

Flowers in watercolour collins 30 minute painting co

flowers in watercolour collins 30 minute painting co is an engaging and accessible artistic endeavor that combines the delicate beauty of floral motifs with the fluid, transparent qualities of watercolour painting. Whether you're a beginner exploring your creative potential or an experienced artist looking for a relaxing, time-efficient exercise, this approach offers a perfect blend of simplicity and elegance. In this comprehensive guide, we will delve into the techniques, materials, and tips for mastering flowers in watercolour at Collins 30 Minute Painting Co, helping you create stunning floral artworks in just half an hour.

Introduction to Watercolour Flower Painting

Watercolour flower painting is a popular genre that captures the ephemeral beauty of flowers through translucent washes and delicate brushwork. At Collins 30 Minute Painting Co, the focus is on quick, effective techniques that enable artists to produce vibrant floral compositions within a limited timeframe. This method emphasizes spontaneity, loose brushwork, and the harmonious blending of colours, resulting in artwork that is both lively and expressive.

Key Benefits of Painting Flowers in Watercolour:

- Enhances observational skills and understanding of floral structures
- Develops colour mixing and layering techniques
- Boosts confidence through quick, achievable projects
- Provides a relaxing, meditative creative practice

Materials Needed for Watercolour Flower Painting

Before embarking on your floral painting journey, gather the essential materials. Having quality supplies can significantly influence the outcome and enjoyment of your artwork.

Basic Materials List

- Watercolour paints:** A good set with primary colours, plus greens, yellows, and reds for flower hues.
- Watercolour brushes:** A variety of sizes, including fine-tipped round brushes (size 0-4) for details and larger brushes (size 6-10) for washes.
- Watercolour paper:** 300gsm (140lb) cold-pressed paper is ideal for its absorbency and texture.
- Pencil:** Lightly sketching your composition before painting.
- Palette:** For mixing colours.
- Water containers:** For rinsing brushes and diluting paints.
- Cloth or paper towels:** For blotting and controlling moisture.

Optional Extras

- Masking tape or painter's tape to secure your paper
- White gel pen or acrylic white for highlights
- Reference photographs of flowers for inspiration

Step-by-Step Guide to Painting Flowers in Watercolour in 30 Minutes

Creating a floral masterpiece in just half an hour requires preparation, focus, and an understanding of core techniques. Here's how to approach your quick floral watercolour painting session.

- Prepare Your Workspace and Materials**
Set up your painting area with all materials within reach. Secure your watercolour paper on a flat surface using masking tape. Have your reference images or sketches ready if needed.
- Sketch Lightly the Basic Composition**
Use a light pencil to outline the main shapes of your flowers and leaves. Keep the sketch minimal; focus on overall placement rather than intricate details. Remember, watercolour is forgiving? sketches can be lightly erased after painting.
- Wet-on-Wet Background and Base Washes**
Start by applying a light wash to the background or leave it blank, depending on your composition. For flowers, begin with broad washes of colour to define major shapes: Mix your chosen colours (e.g., pinks, yellows, purples). Use a larger brush to apply diluted colour, allowing it to flow naturally. Keep the washes soft and transparent; this sets the stage for layering.
- Layering and**

Building Depth Once the initial washes are dry (or slightly dry), add more concentrated colours for shadows and details. Use smaller brushes for delicate petals and leaf veins. Work quickly but carefully, blending colours while still wet for smooth transitions. Remember to leave some areas lighter for highlights.

5. Adding Details and Highlights Use a fine-tipped brush or pen to add subtle details such as petal edges or stamens. For highlights, consider lifting paint with a damp brush or adding white accents sparingly. Focus on capturing the essence and vibrancy of the flowers rather than perfect realism.

6. Final Touches and Signatures Step back and assess your work. Add any final touches for contrast or emphasis. Sign your artwork discreetly in a corner.

Techniques Specific to Watercolour Flower Painting Mastering certain techniques will elevate your floral artworks and enable quick, effective results.

Wet-on-Wet Technique Applying wet paint onto wet paper allows colours to blend softly. Ideal for creating delicate petal transitions and backgrounds.

Layering (Glazing) Building up colour intensity through successive transparent layers. Helps create depth and vibrancy.

Dry Brush Using a relatively dry brush with minimal water to add texture and fine details.

Lifting and Blotting Removing excess paint with a damp brush or tissue to create highlights and corrections.

Tips for Fast and Effective Watercolour Flower Painting To maximize your 30-minute session, consider these practical tips:

- Plan Ahead:** Decide on your composition and colour palette beforehand.
- Use Limited Colours:** Simplify your palette for quicker mixing and harmonious results.
- Keep It Loose:** Embrace spontaneity; perfection isn't necessary.
- Work in Layers:** Build up colour gradually, allowing for overlapping and blending.
- Stay Organized:** Clean brushes frequently to prevent muddy colours.
- Practice Regularly:** Familiarity with techniques speeds up your workflow over time.

Inspiration and Ideas for Floral Watercolour Projects Explore different floral subjects to keep your practice exciting:

- Single flowers like roses, tulips, or daffodils
- Flower bouquets with varied blooms
- Wildflowers and meadow blooms
- Abstract floral interpretations
- Seasonal flowers (spring blossoms, autumn leaves, winter berries)

Benefits of Joining Collins 30 Minute Painting Co Collins 30 Minute Painting Co offers more than just supplies; it fosters a community of artists dedicated to quick, rewarding art sessions. Benefits include:

- Access to tutorials and workshops focused on fast watercolour techniques
- Inspiration from a community of fellow painters
- Tips and feedback to improve speed and skill
- Opportunities to participate in themed challenges and exhibitions

Conclusion: Embrace the Joy of Fast Flower Watercolour Painting. Learning to paint flowers in watercolour within a 30-minute timeframe is a fulfilling pursuit that combines creativity, spontaneity, and technical skill. By mastering foundational techniques, preparing your materials, and practicing regularly, you'll be able to produce vibrant, expressive floral artworks in no time. Whether for relaxation, practice, or creating original gifts, this approach is a wonderful way to connect with nature's beauty through art. Remember, at Collins 30 Minute Painting Co, the goal is to enjoy the process as much as the result. So gather your supplies, set your timer, and let your floral inspiration bloom on paper.

Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co: A Comprehensive Review Watercolour painting is a delicate art form that captures the ephemeral beauty of nature with transparency, fluidity, and grace. Among the myriad subjects artists choose, flowers stand out as timeless symbols

of elegance, vitality, and fleeting beauty. In this review, we explore the offering of Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co, a company renowned for its innovative approach to teaching and inspiring artists to produce stunning floral watercolours within a limited timeframe. From class structure and teaching methodology to product quality and artistic outcomes, we delve deep into what makes this experience unique and valuable for both beginners and seasoned painters alike.

Introduction to Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co

Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co is a specialized program designed to help artists, hobbyists, and beginners learn to capture the beauty of flowers quickly and effectively using watercolour techniques. The core premise revolves around completing vibrant, detailed floral artworks in just half an hour, emphasizing speed, spontaneity, and confidence.

Founded with the goal of making art accessible and enjoyable, the company combines expert instruction, curated supplies, and a supportive community. Its signature approach encourages artists to embrace imperfection, explore their creativity, and develop their skills in a time-efficient manner.

Core Philosophy and Teaching Approach

Emphasis on Speed and Spontaneity

One of the defining features of Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co is its focus on completing paintings within a 30-minute window. This time constraint pushes artists to:

- Make decisive brushstrokes,
- Limit overthinking,
- Embrace the natural flow of watercolour,
- Develop a sense of spontaneity and improvisation.

This approach helps learners overcome the fear of perfection and fosters a more intuitive painting style.

Step-by-Step Guided Instruction

The company's courses and workshops are structured to guide participants through:

- Selecting suitable floral subjects,
- Mixing and matching colours,
- Applying basic watercolour techniques such as wet-on-wet, glazing, and dry brush,
- Building layers efficiently within the tight timeframe.

Instructors often break down each painting into manageable phases, ensuring learners understand both the process and the underlying principles.

Focus on Fundamentals

Despite the quick pace, the program emphasizes mastering foundational skills such as:

- Colour mixing and harmony,
- Brush control,
- Composition,
- Light and shadow.

This solid foundation allows artists to produce confident and compelling floral artworks.

Product Offerings and Materials

Painting Kits and Supplies

Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co offers curated painting kits tailored for rapid floral watercolour projects. These kits typically include:

- High-quality watercolour paints (pan sets or tubes),
- Watercolour brushes of various sizes,
- Premium watercolour paper (often 300gsm, cold-pressed),
- Colour guides and reference images,
- Instructional booklets or access to online tutorials.

The emphasis on quality materials ensures that even beginners can achieve vibrant, professional-looking results without frustration.

Instructional Content

The company provides a range of instructional resources:

- Live workshops, often via Zoom or in-person classes,
- Pre-recorded video tutorials,
- Step-by-step digital guides,
- Community forums for feedback and sharing.

These resources are designed to make learning flexible and accessible for people with diverse schedules and skill levels.

Unique Selling Points of Their Materials

- Consistency:** Curated kits ensure uniformity in quality, making it easier for learners to focus on technique.
- Convenience:** All-in-one packages eliminate the need for sourcing individual supplies.
- Educational Focus:** Materials are selected to highlight watercolour techniques specific to floral painting.

