

A GREAT SHOW...

Certainly the highlight of my year as Chair of BAC was the October 4 opening reception of our exhibition at Todmorden. So many guests attended that we couldn't count them all. You'll recall that one of BAC's aims is to promote public awareness of botanical art through juried exhibitions. The Todmorden exhibition is a magnificent contribution to that goal.

And what an exciting range of work our members have produced. In all, we hung 62 works covering 39 unique subjects from 29 artists. Media included carbon dust, graphite pencil, coloured pencil, watercolour, and acrylic.

This show was planned as something of a partnership between BAC and Todmorden Wildflower Preserve, and it's been a fascinating learning experience for our members.

The Wildflower Preserve is a 9-hectare site that volunteers are working hard to restore to its pre-settlement state. 250 years ago, this site was part of a forest of massive white pines, bur oaks, and elms, the forest floor carpeted by wildflowers.

By the mid-1800s, this site was a bustling industrial centre, with a lumber mill, a flour mill, and a brewery. With progress came pollution and degradation. The site became a dumping ground – in the 1900s for bricks from the adjacent Don Valley Brickworks, then in the 1960s for detritus from the construction of the Don Valley Parkway. Today, a group of volunteers is working to restore the habitat, replacing invasive species with trees, shrubs and wildflowers one would have seen 250 years ago.

Our show is in part a tribute to these efforts, and BAC members responded with some excellent pieces for our jurors, Sheila Siegerman, Brenda Rix (AGO), and Natalie Iwanycki (RGB). Congratulations to Sherry Mitchell, who was awarded Best in Show for her painting of a tree found in BC: the Arbutus; and to Myra Sourkes (Best Composition) for her Jacks in the Pulpit.

The jurors were excited about many pieces, and recommended five for Honourable Mentions were Donna Greenstein, Irene Hunchak, Gerry Jenkison, Margit Sampogna, and Tasira Strimban.

Exhibitions such as this do not happen without vast amounts of work. Thank you to Irene Hunchak, whose skills and many hours of work have made this exhibition possible; to Joan Burdett-Ness and Emily Luks for the exhibition graphics – the invitations and posters; and to Sherry Mitchell who allowed us to use her image of the fawn lily. Thanks also to the many volunteers who made this possible – the buyers and bakers of food, the exhibition sitters, our Treasurer Donna Greenstein, major promoter and helper extraordinaire Liz Tudor, and our best member communications coordinator imaginable, Raquel Baranyai.

And of course, thanks to the 29 artists who spent many hours on their work for this show.

– Gerry Jenkison, Chair, BAC gerry.jenkison@sympatico.ca

TODMORDEN MILLS

BAC's exhibition of Native Plant paintings is open until October 28 at Todmorden Mills Wild Flower Preserve, Pottery Road in Toronto. Hours: Wed to Sun 12 noon to 4pm. Entrance is free.



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members, Peter J. Scott from St John's, NL, and Julie Wilson from Halifax, NS.



What is Botanical Art?

A Showcase of Contemporary Work
Oct 30 - Nov 23, 2007

Monday - Friday
 10am to 6pm

*Reception: Thursday
 November 1, 6-8pm*

John B. Aird Gallery,
 Macdonald Block
 900 Bay Street, Toronto ON
www.airdgallery.org
 416 928 6772



Eighth Annual Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms

March 12 - 16, 2008.
 See pages 5 - 9



FINANCIALS

BAC's bank balance is \$5,601.74.

TODMORDEN MILLS EXHIBITION OPENS

The BAC exhibition at Todmorden Mills opened on Thursday October 4 to a large gallery of visitors. Many thanks to exhibition organizer, **Irene Hunchak** and helpers who did an outstanding job.

Katherine Tyrrell, a UK based artist and blogger, <http://makingamark.blogspot.com/> wrote about the show. She also has a Botanical Art Squidoo Lens which provides great information about materials, events and more: <http://www.squidoo.com/botanicalart/>.

