

American Society of Botanical Artists
24th Annual Meeting and Conference
St. Louis 2018

Painting Acorns on Vellum

Helen Allen

Friday, October 12, 2018
9:00 am – 4:00 pm (one-hour lunch break)
Room: Ambassador 6

Acorns, although small, are symbolic of strength, power and perseverance. Nuts in cups; shiny, sometimes stripy, shiny, matte and cups covered in overlapping scales or bristles. Exploiting the luminosity of vellum and we will explore the relationship between detail, pattern and form.



Supply List

- A piece of vellum will be provided. I will also bring pounce.
- Paints: Please bring your usual paints, materials and equipment. Winsor and Newton paints are particularly suitable for painting on vellum (especially if you have older paints in pans) as the way they are blended, extruded and allowed to dry naturally prevent the gloopy look sometimes seen in works on vellum.
- Brushes: Miniature brushes in small sizes, 1, 0, 00, 000 – Rosemary brushes are excellent as are Winsor & Newton and da Vinci miniature brushes.
- Lighting: It is always useful to bring a portable battery-operated light (such as an Ott light)

Instructor's Bio

Helen is Principal of Chelsea School of Botanical Art based in the Chelsea Physic Garden, London. She manages the Transylvania Florilegium as well as teaching internationally and preparing paintings for archives and exhibitions. Her work is in the Hunt, at Kew and in other public and private collections.