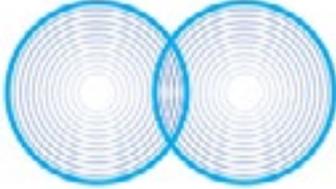


Xavier Cortada, "FLOR500: Red Mangrove," digital art, 2011.

*Flor*5 
BY XAVIER CORTADA
500 ARTISTS

FLOR500



Flor500 is a participatory art project initiated by Miami artist Xavier Cortada to commemorate Florida's quincentennial in 2013 and is also the precursor to the artist's Flower Force project. The project aimed to commemorate Florida's native flowers on the quincentennial of Juan Ponce de Leon's arrival to the state in 1513. The flower was chosen as the focal iconography of the project for its historical significance in the naming of the state by Ponce de Leon, naming it "La Florida" after the Spanish word for flower - flor.

effort from the various communities and professionals involved, Flor500 fits into Cortada's oeuvre naturally, the socially-engaged intent of this project being similar to that of his other projects like "Native Flags" and "Underwater HOA." This can be seen not only within the collaborative effort required to undertake Flor500, but through the way participants interact with the project. Cortada asks his participants to approach Florida's history and commemorate it by planting a native wildflower, an attempt at returning the natural environment back to its initial state as it was in 1513.

To accomplish a work of this scale, there required an ability from the artist to navigate through large institutions and systems to accomplish the project, an intention by the artist so to later use the overarching effort of Flor500 as a framework for others to follow in the creation of a viable social practice. While large in scope, Flor500 operates through communal involvement, the inception of the project requiring a variety of volunteers across multiple disciplines to carry out, from a team of scientists that selected five hundred specific wildflowers native to Florida to be used in the project, to five hundred different artists invited to depict a specific wildflower.

However, through this communal involvement Cortada sets out to impart a comprehension of the state's history that is much older than Florida's celebrated birthday. Florida's history did not begin in 1513, it began much earlier. Cortada wants his audience to understand that Ponce de Leon's arrival was important as it changed the course of everything within the state, whether positively or negatively. This presents Flor500 as a historical undertaking, the artist not only commemorating Florida's history but prompting participants to literally grow their own history, adding to Florida's already diverse natural landscape.

Historians were invited to develop a list of five hundred individuals that had a deep impact on the history of the state. The names of these important individuals were then used in naming wildflower gardens planted by individual FLOR500 participants as well as those organized through universities, schools and libraries across the state. Through its immense collaborative

In no small way, the production and aftermath of Flor500 speaks to a greater and more educational opportunity for the future of the project. This is aided, intentionally, through the very processes that work to produce an effort such as this, the documentation of Flor500 not only acting as a preservation of the work itself, but a framework for future social engagement.



TOP: Artist Xavier Cortada, Secretary of State Ken Detzner, and Jeff Caster from the DOT plant the first FLOR500 garden dedicated to the indigenous people of Florida outside the R. A. Gray building at Capitol Hill, Tallahassee, FL
BOTTOM: FLOR500 garden dedications at schools across the State of Florida

500 FLOWERS

The selection of the wildflower as the figurehead of the Flor500 campaign references the literal and figurative roots of Florida's natural timeline, presenting the wildflower(s) not only as contextually significant iconography, but as a conceptual representation of the dissemination and diversity of the state's history over time. This can be seen in every level of Flor500, particularly at its very premise, the artist gaining the help of Dr. Richard P. Wunderlin, Ph.D. from the Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants/Institute for Systematic Botany at the University of South Florida and a team of fellow botanists from across the state in selecting the 500 native wildflowers to be featured in the project. Much like a flower may be allowed perpetual existence through a single seed, the dissemination of Flor500 is continued through its participants.

REGION 1:

- String-lily (*Crinum americanum*)
- Crested Saltbush (*Atriplex pentandra*)
- Finger-rot (*Cnidocolus stimulosus*)
- Pickereelweed (*Pontederia cordata*)
- Pink Sundew (*Drosera capillaris*)
- Lizard's Tail (*Saururus cernuus*)
- Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)
- Zigzag Iris (*Iris brevicaulis*)
- Pale Meadow Beauty (*Rhexia mariana*)
- Wild Hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*)
- Lanceleaf Tickseed (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- Adam's Needle (*Yucca filamentosa*)
- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Fringed Bluestar (*Amsonia ciliata*)
- American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)
- Oneflower Honeycombhead (*Balduina uniflora*)
- Soft Greeneyes (*Berlandiera pumila*)
- White Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera blephariglossis*)
- Orange Reinorchid (*Platanthera integra*)
- Purple Lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*)
- Catesby's Lily (*Lilium catesbaei*)
- Georgia Indian Plantain (*Amorpha canescens*)
- Bristleleaf Chaffhead (*Carphephorus pseudoliatris*)
- Pineland Daisy (*Chaptalia tomentosa*)
- Bush Goldenrod (*Chrysoma pauciflosculosa*)
- Narrowleaf Goldenaster (*Chrysopsis linearifolia*)
- Godfrey's Goldenaster (*Chrysopsis godfreyi*)
- Queen-of-the-meadow (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Flaxleaf Aster (*Onactis linearifolia*)
- Sundial Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*)
- Florida Anisetree (*Illicium floridanum*)
- Scarlet Calamint (*Calamintha coccinea*)
- False Rosemary (*Conradina canescens*)
- Yellow Meadowbeauty (*Rhexia lutea*)
- Fevertree (*Pinckneya bracteata*)
- Tracy's Sundew (*Drosera tracyi*)
- Wild Ginger (*Asarum arifolium*)
- Eastern Sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*)
- Florida Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron austrinum*)
- American Bladdernut (*Staphylea trifolia*)
- Whitetop Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia leucophylla*)
- Comfortroot (*Hibiscus oculeatus*)
- White Birds-in-a-nest (*Macbridea alba*)
- Fringed Pink (*Silene catesbaei*)
- Royal Catchfly (*Silene regia*)
- Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)
- Wiregrass Gentian (*Gentiana pennelliana*)
- Dwarf Witchalder (*Fothergilla gardenii*)
- Meadow Garlic (*Allium canadense* var. *mobile*)
- Harper's Beauty (*Harperocallis flava*)
- Coastal False Asphodel (*Tofieldia racemosa*)
- Panhandle Lily (*Lilium iridolae*)
- Blueflower Eryngio (*Eryngium integrifolium*)
- Pineland Milkweed (*Asclepias obovata*)
- Alabama Milkvine (*Matelea alabamensis*)
- Devil's Grandmother (*Elephantopus tomentosus*)
- Hairy Puccoon (*Lithospermum carolinense*)
- American Bellflower (*Campanula americana*)
- Silky Camellia (*Stewartia malacodendron*)

REGION 2:

- American Lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*)
- Yellow Butterwort (*Pinguicula lutea*)
- Mangrove Spiderlily (*Hymenocallis latifolia*)
- American Eelgrass (*Vallisneria americana*)
- Florida Scrub Roseling (*Callisia ornata*)
- Fragrant Ladies' Tresses (*Spiranthes odorata*)
- Rose Pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*)
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*)
- Longbract Wake Robin (*Trillium underwoodii*)
- Slender woodoats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*)
- Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*)
- Climbing hydrangea (*Decumaria barbara*)
- Purplehead Sneezeweed (*Helenium flexuosum*)
- Pinkscale Gayleather (*Liatris elegans*)
- Tall Ironweed (*Vernonia angustifolia*)
- Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
- Yellow Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia flava*)
- Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)
- May Haw (*Crataegus aestivalis*)
- Carolina Scalystem (*Elytraria carolinensis*)
- White Arrow Arum (*Peltandra sagittifolia*)
- Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Ash's Magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla* var. *ashei*)
- Common Eveningprimrose (*Oenothera biennis*)
- Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*)
- Shootingstar (*Primula meadia*)
- Florida Betony (*Stachys floridana*)
- Swamp Loosestrife (*Decodon verticillatus*)
- Turkscap Lily (*Lilium superbum*)
- Miccosukee Gooseberry (*Ribes echinellum*)
- American Witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)
- Florida Balm (*Dicerandra densiflora*)
- Crowpoison (*Nothoscordum bivalve*)
- Florida Bellwort (*Uvularia floridana*)
- Broomsedge Bluestem (*Andropogon virginicus*)
- Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)
- Smooth Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*)
- Hemlock Waterparsnip (*Sium suave*)
- Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*)
- Sandhill Spiny Pod (*Matelea pubiflora*)
- Common Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Hammock Snakeroot (*Ageratina juncunda*)
- Eastern Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Watershield (*Brasenia schreberi*)
- Coastal Sweetpepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*)
- Titi (*Cyrilla racemiflora*)
- Rainily (*Zephyranthes atamasca*)
- American Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*)
- Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*)
- Virginia Willow (*Itea virginica*)
- Trailing Ratany (*Krameria lanceolata*)
- Floating Badderwort (*Utricularia inflata*)
- Woodland Poppymallow (*Callirhoe papaver*)
- Southern Catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*)
- Florida Phlox (*Phlox floridana*)
- Tall Pinebarren Milkwort (*Polygala cymosa*)
- Dogtongue Wild Buckwheat (*Eriogonum tomentosum*)
- Largeflower Jointweed (*Polygonella robusta*)
- Virginsbower (*Clematis virginiana*)
- Carolina Larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum*)

REGION 3:

- Lanceleaf Blanketflower (*Gaillardia aestivalis*)
- Beach Morning-glory (*Ipomoea imperati*)
- Poorman's Patch (*Mentzelia floridana*)
- Manyflowered Grasspink (*Calopogon multiflorus*)
- Bulltongue Arrowhead (*Sagittaria lancifolia*)
- Horned Bladderwort (*Utricularia cornuta*)
- Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*)
- Sweet Pinxter Azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*)
- American Snowbell (*Styrax americana*)
- Lablolly Bay (*Gordonia lasianthus*)
- Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*)
- Red Chokeberry (*Photinia pyrifolia*)
- Swamp Rose (*Rosa palustris*)
- Nightflowering Wild Petunia (*Ruellia noctiflora*)
- Skyblue Lupine (*Lupinus diffusus*)
- Lyreleaf Sage (*Salvia lyrata*)
- Savannah Meadowbeauty (*Rhexia alifanum*)
- Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallinum*)
- Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* subsp. *canadensis*)
- Common Blue Violet (*Viola sororia*)
- Procession Flower (*Polygala incarnata*)
- Bastard False Indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*)
- Carolina Redroot (*Lachnanthes carolina*)
- Yellow Sunnyside (*Schoenolirion croceum*)
- Lanceleaf Rosegentian (*Sabatia difformis*)
- Whitemouth Dayflower (*Commelina erecta*)
- Bartram's Ixia (*Calydorea caelestina*)
- Battlebrush Threewain (*Aristida spiciformis*)
- Georgia Tickseed (*Coreopsis nudata*)
- Elliott's Yellowweed Grass (*Xyris elliptica*)
- Fewflower Milkweed (*Asclepias lanceolata*)
- Groundsel Tree (*Baccharis halimifolia*)
- Tall Elephant's Foot (*Elephantopus elatus*)
- Elliott's Milkpea (*Galactia elliptica*)
- Blueflower Butterwort (*Pinguicula caerulea*)
- Common Fanpetals (*Sida ulmifolia*)
- Largeleaf Grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia grandifolia*)
- Standingcypress (*Ipomopsis rubra*)
- Heartwing Dock (*Rumex hastatulus*)
- Pink Purslane (*Portulaca pilosa*)
- Flatwoods Plum (*Prunus umbellata*)
- Common Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*)
- Giant Orchid (*Pteroglossaspis ecrinata*)
- Hooded Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia minor*)
- Horse Sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*)
- Pitted Stripeseed (*Piriqeta cistoides* subsp. *caroliniana*)
- Rose Mock Vervain (*Glandularia canadensis*)
- Bog White Violet (*Viola lanceolata*)
- American Bluehearts (*Buchnera americana*)
- Virginia Dayflower (*Commelina virginica*)
- Coastalplain Hawkweed (*Hieracium megapetalum*)
- Grassleaf Lettuce (*Lactuca graminifolia*)
- Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Pondspice (*Litsea aestivalis*)
- Rose-rush (*Lygodesmia aphylla*)
- Grassleaf Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia graminifolia*)
- Sweetscent (*Pluchea odorata*)
- Orange Milkwort (*Polygala lutea*)
- Bluejacket (*Tradescantia ohimensis*)
- Sweetscent (*Pluchea odorata*)
- Orange Milkwort (*Polygala lutea*)
- Bluejacket (*Tradescantia ohimensis*)

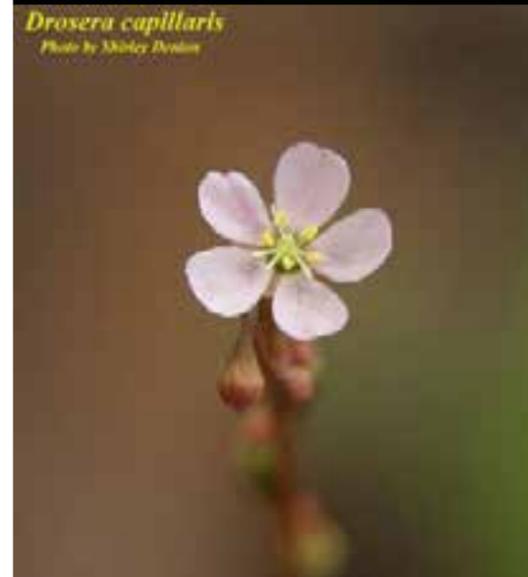
REGION 4:

- Butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Coastalplain Honeycombhead (*Balduina angustifolia*)
- Florida Greeneyes (*Berlandiera subcaulis*)
- Bushy Seaside Oxeye (*Borrichia frutescens*)
- Ash's Calamint (*Calamintha ashei*)
- American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)
- Florida Paintbush (*Carphephorus corymbosus*)
- Sweet Pinxter Azalea (*Carphephorus odoratissimus* var. *subtropicus*)
- Partridge Pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*)
- White Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
- Florida Tickseed (*Coreopsis floridana*)
- Leavenworth's Tickseed (*Coreopsis leavenworthii*)
- Oblongleaf Twinflower (*Dyschoriste oblongifolia*)
- Coralbean (*Erythrina herbacea*)
- Marsh Gentian (*Eustoma exaltatum*)
- Firewheel (*Gaillardia pulchella*)
- Garberia (*Garberia heterophylla*)
- Tampa Mock Vervain (*Glandularia tampensis*)
- Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)
- Spanish Daisy (*Helium amarum*)
- Narrowleaf Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*)
- West Coast Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis* subsp. *vestitus*)
- Pineland Heliotrope (*Heliotropium polyphyllum*)
- Scarlet Rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*)
- Roundpod St. John's-wort (*Hypericum cistifolium*)
- Coastalplain St. John's-wort (*Hypericum brachyphyllum*)
- Yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria*)
- Dense Gayleather (*Liatris spicata*)
- Shortleaf Gayleather (*Liatris tenuifolia*)
- Gopher Apple (*Licania michauxii*)
- Cardinalflower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
- Christmasberry (*Lycium carolinianum*)
- Fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*)
- Powderpuff (*Mimosa strigillosa*)
- Spotted Beebalm (*Monarda punctata*)
- Gulf Muhly (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)
- Feay's Palafox (*Palafoxia feayi*)
- Manyflower Beardtongue (*Penstemon multiflorus*)
- Downy Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*)
- Wild Pennyroyal (*Pibolephus rigida*)
- Silkgrass (*Pityopsis graminifolia*)
- Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)
- Rouge Plant (*Rivina humilis*)
- Blackeyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Carolina Wild Petunia (*Ruellia carolinensis*)
- Largeflower Rosegentian (*Sabatia grandiflora*)
- Azure Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea*)
- Tropical Sage (*Salvia coccinea*)
- Starry Rosinweed (*Silphium asteriscus*)
- Chapman's Goldenrod (*Solidago odora* var. *chapmanii*)
- Yellow Necklacedpod (*Sophora tomentosa* var. *truncata*)
- Elliott's Aster (*Symphotrichum ellipticum*)
- Forked Bluecurls (*Trichostema dichotomum*)
- Shiny Blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*)
- Walter's Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*)
- Lemon Bacopa (*Bacopa caroliniana*)
- Yellow Waterlily (*Nymphaea mexicana*)
- Tuberous Grasspink (*Calopogon tuberosus*)
- White Mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*)



Aquilegia canadensis

Photo by Kenneth Szymanski
University of Wisconsin



Drosera capillaris

Photo by Shirley Treaster



Magnolia grandiflora

Photo by Michael Drammond



Cnidocolus stimulosus



Crinum americanum

Photo by Keith Bradley



Crinum americanum



Rhexia mariana

Photo by Shirley Treaster



Coreopsis lanceolata

Photo by Virginia Davey
USF Herbarium Slide Collection



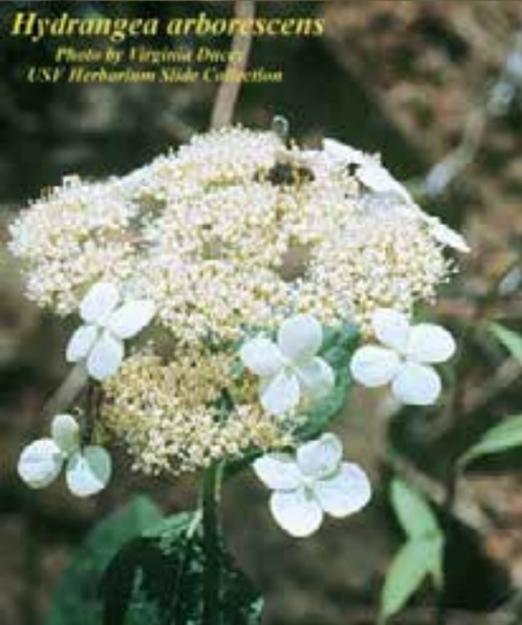
Yucca filamentosa
Photo by Shirley Donnan



Xarisma maritima
Photo by Keith Braddy



Cornus florida
Photo by Virginia Dacey
USF Herbarium Slide Collection



Hydrangea arborescens
Photo by Virginia Dacey
USF Herbarium Slide Collection



Chiococca alba
Photo and © by Roger Hammer
Wildflowers of the Everglades



Magnolia virginiana
Photo and © by Roger Hammer
Wildflowers of the Everglades



Eulophia alba
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Guaiacum sanctum
Photo by Keith Braddy



Pentalinon luteum
Photo and © by Roger Hammer
Wildflowers of the Everglades

REGION 5:

