

# *Fabulous Florals and Fine Art*

Open to view Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
Virtual Exhibit at [pablocenter.org](http://pablocenter.org)

It has been a long, cold winter and we deserve flowers-lots of flowers. Luckily for you, we have just what you need to get you through the ice and snow. Fabulous Florals & Fine Arts pairs selected original artwork with floral arrangements. The artwork is selected based on its original concept and professional appearance, but the first consideration is this; will it pose a challenge to a floral designer? After the artwork has been selected, it is randomly paired with a local florist. The florist then is given the task of interpreting the artwork with a floral arrangement. Some interpretations are literal, some are loose, all are one-of-a-kind fabulous!

The warmth is on its way, and so are the flowers!

## **ROSE DOLAN-NEILL, CURATOR**

### *Visual & Literary*

It has been a long, cold winter and we deserve flowers-lots of flowers. Luckily for you, we have just what you need to get you through the ice and snow. It's been a challenging year, and like so many other events and exhibits, we've had to re-imagine what Fabulous Florals looks like for this season. Since we all can't be in the same space, "ooo-ing" and "ahhh-ing" over the art and enjoying the flowers, we'll have to imagine the warm and inviting James Hansen Gallery overflowing with people and color and fragrances. We know that times have been tough financially for many people and small businesses and that flowers can be very expensive. You'll notice in this exhibit that some of the images are sketches or mock ups of floral designs. We wanted to be as inclusive as possible for this year's exhibit, and some of our designers came up with some very imaginative ways to express themselves. We've also incorporated images of past Fabulous Florals exhibits as an added bonus.

Many have wondered how we create this unique experience. We send out an open call for artists and florists in our community. The artwork is selected based on its original concept and professional appearance, but the first consideration is this; will it pose a challenge to a floral designer? After the artwork has been selected, it is randomly paired with a local florist. The florist then is given the task of interpreting the artwork with a floral arrangement. Some interpretations are literal, some are loose, all are one-of-a-kind fabulous!

In lieu of entering our gallery space, we encourage you to visit one of the following past participating floral shops:

[4 Seasons Floral](#)

[Aroma Florist](#)

[Avalon Floral SO](#)

[Brent Douglas Flowers](#)

[Christensen Florist and Greenhouses](#)

[Lakeview Floral and Gifts](#)

Many of these wonderful local businesses display art, and, of course, their floral arrangements are art. The warmth is on its way, and so are the flowers!

If you are interested in participating in next year's Fabulous Florals & Fine Art please send your contact information to [rose@pablocenter.org](mailto:rose@pablocenter.org).

Through the viewing of art in our virtual exhibits on our website, we can all have a common experience. We can gain an understanding of our community and our humanity by scrolling through the images of artworks that have been created by our region's top artistic minds. We can reach audiences from across the world and those communities close to home that might not get to come into Pablo Center that often. Please be sure to read through the artistic statements and biographies of the artists on display, these words will add to the enjoyment and appreciation of the artwork and may give you further reason to purchase a work of art from Pablo Center. Who knows, it may even inspire you to take the next steps in your creative endeavor.

## **ARTIST STATEMENTS & BIOGRAPHIES**

Statements and biographies are written by the individual artists and are published with their permission. The views expressed are their own. All artwork pricing is set by the artist and is non-negotiable and non-refundable. All artwork sales are by commission with Pablo Center at the Confluence. Your purchase supports our endeavors to present quality visual arts programming that is free and open to the public. Thank you.

# AMANDA BULGER

*Torn*

Digital Drawing mounted on panel | \$200

My artwork resonates with the lifework farming. My interactions with the world and my practice as an artist are shaped by my upbringing on my family's farm. Drawings and sculptures investigate relationships of labor, life cycles, growth and continuity as well as the people, tools, and systems that impact them. Recalling the rhythms of farm practice, I utilize strategies of repetition to focus on what is revealed in subtle variation. Exploring repetitive labor practices, I examine bodies, materials, and landscapes as well as inquire into its sustainability. Is this life work sustainable? Are these practices sustainable? Who will last longer—the tool, the tool operator, the landscape?

