



**Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**  
**Term 1 2025 Botanic Art Classes Outline**  
**Monday 1.30pm - 4.00pm**  
**Instructor's Name: David Reynolds**

**Class Description**

Students learn in a relaxed and encouraging atmosphere with plenty of open discussion about watercolour techniques, colour theory, materials and how to use them. Practical demonstrations of each technique will be shown each week as we work through our subject. Student learn and practice techniques used to create accurate drawings and progress to a finished watercolour painting.

Many of the techniques used in botanical art, like 'wet on damp' and 'dry brushing', will be carefully explained and demonstrated giving each student confidence in developing their painting and drawing skills.

**Outcomes**

Our chosen subject will be a stunning Moth Orchid (*Phalaenopsis Orchid*). The delicately marked deep magenta to pink violet coloured flowers and broad flat foliage makes for a wonderful subject to paint in watercolour using traditional techniques.

**Class structure**

This class will be presented each week Face to Face at Domain House and in this class we will cover:

1. Colour mixing using transparent staining washes
2. Understand techniques in building high levels of detail
3. Using wet on damp and dry brush techniques
4. Careful application of masking fluid
5. Creating a painting in watercolour

Each week time will be set aside to review work, provide feedback, discuss progress, and answer any questions. The remainder of the class will be for putting into practice the theories and skills we cover and working on your artwork independently. It is a good idea to set aside time for yourself between classes to practice the skills and cover homework topics.

**Dates for Classes:** Monday 10th February 2025 - Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

**(Note: No class Monday 10th March - Labour Day P/H)**

**Term Duration:** 7 weeks (2.5 hours class each week)

**Materials List:** The materials you will require for your class are:

**Brushes** (*suggestions*)

Round Taklon watercolour brushes Sizes #5/0, #1, #4 (Neef 970 Robert Wade)

**Paper**

Arches 300gsm smooth hot press watercolour paper (A3 Size or 1/4 sheet)

Tracing paper

**Pencils and Graphite**

Standard Pencil - 2H

**Palette**

Watercolour palette with individual wells for paint and water or a large white dinner plate (Try to avoid small round plastic palettes as they tend to repel water)

### **Misc**

Tissues

Water Jar

Kneadable eraser

Masking fluid

Speedball Hunt Globe EF513 Nib and Holder

### **Watercolour Pigments**

- Winsor Lemon
- Permanent Magenta\*\*\* (New pigment to the usual set)
- Winsor Yellow Deep
- Permanent Rose
- Scarlet Lake
- Winsor Blue (Green Shade)
- Indanthrene Blue
- Burnt Umber
- Burnt Sienna
- Titanium White Opaque

If you have questions please contact the Friends on (03) 9650 6398



*Phalaenopsis Orchids, also known as moth orchids, is a genus of about seventy species of plants with beautiful flowers on a long slender stem. Foliage is quite flat and broad in shape and a deep green in colour.*