- 241. Celestial Lily (*Nemastylis floridana*)
- 242. Curtiss' Milkweed (*Asclepias curtisii*)
- 243. Sensitive Brier (*Mimosa quadrivalvis* var. *angustata*)
- 244. Spanish Moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*)
- 245. Spatterdock (*Nuphar advena*)
- 246. Hairy Chaffhead (*Carphephorus paniculatus*)
- 247. Slender Flattop Goldenrod (*Euthamia caroliniana*)
- 248. Britton's Beargrass (*Nolina brittoniana*)
- 249. Bigflower Pawpaw (*Asimina obovata*)
- 250. Hartwrightia (*Hartwrightia floridana*)
- 251. Wideleaf Pinelandcress (*Warea amplexifolia*)
- 252. Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)
- 253. Scrub Plum (*Prunus geniculata*)
- 254. Cooley's Waterwillow (*Justicia cooleyi*)
- 255. Big Floatingheart (*Nymphoides aquatica*)
- 256. Scrub Wild Olive (*Osmanthus megacarpus*)
- 257. Summer Farewell (*Dalea pinnata*)
- 258. Yellow Anisetree (*Illicium parviflorum*)
- 259. Helmet Skullcap (*Scutellaria integrifolia*)
- 260. Yellow Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)
- 261. Netleaf Leather-flower (*Clematis reticulata*)
- 262. Sweetscented Pigeonwings (*Clitoria fragrans*)
- 263. Carolina False Vervain (*Stylodon carneum*)
- 264. Jeweled Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium xerophyllum*)
- 265. Florida Lady's Nightcap (*Bonania grandiflora*)
- 266. Tarflower (*Bejaria racemosa*)
- 267. Longleaf Spiderwort (*Tradescantia roseolens*)
- 268. Dixie Iris (*Iris hexagona*)
- 269. Pineland Waterwillow (*Justicia angusta*)
- 270. Cottonweed (*Fraelechia floridana*)
- 271. Spotted Water Hemlock (*Cicuta maculata*)
- 272. Florida Milkweed (*Matelea floridana*)
- 273. Burmarigold (*Bidens laevis*)
- 274. Claspng Venus' Looking-glass (*Triodanis perfoliata*)
- 275. Florida Alicia (*Chapmannia floridana*)
- 276. Sandlace (*Polygonella myriophylla*)
- 277. New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)
- 278. Florida Pinkroot (*Spigelia loganioides*)
- 279. Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
- 280. Big Caltrop (*Kallstroemia maxima*)
- 281. Smooth Yellow False Foxglove (*Aureolaria flava*)
- 282. Chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*)
- 283. Silver Croton (*Croton argyranthemus*)
- 284. Longspur Balm (*Dicerandra cornutissima*)
- 285. Green-fly Orchid (*Epidendrum canopseum*)
- 286. Oakleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron quercifolius*)
- 287. Stiff Sunflower (*Helianthus radula*)
- 288. Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)
- 289. Scarlet Creeper (*Ipomoea hederacea*)
- 290. Tall Lespedeza (*Lespedeza stuevei*)
- 291. Savannah False Pimpernel (*Lindernia grandiflora*)
- 292. Tropical Puff (*Neptunia pubescens*)
- 293. Walter's Groundcherry (*Physalis walteri*)
- 294. Eustis Lake Beardtongue (*Penstemon australis*)
- 295. Longhorn False Reinorchid (*Habenaria quinqueseta*)
- 296. Squarehead (*Tetragonotheca helianthoides*)
- 297. Wood Sage (*Teucrium canadense*)
- 298. Goat's Rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*)
- 299. Carolina Horsenettle (*Solanum carolinense*)
- 300. Blackroot (*Pterocaulon pycnostachyum*)

REGION 6:

- 301. Bayleaf Cappertree (*Capparis flexuosa*)
- 302. Alligatorflag (*Thalia geniculata*)
- 303. Simpson's Stopper (*Myrcianthes fragrans*)
- 304. Baybean (*Canavalia rosea*)
- 305. Gray Nicker (*Caesalpinia bonduc*)
- 306. Spanish Bayonet (*Yucca aloifolia*)
- 307. Fourpetal Pawpaw (*Asimina tetramera*)
- 308. Railroad Vine (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*)
- 309. Yellow Calicroot (*Aletris lutea*)
- 310. Beckner's Lupine (*Lupinus westianus* var. *aridorum*)
- 311. Hercules-club (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*)
- 312. Satinleaf (*Chrysophyllum oliviforme*)
- 313. Buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*)
- 314. Swamp Rosemallow (*Hibiscus grandiflorus*)
- 315. Southern Beeblossom (*Gaura angustifolia*)
- 316. Seabeach Eveningprimrose (*Oenothera humifusa*)
- 317. Innocence (*Houstonia procumbens*)
- 318. Spurred Butterfly Pea (*Centrosema virginianum*)
- 319. Florida Fiddlewood (*Citharexylum spinosum*)
- 320. Showy Milkwort (*Polygala violacea*)
- 321. White Sunnysbell (*Schoenolirion albiflorum*)
- 322. Broadleaf Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
- 323. Juba's Bush (*Iresine diffusa*)
- 324. Annual Glasswort (*Salicornia bigelovii*)
- 325. Slenderleaf Clammyweed (*Polanisia tenuifolia*)
- 326. Tallow Wood (*Ximenia americana*)
- 327. Saltmarsh Morning-glory (*Ipomoea sagittata*)
- 328. Sea Torchwood (*Amyris elemifera*)
- 329. Water Pimpernel (*Samolus ebracteatus*)
- 330. Inkwood (*Exothea paniculata*)
- 331. Calloose Grape (*Vitis shuttleworthii*)
- 332. Samphire (*Blutaparon vermiculare*)
- 333. Nuttall's Thistle (*Cirsium nuttallii*)
- 334. Titusville Balm (*Dicerandra thincicola*)
- 335. Sixangle Foldingwing (*Dicliptera sexangularis*)
- 336. Flattened Pipewort (*Eriocaulon compressum*)
- 337. Blacktorch (*Erithalis fruticosa*)
- 338. Indian River Prickly-apple (*Harrisia fragrans*)
- 339. Bladdermallow (*Herissantia crispata*)
- 340. Atlantic St. John's-wort (*Hypericum tenuifolium*)
- 341. Fourpetal St. John's-wort (*Hypericum tetrapetalum*)
- 342. Black Ironwood (*Krugiodendron ferreum*)
- 343. American Spongeplant (*Limnium spongia*)
- 344. Lancewood (*Ocotea coriacea*)
- 345. Basketgrass (*Oplismenus hirtellus*)
- 346. Spreading Cinchweed (*Pectis prostrata*)
- 347. Catclaw Blackbead (*Pithecellobium unguis-cati*)
- 348. Rose-of-Plymouth (*Sabatia stellaris*)
- 349. Carolina Sealavender (*Limonium carolinianum*)
- 350. Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*)
- 351. Cheesytoes (*Stylosanthes hamata*)
- 352. Blodgett's Ironweed (*Vernonia blodgettii*)
- 353. Simpson's Zephyrilly (*Zephyranthes simpsonii*)
- 354. Leafless Beaked Ladiesstresses (*Saccola lanceolata*)
- 355. Hairy Shadow Witch (*Ponthieva racemosa*)
- 356. Jamaica Swamp Sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*)
- 357. Osceola's Plume (*Stenanthium densum*)
- 358. Flaxleaf False Foxglove (*Agalinis linifolia*)
- 359. Beach Peanut (*Okenia hypogaea*)
- 360. Coastal Beach Sandmat (*Chamaesyce mesembrianthemifolia*)

REGION 7:

- 361. Black Mangrove (*Avicennia germinans*)
- 362. Jamaican Cappertree (*Capparis jamaicensis*)
- 363. Knotted Spikerush (*Eleocharis interincta*)
- 364. Northern Needleleaf (*Tillandsia balbisiana*)
- 365. Redstem Purslane (*Portulacca rubricaulis*)
- 366. Rubbervine (*Rhabdadenia biflora*)
- 367. Coastal Searocket (*Cakile lanceolata*)
- 368. Clamshell Orchid (*Prosthechea cochleata*)
- 369. Greater Yellowspike Orchid (*Polystachya concreta*)
- 370. Leatherleaf Airplant (*Tillandsia variabilis*)
- 371. Pinepink (*Bletia purpurea*)
- 372. Bandanna-of-the-Everglades (*Canna flaccida*)
- 373. Starrush Whitetop (*Rhynchospora colorata*)
- 374. Ghost Orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*)
- 375. Varnishleaf (*Dodonaea viscosa*)
- 376. Joewood (*Jacquinia keyensis*)
- 377. Paintedleaf (*Poinsettia cyathophora*)
- 378. Goldenclub (*Orontium aquaticum*)
- 379. Red Spiderling (*Boerhavia diffusa*)
- 380. Pine-hyacinth (*Clematis baldwinii*)
- 381. Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)
- 382. Lopsided Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum secundum*)
- 383. Bartram's Rosegentian (*Sabatia decandra*)
- 384. Skyflower (*Hydrolea corymbosa*)
- 385. Eastern False Dragonhead (*Physostegia purpurea*)
- 386. Shoreline Seapurslane (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*)
- 387. Pond Apple (*Annona glabra*)
- 388. Florida Milkweed (*Asclepias feayi*)
- 389. Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)
- 390. Glade Labelia (*Labelia glandulosa*)
- 391. Prickly Applecactus (*Harrisia aboriginum*)
- 392. Christmasvine (*Turbina corymbosa*)
- 393. Okeechobee Gourd (*Cucurbita okeechobeensis*)
- 394. Sweetbroom (*Scoparia dulcis*)
- 395. Denselower Knotweed (*Polygonum glabrum*)
- 396. Redgal (*Morinda royoc*)
- 397. Everglades Key False Buttonweed (*Spermacoce terminalis*)
- 398. Diamondflowers (*Stenaria nigricans*)
- 399. False Mastic (*Sideroxylon foetidissimum*)
- 400. Bird Pepper (*Capsicum annum* var. *glabriusculum*)
- 401. Potatootree (*Solanum erianthum*)
- 402. Marinevine (*Cissua trifoliata*)
- 403. Pineland Acacia (*Acacia pinetorum*)
- 404. Coinvine (*Dalbergia ecastaphyllum*)
- 405. Pretty False Pawpaw (*Deeringothamnus rugelii* var. *pulchellus*)
- 406. White Stopper (*Eugenia axillaris*)
- 407. Lesser Florida Spurge (*Euphorbia polyphylla*)
- 408. Florida Scrub Frostweed (*Helianthemum nashii*)
- 409. Medicine Vine (*Hippocratea volubilis*)
- 410. Virginia Saltmarsh Mallow (*Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*)

REGION 8:

- 411. Wild Allamanda (*Pentalinon luteum*)
- 412. Wild Coco (*Eulophia alba*)
- 413. Tree Seaside Oxeye (*Borrchia arborescens*)
- 414. Christmasberry (*Crossopetalum ilicifolium*)
- 415. Lignum Vitae (*Guaicacum sanctum*)
- 416. Bay Cedar (*Suriana maritima*)
- 417. Rough Velvetseed (*Guettarda scabra*)
- 418. Snowberry (*Chiococca alba*)
- 419. Sevenyear Apple (*Genipa clusifolia*)
- 420. Florida Bitterbush (*Picramnia pentandra*)
- 421. Sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*)
- 422. Black Calabash (*Amphilecna latifolia*)
- 423. Triangle Cactus (*Acanthocereus tetragonus*)
- 424. Long Key Locustberry (*Byrsonima lucida*)
- 425. Beach Clustervine (*Jacquemontia reclinata*)
- 426. Beachstar (*Cyperus pedunculatus*)
- 427. Florida Keys Blackbead (*Pithecellobium keyensis*)
- 428. Cardinal Airplant (*Tillandsia fasciculata*)
- 429. Coastal Indian Mallow (*Abutilon permolle*)
- 430. Dinky-flowered Star Orchid (*Epidendrum anceps*)
- 431. Dallar Orchid (*Prosthechea boothiana*)
- 432. Hoopvine (*Trichostigma octandrum*)
- 433. Longlip Ladiesstresses (*Spiranthes longilabris*)
- 434. Longclaw Orchid (*Eltroplectris calcarata*)
- 435. Mangroveberry (*Mosiera longipes*)
- 436. Night-scented Orchid (*Epidendrum nocturnum*)
- 437. Pineland Passionflower (*Passiflora pallens*)
- 438. Porknut (*Acacia macracantha*)
- 439. Biscayne Pricklyash (*Zanthoxylum coriaceum*)
- 440. Sea Lavender (*Argusia gnaphalodes*)
- 441. Key Tree Cactus (*Pilosocereus polygonus*)
- 442. Skyblue Clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*)
- 443. Small's Milkwort (*Polygala smallii*)
- 444. Southern Fogfruit (*Phyla stochadifolia*)
- 445. Umbrella Star Orchid (*Epidendrum floridaense*)
- 446. Florida Strap Airplant (*Catopsis floribunda*)
- 447. Warmvine Orchid (*Vanilla labellata*)
- 448. Coco Plum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*)
- 449. Largeflower False Rosemary (*Conradina grandiflora*)
- 450. Stiff-flower Star Orchid (*Epidendrum rigidum*)
- 451. Coastal Mock Vervain (*Glandularia maritima*)
- 452. East Coast Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*)
- 453. Erect Pricklypear (*Opuntia stricta*)
- 454. Beachberry (*Scaevola plumieri*)
- 455. Privet Wild Sensitive Plant (*Senna ligustrina*)
- 456. Chapman's Wild Sensitive Plant (*Senna mexicana* var. *chapmanii*)
- 457. Saw Palmetto (*Serenoa repens*)
- 458. Blue Porterweed (*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*)
- 459. Florida Clover Ash (*Tourazgia bicolor*)
- 460. Bahama Strongbark (*Bouerria succulenta*)
- 461. Cabbage Palm (*Sabal palmetto*)
- 462. Narrowleaf Yellowtops (*Flaveria linearis*)
- 463. Turkey Tangle Fogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*)
- 464. Beggarticks (*Bidens alba*)
- 465. Florida Swampprivet (*Forestiera segregata*)
- 466. Slender Gayfeather (*Liatris gracilis*)
- 467. Jack-in-the-bush (*Chromolaena odorata*)
- 468. Purple Thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*)
- 469. Pineland Croton (*Croton linearis*)
- 470. Low Rattlebox (*Crotalaria pumila*)
- 471. Rabbitbells (*Crotalaria rotundifolia*)
- 472. Devil's Potato (*Echites umbellatus*)
- 473. Beach Creeper (*Erodia littoralis*)
- 474. Scorpionstail (*Heliotropium angiospermum*)
- 475. Camphorweed (*Heterotheca subaxillaris*)
- 476. Buttonsage (*Lantana involucreta*)
- 477. Snow Squarestem (*Melanthera nivea*)
- 478. Pricklypear (*Opuntia humifusa*)
- 479. Corkystem Passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*)
- 480. Seaopts (*Uniola paniculata*)
- 481. White Indigoberry (*Randia aculeata*)
- 482. Thicketleaf Wild Petunia (*Ruellia succulenta*)
- 483. Wand Goldenrod (*Solidago stricta*)
- 484. Hairy Dawnflower (*Stylisma villosa*)
- 485. Fakahatcheegrass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*)
- 486. Paradiseetree (*Simarouba glauca*)
- 487. Florida Fishpoison Tree (*Piscidia piscipula*)
- 488. Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*)
- 489. Snowy Orchid (*Platanthera nivea*, =*Habenaria nivea*)
- 490. Rockland Shrubverbena (*Lantana depressa*)
- 491. Purple Passion Flower (*Passiflora incarnata*)
- 492. Cigar Orchid (*Cyrtopodium punctatum*)
- 493. Button Rattlesnakemaster (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)
- 494. Curacao Bush (*Cordia globosa*)
- 495. Yellow Milkwort (*Polygala rugelii*)
- 496. Cinnamon Bark (*Canella winterana*)
- 497. Poisonwood (*Metopium toxiferum*)
- 498. Pitchapple (*Clusia rosea*)
- 499. Florida Butterfly Orchid (*Encyclia tampensis*)
- 500. Red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*)

500 ARTISTS

Flor500 celebrates the history of Florida through its distribution, acknowledgment, and production of culturally relevant information, the inclusion of artists from across the state allowing an opportunity for an involved sense of concurrent knowledge sharing. As the participating artists use their chosen wildflower muse as inspiration for an original work they continue the dissemination of knowledge offered to them by the botanists who selected their wildflower. This also speaks to inherent issues in historical documentation, the representation and dispersal of communal and individual truths often being ambiguous in specific meaning and intent.





Mara Viksnins , "FLOR28: Godfrey's Goldenaster (*Chrysopsis godfreyi*)", acrylic, 12" x 12", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Mara Viksnins displays her art @ Blue Morning Gallery and Quayside Art Gallery in Pensacola, Fl. She has a degree in Art from the University of West Florida and has won many awards locally and Nationally.

Artist's Statement

Mara Viksnins is ultimately obsessed with the figure. "No matter how I start a painting, whether it be with just random brush strokes and colors or with a more realistic intent, a figure appears! I love to portray the female figure, sometimes in a mystical setting, sometimes as a nurturer or mother nature or just as an ordinary human being."



Photo credit: Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Morgan Arnett, "*FLOR 31: Sundial Lupine (Lupinus perennis)*", watercolor and watercolor pencils, 9" x 21", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I live in Pensacola, Florida and I am currently pursuing my Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with a focus on painting and printmaking at the University of West Florida.

Artist's Statement

My work as whole represents my own reflections on societal issues, primarily those concerning body issues and gender division, as well as the physicality and physiognomy of the body and a being's relationship with it. These subjects are largely translated through my lithographs, image transfers, and gestural oil paintings. I am currently preparing for a solo exhibition in December of 2013.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Cindy Borders, "FLOR 33: Scarlet Calaminth (*Calamintha coccinea*)," Acrylic on wood, 15" circular, 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

I began as an art major in college and became a registered nurse. I have lived in the Florida Panhandle for 26 years. I paint for my own sanity. Creative expression is important. I love to paint flowers, beach scenes; nature. I plan to expand my creative experience to other mediums and subjects.

Artist's Statement

Conserving our environment on earth is important. Creative expression is important. I want to share my perception of how I perceive light, objects and color through my art.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sherry Klemen, "FLOR 34: False Rosemary (*Conradina canescens*)", acrylic on canvas, 24" x 30", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

I've lived in Northwest Florida for 38 years and am still inspired by the abundance of natural beauty here. I learned the art of silver jewelry making in Tucson, spent many years as an airbrush artist on the beach here and did some commercial art along the way. Once my three children were well on their way I have been able to devote more time to my love of painting.

Artist's Statement

A glorious piece of nature, a lyric, a passing thought; these are my inspirations. I feel fortunate to be able to portray these images, but even more grateful for when the work takes me on the journey it had planned instead of where I thought we were going.

My art work includes airbrushed t-shirts, southwest jewelry, commercial art, furniture painting and my greatest love; painted canvases!

The rosemary plant grows in abundance all around this area. I have always loved its delicate beauty and the wonderful aroma of the leaves. I see it scattered in the scrub oaks and vegetation leading up to the dunes. I am painting this little flower big and bold to exemplify its beauty.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Juanita Johns, "FLOR 35: Yellow Meadowbeauty (*Rhexia lutea*)", ink and acrylic on watercolor paper, 6.5" x 9.5", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Juanita is a part-time student and full-time employee at the University of West Florida. She is a senior, working towards a BA in Art History.

Artist's Statement

I was interested in this project not just as a venue to submit artwork, but I think the 500-year celebration is a wonderful idea. I would love the opportunity to help promote Florida's native flowers.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Cheryl Audet Lavoie, "FLOR 36: Fevertree (*Pinckneya bracteata*)", acrylic on canvas, 16" x 20", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Having graduated from MASSART, I started a family I was delighted to learn about FLOR500! It has given and traveled extensively, while making as much art me the opportunity to learn something new and the as possible. I never really favored one style, subject challenge to turn that knowledge into a work of art. or medium over another. All are tools of expression The plant, *Pinckneya bracteata*, that I chose is and all can be found in my work. I have exhibited in unfortunately on the endangered species list. Maybe many areas of the country and continue to show my that can change if people realize its value. Its other work. Everything is inspirational to creating and every popular name, Fever Tree, began when a fever creation is an inspiration for the next.

Artist's Statement

reducing tea was made from the bark.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Linda Harris, "FLOR 39: Eastern Sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*)," Acrylic Paint on Canvas, 12" x 16", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Self taught painter who divides time between Tallahassee and Panama City Beach and paints for relaxation. Landscapes, seascapes, and flowers are favorite subjects.

