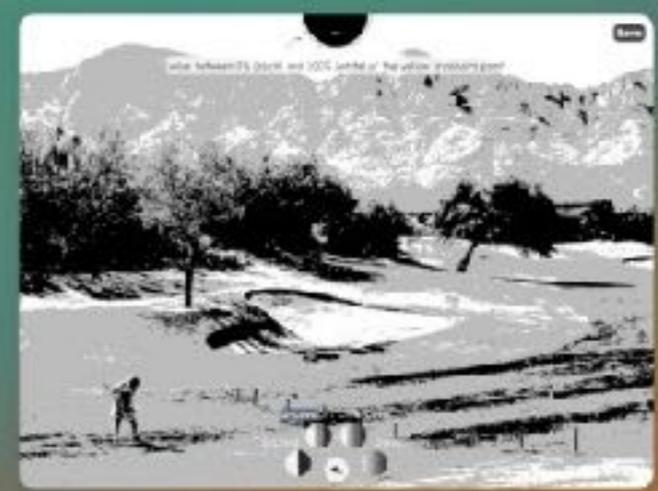


Visualizing Different Approaches using Apps

 Photos



 See Value



 Grid#



 Procreate



A Different Way to Explore New Ideas...

As artists, we are primarily visual learners, and some visual demonstrations help more than others, especially between individuals.

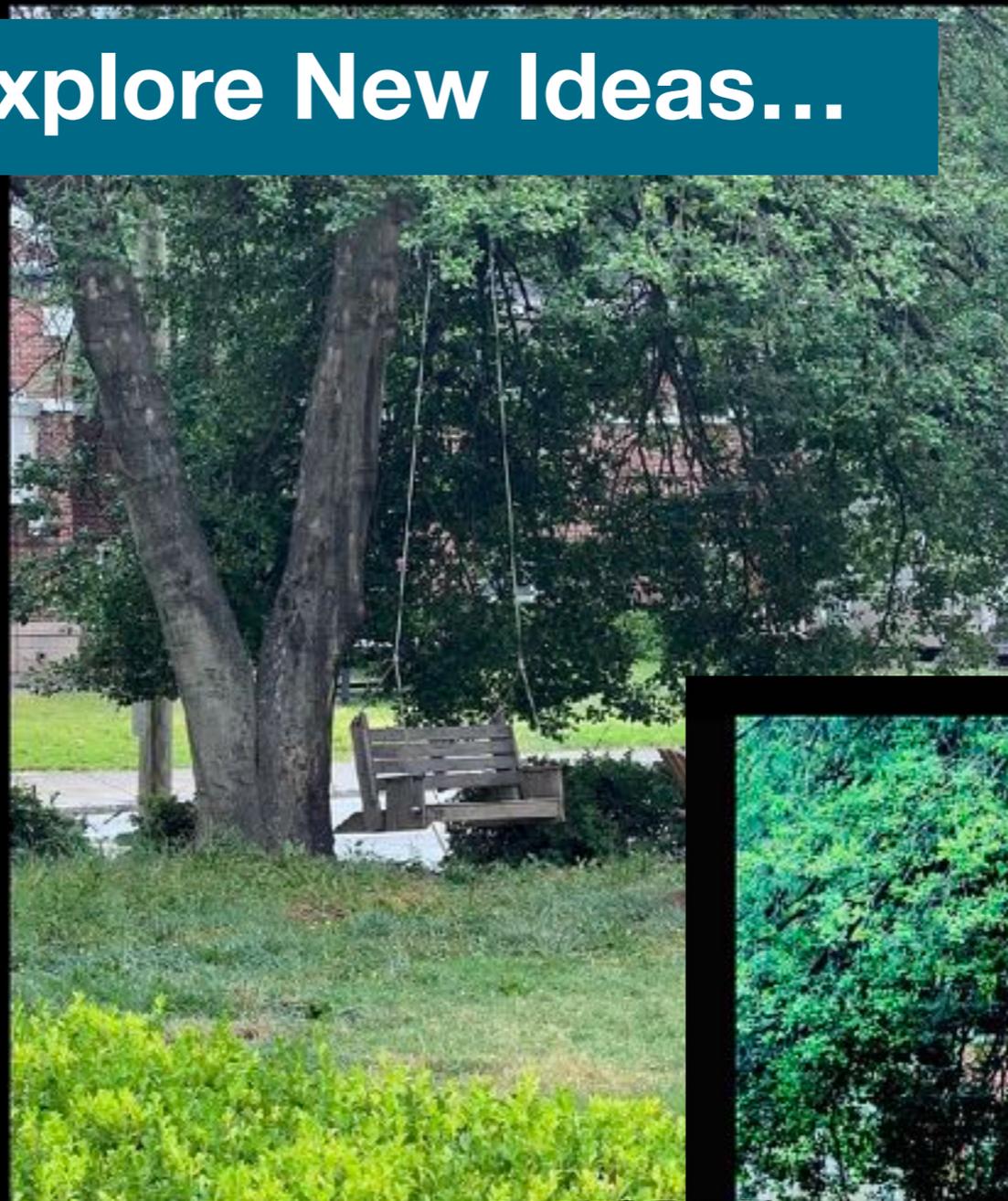
When working with my students, sometimes the quickest and easiest way for me to demonstrate a particular concept is to turn to one of my handy apps on my iPhone or iPad.*