Floral Interpretation by

Jennifer Dahl

*This is Jennifer's second year creating for Fabulous Florals & Fine Art.*

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

## KAY BRATHOL-HOSTVET

*Tall Coffee*

\$500

For three decades, my primary creative focus has been the Midwestern rural landscape. My work in soft pastel has been described as Contemporary Regionalism—a celebration of the land, but with a modern aesthetic. The work in this show, *Tall Coffee*, is atypical for me—a still life—and yet it contains a tiny landscape within the piece. The entire composition was created from my own objects, including a tiny 2" x 3" pastel painting, recreated in the still life. The challenges of depicting shiny, reflective surfaces and realistic details are similar to what I do when working on the natural landscape. I hope the viewers question why certain objects have been included, and why I selected the distinct, limited palette.

Kay Brathol-Hostvet is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, with concentrations in drawing and painting. Her paintings and drawings are in corporate and private collections around the Midwest. Her pastels have been featured in *The Pastel Journal*, the Dane Arts (Dane County,

Wisconsin) annual poster and calendar, and her acrylic paintings are included in North Light Books, *AcrylicWorks 2: Radical Breakthroughs*. Kay has over three decades of experience as an exhibiting artist, and has been teaching workshops in drawing, design, pastel painting and acrylic painting for many years. She works from her home studio in Eau Claire and is represented by Riverwood Art and Frame in Eau Claire; Abel Contemporary Gallery in Paoli, Wisconsin; and Edgewood Orchard Galleries in Fish Creek, Wisconsin.

Floral Interpretation by

Jennifer Dahl

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**JENNIFER CASTELLANO**

*Untitled*

\$400

Contrast in nature is fascinating and is what continues to inspire my art. Whether it be form, color, pattern or texture, there are infinite ways in which natural elements interact. This interaction provokes my creative process. Jennifer Castellano is an Elementary Art Educator residing in the Chippewa Valley. Practicing and experimenting in a variety of different media, the common thread in her artwork is the exploration of form and texture inspired by nature.

Floral Interpretation by

Jennifer Dahl

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**LORI CHILEFONE**

*A Natural Outburst*

\$450

*A Natural Outburst* is a celebration of our interdependence with one another and our environment. This illustration was born out of a mycological study which to me revealed a

common thread between fungi's micro functions and humanities macro functions.

My passions are family, collaborating artistically, foraging for wild edibles, and partaking in the diverse offerings of Wisconsin's Chippewa and Red Cedar Valleys. I received my BFA in Graphic Design from College of Visual Arts (Saint Paul, MN) in 1992, and am currently freelance as a graphic artist and fine artist. [www.lorichilefone.com](http://www.lorichilefone.com).

Floral Interpretation by

Shaun Christensen

[Christensen Florist and Greenhouses](#)

## DENNIS CIESIELSKI

*In Between*

Sculpture: Butternut, Basswood, Sandstone, Brass, Fabric, Dye | \$250

We are familiar with the seasons of the year but when a season begins varies depending on the country we live in. In the United States we tend to use the Astronomical calendar with Spring being Mar. 19, Summer being Jun. 20, Fall being Sept. 22 and Winter being Dec. 2. Summer and Winter tend to be the dominating seasons though not so much by a date but more so by the weather. Summer brings true warmth with vacation from school, summer sports, mowing the grass and the need to turn on the air conditioning.

Winter brings true cold weather, the winter activities that need snow and snow to clear from the walkways and roads and football. But *In Between* we have the transition seasons Spring and Fall which introduces us to the coming Summer and Winter. Spring with the melting snow, warmer days, and the emerging early flowers such as crocus, daffodil, tulip, and hyacinth give us that relief from the stark whiteness of our neighborhood. Birds that left us last year to fly south begin to return. Insects that rely on the nectar of our flowers emerge. And true changing of the season begins. And after a Summer of heat and humidity we are ready for a change again. We now have the Fall chrysanthemum, aster, daisy and Russian sage to let us know that we will be facing another Winter. It is that time to slow down and prepare for the transition to the beauty of that first snow fall and then too much. Spring and Fall may be *In Between* Summer and Winter but they play that prominent role of the pleasure that they bring and help us ease into the season we face.

