Treasure Box Bugs • by Anne Hunter

Paint.

Jo Sonja Classic Background Collecton Galaxy Blue Soft White Deep Plum Chestnut Primrose Wild Rose

Brushes

Loew Cornell series 242 no. 1 inch basecoater series 7000 no. 2 round series 7050 no. 10/0 liner series 2014 nos. 2, 6 scumbler

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Misc

Palette knife, texture paste, Opal Dust, all-purpose sealer, matte spray sealer, matte varnish, painter's tape, wool sea sponge

Preparation

Seal the box with matte spray sealer. Basecoat the lid of the box with the basecoater brush, heavily loaded, with a coat of Deep Plum + Galaxy Blue (2:1) mixed with equal parts of Texture Paste. Pull short brush strokes moving in different directions to create a textural surface. Let dry completely. Paint the remainder of the box with Deep Plum + Galaxy Blue (2:1) with smooth, even strokes.

Dry brush Wild Rose over the textured background on the lid of the box with the basecoater brush sparsely loaded. Use light pressure, starting in the middle of the area and working toward the outside edges.

Measure a 1-inch border around the edge of the lid. Apply tape to the outside edges of the border. Make a mixture of Wild Rose + Soft White (1:1), add an equal amount of clear glazing medium to the color mix. Dampen the wool sea sponge and squeeze out the excess moisture. Tap the sponge into the color glaze and pounce lightly on your palette to remove the excess. Pounce lightly onto the taped-off area to create a soft, lacy border. Remove the tape and let surface dry completely.

Trace the pattern onto tracing paper. Transfer the outlines onto the box lid.

Instructions

Bee, Dragonfly and Butterfly Bodies Paint the body and head of the bugs with a no. 2 round loaded with Deep Plum. Dry-brush a highlight on the center of the body and head with a no. 2 scumbler sparsely loaded with Soft White. Outline the wings with a no. 10/0 liner loaded with thinned Soft White. Antennae are lines of Soft White + a tad of Wild Rose.

Bee

Paint the stripes with tapping motion with a no. 2 round loaded with Chestnut. While wet, pick up Deep Plum and tap in the shadows on either side. Wipe the brush and pick up Primrose and tap into the center of the stripes for a highlight. Pick up Soft White and tap in a brighter highlight in the center.

Butterfly

Add lines on the wings with a no. 10/0 liner loaded with thinned Soft White. Plop in the dots on the wings and the body with a no. 2 round loaded with Soft White.

Dragonfly

Add lines on the wings with a no. 10/0 liner loaded with thinned Soft White.

Finishing

Apply a generous coat of Opal Dust to the bug wings and the border. Allow to dry.

Apply an even coat of matte sealer to set the design. Apply multiple coats of matte varnish for protection.

