



GEELONG SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART

managed by Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens



Introduction to Botanical Art using Graphite and Coloured Pencil Workshop

12-13 October 2024 (Beginners' drawing graphite)
26-27 October 2024 (Beginners' drawing coloured pencil)
10am – 3.30pm each day (30 minutes lunch)

Instructor's Name: Amanda Ahmed

Class Description:

This comprehensive 4-day workshop is an introduction to botanical art learning the basics of drawing. The focus will be on drawing from observation starting with graphite pencils (12-13 October) and moving to coloured pencils (26-27 October) to achieve realistic renderings of botanical subjects. This will incorporate developing skills such as tonal variation, different mark making techniques, understanding how basic geometric shapes can be found in nature and translating them into your drawings. This workshop is suitable for beginners with little to no experience in botanical drawing and is presented in a friendly and supportive environment within the setting of the beautiful Geelong Botanic Gardens.

Outcomes:

By the end of this workshop, you will have more confidence drawing from life and learnt some of the different techniques associated with drawing botanical art. You will have gained an understanding of the materials used and their applications working on a series of exercises and small studies.

Class structure:

This 4-day workshop will be structured so students can attend EITHER or BOTH weekends depending on your interests. The following will be covered:

1. Practicing eye-hand coordination with a series of drawing exercises.
2. Mastering the basics of drawing using 3- line method for leaves and using geometric shapes to assist with drawing natural forms.
3. Learning graphite pencil applications and techniques.
4. Learning different coloured pencil applications and techniques.
5. Exploring tone, form and light with graphite and coloured pencil to create realistic 3D effects.

Time will be set aside to review work, provide feedback, discuss progress, and answer questions.

Materials List

Beginners' drawing graphite workshop (12-13 October):

1. Graphite pencils –2H, H, HB, 2B (Staedtler Mars – Lumograph – this is the preferred brand but if you have another brand use that).
2. Kneadable rubber.
3. Tombow – mono Zero Eraser – fine tipped pen style eraser
4. A3 cartridge paper drawing journal – must be smooth surface **OR** 4 sheets of A2 cartridge paper which can be cut to A3 size in class.
5. Clear plastic ruler 15-20cm long is sufficient.

6. Medium sized handheld flat surface magnifying glass without inbuilt light – **must have! Note: small magnifying glasses are not practical. Available at various art suppliers, Officeworks, newsagents, Australia Post shops, online via Amazon, Temu etc.**

Beginners' drawing coloured pencil workshop (26-27 October)*:

7. Recommended coloured pencils are Faber-Castell Polychromos as they are a hard oil-based pencil and excellent for botanical drawing. These can all be bought individually.

Chrome Oxide Green 278
Chrome Green Opaque 174
Earth Green Yellowish 168
May Green 170

Deep Scarlet Red 219
Alizarin Crimson 226
Scarlet Red 118
Pale Geranium Lake 121

8. Small pencil sharpener – good brands are Kum, Staedtler, Faber Castell, Little-Red All-Art Sharpener for All Generals Pencils. **Don't spend over \$10!** Note: Can use tutor's sharpeners Derwent super point and Mitsubishi as well to get super fine long points.

***If attending coloured pencil workshop only, students will still need the materials listed above for graphite workshop but will only require a 2H and HB pencil.**

Recommended art supplier in Geelong is Cavalier Art Supplies. Recommended online art supplier is theartshop.com.au (very quick and reasonably priced). However, any other good art suppliers who stock any of the above will be fine. Any questions regarding materials you can contact the tutor, Amanda Ahmed, at: amanda.sidahmed@inet.net.au.

The following will be provided at the workshops:

9. Drawing subjects
10. Black emery paper
11. Tracing paper
12. Arches 300gms hot pressed watercolour paper at \$5 a quarter sheet.

Note: students will not require a full A2 sheet but will need this paper to do studies, so in order to keep costs to a minimum, quarter sheets can be purchased at the workshop.

The following can be borrowed from the tutor:

13. Soldering iron stand** (sounds weird but for holding subjects)
14. Foamcore boards for backdrop behind subjects**
15. Some of the tutor's materials – eg. pencil blenders and embossing tools

****Can be purchased from tutor if continuing with classes next year.**

