

ARTIST BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

Artist name: Saylor, Margaret Mary

City and country of birth: Reading, United States

Residence: USA

Email: studio@margaretsaylor.com

Web site: www.margaretsaylor.com

Education:

B.F.A., Communications Design, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, Kutztown, PA, 1984-1988.

Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration with distinction, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY, 2010-2013.

Career:

Graphic & Package Designer, William Fox Munroe, Inc., Shillington, PA, 1988-1997.

Freelance Graphic Designer, Painter, and Botanical Artists, Mt. Penn, PA, 1997 – present.

Editor/Designer, The Botanical Artist, American Society of Botanical Artists, 2013 – present.

Instructor, Botanical art workshops and techniques classes, in person and online: Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia, PA; Mt. Cuba Center, Hockessin, DE; Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA; New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY; GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, Reading, PA; Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA; Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, MD; Jenkins Arboretum and Gardens, Devon, PA; Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Upperville, VA; Hershey Gardens, Hershey, PA; Morris Arboretum and Gardens, Philadelphia, PA; ASBA Annual Meeting and Conference, 2013; Contemporary Naturalism Guild of Art, 2013 – present.

Professional memberships:

American Society of Botanical Artists

Philadelphia Society of Botanical Illustrators

Contemporary Naturalism Guild of Art (Co-founder, 2020)

Artwork medium:

Graphite and watercolor on vellum

Egg tempera on panel

Group Exhibition(s):

- Under Foot, Lara Call Gastinger, Margaret Saylor, Carol Woodin, Marymount University, Cody Gallery, Arlington, VA, 2024.
- American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA) Small Works Exhibitions: 2011 (Boston, MA); 2012 (Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago, IL); 2014 (Denver, CO);

- 2015 (Miami); 2017 (San Mateo, CA); 2018 (St. Louis, MO); 2022 (Tarrytown, NY); 2023 (Mobile, AL). [Exhibition catalogs].
- Keeping It Real: The Art of Plants and Fungi II, Margaret Saylor & Judith Simon, Jenner's Pond, West Grove, PA, June 2019.
 - The Philadelphia Flower Show: Exhibition of the Philadelphia Society of Botanical Illustrators, Philadelphia, PA, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.
 - Keeping It Real: The Art of Plants and Fungi, Margaret Saylor & Judith Simon, The Highlands, Wyomissing, PA, January 2018.
 - The Wonders of Nature: Contemporary Botanical Artists Margaret Saylor, Diana Heitzman, Judith Simon, Mala Galleria, Kennett Square, PA, April 2016.
 - 17th Annual International Juried Botanical Art Exhibition, American Society of Botanical Artists and Horticultural Society of New York, New York, NY 2014. [Exhibition catalog].
 - A Living Legacy: Contemporary Botanical Art, Friends Hospital and The Thomas Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation & Philadelphia Society of Botanical Illustrators, Philadelphia, PA, June 2012.

Honors/Awards:

- Best in Show: A Living Legacy: Contemporary Botanical Art, Friends Hospital and The Thomas Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation & Philadelphia Society of Botanical Illustrators, Philadelphia, PA, June 2012.
- Anne Marie Carney Award: American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA) Small Works exhibitions: Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago, IL, October 2012.
- Best in Show: American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA) Small Works exhibitions: Denver, 2014.

Portrait credit:

Walt Saylor.

Please include any pertinent biographical information not covered by the above categories:

Botanical art is a beautiful fusion of art and science. In Margaret's artistic practice, she is drawn to mushrooms, fungi, roots, and their surrounding environment. She works on calfskin vellum or deerskin parchment, using watercolor sparingly and graphite primarily to create ethereal and intricate representations of her subjects, achieving the desired level of crispness, highly defined detail, and exacting interpretation of botanical subjects that she strives for in her work. Her recent interest in egg tempera allows for a deeper exploration of botanical themes using a painterly execution. A new series, CONTXT: Botanical Art in Modern Spaces, is underway.

Transcribed from copy of original by Leslie Shaver in 2024.