

Nature Sings!
A luminous look at Flourishes for Spring

Each Spring, the earth begins to awaken and bloom. We are presented with vibrant florals, chirping birds and pollinators in the garden. Using our pointed pen for delicate etching techniques and offhand flourishes we will bring these sweet designs to life. Taking a visual cue from growth that happens in the sleeping earth, we will experiment on dark paper backgrounds and a subtle grisaille technique that can be layered with coloured pencils. You can further enhance details with watercolours and metallic inks or gouache as you bring your designs to life. Simple birds, bees and butterflies can be added to your blossoming designs. The class assumes some knowledge of the pointed pen and will advance your flourishing and pen drawing skills. Let's welcome Spring together in this joyful class.

Suggested Supplies:

Straight Pen Holder

Medium Flexible Pen nib such as Zebra G or Hunt 22

Practice ink such as walnut,

Smooth practice paper such as Rhodia or Maruman Imagination paper

Art Paper: Dark Toned Cardstock or Fabriano Black Drawing Paper. You will need a few pieces of 5"x7" paper.

Mechanical HB pencil

Kneaded eraser and/or black eraser

Dr. Ph Martin's Bleed proof White with water dish and mixing brush

White Gouache: Schmincke Calligraphy Gouache suggested

Paper towel, ruler and note taking supplies

Coloured Pencils: I prefer Faber Castell Polychromos for this technique as they are not wax based and can be easily layered on black paper. You can use any floral colours, but you will need a white coloured pencil for the grisaille technique on dark paper. Some of my favourite colours are: White, Ivory, Cream, Sepia, Leaf Green, Light Green, Permanent Green Olive, Sky Blue, Ultramarine Blue, Violet, Middle Purple Pink, Fuchsia, Pink Madder, Orange Glaze, Dark Chrome Yellow and Cadmium Yellow.

Optional: Fons and Porter Mechanical Chalk Pencil, Gold Metallic Gouache or watercolour with mixing brush, Sakura Gelly Roll Pen Clear Stardust, Small Flat Back Crystals with Gem-tac glue for extra sparkle. Anything else you would like for extra shimmering effects. You can even add layers of pigment with watercolour on top of Faber Castell Polychromos pencils, but this is not necessary for the class.

Note: If you prefer to work on light coloured cardstock or Bristol Vellum Paper, you can explore that option, but the grisaille technique will need to be done with a Sepia coloured pencil.

You can email me at heather@heathervictoriaheld.com if you have questions about the supplies. See you soon!