Artist's Statement

Very excited about the educational and creative scope of this amazing project. I have a keen interest in indigenous species and local habitats. Looking through the FLOR500 plants, I found this endangered species growing in my own backyard!



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Cherie Bernatt, "FLOR 40: Florida Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron austrinum*)," acrylic on canvas and image manipulation with GIMP, 8" x 10", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Cherie Bernatt is a self taught artist who works in acrylics on canvas. She is a member of PCA (Panama City Artists) and her work is sometimes displayed at the City Arts Cooperative Gallery in Panama City, FL.

Artist's Statement

I love painting and think it is one of the best creative outlets I have found! It is so much fun to see the smiles on peoples' faces when they view art that they love.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Linda Matela, "FLOR 42: Whitetop Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia leucophylla*)",
watercolor, 8" x 20" unframed, 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Linda was born and raised in South Florida, constantly surrounded by tropical plants, orchids her mother grew, crotons, ferns and many other colorful shrubs and trees. Having returned to Florida, I have been painting with the brights adding many layers of color to my favorite subjects, shells, fish and tropical flowers.

Artist's Statement

I grew up in South Florida, surrounded by tropical vegetation, orchids, music and a loving family. Both of my grandmothers were always sewing, quilting, gardening and encouraging us to explore the arts. Painting came to me a little late in life, but I am making up for lost time. My love of color and my natural surroundings gives me my inspiration for painting with many layers of color to achieve the brightness of my paintings. My watercolors are unique because of the details, colors, and the subjects.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Geri Dendis, "FLOR 44: White Birds-in-a-nest (*Macbridea alba*)", acrylic, 16" x 20", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Geri has been involved with art since a small child(a long time!).

Artist's Statement

I love painting flowers and to be involved in this project is a joy. My wish is to bring beauty to this world for the pleasure of others.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Dinett Hok, "FLOR 45: Fringed Pink (*Silene catesbaei*)", watercolor, 9" x 12", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Dinett was born in the Republic of Panama. She began formal art studies at the age of 17. After graduating from the University of Panama with a BA in Graphic Art, Dinett worked as a commercial graphic artist for two different clothing companies. After marrying, Dinett moved to USA and work for 7 years as a school art teacher. She continues to paint where she currently resides in Destin, Florida.

Artist's Statement

God has blessed us with the beauty of nature. I try to capture this in my work and share it with the world. My artwork thrives on the love I have for trees and textures in nature. My works are emotions and feelings transmitted from my eyes and heart to the canvas. I love to create mixed media artwork with heavy textures, rich colors and elements of nature in the actual artwork.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Diane Mercado Mouskourie, "FLOR 46: Royal Catchfly (*Silene regia*)," acrylic on wood, 16" x 20", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Diane Mercado Mouskourie earned an A.S. degree in commercial art at Gulf Coast State College in 1981 and worked 15 years as a technical illustrator and graphic designer. Ten years later, she completed a B.S. in mass communication and worked as a print journalist for daily newspapers in Florida, North Carolina, Delaware and Pennsylvania until retiring last year.

Artist's Statement

Once retired Diane decided to rededicate herself to her love of art. Though she had dabbled in various art mediums throughout the years, Diane did not have the time to paint as she wanted. Now she does. Being part of this project has encouraged her to do more.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Olga Guy, "FLOR 50: Meadow Garlic (*Allium canadense* var. *mobile*)", acrylic on canvas, 10" x 14", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Mother, artist, photographer and art lover.

Artist's Statement

I love art. Photography and Painting are my 2 biggest passions. My work is like a diary of my life...showing the places I have been to or things that I like. I love learning new things and sharing my work...So thank you so much for visiting my page. I hope you like it. Amor y Paz



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Susan K. Peacock, "FLOR 53: Panhandle Lily (*Lilium iridollae*)", oil on canvas, 18" x 12"
(Roman Arch), 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

born in Minnesota but raised in Florida, I have been a professional artist for almost 30 years, painting primarily in oils. My paintings have been shown, and can be found in corporate and private collections, nationally and internationally. BA cum laude in Fine Arts from FSU.

Artist's Statement

After 30 years, I still find painting to be a sensual and intellectual pleasure. I grew upon the water and have always loved the outdoors. In my paintings, natural phenomena such as waves, clouds, and botanicals become images with an atmosphere/attitude, if all goes well. I love to paint!



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sherry Klemen, "FLOR 58: Hairy Puccoon (*Lithospermum Caroliniense*)", acrylic, 18" x 24", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I'm one of those people who came to take a look at Northwest Florida almost 40 years ago and never left. The natural beauty is a constant source of inspiration for my art. I primarily work in acrylic but like all creative journeys.

Artist's Statement

The inspiration finds me, often when I'm walking, and I try to answer creatively. It often surprises me, both in the message itself and how it manifests.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jan Bennicoff, "FLOR 59: American Bellflower (*Campanula americana*)", alkyds, 12" x 12", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Jan Bennicoff, artist, musician and writer has a B.A. from UW-Milwaukee in Drawing and Painting as well as a B.M. in music from UW-Stevens Point.

She is a member of City Arts Cooperative in Panama City, Fl. where she teaches drawing, watercolor and oils.

Artist's Statement

My artistic work takes an alternative look at colors and the way they appear in nature. Many have referred to me as a "colorist" because of the brightness of my colors.

Influenced by the Impressionists, Expressionists and the Fauvists, I create color interactions that tantalize the eyes and senses through use of complimentary colors.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kelly Duncan, "*FLOR 60: Silky Camellia (Stewartia malacodendron)*", pencil, 8" x 8", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Kelly Duncan was born in London, Ontario, and grew up in central New York. She originally moved to Florida to pursue her dream of flight, ultimately becoming a civilian flight instructor at Tyndall Air Force Base. Since then, she has returned to her first love: Trying to put her visions and dreams down in graphic form for others to peruse.

Artist's Statement

The Silky Camellia is found in my backyard near to my studio door. I pass it every day on my way through what we refer to as "The Jungle", our own little oasis in the middle of the concrete and pavement that is the city.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



René Lynch , "*FLOR 61: American Lotus (Nelumbo lutea)*", Watercolor on Aquabord (clay coated Masonite), 24" x 36", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

René Lynch is a watermedia artist based in Tallahassee. Extensive travel to tropical shores provides an endless array of vibrant subject matter. Previous work experience includes stints in the technology and design industries. She recently left a teaching position in Interior Design at Florida State University to paint full time.

Artist's Statement

Color, rhythm and value; these are the driving forces behind my work. I see lushness all around me, and I want to capture it, process it and throw it back out onto the surface. Using water based media that mimics the organic qualities of my subject matter, I try to recreate the exuberance of our natural world.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Camille Demarinis, "FLOR 62: Yellow Butterwort (*Pinguicula lutea*)", Sumi ink on paper, 9" x 10 1/2", 2014 (CC)

About the Artist

Camille Demarinis has loved the wildness of nature since childhood, and hopes to never completely return from it.

Artist's Statement

Yellow Butterwort is especially fascinating to me because of its carnivorous diet. It is selective in who will benefit from its nectar, animals who aren't up to the challenge become its victims. This slightly sinister viewpoint is the reason I was drawn to it. I enjoy plants that put up a fight.



Photo credit: [Dennis Girard](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Loye Barnard, "FLOR 63: Mangrove Spiderlily (*Hymenocallis latifolia*)", oil on canvas, 10" x 10", 2011 (CC).

About the Artist:

Loye Barnard serves on boards of several organizations protecting Florida's resources. Painting native flora and landscape gives voice to a vital part of her life. She's traveled much of the world, lived and exhibited in the West Indies. She loves the diversity and tenacity of plants and of people.

Artist's statement:

Born near Bonaventure Cemetery in Savannah, Georgia, fence rows and fields with wildflowers were my childhood companions. Their myriad sizes, entwining vines, enchanting names, and thrilling colors delighted me then and enthrall me today in north Florida. I am honored to be an integral part of our natural world.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Margaret Ross Tolbert, "FLOR 64: American Eelgrass (*Vallisneria americana*)", oil and mixed media on canvas, 8" x 6", 2011. (CC)

About the Artist

As an artist, I often feel my mission is to articulate the presence of unseen worlds. The waters of Florida offer us an different and often unfamiliar universe to experience, yet one that courses under our feet, Eelgrass flowers glow like small beacons in the distance in underwater forests of grasses in Florida freshwater springs.

Artist's Statement

Margaret Ross Tolbert is a Florida artist whose work reflects her immersion in the exotic, from travels on trade routes through ancient cultures, to the ideal destination of the springs of Florida. A painter, writer and performance artist, she documents the mysterious Sirena, denizen of Florida's freshwater springs. Her book *AQUIFERious*, chronicles her involvement with the springs and aquifers of Florida.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Tina Corbett, "FLOR 65: Florida Scrub Roseling (*Callisia ornata*) ", oil on canvas, 11" x 14", 2011 (CC).

About the Artist:

Tina Corbett lives in High Springs and has work displayed at several Florida galleries. She studied Commercial Art and served as Postal Illustrator for the South Florida USPS for 17 years. Now she pursues her first love, Fine Art painting. Her subjects vary from figurative, animals, local and European landscapes.

Artist's Statement:

My eyes introduce my world to my passion for color and my tool is my paintbrush. I gravitate to rich hues that portray the ability to be alive and to take life to the limits. It is with this spirit that I paint realism. Realism that your soul can feel.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jeb Booth, "FLOR 67: Rose Pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*)," acrylic paint on black walnut board, 11" x 19.5", 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

Since the beginning of my time the creeks and hollows called me to follow them into the woods and fields, immersing myself. The creatures were my companions. My desire to speak of this visually honed my senses and understanding. Not much has changed, only deepened.

Artist's Statement

My feeling is, like ancient primal artists before, that through the recognition and rendering of the natures we can make offerings to them that enhance their life energies. Like prayers to their spirit. In reverence, and with gratitude for their gifts.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Anna Calluori Holcombe, "FLOR 69: Longbract Wakerobin (*Trillium underwoodii*) ", commercial porcelain tile, ceramic decal, slip cast porcelain, luster, 6" x 4" x 2", 2008 (CC)

About the Artist

The artist graduated cum laude with a BA in art education from Montclair State University in 1974. She received her MFA in ceramics from Louisiana State University in 1977. Teaching in higher education since 1978. She has been a professor at the University of Florida for the last 5 years. Calluori Holcombe exhibits on a national and international level.

Artist Statement

I use the decals in a collage-like fashion, cutting and "pasting" them to fit the areas and concept I am interested in. The shift from two-dimensional to three-dimensional as well as from negative and positive space, becomes critical to the composition.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Maria Rogal, "FLOR 71: Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*)", Adobe Illustrator, 6" x 10", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Maria Rogal is an Associate Professor of Graphic Design at the University of Florida. She created the Design for Development (D4D) initiative in which graphic design students and faculty work with artisans, farmers, and organizers in southern Mexican Maya communities to explore ways design can foster local development projects.

Artist Statement

The Jack-in-the-pulpit is so visually engaging, delightful, sensual, and strong. How to depict it was a challenge. I elected to simplify its presentation to highlight its form and patterning which are so distinct.

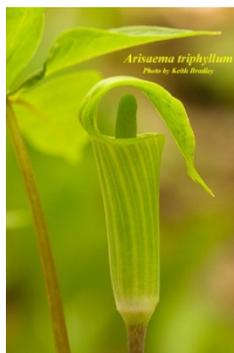


Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Cassie Tucker, "FLOR 73: Purplehead Sneezeweed (*Helenium flexuosum*)",
Watercolor, 26" x 22", 2012.(CC)

About the Artist

Cassie Tucker is a watercolor artist living in Wakulla, Florida. She lived in Selkirk, New York until 1970 then in Tallahassee, Florida until 1995. Always preferring the rural, country life, Cassie lives surrounded by woods with her husband, Richard, two dogs, two cats and three horses. Exploring art and painting has been a lifetime passion. Cassie earned degrees in Studio Art and then a Master of Science in Art Education from Florida State University in 1997 before she began teaching. Her previous work, prior to being a stay home mom with two children, was in Graphic Design. Currently she enjoys teaching drawing/painting and AP Art History at Wakulla High School. Travel to Europe, leading student groups has provided much inspiration for her recent watercolors. She paints windows with weathered wood, wrought iron and intriguing shadows. Sunlight dances down winding alleys, inviting you to seek adventure.

Artist's Statement

... the first part of the Journey

Why I do what I do. Some might see the final, finished art and conclude this is what drives an artist – to produce an incredible painting. For me this is only part of the reason why I paint. I wonder about fresh combinations of color for sunlight and shadows. I consider how the image speaks to me, often places that suggest a feeling to me. I aim to reinvent the scene as I brush it into my watercolors, finding areas to play with the rhythm of wet media. Ultimately, teaching art history magnifies my awareness of the sparse trail of women artist. My journey is exploring these and other new ideas; searching for and expressing possibilities.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jennifer Clinard, "FLOR 74: Pinkscale Gayfeather (*Liatris elegans*)," ink and gouache on paper, 8.5" x 11", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Jennifer Clinard came to landscape painting from a thirty year career in theater and film. Growing up in Florida, she completed a master's degree in Constructive Design at Florida State University. After moving to San Francisco, she became a scenic artist, painting and sculpting for the San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Ballet.

Since her return to Florida, Jennifer has explored the world of plein air landscape painting. She initially exhibited at the Railroad Square and South of Soho Galleries. For the last five years, she has shown her paintings at the LeMoyné Center for the Visual Arts, Gadsden Art Center, Tallahassee Museum of history and Natural Science, and FSU Museum of Fine Arts.

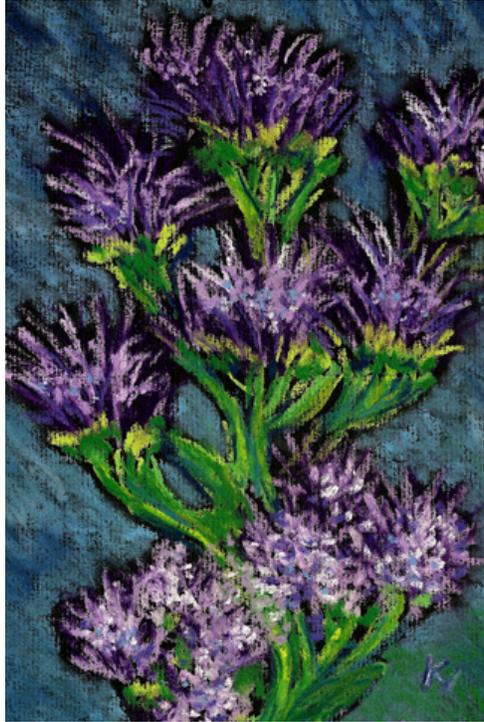
Artist's Statement

"I love exploring the landscapes of Florida. It gives me a sense of place and home. I am especially intrigued with the wild places such as the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge. Outdoor painting demands both acute observation and my full attention. Although the product is a still image, the process feels more like an exquisite slow movie, I strive for a sense of oneness and congruency with the landscape."

Her artistic associations include the Tallahassee Artists League, Gadsden Artists Guild, Alla Prima Landscape Group and Tallahassee Sketchcrawl Group. Her work is in collections at Agnes Scott College and the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Katrina Vitkus, "FLOR 75: Tall Ironweed (*Vernonia angustifolia*)", pastels, 6" x 9", 2012.(CC)

About the Artist

Katrina Vitkus is currently an elementary school art teacher. She is a graduate of the University of Florida's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, specializing in Biological Illustration. Previous work experience includes illustration, design, and technology. As a naturalist, she enjoys living in Florida and observing our diverse habitats.

Artist's Statement

Line, shape, color, value, texture, space, and form are the elements of art which I try to pass on to my students. Within my own work, natural subjects inspire me to capture what I see. Working with children reminds me to keep things simple. In this piece, I studied ironweed from the horse pasture, and then created several pastel sketches, before deciding on this composition.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Amy Vigilante, "FLOR 76: Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)," ,oil on canvas, 20" x 10", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Dr. Vigilante has been Director of the University Galleries since 2002 at UF. As a practicing artist, Vigilante has exhibited in numerous group and solo shows, and has received several awards including a State of Florida Individual Artist's Fellowship. Her current work in textiles has traveled to eight venues in Florida and Georgia since 2008. Dr. Vigilante has served as a juror for over 100 art shows in the southeast.

Artist's Statement

Color, pattern, shape and line are elements of painting that characterize these textile works. They are constructed as traditional quilts; with ornate tops, batting and backing. Both sides are complex and pictorial. The fabrics and garments are machine pieced and hand quilted. Lines of embroidery thread are heavy and rough. Marimekko, Speedo and other sources contribute to the aesthetics. These works are inspired by Florida hurricanes; haphazard lines of copious stitching track the strange paths of the storms. The quilts are very physical, ranging widely in texture and weight.



Photo credit: Michael Drummond



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ashley Ivey, "FLOR 77: Yellow Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia flava*)," ink on paper, 9" x 9", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Ashley Ivey is a maker and designer living in Tallahassee, Florida.

Artist's Statement

My work stems from a deep rooted curiosity about the way people perceive and interact with the world around them. I am fascinated with the tactics people use to cope with fear, insecurity, love, discomfort and joy.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Willene Johnson, "FLOR 78: Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)," photography, 1805 X 1200, 2014.
(CC)

About the Artist

Willene Johnson has lived in Gainesville Florida for 23 years. After graduating from Troy University with a degree in Studio Art she moved to Orlando and then Gainesville Florida. Photography has been the medium to communicate a love for nature and the diverse human story. These communications have been displayed in many venues in North Central Florida.

Artist's Statement

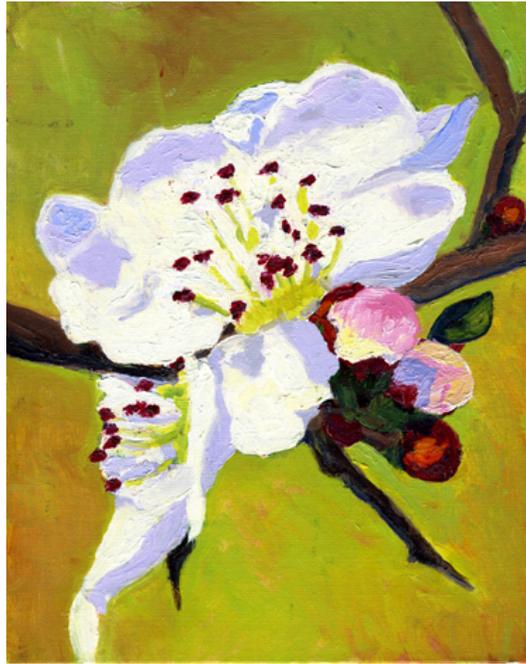
Photography is a form of meditation. One must meet and become part of the subject. Be present to blend into its' environment and follow the rhythm. My artistic passion is for the image to draw the viewer into the experience.



Photo credit: Virginia Ducey



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jill Quadagno, "FLOR 79: May Haw (*Crataegus aestivalis*)," oil on canvas, 8" x 10", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Jill Quadagno has been drawing and painting for most of her life. Her paintings express her emotional response to beauty in nature. They are not an exact representation of a particular scene, but rather reflect her desire to capture the sensation of light and color.

