

The 14th Annual
Blanche Ames National Art Exhibition
2017

Theresa Ganz - Juror



September 12th - September 30th

The Ames Mansion Museum at Borderland State Park
257 Massapoag Avenue, North Easton, MA 02356

curators' statement

The 2017 Blanche Ames National marks the fourteenth year the Friends of Borderland have sponsored and organized this event. Originally established as a regional competition open to artists from Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine it transitioned into a national show in 2005. This year four hundred and fifty entries were drawn from twenty seven states.

For Norma and me, curating this exhibition has been looked upon as a very special privilege that allows us the opportunity to personally discover the incredible talent and diversity of art making within our own community and throughout the United States. One of our primary goals has always been to bring forth all of this talent and showcase it in a publicly accessible venue in a way in which it both celebrates the artistic community and pays tribute to the memory of the show's namesake, Blanche Ames.

Our goal would not be reached without Theresa Ganz, Assistant Professor, Brown University, this year's judge. Her careful and thoughtful reviewing of every entry has brought together this diverse, beautiful and compelling collection of artwork. Thank you, Theresa.

Congratulations to all the selected artists. We thank them for allowing us to present an exhibition of quality, innovation and diversity and wish them the best in continuing their art making.

We also extend a heartfelt thank you to every artist who entered but whose work was not selected. This exhibition would not be possible without you. The artwork you submitted was an honor to view and it is always difficult for us to see so many pieces not selected because of our limited exhibition space.

Lastly, we hope that all those who come through our doors and view the artwork of this exhibition will be as enriched as we have been and will leave with a greater appreciation and understanding of art.



Norma Urban & Robert Bendt

juror's statement

It was a pleasure and an honor to be selected as the juror for the Blanche Ames National Art Exhibition, 2017. It was my first visit to Borderland and I hope to be back many times. Sitting in the dimly lit old library, surrounded by leather covered books and souvenirs from long past adventures, I could not help but select works that seemed to be in conversation with the place - though of course some works fell outside this rubric and I could not ignore them.

Filtering over 400 works down to 45 was a true challenge, not the least because I am often the recipient of rejection letters. I felt for each one of the artists who I had to set aside for the good of a cohesive whole, often recognizing great merit in those works.

The works I selected were those that surprised me, that had equal parts imagination and commitment to the craft, that did not offer simple answers but engaged the viewer's curiosity. As I was selecting, I always had in mind that this was not just an art "competition" but a curatorial venture. In a big group show, the greatest challenge is for the works to support each other aesthetically so that it does not become a visual cacophony for the viewer. Visual themes of organic forms, undulating lines and media such as works on paper, collage, photography are recurrent. For the most part the works engage not so much in realism, but reverie. Sometimes reality persists in the form of a day-dream, sometimes the work is fully fantastical and other times the work exists as pure abstract form.



Among the Botanical submissions, as a non-expert in the form I chose the ones that had clear technical ability and also an unusual vision - drawing my eye to the forest floor or the end of a flower's bloom, or the graphic possibilities of stems and tendrils piled on top of each other.

I want to thank Norma Urban and Robert Bendt for inviting me. I saw first hand what an enormous task it is to organize the submissions and care for the works when they are delivered, let alone hang the show itself. As artists themselves, the work they do supporting other artists is truly admirable.

