

The Sporny Solution™

Traditional Oil Painting
Without the Hazards



DIRECTIONS

Read and follow the directions
carefully before using the materials

The Media

The Sporny Media may be mixed with any oil-based, resinbased, water/oil painting product. If the artist is using a watercleanup oil paint, the use of water must stop when changing to the Sporny Media. You may reduce the use of VOCs by percentage, or you may eliminate VOCs all together. For example, if turpentine use is 100% as a painting medium, by using only 10% turp mixed with the Sporny Light Medium, exposure is reduced by 90%. Pure turpentine is very dangerous, with a high level of VOCs; a sensitizer for allergies. Turp also absorbs into the skin.

Sporny Solvent

Not to paint with. Cleanup only!

Install a stiff screen at an angle in a container, to keep the paint sludge settled down. Sporny Solvent should cover the screen about halfway up.

To Clean a Brush: Squeeze paint off brush using folded page from an old phone book. Whisk the brush against the screen. Tap excess off brush on inside of container. Squeeze out with paper towel or rag. If you are going to use the brush right away, apply a few drops of Sporny Light Medium and wipe clean. To store the brush, follow Solvent-only method then wash with dish detergent and hot water. Wipe off, reshape, set upright to dry. You will notice more resilience next time.

To Clean a Palette or Ink Glass: Scrape off wet paint with a palette knife or razor-type scraper. Dispense about two tablespoons of new or recycled Sporny Solvent, and rub down thoroughly with wad of phone book paper. Pick up remainder with paper towels or rag. Dried paint or ink: Dispense same amount of Sporny Solvent or enough to thinly cover the dried material. Cover with sheets of phone book paper, and let sit for a few minutes, or longer, or even overnight. Give it time. Use a window scraper or other sharp blade to peel off dried paint.

Recycle: When the Sporny Solvent gets very sludgy, pour into container and let stand until clear. Recycle many times. The amber tint of recycled Solvent does not affect performance.

To Discard: Individual Artist: Discard by stirring up the sludge and pouring slurry into an old container, like a milk or water jug. Fill with cat litter or other absorbing material. Group or Institution: Call your local waste management group.

Notice! While the Sporny Solvent is a non toxic product, it must be used with care and good sense. Keep it away from children. The Sporny Solvent will melt or damage some types of rubber, foam rubber, Styrofoam and some plastic. We strongly advise testing surfaces before longterm use. The Solvent does not evaporate, so it will continue to have an effect on some surfaces until cleaned up with paper towels, absorbing material and then soap and water. It leaves a slick surface, so floor spills must be cleaned thoroughly. Garagetype oil absorbing material or kitty litter works well; followed by a detergent and water scrub-off.

Sporny Light Medium

Use for the under painting, to fill out basic shapes of color, and to draw with the brush - or invent your own technique. Works great with oil sticks. Experiment!

IMPORTANT: Mix thoroughly with the palette knife. The consistency of mixed paint and Sporny Light Medium should be like ketchup or sour cream. Use Sparingly, to not over-thin, because it will run, delay dry-time, and the colors will be fugitive because of the lack of pigments. Dry-time 3-7 days on glass surface. Dry heat is faster.

Sporny Heavy Medium

For finish work - or invent your own technique. Gives a tough, resilient, very archival finish. Usually has a nice semi gloss surface, no need to varnish. Can be painted over Sporny Light Medium while it is still wet or tacky. Can be mixed with the Sporny Light Medium for a custom consistency. Also works great with oil sticks. Experiment!

IMPORTANT: Mix thoroughly with the palette knife to a sour cream consistency. Use sparingly, do not over-thin. Try different consistencies that suit your sensibilities. Dry-time: 4-9 days on glass surface. Dry heat is faster.

Stanley Sporny, artist and developer of the Sporny Solution™:

Stanley Sporny (1946 - 2008) earned a BFA in painting from the University of Pennsylvania in 1968 and an MFA from the Philadelphia College of Art in 1972. He traveled to Sri Lanka in 1972 on a Fulbright Grant, where he lived and painted for nine years. (Yes, he knew Arthur C. Clarke – even painted his portrait!) A dedicated and prolific oil painter (also an accomplished country musician), Stanley Sporny was a professor of art at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, for more than 20 years. His work has been widely shown and is in several museum, corporate and private collections.

Beginning in the late 60s, professor Sporny responded to his own sensitization to traditional oil painting mediums and solvents by developing his own non-toxic alternatives. “My career was threatened. I became sensitized by prolonged exposure to VOCs [Volatile Organic Compounds] in my studio and classes. As a result I cannot be near anything with fumes, including ordinary household cleaners. [Since] I launched my Sporny Solution™ program at Marshall University...there have been no complaints from students about fumes. I no longer feel dizzy or disoriented; the headaches are gone. My career is not making me sick any more. Artists have a long relationship with the environmental movement, but we have done little about our own risky studio situation...I hope you will join me and other artists...to make oil painting safe enough for everyone to enjoy.”



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