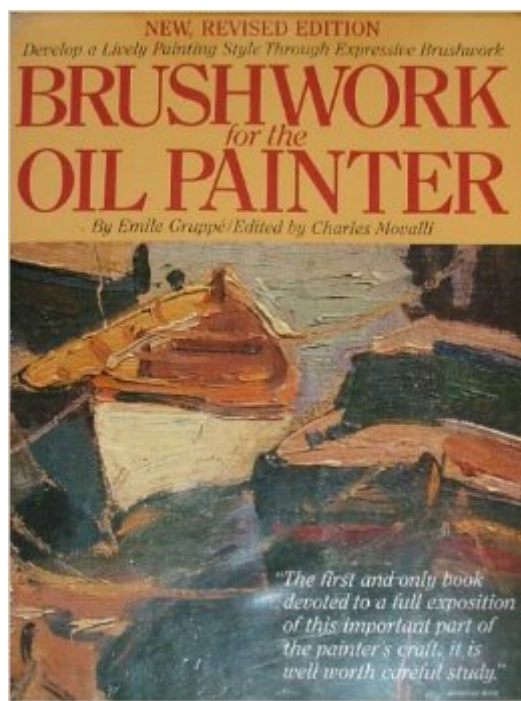


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# Brushwork For The Oil Painter



## Synopsis

Dust jacket notes: "Every brushstroke has its own unique and expressive character. There is the angular slash of a ravine, the grand curl of a large wave, the firm diagonals of boat rigging, the confusion of nets and clutter on a harbor shoreline, the gnarled trunk of an old oak, and the delicate lace of distant treetops. There are wet-into-wet strokes, calligraphic and linear strokes, staccato strokes, scumbled strokes, and flat or washy strokes. There are also strokes that encircle objects, strokes that describe various textures, and strokes that convey mood or lighting effects. When *Brushwork* was first published in 1977, it contained only 24 pages of color. This new edition is now almost entirely in color, and filled with nearly all new paintings. And every painting is followed by enlarged closeups of the brushwork, with callouts indicating special suggestions or solutions to problems or pointing out specific brushwork effects. There is also a demonstration showing painting sequence; and expanded description of materials - including advice on selecting a brush and caring for it; review of the basic purposes of brushstrokes; and pages of paintings showing when to use various types of strokes, and what techniques to choose for getting them just right. Finally, we look at brushstrokes that reveal the qualities of specific subjects: buildings, harbors, boats, skies, water, trees and flowers, and figures - 95 different themes in all. Even if you already own a copy of the first edition, you'll find a wealth of new information in this one. And if you paint in oil and have never read *Brushwork* before, this new edition will offer you a host of ways to create expressive brushwork, brushwork that will infuse your paintings with a lively vitality and personality. *Brushwork for the Oil Painter* is unique - the only book entirely devoted to this subject." Hardcover, 8.25" x 11", 144 pages, 150 color plates, 20 black-and-white illustrations, Bibliography, Index.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Watson-Guption Publishers; Revised edition (October 1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823005267

ISBN-13: 978-0823005260

Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 8.4 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #622,584 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #184 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Painting > Oil Painting](#) #6529 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture](#)

## Customer Reviews

Emile Gruppe was a very successful Massachusetts painter and art instructor. Due to his prodigious output, there are literally thousands of his works in existence and they frequently appear at auctions and art galleries. I doubt anyone would say that Emile Gruppe's work is in the same league as Sargent, Bellows, Hopper, Eakins, Bunker, Homer or Mary Cassatt but, at its best, it captures the feel of the day and is charming and colorful. The title of the book, "Brushwork for the Oil Painter", is really just a pretext for writing another book about how to paint in oils outdoors. Sure, he tries to tie his comments back to that theme, but the most useful parts of the book explain his materials and approach to constructing a picture. He explains his "limited", pure color palette (a warm and cool of each primary), and how to convey depth and light as well as several tricks of the trade. Close ups, with call outs, describe various brush stroke and other techniques. The book is loaded with photographs of his paintings; many are quite different than his prototypical ships at docks in Gloucester. I've seen so many of the "ships at the docks" paintings that it was fun to see other subjects and some of his rarer, earlier works. I bought the book without having seen it and I was pleasantly surprised by its usefulness. The only negative is that some of the photographs and close ups are black and white which sometimes makes it take a little longer to figure out what he is getting at. On a personal note, I thoroughly enjoyed his brief descriptions of his interactions with Charles Hawthorne, John Carlson, Robert Henri and Harvey Dunn. In closing, at the end of the book, there is a selected Bibliography.

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