

WORKSHOP:

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION IN GRAPHITE

Many times unfairly shaded by the appealing chromatics of watercolor, graphite retain its delicacy and versatility through a multitude of choices in botanical subjects. It can be a self-standing technique, or mixed with colored pencils or watercolor. Because of its monochrome vibrancy, it advocates for the complex dialogue of volume, light, shadow and texture. Depth versus foreground, texture versus color, overlaying while maintaining the constancy of light and shadows - graphite is an exercise of choice.

This one-day workshop is suitable for intermediates and is a challenge to make the right choices, while we remain true to the eye and represent an accurate and expressive botanical work. The exercise will lead us towards the difficulty of adding simultaneously tone, texture, light and shadow.

I will demonstrate my technique and discuss various examples of my work, while the one-day drawing process will be split into successive sections of line drawing, volume rendering, pattern building and details adding.

Morning is dedicated to composition, storytelling, line drawing and the thinking beyond drawing

The second part of the workshop is dedicated to rendering

MATERIALS LIST:

Students should bring

- » Paper – A3 watercolor paper, hot pressed, satin granulation, 300g – Fabriano, Canson, Arches or any other brand respecting the requested characteristics
- » Pencils – a wide range of pencils is welcomed, from 4H, 2H, H, towards HB and B, 2B, 4B, 6B, 8B and in between. Also a 0,3 or 0,35 HB pencil for fine lines
- » Erasers – normal one, rubber eraser
- » Tracing paper A3
- » Tape, pencil sharpener, scissors
- » Portable table lamps if needed
- » Helping hands if needed
- » Magnifier if needed

Get Together should supply light (table lamps if natural light is not enough), plant material, and a light-box.



IRINA NEACSU

Poarta Schei 6 St, ap. 1,
50020 Braşov, jud. Brasov,
Romania
+40 722134307

irina@irinaneacsu.com
<http://irinaneacsu.com>

EDUCATION:

- 2022-(2025) PhD student at the Art University Bucharest, Romania (UNARTE)
- 2018 botanical art training at Hortus Botanicus, Leiden, the Neatherlands
- 2007-2008 postgraduate program at the Art University of Rome, Italy
- 2000-2006 BA and MA in architecture, at the Ion Mincu University of Architecture, Bucharest, Romania

WORK:

- 2021-present project manager at Cembra School of Botanical Art and Design, Romania
- 2016-present botanical artist and designer at Irina Neacsu Studio, Romania
- 2010-2016 interior designer at Irina Neacsu Studio, Romania
- 2010 assistant professor in Theory and History of Architecture at the Ion Mincu University of Architecture, Bucharest, Romania

AWARDS, GRANTS, EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS:

- 2023 solo exhibition of botanical art at William Museum of Art, Abington, VA, US – 9.11.2021 – 4.02.2024
(scheduled)
- 2022 Silver gilt medal in botanical art at RHS Botanical Art and Photography Show, London, UK and participation in the group exhibition of the event at Saatchi Gallery with set of 6 works
- 2022 scholarship and participation in botanical art residency at Oak Spring Garden Foundation, VA, US
- 2022 scholarship to botanical art residency at Denver Botanic Garden, CO, US
- 2022 participation in group exhibition – award for “Public vote” for the work exhibited, and lecturer activity of botanical illustration in graphite at New York Botanic Garden on the occasion of the annual meeting of ASBA (American Society of Botanical Artists)
- 2022 works in library collections at Linsley Library, London, UK and Oak Spring, VA, US
- 2021 personal exhibition at Art Yourself Gallery, Bucharest
- 2021 work selected in the exhibition Margaret Flockton Award, Sydney, Australia
- 2019 curated exhibition “Wild Flowers in Romania, a Botanical History” at National Museum of Art, Bucharest, Romania
- 2018 personal exhibition of botanical art at the Botanical Garden, Bucharest, Romania
- 2015 participation Ljubljana Design Week, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2015 participation at Maison&Objet, Paris, France
- 2015 group exhibition at Gallerie360, Florence, Italy