“Congratulations to the Botanical Artists of Canada for opening their second major exhibition this week. The 'Best in Show' award went to **Sherry Mitchell SFCA** for *Arbutus* (a tree native to British Columbia) and the 'Best Composition' award was won by **Myra Sourkes** for *Jack in the Pulpit*. Members getting Honourable Mentions included **Donna Greenstein, Margit Sampogna, Irene Hunchak, Tasira Strimban-Barishev and Gerry Jenkison**.

“It's always a pleasure to support a Society which is making headway in getting formal and juried exhibitions off the ground. As I'm sure anyone who has ever been involved with an Art Society will be aware, there's an awful lot of preparation and logistics involved.”



BAC Chair, Gerry Jenkison, welcomes visitors

FALL CLASSES**Nellie Sue Potter**

- Tuesday evenings; 6:30 to 9:00 PM at Natural Light Studio; First class Oct 9; (9) weeks/ \$316.00
- Wednesday mornings; 9:00 to 12 Noon at Cedar Ridge Creative Centre; \$316 for (10) weeks; First class Oct 3
- Wednesday afternoons; 2:00 to 4:30 PM at the Grenadier Restaurant in High Park; First class Oct 10; (9) weeks/ \$316.00
- Saturday mornings; 9:00 to 11:30 at Natural Light Studio; First class Oct 13; (9) weeks/ \$316.00

For more details and to register for classes please contact: Nellie Sue Potter
416-797-5968 nelliesue@rogers.com

Six Characteristics of a good Botanical Painting

From Margit Sampogna

According to Mariella Baldwin, botanical illustrator, English Gardening school in Chelsea Physica Garden, London, and taken from American Artist Water Colour, June 2006,

1. It looks like the plant being depicted and captures the plant's nature and character.
2. The plant is accurately observed and has the right number of physical attributes. Everything is at the correct point - leaves, petals, stems, roots and branches.
3. The composition is well balanced, carefully and thoughtfully planned and gets the best from the subject by making good use of the space available.
4. The painting has a minimum of three tones, which create a strong three-dimensional effect, but in all probability may have many more. The greater the variety of tone, the more vital the painting will look. The dark is the darkest it can be; the light, the lightest.
5. Good colour usage yields a feeling of harmony and balance.
6. The work has impact, vitality and strength. The picture can be powerful or peaceful; architectural or graceful; small and a gem; or large and a statement. The strength of the painting is that it lets you know the plant is a living thing.

Important - How should we communicate with you?

Please click on this link to provide some feedback on the way BAC communicates with its members. It will take you about ONE minute!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=FVc5oYtwxJ2Wld0OoVOz7w_3d_3d

**REMINDER: HUNT INSTITUTE PRESENTS
12TH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION
30 SEPTEMBER TO 20 DECEMBER 2007**

Pittsburgh, PA—The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation presents its *12th International Exhibition of Botanical Art & Illustration* from 30 September to 20 December 2007. This show features 111 artworks by 64 artists from 14 countries (Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, England, France, Italy, Japan, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden, the United States, and Wales). Margaret Best from Canada is included. The exhibition will be on the fifth floor of the Hunt Library building at Carnegie Mellon University. It is open to the public and is free of charge. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at 412-268-2434.

BAC gets support from the City of Toronto



The Todmorden Mills site which includes a gallery, theatre and historical buildings, as well as the wildflower preserve, is a City of Toronto property. Attending the opening of BAC's Todmorden exhibition was City Councillor, Shelley Carroll, left, who enthusiastically discussed the art with BAC coordinating committee member and exhibitor, Raquel Baranyai (right) and member, Liz Menard (with back to camera).



**END OF EXHIBITION
CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28,
12-4PM**

All BAC members are invited to attend an end-of-exhibition get-together. This informal gathering will allow you to take one last look at all the beautiful pieces of art and will also provide an opportunity to chat and network with one another.