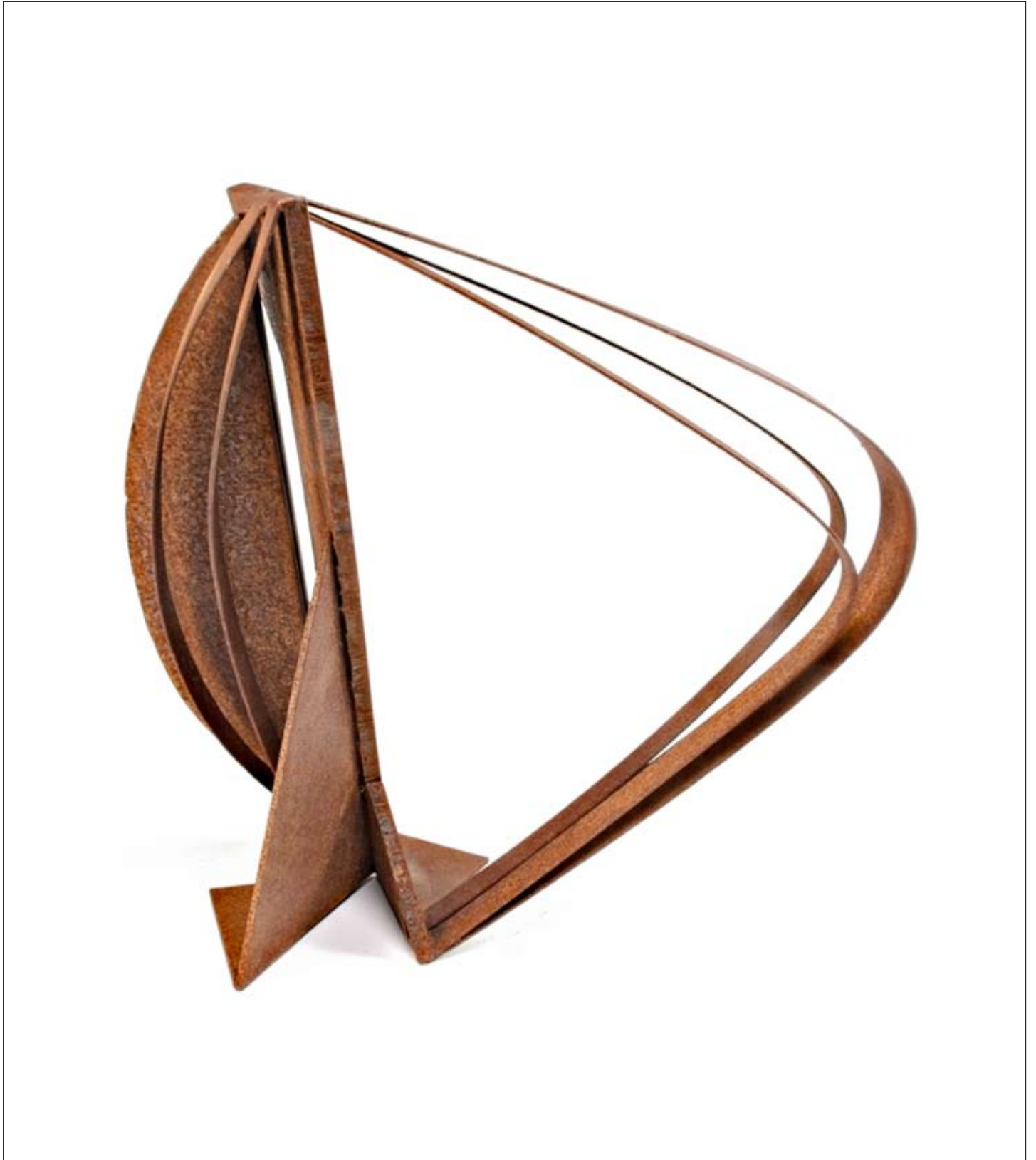
Theresa Ganz

Assistant Professor, Brown University,
Co-Director of Regina Rex, New York



Mary Spitzer - First Place
My Cabin My Self

The Artwork



Douglass Gray- Second Place
Returnings



Louise Laplante - Third Place
Bird Logic 2017



Terry Gipps - Honorable Mention
Source/Awakening (Gracilaria Algae)



