



## **Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**

### **Introduction to Botanical Art Workshop**

**20-23 January 2025 at Domain House**

**10am-4pm each day**

**Instructor's Name: Amanda Ahmed**

#### **Class Description:**

This four-day workshop is ideal for anyone new to botanical art. If you've ever wanted to try your hand at this art form, this course is for you! You'll start with the basics of drawing in graphite, then move onto watercolour techniques used in botanical art. The workshop will focus on working from life to create realistic botanical renderings, teaching you how to read light, value and form, introduce different watercolour applications and cover basic colour theory. You'll also learn to recognise several geometric shapes in nature and translate them into your drawings and paintings. This workshop is perfect for beginners with little to no experience in botanical art and is presented in a friendly and supportive environment.

#### **Outcomes:**

By the end of this workshop, you will have created a series of sketches and studies in your sketchbook, developed a study page in both graphite and watercolour, and completed a detailed graphite drawing and watercolour painting. The subjects at this level will include fruit, vegetables and a simple leaf. You will build confidence in drawing and painting from life while gaining a foundational understanding of graphite pencil and watercolour techniques. Upon completing this introductory workshop, you'll be well-prepared to join any of the beginner classes offered in the botanical art program.

#### **Class structure:**

The following will be covered in the workshop:

1. Historical overview of botanical illustration/art and look at botanical illustration/art today.
2. Setting up workspace with single light source.
3. Outline of art materials.
4. Practise eye-hand coordination with a series of drawing exercises.
5. How to draw a leaf using the 3- line method.
6. How to use geometric shapes to assist with drawing natural forms.
7. Learn graphite application using layering techniques.
8. Introduction to colour theory.
9. Introduction to watercolour mixing.
10. Watercolour techniques and applications.
11. Explore tonal variations in graphite and watercolour to create realistic 3D effects.

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

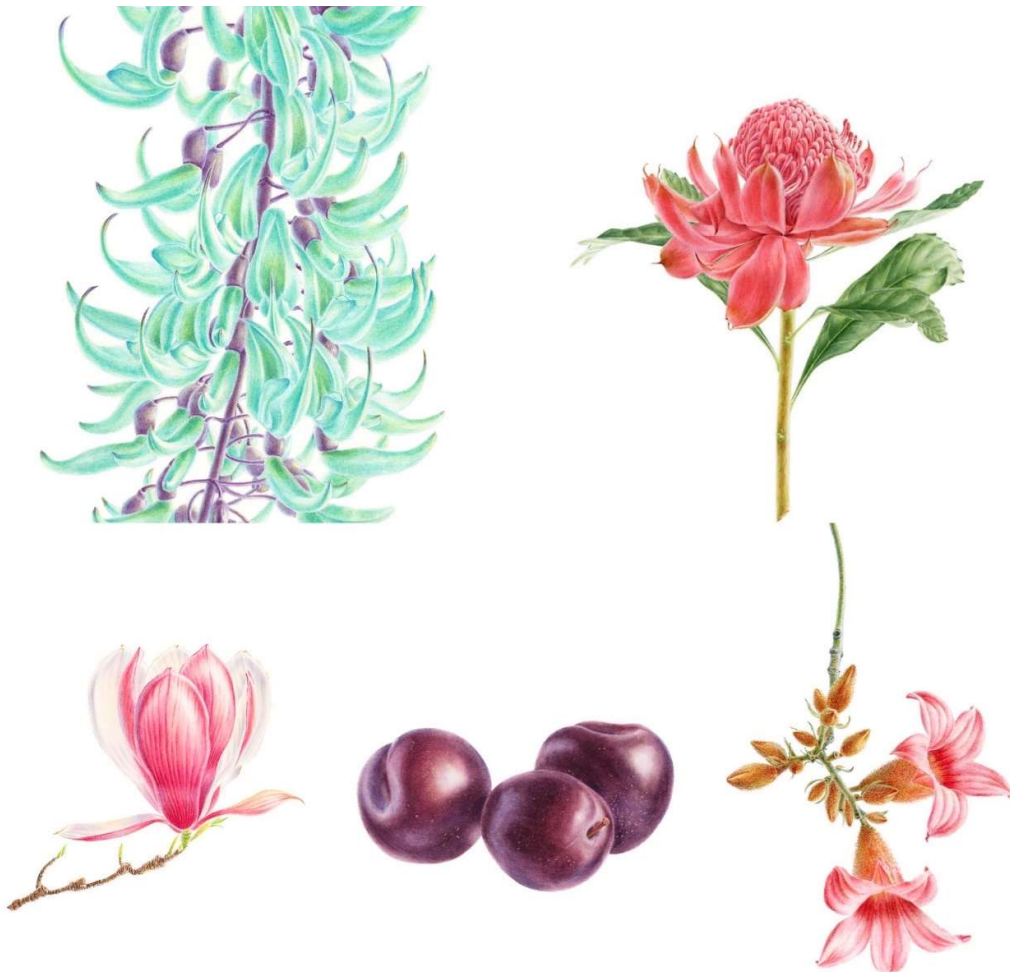
**Workshop dates:**    **Monday 20 January 2025**  
                              **Tuesday 21 January 2025**  
                              **Wednesday 22 January 2025**  
                              **Thursday 23 January 2025**

**Time: 10am – 4pm on each day. Includes 30mins lunch.**

### **Materials**

Please bring a white ceramic or china plate for mixing paint, or, if you already have a colour mixing palette, feel free to bring that instead. Also please bring a magnifying glass (not too small) with flat glass (as opposed to convex).

All other materials are included in the workshop fees and will be supplied by the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne at the workshop.





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