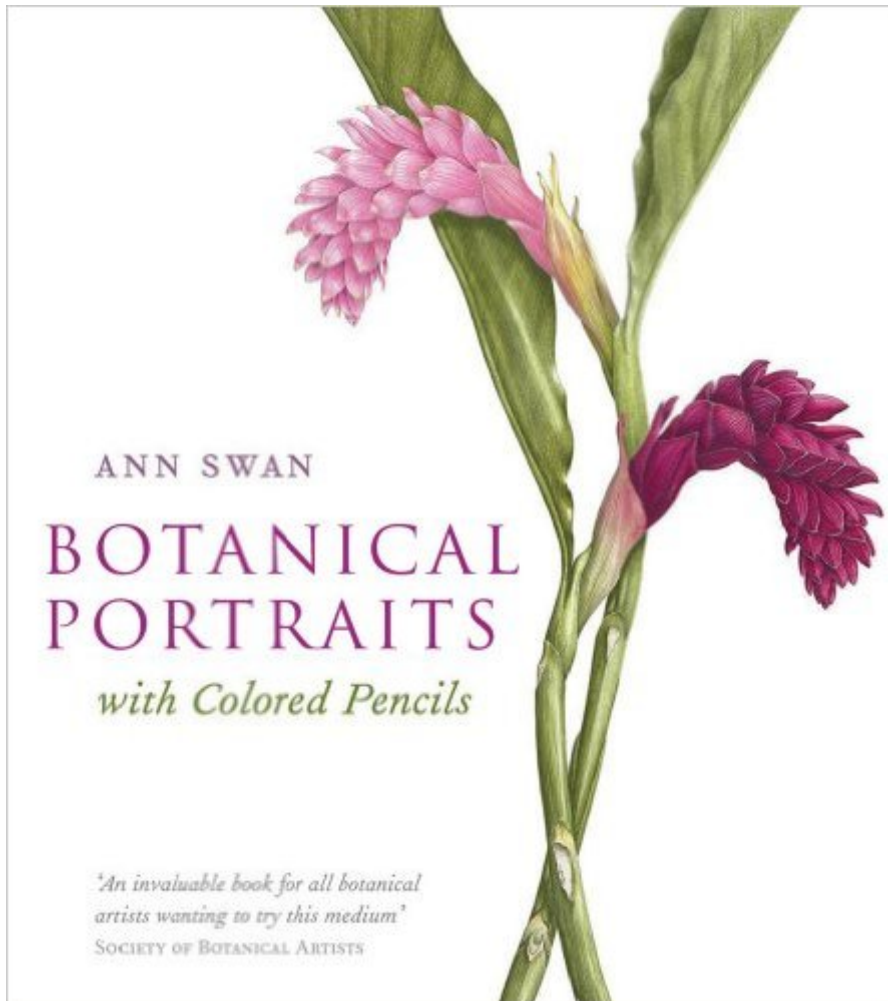


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# Botanical Portraits With Colored Pencils



## Synopsis

A successfully executed work of botanical art is an exacting blend of scientific accuracy and aesthetic beauty. This lavishly illustrated volume offers practical, step-by-step instruction for creating professional quality colored pencil illustrations of flowers, foliage, fruits, and other botanical subjects. Colored pencils serve as an excellent alternative to the traditional practice of rendering botanical art in watercolors because pencils are far easier to use and control, yet can produce equally outstanding results. The author instructs in the use of both water-soluble and oil-based colored pencils, and presents progressive illustrations that demonstrate the rendering of an artwork from start to completion. She advises on choosing materials and offers guidelines for getting to know each flower or plant before starting an illustration. All aspects of working with colored pencils are covered, including underpainting, layering and burnishing, mixing and building up color, and adding those finishing touches that bring a botanical subject fully to life. She also presents works by other botanical artists to show students a wide range of styles. The book features approximately 200 beautiful and instructive color illustrations.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; 1 edition (April 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764169742

ISBN-13: 978-0764169748

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (93 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,900 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Colored Pencil](#) #18 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Pencil](#) #20 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Plants & Animals](#)