My primary goal with using these apps is to help me consider different approaches that I may not have thought of otherwise.

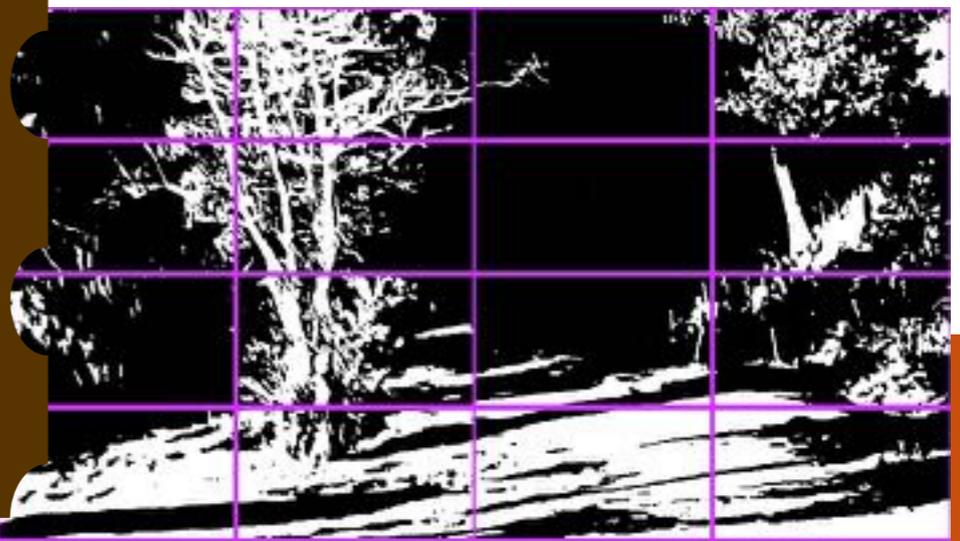
