



***BAC 2017 Exhibition – A Celebration of Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary through its Native and Indigenous Plants, July 5 to 26, 2017***

A huge THANK YOU to everyone involved with the 2017 BAC Juried Botanical Exhibition in recognition of Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The exhibition was held at the Robert Langen Art Gallery (RLAG), Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario. Seventeen (17) BAC artists representing British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland were prominently exhibited. The thirty (30) paintings and drawings in the exhibition celebrated the existence, beauty, uniqueness and diversity of Canada’s native and indigenous plants; connected people with plants and botanical art through the artist’s creative expression; and informed, the public, of how our native plants sustain our lives, our habitat and the natural world. In addition, 3 pieces from jurors Emily S. Damstra and Dr. Erin Zimmerman were on display.



The judges were Emily Damstra – BAC Member, Natural Science Illustrator; Dr. Erin Zimmerman – CBA Member, plant morphologist turned freelance science writer and illustrator, and Suzanne Luke, Curator, RLAG.

Many BAC juried artists and members (several who travelled from British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba) attended the Opening Reception on Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition, invited guests, CBA members, family, friends and members of the local art community made the opening a success. The organizing committee found it very gratifying to hear the positive comments from those who attended the opening and the exhibition.



An Exhibition Catalogue, the first for a BAC exhibition, was printed to commemorate the exhibition and celebrate Canada's 150 Anniversary. The coloured catalogue showcases each artist with images of their juried artwork accompanied by facts about each botanical plant in their work. The catalogue was (and is still) available for BAC members and the public to purchase.

BAC would like to acknowledge those who made this exhibition possible:

- ❖ The BAC Executive for their many hours in the planning and execution of this exhibition and the CBA – BAC half-day workshop;
- ❖ BAC members and other volunteers who assisted with promotions, artwork installation & de-installation, and sitting of exhibition. They included Lee Angold, Michele Auther (volunteer), Gail Finlayson, Louise Hill, Maeve Hughes, Stephanie Keeley-Bunting, Ann Love, Deirdre Mackintosh, Linda Read, Geraldine Sadoway, and Mary Rose Woodbridge.
- ❖ Suzanne Luke, Curator, Robert Langen Art Gallery and Nicholas Dinka, Director: Communication & Cultural Programming for their support and assistance in mounting this exhibition. This was the first hanging exhibition for the gallery.
- ❖ Nina Bolohan, photography student and Jackie Gallagher's niece who gladly volunteered to take photos at the Opening Reception and CBA/BAC workshops.

- ❖ A special thanks to Larry Paterson (volunteer) who volunteered his time and energy to develop and coordinate BAC's fundraising campaign. And to the donors for their generous financial support. The funds raised during this campaign helped make this exhibition and our exhibition catalogue possible.
- ❖ Karen Logan, Treasurer who coordinated and pull together the publication of our first exhibition catalogue.
- ❖ The CBA/ABC especially Frédérique C. Guinel, PhD., Professor, Biology Department, Wilfrid Laurier University. Our juried exhibition was held for the first time in conjunction with the Canadian Botanical Association/L'Association Botanique du Canada (CBA/ABC) annual conference.



We also must give very special thanks to the many enthusiastic members who entered the show. Without the interest and support of these very talented artists we would not have been able to present a show at all.

The quality of the work was reflected in the challenge the jurors faced when trying to choose one piece over another. They looked to the more traditional

guidelines, descriptions and the definition of botanical art recognized by international organizations to guide their decisions in presenting the awards. To help participants understand how this process was used Emily Damstra, the lead juror, provided both an informative and entertaining walkabout to discuss the winning pieces.

**Congratulations to the following artists!!** (*Images of every piece from the show will be posted on the BAC website along with this report and other photos from the exhibition.*)

**FIRST PLACE**

***Lilyane Coulombe* for Northern Pitcher Plant**  
*(Sarracenia purpurea)*  
*Oil on panel*



**SECOND PLACE**

***Bert Liverance* for Swamp Rose**  
*(Rosa palustris)*  
*Watercolour*



## THIRD PLACE & PEOPLE'S CHOICE

***Jackie Gallagher*** for **Spring's Harbinger**

(Pussy Willow ~ *Salix discolor*)

*Coloured pencil with graphite on drafting vellum*



## HONOURABLE MENTIONS

***Linda Boyko*** for **Spring Greetings**

(Early Blue Violet ~ *Viola adunca*)

*(also known as Hooked Violet, Hooked-spur Violet, Sand Violet, Western Dog Violet)*

*Coloured Pencil*



***Lilyane Coulombe*** for **Pink Lady's Slipper**  
(*Cypripedium acaule*)  
*Oil on panel*



***Maeve Hughes*** for **Milkweed Pods**  
(*Common Milkweed ~ Asclepias syriaca*)  
*Watercolour and Graphite*



***Kathryn Macdonald*** for **Birch Leaf x 2** (twice the scale)  
(*Paper Birch ~ Betula papyrifera*)  
*Watercolour*



***Penny Milton*** for **Plants of Mud Lake**  
**Northern Pitcher Plant; Joint Leaved Rush**  
(*Sarracenia purpurea*; *Juncus articulatus*)  
*Watercolour and graphite*



***Geraldine Sadoway*** for **Cup Plant, September and October, Toronto Island**  
(Cup Plant ~ *Silphium perfoliatum*)  
*Watercolour, Graphite & Coloured Pencil*



**PEOPLE'S CHOICE**

***Jackie Gallagher*** for **Spring's Harbinger**  
(Pussy Willow ~ *Salix discolor*)  
*Coloured pencil with graphite on drafting vellum*

The popularity of the show resulted in 118 ballots being cast for this award.

A total of two (2) pieces were sold during the show.



At the end of the exhibition, eighteen (18) of the 30 juried pieces from our BAC 2017 Juried Exhibition – Canada 150 travelled to the Toronto Botanical Gardens (TBG) for an exhibition in the TBG *Weston Family Library* from August 1 to 31, 2017.

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*Your BAC Executive,*

*Jackie Gallagher*

Chair

*Karen Logan*

Treasurer

*Lynette Carrington-Smith*

Regional Director - Central

*Brenda Mitchell*

Secretary

*Susan Filshie*

Membership Director

*Linda LeGeyt*

Regional Director – West