the surface. If the paint is too thick to create a fine spatter pattern, add a few drops of water to thin.

Final Finishing
If you would like to apply a final protective sealer, I suggest the Americana matte spray sealer. Follow the directions on the can. I apply two light coats.
ATTACH THE WIRE HANGER:
Cut the wire to approximately a 28 inch length. Bend the wire at mid-point, twisting to create the loop. Push the ends of the wire through the holes from the back to the front. Curl and bend up to hold the plaque in place.
To ensure your pattern is at 100%, this box should measure 1” x 1” when printed.
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