

# COURSE OUTLINE AND MATERIALS LIST

## *Botanical Art*

### Rendering Trees with Dick Rauh

Wednesday, March 24 through Saturday, March 27, 2010 - 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

This is a four day field sketching experience focusing on the rendering of trees. My approach will be to emphasize an immediate eye-to-hand type of rendering using **Technical pens on water color blocks (Black Micron 05, 01, 005 and hot press blocks 10"x14" or 12" x 16")**. We will meet in the classroom for a preliminary discussion of tree architecture, and generally, what to look for: ie the differences in the branching patterns of common local trees, the masses of leaf forms defined by light and shade, etc. I will try to help you apply these observational and sketching techniques to the broader field of nature sketching. I will provide you with information about some of the materials and books available to get you started on this useful and rewarding practice. The use of contour drawing technique will be explained, and its application to the sketching of natural forms. We will attempt to complete at least one drawing of a tree in pen and ink for three of the days, at least one conifer. On the fourth day we will look at and draw more detailed subjects; a leaf or groups of leaves, pine cones, vines, mosses or lichens even details of trunk and bark. It would be best to bring a sketch stool, if you own one, but if not a folding chair will do fine. Also you should bring hats and water. Other sketchbooks and drawing materials are fine, the advantage of the blocks is their built-in support. and ability to ignore any wind. I also pick the technical pens because they come with their own ink supply- there are now a number of more flexible nib pens available with this feature- be my guest. If you are very unhappy working directly in pen and ink, I will make an exception, but you will miss the tension and excitement that comes from having to make a direct statement. (Believe me there are ways to fudge, even here). Look forward to sketching with you.

- *Dick Rauh*

**QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT THE EDUCATION OFFICE AT:**

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