Professionally I am a retired Social Worker. I have been a woodworker for many decades

but in 2008, upon retirement, I turned to wood-turning and now focus primarily on turning vessels from wood, newsprint and fabric and sculptures. Besides bowls and vases I also create sculptural pieces from tree stumps and other material. Not all sculptural pieces are turned. I will embellish some pieces with metal and/or fiber and other objects that I see as being related to the base piece and perhaps a story to tell.

Floral Interpretation by

Jennifer Dahl

## **JUDY DEKAN**

*Evening Explosion*

Alcohol ink on yupo | \$200

Filled with curiosity, it is always exciting to experiment and see what effects may happen. Alcohol Inks allows for the unexpected in color and design. Much like the many design that can be found in our natural world if you choose to look for them.

Once an educator always an educator. No longer in the public school setting I continue to learn through reading, walks in nature and the many opportunities of life discoveries.

Floral Interpretation by

Cari Raynae Jacobson

Flowers provided by [Brent Douglas Flowers](#)

*This is Cari's third year creating for Fabulous Florals & Fine Art.*

## **MARY ELWORTHY**

*Dream Catcher*

Not for sale

Travel inspires my art and art I create takes me back to where I have traveled. I use my iPhone 8 to create a travel diary in photos while on trips and I constantly edit and evaluate the photos

I take. Dream Catcher is an example of watercolor pour technique. Though I have not traveled in outer space, I can imagine the earth from space and let my mind create a view of the earth.

Mary Elworthy retired from a 40-year teaching career in 2007 and started painting in watercolor in 2009, after taking a workshop from Drawn to the Word artist Paul Oman. Mary continues to take workshops offered both around the state and abroad and also paints in her studio, at the monthly Chippewa Valley Watercolor Artist meeting at Beaver Creek, at Karlyn's U of K workshops, workshops with Jean Accola, Paul Oman, Sterling Edwards, and with her Watercolor Wednesday painting group. Her work is displayed periodically at Beaver Creek, the Heyde in Chippewa, the Eau Claire County Courthouse, at the Altoona Library, on the Valley Art Association web site, and at her home. Mary does needle art - knitting and needlepoint, reads-especially Scandinavian Crime Fiction, travels, sings, acts with the Wayward Players, plays piano, dances with the Trinity Liturgical Dancers, and performs with the MJ Consort recorder group. Mary began teaching in 1967 and continued until 2007. During that time Mary taught choral and general music, English, private piano lessons and directed children and youth choirs. Mary has lived in Eau Claire since marrying her husband Ed in 1968 and together they enjoy spending time with their family and friends.

Floral Interpretation by

Nika Schwarz

[Brent Douglas Flowers](#)

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**NANCY ERICKSON-DUTMER**

*Lilly on Turtle*

Not for sale

I am an award-winning artist, and a 19-year resident of Chetek, Wisconsin, with a reputation as true local color. I am inspired by great works of art, nature, history and music. Geographic patterns with vivid color move me as much as a beautiful portrait. Inspiration fills my head at the sight of a pasture full of cows or a photo of the Taj Mahal. I am inspired by vintage photographs, mostly of women. As long as I can remember, I have loved the dancers in Toulouse-Lautrec's paintings, the photographs of beautiful Hollywood Starlets, Japanese Geisha, Gustav Klimt's Nouveau beauties and the Romantic Era's mermaids. Hence, my brain is immersed with unfinished art projects.

Scarlet Lake: Art of Many Mediums is my company name, as I create art using several mediums and techniques. I paint in acrylics and oils rendering portraits and landscapes, (vintage Circus, being my favorite subject!). One of my art series encompasses oil portraits focused to inspire global awareness with my International Santa collection. Another being my 1960's Fashion and Fame collection painted with fabric, embellished with bead embroidery, encrusting the painted fabric with beads and jewelry. My preferred mediums vary oil, acrylic and fabric paints, beading, drawing, animal skull decoration, construction and found object conglomerations.