Jeremy Hetherington - Honorable Mention
Journal Entry #26, Crossing



Ted Ollier - Honorable Mention
Graphic Panama Canal



Mary Phillips

Mario Before the Christian Door



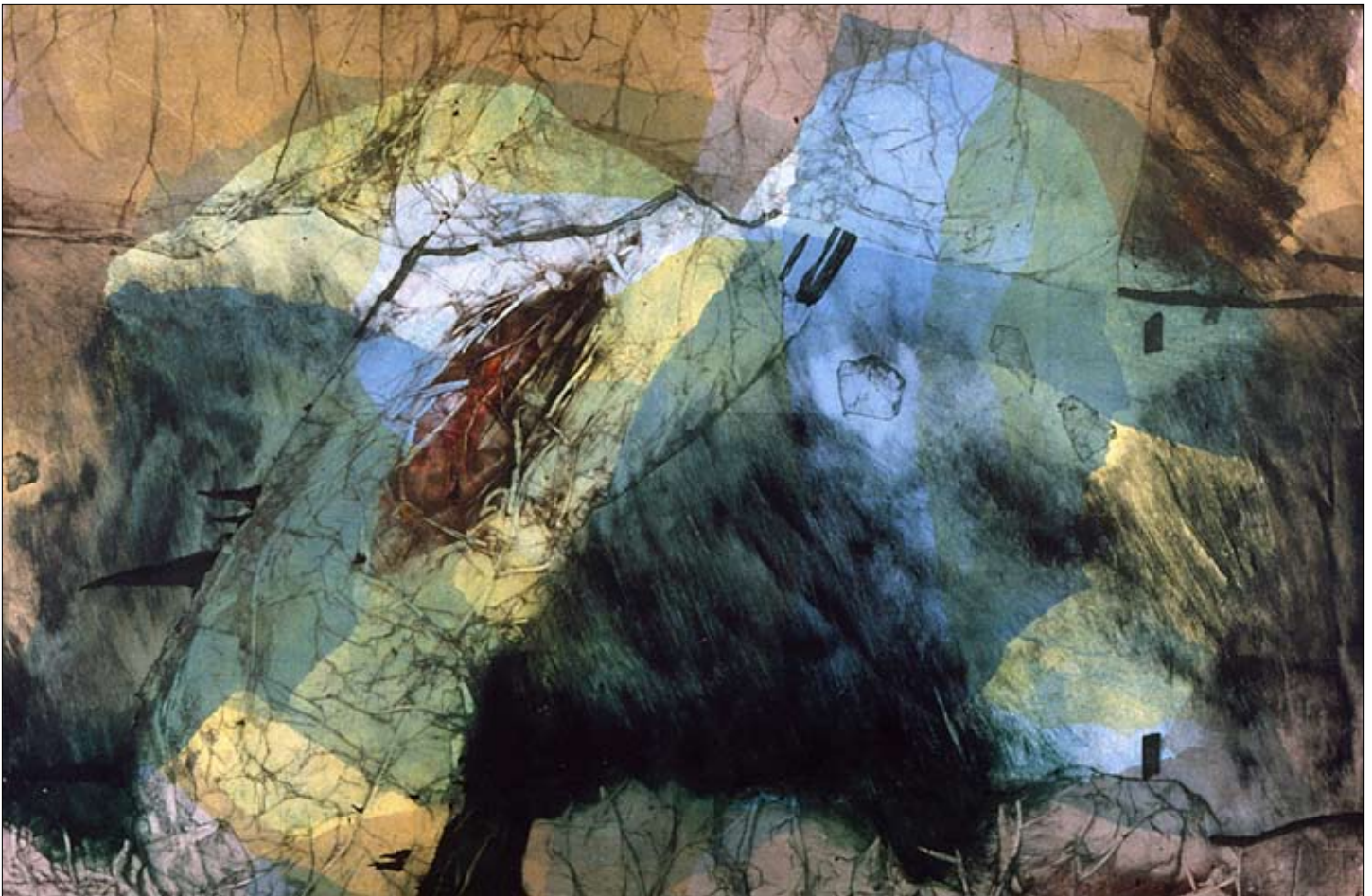
Nan Salky
Springloaded



Louise Laplante
Juvenile Reader 2017



Bob Kephart
Sculpture in the Round



John Avakian
Nature's Awesomeness



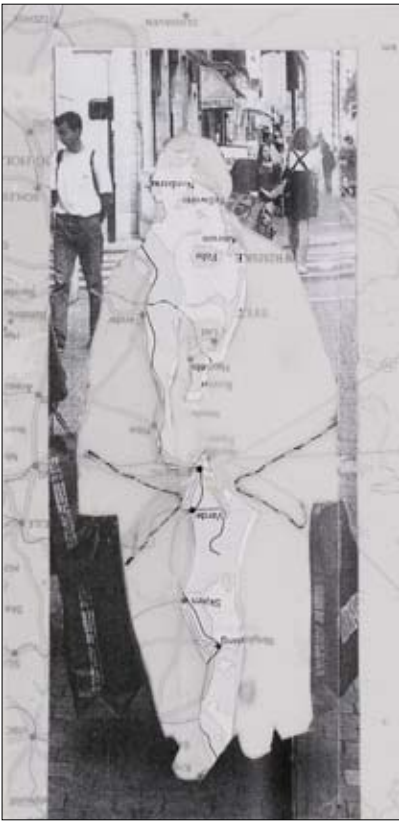
Tim McCourt
Cells #2



Douglass Gray
79 Degrees



Adrienne Der Marderosian
Migration



Adrienne Der Marderosian
Passage No. 2



Adrienne Der Marderosian
Traces of Memory No. 3



Scott Rhoades
Birch



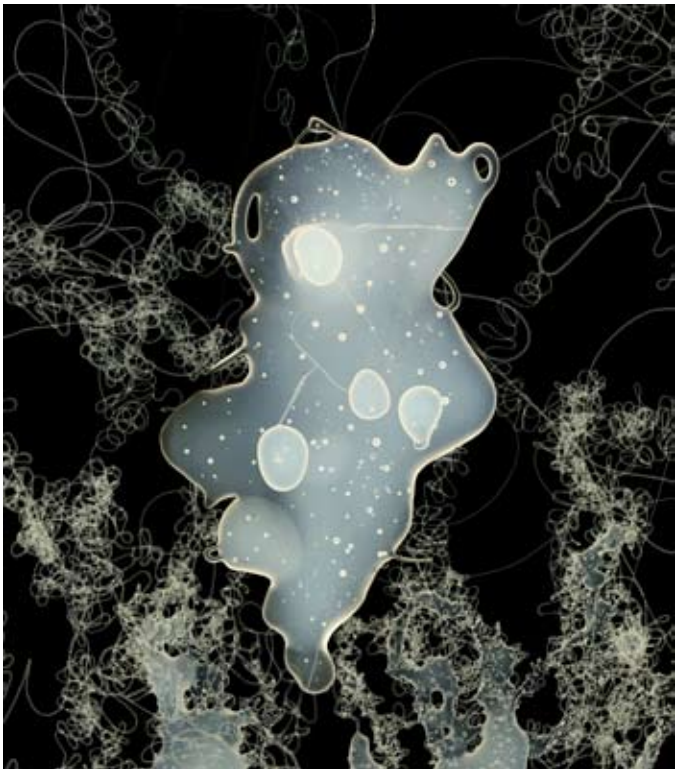