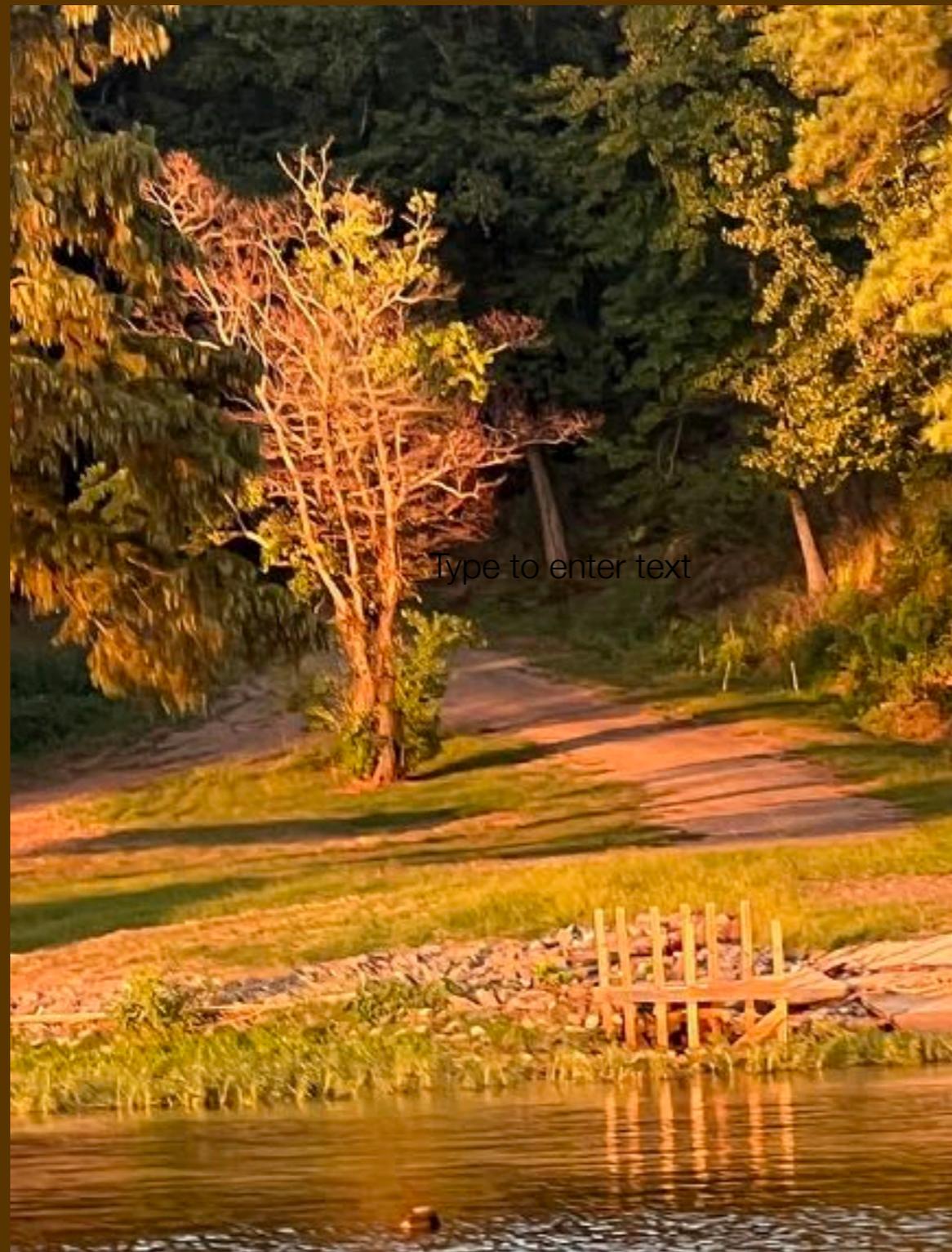
NOTE: I am not trying to use these tools to create a new reference photo to copy, and I think that would be tedious for me.

