

## PRESENTERS BIOS

### **Beverly Allen** (AUSTRALIA)

Beverly's work is held in the Shirley Sherwood Collection, the Prince of Wales's Highgrove Florilegium, the RHS Lindley Library, Royal Botanic Gardens Library Kew, the Isaac and Alisa Sutton Collection, and the Botanic Gardens Trust Sydney. Beverly co-founded The Florilegium Society at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney.

### **Helen Allen** (ENGLAND)

Helen is Course Director of the Diploma Course in Botanical Illustration and Painting at the English Gardening School. She has exhibited internationally and her work is in many collections including the Prince of Wales's Highgrove Florilegium, the Hunt Institute and Kew.

### **Francesca Anderson** (NY)

Francesca is a founding member of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Florilegium Society and a Fellow of The Linnean Society. Her pen and ink drawings have been exhibited worldwide and have appeared in scientific and art books including those by Dr. Shirley Sherwood. Francesca received two Gold medals from the RHS and the 2009 ASBA Diane Bouchier Award.

### **Mary Bauschelt** (WI)

Studying botany and horticulture lead to a thirty-year career growing plants for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Botany Greenhouses and Botanical Garden. Mary has been studying, drawing and painting botanical art for twenty years and teaching for eleven.

### **Kathy Creger** (MN)

Kathy is a botanical artist and teacher, an avid orchid collector and an American Orchid Society Judge who speaks about orchids internationally. Her orchid illustrations have been featured in several publications and her work exhibited in numerous local and ASBA shows as well as internationally.

### **Marlene Hill Donnelly** (IL)

Marlene earned degrees from the University of Illinois and American Academy of Art. She is a science artist for the Field Museum and her work is published and exhibited in other institutions and museums worldwide. She is a Certificate Course instructor at the Chicago Botanic Garden and the Morton Arboretum.

### **Dr. Jeremy Fant** (IL)

Dr. Fant is a conservation scientist specializing in molecular ecology at the Chicago Botanic Garden and he teaches biology at Northwestern University. He received his Ph.D. in Genetics at the University of Cambridge where he studied the conservation and maintenance of genetic diversity, both in situ and ex situ. His work has been widely published.

### **Susan T. Fisher** (CO)

Susan is the former Director of the Art Institute at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and the former program coordinator of the Certificate Program in Botanical Art and Illustration at Denver Botanic Gardens. Susan is a past president of the ASBA. She conducts workshop throughout the United States.

### **Marilyn Garber** (MN)

Marilyn is an artist, educator and founder of the Minnesota School of Botanical Art. Her work has been exhibited at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Queen Sirikit Royal Botanic Garden, the Shirley Sherwood Gallery and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

### **Laura Call Gastinger** (VA)

Lara is the chief illustrator for the Flora of Virginia Project to be published in 2012. Her work received a gold medal at the Royal Horticultural Society in London, was included in ASBA's "Losing Paradise: Endangered Plants here and Around the World" and is represented by Susan Frei Nathan Fine Works on Paper.

### **Rita Hassert**, Morton Arboretum (IL)

Library Collections Manager of the Sterling Morton Library, Rita has been on the Library staff at the Arboretum since 1986. Holding an M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, she has also served on the board of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries.

### **Ed Hedborn** (IL)

Ed is the Plant Records Manager and so-called Color Scout at The Morton Arboretum. He has collected, recorded, documented, planted, labeled, placed, and studied thousands of trees and other plants on the Arboretum's 1,700 acres. So when it comes to the Arboretum's fall foliage, Ed's the one to know!

### **Dr. Patrick Herendeen** (IL)

Dr. Herendeen is Co-Director, Division of Plant Science and Conservation and Director of Academic Partnerships at the Chicago Botanic Garden. He is a botanist and paleontologist interested in the evolutionary history of plants.

### **Dr. Andrew Hipp** (IL)

Dr. Andrew Hipp is a plant systematist, and the Morton Arboretum Lab's primary investigator. Active projects he is working on include systematics and molecular ecology of oaks, sedges, and elms; plant speciation and diversification; chromosome and genome size evolution; phylogenetic comparative methods and North American floristics.

### **Asuka Hishiki** (JAPAN)

Asuka holds a MFA from Kyoto City University of Arts in Japan where she studied oil painting. Plants and nature are always her inspiration. She is a self-taught botanical artist who currently lives and works in New York. Her work has been shown in many international exhibitions.

### **Wendy Hollender** (NY)

Wendy is a botanical artist, instructor and author. Previously a home furnishings textile designer, she designs products using her botanical artwork. Random House published Wendy's book: *Botanical Drawing in Color* in 2010. Wendy's illustrations have been in the *New York Times*, *Oprah Magazine*, and *Real Simple Magazine*.