Elizabeth Lilly
Afloat IV



Stephanie Roberts-Camello
Divided Nation



Constance Jacobson
Reticulum



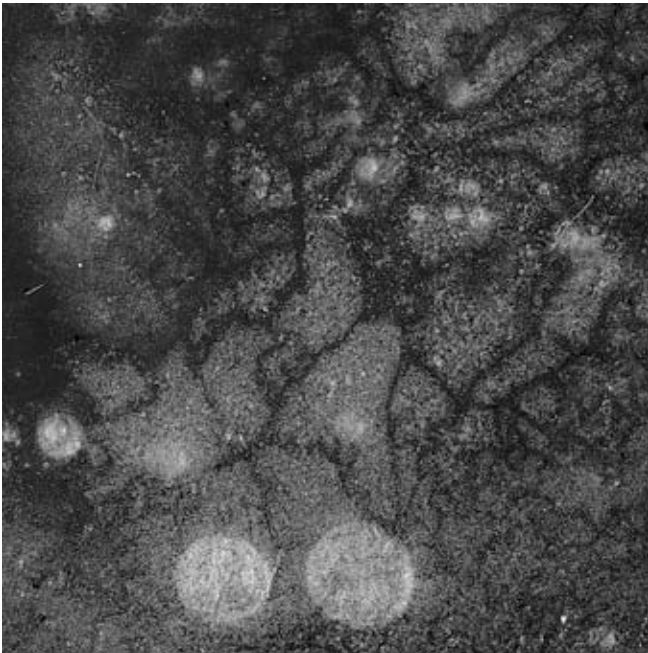
Constance Jacobson
Amoeboid



Louise Laplante
Ancient, Original, Modern Fables & Hares 2016



Alice Merlone
Outer Banks Cactus



Robert Beauvais
Oxygenated Ice



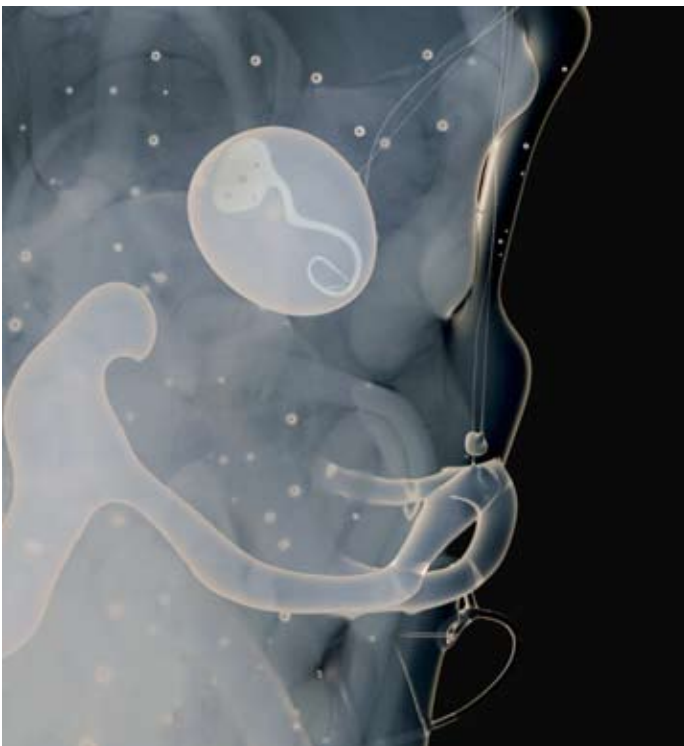
Hannah Jeong
Their Every Single Day



Jeremy Hetherington
Journal Entry #20, Extreme Vetting 2017



Jeremy Hetherington
Journal Entry #21, Metempsychosis 2017



Constance Jacobson
Ontogenesis



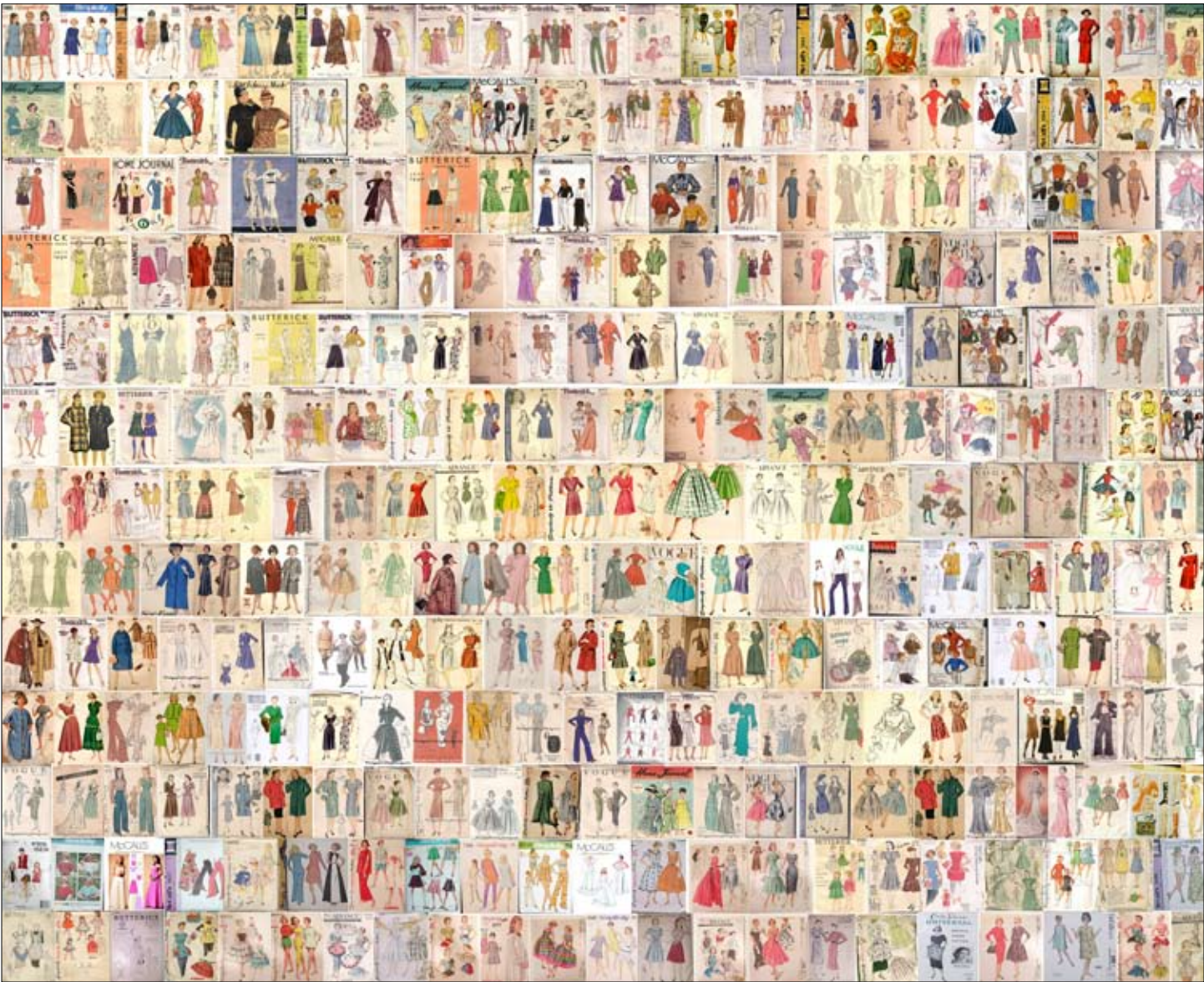
Ted Ollier
Graphic Kerguelen Archipelago