Artist's Statement

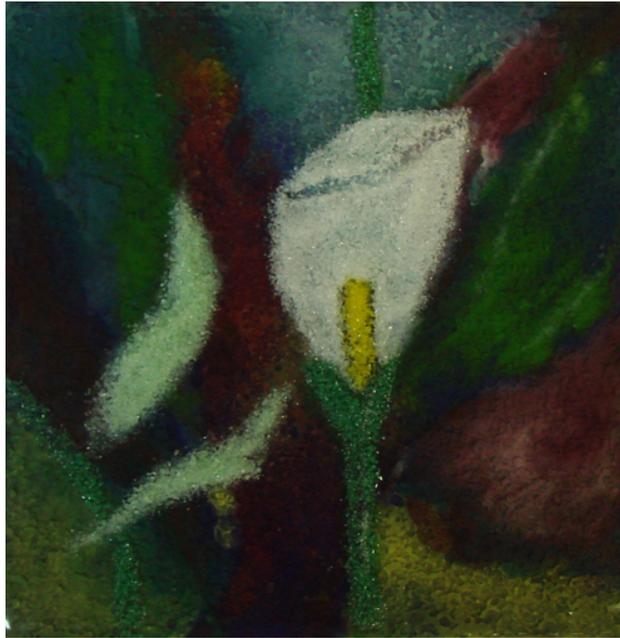
Jill Quadagno chose the Mayhaw as her subject, because she was inspired by the rich ruby red color of the berries and the lovely flowers that bloom in late February and early March. She has also been to the Mayhaw festival in Georgia where May Haw jelly is sold.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Terrie Corbett, "*FLOR 81: White Arrow Arum (Peltandra sagittifolia)*," kiln fired glass, glass frit, and vitreous enamels, 6.5" x 6.5", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Terrie lives in Tallahassee. Her work is represented by Kittrell/Riffkind Art Glass in Dallas, Texas and Bender Gallery in Asheville, N.C. 2012 Exhibits were "Divergent Visions-Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of American Studio Glass," "Pinnacle" a National juried exhibition, and "Third Annual Juried Exhibition" for the FL Museum of Women Artists.

Artist's Statement

Glass is my canvas. Vitreous enamels and frit are applied using traditional painting and drawing techniques to create the imagery in my work. Abstraction is my focus; however, I hope to bring the same energy to pieces that are representational. The work is kiln-fired multiple times to 1450 degrees.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Susan L. Richardson, "FLOR 82: Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)," oil, 12" x 12", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Born and raised in London, England, the youngest child of very creative parents. My father was a member of the Royal College of Art and my mother was a draftsman before starting a family. I painted and drew under their direction until academics got in the way. Always an entrepreneur, I have been, in no particular order, a head hunter, restaurateur inventor, golf ball hunter, fruit and vegetable picker, car washer, dog/cat/horse/bird and squirrel trainer, real estate mogul (not), women's accessories representative and jewelry designer/manufacturer/wholesaler. Participated in art workshops over the years and painted watercolors when in England. After oil workshops on St. George Island I started painting again in earnest. Historic Apalachicola, with her rivers, estuaries, bays and Gulf waters, provides endless inspiration.



Photo credit: Michael Drummond



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Mark J. Fletcher, "*FLOR 83: Ashe's Magnolia (Magnolia macrophylla var. ashei)*," stoneware platter, 17", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Mark Fletcher is a professional artist and adjunct Professor of Art at FAMU. Since childhood I have camped, hiked and kayaked in various settings. I hope to convey the spirit of joy and renewal in nature. Our world is increasingly at risk, environmentally-concerned major artworks in various media.

Artist's Statement

Since childhood I have camped, hiked and kayaked in various settings. I hope to convey the spirit of joy and renewal in nature. Our world is increasingly at risk, environmentally-concerned major artworks in various media. art may inspire folks to experience and protect our vital natural resources.



Photo credit: Keith Birder



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Linda Goodwin, "FLOR 84: Common Eveningprimrose (*Oenothera biennis*)", watercolor, 7.4" x 7.4", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I am a mental health counselor who uses art as one of the tools in my private practice. I paint and quilt for relaxation and because I love to create objects to give to others.

Artist's Statement

I love the way watercolor represents nature - flowing, colorful and natural. I paint flowers, trees and landscapes. I am especially drawn to flowers and I try to plant wild flowers in our landscape.

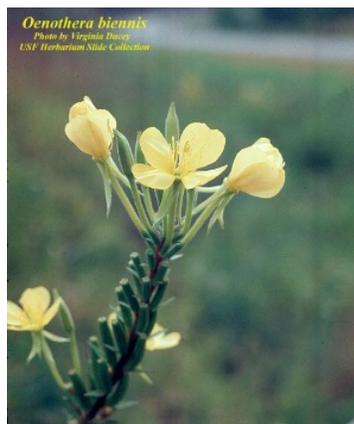


Photo credit: Virginia Ducey



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Alexa Kleinbard, "FLOR 85: Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*)", oil paint on cut out shaped birch wood, 45"x 46"x 1/2", 2012 (CC)

Artist's Statement

About the Artist

Alexa Kleinbard grew up exploring forest trails and following her gentle father as he tended to self-designed and beautifully colored, native gardens in Rydal, Pennsylvania. This early imprinting of intense ecological observation led her to develop a deep curiosity about the natural world. In 1978 she did her first group museum exhibit in NYC at The New Museum and has continued visually creating. In 2012 her solo exhibit at the Ogden Museum in New Orleans received strong reviews. She continues to make and exhibit art inspired by the natural world and the part mankind has played in it's current condition.

Bloodroot, known as red puccoon root for the dye made from the root was used by Native Americans for their artwork and to dye skin. It is a beautiful spring flower, which first appears with a pretty violet leaf wrapped around its stem and flower. Later the white flower, pollinated by bees and flies, opens and when it dies the leaf opens turning green. Ants take the seeds to their nest where they ingest a substance, then cast the seeds out dispersing them away from the mother plant to grow. The black salve made from the plant has been used to treat skin cancers from early times till now only by professional healers.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Penny G. Anderson, "FLOR 86: Shootingstar (*Primula meadia*)", watercolor, 24" x 18" 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

A lifelong resident of Florida and having spent most of her life in Tallahassee, Penny has been a serious water media artist since 2004 when she was residing in S. Fla. She enjoys entering juried water media exhibitions, has signature status in several organizations and enjoys music and gardening as well.

Artist's Statement

I draw from nature and paint from the heart. I prefer painting florals and having lived in North, Central and South Florida, I have taken photographs of the flora and fauna of each region. I then draw and paint the flowers, plants and trees as I see them. From palms to native magnolias, I love painting my surroundings. Wild flowers are particularly captivating to photograph and paint.



Photo credit: Virginia Ducey



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Katerie Gladdys, "FLOR 87: Florida Betony (*Stachys floridana*)", lenticular print, set of 8, 4" x 6" 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

I am a social practices artist who employs digital media such as video and sound to examine place, marginalized landscapes, sustainability, mapping, consumption, and agriculture. I create installations, interactive sculpture, video, and relational performances.

Artist's Statement

The network of roots that characterizes betony's subterraneous growth inspired me to contact Floridians with stakeholder relationship to Stachy Floridaana inviting them to share their perspective via postcard correspondence. The postcards evidence a conversation about our cultural relationship with this ubiquitous crop/weed/native plant, inviting the audience to ponder the nature beneath their feet.

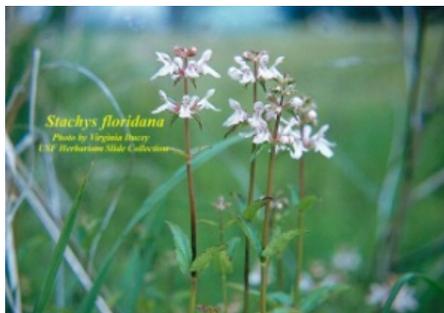


Photo credit: Virginia Ducey



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Mary Liz Tippin-Moody, "FLOR 91: American Witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)", watercolor, 8" x 8" 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

A lifelong Tallahasseean, Mary Liz graduated from Florida State with a BS in Visual Art. She's worked in wood, clay, metal, fabrics, printmaking, drawing and painting on surfaces and objects. While enjoying personal work in illustration, lettering and calligraphy, she's employed by Kidd Group since 1987, as Studio Director/print.

Artist's Statement

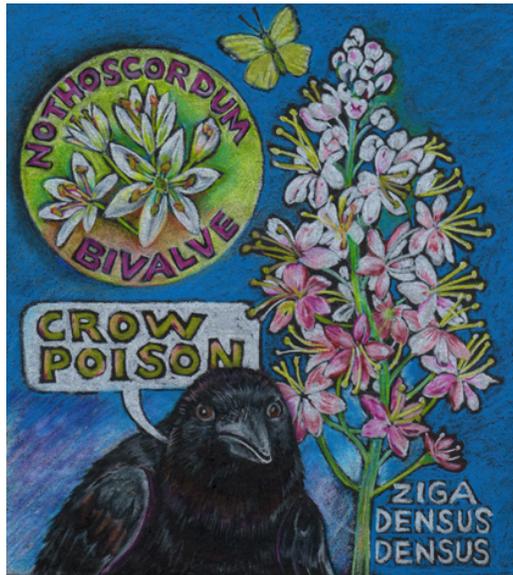
I find any creative process to be the ultimate excitement. I enjoy deeply creating situation scenes from my imagination while embracing "happy accidents." I mostly work in watermedia, but also create three dimensional works with muslin. I enjoy using animals as subjects, using humor and whimsy to amuse or satirize.



Photo credit: Keith Birder



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Joan Matey, "FLOR 93: Crowpoison (*Nothoscordum bivalve*)," Prismacolor pencils, 4" x 6", 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

Joan Matey is an artist and museum curator on the Forgotten Coast in Franklin County, working for the Crooked River Lighthouse and the Carrabelle History Museum. BFA graduate of Florida State University, professional illustrator, and builder of three dimensional art oddities, seeking to inspire others to activism via humor and sharpening of observation skills.

Artist's Statement

What we call Crow Poison in Franklin County (also called Osceola's Plume) had a different botanical name than the FLOR500 listing, so I have drawn both, using Prismacolor pencils. Tourists and butterflies were abundant this fall, as our roadside wildflowers were spared from mowing until later in November!



Photo credit: [Dan Tenaglia](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Laura Roberts, "FLOR 98: Hemlock Waterparsnip (*Sium Suave*)", Watercolor, 30" x 18", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Even though I am not a professional artist, I own my studio where I watercolor and do pottery. I have studied under, and have taken many workshops from well known professional artists for years. I would say my forte is painting wildflowers and botanicals. On weekends I go to my country home where I can plein-air paint in Bay County FL where many of these Leon Co. specimens, also, live.

Artist's Statement

Shown brush strokes is my way of realizing the intricate structure of nature. By translating the re-emerging shapes and shadows occurring in our flora and fauna through the medium of watercolor, I have come to realize the dream of "keeping the wilted at bay."



Photo credit: Dan Tenaglia



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Bruce Pflueger, "FLOR 267: Longleaf Spiderwort (*Tradescantia roseolens*)," oil on canvas, 12"x 12", 2012.(CC)

About the Artist

Bruce Pflueger is an artist-in-hiding. He has never shown his work even though his walls are covered in his paintings. He paints only in oils and usually focuses on landscapes in Europe in large formats. He is a world traveler, engineer, film maker, and entertainment manager and is now officially adding artist to his resume.

Artist's Statement

I have never painted flowers before but my girlfriend asked me to so of course I did. It was a different experience as I usually paint very large canvases of landscapes. I love the color of the spiderwort.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sherry Krawczyk, "FLOR 271: Spotted Water Hemlock (*Cicuta maculata*)," acrylic on canvas, 9" x 12", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Sherry Krawczyk has a successful Floral Design Studio in Orlando, Florida (sherryflowers.com) and specializes in artistic floral designs for all occasions. Her Fine Arts & Graphic Design background lends itself to all she creates. She shares a studio with her husband and has two grown children, also artists.

Artist Statement

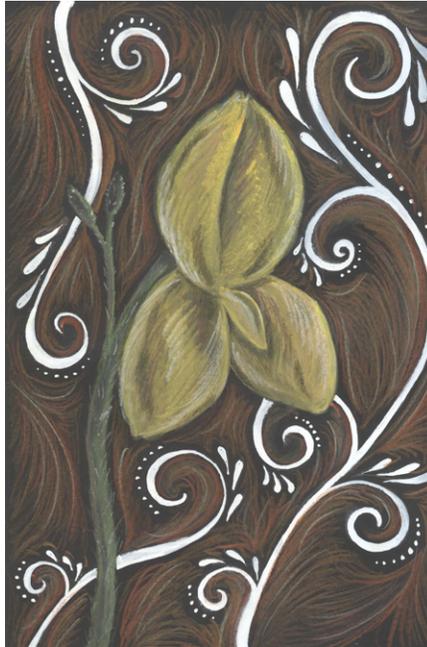
My educational background is Fine Arts & Graphic Design. I love flowers and have had a floral design studio (sherryflowers.com) for the past 10 years or so. I always try to incorporate my artistic sense and aesthetic into floral designs making each arrangement or bouquet unique.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lana Tessler, "*FLOR 275: Florida Alicia (Chapmannia floridana)*," watercolor pencil and gouache on bristol, 6" x 9", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Lana Tessler is a St. Cloud artist and school teacher, specializing in watercolor and creative paper mediums and figurative interpretations of natural life and fantastic and whimsical themes. She also works on reproductions of medieval art in period appropriate materials.

Artist Statement

The Florida Alicia is such a playful, sunny flower that I wanted to include some of that whimsy in this piece. I played with color, texture, and form, allowing the flower and stem's shape determine the structure of the background and letting the color - the flower's most notable feature - pop from the darkness.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ramona A. Garcia, "FLOR 285: Green-fly Orchid (*Epidendrum conopseum*)", watercolor and gouache on paper, 6" X 9", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

I am currently writing a mystery detective series, but I have to thank my niece, Ditsy Suarez, (see FLOR painting 414) for encouraging me to submit a painting, even though I haven't painted in about 30 years. Doing it reminded me of the joy art can bring to the artist.

Artist's Statement

I chose the Green-fly Orchid because I've found them growing on my trees. Captivated by the tiny flowers, I wanted to show them in their 'home' - a Live Oak tree, along with their neighbors - mosses, lichens, Spanish Moss and Resurrection Ferns. The Luna Moth shows how tiny these flowers are.



Photo credit: [Robin Kennedy](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ann-A. Vogt, "FLOR 288: Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)", Ebony Pencil, 16" X 20" framed, 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

As a native Floridian the back roads, fish camps, lakes, springs and the ocean are a constant source of inspiration. Ralph Bagley taught me the charcoal technique I used to win the Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival Governors Award. My studies continued at the Universities of Tennessee and of Central Florida. My artistic calling is lifelong.

Artist's Statement

I greatly admire the Florida Wildflower Foundation's plantings along the roadsides. The 2013 Symposium invitation through FLO 500 for Florida artists to participate has given me a chance to show the Foundation my appreciation of their hard work. My love of wildflowers was daunted by the obscure list the scientists came up with to choose from.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Julie Fisher, "*FLOR 293: Walter's Groundcherry (Physalis walteri)*," photography, 8" x 10", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Julie has been a photographer her whole life. As her life evolved, so did her photography, from friends, to children, to families, to landscapes, and now the environment. She owns a small plant nursery and photographs every cycle of the plants. She is also a graphic designer, environmental educator, and mom to four grown kids.

Artist's Statement

I discovered this mystery plant which of course I thought was a weed, as it may be to some people.. But after I researched, I found out what a neat plant it was! I started collecting the pods, tasting the fruit, and found the cool skeleton shell really interesting. I have two photos that would be good for submission, one of the complete cycle of the plant and the other of a silhouette of a one.



Photo credit: [Walter K. Taylor](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Prem Subrahmanyam, "*FLOR 295: Longhorn False Reinorchid (Habenaria quinqueseta)*," chalk pastels, 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Prem Subrahmanyam is a software engineer by profession, but his passion is the many native species of orchids that grow in our state of Florida. An avid, award-winning photographer, Prem often trudges out in the fields, marshes, and swamps to photograph Florida's wild orchids in situ. His website, www.flnativeorchids.com, shows off many of his photographs, combined with scientific and anecdotal information on many of our native orchid species. He also lectures on native orchids, and his presentations have been well-received at many orchid and plant societies and clubs all over the state. He will be giving his second native orchid presentation at the upcoming 2013 Native Plant Society Conference in Jacksonville.

Artist's Statement

I have had the privilege of seeing this uncommon variant of this orchid in the field, having photographed it several years ago. It is truly a magical orchid when you see it in person, the largest flower of any Habenaria relative in the United States. I did this piece in chalk pastel on black recycled art paper with 30% post consumer content.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Marcy Brennan, "FLOR 302: Alligatorflag (*Thalia geniculata*)," watercolor on paper, 5" x 7", 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

I am self-taught from the age of 18, beginning with a set of oils and brushes and a few Walter Foster instruction books, then various classes along the way. A brief foray into decorative art and faux finishing took me along some interesting paths, but fine art is where I belong. I paint in oils, acrylics and watercolors--yes all three, because each has properties that I love and just won't give up. I paint landscapes, flowers and more recently, abstracts. I enjoy painting pet portraits and have painted a few faces.

Artist's Statement

For me, happiness is having a brush in my hand, paint on the palette and a canvas on the easel. I live to paint! My "day" job is a Realtor, but art is my life. Real estate funds the art addiction ;-). I think and breathe art. When I'm not painting or working, I'm looking at art books, art magazines, art online or watching art instruction videos on YouTube. I simply can't imagine not being able to go into my studio and paint something - whatever inspires me at the time.



Photo credit: [Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Grace Leal, "FLOR 303: Simpson Stopper (*Myrcianthes fragans*)," Digital collage, drawing, 20" x 20", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Grace Leal is a multi-media artist working across several disciplines: mixed-media installations, sculptures, and 2-dimensional paintings, collages and monotypes. She maintains a studio in Cocoa, Florida.

Artist's Statement

My son, Jorge Leal, a landscape architect, designed and installed a native garden in my home.

The upkeep is minimal; there is no grass to mow, very little watering, and only some occasional weeding and pruning.

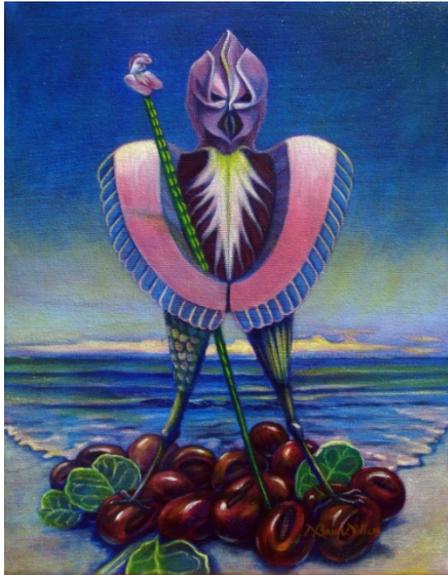
He chose Simpson Stopper, not only for its hardiness and beauty, but because it attracts birds and butterflies.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Nancy Dillen, "FLOR 304: Baybean (*Canavalia rosea*)," oil on canvas, 11" x 14", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Nancy Dillen is a Florida native who grew up in Quincy, FL., received her MA in Art Education and Constructive Design at Florida State University, & was Art Professor & Program Coordinator at Brevard Community College, Melbourne for 35 years. She paints full time, exhibits and conducts workshops locally and nationally. Her works are in many public and private collections throughout the USA.

Artist's Statement

Color and space intrigue me. My aim is to merge imagery of the real and unreal, the romantic and the dramatic. Two concepts reflected in my work are the need to accept things as they are, and the need to dream. I compete with myself to find new and challenging solutions to painted landscapes. In Dame Baybean, reality and fantasy join. I make my own paint using dry pigment and burnt plate oil.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Christine Thomas, "FLOR 305: Gray Nicker Bean (*Caesalpinia bonduc*)," acrylic, 16" x 20", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I have always had a love of painting and creating. I began as a silk screen artist, progressed to fiber art, decorative painting and silk painting, faux finishing, murals and fine art. I am currently an instructor at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, teaching adults and children, plus I am involved in the Museum's Outreach program. I also have a studio/gallery in downtown Fort Pierce.

