

Art Apps

... and what they do



A Quick Look at 3

Introductory Level

Designed for iPad. Applicable to other devices.

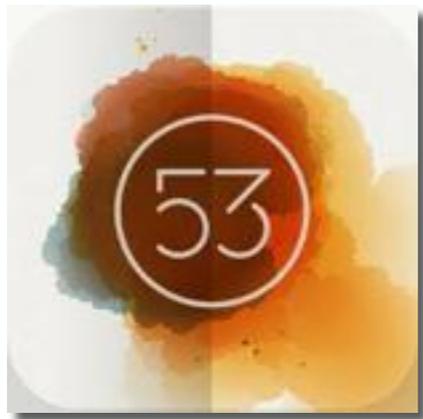
Revised November 2016

GUARDRAIL
Tutorials

Which Art Apps?

... so many options

Let's have a quick look at the following iPad drawing and painting apps:



Paper by Fifty Three



Tayasui Sketches



Brushes

This is not a tutorial but a simple illustrated guide to introduce several popular art apps available for the iPad (and possibly other touch screen devices). It is a quick look at the user interface, tools and options in order to help people make a choice about which to use.

Please Note:

These guides were created in 2014 using the versions of the selected apps current at the time. Most of the basic functionality will still be the same.

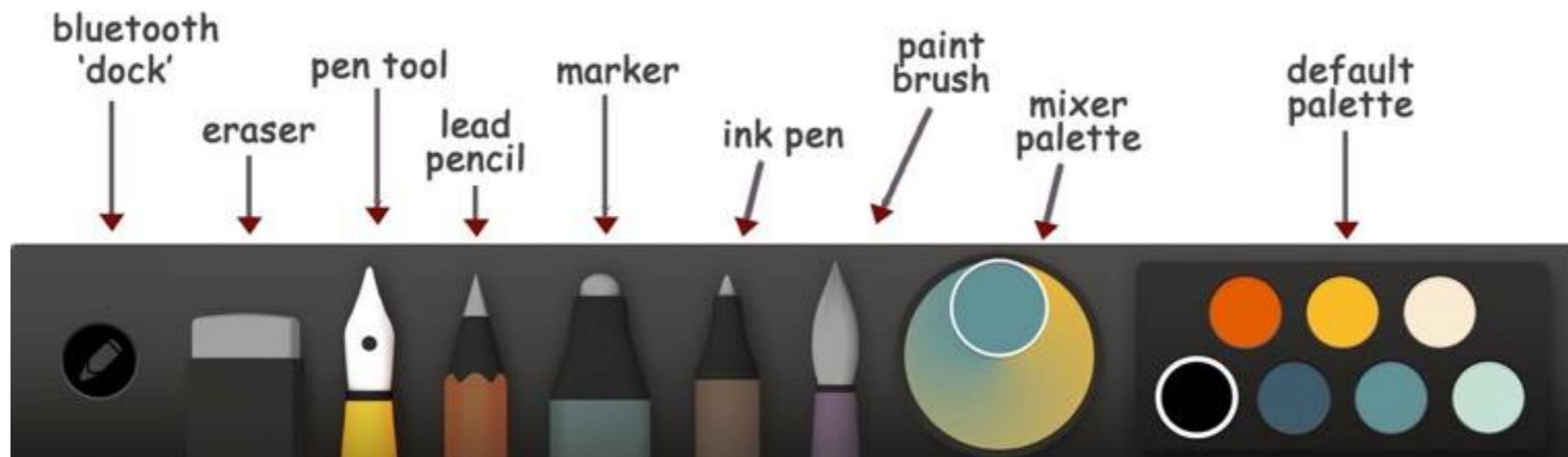
53 Paper

Paper by 53 has a very simple user interface, without a mind boggling array of tools and functions. The free version provides only a pen tool and basic set of colours. More tools can be purchased from within the app. The entire set can be purchased for a little over \$10 which will give you all of the tools shown in the illustration below.



