

American Society of Botanical Artists
20th Annual Meeting and Conference
Denver, 2014

Graphite – No Color...No Kidding
Martha Kemp

Saturday, October 18
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Westin - Welton

From crisp edges to flawless continuous tone, it's all about control. We'll explore the versatility of graphite pencil for rendering the details of cones, nuts and dried pods. It's almost like sculpting on paper!



Supply List:

Note that some of these items can be found in the drafting section of art and office supply stores.

***Paper: Strathmore Series 500 2-ply plate-finish Bristol paper and semi-smooth Bristol paper. The following is a description of plate-surface.** Strathmore plate-finish is two-ply Bristol paper, 100% rag, acid-free, archival. The term “plate finish” means that the paper has been subjected to an additional heat-rolling process to make the surface even smoother than Bristol paper that’s labeled “smooth.” It’s all right to practice on “smooth” paper, but it will take pencil work differently than plate-surface paper, so archival plate-surface is better by far for important drawings. (Instructor will bring these two papers for the class.)

Lead holder: some manufacturers are Koh-I-Noor, Staedtler Mars and Alvin, for example.

Leads: 2 mm slim cylinders of graphite to fit into holder: H; F; HB; another B of your choice. **(Note: the lead holder and leads are *not* the same as “mechanical pencils” that use .07mm or .05mm or .03mm lead refills.)**

Lead pointer: for sharpening leads

Eraser: Pentel “Clic” (or similar, but “Clic” is best brand). This is a refillable holder with a cylinder of plastic eraser in it.

X-acto knife: any blade at all, to be used to trim “Clic” eraser to a chisel point.

Tracing paper: a couple of pieces, 9” x 12” or so; quality doesn’t matter.

Draftsman’s Duster or any soft, wide brush: for brushing erasures off drawing.

Paper Support: Clipboard or a piece of foamcore a bit larger than 9” x 12”. (For travel I use a standard 18” x 18” clipboard that I’ve cut down a bit smaller overall.)

(Optional: Portable battery operated light, such as Ott Lite.)

BIO:

Martha G. Kemp specializes in using graphite pencil to draw botanical subjects on paper and vellum. She is the recipient of the ASBA’s 1999 annual Diane Bouchier Award and is the recipient of five Gold Medals from the Royal Horticultural Society.