

*Making A Funky
Tropical
Vase Arrangement*



*Rittners Floral School
Boston, Ma*

www.floralschool.com

Making A Funky Tropical Vase Arrangement



Hi, Welcome to **The Rittners School of Floral Design** in Boston, Ma.

It is a pleasure to present “**Making A Funky Tropical Vase Arrangement.**”

Floral designing constantly changes, evolves and moves forward... We are proud that our programs at Rittners Floral School in Boston, MA. constantly evolve to reflect the commercial, the artistic and the merger of both...

At Rittners regardless of style presented, we have always had the philosophy that learning floral designing can and should be quick, easy and fun!

The design presented in this e book distance education lesson is a good example.

Many people have the idea that making florals using tropicals requires some kind of magical, mystical genius. And that such designs must be complicated and difficult to create. We disagree. This arrangement requires only four flowers, some branches and some aspidistra leaves. It is a good example of why many floral artists love tropicals, for they are very showy, easy to use and have great visual impact.

We hope you enjoy this project as much as we did in its presentation.

Dr Stephen Rittner

Rittners Floral School, Boston, Ma.





What You Will Need:

1. Container
2. Foam
3. Four Heliconia
4. A Handful of Branches
5. Six Aspidistra Leaves (or similar)
6. Spanish Moss
7. Glue gun and glue, wire for hairpins



Start With A Container

Containers are among the floral designer's best friends. Like living friends each one has its own unique characteristics. We like this container that feels like it came out of an archeological excavation, or perhaps was found in an ancient sunken ship. The earth tones along with the rough texture make this a container that begs to be touched and handled. Ironically this ancient looking base was made recently & imported from China! It accommodates 2/3rds of a block of foam.

It is considered good workmanship to cover mechanics (foam). This could be achieved with a light greening of baker fern or some other foliage. We chose to use some spanish moss, placed very lightly around the edges and top of the container. Secure it with small hairpins (florist wire bent into small U shapes). Be sure to add this lightly or stem insertions will be impeded. Alternatively this step could be done upon completion of the stem insertions.





A good illustration why many floral designers love tropicals like heliconia. The visual impact is awesome, yet so easily achieved.

One stem is easily placed in the center rear of the foam about 2 inches from the back.

A second heliconia is placed to the lower right of the first.

Two of these flowers alone create the central theme of the arrangement.

Heliconia have very long stems. The total height of this arrangement is a bit over several feet.

But this design could easily be made much taller depending upon how many heliconia you choose to use and how tall you allow the first one to be.





There are all kinds of wonderful branch materials that can be used to enhance floral art.

In this particular case we are using curly willow. The bends and curves work very well to give us a counterbalance to the rather straight and more rigid heliconia.

We are deliberately using some older dried curly willow along with some fresh pieces. This gives variation in tones from the darker browns to the lighter greens.

These are placed to the left of the first taller heliconia and more to the right, slightly behind the second one.

To create some visual weight on the bottom part of the design we are using some foliage. Any long foliage like aspidistra or ti leaves are fine.

Create a loop using the foliage, and secure with wire. Insert the foliage loops in a circle going around the base of the arrangement.



Six foliage loops worked fine here.

But your numbers could vary depending upon the size of your container, your foliage and your tastes.

Notice how the foliage is used in this arrangement more in an architectural/structural manner.





Place several more heliconia as shown.