Please join us at the Papermill Gallery,
Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum.



Events Calendar

Date	Event	Details	Contact
Sept 30 to Dec 20	12 th International Exhibition of Botanical Art and Illustration	Hunt Institute Pittsburgh	Hunt Institute at 412-268-2434
October 4–28	BAC 2007 Exhibition Native Plants at Toronto's Todmorden Mills	Gallery hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 4pm	Irene Hunchak dandi@eol.ca
October 28	End of exhibition celebration	Todmorden Mills 12 – 4pm	Irene Hunchak dandi@eol.ca
March 12 – 16, 2008	Canada Blooms Botanical Art exhibition	Entries close December 14, 2007	Margit Koritar (705) 944-5695, margit@nexicom.net

Recommended Reading

Margit Sampogna writes:

I've been reading a wonderful book called "**The Art Spirit**" by Robert Henri, an American artist and teacher (1865-1929), known for his leadership of a group of realist painters known as "The Eight", later called the Ashcan School in New York City.... The book is based on his lecture notes. Here are some wonderful excerpts:

"It is harder to see than it is to express"

"A teacher should be an encourager"

"An artist who does not use his imagination is a mechanic"

"No material thing is beautiful. All is as beautiful as we think it"

"All original art is self regulated; and no original art can be regulated from without. It carries its own counterpoise and does not receive it from elsewhere- lives on its own blood."

Botanical Artists of Canada is a not-for-profit organization serving botanical artists across Canada. We aim to promote the development and appreciation of botanical art, and encourage individual artists in the pursuit of excellence. www.botanicalartistsofcanada.org

BAC coordinating group

Chair: Gerry Jenkison

Secretary: Margit Sampogna

Treasurer: Donna Greenstein

Membership & Communications coordinator:
Raquel Baranyai

Events Committee: Liz Tudor (assisted by Emily Luks, Lynda Bryden, Luisa Klopchic)

Newsletter: Peta Lomborg

Promotions: Nellie Sue Potter

Four newsletters are published each year. Deadline for the next newsletter is November 30, 2007. Please send submissions to peta@lomborgnetwork.com

To join BAC please send a cheque for \$30.00 or \$50.00 if you wish to have a webpage gallery (made out to BAC) to Raquel Baranyai, BAC Membership & Communications, 203 Shaughnessy Blvd #403, Toronto ON, M2J 1J9

For more information contact Raquel Baranyai at raquelbaranyai@sympatico.ca. See membership information at www.botanicalartistsofcanada.org

Disclaimer: Please note that BAC cannot vouch for the accuracy of news items and information submitted to the newsletter. We try to promote courses and events that might be of interest to BAC members even if they are not sponsored or organized by BAC.

CANADA BLOOMS 2008

September 2007

Dear Fellow Artist,

As many of you know we are extremely fortunate to exhibit our work at Canada Blooms. For many of our visitors it is an annual pilgrimage and they travel great distances just to see our show. We have many new clients and quite a few regular collectors returning year after year. Once again you are invited to submit original works of botanical art for entry into the **Eighth Annual Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms, March 12 - 16, 2008.**

The space for the exhibit will be located on the educational floor, in Room 711 of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, separate from areas that are gardened or exposed to high humidity or sunlight. The space is conveniently located to encourage visitors and locked at night for security purposes.

It makes me very happy to tell you that in the last few years I have noticed an increased awareness of botanical art in the public eye and this is not only encouraging to our accomplished artists but to our beginners as well. The success of the show depends on you and I hope you will join us as an exhibitor and/or volunteer in a glorious display of art work at our eighth annual show.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Margit Koritar

Curator/Organizer

The Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms

Telephone: (705) 944-5695, Fax: (705) 944-4090, e-mail: margit@nexicom.net

For more information about Canada Blooms go to: www.canadablooms.com

Eighth Annual Botanical Art Show
At Canada Blooms. March 12 - 16, 2008

Call for Entries

Application Procedure

Please feel free to copy this information to interested artists.

