



Maggie Munn

Maggie was born in Hampshire in southern England. Having grown up in the countryside, her love of nature grew with her. Her young adult life in England was spent on a farm so the sights and sounds of nature were always present in her life. She began to spend time drawing and painting things from the natural world.

After moving to Australia in 1989 it was essential for Maggie, to start taking her art more seriously. Her most influential teachers were Patrick Moss and Jenny Philips. Maggie worked on her art daily and was encouraged enormously by them.

Maggie's dedication to art, in particular, botanical illustration, was rewarded by achieving a Silver Gilt Medal in London (2010) for her depiction of twelve Hakeas. One was obtained for the collection at Kew Gardens. In 2016 she was invited to be included in the Florilegium: The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney: Celebrating 200 Years, for her depiction of Acacia Implexa. Maggie has her work in private collections in Australia, USA and UK.

Maggie's work is a collaboration between Artist and Nature, she cherishes the connection between her love of gardening and her art.

Maggie Munn Artist Statement

Having been a botanical artist for many years I felt it was time to reinvigorate my work in a more contemporary genre and to challenge the concept of my traditional botanical practice. I feel my work is now more graphic, rhythmic and powerful. I am obsessed with the shapes and colours in nature and how us, as viewers, are attracted to them. I want my art to induce feelings of happiness and excitement, which is what I feel when I am creating. Seeing flowers on such an enlarged scale evokes curiosity and wonder as the tiniest and most minute details can be clearly seen.

While painting I listen to classical music and ambient nature sounds to create a productive ambience which I find helpful for concentration and creativity.

A light drawing is made with great consideration for the composition and negative space. Many washes are applied to reach the appropriate strength and density of colour. As I see the image I am creating begin to appear out of the blank paper, the feeling is euphoric. It is a painstaking process and must be treated gently because of the medium and media I'm using. I predominantly paint from the live specimen with some reference photographs to better see the forms of the smaller components of the flowers. When my live flower dies I have to source another and splice it in, which can be quite an exciting challenge.

I work in Windsor & Newton watercolour on Arches 640gsm Rough Paper. This paper is more representative of the organic nature of my work.

My influences are Georgia O'Keefe, Camille Pissarro and Rory McEwan.

Exhibitions

- 2005 - Margaret Flockton Award, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
- 2006 - The Art of Botanical Illustration, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2007 - Finalist, Art Prize Challenge, Australian Artist Magazine
- 2008 - Margaret Flockton Award, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
- 2008 - The Art of Botanical Illustration, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2010 - Royal Horticultural Society Botanical Art Show, London (Awarded Silver-Gilt Medal)
- 2010 - The Art of Botanical Illustration, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2012 - Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Exhibition, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2016 - Florilegium: Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney Exhibition, Sydney Living Museums, Sydney
- 2018 - Florilegium: Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney Exhibition, Shirley Sherwood Gallery, Kew Gardens, London
- 2021 - John Copes Award Exhibition, Bowral Art Gallery, Bowral
- 2022 - The Art of Botanical Illustration, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne

Publications

- 2009 - Australian Botanical Artist National Trust Diary
- 2011 - Australian Botanical Artist National Trust Diary
- 2014 - Australian Botanical Artist National Trust Diary
- 2014 - Botanical Illustrators Calendar
- 2014 - Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Christmas Cards
- 2016 - Florilegium: Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney: Celebrating 200 Years, Book
- 2023 - Botanical Illustrators Calendar Collections
- 2008 - Victorian State Collection, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2010 - Collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London
- 2016 - Florilegium Collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
- 2018 - Private Collection of Beleura House & Garden, Mornington, Victoria



Gerbera \$8,900



Agapanthus \$8,900



Nasturtium \$8,900