Jeffrey Neumann
Red Ball Cafe



Kara Dunne
A Trailer is a Castle on Its Side



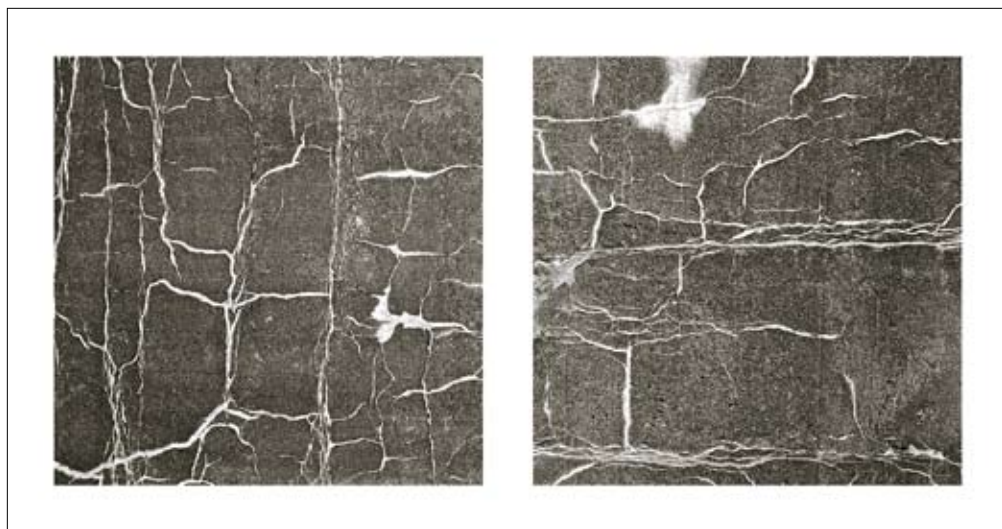
Kara Dunne
Fashionism



Kara Dunne
It was Nice While It Lasted



Robert Beauvais
Breathe Easy



Robin MacDonald-Foley
Patterns in Nature #4 - The Road Narrows



Elizabeth Lilly
Floating Garden



Scott Rhoades
Sound of the Wild



Matthew Joshua Knisley
Aboreal



William Scully
Water Lily Study #20



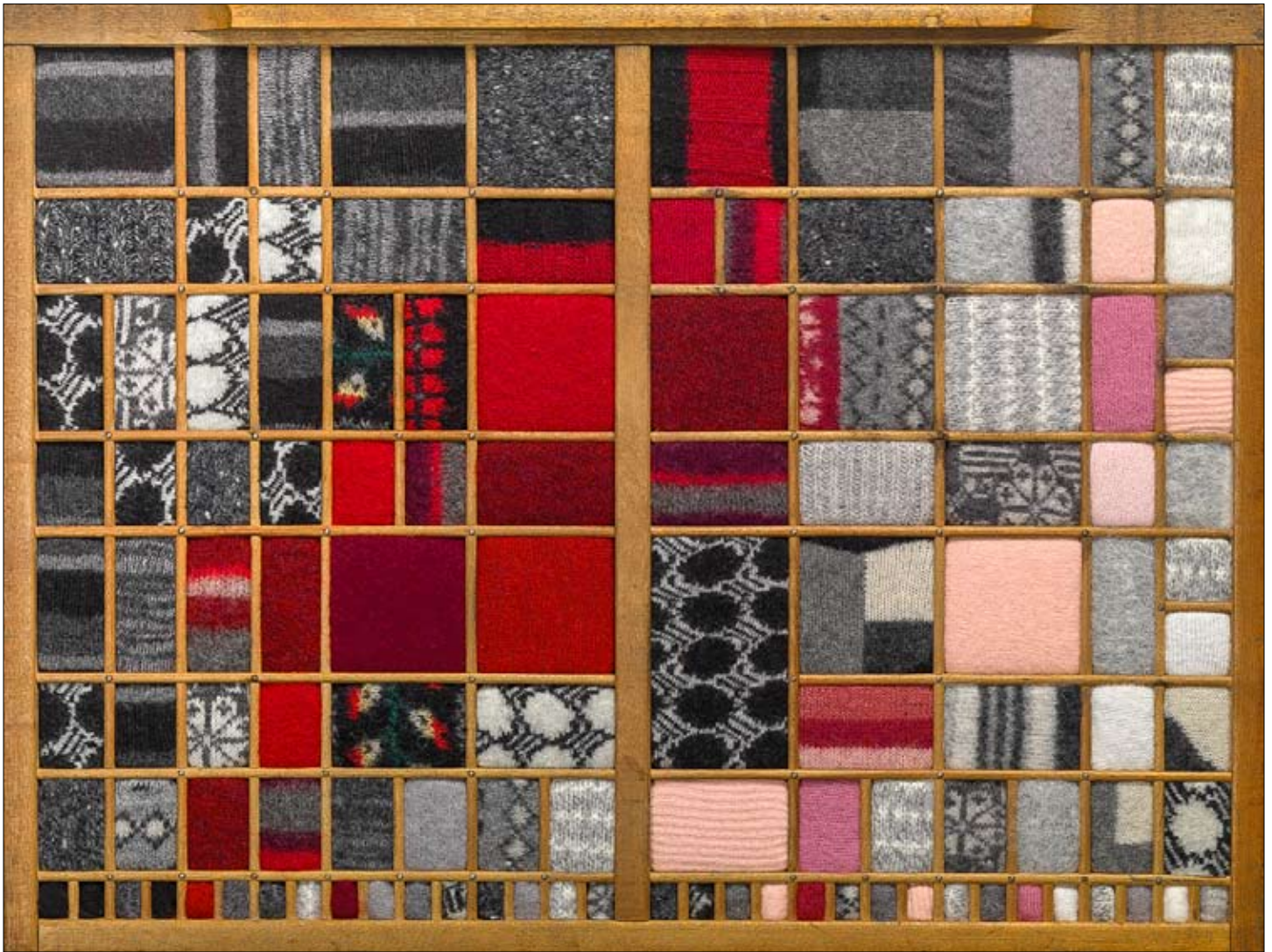
William Scully
Water Lily Study No. 18



Kathleen Kneeland