Artist's Statement

The name got me first - the Gray Nicker Bean - then the bean itself. It is so unusual. While recently creating a mural for the City of Vero Beach on it's history, (with two other artists), we did a lot of research, but this plant got by us. I love the outer spikey parts while the little blue/gray beans lay inside. The Gray Nicker Bean could have been in the movie 'The Little Shop of Horrors'!



Photo credit: Bob Bierman



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Marjorie M. Shropshire, "*FLOR 307: Fourpetal Pawpaw (Asimina tetramera)*," Gouche and ink on Arches hot press paper bound into handmade book, 16" x 20", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Marjorie Shropshire was born in Miami, Florida. Her interest in the natural world and Florida ecosystems was forged at an early age. Anger about development and the casual destruction of Florida's natural areas changed her work from simply documenting Florida's beauty to works that are elegiac, speaking of Florida's wild places in terms of what was and is no more.

Artist's Statement

"PawPaw Journal" mimics an antique naturalist's journal, an object from the past. The painting of the pawpaw on the hand-made journal depicts the plant as an early botanist might see it, connecting the past to the present. Without human care, the four petal pawpaw could easily disappear, and this work would become just another image of loss – something to look at in a museum for a few seconds.



Photo credit: Betty Wargo



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Liz Lamb, "FLOR 308: Railroad Vine (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*)", acrylic on canvas, 16" x 16", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Liz is from Merritt Island, Florida, and grew up on the Indian River Lagoon. She has been drawing and painting since she was a child, and has a B.A. in Studio Fine Arts from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. Most of her recent work has been inspired by nature.

Artist's Statement

I admire the beauty and resilience of the Florida's native plants and wildflowers. I have seen Railroad Vine buried deep under the sand after tropical storms, then emerge and bloom quickly after the sand has washed back out to the ocean. It's large, purple blooms always catch my eye.



Photo credit: Matthew Merritt



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Gabriele DiTota, "FLOR 313: Buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*)", art quilt, 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Gabriele is a fiber art quilter. She uses both commercial and hand dyed fabrics, alters them through applied media and embellishes over the surfaces until she gets the surface she desires. Gabriele is a member of Studio Art Quilters Association (SAQA), Seams Unique Fiber Artists and Seaside Piecemakers Guild. She has had works juried into two SAQA shows and has exhibited in shows in Florida.

Artist's Statement

I enjoy gardening and strive to have interesting textures and colors throughout my yard.. The buttonwood is a plant I have had in my garden for many years due to its green-grey color, velvety soft leaves and attractive flowers and seed pods. My art quilt of the buttonwood is made of commercial fabric that has been colored with pencils and painted, then embellished with machine quilting.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Anita C. Pew, "FLOR 314: Swamp Rosemallow (*Hibiscus grandiflorus*)," watercolor, 9" x 12", 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Having loved to draw and paint, in pastel, graphite etc., since childhood I now have more time. I have enjoyed drawing and painting my grandchildren, every stroke a hug and a kiss!, Learning from others and taking all workshops I can fit in my schedule. I have about every kind of art supply, need anything? Chances are I have it!

Artist's Statement

I find peace and tranquility as I depict nature as I see it, in my watercolor paintings. I use a layering technique, which I learned in Elizabeth Kincaid's class 15 years ago. The beauty in nature, gardening, walking inspires me to respond. JOY



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jen Dacota, "FLOR 315: Southern Beeblossom (*Guara angustifolia*)", oil painting, 24" x 18", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Always a keen observer of her surroundings and the world around her, Jen has been recording these images in her mind and on paper since childhood. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Art Education from St. Aquinas College, Sparkill, New York.

Throughout adulthood, Jen often worked in various mediums, including photography and ceramics, as well as painting.

Artist's Statement

I feel very fortunate to be able to express myself freely through my art. Painting allows me to share my true passions and feelings. In this way I can form a connection, and communicate with the viewer.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Carolyn R. Martel, "FLOR 316: Seabeach Eveningprimrose (*Oenothera humifusa*)," mixed media, 8" x 10", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Carolyn Martel is a medical & scientific illustrator. She portrays nature to help educate the public about the environment.

Artist's Statement

I am grateful for my talent and want to help the endangered plants & animals survive.



Photo credit: [Bob Upcavage](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Marcia K. Moore, "FLOR 317: Innocence (*Houstonia procumbens*)", 3d Sculpture using Autodesk Mudbox Digital enhancement using Photoshop, Printed on Canvas and further enhancement with Acrylic/Color Pencil, 40" x 50", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

My name is Marcia K. Moore, and I am a traditional artist in Stuart, Florida. As a conceptual artist, I produce innovative, exceptional visual artwork for corporate and private clients nationally and internationally.

Artist's Statement

Florida's coastlines are spectacular, and it seems that most people find solace on or near the ocean and its beaches. When I moved to Florida in 2001, however, I found my spirit filled moments and creativity would derive from Florida's mysterious interior... the Everglades.



Photo credit: Frank Soltes



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Natalie L., "FLOR 318: Spurred Butterfly Pea (*Centrosema virginianum*)", acrylic on canvas, 25" x 25", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I am a self taught Parisian born artist. My work explores a wide variety of subject matter. As my tastes evolved toward contemporary art, I've been gradually steering away from representational paintings; A projection of this transition, my newest work is inspired by the abstract patterns of nature.

Artist's Statement

My inspiration to paint this flower comes from Georgia O'Keeffe.

I think that it is not vain to admire a representational painting; By admiring the representation of something that we ignore, like this flower, we can find candor again, and interest in the original.



Photo credit: [Matthew Merritt](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Celesa J. Lucien, "FLOR 322: Broadleaf Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)", oil, 16" x 20", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

A rare, energetic, entrepreneurial professional who works with creative success in a variety of one and two dimensional curriculum. My special gift is 'Ideaforia'. Multi-talented, often working in many genres and mediums concurrently. Owned and operated La Puerta Azul Art School in Taos, NM before relocating to Florida. Art advocate currently curating Equestrian show for Martin Arts Council.

Artist's Statement

I have always been an artist born into a family of designers, musicians and creative energy. Exploring the creative process in whatever medium that suits my need for expression has always given my life purpose and satisfaction.



Photo credit: Betty Wargo



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Val Lally, "FLOR 325: Slenderleaf Clammyweed (*Polanisia tenuifolia*)", watercolor, 8 1/4" x 11 1/2", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Val Lally has been painting in watercolors for about 10 years. She has been in numerous juried art shows and has won several prestigious awards. Although she paints a variety of subject matter, Val enjoys painting flowers the most!

Artist's Statement

Val feels that everyone has their special gift to share with the world. She feels that her gift is to capture the beauty that is all around us with her camera and then put her interpretation of that wonder on canvas. What is truly gratifying to Val is when someone tells her that her artwork has lifted their spirits or has made them smile. That, she notes, is the greatest gift of all!



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Laura Ray-O'Kelly, "FLOR 327: Saltmarsh Morning-glory (*Ipomoea sagittata*)", watercolors, 8" x 8", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I was originally from Albany, NY before moving to the beautiful 'Treasure Coast' area of Florida in 1983. I began painting in 2009 and consider myself an emerging artist using watercolors as my media of choice and enjoy working in my home studio every chance I get. I love surrounding myself with family, friends, nature and harmony and I am grateful for all blessings big and small.

Artist's Statement

There is nothing more rewarding than to bring joy and beauty to others through a work of art that one has created.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Gina Carra, "FLOR 333: Nuttall's Thistle (*Cirsium nuttallii*)," acrylic on paper, 5" x 7", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

I grew up in New England, went to school and lived in NYC for seventeen years. I enjoyed the vertical perspective.

Artist's Statement

I am in awe of nature and the One who created and gifted it to us all. We are the caretakers and we must not fail.



Photo credit: Matthew Merritt



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Vince Lamb, "FLOR 334: Titusville Balm (*Dicerandra thincicola*)", photography, 16" x 20", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Vince Lamb is a nature photographer with a passion for Florida wildflowers. Vince has led a wildflower photography workshop at the Florida Wildflower Symposium during the past two years and will lead another session in 2013. He has led numerous other nature photography workshops.

Artist's Statement

Capturing the beauty of rare and endangered plant species is a special treat. Such work can create awareness that the survival of the species is severely threatened, which might lead to some protection.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Mike Knight, "FLOR 335: Gourde, Wood-burning and Dye (*Dicliptera sexangularis*)," Gourde, Wood-burning and Dye, 14" x 7.5", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Mike Knight is the Program Manager for Brevard County's Environmentally Endangered Lands Program. Venturing away from his normal hobby of native flute making with stone and shell inlay, gourd art has become a side hobby.

Artist's Statement

I was really drawn to the simplicity of this wildflower.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Laurie Pedolsky Aguera-Arcas, "*FLOR 336: Flattened Pipewort (*Eriocaulon compressum*)*," woodcut on hand-made mulberry paper, 5 1/2" x 6", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Laurie Aguera-Arcas received her fine arts degrees from University of Maryland and Maryland Institute. She works mostly in printmaking—relief prints, lithography, etching, and monoprints—but since moving to Florida she has begun painting in watercolor and oil as a response to the local color and light. Ms. Aguera-Arcas has worked internationally and has garnered awards in Florida and abroad.

Artist's Statement

I have found inspiration in the images of printmakers such as Goya, Rembrandt, and the German Expressionists. In my prints and drawings, I have tried to capture the inner life rather than the surface of things. In Florida, light and color saturate and nurture people, nature, and objects, so I have turned to painting to express the pathos, beauty and humor in daily existence.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sylvia Foster, "FLOR 348: Rose-of-Plymouth (*Sabatia stellaris*)", watercolor, 6" x 8", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

My work has been selected for display in both juried and/or member shows of HVAL, SCAL, and Blandford Fair, among others. In addition, my painting of a local historic structure has been selected for the Berkshire Carousel project, which is a reconstructed antique carousel. . My paintings are also on display in several local businesses and public buildings.

Artist's Statement

Since I never attended a formal art school, I presume I am considered to be "self-taught". This, however, is misleading since I have taken many workshops and studied under several watercolor teachers to achieve my present skill level. My newest interest is painting "en plein aire." My aim is to produce more original work. I love to paint landscapes and flowers.



Photo credit: Walter K. Taylor



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Tim Deratany, "*FLOR 350: Seaside Goldenrod (Solidago sempervirens)*", acrylic and watercolor, 24" x 18", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Tim is a former Florida State Senator, Representative, and Mayor. His art background includes Board Member of the Brevard Art Museum, Member of the Brevard Artist Guild, Watercolor Society, and Chairman of the Florida Seaside Art Show. He has served as Chairman of the Florida Council on Arts & Culture and Director on the National Assembly of State Art Agencies. He works in watercolor & acrylic.



Photo credit: [Dennis Girard](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Nancy Smythe, (in memory of Nancy Paget Ginocchio), "FLOR 355: Hairy Shadow Witch (*Ponthieva racemosa*)," oil on canvas, gallery wrapped, 6" x 6", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Award-winning artist, Smythe majored in art at Northwestern Univ. Bacardi Intl. hosted her inaugural exhibition. Gray's Sporting Journal's cover featured her oil. An Artist-in-Residence in Bermuda, she stayed where Georgia O'Keeffe lived/painted. Recently won "People's Choice Award" at Elliott Museum. Smythe is represented by Windjammer 2 Gallery, Bermuda and welcomes commissions.

Artist's Statement

Creativity fuels my energy. I find incomparable beauty in everyday life and hopefully reflect that in my art. Photography freezes a scene in time; my painting is an interpretation and record of that moment. I see myself as a keeper in a throwaway society, painting to provide a historic perspective on our ever-changing world. This orchid growing in my region has been painted in memory of a dear friend Nancy Paget Ginocchio. She was my Alpha Phi sorority sister at Northwestern University and was the former President of the Naples Orchid Society.



Photo credit: [Michael Drummond](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Doreen Lepore, "FLOR 358: Flaxleaf False Foxglove (*Agalinis linifolia*)," pastels, 5" x 7.5", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

My paintings are in oil, pastel, charcoal, watercolor, and are primarily landscapes in and around Hobe Sound, FL.

Over the years my studies included water color, oil, charcoal drawing and even pottery. My personal style always seemed to lean toward impressionism because you could say my style is loose yet based on reality. The biggest influence on my work has been painting from life.

Artist's Statement

Photo reference credit is due credit "Jeffrey S. Phippen, <http://www.jeffpippen.com/>" who allowed me to use his photograph for my painting of the false foxglove flower. Pastels seemed to be the right medium for this soft looking flower. Starting with a watercolor underpainting on Wallis sanded museum paper, pastels were applied in several layers without blending to achieve a painterly look.



Photo credit: Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Liz Taylor, "FLOR 359: Beach Peanut (*Okenia hypogaea*)", watercolor, 6" x 8", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I have been a graphic designer for about 45 years, creating logos, brochures, newsletters, letterhead, etc. for print shops and two ad agencies. I've enjoyed drawing and painting all my life, but now in retirement, I have the luxury of pursuing my interest in watercolors, and have developed a style and a small following of my work.

Artist's Statement

Coming from a graphics background, I am now exploring my skills in watercolor. I have developed a particular interest in painting animals, birds and fish and enjoy showing them in some detail. However flowers, still-lives, and landscapes are also fun to explore.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jill Brougher, "*FLOR 361: Black Mangrove (Avicennia germinans)*", Gansai Watercolor on Torinoko, 9" x 6", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Jill Brougher received a Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in Painting and Ceramics from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Her aesthetic is influenced by classical drawing and a strong connection to the natural world.

She is the recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts, Florida Enhancement Grant and is currently represented by Watson MacRae Gallery located in Sanibel Florida.

Artist's Statement

But when I lean over the chasm of myself - it seems my God is dark and like a web: a hundred roots silently drinking" - Rilke



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ann McCarty, "FLOR 362: Jamaican Cappertree (*Capparis jamaicensis*)", Oil , 24" x 36", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Ann McCarty has won awards in many local, state and national shows; McCarty has a AA in Art and a BA in Communications and a set of life skills learned from Nina Conner. Her work is collected internationally; Ann McCarty has won awards in many local, state and national shows.

Artist's Statement

Art comes from a place beyond other worldly reach. It controls, contorts, manipulates and when it is done, no one is the same. We are transported there through the images. Wild, calm, reverent, irreverent, it matters is the journey. Things seen, yet unseen, unfold under the artists hand and before the viewers' eyes. Both are enriched by the experience.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Patricia Esposito, "FLOR 363: Knotted Spikerush (*Eleocharis interstincta*)", sculpture, steel, aluminum, wood, 58" x 21", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Sculptor and photographer

Artist's Statement

Enjoyment comes to me in **contrasts** using metal and wood together. This is a recurring theme in my work. Whether it is rusty metal that has lived through several lifetimes or brand new metal with a shiny patina. Wood has also survived many elements of nature and develops a texture that is always beautiful whatever the season.



Photo credit: [Betty Wargo](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Rodney G. Busch, "*FLOR 364: Northern Needleleaf (Tillandsia balbisiana)*," watercolor on buff paper, 22" x 30", 2011. (CC)

About the Artist

Growing up in a small town in Wisconsin, Rod spent hours watching the movement of nature. He followed spring's progression of one bloom replacing another in a race towards autumn's burst of color, finally watching in silence as the quilted comforter of snow was pulled over the woods by fading twilight.

Artist's Statement

When i started painting, i found myself intrigued by the glint of light on a trickle of water; the play of shadow across a leaf at sunrise; the dance of a daughter in an old green prom dress; or the flight of a bird seeking its home. Such things have come to animate my life and my paintings.



Photo credit: [Ken Marks](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Nancy Buscher, "FLOR 366: Rubbervine (*Rhabdadenia biflora*)", mixed media, 7" x 5.5", 2013.(CC)

About the Artist

Buscher moved to Florida in 1998, after a lifetime of vacation visits. She entered Eckerd College in St Petersburg, FL in 2006, and graduated with honors in 2010. Her work has been displayed in art shows, offices, and private homes across America.

Artist's Statement

Everyone sees the world in different ways. I see the world in different ways on different days. Sometimes due to my mood, sometimes it is the change in lighting that affects the color. Often it is just the simplicity that I find appealing. But whatever it reason, I have the need to capture it.



Photo credit: Patricia Howell



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Anita Wexler, "FLOR 368: Clamshell Orchid (*Prosthechea cochleata*)", mixed media on canvas , 48" x 48", 2012 (CC).

About the Artist

Wexler is a graduate of Parsons New School of Design & has her Art education certification from Bank Street College both in New York City. Wexler has shown her work internationally & nationally. Her work is in many private collections including William Wegman, Jack Dowd, J. Chris Pippen & more. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Lake Eustis Museum of Art in Lake Eustis, FL.

Artist Statement

My work is colorful intriguing and inspired by her Native American roots. I use pen & inks, recycled materials including paint into her work. I am currently an Art teacher in Sarasota county school system. This particular piece has layer upon layer of paint, thick texture and expresses the wild side of the flower and hints at it's origin of a clamshell orchid .



Photo credit: [Keith Bradley](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Veron Ennis, "FLOR 369: Greater Yellowspike Orchid (*Polystachya concreta*),"
water-based mediums on cotton rag paper, 8" x 10", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Veron Ennis is a Downtown Fort Myers-based modernist painter concerned with the intimate characteristics of the layered painted medium; the language of color; and the interplay between precision and chance application. Using an underlying grid format is of particular interest to her. Her work can be found at HW Gallery in Naples, Florida.

Artist's Statement

The transference of information during the creative process from artist to painting, and then from painting to viewer, is the reason why art can transcend time and why abstract painting has the ability to communicate. Transferring specifically positive information is a graceful way to connect with people and is, quite frankly, essential to life.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Mary Sullivan Voytek, "FLOR 370: Leatherleaf Airplant (*Tillandsia variabilis*)", Hand forged Aluminum, 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

An active participant in the field of contemporary American sculpture for over 30 years as artist, curator and educator, Voytek exhibits nationally and internationally while serving as Associate Professor of Sculpture at Florida Gulf Coast University. BFA-California College of Art, MFA-Rhode Island School of Art and Design.

Artist's Statement

Believing in the power of art and building community through collaboration, the soft, fluid surfaces of my artwork are intended to inspire a spiritual and contemplative connection with nature while sparking new awareness and promoting stewardship.



Photo credit: Ken Marks



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Elizabeth Smith, "FLOR 371: Pinepink (*Bletia purpurea*)", transparent watercolor on paper, 6.5" x 4.5", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Elizabeth has drawn and painted nature for as long as she can remember. Although self-taught in the arts, she earned a BA in art at FGCU. Elizabeth keeps a nature art journal, recording the natural world of southwest Florida in painted and sketched images and words, which she shares online.

Artist's Statement

I love the tiny visual details I see in nature, as well as the underlying sense of vast connected systems. A sketcher at heart, I'm attracted to the quickly drawn line or swipe of watercolor. I hope my artwork gives viewers a sense of my own wonder and discovery.



Photo credit: Dennis Girard



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Carl Schwartz, "FLOR 372: Bandanna-of-the-Everglades (*Canna flaccida*)," acrylic, 16" x 12", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

A nationally recognized painter & print-maker included in many collections in the U.S. & abroad, his awards include Art Institute of Chicago's Logan Medal & numerous local & national competitions. He has been in juried & invitational shows incl: Art Across America sponsored by Mead Corp. & many one-person shows, incl: 50-Year Retrospective at FGCU. He is a teacher of painting & drawing now at FGCU.

