

Birds of Mars Digest
Number Nineteen
March—December 2023



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One funny thing I've noticed relating to the art that I've made over the years is that I will create a unique numbering system for each group or series of paintings. However, each of these numbering systems has nothing to do with any other numbering system I've devised for any other group of paintings. So that is kind of amusing to me, because the whole purpose of numbering something is to keep track of it in an orderly way, but here I am with a confusing array of unrelated numbering systems. 2023 has a few such numbering systems and it is confusing. Things started off as usual—the group of paintings I made at the beginning of 2023 are numbered sequentially from 1 [see *Birds of Mars Digest Number Eighteen* (January—February 2023)]. But in March, I started a second group of paintings, primarily of hummingbirds (or wood-stars as they are also known), and these I also numbered sequentially starting from 1. Why would I do that? The reason had to do with wanting to document the process of applying some of the insights gathered from the color mixing experiments to a new group of paintings.

Paintings

March—December 2023

No.	Title	Description	Size
1.	Golden Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
2	Green Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
3.	Little Wing Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
4.	Magnificent Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
5.	Woodstar Cupcake	Acrylic on Canvas	20x16 inches
6.	Piano	Acrylic on Canvas	8x10 inches
7.	Green Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
8.	Woodstar Cupcake 2	Acrylic on Canvas	20x16 inches
9.	Piano 2	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
10	Ruby Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
11.	Blue Green Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
12.	Orange Tail Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12 inches
13.	The Old Firehouse	Acrylic on Board	11x14 inches
14.	Unfinished Woodstar	Acrylic on Board	11x14 inches

Noho Pop Series

79.	Duchess of Rivoli	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
80.	Ruby Crested Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
81.	Blue Green Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
82.	Magnificent Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
83.	Harlequin Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
84.	Night Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
85.	Dusky Woodstar	Acrylic on Canvas board	7x5 inches
86.	Postcard From Mars 1	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches
87.	Postcard From Mars 2	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches
88.	Postcard From Mars 3	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches
89.	Postcard From Mars 4	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches
90.	Postcard From Mars 5	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches
91.	Postcard From Mars 6	Acrylic on Canvas board	5x7 inches

Drawings/Studies

March—December 2023

No.	Title	Description	Size
006	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
007	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
008	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
009	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
010	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
011	Hummingbird Study	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
012	Color Study Worksheet	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
013	Color Study Worksheet	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
014	Color Study Worksheet	Pencil on paper	11x8.5 inches
015	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
016	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
017	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
018	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
019	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
020	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
021	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
022	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
023	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches
024	Acrylic Mixing Study	Acrylic on paper	8.5x11 inches

The most important discoveries of 2023 are contained within the series of Acrylic Mixing Studies [015—024]. These are the culmination of many years of research into color theory and painting. What this line of inquiry has given to me are new way of thinking about and using color.

Electronic Files

Name	Date Modified	Size	Kind
2023 art research notes	Feb 8, 2024 at 6:29 AM	894 KB	Pages
2023 art theory	Feb 8, 2024 at 6:31 AM	571 KB	Pages
Proof of Concept 1	May 27, 2023 at 8:40 AM	301 KB	Pages
Proof of Concept 2	May 27, 2023 at 8:41 AM	517 KB	Pages
proof of concept 3	May 27, 2023 at 8:51 AM	244 KB	Pages
proof of concept 4	Feb 8, 2024 at 6:32 AM	202 KB	Pages
zColor Charts	Today at 2:29 PM	--	Folder
Color Charts	Feb 8, 2024 at 6:34 AM	270 KB	Numbers
Color Charts Grid Full	Apr 26, 2023 at 8:28 AM	39 KB	PDF Document
Color Charts Grid Half	Apr 26, 2023 at 8:02 AM	43 KB	PDF Document
zGrayscale	Apr 26, 2023 at 12:29 PM	--	Folder

This group of files is very relevant to the 2023 artworks so I include the list here. Previously, any electronic file I generated would be one of the Birds of Mars Digests itself—documenting the artwork I had created in any given span of time. In 2023 however, I started these electronic documents separate from the digests to document various projects.

These files include a database which relates to the discoveries made with the Acrylic Mixing Studies [015-024]. There are also extensive research notes which document this process. I then formulated this research into a ‘theory’ of creating paintings, and began a new series of paintings putting this theory to the test. The daily (sometimes hourly) process of creating these paintings was documented in a series of files called “Proof of Concept 1–4”.

By the end of June some of these paintings were exhibited at the Woodstar Cafe, and others were still in progress. However, with the exception of a few Noho Pop style paintings I stopped painting for the rest of the year. This was in part due to a few breakthroughs in my understanding of the musical constructions known as Thorough Bass which had led me to a focused concentration on this subject through the end of 2023, at which time I began painting again—primarily to create diagrams to help me understand some of the musical concepts which I had uncovered.

Artwork Images

1. Golden Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



2. Green Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



3. Little Wing Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



4. Magnificent Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



5. Woodstar Cupcake
Acrylic on Canvas, 20x16 inches



7. Green Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



10. Ruby Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



11. Blue Green Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



12. Orange Tail Woodstar
Acrylic on Canvas, 12x12 inches



13. The Old Firehouse
Acrylic on Board, 11x14 inches

