Gilded Shore: Jewels of the Illuminated Page
Tools and Materials

The Gentle Penman with Martha Laurens | 10, 17 and 24 November 2026 | Level: All Levels

Required Surface Materials and Tools

1. **Paper**

- Hot Press Watercolour Paper, 300gsm (smooth) or Bristol Recommended: Fabriano Studio, Arches, Strathmore (whichever is available in your country,I am using Arches Hot Press 300gsm/140lbs size A5)
  - **Size:** A5 or A4 or letter size paper
- Graph paper for sketching and planning
- Tracing paper/Transparent paper (A4 or A3) (usually called Vellum **paper** or Parchment **paper —** Not the Vellum or Parchment)

2. Drawing Tools

- Soft Pencil B
- Hard Pencil: Any number between 2H to 7H
- Vinyl or kneaded eraser
- Ruler
- Circular/Oval Drawing Stencils
- Compass (for curves)

Painting Materials

1. Paints:

- Watercolour or gouache (I will use M.Graham for all the painting - Alternatively, students may choose Schmincke Horadam Gouache or Winsor & Newton)
- **Suggested colours (I'll use M.Graham Gouache this in class):**

Ultramarine Blue; Phthalocyanine Blue; Phthalocyanine Green; Quinacridone Violet; Yellow Ochre; Burnt Umber; Burnt Sienna, Raw Sienna, Raw Umber, Titanium White.

- **Optional colours in Winsor and Newton Designer Gouache:**

Ultramarine; Winsor Blue; Winsor Green; Quinacridone Magenta; Yellow Ochre; Burnt Umber; Burnt Sienna, Raw Sienna, Raw Umber, Permanent White.

2. Brushes (Pure sable or Kolinsky Sable, I will use the following brand: WN Series 7/Raphael Kolinsky/Rosemary/Isabey 6229) — **Synthetic brushes can be used** if that's the only thing available in your country.

- Pointed Round Brushes size: #000 or #0 or #1
- Round Brush: #0 or #1
- One or two old brush to mix colours or mix binders

3. Other tools:

- Mixing palette
- Two water jars

Shell Gold Tools & Materials (Making Shell Gold)

Genuine Gold & Palladium Leaf:

- **Loose Leaf** (Minimum Ten Leaves or **Two booklets of five**):
  - **Any available carat Yellow gold,** Choose any carat between 22k, 23k, 23.75k, 24k, or your preference colour
  - **Palladium Loose Leaf**
- **Skewing:** If you have a mixture of leftover from your gilding project (skewing), we can also use that too)
- **Dedicated Brush for Shell Gold** (if you are using shell gold to paint your artwork)
- Small saucer dish bowl
- Burnisher (agate)
- Honey (Pure Honey)
- Gum Arabic

Optional 1 (If you do not want to make your shell gold but use cheaper options):

- **Metallic watercolour Powder** (Schminke Aqua Bronze Powder: Rich Gold colour)
- Gum Arabic
- Finetec or Coliro paint

Optional 2 (Easier option but more pricey)

- **Genuine Powde:**
  - Gold Powder Any carat
  - Silver Powder

Where to Shop:

- **Amazon** (each country might have different materials directly from the brand distributor - please check what's available to you) — You can get the Aqua Bronze or the gum arabic, honey, some good synthetic brushes, small saucer dish.

- **Japan (Ship internationally):** https://pigment.tokyo

- **UK & EU:**
  Cornelissen & Son https://www.cornelissen.com
  Wright of Lymn https://stonehouses.co.uk/
  Gold Leaf Supplies https://goldleafsupplies.co.uk
  A. S. Handover https://www.handover.co.uk/

- The best ready made Shell Gold that I've found is https://www.cornelissen.com/japanese-shell-gold.html

- **US:**
  Blick Art Materials https://www.dickblick.com
  JohnNeal Bookseller https://www.johnnealbooks.com/
  Paper and Ink Arts https://www.paperinkarts.com

- **Australia:**
  Jackson's Art https://www.jacksonsart.com/
  Scribes and Beyond https://scribesandbeyond.com
  The Gold Leaf Factory https://www.goldleaf.com.au/