

## *Botanical Beauty of Spring*

### MATERIALS LIST

**Watercolor paper:** Two sheets of 140 lb. Hot Press (smooth) acid-free white watercolor paper approximately 9"x12" or 10"x14", e.g., Arches or Fabriano, or another brand. You can buy a pad, block, or a large sheet (22"x30") to cut up in pieces. Fabriano makes a 12-sheet Studio Watercolor pad of 11"x14" Hot Press 140-lb acid-free paper (reasonably priced, at Lenz).

**Tracing paper or drawing paper** for preliminary sketches

**Graphite drawing pencils** in 2H (light) and HB (darker)

**White eraser** such as Papermate Tuff Stuff Eraser Stick, Pentel Clic (plus an X-acto knife to trim it to a chisel point), Tombo Mono Zero, or equivalent

**Kneadable eraser** (grey) for lifting

**6" clear plastic ruler** (or dividers if you have them)

**Desk brush** (inexpensive wide, soft brush for whisking away eraser bits)

**Magnifying glass**

**Two jars** or other containers for water

**Plant holder** (a jar, bottle or other vessel to hold and transport your plant specimen)

**Paper towels and tissues** (a few, for blotting)

**Brushes:**

- If you have time to mail-order (e.g. from dickblick.com, jerry's artarama, or cheapjoes.com), and want to invest in a single excellent brush, get a Raphael Kolinsky Red Sable Fine Extra-Pointed Round, Series 8408, #3. This brush alone will be sufficient for your small botanical painting. Otherwise, get some good small Kolinsky sable or sable/synthetic watercolor brushes (Round, tapering to a good sharp point), including a #3, #1 and #0.
- a lifting brush (useful, but optional) such as a Princeton 6300B #2 Bright size 2, or Silver Bristlon 1902 Bright size 0
- an inexpensive #2 Round watercolor brush (synthetic is fine) for color mixing

**Watercolors:** If you already have watercolor paints, bring what you use. I strongly recommend Artist or Professional (not Student) quality lightfast watercolors. A small plastic palette with some flat mixing areas will do. Two readily available good brands are Winsor Newton (WN) and Daniel Smith (DS).

Here is a suggested **basic palette** for botanical art which will allow you to mix a wide range of colors:

- Winsor Lemon PY3 (WN) *or* Hansa Yellow Light PY3 (DS)
- Hansa Yellow Deep PY65 (DS)
- Quinacridone Coral PR209 (DS)
- Winsor Red PR254 (WN) *or* Pyrrol Red PR254 (DS)
- Perylene Maroon PR179 (WN, DS)
- Permanent Rose PV19 (WN)
- Permanent Magenta PV19 (WN) *or* Quinacridone Violet PV19 (DS)
- Winsor Violet PV23 (WN) *or* Carbazole Violet PV23 (DS)
- Indanthrone Blue PB60 (DS)
- Phthalo Blue PB15 (DS) *or* Winsor Blue PB15 (WN)
- Cobalt Blue PB28 (WN, DS)
- Quinacridone Gold (pigment mix. WN, DS)
- Burnt Sienna PBr7 (DS)
- Raw Umber PBr7 (WN, DS)

You don't have to have all or exactly these colors or brands. If you find you're missing a color or want to try a new one, I will share a squirt from my paint tubes.

**Optional but recommended equipment:**

- **Camera** with ability to do close-up shots (or smart phone or iPad, etc.) to take reference photos for later
- **Paper support** with a smooth surface, e.g. a piece of masonite or foam core cut a little larger than your paper, if you like to work at a tilt
- **Small battery-powered desk lamp** to cast directional light on your plant specimen, such as an OttLite Task Lamp or similar. Palace Art on 41st Ave. has a useful little folding LED task lamp for about \$10.

*If you have any questions about what something is, why it's on the list, sources, preferred brands, alternatives or substitutions, etc. send me an email: [freeman@baymoon.com](mailto:freeman@baymoon.com)*