

## **Luminous Lumiere®**

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Lindsey Bugbee is the creative force behind the art and calligraphy website/blog The Postman's Knock (TPK) — thepostmansknock.com. TPK is a popular destination for seasoned calligraphers and lettering learners alike because of its clear tutorials, "Learn Calligraphy for a Latte" printable worksheets, and beautiful photography.

After learning pointed pen calligraphy, Lindsey went on a quest for the holy grail of gold inks. She wanted something opaque, brilliant, and something that looked like, "molten gold." While she enjoyed using several different gold inks, she finally found what she was looking for in Jacquard's Lumiere acrylic paint.



"The first thing to remember about Lumiere," Lindsey explains, "is that it was not designed specifically to be a calligraphy ink. It's an acrylic paint meant for general artists' use. With this in mind, you will need to modify it to be a satisfactory ink."











Lindsey shares with us how she prepares and uses Lumiere:

STEP 1: TRANSFER THE LUMIERE INTO A SCREW-TOP CONTAINER, FILLING IT HALF FULL. (IMAGE 1)

STEP 2: ADD A 1:3 RATIO OF WATER TO PAINT. (IMAGE 2) STEP 3: SHAKE OR USE A PAINT MIXER TO MIX. (IMAGE 3)

When the mixture has a viscosity of whole milk, it's ready to use but it's always a good idea to test it on scrap paper. If the ink conglomerates on the nib and refuses to flow, add more water, a few drops at a time. If the ink flows but is not opaque, you can let the container sit out a little bit with the lid off and some of the water will evaporate.

The ink flows reasonably well, however, you will need to wipe the nib frequently otherwise the ink may dry and cause flow issues.

While Lumiere can be used for any calligraphy project such as place cards, gift tags, hand written invitations, etc., Lindsey loves to use it to embellish envelopes. The mixed ink is very versatile and can be used to both calligraph and paint the envelope. (IMAGE 4)

"Lumiere adds grace and beauty to light-colored surfaces," shares Lindsey. "It lends a jolt of elegance to an otherwise casual envelope; the combination of a modern calligraphy script with regal gold ink is perfect for save the dates and other beautiful but relaxed events.

"But in my opinion, the Lumiere looks best on dark papers because it actually changes color depending on how you look at it! I used Halo Pink Gold on this envelope; and while the envelope does have a hint of pink when you look at it from the front, if you turn the calligraphy to inspect it in the light, everything changes to a brilliant pure gold! This aspect of Lumiere is magical."

