



The Irish Society of Botanical Artists is delighted to announce the launch of ***SCEITSE – IRISH BOTANICAL SKETCHBOOKS*** on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2020.

This exciting new publication seeks to de-mystify and celebrate the complex journey of botanical artists as they collect information and prepare to illustrate a particular plant. This includes ‘visiting’ plants in their habitat or in gardens, to see them in their natural or intended setting. The sketchbook pages in this collection show the breadth of information a botanical artist may collect, from plant features and measurements, to colour notes and descriptions of the setting.

Irish botanical artists are fortunate to have access to unique and diverse gardens, both public and private, in which to glean information and complete research for their paintings. We have included beautiful pictures and writing from those in which we worked for this project, hoping to celebrate the island’s horticultural treasures and encourage visitors to seek them out.

Since its formation in 2014, the Irish Society of Botanical Artists has burgeoned into a thriving, lively and reciprocal group of botanical artists. The Society has undertaken three ambitious projects, staging successful exhibitions and producing three wonderful books, ***Aibítir – The Irish Alphabet in Botanical Art (2014)***, ***Plandaí Oidhreacht – Heritage Irish Plants (2016)*** and ***Éireannach – Celebrating Native Plants of Ireland (2018)*** For each book, our artists created finely detailed and finished portraits and illustrations of both cultivated and wild Irish plants. An enormous amount of work went into each painting as each artist sought to identify and illustrate the key features of their chosen plant and portray it in a beautiful way. The resultant collection of paintings in the ISBA books are of an extremely high standard and have been lauded in botanical art and botany circles.

***SCEITSE – IRISH BOTANICAL SKETCHBOOKS*** will be available to pre-order from the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2020, on our website: [www.irishbotanicalartists.ie/shop](http://www.irishbotanicalartists.ie/shop), at a reduced price of €20.00. Orders will be shipped soon after the launch date of Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> of November. The normal retail price (from 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020) is €25.00. Trade prices available.

For further enquiries, please email [isba.committee@gmail.com](mailto:isba.committee@gmail.com)