Some unique features of Paper:

- ✎ Sketchbooks for recording ideas (add or delete books and individual pages)
- ✎ The rewind function to undo work (no undo button)
- ✎ Eraser cuts through to the canvas; the faster the stroke the broader the area erased
- ✎ Unique paint blending properties
- ✎ Create custom colour palettes (you can scroll through the different palettes on hand)
- ✎ Magnifier zoom tool which is really nice



53 Paper

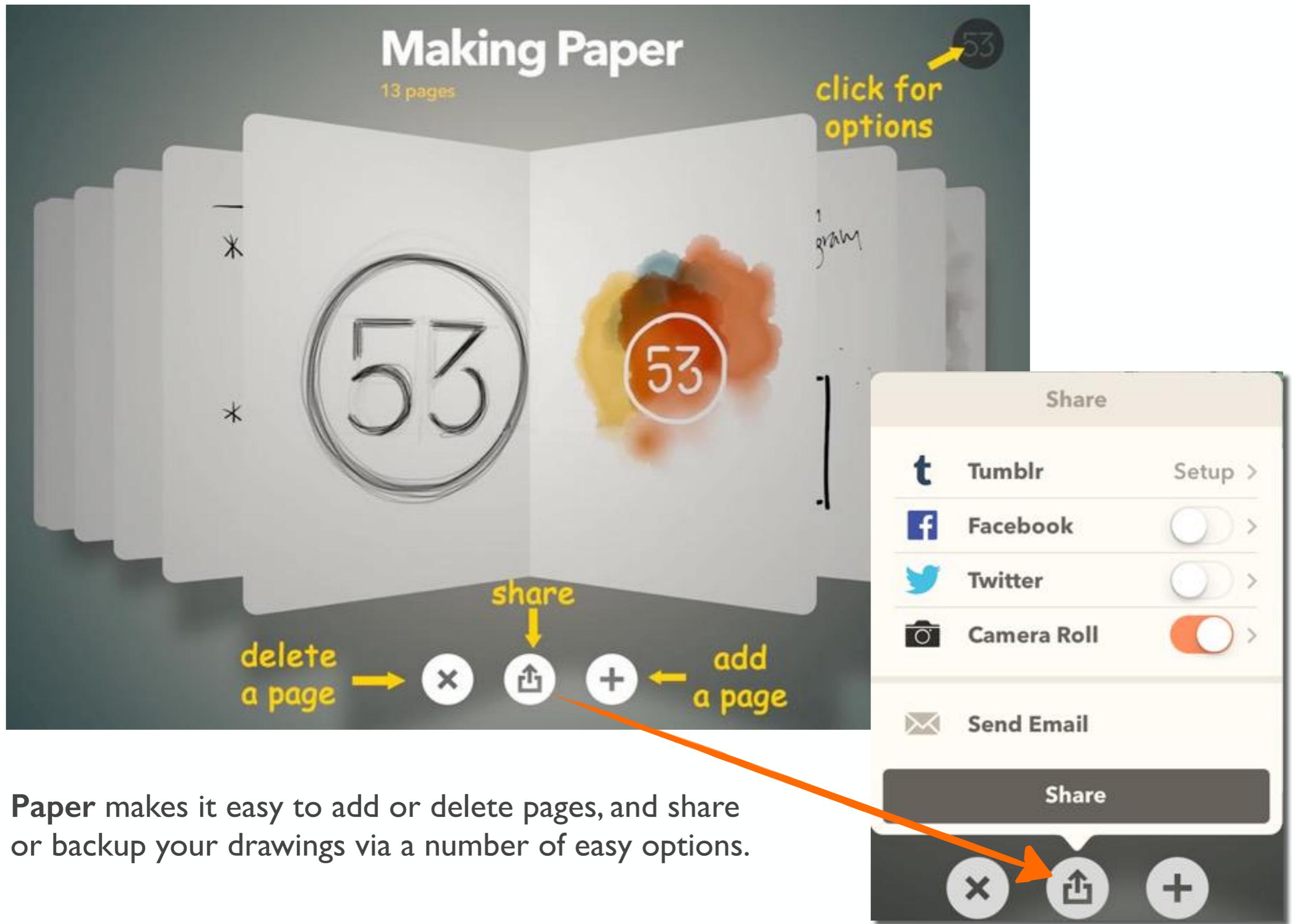
... continued

Paper by 53 has all the basic tools and functionality required for drawing and sketching. With a bit of practise, stunning works of art can be created with this app (currently available only on the IOS platform). It is best to purchase the full set of tools and the mixing palette.



www.fiftythree.com/paper

The selected tool will be highlighted with a white tip (in this example, the fountain pen tool is selected)



Paper makes it easy to add or delete pages, and share or backup your drawings via a number of easy options.

