Drawing with Silver: Botanical Studies in a Historic Medium with Caterina Leone

Workshop Outline

Follow in the footsteps (or linework) of Jan van Eyck, Leonardo da Vinci, Albrecht Dürer and Raphael. Silverpoint is a centuries-old drawing technique using a silver-pointed stylus on prepared paper to create fine, permanent lines made of metal fragments.

In this two-day workshop, artist Caterina Leone will guide you through the unique properties of silverpoint with a focus on botanical subjects. You'll learn how to prepare your own drawing surfaces, explore the effects of different metals and oxidation, and gain insight into best practices, troubleshooting, and creative mark-making.

Alongside demonstrations and historical context, you'll create your own finished botanical artwork and leave with a silver stylus to keep. No prior experience with silverpoint is needed — just curiosity!

Materials List

- Cotton gloves
- A 0.7mm mechanical pencil
- A sketchbook or paper for note-taking
- Optional: natural object(s) to draw e.g. a leaf, flower, seedpod or branch

Provided:

• Silver, pre-primed papers, bronze wool and other metals, reference photos