

Images Available Upon Request

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Wave Hill and ASBA Partner to Present Botanical Art

American Society of Botanical Artists returns to Wave Hill for 23rd Annual International of Botanical Art

September 5–December 6, 2020



Gaye Grossman, *Morning Glory Frieze*, 2019. Watercolor on paper 19 x 38. Courtesy of the artist

Bronx, NY, August 19, 2020—In this time of uncertainty, after many months closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is heartening to reopen Glyndor Gallery to the public with the 23rd Annual International in collaboration with the American Society for Botanical Artists. The artworks on view collectively speak to nature's resiliency and celebrate botanical art amidst the rich diversity of plants in Wave Hill's gardens. ASBA Exhibitions Committee member Patricia Jonas, also on Wave Hill's Friends of Horticulture Committee, explains, "We are pleased to continue our partnership and return to Wave Hill where the gloriously creative horticulture has inspired artists as much as gardeners."

The jurors, Ken Druse, garden lecturer, author and photographer; Karen Kluglein, botanical artist and instructor; and Eileen Jeng Lynch, Curator of Visual Arts at Wave Hill, have selected an outstanding group that includes a mix of seasoned and new artists. More than half are participating in their first ASBA Annual International. There are 46 artists in the exhibition, 25 of whom are showing at Wave Hill for the first time. It is a testimony to Wave Hill's fruitful partnership with ASBA that during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic the garden can host an exhibition that features artwork from a variety of US states and other countries, including Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Korea, Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Some of the works on show, such as *Autumn Pond's Edge* by Mary Crabtree, express a

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pervasive autumnal sensibility. A fascination with, and depiction of, the process of decay suggest impermanence. Jane Fisher's keen sense of composition posits the negative space of the American basswood leaf, perhaps eaten away by caterpillars or beetles. These depictions evoke the experience of a seasonal walk at Wave Hill or any neighborhood green space.



Left to right: John Pastoriza Pinol, *Pomegranate*, 2019. Watercolor on paper, 23-1/2 x 17-3/4. Courtesy of the artist. Mary Crabtree, *Autumn at Pond's Edge*, 2020. Colored pencil on paper, 24 x 18. Courtesy of the artist. Ingrid Finnan, *Fan-Leaved Boophone*, 2020. Oil on paper, 19-1/2 x 19-1/2. Courtesy of the artist.

In other works, such as John Pastoriza Pinol's *Pomegranate*, Liz Shippam's *Blackthorn* and Robin Moore's *Red Warty Thing Squash Blossom*, a profound sense of abundance creates a feeling of hope. Across the range of work in the show are vivid appeals to our senses, including taste, smell and touch. Inherent change is rendered in Suan Tomlinson's *The Evolution of Cotton*, which depicts the various stages of ripening cotton. *Evie Silk Tassel Bush* by Sally Petru celebrates exuberance.

Some plants rendered in the artworks can be spotted in Wave Hill's gardens and woodlands. Ingrid Finnan features the fan-leaved boophone (*Boophone disticha*), for instance, which is prominently located at the top of the steps leading to the Alpine House. This work also graces the catalogue cover. The catalogue includes full-page, color illustrations of each artwork, an essay by Wave Hill Senior Curator Jennifer McGregor and background on the artists. In her catalogue essay, Jennifer McGregor notes:

"There is something tangible and encouraging about botanical art that generates a sense of wonder. Hunkered down in our homes since March, this has been a time of introspection for many, as we connect to others virtually and seek out the inspiration of nature in our neighborhoods. Now that visitors can see the works in person at Wave Hill, we welcome the opportunity to marvel at the inspired depictions of these individual plants, as seen through the eyes of such attentive and sympathetic artists."

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This exhibition is organized by Carol Woodin, Director of Exhibitions at the American Society of Botanical Artists; Jennifer McGregor, Senior Director of Arts, Education and Programs at Wave Hill; and Eileen Jeng Lynch, Wave Hill's Curator of Visual Arts.

Artists in the show Seongweon Ahn, Claudia Campazzo, Mary Crabtree, Jessica Daigle, Charity Dakin, Monika De Vries Gohlke, Jean Emmons, Ingrid Finnan, Jane Fisher, Pat Giancontieri, Elaine Goldstone, Heather Gross, Gaye Grossman, Olga Gudzera, Jane Hancock, Andreas Heintrich, Asuka Hishiki, Wendy Hollender, Patricia Luppino, Lucy Martin, Tammy McEntee, Inma Medina, Robin Moore, Terri Munroe, Keiko Nibu Tarver, John Pastoriza Piñol, Sally Petru, Sengmany Phommachakr, Cristine Piane, Debra Pinciotti, Verena Redmann, Jeanne Reiner, Cynthia Rice, Besty Rogers-Knox, Olga Ryabtsova, Lizzie Sanders, Contance Scanlon, Kathy Schermer-Gramm, Meryl Sheetz, Liz Shippam, Susan Tomlinson, Yuan Yuan Wang, Esmée Winkel, Carol Woodin, Kiyomi Yamamoto, Natalia Zueva and exhibition juror Karen Kluglein.

To enable a broader reach beyond the gallery, virtual programs will be hosted through Wave Hill's Branching Out initiative. Check wavehill.org for dates, registration and additional information. Among the events scheduled are:

- A virtual exhibition tour with Pat Jonas and Carol Woodin of the ASBA and Eileen Jeng Lynch and Jennifer McGregor of Wave Hill, available online during the exhibition
- An intensive, online class with ASBA exhibition juror Karen Kluglein
- Virtual studio visits in far-off lands in Australia with John Pastoriza Pinol and in England with Liz Shippam



The American Society of Botanical Artists has more than 1,800 members from the United States and 35 other countries around the world. Its mission is to provide a thriving, interactive community dedicated to perpetuating the tradition and contemporary practice of botanical art. asba-art.org.



Wave Hill is a public garden and cultural center in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. Its mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and Landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts. Wavehill.org.

Wave Hill

Support for the Visual Arts Program is provided by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; the National Endowment for the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York Community Trust Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; The Pollock-Krasner Foundation; and by the Cathy and Stephen Weinroth Commissioning Fund for the Arts. The City of New York owns the buildings and grounds of Wave Hill. Wave Hill's operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the Zoos; Botanical Gardens and Aquariums Grant Program administered by the New York State Office of Parks; Recreation and Historic Preservation; the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