Artistic Outcomes and Style

Range of Floral Subjects

Participants can expect to work on a variety of floral compositions, including:

- Roses, peonies, tulips, daisies,
- Wildflowers and garden

blooms, Botanical arrangements and single-stem studies. The diversity encourages experimentation and helps artists discover their preferred floral motifs. Techniques and Style Developed Through this program, artists often develop: A loose, impressionistic style that captures the essence rather than minute detail, Dynamic compositions with bold colour choices, A mastery of water control to achieve translucency and depth, An ability to work confidently within a tight timeframe. Many users report that regular practice with these 30-minute exercises leads to faster, more fluid painting habits. Examples of Artwork The company's community galleries showcase vibrant, emotionally resonant floral paintings characterized by: Bright colour palettes, Fluid backgrounds, Bold yet controlled brushwork, Expressive, lively interpretations of floral forms. These examples serve as inspiration and proof of what can be achieved with dedicated practice.

Benefits of the 30-Minute Painting Format

Skill Development

Speed and Efficiency: Regular practice enhances brush control and decision-making speed.

Confidence Building: Completing paintings quickly fosters a sense of accomplishment.

Creativity Boost: Time limits encourage experimentation and risk-taking.

Reduced Overthinking: Artists learn to trust their instincts and techniques.

Practical Advantages

Fits easily into busy schedules, Encourages consistent practice, Provides a structured yet flexible artistic discipline, Enables measurable progress over time.

Psychological Benefits

Overcoming perfectionism, Reducing art anxiety, Cultivating a joyful, relaxed approach to painting.

Community and Support

Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co fosters a vibrant community of artists sharing their work, challenges, and successes. Features include: Online forums and social media groups, Regular challenges and themed prompts, Live Q&A sessions with instructors, Workshops and meet-ups. This supportive environment encourages feedback, motivation, and continued growth.

Critiques and Considerations

While the program offers numerous benefits, some considerations include:

Time Limit: The 30-minute constraint may feel restrictive for some artists wanting more detail.

Learning Pace: Beginners may need additional foundational instruction outside of quick exercises.

Material Investment: High-quality supplies can be costly but are essential for achieving the desired results.

Style Limitations: Emphasis on spontaneity might not suit artists seeking highly detailed, realistic floral paintings. However, these aspects can be addressed through supplementary lessons, patience, and gradual skill-building.

Conclusion: Is It Worth It?

Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co offers a compelling approach to floral watercolour painting, blending speed, technique, and community support to foster artistic growth. Its focus on completing vibrant, expressive flower paintings within a short timeframe makes it ideal for busy individuals, beginners eager to build confidence, and experienced artists looking to refine their spontaneity. The quality of materials, the effectiveness of guidance, and the inspiring results all point to a program that delivers value and enjoyment. While it may not cater to artists seeking hyper-realistic detail or extensive depth, it excels in cultivating a joyful, experimental, and skill-enhancing artistic practice centered around the beauty of flowers. If you're looking to unlock your creativity, improve your watercolour skills, and produce beautiful floral artworks in just 30 minutes, Flowers in Watercolour Collines 30 Minute Painting Co is undoubtedly worth exploring. Its blend of structured learning, quality supplies, and community engagement makes it a standout choice for anyone passionate about floral watercolour art. In summary, this program encapsulates the essence of accessible, dynamic, and expressive floral watercolour painting?perfect for those wanting to learn

quickly, enjoy the process, and create stunning flower studies that capture the delicate charm of nature.

QuestionAnswer

What techniques are taught in the 'Flowers in Watercolour' course by Collins 30 Minute Painting Co? The course covers essential watercolour techniques such as wet-on-wet, glazing, and dry brush to create realistic and vibrant flower paintings within 30 minutes.

Is the 'Flowers in Watercolour' class suitable for beginners?

Yes, the course is designed for all skill levels, including beginners, with step-by-step guidance to help you create beautiful floral artworks quickly.

What materials do I need for the 'Flowers in Watercolour' workshop?

You will need basic watercolour supplies such as paints, brushes, watercolour paper, and a palette. The course recommends specific brands and types for the best results.

Can I learn to paint different types of flowers in this course?

Absolutely! The course guides you through painting various flowers like roses, tulips, and daisies, enhancing your versatility in floral watercolour painting.

How does the 30-minute format impact the learning experience?

The short, focused sessions encourage quick sketching and painting skills, helping you develop speed and confidence while producing beautiful floral artworks.

Are there any follow-up classes or advanced courses after this painting workshop?

Yes, Collins 30 Minute Painting Co offers advanced courses and themed workshops to further develop your watercolour skills and explore different subjects.

Where can I access the 'Flowers in Watercolour' course by Collins 30 Minute Painting Co?

The course is available online through their official website and various e-learning platforms, allowing you to learn at your own pace from anywhere.

Related keywords: watercolor flowers, floral painting, quick watercolor tutorial, Collins 30-minute painting, botanical watercolor art, floral watercolor techniques, beginner watercolor flowers, watercolor floral art, easy flower painting, watercolor art workshop

Billy showell s botanical painting in watercolour

billy showell s botanical painting in watercolour has garnered widespread admiration for its exquisite detail, vibrant colors, and masterful technique. As a renowned artist in the realm of botanical illustration, Showell's work exemplifies the harmony between scientific accuracy and artistic expression. His watercolour paintings not only serve as beautiful pieces of art but also as valuable educational tools, inspiring both aspiring artists and botanists alike. This article explores Billy Showell's journey, techniques, and contributions to botanical painting in watercolour, offering insights into how he creates such stunning works and how others can learn from his approach.

Who Is Billy Showell? Early Life and Artistic Journey Billy Showell was born into a family with a rich artistic background, which nurtured her love for painting from a young age. Her fascination with plants and nature led her to specialize in botanical art, where she combines her passion for flora with her talent in watercolour painting. Over the years, Showell has developed a distinctive style characterized by meticulous detail and vibrant coloration.

Professional Achievements Author of several instructional books on botanical art and watercolour techniques Exhibited her work in galleries internationally Contributor to botanical illustration societies and publications Award-winning artist recognized for her contribution to botanical art education Her dedication to both art and science has made her a prominent figure in the botanical illustration community, inspiring many to pursue this beautiful and precise art form.

The Artistry of Billy Showell in Botanical Watercolour Signature Style and Approach Billy Showell's botanical paintings are distinguished by their: Vivid yet natural colors that mimic real-life flora Layered watercolour techniques to build depth and texture Attention to botanical accuracy, ensuring each plant is scientifically precise Expressive compositions that highlight the beauty of individual specimens Her work balances scientific detail with artistic interpretation, making her paintings not only educational but also captivating artistic pieces.

Subject Matter and Themes Showell's botanical paintings encompass a wide range of subjects, including: Wildflowers and garden plants Exotic tropical flora Fruits and vegetables Herbal and medicinal plants Her thematic focus often revolves around the diversity and intricacy of plant life, celebrating nature's artistry in every brushstroke.

Techniques Used in Billy Showell's Botanical Watercolour Painting Materials and Tools Billy Showell prefers high-quality materials to achieve her signature effects: Watercolours: Professional-grade pans and tubes Brushes: Fine-tipped sable and synthetic brushes for detail work Paper: Cold-pressed, acid-free watercolour paper with a smooth or slightly textured surface Additional tools: Pencils for sketching, masking fluid for highlights,

magnifying glasses for detail

Step-by-Step Process

Research and Sketching: Begin with detailed studies of the plant, noting colors, textures, and proportions.

Initial Drawing: Lightly sketch the outline on watercolour paper, ensuring botanical accuracy.

Applying Washes: Use wet-on-wet techniques to establish background colors and soft transitions.

Layering Details: Gradually build up darker tones and fine details with multiple layers.

Highlights and Accents: Add final touches using masking fluid or lifting techniques to create highlights.

Finishing Touches: Review and refine details for precision and vibrancy.

Color Mixing and Light Effects

Showell emphasizes the importance of mastering colour mixing to achieve realistic hues. She often uses:

- Transparent glazes to build richness
- Complementary colours for vibrancy
- Controlled washes for subtle shading

Techniques to depict light and shadow, giving depth to the painting

Educational Contributions and Resources

Instructional Books and Workshops

Billy Showell has authored several books, including:

- Botanical Watercolour Painting ?* a comprehensive guide for beginners and advanced artists
- Painting Flowers in Watercolour ?* focusing on floral subjects
- The Art of Botanical Illustration ?* blending science and art

She conducts workshops and online courses, sharing her techniques and encouraging new artists to develop their skills.

Online Presence and Community Engagement

Showell actively engages with her audience through:

- Social media platforms showcasing her latest works
- Tutorials and step-by-step demonstrations
- Participating in botanical art exhibitions and competitions
- Supporting botanical illustration societies and initiatives

Her online tutorials often include tips on colour mixing, composition, and capturing botanical accuracy.

How to Get Started with Botanical Watercolour Painting

Essential Tips for Beginners

- Start with simple subjects:** Leaves, single flowers, or fruits.
- Practice patience:** Botanical painting requires attention to detail and precision.
- Study real specimens:** Observe plants closely, note colors, textures, and structures.
- Experiment with techniques:** Layering, glazing, lifting, and dry brushing.
- Use good quality materials:** Invest in quality paints and paper for better results.
- Keep a sketchbook:** Record observations and practice studies regularly.

