

Pen & Ink Drawing Methods in Botanical Art

Irish Society of Botanical Artists

23rd & 24th April 2020

Sarah Morrish is a botanical and natural history artist who uses a variety of media for her work.

Pen and ink has always played a major part and for the last year she has been writing and illustrating a book on natural history illustration in pen and ink, due for publication in Spring 2021.

During this 1 day workshop we will compare pen and ink drawing methods in botanical art and define the advantages and disadvantages of each. Alongside this we will familiarise ourselves with the variety of ink pens available to us as botanical artists.

A range of mark-making techniques will be practised initially and then how these are used to depict the varying tonal values to create natural form and also textural detail. For formal botanical illustration mark-making techniques are limited, ensuring that there is no ambiguity, but if we wish to create a more aesthetically pleasing interpretation of our subject, then there is a great deal of flexibility in the marks that we can use.

As this workshop is only one day it is intended to be a positive 'springboard' into using pen and ink.

The subject matter for the workshop will be seasonal plant material of your choice, although if there is an alternative plant that you would like to draw, then please feel free to bring it along.

Materials Required

Sarah will have black technical drawing pens in suitable nib sizes for you to purchase if needed, but please do bring your own if you have them. If you wish to work in sepia ink the Pigma Micron pens are the most suitable in nib sizes 003, 005 and 01. These can be purchased from Jacksons Art Supplies: <https://www.jacksonsart.com/sakura-pigma-micron-pen-003-sepia-0-15mm>

Sarah will also have dip pens and nibs available for practise exercises, but due to travelling by air, will not be able to bring large quantities of ink.

F or H graphite pencil

Kneadable and plastic eraser

Spare paper to rest hand on and also to practice mark-making.

Paper for drawing: Bristol board or hot pressed watercolour paper (300gsm is fine)

Sarah particularly likes to use the Strathmore Bristol paper 400 series smooth surface or 500 series plate surface. This too is available from Jacksons Art Supplies in a variety of pad sizes.

If you have any further questions please feel free to email Sarah:
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www.illustratingnaturesdetails.com