

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

**Matching Mushroom Colors: Mixing Browns and Everything Else**  
Margaret Saylor

Friday, October 12, 2018  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm (one-hour lunch break)  
Room: Ambassador 2

*Mushrooms are brown, right? Or maybe not. Spend a fun day learning a bit about mushrooms, experimenting with unique color mixes to concoct the perfect brown color, and paint mushrooms to your hearts' content. A relaxing, informative class involving a little mycology, a pinch of color theory, a whole lot of painting, and, of course, fun.*



## Supply List

I'm a firm believer in using whatever materials you are comfortable with, as long as it is of a professional grade.

- Drawing paper: 9" x 12" spiral bound pad, Strathmore 400 series - please avoid sketch paper and paper with a very smooth surface OR my new favorite sketchbook, Stillman & Birn Zeta series.
- Canson tracing pad, 9" x 12"
- 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 kneaded eraser
- Fabriano Artístico Traditional White 140# hot press watercolor paper, OR your current favorite hot press paper, cut into a workable size, 11" x 14". Traditional white is less harsh on the eyes for these types of painterly vignettes of fungi.
- Viva paper towels (a few...very absorbent)
- 2 water vessels (one for working water, one for clean)
- Plastic or porcelain palette, with room to mix colors, white
- DaVinci Maestro Kolinsky Brushes, long tapered round or round: #4, #6; or Raphael 8408 Kolinsky Sable #4, cream colored handle. The reason I love these, especially the #4, is the super-sharp needle-like point that has great spring and tension. They clean easily and last a long time.

- Paint: We all have our favorite palettes and paint. I build my own 'earth and fungi' color set by using an empty travel palette box with removable pans. 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.

A good set of six would be:

French Ultramarine Blue  
Cerulean Blue  
Cadmium Yellow Medium  
Lemon Yellow  
Permanent Magenta  
Scarlet Lake

To mix the ultimate fungi brown you will also need:

Perylene Maroon  
Quinacridone Gold  
Windsor Violet

- Transfer method of your choice (Saral is fine by me)
- Ott light/battery powered (if needed)

#### **Optional but handy:**

- National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms (or any field guide you are comfortable using)
- a magnifying lens
- a camera, iPhone or iPad
- wax paper or wax paper bags and a container to transport specimens home
- a piece of foam core or oasis, toothpicks or small pieces of wood to prop up specimens
- a ruler
- tape, white graphic
- a 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.
- a notebook/sketchbook for preliminary drawings and general research, notes

#### **Instructor's Bio**

*Margaret Saylor loves to paint and draw fungi, especially that found in her native Pennsylvania woodland. Margaret teaches mushroom painting workshops using wild and cultivated specimens. She is the editor/designer of The Botanical Artist, ASBA's quarterly journal*