Pigeonholed

Mary N. Hurwitz
Refuge





Nan Salky
Dusk



Paul Eric Johnson
Maria's - Boston Color Series



Kathe Gregory
Circle Sisters

Botanicals



Ingrid Finnan - The Oakes Ames Botanical Award, First Place
Sweet Peas



Kathy Folino - Honorable Mention
Rose Library Page



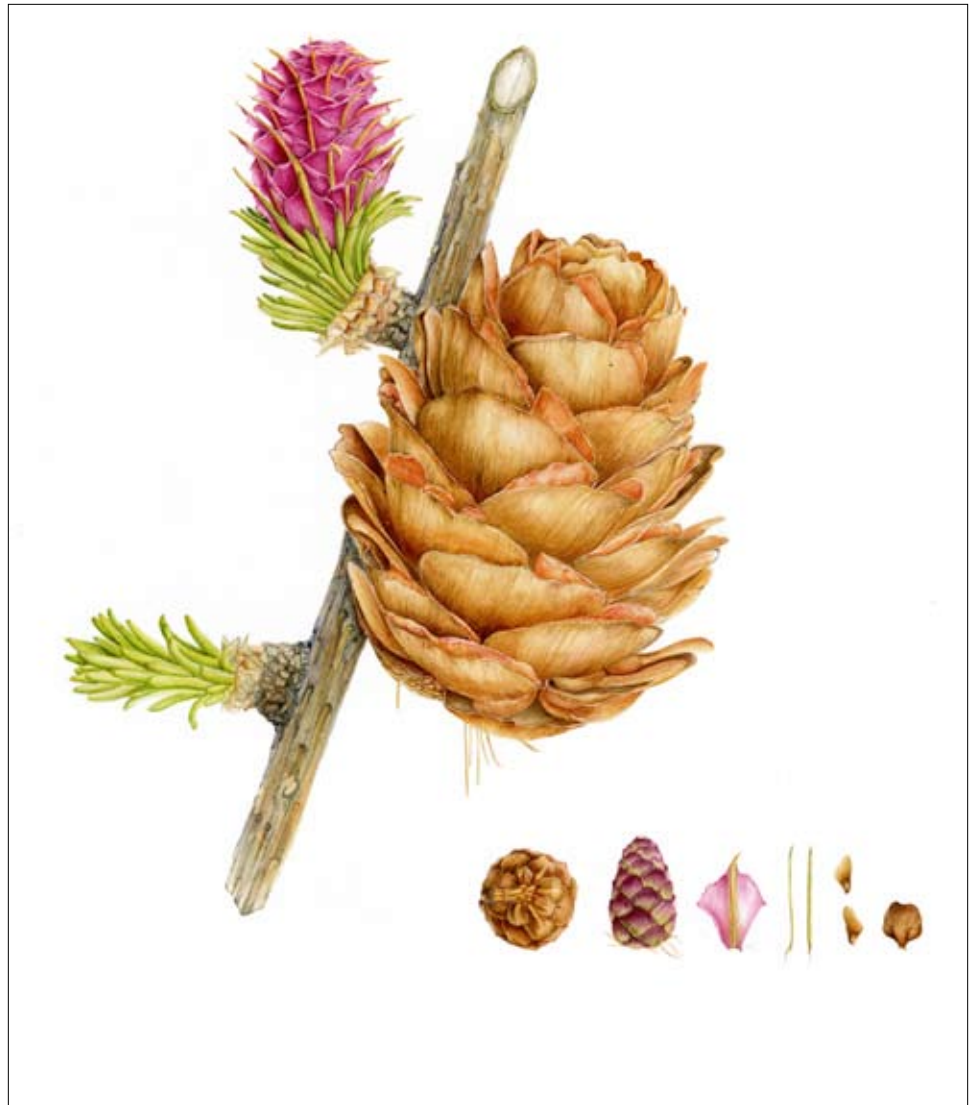
Regina Gardner Milan
Amaryllis



Maria Bablyak
Blue Columbine and a Bluebird



Sue Neff
3 Stages of Beach Plums



Regina Gardner Milan
Larch, Arnold Arboretum



Janet DeLonga
Malus spp. (Crabapple)