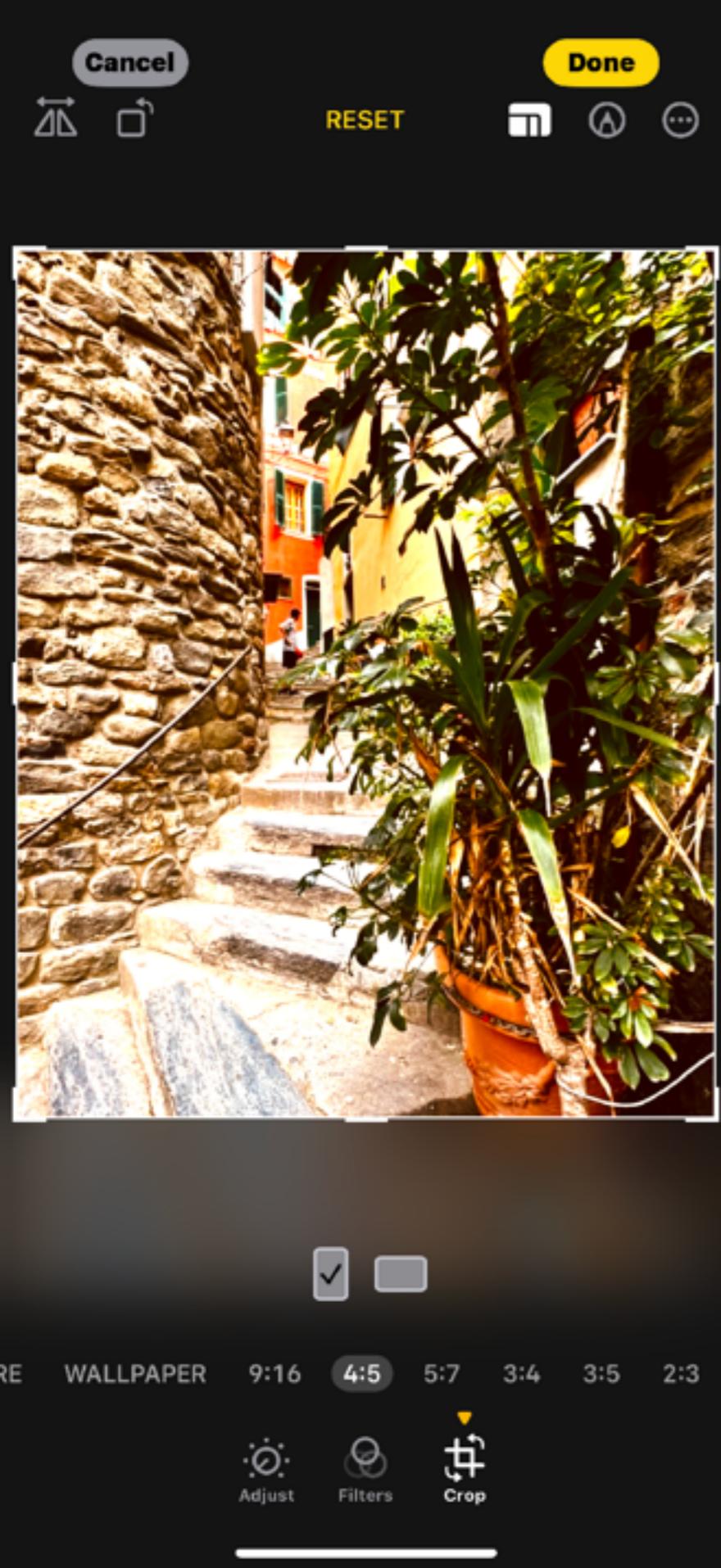
For me, these apps are just one more tool in my toolbox for generating and testing out ideas.

*** To help my students who are android users, I will eventually invest in an android device, but for now, hopefully the general concepts presented here will be helpful, even if the specifics are not the same.**



Apps I Use in My Painting Process (Current Favorites)





Photos

When starting a painting, I almost always start with viewing my reference photo in the Photos app on my iPhone. Just viewing it at this small size can be helpful, but I also like to utilize the functions under the edit menu to:

