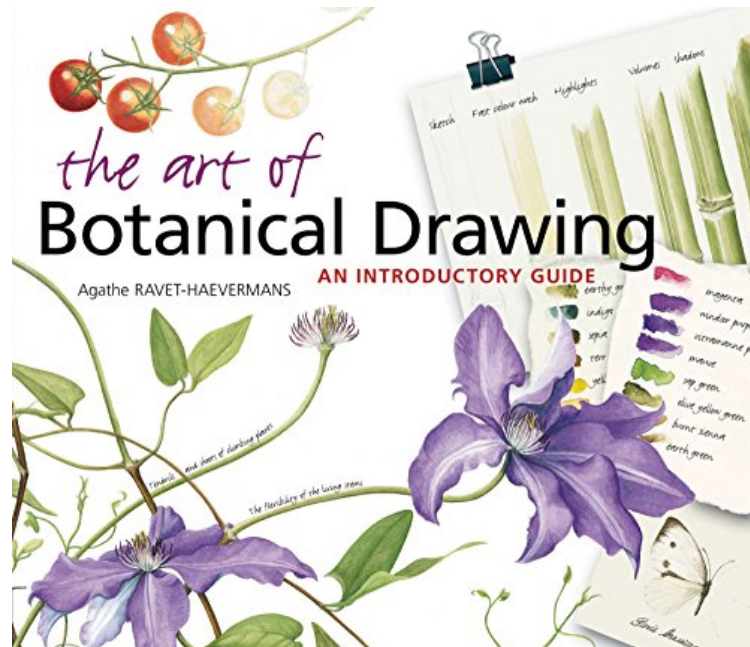


The Art of Botanical Drawing: An Introductory Guide

Agathe Ravet-Haevermans

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Agathe Ravet-Haevermans : The Art of Botanical Drawing: An Introductory Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Botanical Drawing: An Introductory Guide:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Botanical Drawing Painting For The UninitiatedBy Jon LindenThis book is especially superb. There is a very special reason why this is true. The book is truly written by an expert Botanical Drawer Painter. Ms. Ravet-Haevemans' credentials are even more impeccable than her knowledge of drawing and painting Botanicals. I mention specifically Painting, because the author does mostly painting and her use of 'drawing' is mostly for her field work, not for her museum work.Yet the thing that makes the book unique is that the author makes virtually no assumptions about the reader. She assumes that the reader knows virtually nothing about drawing or painting and she goes from the basics all the way to the advanced stages in the art of rendering Botanical likenesses. What struck me, as a very uninitiated reader of her book, was her revelation that "Anyone can become a decent drawer or painter of Botanicals" by knowing just a few basic facts and techniques. She then goes on to inform the reader of how one uses basic shapes, ellipsis, cones, cylinders and a few others to render the botanicals. Then she explains how this is done.She then goes through shading, depth, volume, etc. Each of her lessons are intelligible and make the assumption that the reader really does not know what they are doing. In my case, that was accurate. Yet, what I did have a background in doing was drawing the basic forms that she describes via my classes in calculus and other arithmetic disciplines. Thus, while I had always considered myself one with a lack of small motor control, it turned out that by following the author's specific techniques and by practicing, I was indeed able to draw and even to start to paint Botanicals. While painting is fundamentally the same as drawing, the techniques take more coordination and more experience with mixing colors; as well as a significant investment in paints, brushes, cold or hot pressed watercolor papers and other equipment or supplies. The most expensive of these and the most important are probably

the brushes, which are absolutely very different and probably serious painters should use ONLY Sable brushes rather than other furs or artificial brushes. One only has to use their very first Sable brush to realize that this is an absolute. In every regard, the book is painstakingly accurate and illuminating. I would very seriously recommend this book to any person, experienced or not at all, who is interested in drawing or painting Botanical images. The book is worth More than the cost and the advice is impressively excellent. With this book and good supplies, all one needs to do is practice, practice and practice and anyone, as the author says, can become at least a decent and serviceable drawer and even painter of Botanical images. The book is highly recommended for anyone seeking to develop the necessary skills to paint things that grow! I recommend this book without any equivocation! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Art of Botanical Drawing By Tracy K. Heath I checked out this book in the library and knew I just had to have it. I liked the book because it clearly gives more information on plants than just showing you how to draw them. Yet I must say that I love the way the drawings are gentle yet strong enough to define clearly the plant it identifies. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Catherine D. Great book. Well written. Worth the cost. Great book just to look at as well as teach botanical drawing.

The Art of Botanical Drawing is an introductory guide to the techniques of botanical painting and drawing. Beginning artists and gardeners looking to capture the beauty of the plants in their garden will learn how to recognize and draw a wide variety of flowers and leaves, including succulents, vegetables, trees, perennials, and grasses. Botanists and naturalists who need to understand the fundamentals of scientific illustration will also find the text useful. Lessons on recognizing and recreating the texture and structural elements of plants are also included. The Art of Botanical Drawing is practical and beautiful it includes 150 charming color illustrations and the hands-on approach is accessible to even the most inexperienced budding artist.

From the Back Cover This charmingly illustrated book is an ideal guide to the art of botanic drawing and painting. Agathe Ravet-Hawvermans instructs the reader on how to recognize and draw a wide variety of flowers and leaves and covers the textures and structural elements of a range of different plants including succulents, vegetables, trees and grasses. Practical as well as beautiful, this book should be a welcome addition to the bookshelves of everyone interested in botanical art.