Optional Tools

... to purchase



Paper by 53 also provides a **Bluetooth** stylus for using with the app. It is called Pencil 53. It has an eraser also, and features 'palm rejection' so you can rest your palm on the tablet whilst drawing (without creating a mess).

Ten One Design has created a **Bluetooth** stylus/brush set called Pogo Connect. It includes interchangeable brushes and tips.



The **Sensu Artist Brush & Stylus** is for capacitive touch screen devices like the iPad and iPhone. It is **not** Bluetooth.

These three tools should work with all art apps for touch screen devices. Many other such tools are available also.

For a more detailed explanation of the Paper 53 tools:
www.fiftythree.com/paper

For expert tutorials, including colour mixing in some depth:
www.mademistakes.com/

Tayasui Sketches

... beautiful tools, beautiful drawings



Tayasui Sketches includes all of the main artist tools in the free version. The 'Extra Tools' option (for less than \$3) gives you an acrylic brush, air brush, a brush editor (to change size and opacity), a Color Eyedropper, Text and Shapes. The 'Layers and Papers' option (again less than \$3) provides you with the ability to work in different layers as well as the option to use textured papers and photo imports.

Completed artwork can be shared by swiping the gallery image upwards to bring up the usual sharing options such as Facebook, Twitter, Email or the Photos library etc.

Tayasui Sketches

... some features

Sketches has a generous array of tools and functions plus an in app user guide accessible from within the current artwork..

Some unique and useful features of Sketches:

- 🖌️ Comprehensive tool and colour editing options
- 🖌️ Each tool remembers the last used colour
- 🖌️ 'PatternsTransfer' sheet for selecting overlays (fonts and shapes also)
- 🖌️ Eraser is adjustable
- 🖌️ Unique sharing options with 'stamps' to choose where to send your artwork
- 🖌️ Post works to the Sketches artwork sharing website
- 🖌️ A selection of textured 'paper' to use as background
- 🖌️ Stylus Tab in the Info Panel allows stylus and pressure selection