You are invited to submit your original artwork for entry into the **Eighth Annual Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms, March 12-16, 2008.** We present this juried show as a public forum for promoting botanical art and artists in Canada. The exhibit will include 40 – 60 works of art.

Eligibility. Botanical artists residing in Canada may enter up to five original works executed in two-dimensional form and completed in the past five years. Artwork accepted in previous years **may not** be submitted again. Computer generated art or photography will not be accepted. The subject should be limited to botanical materials, scientifically accurate, anatomically correct and true to scale. Illustrations of animal life related to the plants' biology, may be included only as a secondary element to the composition. Size of framed work must not exceed 28" in height or width. Works must be available for display from March 12-16, 2008. **Artists who withdraw their paintings after being accepted will not be eligible to participate for the next two years.**

Slide submission and submission fee. Selection will be made from professional quality standard 35 mm slides. Under-exposed/over-exposed slides or slides showing reflections in the glass of framed work will not be accepted. Slides should be clearly labelled on the front

and back of the slide mount ("front" is as artwork appears). 1) the scientific name at the front top left corner, 2) a red dot at the front top right corner and 3) the name of the artist on the back top left corner. Artwork not consistent with slides will not be accepted. Mail to Margit Koritar a) up to five labelled slides, b) completed entry form, c) a non-refundable \$50 cheque to Margit Koritar, d) brief biography; e) cheque for poster(s); and f) self-addressed stamped envelope, with adequate postage and packing material, for the safe return of slides of unaccepted works and/or notification of jury results. Artists whose work is accepted will have their slides returned after the show with their paintings. If you would like to submit digital images please contact Margit Koritar. **Deadline for Entry: December 14, 2007.**

Jurying Process. Artwork for the show will be selected by the jurors based on slides. Final judging, to ensure that framed work is consistent with the slides and properly presented will take place on March 10, 2008.

Conditions of Acceptance. Any works that are unsigned or otherwise not conforming to the slides entered or the framing rules will be disqualified. Prices cannot be changed after acceptance. Artwork and frames not in perfect condition when received will be returned.

Framing. Artwork accepted must be matted, framed and wired for hanging. Framed pieces must not exceed 28" in height or width. Frame width should not exceed 2" and should be simple and understated. Gold frames are acceptable if simple. Mats should be neutral in tone (white or off-white). Glazing in Plexiglas is required for mailed/couriered entries. **Artists name, address, telephone number and title of artwork must appear on the back of the painting.**

Sales and commissions. Works may be offered for sale. Commission will not be deducted on works sold instead the organizer is asking \$25 exhibition fee for each painting to be exhibited at the show. Cheque payable to Margit Koritar must be sent with the accepted artwork. Sales will be handled in the following manner:

1. Organizer will accept a cash or cheque made out to the artist by the buyer. A cheque will be mailed to the artist.
OR
2. Inquiries regarding artwork for sale is directed to the artist.

Brief Biography. Artists are requested to provide the organizer with a brief biography **NOT to exceed 250** words with their entry form for promotional purposes. The information may be used in whole or in part and displayed along with the biographies of the jurors, the History of Botanical Illustration and the Annual poster.

Promotion. Canada Blooms will promote the exhibit in their promotional material. Brief biography, paintings and slides may be used in promoting the artist and the exhibit with the artist's permission. Please include promotional material and business cards with your accepted works they will be made available to potential buyers and the visiting public.

Shipping and Delivery of Artwork

The artists are responsible for both delivery and pick up of artwork and assume sole responsibility for delivery, insurance and liability while in transit. Artwork may be couriered to/from or be delivered/picked up in person at the addresses shown below on the indicated dates and times.

