Marilynne Bradley’s

Simple rules for painting plein aire

**Begin  a composition by thinking in thirds. Painting outdoors is challenging. Learning what to select, and what to omit to make a strong design and statement while the light is changing, is the goal.**

**Try to keep your main subject away from the center of the page.**

**Details should be diminished near the edges of the paper.**

**Limit your palette to three colors relating to light, middle, and dark tones.**

**John Singer Sargeant used Yellow Orchre, Prussian Blue and Burnt Umber.**

**Simplify shapes and add details at the end. One must compare constantly the value and color to capture the scene light.**

**The light changes every 7 minutes so plan on an immediate image.**

**Capture light, atmosphere, and mood in your painting while using strong composition and color harmony.**