Ingrid Finnan
Breakfast Radishes



Kay Kopper
Wintergreen Gaultheria procumbens



Doris Sheils
Sunflower - Helianthus annuus "Choco Sun"



Michelle Jean Clifford
Phalaenopsis - Moth Orchid



Janet DeLonga
Fagus grandifolia (Beech Branch)

exhibiting artists BANJAE 2017

John Avakian

Sharon, MA

Nature's Awesomeness

Monoprint
36" x 49"

Robert Beauvais

Danvers, MA

Breathe Easy

Photography
16" x 16"

Oxygenated Ice

Photography
16" x 16"

Adrienne Der Marderosian

Belmont, MA

Migration

Collage
12" x 9"

Passage No. 2

Collage
12 3/4" x 9 3/16"

Traces of Memory No. 3

Collage
12 5/8" x 9 1/4"

Kara Dunne

Swansea, MA

Fashionism

Digital Print
60" x 60"

A Trailer is a Castle on Its Side

Graphite/Watercolor Pencil
16" x 20"

It was Nice While It Lasted

Graphite/Watercolor Pencil
40" x 34"

Terry Gips

New Bedford, MA

Source/Awakening (Gracilaria Algae)

Archival Pigment Prints
54" x 48"

Douglass Gray

Plymouth, MA

79 Degrees

Steel Sculpture
48" x 36" x 48"

Returnings

Steel Sculpture
22" x 22" x 18"

Kathe Gregory

Somerville, MA

Circle Sisters

Colored Pencil Enhanced Photo of
Sculpture Made of Found Objects
34" x 24" x 3/4"

Jeremy Hetherington

Somerville, MA

Journal Entry #20, Extreme Vetting 2017

Collage on Archival Paper
14" x 11"

Journal Entry #21, Metempsychosis 2017

Collage on Archival Paper
14" x 11"

Journal Entry #26, Crossing 2017

Collage on Archival Paper
14" x 11"

Mary Hurwitz

Dartmouth, MA

Refuge

Collage Relief Photocopied Paper of
Dead Lily Leaves
33" x 17 1/4" x 2"

Constance Jacobson

Boston, MA

Ontogenesis

Glue Gun Drawing scanned
Digital Pigment Print
16 5/16" x 15"

Reticulum

Glue Gun Drawing scanned
Digital Pigment Print
16" x 15"

Amoeboid

Glue Gun Drawing scanned
Digital Pigment Print
24" x 20"

Hannah Jeong

Aurora, OH

Their Every Single Day

Paper, Lettering, Acrylic Paint, Epoxy
24" x 24"

Paul Eric Johnson

Stafford Springs, CT

Maria's-Boston Color Series

Archival Pigment Print
19" x 26"

Bob Kephart

Braintree, MA

Sculpture in the Round

Metal, Wood, Electronics
8" x 16" x 3"

Kathleen Kneeland

Boston, MA

Pigeonholed

Hubcap, Pigeon Spikes, Canvas,
Acrylic Paint, Wire, String
22" x 19 1/2" x 2"

Matthew Joshua Knisley

Corfu, NY

Arboreal

Ink on Paper
7 1/8" x 5"

Louise Laplante

Easthampton, MA

Ancient, Original, Modern Fables & Hares 2016

Chalk on Vintage Collaged Book Pages
60" x 32"

Juvenile Reader 2017

Chalk on Vintage Collaged Book Pages
40" x 26"

Bird Logic 2017

Chalk on Vintage Collaged Book Pages
40" x 26"

Elizabeth Lilly

Hull, MA

Floating Garden

Monotype on Handmade Paper,
Ink, Driftwood
38" x 14" x 14"

Afloat IV

Monotype Black Ink Drawing, Glass,
Float Ball, Cotton Thread
16" x 12" x 12"

exhibiting artists BANJAE 2017

Robin MacDonald-Foley

Stoughton, MA

Patterns in Nature #4 - The Road Narrows

Archival Inkjet Print

15" x 25 1/2" Diptych

Tim McCourt

Mississippi State, MS

Cells #2

Color Pencil, Encaustic on Museum Board

15" x 16"

Alice Merlone

Hamden, CT

Outer Banks Cactus

Monoprint/Litho

23 1/2" x 29"

Jeffrey Neumann

Copake, NY

Red Ball Café

Watercolor

22" x 30"

Ted Ollier

Medford, MA

Graphic Panama Canal

Shaped Plate Relief

22" x 22"

Graphic Kerguelen Archipelago

Shaped Plate Relief

22" x 22"

Mary Phillips

New Boston, NH

Mario Before the Christian Door

Oil on Linen

24" x 20"

Scott Rhoades

Storrs, CT

Birch

Acrylic on Panel

13" x 10"

Sound of the Wild

Acrylic on Panel

14" x 11"

Stephanie Roberts-Camello

Pembroke, MA

Divided Nation

Encaustic Relief over Mixed Media on Panel

16" x 24" x 4 1/2"

Nan Salky

Amherst, MA

Springloaded

Assemblage - Felt Sweaters, Printer's Case, Buttons

27 3/4" x 17 1/4" x 2"