### **Robin A. Jess** (NJ)

Executive Director of the ASBA, Robin illustrated books for The New York Botanical Garden by botanist Dr. Arthur Cronquist. Her focus is plants of the NJ Pine Barrens. Robin has received numerous grants, fellowships and awards for her artwork.

### **Heeyoung Kim** (IL)

Heeyoung has received awards at ASBA/HSNY exhibitions for pencil drawing and watercolor painting. She received a gold medal from the Royal Horticultural Society in March 2012 and an ink drawing is in the Hunt Institute's collection. She has shown her works internationally, hoping they would serve as a bridge between the public and conservation efforts.

### **Karen Kluglein** (NY)

Karen was an illustrator in her previous life and now concentrates on her botanical painting. She is a recent winner of the ASBA Diane Bouchier Award for Excellence in Botanical Art and has work in the permanent collection of The New York Botanical Garden's Historical Library.

### **Denise Walsler-Kolar** (MN)

Denise earned her Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design and Commercial Illustration from the College of Visual Arts in Saint Paul, Minnesota. In 2011, she was awarded a Silver-Gilt Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society in London. Her work has been widely exhibited and is in the permanent collection of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation.

### **Libby Kyer** (CO)

A professed control freak, Libby finds colored pencils the answer to her demanding art needs. She has taught colored pencil techniques

extensively for 15 years, and her award-winning works are collected nationally and abroad, including the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation and Packard Foundation. She is the Editor of the Journal.

### **Tania Marien** (CA)

Interested in interpretive techniques about plants, how people make meaning, and how drawing can be used as a learning tool to encourage an interest in plants, Tania explores these topics through ArtPlantae, a resource connecting artists, naturalists and educators.

### **Victoria Matthews** (ENGLAND)

Victoria is a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London and holds a Diploma in Plant Taxonomy from the University of Edinburgh, UK, and an Editor of The Kew Magazine. A botanical art collector, she serves on several judging and selection committees including the RHS, SBA Distance Learning Diploma, and the Prince of Wales's Highgrove Florilegium.

### **Lee McCaffree** (CA)

Lee is a botanical illustrator who emphasizes the need for basic skills. She is a primary instructor in the Botanical Art Certificate Program at Filoli in California. She has exhibited in England and throughout the US. Her work is included in the Hunt Institute, Kew Garden, and Filoli Florilegium collections.

### **Kathie Miranda** (CT)

Kathie is an award-winning artist and innovative botanical art instructor for The New York Botanical Garden. She serves on the board of the ASBA, and is an active member of the Colored Pencil Society of America and the Connecticut Botanical Society. The illustration and preservation of native woodland plants are her passion.

### **Jesse Meyer** (NY)

Jesse's family company, Pergamena, has been preparing animal skins since 1550. He has refined the quality of parchment skins for use by artists, calligraphers, bookbinders and designers.

### **Dr. Gregory M. Mueller** (IL)

Dr. Mueller is Vice President for Science and Academic Programs at the Chicago Botanic Garden. His research and teaching focus on the diversity, biogeography, ecology, and conservation of mushrooms. Greg has carried out extensive fieldwork throughout much of the world. He is author of six books and nearly 100 scientific articles.

### **Rhonda Nass** (WI)

Rhonda thanks her high school art teacher, who told the stubborn teenager she could never be an artist, for launching her into her profession: a UW-Madison art degree, freelance illustration (i.e. Biology of Plants) and currently, art commissions, publications, teaching and gallery work.

### **Susan Frei Nathan** (NY)

Susan is an art historian, who directed two NYC galleries before establishing her company Susan Frei Nathan Fine Works on Paper. She promotes the sale and placement of contemporary botanical art and builds collections for her many corporate, private and institutional clients.

### **Kate Nessler** (AR)

Kate has been painting plants for 29 years and began her work on vellum in 1997. Innovative and adventurous, her award-winning work is internationally appreciated. The National Museum for Women in the Arts, the Royal Horticultural Society, Hunt Institute, Shirley Sherwood Collection and Highgrove Florilegium hold examples of her work.

### **Derek Norman** (IL)

Derek's pen & ink drawings are award-winning and reflect his passion for all things wildflower. Founder of the Midwest Center for Botanical Documentation, Derek delights in enlisting fellow artists in the pursuit and preservation of the vanishing species.

**Stephen Packard, (IL)**

Stephen is Founding Director of the Chicago area programs of the National Audubon Society and teaches at Northwestern University. Stephen initiated many of Illinois' ecological restoration projects including Nachusa Grasslands and the Spring Creek Forest Preserves. He is on the editorial board of the journal *Ecological Restoration*.

