



## Botanical Watercolor: Next Steps

Judy Simon

### MATERIALS LIST

#### **Required:**

- Drawing paper: 9" x 12" spiral bound pad, Strathmore 400 series; or Stillman & Birn, Zeta series sketchbook
- Canson tracing pad, 9" x 12"
- Fabriano Artístico Traditional White 140# hot press watercolor paper, OR your current favorite hot press paper, cut into a workable size, 11" x 14"
- Graphite mechanical or regular pencils, 2H, HB, 2B, with sharpener (Faber-Castell 9000, Staedlter Mars Lumograph, or Caran D'Ache)
- Tuffstuff eraser stick, and a kneadable eraser
- Magnifying lens or magnifying glass
- Clear Ruler
- Tape, white graphic
- Viva paper towels (a few...very absorbent)
- 2 water vessels (one for working water, one for clean). One must have sealable lid to carry out waste water.
- Plastic or porcelain palette, with room to mix colors; white
- DaVinci Maestro Kolinsky Brushes, long tapered round or round: #4, #6. I love these, especially the #4, because it has a super-sharp needle-like point that has great spring and tension. They clean easily and last a long time. Alternatively, the Billy Showell Kolinsky sable brushes size 2 and 4, available on Amazon, and the Billy Showell eradicator, available at [www.billyshowell.com](http://www.billyshowell.com)
- I always like to provide a synthetic brush alternative for artists that choose not to use real sable and recommend "Set 25 synthetic botanical set" from Wind River Arts [www.windriverarts.com/Brushes.htm](http://www.windriverarts.com/Brushes.htm) or Billy Showell fine tipped Synthetic brush set at [www.billyshowell.com](http://www.billyshowell.com) and Escoda Versatil synthetic round brushes size 4 and 6 available on Amazon or Blick

#### **Paint:**

A good set of six paints are:

- French Ultramarine Blue
- Cerulean Blue
- Hansa Yellow
- Lemon Yellow
- Permanent Magenta
- Scarlet Lake

*Also nice to have:*

- Perylene Maroon
- Quinacridone Gold
- Windsor Violet
- Green Gold
- Quinacrodone Magenta
- Permanent Rose
- Permanent Alizarin Crimson
- Winsor Blue
- Green Shade and Payne's gray (good for making very dark greens)

We all have our favorite palettes and paint. I build my own color set by using an empty travel palette box with removable pans. I squeeze tube watercolors into the pans and let them set.

I have no allegiance to any particular brand of paint. I use Winsor & Newton, M. Graham, and Daniel Smith. Fill an empty palette with a fairly limited range of warm and cool yellows, reds and blues. Buy the best you can afford.

*(Additional, optional supplies on next page)*

**Optional:**

- Drawing board or hard surface to use as a portable easel. Would be great to be able to prop it up at a slight angle.
- Notebook/sketchbook for preliminary drawings and general research, notes
- Camera, iPhone or iPad
- Spectrum Dino soap saver available at Bed, Bath & Beyond. Great place to hold your brushes and pencils while you work.
- An old, lint free piece of cotton cloth to blot your brushes is very handy and will save wear and tear on your costly brushes