

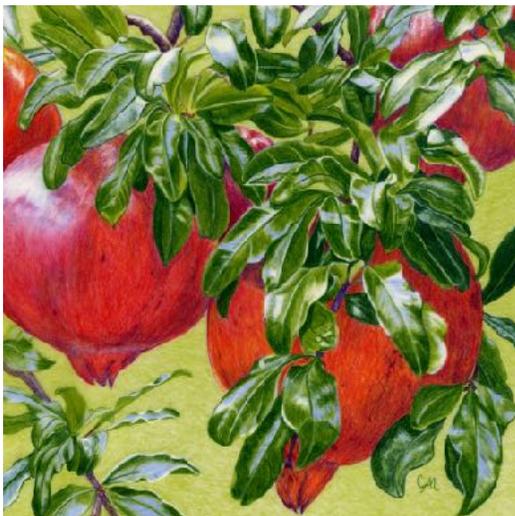
# Claire Alderks Miller

## Artist Statement

*"I have always been inspired by Nature. Spending a lot of time outdoors during my childhood, trees were my favorite, and plants, in general, continue to be what interests me the most.... and I have always loved to draw. Nature's shapes, with their color, light and shadows are intriguing to me. I sketch from life, but also research and photograph subjects from different angles. I use all this information to work with composition and color combinations before painting. Artists that have inspired me include Georgia O'Keefe and Giovanna Garzoni, both women pioneers in their time. I especially love their bold and creative treatment of nature subjects."*



I paint mostly with transparent watercolor. However, a technique I often use is a mixed media approach with watercolors and sharp colored pencils. I layer watercolor washes and then add colored pencil in specific areas, going back and forth with these layers, building up to the finished painting. I also like to work with colored pencils on matte film, drawing on both sides of the film to add a dimension of depth.



## About the Artist

Claire is a botanical/nature artist and illustrator, living in Raleigh NC. She has a degree in Biology and Studio Art, worked as both a graphic and freelance artist, and has a Certificate from the NC Botanical Garden's Botanical Illustration program.

She is a member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators, American Society of Botanical Artists and volunteers as a Wake County Extension Master Gardener. Her pieces have been in exhibits that include the NC Botanical Garden Nature Gallery, NC Museum of Natural Science Gallery, Meredith

College Rotunda Art Gallery, Blake Street Studios in Raleigh NC, Blowing Rock Art and History Museum, Lora Robbins Gallery at the University of Richmond, Mims Gallery at NC Wesleyan College and the NC Aquariums.