



Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne
Term 2, 2021 Ongoing Beginners' Botanical Art Class
via Zoom Saturdays 1pm – 3pm
commencing 1 May 2021

Instructor's Name: Amanda Ahmed

Class Description

This course is a continuation for those who have attended the Term 1 Beginners classes or who have some basic introduction to botanical art and would like to take the next step in their education in this genre. There will be further development in basic drawing and watercolour in botanical art, with a continued focus on working from observation to achieve realistic renderings of botanical subjects. This will incorporate building upon skills such as drawing to scale, learning foreshortening, tonal variation, continuing to look at different geometric shapes found in nature and translating them into subjects to be painted or drawn, plus further exploration of colour theory and watercolour applications. These classes are presented in a friendly and supportive environment and will assist students who would like to know more about what is involved in making botanical art.

Outcomes

At the end of this course you will have gained more confidence in drawing and painting from life and continued to practice different techniques associated with this genre. 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 course will be presented each week in a similar format, however occasionally variances will occur. You will need to be online for the full two hours of your class. Over 8 weeks, via live demonstrations, we will continue to:

1. practice eye-hand coordination with a series of drawing exercises;
2. master the basics of drawing using 3- line method, plus learn about other geometric tools to assist with drawing natural forms;
3. learn graphite pencil applications and techniques;
4. learn different watercolour applications and techniques;
5. explore tone, form and light with graphite and watercolour;
6. learn more colour theory.

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

Starting Date of Classes: Saturday 1 May at 1pm – 3pm

Term Duration: 8 weeks (2 hour class each week). Please note, classes will not be presented on Saturday 12 June due to the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Digital Platform for Classes: All classes will be presented using Zoom.

Please ensure you have downloaded the Zoom app on your computer/iPad well before the class starts. If you have downloaded Zoom previously, check the app does not require any updates by clicking on the App.

Computer Setup

From experience we recommend either a laptop computer or iPad however a desktop computer is also suitable provided you are also able to paint/draw in this space. Engagement via a mobile phone is not practical as it is very difficult to see the fine details presented during demonstrations.

Preparation

If you do not already have painting space set up in your home, choose a quiet space to minimise disruptions. If possible, try to set up near a window to access natural light, with the window being on the opposite side to the hand you will use to paint. If you are unable to sit near a window, ensure you have suitable lighting.

Materials List

If you have not already purchased the Beginners' Kit from Ecklersleys Please click on the following link to either purchase or to identify the items required.

<https://www.eckersleys.com.au/friends-of-the-royal-botanic-gardens-beginners-art-kit>

Also required is:

1. Cerulean Blue Hue 5ml watercolour – Schmincke Horadam Aquarell from either:
 - a. <https://theartshop.com.au/schmincke-horadam-aquarell-5ml-481-cerulean-blue-hue>
 - b. https://seniorart.com.au/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=24_42_109&products_id=425
2. Hand held flat surface magnifying glass – post office or Officeworks are good
3. Helping hands soldering stand from Jaycar Electronics or something similar
https://www.jaycar.com.au/third-hand-pcb-holder-tool-with-2-clips-and-heavy-base/p/TH1982?gclid=Cj0KCQjwsLWDBhCmARIsAPSL3_3y_fou_qO9Nt9ub08XZgChyrz7PAYGDQydQdC0pinw4tuMiG4RASgaAontEALw_wcB



OR

<https://www.jaycar.com.au/holder-pcb-with-led-magnifier-and-soldering-iron-stand/p/TH1987>

If you have any queries, please contact the Friends on (03) 9650 6398 or botanicart@frbgmelb.org.au