Recommended Steps to Develop Your Skills

- Learn basic watercolour techniques** through tutorials or classes.
- Practice botanical drawing** to improve accuracy.
- Try replicating Showell's techniques** by following her tutorials.
- Create a botanical painting portfolio** to track your progress.
- Join botanical art groups or societies** for feedback and inspiration.

Impact of Billy Showell's Work on Botanical Art

Promoting Scientific and Artistic Excellence

Billy Showell's paintings serve as a bridge between science and art, fostering appreciation for botanical diversity. Her work:

- Enhances understanding of plant structures
- Inspires conservation efforts through visual appreciation
- Elevates botanical illustration as a respected art form

Inspiring Future Generations

Through her teaching and published works, Showell has inspired countless students and artists to pursue botanical watercolour painting, ensuring the tradition continues to thrive.

Conclusion

Billy Showell's botanical painting in watercolour exemplifies a perfect blend of scientific precision and artistic beauty. Her mastery of watercolour techniques, attention to detail, and dedication to education have made her a leading figure in botanical illustration. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced artist, studying her work and methods can inspire you to capture the delicate beauty of plants with vibrancy and accuracy. Embracing her approach can elevate your botanical art practice and deepen your appreciation for the intricate wonders of nature.

Further Resources

- Billy Showell's official website and online store
- Books on botanical

watercolour techniques Botanical art societies and online communities Tutorials and courses by Billy Showell and other botanical artists Embark on your journey into botanical watercolour painting today, inspired by the artistry and expertise of Billy Showell.

Billy Showell's Botanical Painting in Watercolour: An Artistic Journey into Nature's Fragility and Beauty

Billy Showell's botanical painting in watercolour stands as a luminous testament to her mastery, dedication, and deep reverence for the natural world. Her work not only captures the delicate intricacies of flowers and foliage but also elevates them to a fine art form that resonates with both artists and enthusiasts alike. In this comprehensive exploration, we delve into Showell's background, her distinctive style, techniques, influences, and her contribution to contemporary botanical art.

Understanding Billy Showell's Artistic Background and Evolution

Early Life and Artistic Foundations Billy Showell's journey into botanical art began in her childhood, nurtured by an early fascination with plants and a natural talent for drawing. Growing up in a nurturing environment where creativity thrived, she was encouraged to explore various mediums, but watercolour emerged as her preferred choice due to its translucency and responsiveness—attributes that perfectly suited her detailed, delicate style. Her formal training in art, coupled with her love for horticulture, provided a solid foundation. Showell's early works often reflected a blend of scientific accuracy and aesthetic beauty, setting the stage for her future focus on botanical painting.

Transition to Professional Botanical Art While initially pursuing art as a hobby, Showell's work gained recognition through exhibitions, publications, and workshops. Her meticulous attention to detail, combined with an intuitive sense of colour and composition, distinguished her from many contemporaries. Over time, she shifted towards a professional career dedicated solely to botanical illustration and watercolour painting, establishing herself as a respected figure in the field.

The Signature Style of Billy Showell's Botanical Watercolours

Realism Meets Artistic Interpretation At the heart of Showell's work lies a commitment to realism, capturing the precise forms, textures, and colours of botanical subjects. However, her approach transcends mere scientific illustration, infusing her paintings with a lyrical quality that invites viewers into an intimate dialogue with nature. Her botanical paintings often feature:

- Vibrant yet subtle colour palettes** that mirror real-life hues.
- Intricate detail** in petals, leaves, and stems, emphasizing structure and surface textures.
- Balanced compositions** that highlight the subject's natural elegance.

Use of Watercolour Techniques Showell's skill in watercolour is evident in her mastery of various techniques:

- Wet-on-wet:** For soft backgrounds or delicate petal transitions.
- Dry brush:** To add fine details, veins, and surface textures.
- Glazing:** Layering transparent washes to build depth and luminosity.
- Lifting:** Correcting or softening areas to achieve subtle tonal variations.

This combination allows her to produce paintings with an almost luminous quality, where light seems to shimmer through the petals and leaves, enhancing the sense of realism and vitality.

Subject Matter and Themes in Showell's Work

Focus on a Wide Range of Flora While many botanical artists specialise in specific types of plants, Showell's oeuvre encompasses an impressive variety, including:

- Wildflowers** and garden blooms such as roses, lilies, and poppies.
- Exotic and tropical plants** like orchids and heliconias.
- Fruits and seed heads**, adding diversity and richness to

her portfolio. Ethereal and seasonal themes, capturing the fleeting beauty of nature's cycles. Her choice of subjects often reflects a reverence for biodiversity and an appreciation of the subtle nuances that make each species unique.

Narrative and Symbolism

Beyond pure representation, Showell's paintings often carry subtle narratives, highlighting themes of growth, decay, fragility, and resilience. Her botanical subjects serve as symbols of transient beauty and the importance of conservation, resonating with contemporary environmental concerns.

Techniques and Methodology: An In-Depth Look

Preparation and Planning

Showell's process begins with meticulous research. She studies her subjects through:

- Live observation, where possible.
- Reference photographs and botanical guides.
- Scientific illustrations for accuracy.

She then creates preliminary sketches, paying particular attention to proportions, structure, and composition. This planning stage ensures that her final painting is both scientifically precise and aesthetically compelling.

Layering and Building Depth

Her watercolour technique involves multiple layers:

- Initial washes:** Light transparent colours establish the general tone.
- Mid-tones:** Slightly darker washes add volume.
- Details:** Fine lines, veins, and surface textures are added using dry brush techniques or fine-tipped brushes.
- Highlights and luminous effects:** Achieved through lifting or adding opaque highlights, often with white gouache or reserved paper.

This layered approach results in paintings that appear three-dimensional and alive.

Attention to Surface Texture and Light

A hallmark of Showell's work is her adept handling of light and surface textures. She captures the velvety softness of petals, the glossy sheen of leaves, and the intricate veining with precision. Her understanding of how light interacts with different surfaces allows her to render a sense of depth and realism that elevates her work beyond mere representation.

Influences and Inspirations

Historical Botanical Artists

Showell draws inspiration from legendary figures like:

- Maria Sibylla Merian
- Pierre-Joseph Redouté
- Margaret Mee

These pioneers combined scientific accuracy with artistic flair, setting standards that Showell continues to uphold and reinterpret through her contemporary lens.

Contemporary Artistic Movements

Modern botanical art's focus on environmental awareness and conservation has influenced Showell's themes and presentation. Her paintings often highlight the fragility of certain species, fostering a sense of responsibility and wonder.

Nature as a Source

Fundamentally, her inspiration is rooted in direct engagement with nature—walking through gardens, visiting wild landscapes, and observing plants in their natural habitats. This connection informs her understanding and empathy, which she strives to communicate through her art.

Educational and Cultural Contributions

Workshops and Publications

Billy Showell is not only an accomplished artist but also a dedicated educator. She conducts workshops worldwide, sharing her techniques and passion for botanical painting. Her instructional materials, books, and online courses serve as valuable resources for aspiring artists.

Promoting Botanical Art as a Fine Art

Through exhibitions, collaborations, and social media, Showell champions botanical painting as a serious art form. Her work bridges the gap between scientific illustration and fine art, elevating the genre's visibility and appreciation.

Impact and Legacy

Influence on Contemporary Artists

Showell's meticulous approach and distinctive style have inspired a new generation of botanical artists. Her emphasis on accuracy combined with artistic expression encourages emerging artists to explore both scientific and aesthetic dimensions of their work.

Environmental and Cultural Significance

Her paintings serve as visual documentation of plant diversity, fostering awareness of ecological issues. By capturing the delicate beauty of flora, she

advocates for conservation and appreciation of the natural world. Conclusion: The Enduring Appeal of Billy Showell's Botanical Watercolour Art Billy Showell's botanical painting in watercolour exemplifies the harmonious blend of scientific precision and artistic beauty. Her mastery of watercolour techniques enables her to portray the fragile elegance of flowers and plants with luminosity and depth. Her work not only delights the eye but also inspires a deeper appreciation for the intricate complexity of nature. As a painter, educator, and advocate, Showell's contribution to botanical art enriches both the artistic community and environmental consciousness, ensuring her legacy endures for generations to come. Her paintings invite us to pause and marvel at the fleeting, delicate beauty of the natural world, reminding us that art and nature are inextricably linked in celebrating life's ephemeral wonders.

Question Answer

Who is Billy Showell and what is her significance in botanical watercolor painting?

Billy Showell is a renowned British artist specializing in botanical watercolor painting. She is acclaimed for her detailed and vibrant depictions of plants and flowers, inspiring many aspiring artists in the botanical art community.

What techniques does Billy Showell use in her watercolor botanical paintings?

Billy Showell employs techniques such as layered glazing, fine brushwork, and precise detailing to capture the intricate textures and colors of botanical subjects, often combining wet-on-wet and dry brush methods for depth and realism.

Are there any popular books or courses by Billy Showell on botanical watercolor painting?

Yes, Billy Showell has authored books like 'Botanical Watercolours' and offers online courses and workshops that focus on techniques for creating detailed and realistic botanical watercolor art.

What are some common subjects in Billy Showell's botanical watercolor paintings?

Her paintings often feature a wide range of subjects including flowers, leaves, herbs, and sometimes fruits, with an emphasis on accuracy and vibrant color representation.

How can beginners start learning botanical watercolor painting inspired by Billy Showell?

Beginners can start by studying her tutorials, practicing basic watercolor techniques, and gradually moving on to more detailed botanical subjects, using her books and online courses as guides.