Floral Interpretation by

Lana Ciolkosz

[Aroma Florist](#)

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**LYNN HOBART**

*Figure with Leaf in her Hair*

\$400

If you watch for it, inspiration comes in many ways. A face at a local bar, some leaves near a pond, an unbelievably sunny afternoon. Keep working until it seems finished. It's wonderful if the work pleases the viewer, but not necessary when one is 68.

Born and raised in Milwaukee and educated at UW-Milwaukee, I was heavily influenced by Joseph Freibert and Tom Uhecht. During my many years teaching art in La Crosse, I continued to paint and draw, exhibiting locally and staying involved with a group of very supportive women artists.

Floral Interpretation by

Sadie Hamill and Sarah French

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

## STEVE IMMERMAN

*Treeline II*

\$1195

My glass art is abstract and is usually composed of rigid geometry – but the geometry often surrounds, or is juxtaposed with, organic and chaotic design elements, representing the uncertainty within and around us. Beauty, color and balance are important elements in my artwork, and enjoyment of the act of making these pieces is a goal in itself.

Steve Immerman is both a practicing general surgeon and glass artist. Kilnformed art glass has been his passion for twenty-five years, yet through those years, he has managed to navigate the delicate balance between art and medicine. His artwork is based on precision and technical skill - yet with some unpredictability and surprises - not unlike A surgeon's career. Immerman's work is available in selected galleries throughout the United States.

Floral Interpretation by

Jake Lindgren

[Avalon Floral SO](#)

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

## BETH PECK

*Val in Profile*

Not for sale

Beth Peck illustrated children's books for 30 years and taught figure drawing at UWEC as an adjunct professor. Beth attended graduate school at MCAD.

Floral Interpretation by

Brent Stelzer

[Brent Douglas Flowers](#)

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

## CV PETERSON

*Landscape XIII*

\$700

CV Peterson is a multidisciplinary artist residing in Eau Claire, WI. Their work combines scientific exploration and art as a way to examine environmental devastation. They have shown at the Chicago Architecture Biennale 2015 and 2017, 6018 N Gallery in Chicago, the Shanghai Zhu Qizhan Art Museum in China and the CICA Museum in South Korea. They have performed at the Forward Fringe Performance Festival, Detroit, MI; Out of Site Chicago, Chicago, IL; The Performance Arcade, Wellington, New Zealand. CV Received their MFS ('16) and BFA ('14) from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and a BA ('10) from Gustavus Adolphus College in Japanese studies and studio art. They studied sumi-e painting at Kansai Gaidai University in Hirakata-shi, Japan; followed by an apprenticeship at Moeller Bronze, Ltd. In bronze foundry work. CV is an active member in the national and international art community, and they are the Founder of Envisage Art Retreat in Chippewa Falls, WI.

Floral Interpretation by

Cari Raynae Jacobson

## CARI RAYNAE JACOBSON

*Patterns*

Mixed Media | \$195

"Patterns" is a mixed-media piece. The main medium is watercolor, but it also contains bits of paintings made with acrylic paint on a Gelli-plate. It also borrows some paper from my large stash of scrapbooking papers. The name "Patterns" comes from the use of pattern tissue normally used to cut out fabric pieces to be sewn into clothing. Some things you might find in the patterns: A small heart, some shoes, and an old toy car.

My creative career started when I began designing and sewing clothing for myself in junior high school. I graduated Cum Laude from UW-Stout – 1978, in Interior Design. Now retired, I have more time for creating watercolors, acrylic paintings, collages, eco-dyed prints, and greeting cards. I grew up in Eau Claire, and now share a century-old farmhouse with my husband. We've enjoyed remodeling it one room at a time.

