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painted over black using SC Orange Leather and Golden Skin with some JS Cadmium Orange. This has been washed over with JS Red Earth and Brown Earth before receiving final washes with Vandyke Brown oils fresh from the tube without the linseed soaked out. This is to give the wood a slight sheen.

The canteen, musket barrel and lock have all been painted using SC Black Metal, Thrash Metal and Speed Metal along with some Vallejo Black for shading. Brass fittings have been completed using the same mix as the helmet as described earlier. In Photo 20 hands, musket strap and musket have all had the oil paint layer added.

With the right arm and musket safely fixed in place (**Photos 21, 22 and 23**) the coat has received its oil paint layer using Prussian Green, Cadmium Green and Mars Black applied using the same techniques described in the face painting. Some of the oil colours do tend to contain more linseed oil than others, Prussian Green is one of these so careful attention is needed when soaking the oil on the cartridge paper, Titanium White for example takes only about half-an-hour whereas the Prussian Green requires around 6-hours. Experience will teach you how certain colours behave but as a rule the rich greens and blues tend to lean towards the shiny side so extra soaking on the cartridge paper is required.

One additional benefit of the oils drying matt over the acrylics is that acrylics can then be used over the top of the oils if any fine lining-in is needed, without the fear of the finish not matching or the paint not taking.

With the addition of some weathering the bust is now finished and is a fine companion to the Imperial Guard and Cuirassier already available in the range.

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## Conclusion

I believe that every painter should have a variety of mediums in their arsenal whether they be enamel, oils or different types of acrylic and learning how to use them appropriately and to their full potential is a valuable skill in figure painting and modelling in general. I hope this article may dispel some misconceptions about the medium in this modern world of acrylic only figure painting. They don't have to take ages to dry, they don't have to dry shiny and they are certainly very enjoyable to use

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## References

*Napoleon's Army 1790–1815* by Julien Rousellot published by Andrea Press.

[http://www.napolun.com/mirror/web2.airmail.net/napoleon/cavalry\\_Napoleon.html#frenchdragoons](http://www.napolun.com/mirror/web2.airmail.net/napoleon/cavalry_Napoleon.html#frenchdragoons)

## Materials used

200mm French Dragoon available from: [www.cgsmilitaryfigures.co.uk](http://www.cgsmilitaryfigures.co.uk)

Jo Sonja's available from: [www.rainbowsilks.co.uk](http://www.rainbowsilks.co.uk)

Scale 75 Scale Color available from [www.historexagents.com](http://www.historexagents.com)

Winsor and Newton Oil paints available: from [www.artsupplies.co.uk](http://www.artsupplies.co.uk)

Olive wood base available from: [www.facebook.com/historia.miniatures?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/historia.miniatures?fref=ts)

Nameplate available from: [www.nameitplates.co.uk](http://www.nameitplates.co.uk)