

Chinese Brush Painting through the Seasons

Sun Changgang, Ning Xiangying, Ning Jialu, Miao Hongbo

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Key Selling Points

- 30 step-by-step projects spread across the seasons of the year
- Subjects focus on traditional themes of Chinese brush painting, such as plum blossom, peony and bamboo
- Perfect introduction to those new to the subject, as well as intermediate brush painters
- Needs only inexpensive tools and materials to get started.

Description

Chinese brush painting is a traditional style of painting that has evolved over many centuries. Artists use ink and colour pigments to paint onto rice paper or silk. An important characteristic of this kind of painting is holding and directing the brush in the right way to produce strokes that are delicate and refined. The four co-authors of this book – Sun Changgang, Ning Xiangying, Ning Jialu and Miao Hongbo – are particularly gifted proponents of this style, which has connections with traditional calligraphy.

Chinese brush painting typically includes themes such as birds, plants and flowers, landscapes, fruit and vegetables and fish. This book explores these themes through the four seasons, with the peony depicted in spring, the lotus flower in summer, the vegetable harvest in autumn and the bamboo bud in winter. Many of the subjects are symbolic and have connotations of good fortune, auspiciousness, good health, a long life, a good harvest, a flourishing family, wealth – even immortality!

Explained in the introduction to each project, the symbolism is followed by clear, step-by-step instructions and illustrations. There is a short section at the beginning of the book describing tools, materials and techniques to help readers achieve the almost ethereal beauty and delicacy of this style of painting.

About the Author

Sun Changgang was born in Rizhao, Shandong. He is a member of the Chinese Artists Association and sits on the boards of many other artists' associations. He is a part-time professor at Shandong University and has published several books on brush painting.

Ning Xiangying is a professional artist from Yucheng County. She studied at China Academy of Art and has developed expert traditional painting skills. Her works are deeply rooted in tradition and she exhibits widely.

Ning Jialu is a professional artist from Jishan County. He was a producer on a TV programme called *Learn to Paint* and his career has centred on writing books on painting skills for children.

Miao Hongbo was born in Hangzhou. He studied traditional Chinese painting at the China Academy of Art and specialized in flower and bird painting. He is director of the Zhejiang Artists Association, sits on the boards of many artists' institutes and has written several books on traditional Chinese painting. He is a visiting professor in the School of Art at Zhejiang University.

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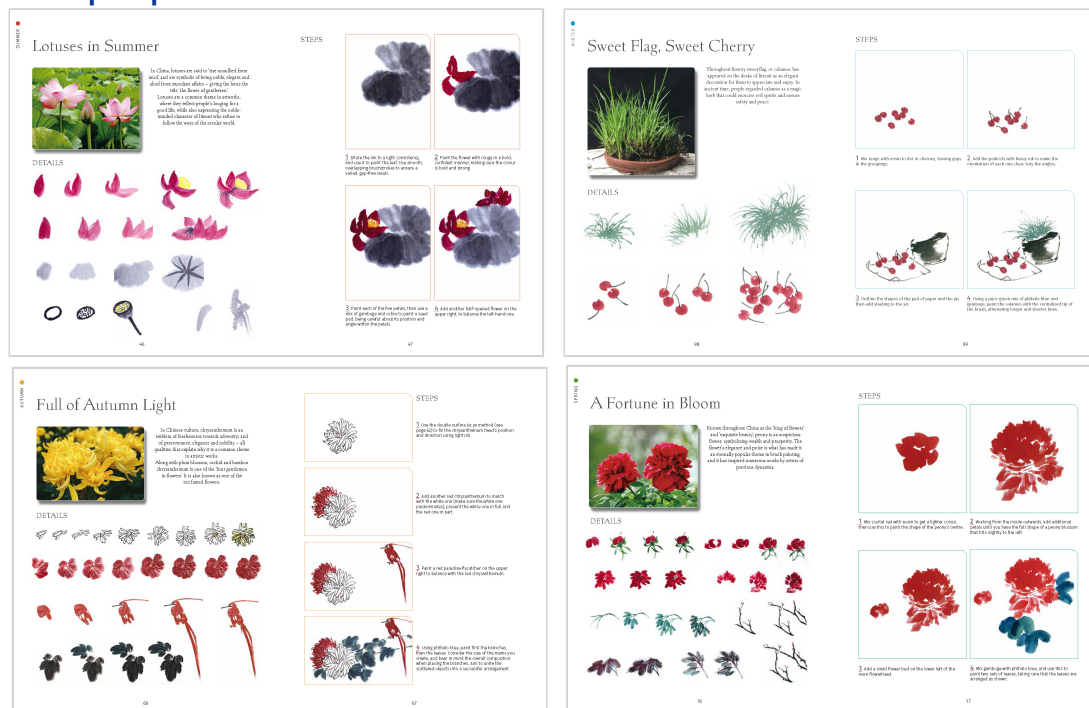
Keywords

- Chinese brush painting; brush painting; painting the seasons; Chinese Brush Painters Society; traditional Chinese painting; guó huà; national painting; danqing; Chinese liquid ink; Xuan brushes; Xuan paper; ink ingot; rice paper; pigment; traditional calligraphy

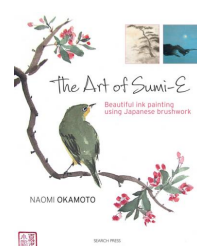
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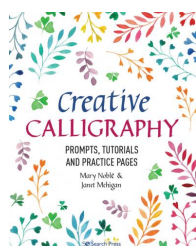
Example spreads from the book



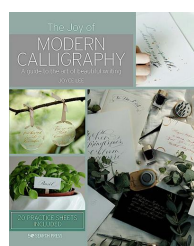
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