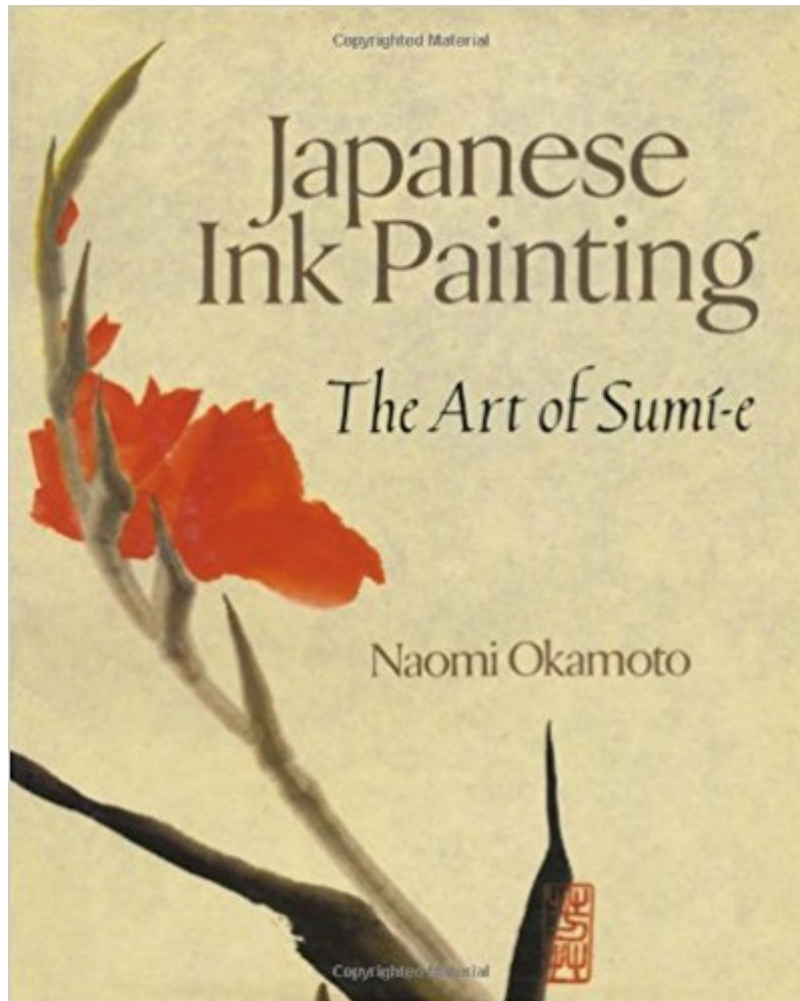


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# Japanese Ink Painting: The Art Of Sumi-e



## Synopsis

â œThis study of Japanese ink painting is as much about philosophy and poetry as it is about putting brush to paper. Artisan Okamoto clearly describes the unique materials and techniques involved, and she beautifully illustrates each lesson. The highly readable writing style is personal, poetic, and inspiring....Well recommended.â •â "Library Journal. â œExcellent ...for middle school through adult levels.â •â "School AA.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

this book provides the reader with a clear description of the basic equipment needed for painting, as well as a clearly explained basic strokes. the book leads the read through a series of progressively more difficult exercises from the "classical" traditions of sumie, like the orchid, bamaboo, and plum blossom.having recently been on an introductory course in Sumie this book helps reinforce the lessons learnt there.the author provides a good basic text for an absolute beginner that allows a person to begin and develop his talent. he describes and provides clear descriptions and numbered pictures of how to paint the various classical paintings. this may seem a bit like "paint by numbers" but gives one a good feel of "copying" the old masters of sumie.out of 3 books ordered on sumie I use this one the most as a binner. the other two are for more advanced painters or those wanting to appreciate the art. The mustard seed gardern manual of painting is a good work but not as easily or clearly expalined as Okamoto does here for the western beginner.you will not go wrong in buying this book if you are a beginner.

Naomi Okamoto's book on sumi-e is the most comprehensive and helpful book I have found to date on sumi-e. Utilizing a detailed approach, beginning with the basics of sumi-e, Okamoto leads the reader through the practice as a whole, paying close attention to technique, mindfulness and composition. I highly recommend this book for anyone interested in Japanese ink painting.

Some reviewers carped that sumi-e is Chinese-that the Japanese `stole' it. So the publisher fudged the title. Well, whatever!The book is good for beginners because I am a beginner. Naomi Okamoto keeps one important aspect of ink painting manageable-the loading of the brush with ink. Getting ink on the brush and then putting the brush to the paper is the most difficult function to learn. She keeps sumi-e from being a chore. Buy the book. Matter of fact purchase a number of different books because each artist has his own way of approaching the same subject.

Okamoto covers the most essential areas of the art of sumi-e in a balanced and objective approach. I learned a lot while reading her book and it moved me to learn more things about sumi-e. The pictures, paper, and book itself are of high quality, and is interesting to look through even if you do not paint with inks. A wonderful book, I reccomend it to anyone interested in Asian art. Also makes a great gift.

I found this book helpful and inspirational. The instructions were clear to a beginner, and grew more complex at a good pace.I thoroughly enjoyed this book and incorporated some of the techniques in my own (non-Asian) artwork, as I like incorporating new techniques from different cultures. I recommend this book.The book consists of the following chapters:Chapter 1. Background and Essence of Japanese Ink PaintingChapter 2. Painting Utensils. This chapter goes over brushes, inks, sticks, and other aids.Chapter 3. The Painting Surface. This chapter goes over effects and characteristics of different mediums.Chapter 4. Working with Ink and brush. Goes over control of the brush and different techniques.Chapter 5a. Painting Techniques. Four different lessons: fish, orchid, bamboo, plum treeChapter 5b. Brush held at angle flat to the paper: poppy exercisesChapter 5c. Rotating handle of the brush: crocus, tulip, magnolia exercisesChapter 5d. Two stroke paintings: Iris, Anthurium exercisesChapter 5e. Rough outline with one stroke: PromontoryChapter 6a. Painting objects, still lifeChapter 6b. Landscapes: 7 different landscapesChapter 7. From Sketching to PaintingChapter 8a. Painting with color. Which color is appropriateChapter 8b. Painting with color. The role of color.Chapter 9. Practice motifs.Chapter 10a. Mounting finished paintingChapter 10b. Mounting instructionsChapter 10c. How to carve a sealChapter 10d. Where to place a

sealChapter 10e. Examples of sealsChapter 11. Conclusion followed by an index

This book is great for a beginner. It explains the materials you need to start painting and gives you step by step instructions on the techniques needed to paint bamboo, orchids, chrysanthemums, etc. My only criticism is that it's weak on how to paint pine trees which I find difficult. But, overall a book worthwhile to own and work with.

I received my book the very next day after ordering. I have read it from beginning to end and work all of the sample technique procedures. I have found this book to help stimulate my interest in Japanese ink art. The instructions were well written and easy to follow. I recommend this product for anyone wishing to learn a new technique.

More than just explaining how to use a brush and Ink, we especially like how the author touches on fundamental ideas and concepts behind Japanese Ink painting... which can be just as important (if not more important) than the technical skill of wielding a brush :) The technical stuff is in there, but so is the Zen of sumi. One of the things I realized right away was to clear your mind before your first brush stroke... cuz' what you see is what your gonna get :)

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