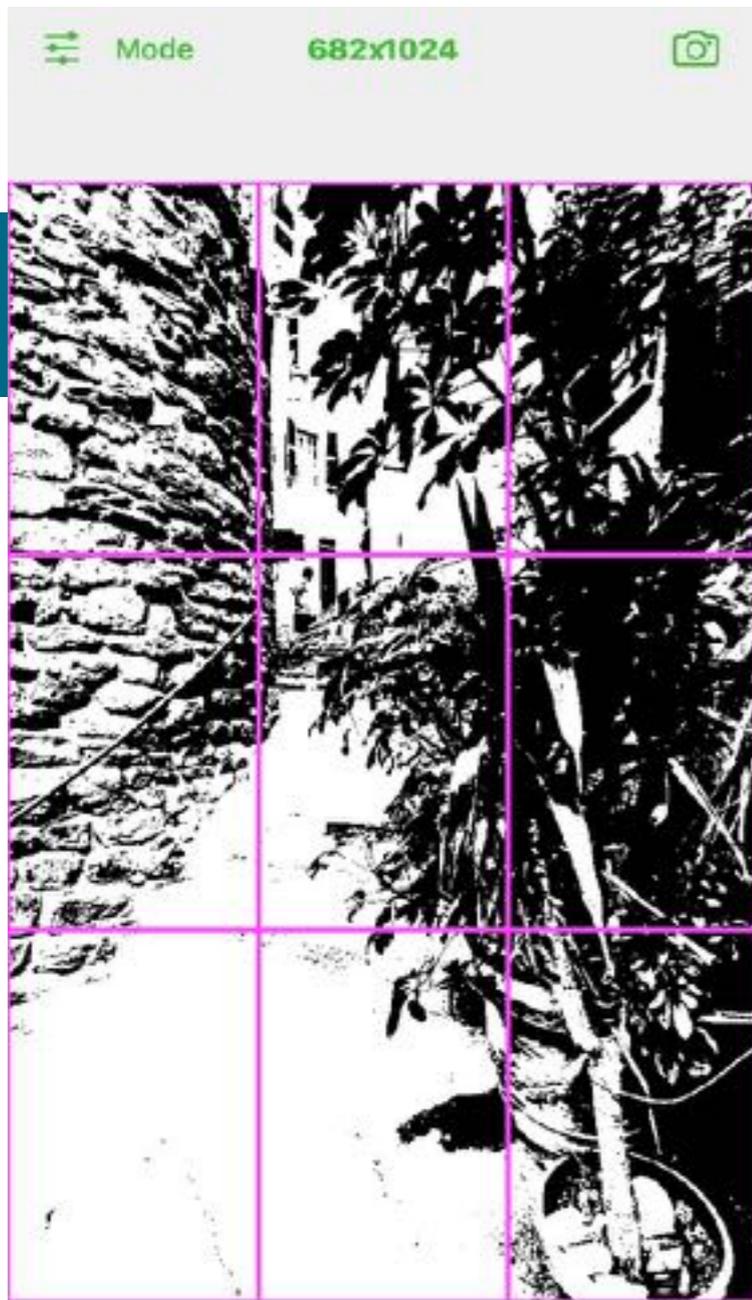
- ▶ Crop my reference photo to the same proportions as my painting surface.
- ▶ Crop and/or size my photo using Rule of Thirds guidelines for placement of my focal area(s).
- ▶ Play around with the various adjustments and filters to generate ideas.
- ▶ Flip and/or rotate my image.

In the later stages of my painting, I will continue to use the photos app to help me see my painting through a different lens. Once again, just seeing your painting at a thumbnail size can oftentimes be just what you need to determine if a painting is working.

This app is also great for quickly checking your range of values throughout the painting process.

SeeValue

The SeeValue app is so beneficial for evaluating your composition because it allows you to quickly see the large value shapes. When using the two values filter, you can use the slider bar to increase the lighter values, or alternatively you can increase the darker values.



Grid#

Grid is really helpful for two primary purposes:

- ▶ You can apply a grid with 3 columns and 3 rows to help you identify the best placement for your focal and sub-focal areas. (i.e. Rule of Thirds)
- ▶ You can apply a variety of grids to your reference photo to help you translate your image to your painting surface accurately.