What makes Billy Showell's botanical watercolors stand out in the art community?

Her attention to detail, realistic depiction of botanical forms, and mastery of watercolor techniques make her work highly regarded and inspiring among fellow artists and collectors.

Does Billy Showell offer workshops or tutorials for aspiring botanical watercolor artists?

Yes, she frequently conducts workshops, both online and in-person, where she shares her techniques and tips for creating beautiful botanical watercolor paintings.

What are some tips from Billy Showell for capturing the essence of botanical subjects in watercolor?

She advises observing the natural details closely, using multiple layers to build depth, and practicing patience to achieve realistic textures and vibrant colors.

How has Billy Showell influenced the contemporary botanical watercolor art scene?

Through her detailed and accessible approach, Billy has inspired many artists worldwide, helping to popularize botanical watercolor painting and encouraging a focus on scientific accuracy combined with artistic expression.

Where can I view or purchase Billy Showell's botanical watercolor artworks?

Her artworks are available through her official website, online art galleries, and her published books, as well as at exhibitions and art fairs dedicated to botanical art.

Related keywords: Billy Showell, botanical watercolor painting, botanical art, watercolor flowers, plant illustration, garden art, floral watercolor, botanical artist, watercolor botanical illustrations, flower painting

Painting flowers in watercolour

Painting Flowers in Watercolour: A Complete Guide for Beginners and Enthusiasts Painting flowers in watercolour is a timeless and rewarding artistic practice that combines the delicate beauty of floral forms with the translucent, fluid qualities of watercolour paints. Whether you are a beginner exploring your first floral compositions or an experienced artist looking to refine your technique,

mastering watercolour flower painting offers a creative outlet that celebrates nature's intricate and vibrant details. This guide will cover everything from selecting materials to mastering techniques, ultimately helping you create stunning floral artworks that capture the essence and fragility of flowers.

Why Choose Watercolour for Flower Painting? The Unique Qualities of Watercolour

Watercolour paints are renowned for their luminosity, transparency, and versatility. These qualities make them ideal for depicting the delicate textures and subtle colour variations found in flowers. Some benefits include:

- Translucency:** Allows light to pass through layers, creating a luminous effect.
- Fluidity:** Facilitates blending and gradients that mimic natural colour transitions.
- Speed:** Quick-drying nature enables spontaneous and dynamic brushwork.
- Portability:** Lightweight materials make it easy to paint outdoors or on location.

Expressing Floral Beauty with Watercolour

Flowers are inherently vibrant and intricate, and watercolour's qualities enable artists to:

- Capture the soft edges and gentle gradients of petals.**
- Convey the transparency of dewdrops or wet petals.**
- Emphasize the light and shadow interplay within floral arrangements.**
- Create a sense of freshness and vitality.**

Essential Materials for Watercolour Flower Painting

Watercolour Paints

Invest in a good-quality set of watercolour paints. Artists commonly use:

- Pan Sets:** Compact, portable, easy to use, ideal for beginners.
- Tube Paints:** Offer greater colour intensity and flexibility for mixing.

Choose a palette with a range of colours suitable for floral work, including:

- Cadmium yellows
- Cobalt blues
- Alizarin crimson
- Burnt sienna
- Sap green
- Various earth tones and pastels

Brushes

Select brushes that facilitate fine detail and broad washes:

- Round brushes (sizes 0-8):** For details and soft shading.
- Flat brushes:** For washes and background work.
- Detail brushes (liner or rigger):** For fine lines and stippling.

Paper

Use high-quality, acid-free watercolour paper with a weight of at least 300gsm (140lb) for durability and texture. Common textures include:

- Hot-pressed (smooth)
- Cold-pressed (moderately textured)
- Rough (textured for more expressive strokes)

Additional Supplies

- Palette for mixing colours
- Water jars
- Masking tape or frisket for preserving white areas
- Pencil for sketching
- Paper towels or sponges for blotting and lifting

Preparing to Paint Flowers in Watercolour

Choosing Your Subject

Start with simple, recognizable flowers such as:

- Roses
- Tulips
- Daisies
- Sunflowers
- Poppies

Study their shapes, colours, and structures for accurate drawing and colour matching.

Sketching Your Composition

Lightly sketch your floral arrangement on the paper, focusing on:

- Basic shapes and outlines
- Placement of major flowers and leaves
- Light guidelines for shading and colour placement

Keep sketches loose to preserve the spontaneous quality of watercolour.

Planning Your Colour Palette

Decide on a colour scheme, considering:

- Complementary colours for vibrancy
- Analogous colours for harmony
- Variations in tone and saturation for depth

Prepare a palette with pre-mixed colours to streamline your workflow.

Techniques for Painting Flowers in Watercolour

Wet-on-Wet Technique

Applying colours onto wet paper produces soft, diffused edges suitable for backgrounds or subtle petal transitions.

Steps: Wet the area with clean water. Drop in colour gently. Allow colours to blend naturally.

Wet-on-Dry Technique

Adding wet paint onto dry paper results in sharper, more defined shapes ideal for flower details.

Steps: Paint with a loaded brush onto dry paper. Build layers gradually for depth.

Layering and Glazing

Build richness and depth by applying transparent layers of colour. Let each layer dry before adding the next.

Tips: Use light colours as base layers. Gradually add darker shades for shadows and details.

Creating Texture and Details

Use fine brushes or dry brush

techniques to add: Veins on petals, Stamen and pistils, Leaf textures. Using Masking Techniques: Apply masking fluid or frisket to preserve white areas, such as highlights or the edges of petals. Step-by-Step Guide to Painting a Simple Flower: Sketch: Lightly outline the flower shape and leaves. Wash Background: Apply a light wash if desired for context. Paint Petals: Use wet-on-dry to add petal colours, starting with light hues. Add Shadows: Introduce darker tones to create depth. Detail Work: Use fine brushes for veins, stamen, and highlights. Final Touches: Enhance contrast and refine edges. Tips and Tricks for Successful Watercolour Flower Painting: Work quickly: Watercolour dries fast; embrace spontaneity. Use minimal water: Too much can cause colours to bleed uncontrollably. Practice colour mixing: Achieve realistic hues by blending colours on your palette. Layer gradually: Build depth without overworking. Observe real flowers: Pay attention to light, shadow, and colour variations. Experiment with techniques: Combine wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry for varied effects. Keep a sketchbook: Practice different flowers and techniques regularly. Advanced Tips for Floral Watercolour Art: Capturing Light and Shadow: Study how light interacts with petals and leaves to add realism and depth. Use darker colours sparingly for shadows. Creating Movement and Composition: Arrange flowers dynamically, overlapping petals and leaves, to lead the viewer's eye through the painting. Adding Backgrounds: Use light washes or abstract backgrounds to emphasize the flowers, avoiding overpowering the main subject. Incorporating Negative Space: Leave areas of white or unpainted paper to define shapes and create contrast. Displaying and Preserving Your Watercolour Flowers: Framing: Use acid-free mats and frames to prevent deterioration. Sealing: Apply a fixative or varnish for protection. Storage: Keep paintings flat in a portfolio or frame them for display. Conclusion: Embrace Your Creativity in Watercolour Flower Painting: Painting flowers in watercolour is an art form that allows for endless experimentation and expression. With patience, practice, and a keen eye for detail, you can create stunning floral works that capture the ephemeral beauty of nature. Remember to enjoy the process, embrace happy accidents, and let your personal style flourish through each brushstroke. Whether you aim for delicate realism or vibrant abstraction, watercolour offers a versatile and rewarding medium to explore the enchanting world of flowers. Happy painting!

Painting Flowers in Watercolour: An Expert Guide to Mastering Floral Art: Watercolour painting offers a delicate, luminous quality that perfectly captures the transient beauty of flowers. For artists—both beginners and seasoned practitioners—flower painting in watercolour presents an enchanting challenge: translating the intricate details and vibrant hues of blossoms onto paper with fluidity and finesse. In this comprehensive guide, we explore the essentials, techniques, and tips for creating stunning floral watercolours. Whether you're aiming for realism or an impressionistic style, this article provides an in-depth overview rooted in expert insights and practical advice. Understanding the Basics of Watercolour Flower Painting: Before diving into brushwork, it's important to grasp the foundational principles that make watercolour floral art unique. The Characteristics of Watercolour as a Medium: Watercolour is renowned for its transparency, fluidity, and unpredictability. These qualities allow artists to create luminous effects and subtle color transitions that are difficult to achieve with

opaque mediums. When painting flowers, these properties can mimic the delicate, translucent petals and the soft gradations of light and shadow. Key features of watercolour include:

- Transparency:** Layers of colour can be built up to add depth without obscuring underlying tones.
- Wet-on-wet technique:** Applying wet paint onto wet paper produces soft, diffused edges ideal for backgrounds and gentle shading.
- Wet-on-dry technique:** Painting wet paint onto dry paper yields sharper lines and details, perfect for petal veins and fine structures.
- Color blending:** The fluid nature encourages seamless blending, creating natural gradients.

Understanding these features helps in planning compositions and choosing appropriate techniques for flowers.

Choosing the Right Materials

A successful floral watercolour painting begins with quality materials tailored to the medium and desired effects.

