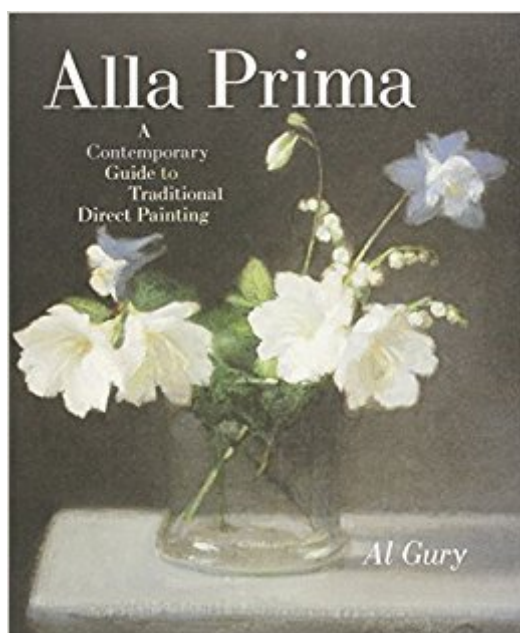


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# Alla Prima: A Contemporary Guide To Traditional Direct Painting



## Synopsis

Alla Prima is a comprehensive guide to direct painting, characterised by bold, expressive brushwork and a painterly, atmospheric surface. It covers the history of the direct methods in both Europe and America. From there, it includes detailed step-by-step lessons and discussions on drawing structure, broken and smooth brushwork, and colour development.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Love this book! I'm a huge fan of John Singer Sargent and could not escape having this book in my library. Mr. Gury also teaches painting classes in Philadelphia and I've been working up the nerve to take a class of his very soon.

While studying Alla Prima painting I was referred to Alla Prima II by Richard Schmid as the holy grail of Alla Prima painting books. I also purchased Al Gury's book and found it far better for the learning painter than the more expensive Schmid book. I would heartily recommend Mr. Gury's book to gain excellent painting instruction and also save money.

Alla Prima (also an art term for direct "all-at-one-time" painting in oil or acrylic) is very beautifully illustrated and the author has a firm grip on the technique. It is a book that will appeal to more experienced painters and those with ability. A beginner would be at a disadvantage unless they would have some basics skills.

Knowing Al Gury personally he is just a wonderful of a person and he is a painter and writer. He takes so much pride in his work and this book shows his passion, talent and love for painting. A gorgeous coffee table book that is educational, informative as well as entertaining. Can definitely stir up conversation if left on the table top of a living room!

This book was recommended to me by an outstanding alla prima painter. I would have liked the book to give examples and instructions on doing a realistic painting with a minimum number of brushstrokes. I'd like to learn more about that sort of economy and illusion.

Has a real understanding of painting, the history, the techniques and examples by contemporary painters from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art.

Setting the stage with a valuable historical perspective, this book covers not just the "basics", but also provides a great section on techniques in genres such as portraiture, still life and landscape. The examples given enhance the text, which is concise, informative and highly professional. The demonstrations are very useful and fun. I am glad to have purchased one more of Al Gury's books because he pays much attention to detail and is a superb teacher; truly a book to learn from. Great Buy!

"Alla Prima: A Contemporary Guide to Traditional Direct Painting" is very readable. Particularly valuable is the author's understanding of the history of painting techniques. He shows how advances in portability of materials and photography have influenced artists' decision-making process throughout the long history of painting. Regarding specific painting techniques, the author gives fine examples of his and others' paintings that show different principles and methods in action. There is a lot covered in this volume by one who has clearly spent a lot of his life painting. Well done and inspiring.

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