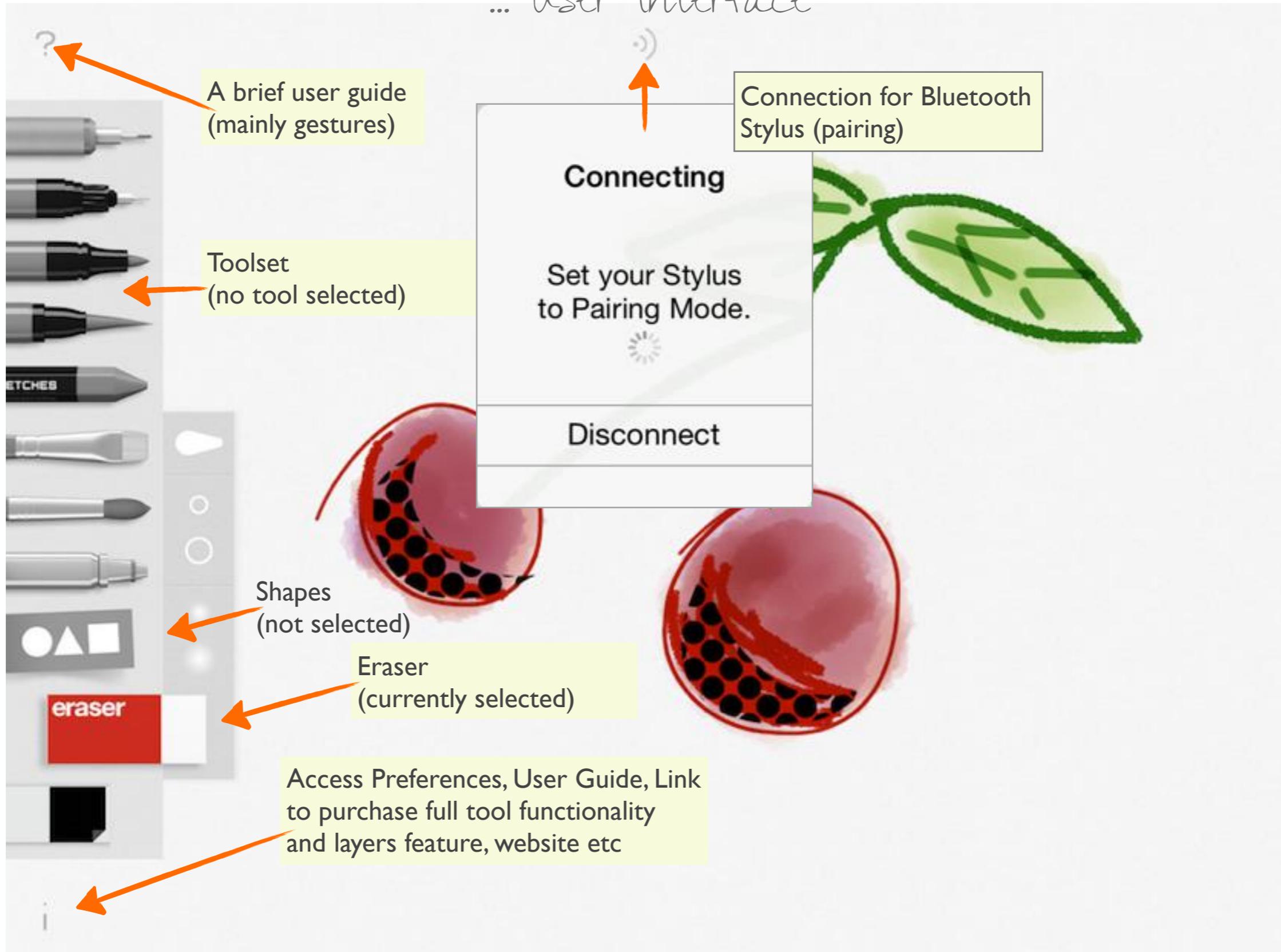


Colour tool to adjust lightness/darkness, hue and transparency



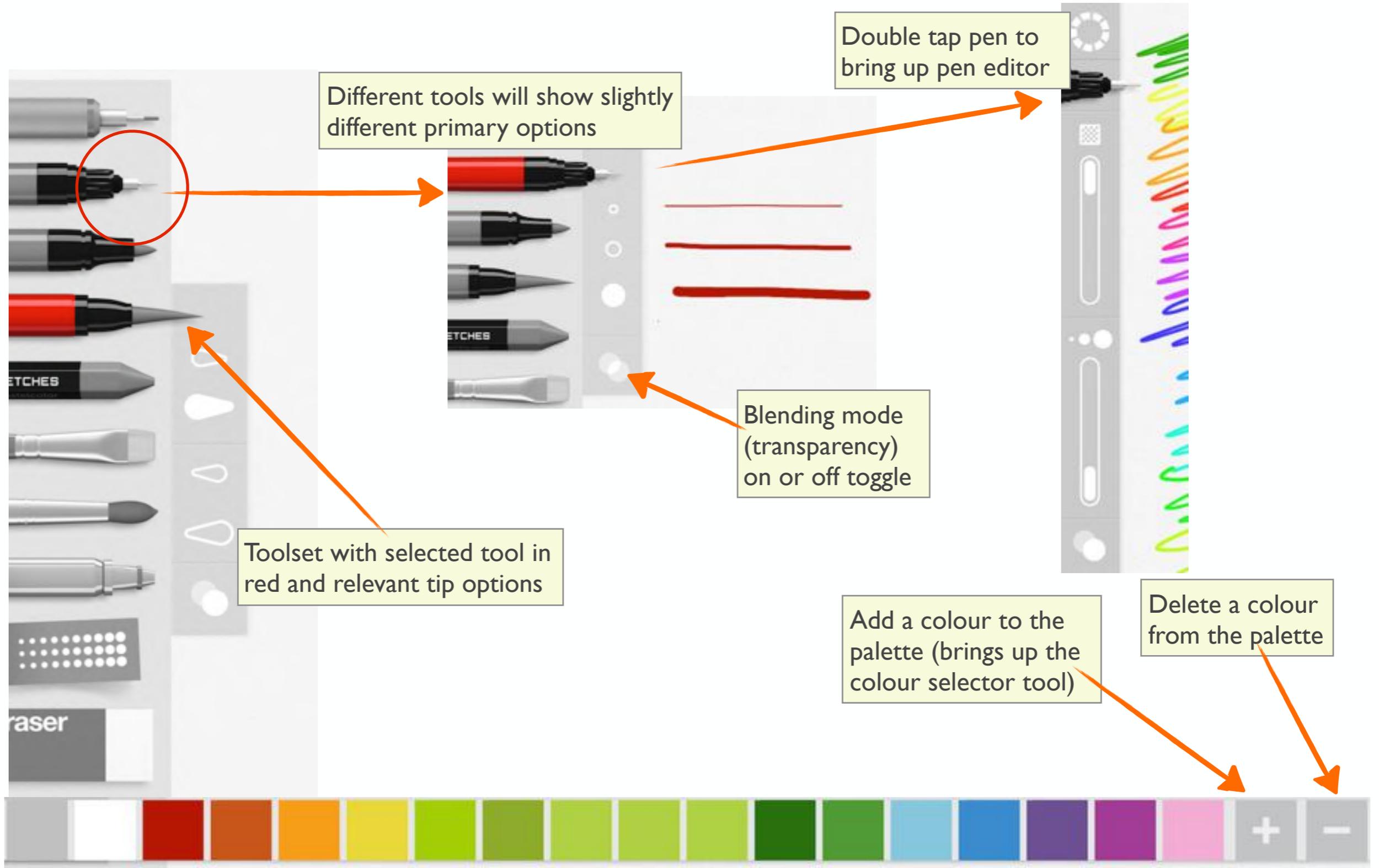
Tayasui Sketches

... user interface



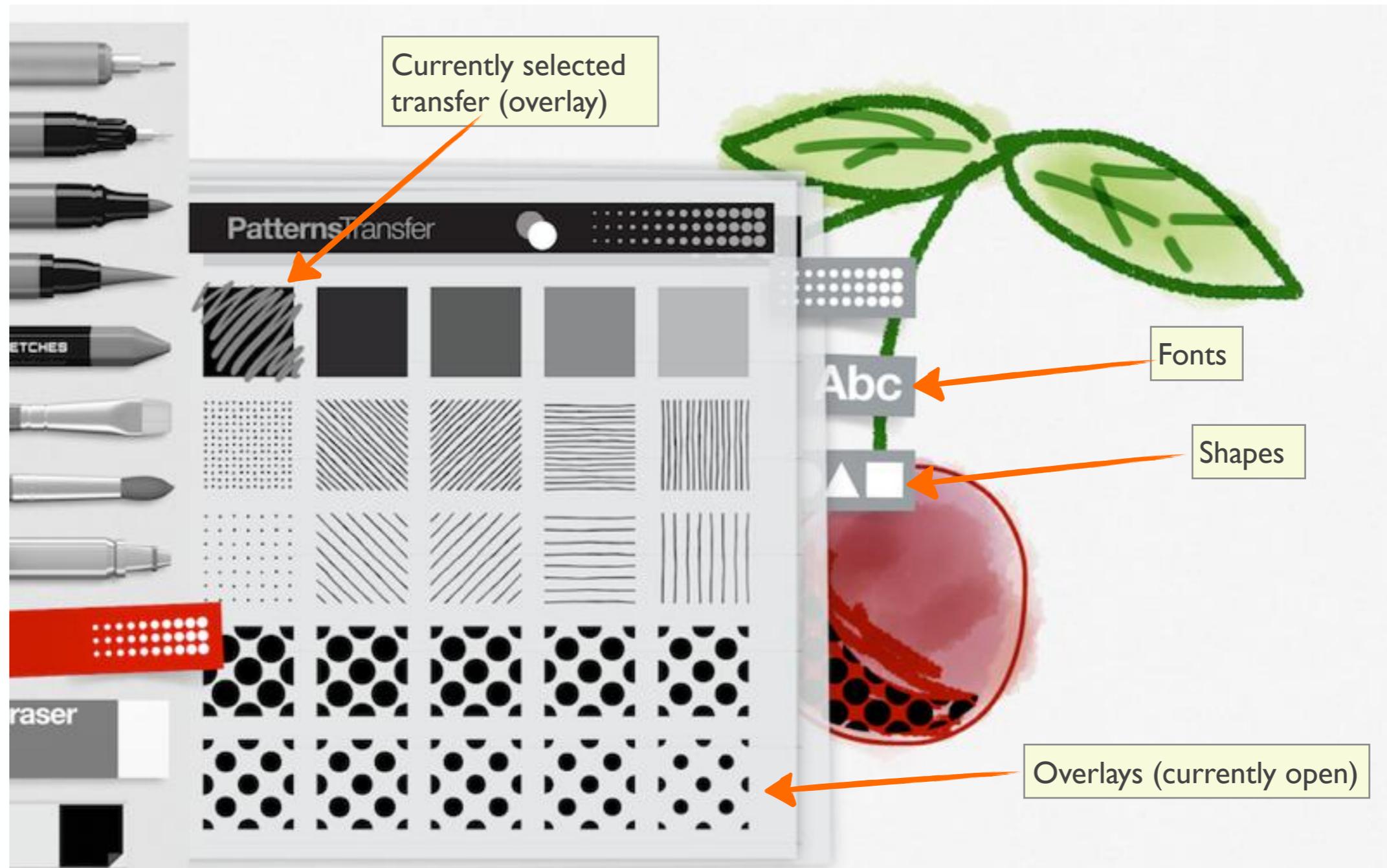
Tayasui Sketches

... tools and colour



Tayasui Sketches

... Pattern Transfers, Fonts and Shapes



Brushes

... the 'Brushes App'

Brushes is open source free software. Therefore all of the tools and functionality are provided completely free of charge, and without advertising. It is a well developed app of professional quality. Definitely the best choice free app for virtual painting at present.

Some unique and very useful features of Brushes:

- 🖌️ The playback function (to view a recorded movie of the painting stages)
- 🖌️ Layers (with the usual features such as add, delete, hide/unhide and merge layers)
- 🖌️ Large range of brush styles with a lot of editing parameters
- 🖌️ On-screen slider to vary brush size quickly
- 🖌️ Well developed colour palette
- 🖌️ Paint blending using transparency settings (available to layers also)
- 🖌️ Adjustable eraser
- 🖌️ Very responsive, allowing for fairly rapid painting and drawing