- Essential Supplies:**
 - Watercolour paints:** Professional-grade pans or tubes, with a broad colour palette including vibrant reds, yellows, pinks, purples, greens, and earth tones.
 - Paper:** Hot-pressed (smooth), cold-pressed (moderately textured), or rough paper, depending on the desired texture. For detailed work, hot-pressed paper is preferred; for looser, more textured effects, cold-pressed or rough paper is suitable.
 - Brushes:** A variety of round brushes (sizes 2, 6, 10) for detail and washes, along with flat brushes for broad strokes.
 - Palette:** For mixing colours to achieve nuanced shades.
 - Water containers:** For rinsing brushes and diluting paint.
 - Masking fluid:** To preserve white highlights or fine details.
 - Pencils and erasers:** For initial sketches.

Investing in quality supplies ensures better control over the paint and results in more vibrant, durable artworks.

Planning Your Floral Composition

A well-thought-out composition forms the backbone of any successful floral watercolour piece.

Selecting Your Flowers

Start by choosing flowers that inspire you and suit your skill level. Some popular choices for watercolour florals include: Roses, Lilies, Poppies, Sunflowers, Cherry blossoms, Irises, Tulips. Consider the variety of shapes, sizes, and colours to create visual interest. Also, think about whether you want a realistic depiction or a more stylized, impressionistic approach.

Sketching the Outline

A light pencil sketch helps establish the composition and guides your painting. Keep the sketch minimal to allow the watercolour to do most of the work.

Focus on:

- General placement of flowers and foliage**
- Basic shapes and contours**
- Proportions and overlaps**

Use a hard pencil (e.g., 2H) to prevent smudging or damaging the paper surface. Erase lightly after painting to avoid disturbing the washes.

Deciding on the Composition Style

- Realistic:** Focuses on detailed rendering of individual flowers with accurate colour and form.
- Loose and expressive:** Emphasizes broad washes, gestural strokes, and a more impressionistic feel.
- Abstract floral:** Uses colour blocks and textures inspired by flowers without detailed depiction.

Your choice influences your techniques and colour application strategies.

Step-by-Step Techniques for Painting Flowers in Watercolour

Mastering specific techniques will enable you to depict the delicate and vibrant qualities of flowers effectively.

Creating Transparent Washes

Begin with light, transparent washes to build the foundation of your painting:

- Dilute your colour heavily with water.**
- Use a large round brush to lay down broad, even washes.**
- Let the washes dry thoroughly before adding subsequent layers.**

This approach allows for luminous backgrounds and soft petal bases.

Layering and Glazing

Watercolour lends itself well to layering:

- Start with light, diluted colours.**
- Once dry, add darker tones to suggest shadows and depth.**
- Use glazing for subtle colour shifts, blending seamlessly.**

For example, to depict a red rose, lay down a light pink wash, then add darker reds and purples to define shadows and petal

edges. Capturing Petal Texture and Veins: Petals often have intricate details: Use a fine-tipped brush and wet-on-dry technique to paint veins. For textured surfaces, employ dry brush strokes or lifting techniques. Employ masking fluid to preserve white highlights on petals and stamens. Depicting Foliage and Stems: Leaves and stems add context and balance: Use varied greens, mixing yellow and blue pigments. Apply wet-on-wet for soft, blurred foliage. Use dry brush for sharp edges and veins. Handling Colour Transitions and Blending: Flowers often display subtle colour gradations: Work wet-in-wet for smooth transitions. Blend colours directly on the paper by rinsing brushes and overlapping hues. Practice feathering techniques to soften edges. Advanced Techniques and Creative Approaches: Beyond basic methods, explore advanced and creative techniques to elevate your floral watercolours. Dry Brush Technique: Use a stiff, dry brush with minimal paint to add texture and fine details such as petal veins or rough surfaces. Salting and Splattering: Sprinkle salt onto wet washes to create natural, crystalline textures that resemble pollen or petal patterns. Flick or splatter paint to add random, lively accents and to mimic pollen dust or pollen. Color Mixing and Vibrancy: Experiment with complementary colours for vibrancy (e.g., red and green). Use limited palettes for harmony and consistency. Mix subtle variations of the same colour to depict light and shadow. Creating Depth and Dimension: Use darker, more intense colours for foreground flowers. Apply softer, lighter washes for background elements. Incorporate negative space to define shapes and enhance contrast. Tips for Success and Common Pitfalls to Avoid: Achieving beautiful watercolour flowers requires patience, practice, and a few strategic insights. Tips: Plan your layers: Always let each wash dry before applying the next to prevent unwanted bleeding. Control water: Too much water can cause colours to bleed uncontrollably; too little can hinder blending. Preserve whites: Use masking fluid or resist techniques to maintain highlights. Practice colour mixing: Achieve vibrant and nuanced colours through mixing rather than relying solely on pre-murchased paints. Observe real flowers: Study photographs or fresh blooms to understand light, shadow, and colour variations. Common pitfalls: Overworking the paper, leading to muddy colours and loss of luminosity. Using too much pigment, resulting in heavy, opaque patches. Ignoring the drying process, causing colours to bleed into unintended areas. Neglecting composition and focal points, which can lead to a flat or cluttered look. Inspiration and Final Touches: Once your painting is complete, consider ways to enhance its appeal: Add fine details with a liner brush or pen for stamens or petal edges. Incorporate subtle background washes to emphasize the flowers. Use contrasting colours to make blossoms pop. Frame your work for presentation or gifting. Experimenting with different flowers, colour schemes, and techniques will enrich your skill set and artistic voice. Conclusion: Embracing the Beauty of Watercolour Floral Art: Painting flowers in watercolour combines technical skill with artistic intuition. Its transparent, fluid qualities beautifully mimic the ephemeral nature of blooms, offering a rewarding challenge for artists seeking to capture the fleeting elegance of nature. By understanding the medium's characteristics, mastering essential techniques, and cultivating patience, you can produce floral watercolours that are both vibrant and delicate. Whether aiming for realistic botanical studies or expressive, impressionistic compositions, watercolour floral painting invites endless exploration. With practice and dedication, you'll develop a personal style that celebrates the vibrant, intricate beauty of flowers—an enduring subject that continues to inspire artists worldwide. Happy painting!

QuestionAnswer

What are the basic techniques for painting flowers in watercolour?

Basic techniques include wet-on-wet for soft blends, wet-on-dry for sharper details, layering for depth, and lifting for highlights. Start with light washes and build up colors gradually to achieve realistic floral effects.

How can I create realistic flower petals using watercolour?

To create realistic petals, observe their shapes and color variations. Use delicate brushstrokes, varying the intensity of your pigment, and work from light to dark. Adding subtle gradations and highlights enhances the three-dimensional look of petals.

What colour palettes are best for painting watercolor flowers?

Soft, harmonious palettes with a mix of greens, pinks, purples, and yellows work well. Use transparent colours to build layers and achieve natural-looking flowers. Complementary colours can add vibrancy and contrast.

How do I achieve depth and dimension in my watercolor flower paintings?

Build depth by layering translucent washes, starting with light tones and gradually adding darker shades. Use contrast and strategic placement of highlights and shadows to create a sense of three-dimensionality.

What are common mistakes to avoid when painting flowers in watercolour?

Common mistakes include overworking the paper, which can cause muddiness, using overly wet brushes resulting in blooms, and neglecting to plan composition. Practice patience, control your water and pigment levels, and observe real flowers for accuracy.

Related keywords: watercolor floral art, watercolor flower painting, botanical watercolor, floral watercolor techniques, watercolor flower illustration, watercolor garden flowers, watercolor floral artwork, painting flowers in watercolor, watercolor flower tutorials, botanical watercolor art

Collins you can paint animals in watercolour a step

Collins You Can Paint Animals in Watercolour A Step is an engaging and accessible guide for aspiring artists eager to explore the vibrant world of watercolor animal painting. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced painter looking to refine your skills, this comprehensive article provides valuable insights, step-by-step instructions, and expert tips to help you create stunning watercolor animal artworks. From selecting the right materials to mastering techniques like layering and blending, this guide is designed to support your artistic journey and inspire your creativity.

Why Choose Watercolour for Animal Painting? Watercolour is a popular medium for artists because of its transparency, fluidity, and ability to produce soft, luminous effects. When painting animals, watercolour allows you to capture the texture of fur, feathers, and skin with delicate washes and subtle color transitions. Its versatility makes it ideal for depicting the natural beauty and personality of animals in a lifelike yet expressive manner.

Benefits of Watercolour for Animal Art

- Transparency:** Creates luminous effects that mimic natural light.
- Flexibility:** Suitable for both detailed and loose, expressive styles.
- Speed:** Allows quick layering and adjustments.
- Portability:** Easy to set up and work outdoors or in various environments.

Essential Materials for Watercolour Animal Painting

Before diving into your artwork, gather the necessary supplies to ensure a smooth and enjoyable painting experience.

- Basic Materials**
 - Watercolour paints:** Choose high-quality pans or tubes in a range of colors suitable for animals ? browns, greys, ochres, greens, blues, and flesh tones.
 - Watercolour brushes:** A variety of sizes, including round brushes (sizes 2, 4, 6, 8) for detail and larger washes.
 - Watercolour paper:** Acid-free paper with at least 300gsm (140lb) weight, preferably textured (cold-pressed) for better pigment adherence.
 - Palette:** For mixing colors.
 - Water containers:** Clean water for rinsing brushes.
 - Masking tape or masking fluid:** To protect areas you want to keep white or reserved.
 - Pencil and eraser:** For sketching outlines.
 - Paper towels or sponge:** For blotting and lifting paint.
- Optional but Useful Tools**
 - Magnifying glass:** For detailed work.
 - Palette knives:** For mixing or applying thick paint.
 - Fixative spray:** To protect finished work.