Dusk

Felt Sweaters, Antique Printer's Case

17" x 22" x 2"

William Scully

Jamaica Plain, MA

Water Lily Study No. 18

Underwater Photography

26" x 19"

Water Lily Study No. 20

Underwater Photography

26" x 19"

Mary Spitzer

Marblehead, MA

My Cabin My Self

Carved Wood

5' 6" x 30" x 30"

BOTANICALS

Maria Bablyak

Woburn, MA

Blue Columbine and a Bluebird

Pencil, Ink, Watercolor on Paper

24" x 18"

Michelle Jean Clifford

East Bridgewater, MA

Phalaenopsis - Moth Orchid

Watercolor

20" x 16"

Janet DeLonga

Holbrook, MA

Fagus grandifolia (Beech Branch)

Watercolor

18" x 33"

Malus spp. (Crabapple)

Watercolor

15" x 34"

Ingrid Finnan

Bronx, NY

Sweet Peas

Oil on Paper

15" x 19"

Breakfast Radishes

Oil on Paper

7 1/2" x 11"

Kathy Folino

Rockland, MA

Rose Library Page

Watercolor on Paper

11 1/2" x 15 1/2"

Regina Gardner Milan

Brewster, MA

Larch, Arnold Arboretum

Watercolor and Graphite

12" x 18"

Amaryllis

Watercolor and Graphite

12" x 18"

Kay Kopper

Pembroke, MA

Wintergreen Gaultheria procumbens

Watercolor

21" x 18"

Sue Neff

East Sandwich, MA

3 Stages of Beach Plums

Watercolor

20" x 16"

Doris Sheils

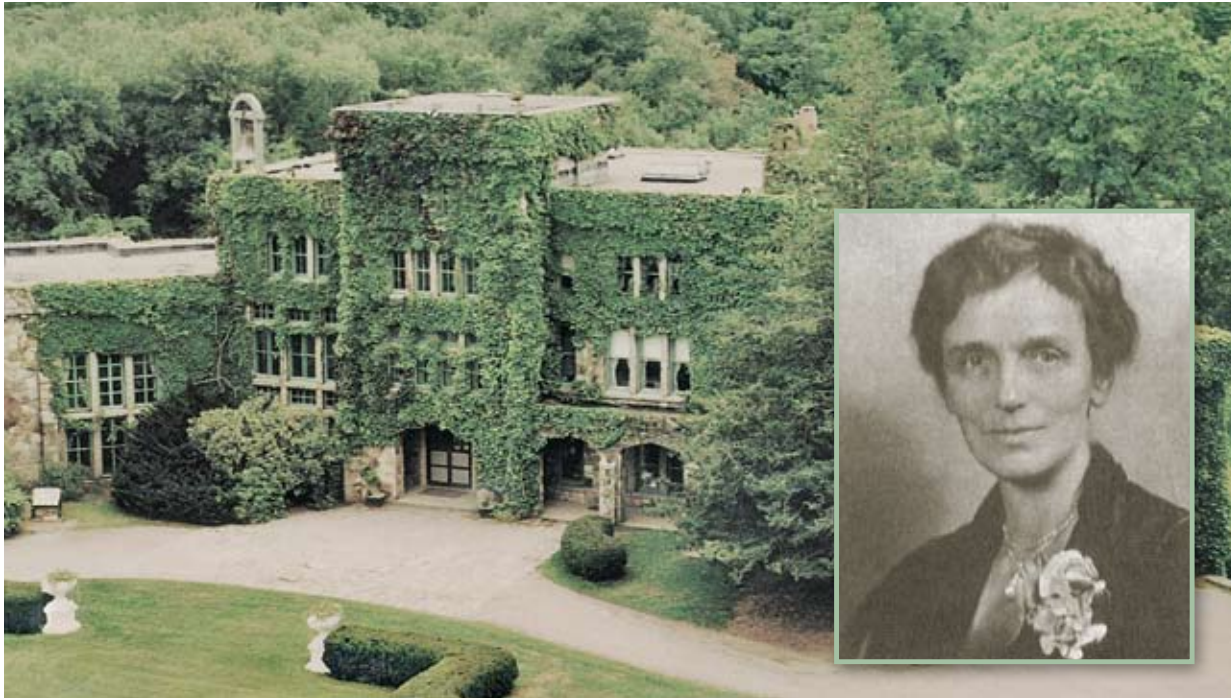
Woburn, MA

Sunflower - Helianthus annuus

"Choco Sun"

Watercolor

14" x 11"



Blanche Ames (1878-1969) was an artist and an illustrator who worked in oils, pen and ink and watercolor. Her paintings and drawings are displayed throughout the Ames Mansion Museum at Borderland, the country estate where she lived with her husband Oakes and their four children.



The exhibition, throughout its history has been made available to the general public free of charge. The curating and facilitating of the show has remained a volunteer effort through the financial sponsorship of Friends of Borderland, Inc., the entry fees paid by the artists, and generous grants and private donations from several sources. We at The Blanche Ames National Art Exhibition would like say Thank You to:

The Avery Lee Williams Family Trust

North Easton Savings Bank, Bank of Easton and Dedham Savings Bank.

We also say Thank You to Briggs Nursery, Brookdale Fitness, Oakes Plimpton,

Sarah Plimpton and Oliver Ames for providing the donations funding

The Oakes Ames Botanical Award

The Blanche Ames National Art Exhibition is presented and maintained by the Friends of Borderland and

dcr  Department of Conservation and Recreation