



Using Complements to Manipulate Color Intensity

The color in the Matisse painting above (*Reclining Nude in a White Dress*), is pure and intense.

Repaint the Matisse with low-intensity hues by using each color's complement to lower its intensity. When you finish, your painting should be a duller version of the Matisse - dull blue where it is bright blue, dull red where it is bright red, and so forth.

(Example: lower the intensity of the ultramarine blue by adding some of its complementary color — orange biased toward yellow — to it. The dark blue green in the leaves will need some red-orange added to it to lower its intensity, the yellows will need some violet added to them to lower their intensity and so forth.

You can mix the colors in your palette or on the paper.

