

FALL INTERMEDIATE SERIES: PAINTING TINY ICONS

THE VIRGIN OF TENDERNESS

Gilding and Painting

SEPTEMBER 11 – OCTOBER 8, 2026

ANGEL WITH THE GOLDEN HAIR: Painting Gold Assist

Featuring Zenexo Golden Shine Pigment in place of Shell Gold

OCTOBER 12 & 15, 2026

Tuition Cost: \$475.00

13 ZOOM CLASSES AS SCHEDULED BELOW

Classes begin at 10 AM Central Time and end when the day's work is complete. All classes recorded.

This is a new class format that we will try this fall for the first time!

If you would like to spend a month this fall painting small icons with me from start to finish, including gilding, come join us! This is a perfect class for beginning level students to transition to intermediate level, and it's also a great class for experienced painters to enjoy some fun, easy painting in preparation for Christmas. Paint tiny icons on 5"x6.5" boards or 5"x7" clayboards for Christmas gifts.... We will complete the painting by mid-October and be ready to varnish before Thanksgiving!



PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS AN INTERMEDIATE CLASS. You must have completed at least one beginning series with me or with the Prosopon School before scheduling this class. You should know how to mix your paint and understand the basic techniques of applying roskrish, highlights and floats—techniques that are taught in our beginning-level classes.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, I WILL TEACH GILDING as part of the class, as we gild the halos together. We will begin with an introductory class for the preparation of our board on Friday, Sept 11. Then the gilding and board preparation process will require classes four days in a row from Monday, Sept 14 through Thursday, Sept 17. Thereafter we will have classes twice a week on Mondays & Thursdays for four weeks, beginning at 10 am each morning and ending when the work for the day is done—about 3 hours, depending on the amount of work required for each step.

We will paint an **ELEUSA MOTHER OF GOD** (Virgin of Tenderness) similar to the icon pictured above—on a flat board. An alternate drawing of another Mother of God will be included with the class, as well as the drawing for the 12th century icon called **THE ANGEL WITH THE GOLDEN HAIR**. The last two class sessions will focus on painting the Angel with the Golden Hair using Xenexo Golden Shine pigment. Also included in the class are three recorded video demonstrations of (1) my current varnishing process, (2) how to make your own *olipha* from linseed oil and stand oil, and (3) making your own clay bole for gilding.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 11: Introduction: Initial Board Prep
Monday, Sept 14: Transfer Drawing & Lay Bole
Tuesday, Sept 15: Sand, Burnish and Lay the Gold
Wednesday, Sept 16: Clean the Gold & Paint Red Lines
Thursday, Sept 17: Initial Line Work
Monday, Sept 21: Roskrish
Thursday, Sept 24: First Lights
Monday, Sept 28: Second Lights
Thursday, Oct 1: Floats
Monday, Oct 5: Third Lights & Final Floats
Thursday, Oct 8: Final Details
Monday & Thurs, Oct 12 & 15: Angel with the Golden Hair:
Painting Gold Assist with Zenexo Golden Shine Pigment
Three Supplementary Recordings: Making Clay Bole, Making *olipha*, and Varnishing the Finished Icons

ALL CLASSES WILL BE RECORDED. IF YOUR SCHEDULE PREVENTS YOU FROM ATTENDING THE DAY CLASSES, YOU CAN EASILY DO ALL OF THE WORK FROM THE RECORDED SESSIONS, AT YOUR OWN PACE & ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN SCHEDULE.

THE DRAWING, PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND A SUPPLY LIST WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL TO ALL REGISTERED STUDENTS BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2026. ALL INFORMATION FOR THE CLASSES WILL BE PROVIDED ELECTRONICALLY.

Class recordings, photos and text instructions will be placed in a Google Drive folder for easy access after each class. Classes consist of (1) written text instructions after each class, (2) step photos, (2) live explanations and painting demonstrations on Zoom, with limited opportunities for questions, (3) access to Zoom recordings of each class as follow-up, and (4) opportunities for quick individual critique of student work at the end of each painting session.



REGISTER BY EMAIL to steicon@aol.com. Include your name, physical mailing address, and the email address you want to use for the class. **COST OF THE CLASS (TUITION) IS \$495.00.** If you need to purchase a board, include that request with your registration. I will email you a PayPal invoice which can be paid with any credit card. Registration is complete upon payment of the invoice.



SUPPLIES FOR THIS CLASS

Supplies are not included in the cost of the class. You will need all your painting supplies from your previous classes. Most of the pigments are from our basic pigment kit except for Surma and Zenexo Golden Shine, but I will teach substitutions for these if you prefer not to purchase them. If you are an experienced painter and have gilding supplies, you should have everything you need except the board. If you have never gilded before, you will need gilding supplies as described below.

ICON BOARD OR CLAYBORD: For the Virgin: 5"x 6.5" Icon Board or 5"x 7" Claybord. For the Angel with the Golden Hair: 6"x 8" board or a 5"x7" Claybord. The designs may be enlarged to fit other boards.

- Icon Boards may be ordered from Daniel Cervantes at iconographyvislife@gmail.com or any other board maker of your choice.
- *A limited number of 5x6.5 (\$45) or 6x8 (\$59) flat icon boards are available for sale from the studio for this class— limit is one per student of each size.*
- 5 x 7 Claybords (\$6 each) may be ordered from the studio or purchased from various other sources.

PIGMENTS: Our basic pigment kit contains all the pigments needed for these projects except Surma (Kremer White, \$11), which is in the full-size kit. Kremer's Zenexo Golden Shine (\$22) is available from the studio.

GILDING SUPPLIES:

- If you have no gilding supplies, you will need to order **Clay Bole** from Dmitri Andreyev. Use this link to access his website: <https://www.dmitriandreyeviconography.com/red-adam-gilders-clay> Order 4 oz jar.
- A **Gilding Supply Kit** from us will give you most of the rest of the supplies that you need: Go to the Supplies page for more information.
- In addition to the gilding kit, you will need the following supplies:
 - **#600 Sandpaper**, which you might need to order online from Amazon or another source.
 - If you want to do tooling on the halo, go to a lumber yard and purchase a **carpenter's nail set**.
 - You'll also need a **wooden mallet** or a small hammer for the tooling. Tooling is optional.
 - **Cotton swabs** for cleaning the gold

The drawings for this class will be emailed by September 1 to those registered by that time. No advance preparation is necessary before the Introductory Class on Sept 11.