Step-by-Step Guide to Painting Animals in Watercolour

Creating an animal painting involves a combination of planning, sketching, layering, and refining. Below is a structured step-by-step approach to help you achieve a realistic and lively animal portrait.

Step 1: Planning and Reference Gathering

- Select your animal subject:** Choose a photograph or real-life observation.
- Study the anatomy and features:** Pay attention to proportions, textures, and distinctive markings.
- Decide on composition:** Decide whether to focus on the full animal or a close-up detail.

Step 2: Sketching the Outline

- Lightly sketch the basic shapes and contours of the animal on your watercolor paper using a pencil.** Keep the sketch loose to allow for expressive brushwork later.
- Mark key features like eyes, nose, mouth, and fur or feather patterns.**

Step 3: Masking and Underpainting

- Use masking fluid or tape to preserve white highlights or protect areas.**
- Lightly wash in the basic color tones of the animal, focusing on the lightest values.** Establish the background if desired, keeping it simple to avoid overpowering the subject.

Step 4: Building Layers and Adding Details

- Layering Technique:** Apply subsequent layers of watercolor, allowing each to dry before adding the next. Use transparent washes to build depth. Gradually add darker shades for shadows and form. Use smaller brushes for detailed features like eyes, nose, and fur/textures.

Step 5: Refining and Texturing

- Add texture by varying brushstrokes?** dry brush for fur,

stippling for feathers. Lift out light areas with a damp brush or paper towel for highlights. Use glazing techniques to enhance color richness and depth. Step 6: Final Touches and Finishing Review your painting for balance and contrast. Add final details to sharpen features and textures. Remove masking fluid carefully once the painting is completely dry. Sign your artwork discreetly in a corner.

Techniques for Realistic Watercolour Animal Paintings

Mastering specific watercolor techniques helps bring your animal paintings to life. Here are some essential techniques to practice:

- Wet-on-Wet** Apply wet paint onto a wet surface. Ideal for creating soft backgrounds, fur, or feather textures. Use for blending colors seamlessly.
- Wet-on-Dry** Paint onto dry paper for sharper edges. Suitable for details like eyes, nose, and defined fur strands.
- Glazing** Apply transparent layers of color over dry paint. Builds depth and enhances color vibrancy.
- Dry Brush** Use a relatively dry brush with minimal paint. Creates rough textures like fur or coarse feathers.
- Lifting and Blotting** Remove excess or unwanted paint with a damp brush or paper towel. Creates highlights and adds texture.

Tips for Painting Animals in Watercolour

- Start with light washes:** Build up darker shades gradually.
- Observe closely:** Pay attention to the animal's expression, posture, and markings.
- Use color palette wisely:** Limit your palette to harmonize the overall painting.
- Practice patience:** Allow layers to dry to prevent unwanted blending.
- Experiment with textures:** Use different brushes and techniques for fur, feathers, or skin.

Common Challenges and How to Overcome Them

- Overworking the Painting** Solution: Know when to stop; avoid over-blending or adding too many layers.
- Colors Bleeding** Solution: Work with dry areas or use masking fluid to preserve whites.
- Achieving Realistic Textures** Solution: Practice brush techniques like stippling, dry brushing, and lifting.
- Maintaining Proportions** Solution: Use light sketches and measure key features before painting.

Inspiration and Practice Ideas

- Create a series of animals:** From domestic pets to wildlife.
- Use different lighting conditions:** Sunrise, sunset, or shaded scenes.
- Experiment with backgrounds:** Nature settings or abstract washes.
- Attend workshops or watch tutorials:** To refine techniques and gain feedback.

Final Thoughts

Painting animals in watercolour is a rewarding artistic pursuit that combines technical skill with a keen eye for observation. With patience, practice, and the right materials, you can develop your unique style and capture the essence of animals on paper. Remember to enjoy the process, embrace mistakes as learning opportunities, and continually explore new techniques to elevate your artwork.

SEO Keywords for Optimization

Watercolour animal painting tips, How to paint animals in watercolor, Watercolour techniques for animals, Best materials for watercolor animal art, Step-by-step watercolor animal tutorial, Painting realistic animals in watercolor, Watercolor animal art ideas, Beginners guide to watercolor animal painting, Painting fur and feathers in watercolor, Wildlife watercolor painting tips.

By following this comprehensive guide, you are well-equipped to embark on your watercolor animal painting journey. Happy painting!

Collins You Can Paint Animals in Watercolour: A Step-by-Step Guide to Artistic Mastery

In the world of art education, few resources have garnered as much respect and admiration as the Collins You Can Paint Animals in Watercolour series. Designed to guide both beginners and intermediate artists through the nuanced process of capturing animal life with the fluidity and vibrancy of watercolour,

this instructional series offers a comprehensive approach to mastering animal portraiture. Whether you're aiming to depict a regal lion, a playful fox, or a delicate bird, this guide provides a structured pathway, blending technical skill with artistic expression.

Understanding the Foundations: The Philosophy Behind the Series

The Educational Approach of Collins' Watercolour Guides

The Collins You Can Paint series is distinguished by its accessible, beginner-friendly methodology, yet it does not compromise on technical accuracy. It emphasizes a step-by-step progression, ensuring learners develop confidence in their skills while understanding the underlying principles of watercolour painting. The philosophy centers on simplifying complex subjects—like animals—by breaking down their anatomy, textures, and colour schemes into manageable stages. This approach helps demystify the process of painting animals, encouraging artists to observe carefully and work gradually. Moreover, the series underscores the importance of capturing the character and essence of the animal, not just its physical features, fostering a more lively and authentic portrayal.

The Target Audience and Skill Development Goals

Primarily aimed at amateur artists, hobbyists, and art students, the series also benefits seasoned painters seeking to refine their animal painting techniques. It aims to develop skills such as:

- Accurate observation and sketching
- Effective colour mixing and layering
- Texture rendering, including fur, feathers, and skin
- Composition and background integration
- Expressive portrayal of animal personality

By following the structured steps, artists learn to control watercolour's unpredictable qualities, turning its spontaneity into an expressive tool.

Materials and Preparation: Setting the Stage for Success

Essential Supplies for Watercolour Animal Painting

Before embarking on the painting journey, gathering the right materials is crucial. The series typically recommends:

- Quality watercolour paints (pan or tube)
- A selection of brushes (round brushes of various sizes, flat brushes)
- Watercolour paper (preferably 300gsm, cold-pressed)
- Palette for mixing colours
- Pencils for sketching (HB, 2B)
- Eraser and sharpening tools
- Masking fluid (optional, for preserving whites)
- Clean water containers
- Cloth or tissue for blotting

Using high-quality materials ensures better colour vibrancy, smoother washes, and overall more professional results.

Preparation and Planning

Preparation involves selecting an animal subject with good photographic references or live observation. Artists are encouraged to:

- Study the animal's anatomy, posture, and typical movements
- Notice distinctive features such as fur patterns, eye shapes, and textures
- Decide on the composition and background elements
- Make preliminary sketches to establish proportions and placement

Thorough planning minimizes errors during painting and helps in achieving a realistic, captivating depiction.

Step-by-Step Process in Painting Animals with Watercolour

The core of the Collins You Can Paint Animals methodology lies in its detailed, sequential instructions. Here, we dissect the typical stages involved in producing a compelling animal watercolour.

Step 1: Sketching the Outline

Begin with a light pencil sketch on watercolour paper. Focus on:

- Capturing accurate proportions
- Highlighting key features such as eyes, nose, mouth, and fur direction
- Indicating major colour blocks and shadow areas

The sketch should be loose yet precise enough to guide subsequent layers.

Step 2: Applying the Light Washes (Laying the Foundation)

Start with pale, diluted washes to establish the overall tone and background. This step helps in:

- Setting the mood and atmosphere
- Defining the major colour zones
- Ensuring subsequent layers adhere smoothly without disturbing underlying paint

For animals, this might involve a soft wash for the fur base or background gradient.

Step 3: Building Up Layers and

Textures Watercolour's transparency allows for layered depth. Artists should: Use increasingly concentrated colours to add shadows and darker features. Employ wet-on-dry techniques for sharper details. Introduce dry brushwork for fur or feather textures. Use stippling or splattering to mimic fur or subtle patterns. This stage is critical for rendering the animal's realistic textures and dimensionality.

Step 4: Detailing and Emphasizing Features Focus on the animal's eyes, nose, and mouth, which are vital for conveying personality. Techniques include: Fine brushes for precise lines. Glazing to deepen shadows. Highlighting with a small amount of white gouache or lift-off techniques to create sparkle in the eyes. Details bring life to the painting and should be added gradually to avoid overworking.

Step 5: Final Touches and Background Integration Finish by refining any areas needing adjustment and adding background or environment elements that complement the subject. Consider: Softening edges for a more natural look. Adding complementary colours to unify the composition. Using masking fluid or resist techniques to preserve whites or specific highlights. The goal is a balanced, harmonious artwork that captures both the animal and its habitat.

Advanced Techniques and Tips for Artistic Excellence

Capturing Fur and Feather Textures Achieving realistic textures requires patience and technique: Use dry brush strokes for fur strands. Layer colours in varying directions to mimic hair growth. Employ cold and warm colour contrasts for depth. For feathers, use fine lines with a small round brush, emphasizing the layered appearance.