Artist's Statement

I am a painter of light. I'm Intrigued and fascinated with form. To me there are two worlds... the one we live in and the one that I create. Drawing and painting is the discipline by which I constantly rediscover both of these worlds.



Photo credit: Michael Drummond



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Patricia Collins, "FLOR 373: Starrush Whitetop (*Rhynchospora colorata*)," acrylic, spray paint, cut paper, oil stick on Arches 30"x22" , 2014 (CC)

About the Artist

Patricia Collins received a BFA from Pratt Institute. Her work has been exhibited at the Ringling Museum, and included in Verge, Miami Beach 2010 and Scope Miami 2011, the Florida Museum for Women Artists and Southwest Florida International Airport. Solo shows include the Collier County Museum of the Everglades and Howl Gallery, Ft. Myers, FL

Artist's Statement

I was drawn to the graphic look of artists' stencils while living in NYC & began to experiment with my own. Acrylics, spray paint, paintsticks, graphite combined with stencils, rubber stamps, collage & printmaking allow me to mix that graphic edge with painterly texture and drawing. Paper cutouts bring another layer to the mix, adding contrast & playing with symmetry. The Starrush Whitetop was a perfect choice for me.



Photo credit: Michael Drummond



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Raymond Hernandez, "FLOR 374: Ghost Orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*)", watercolor on paper, 22" x 30", 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Raymond Hernandez, works in various mediums: drawing, painting, photography, collage, sculpture, and installation. Born in Brooklyn, New York, grew up in South West Florida. Graduated The Art Institute of Dallas, and continued at The School of Visual Arts, New York City. Exhibitions in: New York, Dallas, and Miami.

Artist's Statement

Flowers and plants are my passion I have studied and collected plants since childhood. My flower paintings are not direct renderings from life or photography. The process is a study of color, shape, and form, translated through emotions in attempt to capture the essence.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Toni Ferrell, "FLOR 375: Varnishleaf (*Dodonaea viscosa*)", mixed media, acrylic, pastel, oil pastel, 24" x 36", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

A licensed Architect, Toni began working with black & white photography in 1976. At Virginia Tech, she joined open laboratories in printmaking, pen & ink, serigraphs, and weaving; her artwork has exhibited in Virginia, Pennsylvania & Florida. Instilled with curiosity and a passion to engage in community, Toni has received many honors for her work in architecture and environmental preservation.

Artist's Statement

I find my painting informed by my experience with black and white photography. Ultimately, I strive to express the essence of a time or place through the counterpoints of form, light and motion – through reflection on impressions gathered in my travels and the experience of life.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jo-Ann Sanborn, "FLOR 376: Joewood (*Jacquinia keyensis*)", acrylic on canvas, 16" x 20", 2014.
(CC)

About the Artist

Jo-Ann Sanborn is a nationally recognized Florida Landscape painter. Strong compositional arrangements and uncommon colors bring a simplicity and integrity to the unique Everglades landscape. Sanborn has had a number of solo shows and been granted numerous awards for her work. She hopes that enjoyment of her work will foster a more profound respect for the threatened Everglades landscape.

Artist's Statement

I'm awed by the challenge of painting the simple dignity of a sable palm in dancing light. The bold forms and deep shadows of the Everglades provide constant inspiration. My images are ancient and familiar, palms, prairie, water and clouds. My fondest dream is that one of my paintings will bring beauty and value into your life, and that you will hear the voice of the Everglades through my work.



Photo credit: T. Ann Williams



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lydia Fogaras MD, "FLOR 377: Paintedleaf (*Poinsettia cyathophora*)", oil on canvas, 20" x 30" 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Painter & retired pathologist, Lydia has a long artistic adventure that began in boarding school pre-WWII. She became a physician in Paris in the 1950's, & moved her family to Hawaii. She never stopped painting, focusing on the lush subtropical environment. Dr. Fogaras has been painting & showing locally since moving to Ft. Myers in 2004.

Artist's Statement

I never stopped painting in my free time, even as I studied medicine, as was my family calling. I specialized in Virology at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, & was a Pathologist at Mt. Sinai Hospital. My kids became artists & scientists. I retired in 1991 and dove into my art with greatly anticipated enthusiasm.

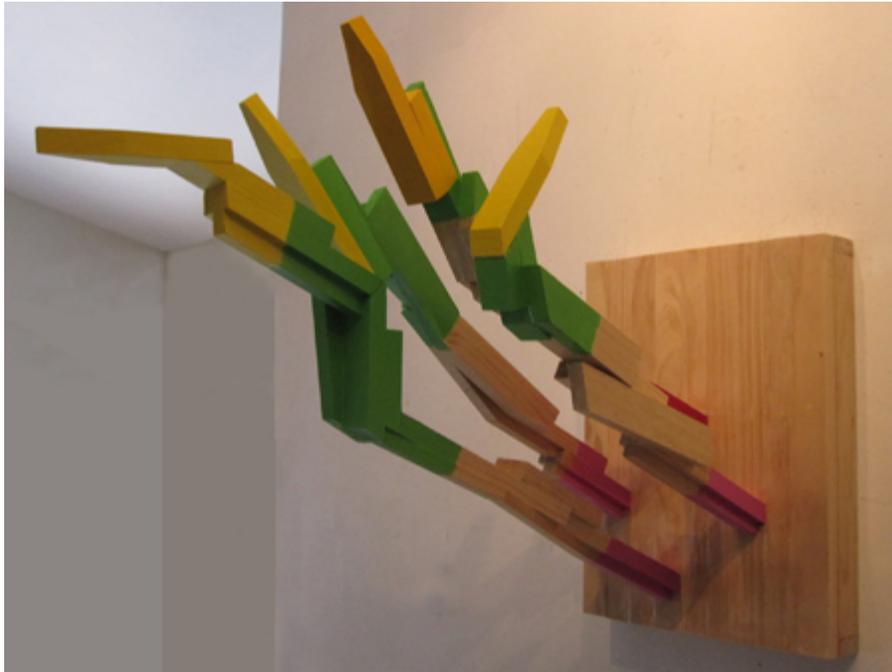


Photo credit: Glenn Fleming



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada

David Hatchett, "FLOR 378: Goldenclub (*Orontium aquaticum*)", wood/ paint, 26" x 13" x 32" 2013. (CC)



David Hatchett, "FLOR 378: Goldenclub (*Orontium aquaticum*)", wood/ paint, 26" x 13" x 32" 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

I have shown my sculptures & paintings in solo & group shows in major galleries & museums for more than three decades of living & working as an artist in NYC & currently in Ft. Myers, FL.

Artist's Statement

I build sculptures that utilize cut pieces of wood, sometimes painted, sometimes not, with or without plexiglas. I call this series Modern Wood. The Goldenclub flower has a long stem with a golden wedge-shaped flower tip. I saw that I could build an extended wood construction that would emulate the characteristics of the Goldenclub; the way that it grows extends and projects.



Photo credit: Betty Wargo



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Myra Roberts, "FLOR 379: Red Spiderling (*Boerhavia diffusa*)", oils, 30" x 40", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

My Paintings are in collections across the united states and Europe. I am Currently doing a traveling museum exhibition ; "Prelude to the 1940's." My interest has always been historical subject matter which convey the fashion and mood of vintage florida 1920's through the 1950's. My collection of vintage memorabilia has served as a constant inspiration for my paintings.

Artist's Statement

The Art nouveau style of Alfons Mucha inspired me to create my Flo 500 painting. Evelyn Nesbit turn of the centuries most popular model wears the Red Spiderling in her flowing hair. Since I am a figurative artist finding the right model for the crimson and pink flower was essential. Meeting by chance Muchas great grand daughter made this project magical.



Photo credit: Matthew Merritt



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Stephane A. Mirachi, "FLOR 380: Pine-hyacinth (*Clematis baldwinii*)", pencil, Sharpie and Flare marker, water brush, 11" x 14", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Stephane has been drawing since she was a small child, having inherited her mother's talent, using her father's carpenter's pencil. She holds B.F.A. in Textile design and Drawing. Stephane continued her training at Peter's Valley, Moore College of Art and in Italy.

Stephane relocated to Florida in 2010 chasing Art and an endless summer. Stephane works in mixed media her tool of choice being a Sharpie marker.

Artist's Statement

I'm honored to participate in Flor500. Purely by accident I chose the Pine Hyacinth, a flower endemic to Florida. While difficult to locate, the *Clematis baldwinii* is one of the first plants to emerge after a prescribed burn in Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes it helps to reinvent the landscape. I find a happy parallel between this flower and my new life here in The Sunshine State.



Photo credit: Betty Wargo



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Doug Heslep, "FLOR 381: Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)," photography, 26.75" x 40", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

I have been residing in Fort Myers, Florida (Southwest Florida) since late 1988, originally from Texas. I have had a camera in my hand for over 30 years, shooting professionally for over 25. Add in an undergraduate degree (1983), as well as two years of graduate studies in photography at Sam Houston State University - Huntsville, Texas. (1988).

Artist's Statement

'I don't just take a picture, frame it and call it art. Rather I would like to think that I capture a moment, and create an experience.'

I am diversified with my career, shooting Commercial and Fashion, but I prefer my Photographic Fine Art the most within what I do. I relish the excitement as I anticipate the results of every shoot and/or creative moment I have... just like it was the first time.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Patricia Fay, "FLOR 382: Lopsided Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum secundum*)", earthenware clay, slip, glaze, 48" x 16", 2014 (CC)

About the Artist

Patricia Fay is a Professor of Art at Florida Gulf Coast University, teaching courses in ceramics, Caribbean culture, and interdisciplinary studies.

Artist's Statement

I sunk my roots in Florida fifteen years ago, and believe my back yard to be the most beautiful place on earth. Making this piece for FLOR 500 gave me the opportunity to celebrate the subtleties of this extraordinary landscape.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Megan Kissinger, "FLOR 383: Bartram's Rosegentian (*Sabatia decandra*)", acrylic, 11" x 14", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Megan Kissinger is an artist who paints and teaches in Southwest Florida. Her main interest lies in the forms, textures and rhythms of living things. Native plants and animals are constant themes running throughout most of her creative efforts. How these living things interact, survive and thrive in their environment are of great interest to her and she visits them often in her art work.

Artist's Statement

For my FLOR500 selection, I chose Bartram's Rose Gentian because I grew up in a house situated on the William Bartram Trail in the Florida Panhandle. I have always admired the art of Wm. Bartram who was one of the first Europeans to discover many North American wildflowers. Extremely delicate, this graceful species is a flower that I knew from childhood walks in the marsh and is one of my favorites.



Photo credit: Josh O'Connor



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Celeste Borah, "FLOR 384: Skyflower (*Hydrolea corymbosa*)," acrylic, 10" x 8", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

*BFA Pratt Inst. - Graphic Arts & Illus. *35 yrs Retail ad art director in NYC *Exhibited and won awards at art organizations, incl.: National Art Encounter, von Liebig; Center for the Arts, Bonita Springs; Visual Arts Center, Punta Gorda; Alliance for the Arts & Art League of Ft Myers *Shown in galleries from Naples to Ft Myers, and at FGCU; Physicians Regional Hospt.; B'way Palm Theater Gallery

Artist's Statement

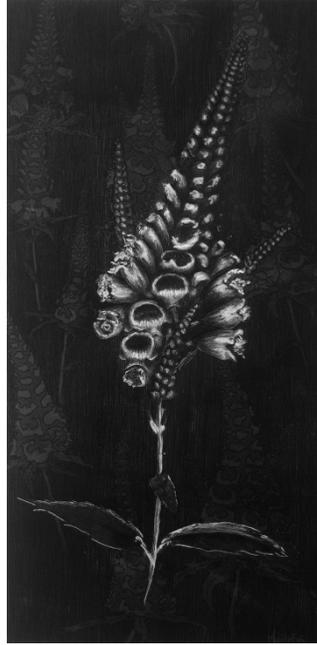
My paintings are developed from an interest in comparative relationships between varieties and contrasts of light, shapes and spatial illusions.



Photo credit: Donna Day



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kim Marhoefer Willis , "*FLOR 385: Eastern False Dragonhead (Physostegia purpurea)*," mixed, 32" x 20", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Kim Marhoefer Willis has been living and creating art in Naples, FL for over thirty years. Her work includes paintings, drawings and sculpture, though her passion lies in printing. Her work has been included in numerous national and international juried exhibitions, and the flower best? can be found in many private collections.

Artist's Statement

My depiction of the Eastern False Dragonhead highlights the many possible interpretations of a flower. I may see the flower as a flat, graphic decoration. I might see the same flower as a ghostly portrait. I might see the flower in color, or in black and white. Which interpretation suits



Photo credit: Frank Soltes



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Holly Welsh, "*FLOR 386: Shoreline Seapurslane (Sesuvium portulacastrum)*", pen, ink and pencil, 8" x 10" 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I am a self-taught artist who uses pen, ink and water-based media. I have lived in Florida for almost 30 years and find it's never-ending supply of flora and fauna to be my constant inspiration.

Artist's Statement

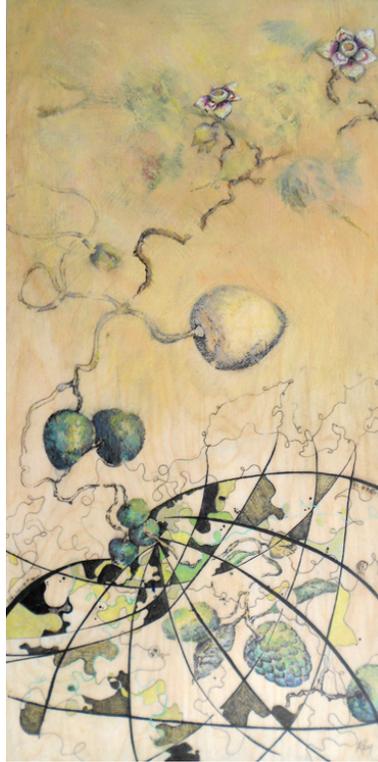
Shoreline Seapurslane is also known as Sea Pickle because its leaves are edible. While hugging the beach, it creates a carpeting of green succulent leaves with beautiful five-pointed flowers.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Renée Rey, "*FLOR 387: Pond Apple (Annona glabra)*", mixed media on maple wood, 24" x 12" 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Renée Rey hails from New York, and lives and works in SW Florida. Passionate about diversity and creativity, she embraces, in her life and art, the positive power of spirituality, science, music, dance, literature, nature, the richness of her multi-cultural French, Armenian, Jewish, Christian heritage, birthplace of Japan, and the energy, sounds, and sites of people and places of her travels.

Artist's Statement

Let us dance in artistic and poetic dialog...day after day. Rey creates a soul language and unique world vision through a dynamic and intuitive creative power of the mysterious, unexpected, cryptic and rhythmic, telling a story in search of personal identity, diversity, and collective connection between people all around the world, and with nature, engaging you in a visual and emotive dialog.

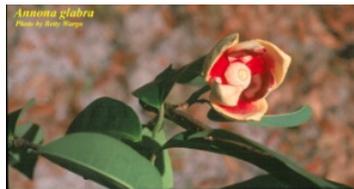


Photo credit: [Betty Wargo](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Leo Johnson, "FLOR 388: Florida Milkweed (*Asclepias feayi*)," mixed media on canvas, 8" x 10", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Leo Johnson is a third generation Cuban-Sicilian, who is still immersed in the art, culture and language. Leo studied painting in San Miguel, Mexico, at a school founded by Diego Rivera, Orozco and Siqueiros, the great Mexican muralists. He has won many awards for his paintings and has shown throughout the United States, Germany and Greece. Johnson's style is unique personal and captivating.

Artist's Statement

In my paintings I try to reflect the human spirit- its agonies, joys, exuberance-and peaks and valleys of everyday life. Also included are the fleeting moments which appear to us once in a lifetime and are gone... Throughout the history of art, mankind has been the motivator, the inspirer, and the force that protects and propels civilization into the future.



Photo credit: Dan Tenaglia



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jeanette Lee Atkinson, "FLOR 389: Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)," pen & ink, watercolor, 12" x 9", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Jeanette Lee Atkinson was born in Fort Myers in 1949, and grew up in Estero. Experiences in a still-wild Florida gave her a keen appreciation for its fragile and unique beauty. She earned a certificate in Botanical Art & Illustration in 2009 in the program offered by the Ringling College of Art & Design. She is also a freelance writer.

Artist's Statement

I reconcile intellectual and creative interests through making scientifically accurate paintings and drawings of plants and small animals. Producing an aesthetically pleasing image within the bounds of science is both challenging and liberating. My goal is to increase awareness and appreciation of Southwest Florida's natural and cultural history through art and writing.



Photo credit: [Pete Dunkelberg](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Connie S. Killebrew, "FLOR 390: Glade Lobelia (*Lobelia glandulosa*)," acrylic, 8" x 8", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

I am a retired public school Media Specialist and started painting about 5 years ago. I enjoy depicting all kinds of nature with acrylic paints particularly wild birds, wild felines and landscapes.

Artist's Statement

The Glade Lobelia is a beautiful, delicate wild flower that attracted my attention because of the wonderful color, symmetry, and quaint design. It is simple, but very eye appealing.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kel Campbell, "FLOR 391: Prickly Applecactus (*Harrisia aboriginum*)," acrylic, 24" x 36", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Thirteen years ago I moved from Boston to Bonita Springs Florida and I have recently completed my BA from FGCU. In my work I enjoy combining natural and man made found objects as a way to reflect on the past while conserving for the future.

Artist's Statement

Living in Southwest Florida keeps me constantly aware of the amount of natural elements that surround me. With Flora and Fauna growing, leaping, and blowing in the warm breeze, there is always something beautiful to admire and inspire me.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lily Hatchett, "FLOR 393: Okeechobee Gourd (*Cucurbita okeechobeensis*)", mixed media bas relief, 36" x 36" 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

A full-time painter, sculptor, photographer, as well as video/performance artist, Lily has an extraordinary body of work. Sometimes her sculpture becomes theater and her drawings become music and fashion, a wide range of media with surprising results.

Artist's Statement

I go for it. The imagination is a beautiful thing. I like to make art that I have never seen before.



Photo credit: Patricia Burkett



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kerri Meehan, "FLOR 394: Sweetbroom (*Scoparia dulcis*)", oil on museum panel, 8" x 10" 2014.
(CC)

About the Artist

Originally from Tulsa, OK, I am primarily a self-taught artist finding inspiration in the powerful, creative women of my family and from select Florida artists. I believe that my responsibility as an artist is to show up to the canvas prepared to honor my subject by eliminating time constraints and with the best materials to support quality and longevity of a piece.

Artist's Statement

Painting is a source of great joy for me, and I am passionate about creating work whose meaning transcends the canvas. Each work is a world unto itself with its own unique story that I'm compelled to share through my interpretation of color, light, and shadow. By focusing intensely on the dynamic and often accentuated colors found in nature, my paintings transport the viewer to a state of harmony.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Aida Bukovica, "FLOR 395: Denseflower Knotweed (*Polygonum glabrum*),"mixed media, 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Aida Bukovica: I came as a war refugee from Bosnia in '93. Back home, I was trained in the technology of textiles and have been in fashion all my life. I was exposed to art in art school since I was six years old. Then, in 1991, war changed my whole perspective, life, art, and humanity.

Artist's Statement

I don't believe it's my destiny. I strongly believe, I have such a strong belief in my dreams that it just can't fail. My friends just recently told me my life is a musical.



