

Paris | Chizuru Morii Kaplan 41" × 29" (104cm × 74cm)

Transparent watercolor with white gouache on 500-lb. (1060gsm) rough Arches

Watercolor Light Imitates Life

A gorgeous clear day in Paris was quickly covered with thick stormy clouds and got very dark. Then suddenly, like a spotlight beamed at an actor on a black stage, the strong sunlight hit this Parisian architecture causing it to stand out from the darkness. I began by boldly painting the darkest forms of the building with a hard bristle brush. Then with a big hake brush, I painted the large shadows and deconstructed the building details. When the dark color for the sky was applied, suddenly and dramatically the paper white I left for the sunlit part of the structure appeared as a dazzling light. Just like that day in Paris!