

An abstract painting with a rich, textured surface. The background is a mix of vibrant colors including blues, greens, yellows, and reds, with darker tones like black and brown in the lower right. The brushstrokes are visible and expressive, creating a sense of movement and depth. A vertical yellow bar is on the left side.

# Find & Refine Your Artistic Style

Guiding You To Find Confidence  
& Clarity In Your Art

# The Journey Begins...

Dear Artist,

Finding and refining your artistic style can feel like a daunting, even overwhelming, task.

Whether you're just starting out or you've been creating for years, you might feel lost in a sea of techniques, influences, and the works of others. But let me assure you—this journey of discovering your unique style is one of the most fulfilling parts of being an artist.

As Vincent van Gogh once said, *“If you hear a voice within you say you cannot paint, then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced.”* There's an inner critic in all of us, and a big part of this journey is learning how to silence that critic and trust your own creative instincts.

This guide is designed to help you navigate the path of artistic discovery, offering advice, inspiration, and motivation as you explore the depths of your own voice and style. And though this journey takes time, the support of a mentor who has walked the path before can help you find clarity and confidence much sooner.

Let's dive into the process together.

An abstract painting featuring several hands holding paintbrushes. The background is a mix of purple, blue, and pink tones with white paint splatters and drips. The text is overlaid on this artwork.

# What's Your Artistic Style?

An artistic style is more than just the way you paint, draw, or sculpt. It's a reflection of who you are, what you believe, and how you see the world.

Your style is the sum of your influences, experiences, and the techniques you've practiced. It's something that evolves as you do.

Yet, many artists struggle to pinpoint their style. One day, you're experimenting with abstract shapes, and the next, you're captivated by realism. Is this inconsistency a sign that you haven't found your style?

**Absolutely not.**

Artistic style is not static; it grows and changes with you. The key is to stay true to yourself while allowing your influences and skills to mature.

As Pablo Picasso once said, *"Learn the rules like a pro so you can break them like an artist."* Mastering techniques is important, but it's in breaking the rules and expressing yourself authentically that your style truly emerges.

# Why Finding Your Style Feels So Hard

Let's talk about the struggles we face as artists. Often, the difficulty of finding your style comes from comparison.

It's easy to look at the works of others and feel like you're falling short. You might even wonder if you'll ever reach their level of confidence and clarity.

**But here's the truth: Your artistic journey is unique to you, and so is your style. It's not supposed to look like anyone else's.**

Too often, we try to rush the process or force a style because we think that's what people will like, or what will sell. But this leads to frustration, burnout, and a sense of inauthenticity. Your audience will connect with you most deeply when you create from a place of authenticity, not obligation.

The great artist Georgia O'Keeffe once said, *"I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life—and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do."* Fear is normal. Uncertainty is part of the journey.

The key is not letting it stop you from creating.

# 5 Steps For Finding Your Artistic Style

So, how do you actually go about finding your style? The answer lies in exploration, reflection, and iteration. Here are some steps to help guide you along the way:

## 1. Experiment Freely

Give yourself the freedom to try different mediums, techniques, and subjects. This period of exploration is crucial. You'll never know what truly resonates with you until you try it.

## 2. Reflect on What Inspires You

Look at your past work and ask yourself: What pieces do I feel most connected to? What subjects or themes do I find myself returning to again and again? Your preferences and passions are key indicators of your developing style.

## 3. Listen to Feedback

Receiving feedback is important, but remember that not all feedback is equally valuable. Trusted mentors and peers can offer insight that helps you see your work in new ways, but always filter advice through your own values and vision.

## 4. Create Consistently

The more you create, the more your style will naturally emerge. It's easy to get stuck in analysis paralysis, but you need to create, even if it feels messy or incomplete. Every work of art is a stepping stone to the next.

## 5. Study the Masters

Look at the works of artists you admire, not to copy them, but to learn. What do you love about their style? How do they handle composition, color, or texture? Incorporate these lessons into your own practice without losing sight of your own voice.