## Customer Reviews

If like me, drawing is your preferred medium and you love botanical art then this is the book you've been waiting for. There are many books on botanical illustration out there but none that are devoted to working solely with graphite and colored pencil. At most, you may get a chapter and one demonstration in the other books, but nothing this comprehensive. I only wish the book was longer, with more demonstrations and examples of other colored pencil artists' works. But having said that, I

found the book extremely informative about the nuts and bolts of doing botanical art with colored pencils. If you've read other colored pencil how-to books you may be familiar with a lot of the basics, and if you've read how-to books on botanical art you're familiar with those basics, but it was nice bringing the two subjects together in one book. Her explanations are clear and easy to follow and understand, and the artwork is gorgeous. Colored pencil has taken a bit of back seat to watercolor in the field of botanical illustration, but this book shows that it certainly doesn't have to. Definitely inspiring. I really enjoyed it and thought it was well worth the money.

Thorough book with lots of information on how to get more out of colored pencil drawing. Very complete descriptions of the properties of different types of colored pencils and using them together, including using wax-based Prismacolor pencils with oil-based and water soluble pencils. Techniques are useful for all subjects, not just botanical drawings.

Having settled on graphite and colored pencils as preferred vehicles for artistic expression, I have bought many books and several sets of both colored and graphite pencils. This is by far the best book I have found. Whether or not you are convinced botanical art is your passion, this book can be instrumental in honing your drawing and color skills for any number of styles. Form development, identifying underlying and layers of color patterns, and clear tone execution...this book covers it all. I have found this book to be the most helpful art book in my library.

Botanical Portraits with Colored Pencils is a very generous volume of information. The practical information detailing the kinds of pencils, colors and paper is excellent and the number of color plates with excellent detail inform visually. Ann Swan breaks down the elements of botanical illustration with valuable tutorials on such things as tendril drawing and the rendering of spines and prickles. There is a chapter on techniques and various ways to employ them. Ann Swan seems to really want to foster her fellow botanical enthusiasts and I am grateful. I recommend this book without reservation.

I'm a beginner, and I learned a fair bit from the detailed directions in this lovely book. Some of it is hard to replicate on your own, but who said art was easy? This is definitely a worthwhile book if you want to improve your technique, especially if you are beginner to intermediate level at using coloured pencils.

Botanical Portraits with Colored Pencils offers the first practical guide to creating botanical artworks using colored pencils. The usual format is watercolors - which can be demanding. Colored pencils have become more popular for detail work among botanical artists, and their use here focuses on their visual effects and the basics of matching colors and achieving detail in botanical drawings. Any botanical artist needs this.

I loved this book, it is a great book to understand the craft and how to get good at it. I would recommend to anyone who wants to learn. Excellent information on pencils, what they do, how they work and how to use them. Strictly plants and flowers only. I love flowers but now I am into all botanicals, even fruit and veggies! For any Artist: Color Mixing Bible, by Ian Sidaway Vibrant Flowers in Watercolour by Soon Y. Warren is just off the hook Colour Pencils and Graphite: Ultimate Guide to Colored Pencil, Greene, which also comes with a DVD, excellent step by step instructions and lessons, this book is invaluable!! Colored Pencil Secrets for Success, Kullberg Coloured Pencil Solution Book, Gildow and Newton Masterful colour, Steinberg Colored Pencil Painting Bible, Nickelsen Paint Radiant Realism in Watercolour, Ink and colored Pencil, Ross Drawing Realistic Textures in Pencil, Hillberry For Watercolour: Water Colour in motion, O'Connor Painting Watercolour that dance with light, Kincaid Painting flowers with Impact in Watercolour, Collins Jean Haine's Atmosphere Watercolours Watercolour from the Heart, Nechis Those are just my favorites so far, I have a ton as I believe that you need to keep learning to stay

fresh. \_\_\_\_\_ Also, if you want to know about Color theory to get even better.... COLOR WORKS, the crafter Guide to Color by Deb Menz FOR ANYONE who wants to know about Color Theory this text breaks it down so that ANYONE can understand this subject. I learnt more about color theory in this book than all others put together because I now "Understand" the concept. While this book is for the textile artist, ALL artists should get it and it also has cut outs to use when choosing your colour palette whether it be for Fashion Design or Art.

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