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sherry Rohl, "FLOR 396: Redgal (*Morinda royoc*)," mixed media, 16" x 16" x 16", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Since the age of four, Sherry Rohl loved to draw horses, but moved away from them when she studied art at the College of Design, Art and Architecture at the University of Cincinnati. For the past 10 years Rohl has returned to her first love and has concentrated on creating equine paintings, drawings and monotypes.

Artist's Statement

Sherry Rohl's work is more than horses. Certainly, her installation work is quirky and playful and her sculptural work and assemblages are allegorical abstracts of found objects, and juxtaposed, unexpected materials.



Photo credit: Rob Curtis



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Brandy Lynn Magill, "FLOR 398: Diamondflowers (*Stenaria nigricans*)," acrylic on canvas, 10" x 8", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Brandy Lynn Magill is an acrylic and oil painter. She grew up in Alaska, but after many visits to the state decided to relocate to Florida. Attending Academy of Art University is where she fine tuned her artistic talents. She is a resident of Punta Gorda. Often painting abstract works that are reflective of mood and spirituality.

Artist's Statement

Being an artist is much more than picking up a brush and making a stroke. I enjoy all things natural and positive in the world. Finding art that is moving, sets a mood, and creates an energy is important to me. Through art I am able to connect with other with out words and transfer feelings through colors.



Stenaria nigricans
Photo by Patricia Stampe

Photo credit: Patricia Stampe



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Michael Workman, "FLOR 399: False Mastic (*Sideroxylon foetidissimum*)," spray paint on pre-stretched canvas, 18" x 24", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

I live in Cape Coral and have been in SWFL almost 40 years. I took a basic design course at ECC under Bob York which was great. I took an introductory drawing class at FSU under Dave Breaux which also taught me a lot. I briefly taught the after school program at Big Arts where I found myself teaching the kids to ignore the rules and be themselves. Don't know how helpful that was.

Artist's Statement

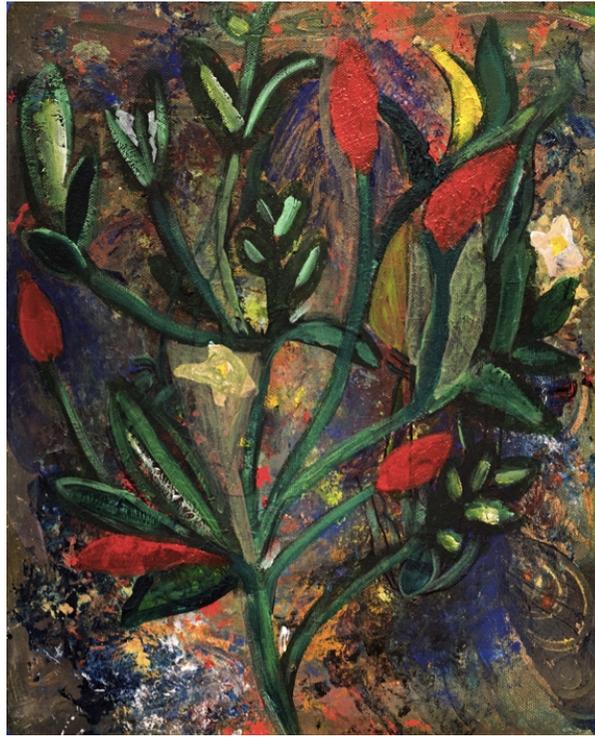
For the last few years, I've almost exclusively worked with spray paint and stencils. I was attaching melted records to my paintings for a while but I stopped out of concern for my health. I try not to obsess about technique too much. Communicating ideas as quickly as possible is my goal, generally. I appreciate an unrefined or even haphazard aesthetic.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Krista Johnson, "FLOR 400: Bird Pepper (*Capsicum annuum* var. *glabriusculum*)," acrylic on canvas, 11" x 14", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Krista Johnson has spent her life in the lush nature of Southwest Florida and her primitive-style paintings are spirited expressions that capture the color, abundance and mystery of the world she loves. Johnson has for 12 years co-taught a children's art program at the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers where she is the Exhibition Coordinator.

Artist's Statement

"I have arrived at a style which is intrinsically mine—my paintings have a part of me in them. When I am moved by something extraordinary I have seen in nature, I try to convey those feelings onto the canvas. My hope is that it translates to the viewer"…
Krista Johnson

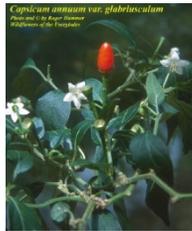


Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ann Walsh Johnson, "FLOR 401: Potatotree (*Solanum erianthum*)," acrylic on canvas, 8" x 10", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

After raising my family and accomplishing a successful career, I was finally able to pursue my love: art. I have studied under miscellaneous Master Artists from Illinois, Arizona, California, and Florida. My mediums are acrylics and oils. And my favorite subjects are wild animals and scenes. My works are currently displayed in two sights in Illinois, as well as my website.

Artist's Statement

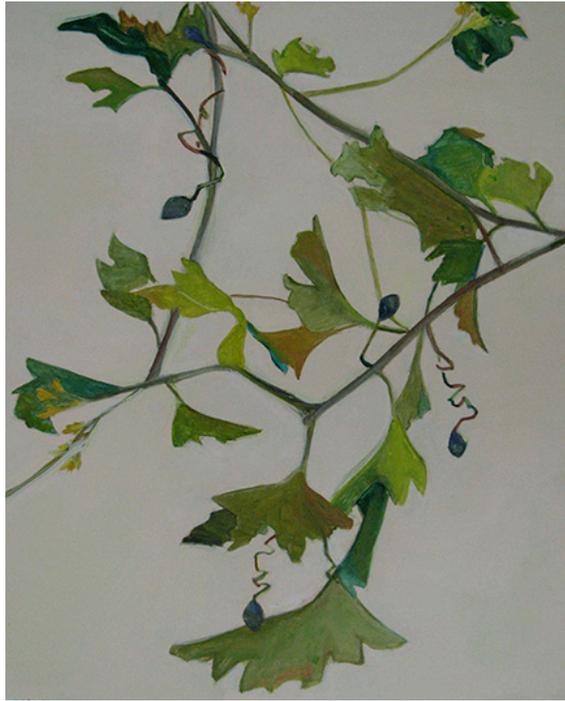
I chose the Potatotree because it is representative of my County, Collier. I also chose it because it is not only colorful, but has different shapes and textures to it, making it more appealing to the eye.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Hollis Jeffcoat, "*FLOR 402: Marinevine (Cissus trifoliata)*," oil on panel, 20 " x 16", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

I grew up in SWFlorida, went to art school in New York City and spent many years painting and exhibiting my work in NY, Paris and Montreal.

In 2008 I moved back to SWFlorida where I rediscovered the nature that again feeds my work.

Artist's Statement

For most of my painting life I have made abstractions based on landscape. It is not about illustrating an idea, but rather finding the essence through experimentation. For this project I felt challenged to represent the Marinevine as it grows on its own, away from other plants and trees and also to stay true to the delicate and subtle colors of Florida flora.



Photo credit: [Anne Barkdoll](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Dana Roes, "FLOR 403: Pineland Acacia (*Acacia pinetorum*)," oil on canvas, 120 " x 75", 2014.
(CC)

About the Artist

Dana Roes received her MFA in Painting from the University of Pennsylvania in 1993 where she developed her interest in abstraction as a means of creating psychological/intellectual spaces which suggest that the nature of reality is interactive and changeable. She holds numerous awards including a Fulbright Fellowship, NJ Council of the Arts Grant, and City of Ft. Myers Cultural Artist Grant.

Artist's Statement

My journey of making paintings has been about traversing paths, both exterior and interior. My concerns have led me to create psychological /intellectual space, which evoke the idea, found in quantum physics that the nature of reality is interactive and changeable. Fundamental to my process and thoughts has been the concept of the whole hole ([w]hole), the notion of completeness in emptiness.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lauren Baker, "FLOR 404: Coinvine (*Dalbergia ecastaphyllum*)," clay, aspen wood, found wood, paper mache pattern paper, charcoal, color pencil, and graphite, 31 " x 31", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

As a result of growing up in Florida and loving nature, I never quite seem to get all the dirt from under my finger nails, twigs & leaves out of my hair, or scrapes in my arms & legs to completely go away. My major goal in life is to keep exploring the natural world and to piece together a puzzle of ever-evolving perceptions & feelings through a record of art. .

Artist's Statement

Influenced by Sigmund Freud's exploration in the realms of the conscious & unconscious mind. My work, as a culmination of influences such as the natural world, relationship roles, & individual perception of reality, allows me to explore the interior microcosms of life's collaborative collage. Nude figures with animal heads are used to expose raw feelings and create interpretations of personality.



Photo credit: [John Starnes](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Geoffrey Hamel, "FLOR 405: *Pretty False Pawpaw (Deeringothamnus rugelii var. pulchellus)*," oil, 9 " x 24", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

M.F.A Ohio University
Taught Drawing and Painting at several Colleges and Universities in Southwest Florida. I am currently teaching Drawing at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Artist's Statement

Imaginary scene depicting the rare False Pawpaw



Photo credit: [Craig Huegel](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Andy Browne, "FLOR 406: White Stopper (*Eugenia axillaris*)," oil on panel, 24" x 24", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Andy received a degree in painting from Boston University, attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and is currently employed by the United Arts Council of Collier County managing member artist exhibitions and outreach to disadvantaged students.

Artist's Statement

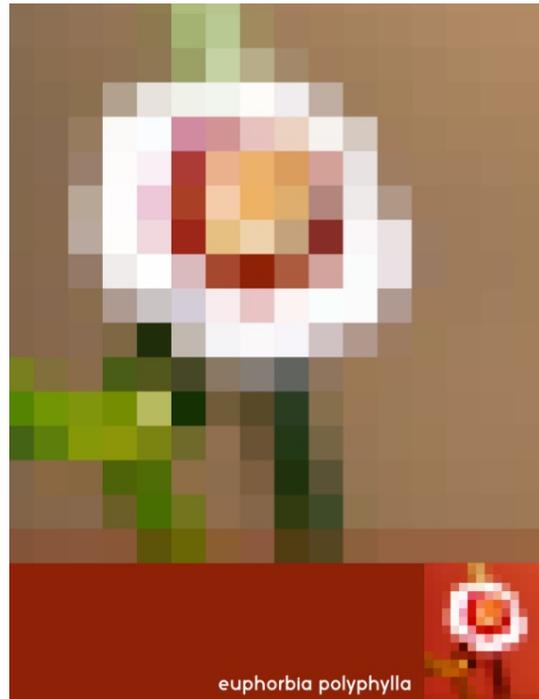
My work is primarily concerned with garden images to illustrate our connection with the world. I am very concerned with our cavalier attitude towards the natural world and the steady destruction of all habitats.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Cam DeMay, "FLOR 407: Lesser Florida Spurge (*Euphorbia polyphylla*)," digital manipulation, 8 1/2" x 11", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Cam DeMay is a human being living on planet Earth. He designs art.

Artist's Statement

I chose this flower because of its beauty. Such a small flower, yet it has powerfully striking colors with its heavy contrast between the outer white petals and inner colorings of black and red. I have no personal connection or history with this flower; I have not seen it in person. I have only viewed through a digital eye, through millions of pixels on a screen. The pixelated image I created represents how beauty is view

ed in the ever-increasing digital world.



Photo credit: Megan Rekow



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Nuch Owen, "FLOR 408: Florida Scrub Frostweed (*Helianthemum nashii*)," silk painting, 21 " x 28", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Originally from Thailand, Nuch graduated from Poh-Chang College of Arts and Crafts in Bangkok with a specialty in fabric design. She worked for five years as a textile designer before moving to Florida.

Now living in Naples, Nuch has started a silk painting studio. Her work carries a consistent tropical theme, floral still lives and landscapes with vibrant colors and intricate patterns.

Artist's Statement

Living in Naples gives me the opportunity to surround myself with tropical flowers and plants that remind me of my home in Thailand. My garden is a part of my studio and inspires me to paint daily.



Photo credit: Patricia Howell



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kellen Beck Mills, "FLOR 409: Medicine Vine (*Hippocratea volubilis*)", acrylic, 15" x 15", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Kellen Beck Mills is an artist who works in collage, mixed media and acrylic. She is a National Board Certified Teacher and teaches art at the secondary public school level.

Artist's Statement

Kellen Beck Mills is an artist and teacher who loves the creative process of manifesting intangibles. She narrates the soul's human journey through imagery, archetypes, experience and abstraction. Her work is informed and guided by an overarching conception of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts, an expression of Reality as an experience of the universal within the personal.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Muffy Clark Gill, "FLOR 410: Virginia Saltmarsh Mallow (*Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*)", rozome on silk, 33.5" x 12", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Muffy Clark Gill is an award-winning Southwest Florida artist who works with the batik process of painting on fabric as well as photography. Gill utilizes mixed media and the wax and dye resist process known as batik to channel her energies into exploring the subject matter and the stories behind the imagery. She has received dozens of awards in state and national juried shows and exhibitions.

Artist's Statement

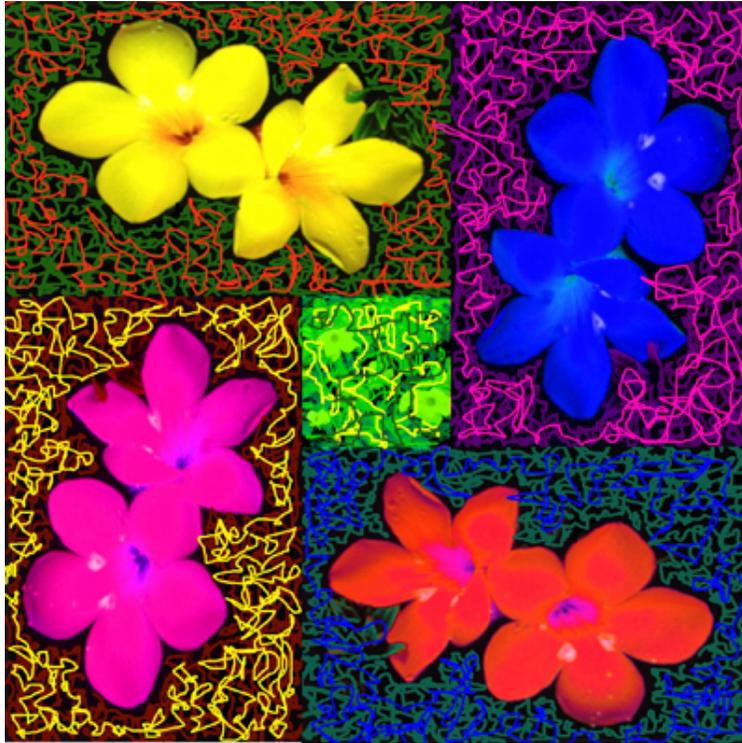
In this painting, I utilize mixed media and the wax and dye resist process known as batik or rozome to channel my energies into exploring my subject matter and the stories behind the imagery. I love seeing this beautiful pink flower radiating joy while blooming in the marshes of Southwest Florida. The raku-like effects of the batik process adds life to my subject matter.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Sharon Koskoff, "FLOR411: Wild Allamanda (*Pentalimon luteum*)", mixed media / pastels over acrylic paint, 20" x 20", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Sharon Koskoff works as a professional mural artist, designer, photographer and author. Koskoff is the chairperson for the Public Art Advisory Board of Delray Beach, FL and an art instructor for Center for the Arts. She is also the founding president of the Art Deco Society of the Palm Beaches.

Artist's Statement

Koskoff is all about color, bright and bold. Gardening is her passion, so we are so happy to be a part of FLOR500, the Delray Beach Public Art Advisory Board is planting container gardens of Wildflowers at our City Hall to connect to this worthwhile endeavor.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



April Sharpe, "FLOR 412: Wild Coco (*Eulophia alta*)", mixed media on canvas, 30" x 36", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

April Sharpe was born and raised in South Florida; her large format oil and acrylic paintings originate from natural environments. Her work has been featured in custom designs and commercial projects, both locally and nationally.

Artist's Statement

As a Miami native I am thrilled to be a part of the FLOR500 project commemorating our beautiful state.



Photo credit: Rufino Osorio



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Fiona Baker, "FLOR 413: Tree Seaside Oxeye (*Borrichia arborescens*)", nail polish on paper, 8.5" x 11", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Fiona Baker is a 9-year-old artist living in Miami. She enjoys drawing, painting, and creating multi-dimensional installations.

Artist's Statement

I like to make things.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ditsy C. Suarez, "*FLOR 414: Christmasberry (Crossopetalum ilicifolium)*," acrylic on canvas, 11" x 14", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Ditsy was born in Cuba and came to the U.S. as a child with her family in 1967. She has been a local artist and resident in Miami, for over 35 years. She is a self-taught artist with an innate passion for art and a diverse art portfolio ranging from published political caricatures, magazine illustrations to painting with oil and acrylic on canvas. She loves S. Florida and is inspired by its beauty.

Artist's Statement

Art is my passion, nature is my inspiration. My favorite media are oil and acrylic. I am immensely fascinated and often captivated by nature's intricate details, thus I aim to transmit a visual imagery of the energy that transcends from the natural creation, which motivates me to share in the experience of creativity. I am honored to be a part of the wonderful Flor500 project.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Leonor Anthony, "FLOR 415: *Lignum Vitae (Guaiacum sanctum)*", Digital Art- iPad, 2012.(CC)

About the Artist

Born in Havana, Cuba, Leonor immigrated with her family to the United States as a very young child. She resides and works in Coconut Grove, Florida. Leonor's preferred medium is oil on canvas and charcoal drawings. The imagery of her art is crafted with a combination of precise and loose brush strokes, characterized by powerful colors and jarring compositions that elicit vivid emotional reactions.

Artist's Statement

I have always been enamored with art and creating has always been as necessary to my well being as breathing. I have been drawing everything I saw and felt since I was able to hold a pencil and hope to continue until I am no longer able to hold a pencil. Art to me is a way of life and everything I do reflects my passion for it. It is an honor to participate in this project.



Photo credit:Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Paula Turk, "FLOR 416: Bay Cedar (*Suriana maritima*)", graphite, ink and colored pencil, 8.5" x 11", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Paula Turk is an award-winning photographer and metal sculptor, but also works in other media. Her work has been exhibited extensively in South Florida and she is currently a participating artist in a local public art project. She is the founder and director of ArtShare LLC creative arts group, which offers workshops in creativity and curates and produces art shows.

Artist's Statement

My mission is to capture and express the beauty and fragility of life in its most unrestricted form through the mediums of metal sculpture, photography, drawing and painting. It is the movement and flow, color and story that are the elements most important to me in conveying, rather than duplicating, all that I see and feel.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Teri L. Brozak, "FLOR 417: Rough Velvetseed (*Guettarda scabra*), acrylic painting and collage, 20" x 26", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Teri Brozak has been inspired to paint mostly abstractly and mostly in acrylic the flora in South Florida. She's a member of the Purple Isles Art Guild and lives and paints in Key Largo.

Artist's Statement

The rough velvetseed flower is an example of the natural beauty we find all around us in the Florida Keys.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kathryn Barry, "FLOR 419: Sevenyear Apple (*Casasia clusiifolia*)", oil, 11" x 14", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Kathryn studied art history at La Sorbonne and continued to actively appreciate and collect art throughout her life. After visiting the Georgia O'Keeffe museum in Santa Fe during the summer of '10, she was inspired to pick up the pencil & brush and now paints in pastels, oils and acrylics. Her joy and inspiration come from painting images and impressions gathered in her lifelong journey.