Floral Interpretation by

Cari Raynae Jacobson

## **RICK KOZIEL**

*Brown Bear and Salmon*

Photography on Canvas | \$200

My photographic interests are founded on my love of nature. For as long as I can remember I have been drawn to the environment and the mystery, magic and spirit of wild critters and places. Capturing fleeting moments in the natural world has become a passion... whether it's an "explosion" of a flock of red-winged blackbirds, a spectacular sunrise or a charging brown bear. I hope my images evoke an appreciation of the beauty and complexities of the natural world and inspire viewers to appreciate and preserve our natural wonders.

Aldo Leopold said, "There are some who can live without wild things, and some who cannot." I learned at a young age that I'm one who cannot. This love of the outdoors led me to a professional career as a naturalist and director of Beaver Creek Reserve for over 35 years. This allowed me to share my enthusiasm, passion and love for nature and wild things with others. I seriously developed an interest in photography in graduate school and now that I am retired, I'm finding more time to look through a lens and hike and paddle the woods and waters of Wisconsin and the rest of the country.

Floral Interpretation by

Judy Dekan

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

## **PATRICIA MAYHEW-HAMM**

*Rhythm and motion abstraction*

\$650

Nature has always been my inspiration, but I now choose to interpret it differently. Color is very important to me, second only to good composition. I also choose not to paint the landscape but the inspiration that it brings to me. I am not at all interested in depicting a perfect likeness of

nature. I did that many years ago, and find no challenge there. Photography furnishes us with those images. My work now is non-objective or abstraction. My work is recognizable by the use of curvilinear strokes and bright colors. Years of calligraphic work has left me with a natural inclination to use long graceful strokes. I would like the viewer to be able to go into my work, to see and feel the depth. I am very interested in the creative process and how we go through it. I believe all of the art that I do is a gift from God.

Although Patricia does not have a formal art education, she has taken many art courses and workshops across the country from accredited well know instructors as well as many university classes that were to her liking! She has also taught UWEC adult ed. classes in collage. With a 50-year history of classes and experience in multi- media and workshops in painting in many forms she hasn't left many things untried. She has won many accolades at UWBC over the years while attending and demonstrating there. She has taught adult art workshops for about the last 15-20 years in the area and loves it. She has exhibited widely in the Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls area for the last 20 years. She loved being a part of the Eau Claire Regional Art Center. She also taught quite a few workshops at the Heyde Center in Chippewa Falls. [www.artistic-innovations.com](http://www.artistic-innovations.com).

Floral Interpretation by

Judy Dekan

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**JEFF NELSON**

*Gathering Murder*

\$450

Our natural world, our environment, as a shared experience has always served as my greatest inspiration. For me, to be present in nature provides moments of clarity and awareness. The quiet, brilliance and textual quality of the world which surrounds me is something to capture o experience again and again, a visual reference of a total sensory experience. I use principles of design and composition to enhance the visual image. Watercolor is my preferred medium for landscape painting. This simple medium has endless and complex applications which echo the qualities I find in nature. Along with the typical brushes used in painting I use sandpaper, wire, toothbrushes, salt, alcohol and razor blades to help capture texture, shadow and light. My current body of work is a retrospective. The past and present are represented through locations shared with family and friends. The flash of reflected light. The crunch of snow beneath

my feet. The smell of freshly picked wintergreen, maple syrup and blackberries bring friends, family and location clearly into focus. I work with watercolor, oil, pastel, ink and acrylics. These mediums facilitate my work in a variety of venues, namely galleries, large mural installations, backgrounds used in photography studios and commissioned portraiture.

Jeff Nelson is an artist currently working with watercolors and oil paint. After thirty-three years teaching mathematics and American history, Jeff retired in 2009. Jeff attained degrees in Art, Mathematics, Computer Science and Education. All degree work was completed within the University of Wisconsin system. Although Jeff was busy with a family and a teaching career, he remained active in pursuit of his art. Jeff ran a small business named Backgrounds by Design, which specialized in painting backgrounds for professional photographers. He also produced large scale installation art for a real estate developer in Kansas City, Kansas. Jeff's pieces have appeared in juried shows such as: Arts West and The Janet Carson Gallery in Eau Claire, Wisconsin where he was chosen for the People's Choice Award two consecutive years. His work has appeared in galleries in La Crosse, Wisconsin; Denver, Colorado; Chicago, Illinois and Fort Meyers, Florida. Jeff continues to work and display primarily in the upper mid-west. Jeff enjoys reconnecting with teaching by offering classes in watercolor technique to people of all ability and skill levels. Jeff lives in Eau Claire, Wisconsin with Ellen, his wife.

