American Society of Botanical Artists

25th Annual Meeting and Conference Pittsburgh 2019

Dark Secrets - How to Paint Vibrant and Interesting Darks Elaine Searle

Friday, October 18, 2019 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (full-day classes include a one-hour lunch break)

Darks don't have to be dull!



Learn how to create darks that glow with vibrant 'hidden' color. Using 'wet in damp' and 'dry brush' Elaine Searle will share her approach using seasonal specimens. All levels welcome.

Supply List

- Mechanical drawing pencil 0.3mm
- Kneaded eraser
- Magnifying glass
- 4 small pieces of 300gsm (140lb) HP watercolor paper (9 x 12 inch approx.)
- small a piece of foamcore board or similar to tape your watercolor paper to
- artists tape to attach the paper to the board
- 2 water jars (collapsible kind easy for travel)
- #4 Sable fine point watercolor round brush (Raphael 8408 are good)
- #00 watercolor round with fine point (or whatever you normally use for dry brushing)
- 1 inexpensive synthetic watercolor brush for color mixing
- 1 small, flat china plate for dry brush
- 1 small china palette with 'wells' for washes
- Paper towel or small cotton cloths
- A limited palette of Daniel Smith paints will be provided FREE for you to use
- Portable battery operated lamp (e.g. Ott Lamp)

Please feel free to email me with any queries you may have about materials (elaine@paintbotanical.com)

Instructor's Bio

Elaine Searle is a British botanical artist with work included in The Hunt, Highgrove and Transylvania Florilegiums and in private collections. She has exhibited at Filoli and ASBA International exhibitions. Elaine is a very experienced tutor with a relaxed and nurturing style.