

## **Instructor Bio**

Joan Lok is a master sumi-e artist committed to fostering the advancement and appreciation of freehand brush painting across cultures. Joan came to America from Hong Kong 41 years ago after winning an international cultural exchange fellowship. After a fulfilling federal regulatory career, Joan moved from DC to Florida to devote her time on art. Her works have won many awards including the Best of Show from the Sumi-e Society of America and the Sumi-e Artists of Canada (Joint Exhibition), and the Central Florida Watercolor Society, and the Kyoto Education Council Award from Japan. Joan was selected by NASA to create artwork inspired by the James Webb Space Telescope. She is listed in Who's Who of American Art, and Who's Who in American Women. Her art instruction book, "Chinese Brush Painting: Flowers," is an influential best-seller available in English, Dutch, French, Italian and Spanish. Her art is featured in "The Best of Flower Painting," and "Strokes of Genius." Joan served as the President of the Sumi-e Society of America, Vice President of the Lingnan Art Association of America, and Commissioner of the Maryland Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. Besides conducting workshops and demonstrations, she teaches online ([www.joanlok.com](http://www.joanlok.com)) and discusses technical know-how on YouTube (@joanlok).

## **Workshop Description:**

The morning session will introduce the fundamentals of sumi-e and includes the painting of morning glory in minimal brushwork. Joan will discuss sumi-e materials, different kinds of basic brush work, how to hold and load the brush with multiple colors and ink graduation, and how to deliver a full petal or blade of leaf in simple brushstrokes. We will apply our knowledge and paint morning glory with climbing vines.

The afternoon session will paint koi and carp in multiple patterns. Joan will explain the anatomy of koi and the placement of fins and scales as we will create them freehand. She will cover the use of wet on dry and wet on wet for shadow effect, and how to use opaque white (gouache) to bring out the scales. She will also share a special tip so beginners can produce convincing results from the start.

## **Supplies:**

Thank you for joining Joan Lok Sumi-e Workshop on Morning Glory and Koi

If you have experience with sumi-e, you probably have all the supplies needed. If you are new to the art of sumi-e but have watercolor experience, don't rush to buy all the specialty brushes and paper. Get a feel of sumi-e at the workshop and get the supplies if you decide to continue exploring sumi-e art. I am pretty relaxed on supplies so watercolor alternatives will work.

PAPER –

- Rice Paper – Any unsized kind will work, including student grade ones. I use double Shuen, Ma or Pi in my demo.

- Newsprint, any size, for practicing strokes.
- **Watercolorist Alternatives** A pad of any kind of rice paper and a pad of newsprint for practice.  
This one works for many beginners <https://www.plazaart.com/sumi-e-painting-and-calligraphy-paper-sketch-pad-12x18>

#### BRUSHES -

- Two large or medium Combination (at least one for petal, one for leaves, general usage)
- One small Soft (to smaller petals, new leaves, fins)
- One Fine (to paint petal vein, carpel and stamen, outline the koi)
- **Watercolorist Alternatives:** Watercolor brush rounds sizes 6, 8, 10, 12. A fine one for details (Round 00 or 1)

#### COLORS –

- Black sumi-e ink (I will have a bottle for the class to share.)
- Opaque white (gouache – non transparent watercolor.) I use Dr. Martin’s Bleed Proof White but other brands, such as W/N white gouache will work.
- I am liberal with colors, so just bring your usual palette. I use Holbein, Winsor Newton, and Daniel Smith. Have the basic hues of what we will paint, say Permanent Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Yellow Light, Vermillion, Yellow Ocher, Indigo, Raw Umber, Sap Green. We will paint morning glory, so a nice purple, such as W/N Permanent Violet is great. We can also mix it with our blue and red. Have your favorite yellow/orange for the dots on the koi (I have Cadmium Yellow Deep and Quinacridone Coral.)

#### MORE SUPPLIES –

- Little dishes for ink and colors. (Bring a separate small dish for sumi-e ink. You don’t want ink on your color palette.)
- Mixing plates (or just bring your watercolor palette.)
- Paper towel
- Water container
- A piece of wool or felt to protect the table. **Watercolorist Alternatives** – An old bath towel or baby blanket.
- Paper, pencil or charcoal sticks if you want to do some sketching for the koi.
- Hairdryer

Joan’s instruction book, “Chinese Brush Painting: Flowers” will be available at \$22 each. She will sign her books during the workshop.