Floral Interpretation by

Hope Greene

## **MEL SUNDBY**

*Blue Tempest*

Clay Platter

On Loan from Debbie Williams

In the years that I have practiced honing my perceptions of life, I have come to an interesting place, I love to watch people. They never cease to surprise me. At times I find Cynicism about our human race ahead by a nose. When Idealism, the long shot that everything will be alright, comes down the outside and briefly takes the lead. But Stupid is a dark horse, and he is partnered by Ignorance. They don't subscribe to the rules, they shove and push and cut corners. However, as Shakespeare's Macbeth said, "he struts and frets his hour upon the stage and then is heard no more." It all makes for great entertainment. There is nobility in humans. To watch us as we struggle is of never-ending fascination for me.

Mel is a retired college art professor who now has a working studio and gallery located north of Fall Creek, WI. Manyfires Studio has been a dream of his for most of his career. Mel generally works in clay, mostly in the Raku method, but also with his new wood fired kiln. His work often incorporates the human condition and portrait. Mel is also a painter with acrylics and watercolor. He taught painting at Century College and also teaches private watercolor lessons. Mel's collaboration with Mark Blaskey for the Sculpture Tour is a new venue for both of these artists. Mel has shown in many venues, including art fairs and group exhibitions. He is represented in numerous galleries throughout the mid-west as well as collections all over the world.

Floral Interpretation by

Judy Dekan

Flowers provided by [Down to Earth](#)

## JEANNIE ROBERTS

*Ice Tent*

Color Photography | \$145

My artwork has evolved in style and technique from my early pencil abstracts, to my pattern-rich acrylic and oil color field paintings, to my more representational colored pencil and mixed media drawings of today. My subject matter varies from the organic forms, shapes, and design elements found in nature to the mystical, ceremonial and picture-writing symbols created by ancient civilizations, cultures, and religions. Typically, my compositions attempt to pare down images to their essential, universal forms. Through my art, I wish to honor nature's beauty, the ancient arts and symbols of human existence, and past artists. My work has been influenced by my outdoor discoveries, by time spent abroad, by art and spiritual studies, and by my journey as a mother.

Jeannie E. Roberts has exhibited her drawings and paintings throughout the Midwest and in Mexico City, and her artwork hangs in corporate and home settings. As a certified K-12 art and continuing education instructor, she has taught classes and conducted workshops. She began selling, donating, and exhibiting her artwork in 1980. She has authored four poetry collections and two children's books, including the most recent ***Rhyme the Roost! A Collection of Poems and Paintings for Children***. She is poetry editor of the Online literary magazine Halfway Down the Stairs.

Floral Interpretation by

Mary LaVenture

*This is Mary's first year creating for Fabulous Florals & Fine Art*

*FROM OUR ARCHIVES*

**BEVERLY WICKSTROM**

*Street Art-New York*

\$150

I have been fascinated by art, music and the people who create them since I was very young. My grandfather taught me to use a box camera when I was a child, and this quickly became my artistic medium. Now, as a trial lawyer, I find photography helps relieve stress and makes me more creative both as an artist and as a personal injury attorney with Gingras, Cates & Wachs, LLP.

I love to explore the world and am driven to visit unique areas to learn about the customs, art and culture there. My eye is drawn to architecture, native people, street art and patterns and colors in nature. I try to capture the original life and vibrancy of whatever I am photographing and try to take photos quickly and spontaneously to photograph a perfect scene that otherwise could vanish in an instant. I enjoy experimenting with new angles and techniques and try to travel abroad at least once a year to add to my ever expanding, eclectic collection of photos.

Floral Interpretation by

Colleen Stordahl