Option 1 - Courier

Shipping must be **PREPAID** for **receipt** and **RETURN**. If you are shipping your art, please employ a reusable heavy cardboard crate with a minimum of 1" cushioning around **ALL** sides. **Large** bubble wrap is ideal. **No plastic peanuts please.**

Delivery: Dates March 3 – March 7, 2008
Pick-up: Date March 17, 2008 (Monday)
Place: Leslie Staple

17 Coxwell Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario, M4C 3G6 (416) 421-5909

Option 2 – Personal Delivery

Delivery: Date March 5, 2008 (Wednesday) 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Place: Leslie Staple
17 Coxwell Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario, M4C 3G6 (416) 421-5909
Pick-up: Date March 17, 2008 (Monday)
Place: Leslie Staple
17 Coxwell Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario, M4C 3G6 (416) 421-5909

Please note that if your cheque and return shipping information is not INCLUDED with your artwork, your artwork will NOT be included in the exhibit.

Liability. Canada Blooms and the organizer of the show will handle artwork with care. Canada Blooms will insure paintings after receipt and while on the premises. Neither the organizer nor Canada Blooms will be responsible for loss of or damage to work in transit. The artist is responsible for all transit insurance and assumes all risk in shipping both to and from the venue.

Canada Blooms Passes: All exhibitors and volunteers will be given day passes. Exhibitors and volunteers who will attend the show on several days may want to apply for an MTCC parking pass.

Disclaimer: The organizer assumes no liability for loss, damage or theft to artworks

Organizer and Contact: Margit Koritar Telephone: (705) 944-5695
10 Maple Tree Crescent e-mail: margit@nexicom.net
RR 1, Fraserville, Ontario Fax: (705) 944-4090
KOL 1V0

Check List for Slide Submission

Deadline: December 14, 2007

1. up to five labelled slides
2. completed entry form
3. a non-refundable \$50 cheque or money order payable to Margit Koritar for slide submissions
4. brief biography (NOT to exceed 250 words)
5. self-addressed stamped envelope, with adequate postage and packing material, for the safe return of slides of unaccepted works and/or notification of jury results, to Margit Koritar. Artists whose work is accepted will have their slides returned after the show with their paintings.
6. Cheque for poster(s)

Check List for Accepted Works

Deadline: March 3-7, 2008

1. Accepted paintings (appropriately labelled)
2. Exhibition Fee (\$25 for each accepted painting- cheque made payable to Margit Koritar)
3. Return shipping information

**Eighth Annual Botanical Art Show
At Canada Blooms
March 12 – 16, 2008
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
Toronto, Ontario, Canada**

Calendar

**December 14, 2007
February 10, 2008
March 3-7, 2008
March 12 – 16, 2008**

**Deadline for receipt of slide submissions
Artists notified of results
Artwork due at Leslie Staple
Exhibition Dates**

ENTRY FORM (Please TYPE or PRINT Clearly)

Name _____ Telephone _____
 Street _____ e-mail _____
 City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____ Fax _____

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Medium	Price	Insur Value	Year Executed	Framed Size Width x Height
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Each year a commemorative poster is created for participating artists.

Please select “Yes” OR “No” from each of the following:

- Sale: Organizer to accept, on behalf of artist, a cheque made payable to the artist. Yes _____ No _____
- Sale: Buyer to contact artist (“Yes” if number 1 is “No”). Yes _____ No _____
- Biography, paintings and/or slides may be used in promoting artist and/or exhibit. Yes _____ No _____
- My slide(s) may be used for the poster (Artist’s name will appear next to art.) Yes _____ No _____
- I would like to purchase one or more poster(s) at \$15 each. If yes, please indicate number of posters. Yes _____ No _____ Pls include cheque

Agreement: I have read this call for entries and understand and agree to the liability, rules and conditions as presented herein. I agree to pay the organizer, Margit Koritar \$50 non-refundable cheque Slide Submission fee with this Entry Form and \$25 by cheque for EACH painting to be exhibited. I also agree that the sale price cannot be changed after acceptance into the show. I understand that the artwork will not be returned to me before March 16, 2008.

Signature _____ Name (Please Print) _____ Date _____