Rendering Eyes and Facial Expressions The eyes often become the focal point: Use intense, vibrant colours for the iris. Add tiny white highlights for realism. Pay attention to reflections and shadows to convey depth. Subtle adjustments in the surrounding face can express mood and personality.

Managing Watercolour's Unpredictability Watercolour is inherently spontaneous, which can be both a challenge and an advantage: Practice control over water and pigment ratios. Use masking techniques to preserve whites or specific areas. Embrace happy accidents as creative opportunities. Learn when to lift colour or re-wet areas for corrections.

Composition and Background Considerations Effective composition elevates the painting: Use rule of thirds or focal points to guide viewers' eyes. Incorporate environmental elements to add context. Balance detail and simplicity to avoid visual overload.

Review of the Series? Strengths and Limitations

Strengths of the Collins You Can Paint Animals in Watercolour Series Structured Learning: Clear, sequential steps demystify complex subjects. Practical Advice: Tips on materials, techniques, and troubleshooting. Visual Aids: Step-by-step illustrations and examples facilitate understanding. Versatility: Covers a wide range of animals, from mammals to birds. Encourages Observation: Emphasizes studying animal features for realism.

Limitations and Areas for Improvement Level of Detail: Some advanced artists may find the introductory approach too basic. Style Flexibility: Focuses on realistic portrayal; artists seeking abstract or stylized work may need supplementary resources. Medium Constraints: Primarily dedicated to watercolour; integration with other mediums is less emphasized.

Conclusion: Embracing the Artistic Journey The Collins You Can Paint Animals in Watercolour series remains a valuable resource for anyone eager to explore animal portraiture through watercolour. Its comprehensive, step-by-step methodology fosters confidence and skill development, making the complex task of painting animals accessible and enjoyable. By blending technical precision with expressive freedom, artists can develop their unique style while mastering the delicate art of watercolour painting. Whether you are a novice starting your artistic journey or an experienced painter aiming to

refine your animal depictions, this series offers a solid foundation. With patience, practice, and an attentive eye, you can transform simple washes into vibrant, lifelike representations of the animal world?bringing to life the beauty and diversity of nature on paper.

QuestionAnswer

What materials do I need to start painting animals in watercolor following Collins' step-by-step guide?

You'll need watercolor paints, brushes of various sizes, watercolor paper, a palette, water containers, and possibly pencils for sketching before painting.

How does Collins suggest approaching the initial sketch for animal watercolor paintings?

Collins recommends lightly sketching the basic shapes and outlines of the animal to establish composition and proportions before applying watercolor washes.

What techniques does Collins recommend for creating realistic animal textures in watercolour?

She suggests layering washes, using dry brush techniques for fur or feathers, and paying attention to light and shadow to add depth and realism.

How can I achieve the correct proportions of animals in watercolor following Collins' method?

Start with a light pencil sketch to map out proportions accurately, then build layers gradually, refining details as you go.

What are common mistakes to avoid when painting animals in watercolor according to Collins?

Overworking the painting, using too much water, neglecting initial sketches, and not allowing layers to dry can lead to muddy colors and loss of detail.

How does Collins recommend capturing the animal's personality in watercolor paintings?

Pay attention to the animal's eyes, posture, and expression, and use colors and brushwork that reflect their character and mood.

Are there specific watercolor techniques Collins advises for painting animal fur or feathers?

Yes, techniques such as dry brushing, glazing, and lifting paint are recommended to create realistic fur and feather textures.

What steps does Collins outline for adding background elements to animal watercolor paintings? She suggests painting the background after the animal is detailed, using softer washes and less detail to keep the focus on the animal.

Can beginners follow Collins' step-by-step instructions easily?

Yes, Collins' guide is designed to be accessible for beginners, breaking down each step clearly and providing helpful tips.

Where can I find more tutorials or resources based on Collins' approach to watercolor animal painting?

You can find her tutorials on art websites, YouTube channels, and art book publications that focus on watercolor techniques and animal painting.

Related keywords: watercolor animal painting, animal art tutorials, watercolor techniques, painting wildlife, step-by-step watercolor, animal watercolor lessons, watercolor animal illustrations, wildlife art tips, watercolor painting for beginners, how to paint animals

Terry harrison s watercolour flowers

Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers: A Guide to Capturing Nature's Beauty Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers have become a beloved subject for artists and hobbyists alike, celebrated for their vibrant, delicate, and realistic portrayals of floral beauty. His mastery in combining traditional watercolour techniques with a keen eye for detail makes his work a source of inspiration for those looking to improve their floral painting skills. Whether you're a beginner exploring watercolour art or an experienced artist seeking to emulate Harrison's style, understanding his approach to painting flowers can elevate your artistic practice and bring your floral compositions to life. Who Is Terry Harrison? Terry Harrison is a renowned British artist and instructor, renowned for his accessible and engaging approach to watercolour painting. Over decades, he has authored numerous instructional books and television programs that demystify the art of watercolour. His focus on landscapes, wildlife, and floral subjects has earned him a global following. His watercolour flowers, in particular, showcase his ability to capture the fragility and vibrancy of blooms with a lively and realistic

touch. Understanding Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flower Techniques Harrison's approach to painting flowers combines traditional watercolour methods with his own innovative techniques. He emphasizes the importance of observation, colour mixing, and brush control to create compelling floral artworks.

Key Principles in Harrison's Watercolour Flowers

Observation and Sketching: Harrison advocates for thorough observation of flowers before painting. Sketching helps artists understand shapes, light, and shadow.

Layering and Glazing: Building up colour in transparent layers allows for depth and luminosity, a hallmark of Harrison's floral paintings.

Brushwork: He often uses varied brush sizes to achieve fine details for petals and leaves, while broader strokes convey background or less detailed areas.

Colour Mixing: Mastery of how colours interact on paper is crucial. Harrison encourages experimenting with mixes to capture the subtle hues found in flowers.

Light and Shadow: Effective use of light enhances the three-dimensionality of floral forms, making paintings appear more lifelike.

Popular Flowers in Terry Harrison's Watercolour Portfolio

Harrison's floral paintings feature a wide variety of blooms, each rendered with unique attention to detail and colour harmony.

Common Flowers Depicted

Roses: Known for their layered petals and rich colours, roses are a frequent subject in Harrison's work, often portrayed with soft washes and delicate shading.

Tulips: Their clean shapes and vibrant colours lend well to Harrison's style of bright, lively paintings.

Sunflowers: Large and bold, sunflowers showcase Harrison's skill in capturing texture and light reflection on petals and centers.

Lilies: These flowers' elegant curves and subtle colour gradations are a perfect fit for Harrison's technique of blending and glazing.

Wildflowers: Harrison also captures the spontaneous beauty of wildflowers like daisies, poppies, and bluebells, emphasizing their natural charm.

How to Learn from Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers

Many aspiring artists turn to Harrison's tutorials, books, and workshops to mimic his floral painting style. Here are some steps to follow:

Start with Basic Watercolour Skills Before tackling complex floral compositions, ensure you have a good grasp of fundamental watercolour techniques such as washes, wet-on-wet, dry brush, and colour blending.

Study Harrison's Demonstrations Harrison's instructional videos and demonstrations provide invaluable insights into his process. Pay attention to how he builds up colours, controls brushwork, and creates textures.

Practice Observation and Sketching Regularly sketch flowers from life or photographs. Focus on capturing the shapes, shadows, and colour variations before translating them into watercolour.

Experiment with Colour Mixing Harrison stresses the importance of understanding how colours interact. Practice mixing different hues to achieve the vibrancy and subtlety seen in his paintings.

Work in Layers Emulate Harrison's layering technique by applying multiple transparent washes. This adds depth and luminosity to your floral paintings.

Tips for Achieving Harrison's Watercolour Flower Style

If you aspire to emulate Terry Harrison's approach, consider these practical tips:

Use Quality Materials: Invest in good-quality watercolour paints, brushes, and paper for better control and vibrant results.

Be Patient: Building up layers takes time. Allow each layer to dry before adding new ones.

Focus on Light and Colour: Pay attention to how light interacts with flowers' highlighting the petals and creating shadows.

Keep Your Palette Simple: Harrison often uses a limited colour palette to maintain harmony in his paintings.

Practice Regularly: Consistency is key. Dedicate time to painting flowers regularly to refine your skills.

Benefits of Studying Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers

Learning from Harrison's floral watercolour techniques offers numerous

advantages:Enhanced Observation Skills: Developing a keen eye for detail and colour variation.Improved Technical Skills: Mastering layering, glazing, and brushwork for realistic flowers.Creative Inspiration: His vibrant and lively style encourages experimentation and personal expression.Accessible Learning: Harrison's approachable teaching style makes complex techniques understandable for all levels.Portfolio Development: Creating a collection of floral artwork inspired by his methods can boost confidence and showcase your progress.Final Thoughts: Emulating Terry Harrison's Watercolour FlowersTerry Harrison's watercolour flowers epitomize the beauty and delicacy of nature's blooms through a combination of technique, observation, and artistic intuition. By studying his methods, practicing regularly, and experimenting with colours and brushwork, artists can develop their own floral style inspired by his work. Whether you aim to produce realistic roses, vibrant sunflowers, or wildflower scenes, Harrison's approach provides a solid foundation for capturing the fleeting beauty of flowers on paper.Remember, patience and persistence are key. As you explore and practice his techniques, you'll find your ability to depict watercolour flowers improving, bringing more vibrancy and life to your floral artworks. Embrace the journey of learning, and let Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers inspire your creative expression.

Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers: A Masterclass in Botanical ArtistryWhen it comes to mastering the delicate art of watercolour painting, especially capturing the fragile beauty of flowers, few artists have achieved the level of finesse and authenticity as Terry Harrison. His watercolour flower paintings are celebrated not just for their vibrant hues but also for their meticulous attention to botanical detail, making them a favorite among both beginners and seasoned artists alike. In this review, we delve into the essence of Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers ? exploring his techniques, signature styles, and why his work continues to inspire countless artists around the world.Who Is Terry Harrison? A Brief BackgroundBefore diving into the specifics of his watercolour flowers, understanding Terry Harrison's artistic journey provides context for his distinctive style. A renowned British artist, author, and instructor, Harrison has dedicated decades to teaching and demonstrating watercolor techniques through books, TV programs, and live workshops.His approachable teaching style emphasizes clarity and patience, making complex techniques accessible to all levels. Over the years, he's developed a reputation for producing vivid, life-like floral paintings that combine technical precision with artistic flair. His work's charm lies in its ability to blend realism with expressive brushwork, capturing both the botanical accuracy and the emotional essence of each flower.The Signature Style of Terry Harrison's Watercolour FlowersRealism Meets Artistic ExpressionOne of the defining features of Harrison's floral watercolours is his adeptness at balancing realism with artistic interpretation. His flowers are botanically accurate, showcasing meticulous attention to structure, petal intricacies, and colour variations. Yet, they also exhibit a lively sense of spontaneity, with loose backgrounds and expressive brushstrokes that lend vibrancy and life to each piece.This harmony allows viewers to appreciate the scientific beauty of flowers while experiencing the artist's personal touch. Harrison's paintings often feature a combination of sharp detail in the foreground with softer, more atmospheric backgrounds, creating depth and

focus. Use of Colour and Light Harrison's mastery of colour is evident in his ability to depict the subtle gradations and vibrant hues of flowers. His palette includes a wide range of watercolour pigments, carefully layered to create luminous, translucent effects. Light plays a crucial role in his compositions, with strategic highlights and shadows adding volume and realism. His approach often involves building up colours gradually, layer by layer, to achieve the desired depth and vibrancy. This technique not only enhances the realism but also imbues the paintings with a sense of freshness and vitality.

Techniques and Brushwork Harrison's watercolour techniques are characterized by:

- Wet-on-wet:** For soft washes and delicate colour blending, especially useful in petal and background areas.
- Dry brush:** To add texture and fine details, such as veins on petals or intricate stamen structures.
- Lifting out:** Removing pigment to create highlights, veins, or subtle colour variations.
- Layering:** Building up translucent layers to enhance depth, shadows, and colour richness.

His brushwork often combines broad, sweeping strokes with fine lines, enabling him to capture both the broad shapes and minute details of floral subjects.

Tools and Materials Recommended for Recreating Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers To emulate Harrison's style, artists should select quality materials that allow for precision and translucency. Here are recommended tools and materials:

- Watercolours:** Professional-grade paints (e.g., Winsor & Newton, Daniel Smith, Sennelier)
- A palette** with a broad spectrum of colours, especially those in the pinks, reds, yellows, greens, and blues, to capture the vibrant diversity of flowers.
- Brushes:** Round brushes in sizes 00, 0, 1, 2, and 4 for detail and washes. Flat brushes for backgrounds and large washes. Liner or script brushes for fine veins and stamen details.
- Paper:** Cold-pressed (not) watercolour paper (300gsm/140lb) offers a good balance of absorbency and surface texture.
- Additional Supplies:** Masking fluid for preserving white highlights. Pencil for initial sketches. Eraser for refining sketches.

Step-by-Step Breakdown of Painting a Watercolour Flower in Harrison's Style To understand the process behind Harrison's floral watercolours, here's an overview of his typical approach:

- Sketching the Outline:** Start with a light pencil sketch to map out the flower's structure. Keep lines loose but accurate to ensure natural flow and proportion.
- Applying a Light Wash:** Use a wet-on-wet technique to lay down a soft, diluted base colour. For example, a pale pink for rose petals or a light yellow for daisies. This forms the foundation.
- Building Layers:** Gradually add more concentrated colours, working from light to dark. Harrison often layers multiple washes to build depth and richness, allowing each layer to dry before applying the next.
- Adding Details:** Switch to dry brush techniques for fine details like petal veins, stamens, and leaf textures. Use a fine liner brush or a sharpened pencil for precision.
- Creating Highlights and Shadows:** Lift out pigment with a damp brush or tissue to create highlights. Deepen shadows with complementary colours or darker pigments to give the flower volume.
- Background and Final Touches:** Apply a loose, often transparent background wash to frame the flower, keeping it vibrant but not overpowering. Add final touches to enhance contrast and focus.

The Appeal of Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers for Artists and Collectors For Aspiring Artists Harrison's approach demystifies complex floral painting, making it accessible to beginners eager to learn watercolour techniques. His emphasis on layering, colour blending, and controlled brushwork provides a clear pathway for artists to develop their skills. His tutorials and workshops often include step-by-step demonstrations that instill confidence and foster experimentation.

Key benefits include:

- Clear, easy-to-follow instructions
- Emphasis on capturing light

and colour techniques adaptable to various floral subjects. For collectors and art enthusiasts, Harrison's watercolour flowers are not just instructional aids but also collectible artworks. His botanical paintings are praised for their aesthetic appeal and botanical accuracy, making them perfect for framing or as part of a floral-themed collection.

Reasons to appreciate his work:

- Authentic representation of diverse flowers:** Vibrant, luminous colour palettes.
- Unique blend of realism and artistic expression.**

Where to Find Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flower Resources:

If you're inspired to explore or purchase Terry Harrison's floral watercolour works, numerous resources are available:

- Books and DVDs:** Harrison has authored instructional books and videos focusing on floral watercolours, offering in-depth tutorials.
- Workshops and Courses:** Many art centers and online platforms host workshops led by Harrison or his accredited instructors.
- Artwork Prints and Originals:** Galleries and online stores sometimes feature his floral paintings for sale, either as prints or original pieces.
- Social Media and Websites:** Following Harrison's official website and social media pages provides access to tips, new projects, and tutorials.

Why Terry Harrison's Watercolour Flowers Remain a Benchmark

The enduring popularity of Harrison's floral watercolours stems from his exceptional ability to combine technical mastery with artistic sensitivity. His work celebrates the natural elegance of flowers while imparting a sense of joy and vitality. For artists, his techniques serve as a blueprint for developing their own style; for art lovers, his paintings evoke the fleeting beauty of nature. His dedication to education ensures that each piece is not only a beautiful work of art but also a learning tool, inspiring countless artists to pick up their brushes and explore the vibrant world of floral watercolour painting.

Conclusion

Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers stand as a testament to the artist's skill, patience, and love for botanical subjects. Whether you're an aspiring watercolorist seeking to master floral techniques or an admirer of fine botanical art, Harrison's work offers invaluable insight and inspiration. Through his signature style—characterized by luminous colours, delicate details, and expressive brushwork—he captures the ephemeral beauty of flowers with timeless elegance. Exploring his methods and artworks can elevate your own artistic journey, helping you to see and depict flowers in a new, vibrant light.

Question Answer

Who is Terry Harrison, and what is his connection to watercolour flowers?

Terry Harrison is a renowned artist and instructor known for his watercolor painting tutorials, including those focused on painting beautiful floral compositions. His watercolour flowers tutorials are popular among beginners and experienced artists alike.

What techniques does Terry Harrison use in his watercolour flower paintings?

Terry Harrison employs techniques such as wet-on-wet blending, layering, and controlled brushwork to capture the delicate details and vibrant colors of flowers in watercolor.

Are Terry Harrison's watercolour flower tutorials suitable for beginners?

Yes, many of Terry Harrison's tutorials are designed to be accessible for beginners, offering step-by-step guidance to help new artists develop their skills in watercolor floral painting.

Where can I find Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers tutorials?

His tutorials are available on various platforms including YouTube, his official website, and watercolor art courses online, providing a range of free and paid lessons.

What are the key features of Terry Harrison's approach to painting watercolour flowers?

His approach emphasizes simplicity, accurate color mixing, and capturing the essence of flowers with loose, expressive brushstrokes that convey vibrancy and life.

Can I learn to paint watercolour flowers like Terry Harrison without prior experience?

Absolutely! Terry Harrison's tutorials are designed to be approachable, making it possible for beginners to learn and develop their own floral watercolor style.

What supplies do I need to follow Terry Harrison's watercolour flowers tutorials?

Basic supplies include watercolor paints, brushes, watercolor paper, water, and a palette. Specific recommendations can vary depending on the tutorial, but these essentials are generally sufficient.

How has Terry Harrison influenced modern watercolour floral painting?

Terry Harrison has inspired many artists through his accessible teaching style and emphasis on capturing the beauty of flowers with watercolor, helping to popularize floral watercolor art worldwide.

Related keywords: watercolour floral paintings, terry harrison art, flower watercolor artwork, botanical watercolour paintings, floral art prints, watercolor flower artist, terry harrison watercolor, garden flower illustrations, botanical art prints, watercolor floral tutorials