Nordic Handcraft: Playing with Watercolor Patterns with Tara Sweeney |
February 20-21, 2021, 9:30 am-12:30 pm

A note on the schedule: Class meets from 9:30 am-11 am both mornings for instructor demo and work along time, then students have one hour of independent, offline worktime before reconvening from 12-12:30 pm for online feedback and Q&A. Students need a device with video and audio capabilities and strong internet.

Students should provide the following items for class:
- Good quality watercolors (minimum of one red, blue and yellow) and a palette with generous mixing wells, or separate plastic lids to mix color in.
- Good quality 140# watercolor paper, 8.5x11 or larger: block; or loose sheets and mounting surface. It’s possible to work on inexpensive copy or sketch paper for preliminary ideas but it will be frustrating with watercolor.
- BLACK PERMANENT INK and application tool of choice. Instructor uses a fountain pen, a dip pen and the stopper from the ink bottle. But, convenient Micron or Staedtler permanent pens work well too. Whatever you choose, test the ink by making a line, allowing it to thoroughly dry, then brushing it with water. If it bleeds it isn't permanent.
- 2B drawing pencil and kneaded eraser
- Good quality watercolor round brush #10 is ideal size and the only one you really need. It should make a really wet, juicy mark when fully loaded as well as a fine line when just the tip is loaded. A watercolor rigger brush or designer brush may be useful for thin lines but these and any other brushes are optional.
- 3 rinsing containers
- Scissors, cardboard toilet paper or paper towel inner roll, copy or laser paper, masking tape, 3 rubber bands
- Vegetables appropriate for creating simple stamps (potatoes, mushrooms, celery, etc.), and found objects for simple stamps (corks, pods, leaves, etc.), and a paring knife or utility knife
- Paper towels, household sponge or absorbent rag

The following items are optional, but may be useful if you have them on hand:
- White ink pen like Signo pigment liner or white gouche
- Tracing paper and graphite transfer paper are convenient for visualizing and transferring shapes. Rubbing the back of a drawing with pencil to transfer, or using a brightly lit window to trace shapes on to watercolor paper are alternative methods.

Materials and tools needed for the class can be purchased locally at Wet Paint Art Supplies store in St. Paul or on their website (suggested, they currently offer curbside pick up and local delivery) or from other online sources. Please contact ASI staff Erin Swenson-Klatt at erinsk@asimn.org with questions.