

# THE ART of NATURE JOURNALING

A Two day Art Workshop on Quarantine Island/ Kamau Taurua, Dunedin with artist Jo Ogier

Feb 2020

## **CLASS DESCRIPTION**

### Introduction to Nature Journaling

Nature Journaling is a wonderful way of making your own study of the Natural World around you. The main emphasis is on YOUR observations of nature - recording and reflecting on what you have seen or discovered. It can be done anywhere: from just looking out your window at home; to what you see on a walk to the park or a field trip onto an island; it may also be just what is happening in the vegetable garden. Nature is everywhere ready to be explored.

This fun and interactive workshop will help you begin or extend your nature journaling skills. With the fantastic and inspirational surrounds of Quarantine Island/ Kamau Taurua situated in the Otago Harbour, we will be spoilt for choice with subject matter.

With a focus on discovery and developing your observational drawing & painting skills. We will explore working in the environment through field sketching focusing on the incredible diversity of flora and fauna found around the island and its unique eco systems.

Guidance on working in the field, composition, page layout, fun ways to create themed based text and suggestions of other exercises will also be given. Different approaches to nature journaling and mediums will also be explored further through examples and experimentation.

Techniques covered will include pencil/ graphite, Pitt charcoal pencils, ink pen, coloured pencil and watercolour.

## **Materials to Bring**

- **Keep it simple**, all you really need is a journal or piece of paper and a pencil and some curiosity.
- If you want to take **a few more things** along you could add: a small bag for collecting fallen objects, a larger range of pencils 2H/ HB/ 2B, black **water proof** drawing pen suitable for pen and ink work 0.5mm or smaller, a colour medium such as coloured pencils/ aquarelle pencils/ graphic tint/ or a small set of water colours, a brush, some water, a knife, rubber, binoculars, tape measure or ruler, magnifying glass and a bag to hold your materials.
- **Choosing a Nature Journal** is a personal choice (Pick one with heavier weight paper if you like working with washes or water colour – smoother paper will give you the most detail). I find it is a good idea to have a size that is really portable I tend to use one approximately A5 size. Another option is to work on loose sheets of good quality paper and bind them into a book at a later stage. Good brands are Moleskine, Stillman & Birn - Zeta series and Daler-Rowney with smooth heavy paper
- **I will have some materials available for you to try if you don't have them.**