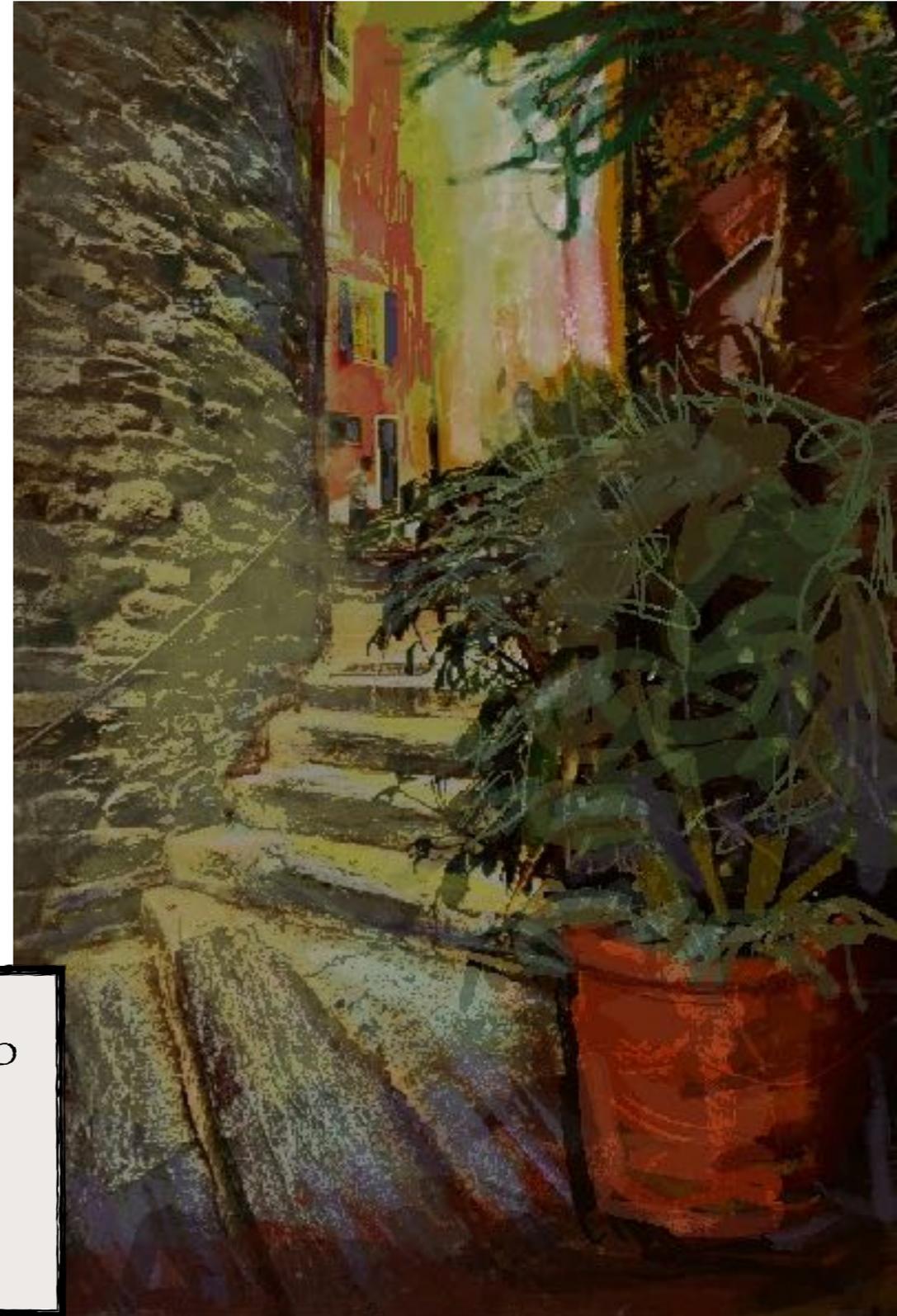
For the latter, I like to apply my grid to at least 3 versions of my reference photo: the full color version, the full greyscale version, and one of the value images from SeeValue.

Procreate

Procreate is a richly featured app, so I will only touch on a few of the possibilities here:

- ▶ The ability to move and/or resize individual elements from your photo.
- ▶ Blur some areas, and make other areas more defined.
- ▶ Try out different color backgrounds.
- ▶ Combine multiple reference photos into one cohesive composition.
- ▶ Crop and/or resize
- ▶ Test out different types of brushes, patterns and opacities.

