MT. CUBA CENTER

Fun With Botanical Watercolor

Judy Simon

MATERIALS LIST

Required:

- Drawing paper: 9" x 12" spiral bound pad, Strathmore 400 series; or your favorite quality sketchpad
- Canson tracing pad, 9" x 12"
- Fabriano Artistico Traditional White 140# hot press watercolor paper, or Legion Stonehenge Aqua watercolor block hot press 10x14 or 9x12, or your favorite hot press paper
- 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
- Lint free towel or dish towel for blotting brushes. Paper towels work however they cause excess wear on your brushes.
- 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
  **There is currently a ban on importing new kolinsky sable brushes. Kolinsky sable is not an endangered species, and hopefully the ban will not be permanent. The Billy Showell botanical set of synthetic brushes are the best I have found so far, but please allow some time for them to arrive. The Billy Showell synthetics are a fine alternative.*
- I always like to provide a synthetic brush alternative for artists that choose not to use real sable and recommend Billy Showell fine tipped Synthetic botanical set available at www.billyshowell.com or at Rosemary and Company.

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

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.

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