**Hillary Parker (GA)**

Hillary is a naturalist and award-winning botanical watercolor artist whose paintings are exhibited and collected worldwide through private commissions, galleries, and juried exhibitions. Hillary holds a B.S. degree in Art Education and has been teaching workshops, private classes, and presenting lectures throughout the U.S. for 22 years.

**Tricia Peterson (IL)**

Tricia's traditional illustrations reflect her love for animals and nature. That combination has influenced her career as a graphic designer, artist, technical illustrator, product developer, and exhibit designer. Communicating and educating by creating a warm feeling through graphics and art is always her goal. Tricia owns Blueraven Creative and is co-founder of DiscoveryPen™.

**Lynne Railsback (WI)**

Lynne doesn't paint roses, orchids or iris. The plants that grow in the woods and prairies in the Midwest are her favorite subjects. She is grateful for the opportunities that have opened up to her and the artists she has met in this career that began after retirement.

**Sarah Roche (MA)**

Sarah is Education Director for the Wellesley College Botanical Garden's Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration program. She is a Gallery artist at the South Shore Art Center in Cohasset MA, and an artist member of the Copley Society of Art in Boston. She is the Founding Director of the New England Society of Botanical Artists and chair of ASBA's Education Committee.

**Carol Jean Rogalski (IL)**

While researching the history of the active ingredients of herbs and modern pharmaceuticals at The Sterling Morton Library, Carol was introduced to botanical art. She completed a

Botanical Art and Illustration Certificate at The Morton Arboretum and studies the techniques of egg tempera, silverpoint and illumination with gold upon natural vellum.

**Deb Shaw (CA)**

Deb has a degree in fine art from Pomona College, The Claremont Colleges, where she also studied botany and native California flora. She is principal of db Shaw Studios, an award-winning design firm. Deborah's work has been displayed in many exhibitions, and is in private collections.

**Leora Siegel (IL)**

Leora is Director of the Lenhardt Library at the Chicago Botanic Garden. She holds M.S. degrees in Library & Information Science and Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences. Leora has served on national, regional and local library boards.

**David Sollenberger (IL)**

David is a restoration ecologist for the Chicago Botanic Garden developing and managing the Dixon Prairie. David currently works for the Dixon National Tallgrass Prairie Seed Bank at CBG and does botanical illustration at the Field Museum in Chicago and various publications.

**Dr. Ruth Starratt (MA)**

A professor of art education at Boston University, Ruth's field of research is the art of Oceania, where she documents 50,00-year-old petroglyphs. Her paintings are shown in NESBA exhibitions, at the Arizona Desert Museum, Wellesley College and in the BU galleries.

**Alice Tangerini (Washington, DC)**

Alice is a staff illustrator for the Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution since 1972. She has taught classes from the elementary to the graduate level in scientific botanical illustration at schools, colleges and botanical gardens. Her work has been exhibited in ASBA and GNSI exhibitions and with the Botanical Art Society of the National Capital Region.

**Ann Tompkins (IL)**

Ann received her botanical art certificate from The Morton Arboretum in 2009. Her work is shown there twice a year at the Nature Artist Guild's juried exhibitions. She teaches a class at the Arboretum called Nature Detail in Watercolor.

**Alexander Viazmensky (RUSSIA)**

Alexander was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) in 1946. Educated as an electrical engineer, Alexander has been a freelance jeweler and artist since 1976. He specializes in landscapes and botanicals and his work is in many important collections worldwide. Alexander has conducted master classes in botanical art schools and botanic gardens since 2004.

**Catherine Watters (CA)**

Catherine is an instructor and curriculum developer at Filoli in Woodside, CA. Collections include The Hunt Institute, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Filoli, the Paris Natural History Museum, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and the Isaac & Alisa Sutton Collection. Her work was recently featured in *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*.

**Suzanne Wegener (IL)**

Suzanne has a degree in Scientific Illustration and a MS in Biomedical Visualization. She is a freelance illustrator and teaches illustration and fine art at historical societies and art leagues, The Morton Arboretum and the Field Museum of Natural History. She is the Manager of Nature Arts Education at the Morton Arboretum.

**Bruce Wilson (MN)**

Bruce comes from a fine art and commercial art background and is an instructor at the Minnesota School of Botanical Art, and teaches at Filoli in California. He exhibits nationally and locally, illustrates books and contributes to magazines.

**Arlene Widrivitch (IL)**

Arlene cares for the botanical art collection at the Sterling Morton Library. She enjoys providing art for use as teaching aids in the Arboretum's Certificate Program in Botanical Art and Illustration where she is both a graduate of the program and an instructor. She is a member and past board member of the Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum.

**Carol Woodin (NY)**

For more than 20 years Carol has been painting plants. She is internationally known for her work with orchids. Her art is in the collections of the Hunt Institute; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Dr. Shirley Sherwood, and Isaac & Alisa Sutton. She is the Director of Exhibitions for ASBA.