



**'Flowers of Crete' Botanic Art Workshop  
15<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

**led by Julia Jones, FLS**

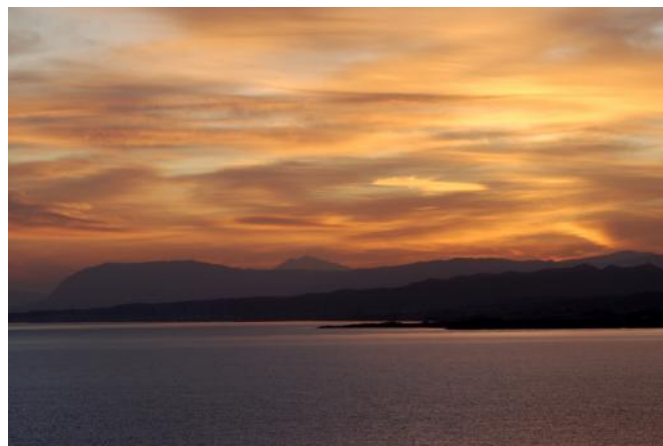
**at**

**The Orthodox Academy of Crete at Kolymbari**

**Cost per person of 10 day course: 980 euros**

Including workshops, field trips, all materials and full board accommodation at the Academy, but excluding flights

Learn all you need to know to understand the techniques needed to produce your own beautiful botanic drawings of flowers and leaves in the superb setting of the Orthodox Academy of Crete, Kolymbari. The Academy nestles on a rocky hillside above the village and has spectacular views across the bay towards Hania and the White Mountains.



Dawn over the White Mountains – view from balcony at Kolymbari

The course is led by artist and writer, Julia Jones, a Fellow of the Linnaen Society of London. Julia has a passion for the native flora

of the island and her work can be found in private collections around the world. Julia is a self-taught artist and believes that anyone with a desire to produce their own botanic work is capable of unlocking their own creativity. Julia is also President and Founder of the charitable organisation 'Flowers of Crete' which seeks to promote conservation and environmental education on Crete.



Ophrys fusca – watercolour painting © Julia Jones

This course is suitable for beginners and improvers alike.



Mother and daughter from Norway on a beginners' botanical art course in 2010



Julia taking a break from botanising

**Day One:**

Arrivals and greetings

**Day Two:**

**Morning:**

Breakfast

*Session One: Visit*

Short talk on the work of the Academy by Mag. Phil. Emanuela Larantzakis, Scientific Staff Member of the Academy.

Visit to the Museum of Cretan Flora and Botanic Gardens to learn about the unique flora of the island with Dr Lucas Andrianos and botanist, Professor Jacques Zaffran, who is an expert on the species of the area.



Dedication of Museum of Cretan Flora in 2010

Coffee

*Session Two:* Understanding and choosing materials for fine drawing and watercolour painting. This is a chance to try different papers, paints and painting mediums.

Lunch

Free time

*Session Three:* Basic drawing techniques – leaf and flower shapes. After a few fun exercises to begin to train the eye, students will be shown how to draw simple leaf and flower shapes



Wild cyclamen leaf

Dinner

Showing of DVD of work of Professor Zaffran at the Botanic Gardens and Museum

**Day Three:**

Breakfast

*Session Four:* Field trip to Afrata to find wild cyclamen, crocus and squill. The hillsides around this small traditional village are covered with autumn flowering bulbs in October. A chance to draw and photograph these beautiful flowers in situ.



Cyclamen graecum ssp graecum growing in abundance at Afrata

Lunch

Free time

*Session Five:* Preparing and stretching paper, choosing subject and preliminary drawings. Before starting to paint it is necessary to soak and stretch paper. Whilst it is drying there is a chance to begin first drawings of chosen flowers and/or leaves.

Dinner

Slideshow and talk on Endemic Cretan Flora by Julia Jones. The island's flora is a focus for botanists and artists from around the world. In this slideshow students will get a feeling of the wealth of species to be seen throughout the year.