As Henri Matisse once said,  
*“Creativity takes courage.”*

Be courageous in your exploration, and trust that your style will come into focus over time.



# Refining Your Style Over Time

Once you begin to see your style take shape, the work doesn't end.

In fact, this is where the real fun begins. Refining your style is an ongoing process, one that deepens with practice, mentorship, and reflection.

## How can you push your style further?

Maybe that means adding more texture, simplifying your compositions, or experimenting with new color palettes. Stay curious and open to change.

At this stage, many artists find that mentorship is invaluable. Learning from someone who's been in your shoes can help accelerate your growth. A mentor can see things in your work that you might miss, helping you refine and push your style further than you could on your own.

Remember, your style is a living, breathing thing. It will grow and evolve as you do.



# Breaking Through Blocks

One of the most frustrating parts of developing your style is feeling stuck.

This can happen when you're in the "messy middle" of a piece, or when you feel like you're not making progress fast enough.

But here's the good news: Getting stuck is part of the process. It's often in these moments that you're on the verge of a breakthrough. When you face resistance, don't give up—push through.

As artist Chuck Close once said, "*Inspiration is for amateurs; the rest of us just show up and get to work.*" The simple act of showing up, even when you don't feel inspired, can lead to some of your best work.

And again, mentorship plays a vital role here. Having someone who can offer guidance, encouragement, and a fresh perspective can be the difference between giving up and pushing forward.



# Your Artistic Style Is Already Inside You...

Finding and refining your artistic style isn't about discovering something outside of yourself—it's about uncovering what's already within you.

It takes time, persistence, and a willingness to embrace the unknown. But you don't have to do it alone. Surround yourself with a community of supportive artists and mentors who can offer insight, guidance, and encouragement as you move forward in your journey.

**As you continue to create, remember this: Your style is uniquely yours, and the world needs to see it.**

Thank you for reading! Your artistic voice matters, and with the right tools, mentorship, and persistence, you'll uncover the style that is truly yours.

**Ready to take the next step?** With the right guidance, you can accelerate this journey and tap into your full creative potential. The time to start is now. **Details on the next page.**

Happy creating!  
Julie deBoer, Artist & Founder

*“My Mentor, Mitchell Albala, helped me identify a growing edge and an inconsistency in my style that **I would never have noticed on my own.**”*

*What’s fascinating is that **his style is completely different from mine,** yet his insights were invaluable in guiding me on how to improve.”*

*~ Julie deBoer, Artist & Founder*

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**Mastrius is a supportive, non-competitive community designed to help artists thrive.**

We connect you with experienced master artist mentors who guide you through the challenges of finding your unique style, building confidence, and growing your art business. Whether you're looking to refine your techniques or navigate the professional side of art, we provide the tools, community, and expert guidance to accelerate your growth.

# Here's How We Help Emerging Artists Thrive...

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Get fresh tips, art inspiration, and community updates delivered straight to your inbox. Stay in the loop on new courses, events, and mentorship opportunities!

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We host weekly LIVE and interactive sessions that inspire creativity and growth, with live demos, critiques, and insights from master artists.

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Start your journey with access to weekly events, community discussions, and artist challenges designed to keep you connected, inspired, and always learning.

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## REGISTER FOR LIVE ONLINE COURSES

Dive deep into focused lessons from master artists, where you'll get real-time guidance and interaction. Perfect for hands-on learners who thrive in an engaging, live environment.

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Learn at your own pace with master-led on-demand courses that fit your schedule, helping you refine your skills anytime, anywhere.

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## JOIN THE LIVE ART MENTORSHIP MEMBERSHIP

Get personalized support from experienced mentors who are passionate about helping you grow, offering guidance tailored to your unique style and goals. You meet once per month with your mentor and a small group of peers. Choose from 180+ artist mentors.

This is the FASTEST and most supportive path.

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