The American Watercolor Society 155th Annual International ExhibitionFDU Field Trip to the Salmagundi Club gallery April 16, 2023

Among the hundreds of paintings exhibited, you can find many examples of varied styles and watercolor techniques. Here are a few things to look for that relate to what we have been exploring in our classwork together. Make some notes on this page when you find examples of the following...

examples of the following
Large flat washes and gradients: look for skies and other subject that are writ large.
Glazing: look for examples of glazing techniques that build up color and tone using layers of brushwork.
Wet-into-wet: keep an eye out for areas of a work (or maybe the whole painting) that reveal the tendrils of color spilling into color that can occur with this approach.
Textures: salt, splattering of paint, splashes of water. Collections of small details that fill an certain area of the composition.

Tight handwork vs. Loose and free: some artists have very well developed techniques that all but hide the individual brush stroke. Others celebrate the free and loose quality of this medium with large gestures of color and tone. Alternate between standing close and stepping back. Some of the most interesting works will appear loose when seen up-close and then tighten up when viewed from afar.

"Saving" the highlights: watch for the ways that artists may work to protect highlights during the painting process. Some artists may also add opaque white for a different effect.