

SLICE OF GOLD

One of my favorite summertime treats is ripe cantaloupe fresh from the farm market. When painting this still life I decided I would like to not only paint this delicious melon, but would enjoy the challenge of painting an orange colored fruit—which is by nature a warm hue—illuminated in a cool light.

I arranged the still life with the earthenware jug, leaves and other items and then photographed it to preserve the set-up. I then put the cool bulb into my lamp to light the subject and began to work on the painting.

The greatest challenge with the color came in making the cantaloupe flesh look cooler without it turning green. I feel I was sucessful in accomplishing this goal and the warmish yellow of the fruit stands out perfectly against the colorlessness of the background without being too garish.

As with my other work, this painting is about pausing to appreciate the simple beauty of nature's creations. Incidentally, the other half of the cantalpoue not shown in the painting was delicious!

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