Endemic Autumn Crocus – *C. oreocreticus*

#### **Day Four:**

Breakfast

*Session Six:* Colour mixing and basic watercolour techniques. Using their workbooks, students will learn to mix a range of colours suitable for botanic painting and experiment with washes, lines and stipples.

Coffee

*Session Seven:* Refining and finishing master drawing. In order to complete the master drawing students will study each others' work and with guidance from Julia, will refine and prepare their drawing for transfer.

Lunch

Free time

*Session Eight:* Transferring master drawing to workbook and prepared paper. In order to keep a complete record of their work, students are encouraged to keep a workbook which will contain copies of their master drawings, colour matching and notes

Dinner

Free evening

### **Day Five:**

Breakfast

*Session Nine:* Starting workbook and colour matching and colour mixing for chosen subject. Students will begin to choose and mix colours for their final work.

Coffee

*Session Ten:* Continuing colour mixing and recording their results, students will decide on their final colours and record pigment ratios for obtaining consistent results.

Lunch

Free time

*Session Eleven:* Laying down first glaze and understanding the use of light in watercolour work, students will begin to build up colour washes on their final project.

Dinner

Showing of DVD 'The Green Patriarch'. This DVD explains the environmental work of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

### **Day Six:**

Breakfast

*Session Twelve:* Understanding modelling washes and laying down first modelling wash. This session will show students how to obtain a three dimensional effect in their work.

Coffee

*Session Thirteen:* Laying down subsequent washes, students will begin to see the effects of multiple washes on the realistic quality of their work.

Lunch

Free time

*Session Fourteen:* Slideshow on the development of botanic illustration from early times – Julia Jones. From its earliest beginnings in Ancient Greece and on the ceramics and frescoes of the Minoans, to the more modern day work of Georgia O’Keefe and other artists, this short slideshow will give insight and inspiration to students.



Minoan fresco of *Pancratium maritimum* – The Sea Daffodil

Dinner

Free evening

**Day Seven:**

Breakfast

*Session Fifteen:* Techniques for shading and finishing. These techniques will bring the work together and complete the work.

Coffee

*Session Sixteen:* Beginning shading and learning how to depict dewdrops and the shine on fruits and berries.



Smilax berries in autumn - Afrata

Lunch

Free time

Visit to the beautiful 'Holy Monastery of Chrissopigi' to meet the nuns who live and work there and also to the museum and site of one of the ancient olive trees of the area.

Dinner

Short talk on the work of the Academy by Dr Lucas Andrianos

### **Day Eight:**

Breakfast

*Session Seventeen:* Completing shading techniques and practising some more advanced techniques in workbooks.

Coffee

*Session Eighteen:* Finishing glazes and mounting work, ready for the exhibition

Lunch

Free time

*Session Nineteen:* Setting up exhibition at the Academy



Exhibition on the Wild Flowers of Crete by local artists in May 2010

Dinner

**Day Nine:**

Breakfast

*Session Twenty:* Opening of the Exhibition to the public and final critique

Coffee

Field trip to Falasarna on the far west coast to find flowers and seeds of *Pancretium maritimum* – the Sea Daffodil, with time to draw and photograph. Falasarna is also the site of an ancient Minoan city port and is set in spectacular scenery.



New born lambs at Falarsana in October



Watercolour study of The Sea Daffodil © Julia Jones

Free time

Gala Dinner – a delicious and impressive Cretan meal, served with local raki and wine

## Day Ten:

Breakfast

Take down exhibition

Departures

Coffee

Departures



Detail of endemic *Orchis papilionacea* ssp *alibertis*  
© Julia Jones

*'Julia is a botanical artist, who taught us watercolour painting one day at her beautiful Cretan village stone-house, the next day under an almond tree up in the mountains, another day we were on hilltop overlooking Spinalonga. We had lunches in small mountain villages and on hidden beaches. We looked for orchids and she learned us about the flowers and plants of Crete. It is the best vacation we ever had, and we are definitely going back next year.'*

*Bente and Marijit, Norway*