Bonus Tip: When using your iPhone to view a reference photo while painting, keep the screen from sleeping by going to *Settings: Display & Brightness* and set *Auto-Lock* to *Never*.



If you would like to learn how to use these apps...

In Person

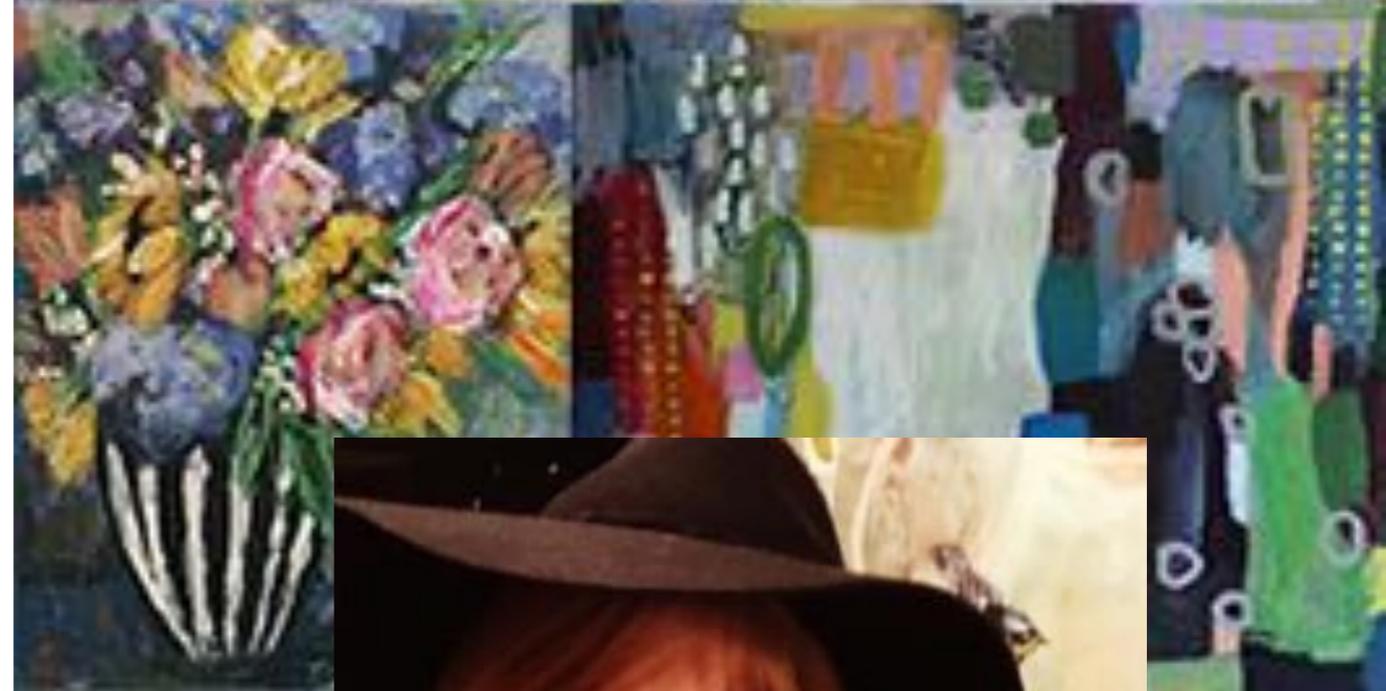
I teach small group in-person classes at Ferris Wheel Arts in Roswell, GA:

- ▶ Tuesday afternoons: Tech for Painters
- ▶ Thursday mornings: Intro to Procreate



Online

I will be posting some “How to” videos soon on YouTube. Link to my future YouTube channel [here](#).



Other Topics

In my classes, there is no such thing as “one size fits all.” Come to learn “all” the styles, techniques, and materials and let me help you discover a process that is all your own. [View Class Descriptions](#)

About Me

I am a professional artist who loves to share my many years of accumulated knowledge with other artists who share a passion for authenticity in our works of art. @JenniferFerrisArt on IG & FB, and www.JenniferFerrisArt.com