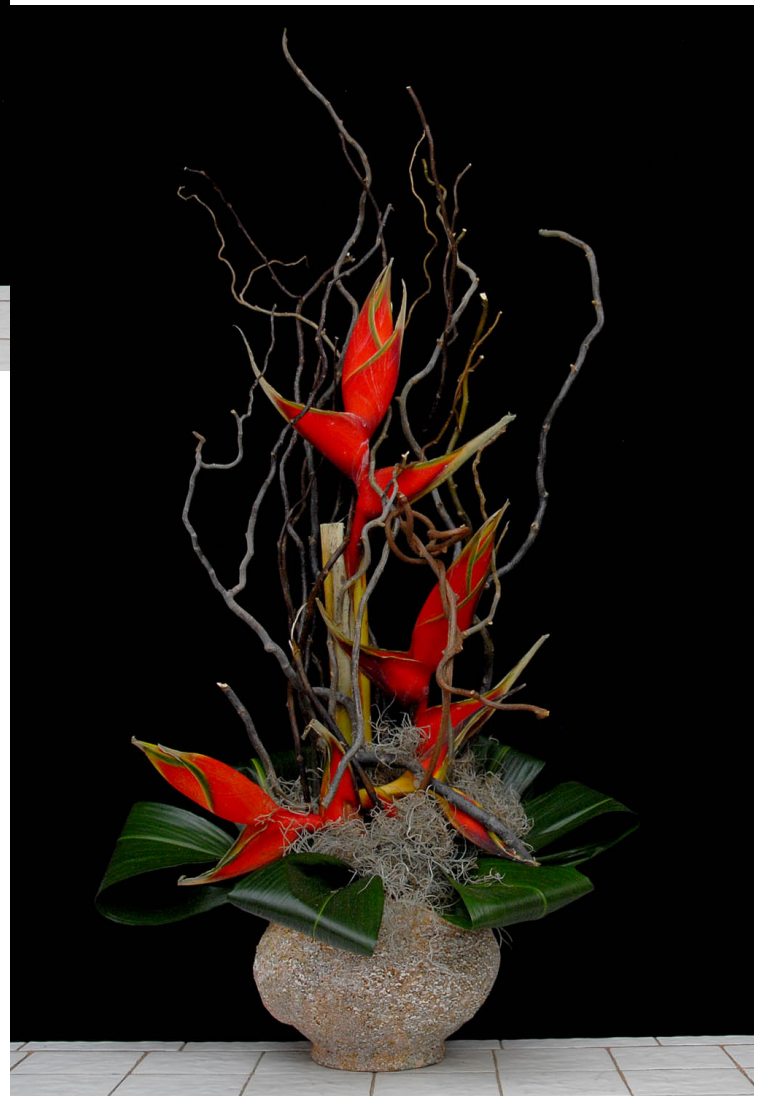
Angle them at around a forty-five degree angle, and place them in close to the bottom of the arrangement.



Widen the arrangement using more branches.

Place some in front of the original two heliconia. We mixed some Kiwi vine branches here as well.

We could stop this design at this stage..... **But wait.. There's more!!!**







Let's add some spanish moss to some of the branchy parts of the arrangement. It is secured with a touch of glue.

This step is optional. You may like this effect. You may not. As we say at Rittners Floral School, the choice as to whether to do this particular step or not becomes, "designer's choice."



Working a little more of the spanish moss down the right side of our branches to complete this arrangement!







Rittners Floral School is one of the longest running and finest private floral design schools in North America.

Located in the prestigious Back Bay neighborhood of Boston, Rittners Floral School attracts students from all over North America and abroad by the excellence of its courses.

Rittners makes use of the latest educational theory and technologies, to bring its students outstanding diploma programs in floral designing....

Rittners Floral School specializes in floral education.

Whether your goals are rest and relaxation, stress reduction, or vocational, you will really enjoy the various hands-on workshop floral art courses offered at Rittners Floral School.

About Rittners Floral School in Boston, Ma.

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Rittners Floral School





Rittners Floral School Distance Education.....

Rittners Floral School

Rittners Floral School is one of the longest running programs in the country and draws students from all over the continent and abroad. We are proud of the excellence of our programs, of our facilities and of our students. We are located in one of the nicest residential sections of Boston. Here are a few links to videos relating to our school and our unique location.

[At Rittners Floral School the Future is Now](#)

[A Walk On Marlborough St](#)

[About Rittners Floral School](#)

[Spring in Boston's Back Bay](#)



**RITTNERS
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The image features a 2x2 grid of floral arrangements in clear glass vases. Each arrangement is set against a different solid background color: top-left is yellow, top-right is red, bottom-left is purple, and bottom-right is blue. The flowers are a mix of red, yellow, and white blooms with green foliage.



Rittners Floral School Workshop Courses.....

Rittners Floral School Workshop Courses.....

Our hands-on workshop diploma programs are amazing, fun programs that will give you money making skills and wonderful memories!"



Our floral art course line up is deliberately kept simple and non confusing. We offer:

Six Month Day Course

This is every day Mon-Fri from mid Sept to mid March from 9-3:00. (with vacations of course!) Our most comprehensive program. Designing every day and how to make money from floral art!

12.5 Week Evening Course

Tues and Thurs Evenings, from 7-10. Offered in Oct and again in Jan. Detailed floral design instruction. Buying flowers, conditioning techniques & pricing. Amazing course for those busy during the day who need a strong part time program.

Short Day Course

Awesome program! Offered in April, June and July/Aug. Same content as the 12.5 Week Evening Course presented in a day format. For those who need to learn a lot in a short period of time.

And yes we occasionally offer very short duration workshops for those seeking that kind of experience...

<http://www.floralschool.com>



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You really should be calling us at
617-267-3824 to get a catalog and
enroll in one of our great hands-on
workshop courses!**