

American Society of Botanical Artists
25th Annual Meeting and Conference
Pittsburgh 2019

Painting Yellow Flowers and Plants with Colored Pencil

Gaynor Dickeson

Friday, October 18, 2019

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

(full-day classes include a one-hour lunch break)



Preparation for painting spring flowers: people often find difficulty in painting yellow flowers and leaves using dry colored pencil. But it is easy when you know how. Gaynor will show you how and help you use her technique to paint both warm and cool yellows realistically.

Supply List

1. Sketchpad, Graphite pencils, putty rubber and plastic eraser.
2. Tracing paper
3. Hot-pressed art paper
4. Rotary pencil sharpener
5. Color pencils for dry use – NOT water-based.
6. Battery operated daylight lamps.
7. Cold and/warm yellow flowers, plants or leaves as subjects (provided by ASBA).

I normally use a range of pencils and makes – Faber Castell Polychromos mostly. The reason for this is that they are oil-based, fairly firm enabling a good point and detail, and have a good variety of colors – in particular greens.

It is possible to mix oil-based colors with wax-based ones such as Prismacolor and Derwent. However, I never use Prismacolor until the very end (if at all), because they are very soft and it is difficult to get several layers of other colors on top. Derwent, although wax based, can more easily be used between and under layers of Polychromos.

I do not know which plants will be used at the workshop, but it is best to take a good range of yellows and warmer yellow to orange colors, in addition to pale blues, pinks, mauves, violets and grey colors.

The following is a list of colors I used to paint a Viola, *Primula vulgaris*, Primrose and Pansy, without any green parts.

Number	Name	Temp	Number	Name	Temp
V734 ½	Warm grey 20%	W	FC134	Crimson	C
FC251	Cold grey II	C	V746 ½	Tuscan Red	W
FC272	Warm grey III	W	FC190	Venetian red	W
FC271	Warm grey II	W	FC194	Red Violet	W

D3400	Sky Blue	C	FC144	Cobalt Blue Greenish	Cold
FC146	Sky Blue	W	FC278	Chrome oxide green	C
FC172	Earth Green	W	FC157	Dark Indigo	
V740	Ultramarine	W	FC104	Light yellow glaze	C
FC137	Blue violet	C	FC106	Light Chrome yellow	C
FC136	Purple violet	W	FC106	Light Chrome yellow	C
FC249	Mauve	W	FC108	Dark Cadmium yellow	W
FC123	Fuchsia	W	FC115	Dark Cadmium orange	W
FC119	Light magenta	W	FC205	Cadmium yellow lemon	C
FC133	Magenta	W	FC107	Cadmium yellow	W
			FC111	Cadmium orange	W

Instructor's Bio

Gaynor Dickeson has RHS awards for watercolor and colored pencil work with pictures in collections worldwide, including the Hunt Institute. She has taught in several countries, and her online course is global. She is a fellow of the Chelsea Florilegium Society and a founding member of ABBA (Association of British Botanical Artists).