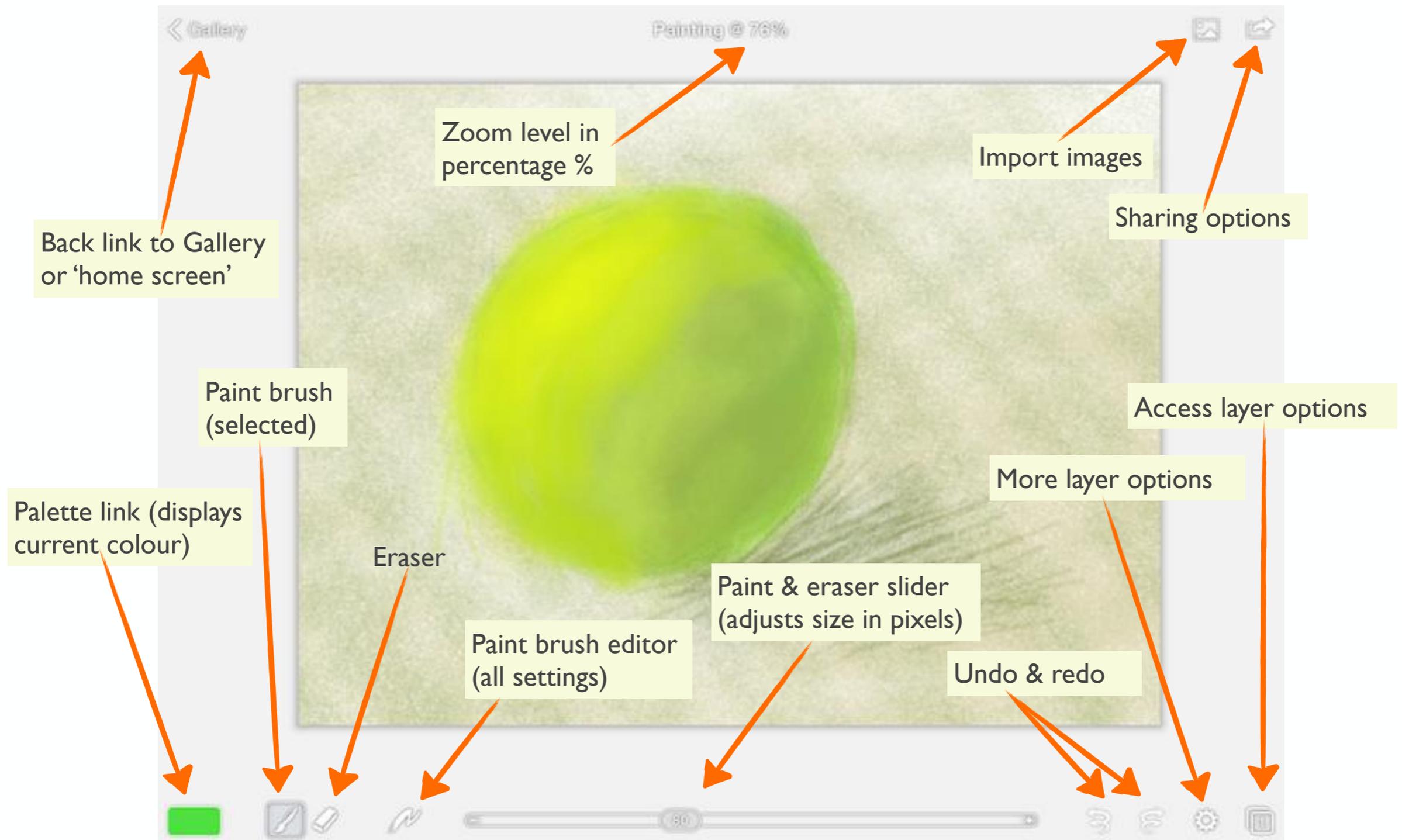
Brushes has changed lately, so many of the online tutorials show a slightly different interface to the latest version.

A full tutorial can be obtained from:

http://learnhigher.files.wordpress.com/2011/11/brushes_ipad_users_guide1.pdf

Brushes

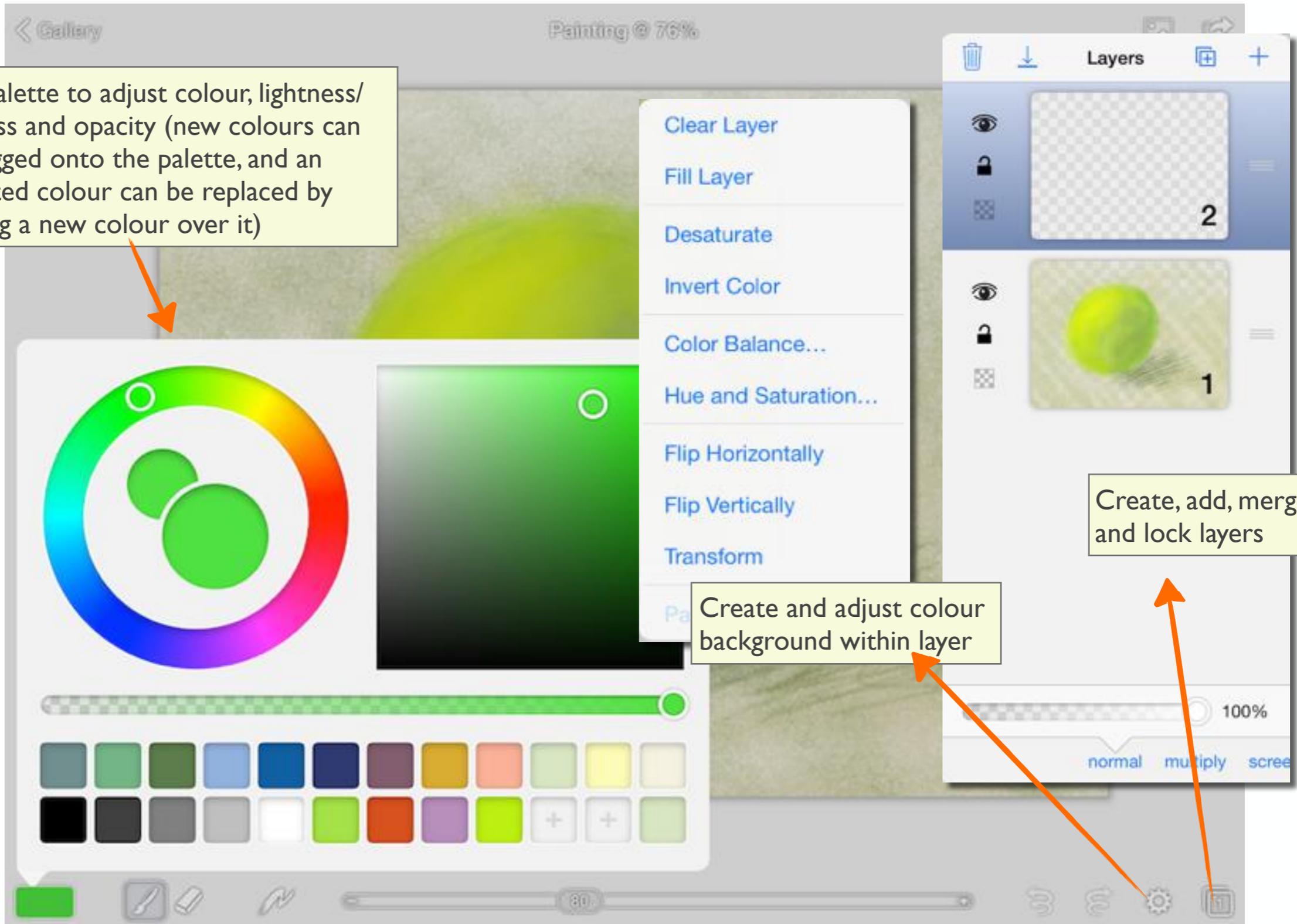
... interface



Brushes

... popout options

Paint palette to adjust colour, lightness/darkness and opacity (new colours can be dragged onto the palette, and an unwanted colour can be replaced by dragging a new colour over it)



- Clear Layer
- Fill Layer
- Desaturate
- Invert Color
- Color Balance...
- Hue and Saturation...
- Flip Horizontally
- Flip Vertically
- Transform

Create, add, merge and lock layers

Create and adjust colour background within layer

Brushes

... editing brushes

The image shows three overlapping screenshots from the iPad Pro Brushes app. The leftmost screenshot shows the 'Brushes' menu with various brush styles and sizes. An orange arrow points from the 'edit' button at the top to the brush editing interface in the middle screenshot. The middle screenshot shows the 'Brush' editing screen with sliders for Splotchiness, Intensity, Angle, Spacing, Jitter, Scatter, and Dynamic Angle. An orange arrow points from the brush preview at the top of this screen to the sharing options menu on the right. The rightmost screenshot shows the sharing menu with options like 'Add to Photos', 'Copy to Pasteboard', 'Duplicate', 'Post on Facebook', 'Tweet', 'Email JPEG', and 'Email PNG'. An orange arrow points from the top right of the brush editing screen to the sharing menu. A red box highlights the brush icon in the bottom toolbar of the leftmost screenshot.

Press 'edit' for more options

Select brush style

Edit various brush properties

Options for saving, sending & sharing etc

Summary

Paper by 53 is really good for watercolour as well as pen and ink work. It has a beautiful gallery page where you can arrange your artwork into albums ready for print. All tools are made available by in app purchase.

Tayasui Sketches is really good for watercolour and drafting work. Beautiful tool set including engineering pens and air brush. It also has overlay patterns, text and shapes. More tools, layers and art papers are available by in app purchase.

Brushes is really good for everything and is totally free. Includes all brush styles, editable brushes and palette. A unique feature is the ability to record the painting process for playback, or for exporting as a movie.

I wanted to cover the following art apps also:

-  Autodesk Sketchbook
-  Art Rage
-  Procreate
-  Adobe Photoshop Touch
-  Pen & Ink

... maybe some other time

Created by Rodney Border
webjewel.com.au

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