Artist's Statement

I was so inspired by this FLOR500 project. I am an avid gardener; the thought that these flowers were native here in FL over 500 years ago just is mind-boggling! This painting reflects my enthusiasm for using Florida's native plants in our gardens. I chose to depict this particular plant, the Seven Year Apple, because I have admired it growing in my area.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Gigi Shaheen, "FLOR 421: Sweet Bay (*Magnolia virginiana*)," Oil on canvas, 30" x 40", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Forced out of her home by armed soldiers of the Cuban Communist Regime, Gigi Shaheen, and her family found refuge in Miami in 1966. Confronted by many conflicts of culture, religion and environment, she found strength in the dynamics of the family core.

Artist Statement

An orgasmic explosion to the senses, the core of a flower hypnotically attracts nature's attention. Using paint, I create illusions and transformations into a visual journey, exploring the dynamic elements of color, textures and shapes.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Charles Humes, "FLOR 422: Black Calabash (*Amphitecna latifolia*)," mixed media, 17" x 23", 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

A South Floridian of Caribbean descent and visual artist for over 40 years. A Printmaker, Muralist, Painter and Educator whose work depicts the condition of men in complex narratives that reflect social concerns that incites, inflect and creates a visual dialogue between the viewer and his or her state of mind.

Artist's Statement

My work focuses on current events that reflect the tensions and conditions of men that are prevalent in the South Florida social and political environment. The commentary and narratives that evolve in my work can be beautiful but often times can be mean, ugly and sometimes depressing so it is refreshing to be apart of Flor 500 capturing the beauty of the Black Calabash as my selected flora.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kim Moore, "FLOR 423: Triangle Cactus (*Acanthocereus tetragonus*)," mixed media: acrylic nails, nail polish, canvas board, acrylic medium, 8" x 8", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Kim Moore is a visual artist who works in a variety of media, including oil painting, silk painting, ceramics, drawing, and mosaic. She lives and teaches in Miami, and she is currently an MFA candidate at FIU.

Artist's Statement

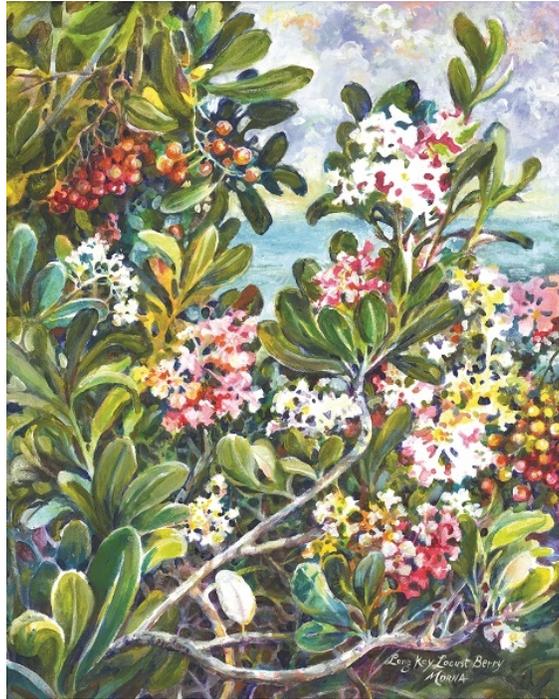
My current work focuses on ideas of identity as transient, existing as a moment in time. I'm exploring the different masks we wear, both intentionally and unintentionally, and the ways these masks are evidenced through electronic media.



Photo credit: Bob Upcavage



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Morna Shows Strengholt, "FLOR 424: Long Key Locustberry (*Byrsonima lucida*)", acrylic, 16" x 20", 2014. (CC)

About the Artist

Began painting in oils at the age of nine and exhibited in my first one man show at twelve. I have received many awards and my paintings are in collections world-wide, both private and corporate. I am part owner of Artamorada Gallery LLC at the Rainbarrel, mm 86.7 in Islamorada. Member of AGIP and FKCA. Recently famous for painting the tower in front of the Islamorada Chamber of Commerce.

Artist's Statement

Painting and drawing have always been an integral part of who I am. My art is how I express and defined myself. Creating a pathway to others, making a link of communication to those familiar and unknown to me, crossing past and present and extending into the future.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Ursula E. Fernandez, "FLOR 425: Beach Clustervine (*Jacquemontia reclinata*)", oil on canvas, 14" x 14", 2011. (CC)

About the Artist

Ursula is a Cuban born artist who began sketching at the age of 15. Influenced by her neighbor Felix de Cossio a recognized portrait painter, who allowed her to watch while he was at work. Ursula also comes from a family of artist.

Artist's Statement

The *Jacquemontia reclinata* or Beach Clustervine, is one of many flowers that have been part of Florida's flora for many years and now has been declared threatened to extinction. This specie extends along Florida's south-eastern coast on barrier islands from Jupiter Inlet South to Key Biscayne a distance of about 85 miles.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Linda Oldenburg, "FLOR 427: Florida Keys Blackbead (*Pithecellobium keyense*)," ink, acrylic, pastel, 14" X 31", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

I have a BFA from Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design and a Masters Degree in Teaching and Learning from Valparaiso University. Currently, I teach art in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Artist's Statement

Inspiration for my artwork often comes from nature. I believe in portraying the environment I live in with energetic brush strokes, light and color. The media I use is india ink, colored ink, acrylic and pastel, which combines drawing and painting techniques. I enjoy working with the different media layers and the variety of results it produces.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Catinat Pierre-Paul, "FLOR 428: Cardinal Airplant (*Tillandsia fasciculata*)," acrylic on canvas, 12" x 16", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

I always drew when I was a child, then one day some friends asked me "Why you don't put them in color?". At that time, to paint was just a fantasy; painting has become my true pleasure.

Artist's Statement

This flower grows in my homeland of Haiti.



Photo credit: Ken Marks



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Paris Styles, "FLOR 429: Coastal Indian Mallow (*Abutilon permolle*)," acrylic on canvas, 18" x 24", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Paris Styles is a fashion model turned artist/designer and the owner of Paris Styles Designs. She creates fine art paintings as well as pieces of home decor. She is best known for her signature dot work that is featured in nearly all her art.

Artist's Statement

For most of my life, my world has been about fashion and modeling. I was seen and not heard. Today, my art...is my voice. With paint and brush I communicate my thoughts, hopes and fears. The reasons why I paint are simple. It makes me happy. At times it makes other people happy and how can adding more art to the world be a bad thing?



Photo credit: Allen Boatman



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Odalis Soto, "*FLOR 431: Dollar Orchid (Prosthechea boothiana)*," scratchboard and ink, 10" x 12", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Miami artist Odalis Soto was born in Havana, Cuba. In 1970, Odalis and her family migrated from Cuba to the United States and settled in Tampa, Florida. Odalis and her family live in Florida where she teaches and practices her art.

Artist's Statement

I am a visual thinker. My interest in art is from an observational point of view. I enjoy the process of seeing, the building and the deconstruction. It is similar to a meditative state, a dialogue between the artwork and myself.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Natalia C. Arias, "FLOR 433: Longlip Ladiestresses (*Spiranthes longilabris*)," Pencil, Colored Pencil, and Black Prismacolor Premier Fine Line Pens, 22" x 13.5", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Natalia Arias was born on July 7, 1994 in Miami, Florida. She began at the age of two or three forming colorful scratches that caught the eye; always thinking, creating, and molding her future in the art world. In the fall, she will be attending Maryland Institute College of Art where she will continue to grow as an artist, creating visions that spin the imagination with her diverse talent.

Artist's Statement

I have always possessed a genuine passion for art. I enjoy expressing myself visually and want to positively impact others through my artwork. Line and color along with unity, balance, and the use of geometric pattern fuel this piece and truly bring out the beautiful flower I chose to depict.



Photo credit: Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jayne Vander Woude, "FLOR 434: Longclaw Orchid (*Eltroplectris calcarata*)," oil on linen, 36" x 24", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

As a high school student, Jayne Vander Woude begged to get out of her mandatory art class and then fell in love with art. After sharing her passion for life and creating with students, she has become an artist with works in private and corporate collections throughout the United States, Latin America, and Europe. Her paintings are an outpouring of her awe of nature's beauty and stories.

Artist's Statement

Nature amazes, excites, and inspires me. Henry David Thoreau wrote, "The question is not what you look at, but what you see." Studying and painting nature helps me see it more fully and participate in its celebration of life. I use striking compositions, luminous color, and layers of oil paint in hopes of inspiring others with nature's beauty, passion, and stories through my art.



Photo credit: [Hugh McLaughlin](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Oliver Perez, "FLOR 437: Pineland Passionflower (*Passiflora pallens*)," Pen and ink wash on paper, 5.25" x 8", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Oliver Perez was born and raised in South Florida. He graduated with a BFA from FIU, with a concentration in drawing. His work focuses a lot on geometric shapes and simple forms within splashes of multiple colors. He continues to work in different kinds of mediums such as drawing, painting and sculpting; expanding his portfolio.

Artist's Statement

The Pineland Passionflower is a rare and endangered plant native to South Florida. Using pen and ink wash, I draw the flower and its surroundings with a series of shapes that parallel the simple form within its own complexity.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Patricia Rottino Cummins, "FLOR 440: Sea Lavender," oil on canvas, 36" x 24", 2012 (CC).

About the Artist:

Patricia Cummins has been art educator in Miami Dade Public Schools for thirty-three years. She has won numerous awards and exhibits her paintings nationally and internationally. Her focus includes painting landscapes and has served ten National Park residencies in the US. She will serve a Summer 2012 residency at the prestigious Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Ireland.

Artist Statement:

I paint the landscapes, the feelings and the experiences that they create for me; the perceptions and sensations that collect as a result of a day at the shore, or under the shade of a live oak, or during weeks spent serving a residency at a National Park. If these sensations communicate with the viewer through my work, their connection and purpose are complete.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Andrea M. Binkley, "FLOR 441: Key Tree Cactus, (*Pilosocereus polygonus*)" oil on canvas, 20" x 20", 2014 (CC).

About the Artist:

Andrea Binkley was born and raised in Germany/Europe and has had a passion for art her whole life. As a single mom, there was no time for art for over 20 years. Now living in Florida, she recently started to draw and paint again, and despite no formal training, her talent did not diminish. With the time to practice, she experiments with different media and techniques, creating life-like portraits in charcoal or oil and colorful animal, flower and landscape paintings.

Artist Statement:

I love to draw or paint people, animals, flowers, landscapes, etc... anything that inspires me. Painting and drawing gives me an outlet for my creative abilities and allows me to relax while creating a new piece of art. My greatest satisfaction is when my work touches the hearts of other people.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Gabrielle Wood, "FLOR 444: Southern Fogfruit (*Phyla stoechadifolia*)," photograph, 2013 (CC).

About the artist

Gabrielle Wood is living and working in Miami, Florida. She graduated from Florida International University in 2013 with a Master of Fine Arts in studio art. She has a BFA with a concentration in ceramics, and her work incorporates photography and video. Often humorous and seductive, currently her work focuses on consumption and inner desires of the body and mind.

Artist's Statement:

In all my works, disrupted pleasure is the underlying theme. I use my body in my work to disrupt the conventional understanding of the gaze. I am questioning what beauty really is, and the opposite, objectification that comes with it. I am questioning desires and their grotesque nature, and allowing for new understandings of the self. I explore loss, and the vanity of losing part of yourself.



Photo credit: [Bob Upcavage](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Wallis Adler Chefitz, "FLOR 446 Florida Strap Airplant (*Catopsis floribunda*)",
soft sculpture, 20" x 20" x 3", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist:

Wallis studies with Yomarie Silva in Sculpture I. She works mainly with cloth and wood and studied at Miami Dade College in 2007 in the 3-Dimensional Design class with Chuck Dolgos. She has also worked for many years as an Occupational Therapist and studied art history and studio art in college. She has been making art all of her life and has lived in Miami since 1975.

Artist Statement

I believe in the restorative power of art making. It is a great pleasure to make art and a constant process of learning, doing and seeing. Art can transport the mundane into the holy, the discarded into the place of honor and the unnoticed into a treasure. Art can also tell the story of the mundane, the discarded, and the unnoticed so that we see in each a new way and thus we are restored.



Photo credit: [Ken Marks](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lara Restelli, "FLOR 447 Wormvine Orchid (*Vanilla barbellata*)" , oil on canvas, 16" x 20", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist:

Lara Restelli was born and raised in Argentina and immigrated to the United States in 2001 together with her husband; soon after she became a proud mother of two beautiful boys. She shares her love for art by participating and developing creative art classes for children at St. Patrick School (Preschool and Kindergarten). Her studio in Brickell is also opened for individual and group art classes for children ages 2-10.

Artist Statement

Art has taught me to observe and appreciate the beauty behind everyday things. Nature has been my mentor and inspiration. I explore the story behind the objects and convey my feelings through my own representation of nature. My painting process is an evolution, during which I find excitement, happiness, and peace. I am embraced with a feeling of accomplishment every time I transmit my thoughts and emotions to a canvas.



Photo credit: T. Ann Williams



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Holly Rutchey, "FLOR 448: *Cocoplum (Chrysobalanus icaco)*", Watercolor, Gouache and Ink, 8" x 8", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

Holly Rutchey is a visual and musical artist. She has participated in many juried art shows in Florida and miniature art shows across the country. She has also completed two musical CDs and written the musical score to an award-winning documentary short film.

Artist's Statement

For this piece I wanted to portray the feeling of a botanical piece of a century ago, also suggesting the influence of detailed botanicals.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Linda Emerson , "*FLOR 451: Coastal Mock Vervain (Glandularia maritima)*," photography, 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Linda Emerson is an environmental professional, writer and coastal activist who works across disciplines to engage creativity and initiate meaningful solutions to coastal conservation issues. Her interpretive public art installations reflect her core belief: restoring connection to the Earth and each other is the path toward healing our planet and ourselves.

Artist's Statement

We have been given this home. This precious, mysterious wild earth. We are part of nature, though often forget. My life work is in the reminding. I thrill at the tiny bouquets of my flower blooming on a sand dune where hours before a nesting sea turtle lumbered past returning to the sea.



Photo credit: Alexander Spiller



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Judith Berk King, "*FLOR 454: Beachberry (Scaevola plumieri)*," graphite on paper, 8" x 11", 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

Judith Berk King is an artist and educator. She studied fine art at Kensington and Chelsea College in London, England, and received her MFA from Miami International University of Art and Design, Miami, Florida where she is currently full-time faculty. Her studio is located in the Bakehouse Art Center.

Artist's Statement

As an artist, I focus on the creation and display of curious zoological and botanical structures. The objects constructed may live somewhere in the present or may exist in the future. The style of the work may be contemporary or recall the work of scientific illustrators of the past, transcending time.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Judith Berk King, "*FLOR 454: Beachberry (Scaevola plumieri)*," graphite on paper, 8" x 11", 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

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Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Mimi Dickson, "FLOR 456: Chapman's Wild Sensitive Plant (*Senna mexicana* var. *chapmanii*)," watercolor, 10" x 14", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

My subject matter is dominated by nature. However, I do like to work with still life, by changing the shapes of the objects and creating a composition that has rhythm and movement. Lately, I have developed some abstract works in which I enjoy the challenge of combining many of the elements and principles of art that invite the viewer to interpret his or her own ideas of my presentation.

Artist's Statement

This plant appealed to me because it was the closest flower I could find that reminded me of an orchid that also has five petals. I often paint various orchids so the Privet had possibilities for me. After I had studied the flower, I found something very similar in the school yard and thus this particular subject had more appeal to me.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Andrea F. Huffman, "FLOR 458: Blue Porterweed (*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*)," Cyanotype on Silk, cotton thread. Printed from original drawing, hand embroidered, 8.5" x 5", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Andrea Huffman was an Art Educator in Broward Schools for 31 years. In 1980 she earned a Bachelor of Art Education from Fla. Atlantic University and a Master's in 1994 from Fla. International University. Ms. Huffman has exhibited her fiberart throughout Florida and was among five arts educators to be the first State Teachers Artists' in Residence at the Hermitage Artist Retreat in Sarasota County.

Artist's Statement

I am intrigued with the small nuances in nature and I create works of art on fabric to connect my viewers to my personal experiences and observations. I integrate traditional and contemporary media, including drawing, painting, printmaking and digital imagery, with machine and hand stitching to emphasize and convey to the viewer my initial fascination with each subject.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Amy Werba, "FLOR 459: Florida Clover Ash (*Tetrazygia bicolor*)," Acrylic and cotton fibers, silver-tone copper wire, Flower - 7" W x 2 1/2" H Stem: 10" L x 7/16" W, 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Amy Werba, a retired Computer Programmer, started dabbling in the arts in 2004 when she began painting and designing jewelry. She now teaches Jewelry Design and Crocheting Techniques in the North Miami-Dade area. Amy still enjoys painting for fun and relaxation, and serves as president of a local Orchid Club.

Artist's Statement

The lovely Florida Tetrazygia flower is a graceful Florida native flower. It was handmade using crochet and knitting loom techniques. The white petals are acrylic yarn and the yellow & tangerine stamens used cotton thread. The 2-tone green stem was made using a round knitting loom with acrylic yarn. Thin wire was woven through the petals and stamens for shaping.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Patti Resso, "FLOR 463: Turkey Tanglewood Fog Fruit (*Phyla nodiflora*)", Watercolor, 16" x 20", 2013. (CC)

About the Artist

I have only been painting a short time and absolutely love watercolor.

Artist's Statement

I am influenced by the beauty of the movement of watercolor paint and the spontaneity achieved by it's unexpected meanderings across the paper.



Photo credit: Gilbert Fitzgerald



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



JABO, "FLOR 464: Beggarticks (*Bidens alba*)", photography/digital art, 24" x 36", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Javier Bohorquez is a photographer and a contemporary new media artist based in West Palm Beach, FL. His work is being recognized under Jabo. The beauty of nature has inspired his love for digital photography. What started as a hobby quickly turned into a passion. His interest grew bigger as he was exploring through his gardens, his trips and his greatest love... his dogs Mona and Lisa.

Artist's Statement

The foundation of his digital artwork is based upon his photographs. His creative process involves layers of imagination that create powerful compositions where color plays a dominant role. For Jabo, color is a strong driving force that comes from his Latin roots.



Photo credit: [Matthew Merritt](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lee Krull, "FLOR 465: Florida Swampprivet (*Forestiera segregata*)", oil on canvas, 12" x 12", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

I have been told that my love and talent for art appeared at an early age. For the most part I am a self-taught artist. After 35 years in the commercial art field, I began to follow my dream to create fine art in March, 2011. My work was first accepted for show that year. It excites me to watch art emerge from a blank canvas. Creating brings me great joy.

Artist's Statement

When I first began to paint the Florida Swamp Privet I soon realized that this plant was very familiar to me. I came to Florida in 1957, and it was abundant then. While painting, I envisioned the "Old Florida" and have attempted here to invoke that feel and mood along with the Privet itself.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Thamer Azule-Wright, " *FLOR 467: Jack-in-the-bush (Chromolaena odorata)*", mixed media, 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Thamer Azule-Wright (1954, Havana, Cuba), is an artist who currently works with recycled wood and mixed media. By applying abstraction and surrealism, Azule-Wright creates personal expressions, transforming materials and giving them a new voice. Focusing on the elements of Nature, spirituality and transformation of the self, she feels each piece unfolds as a Divine surprise, developing organically.

Artist's Statement

Each piece has a voice, a past, a scar and a secret. By examining the ambiguity and origination, she tries to approach a wide selection of ideas in a multi layered way to express thoughts and emotions to each viewer.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jennifer Jackson, "FLOR 468: Purple Thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*)", photograph; digital image, 2012.
(CC)

About the Artist

Jennifer Jackson is Fine Art Photographer who approaches photography with a candid, minimalistic philosophy and seldom uses any type of artificial light. Jennifer's focus is our perpetually changing natural and social environments. Jennifer uses both film, and digital; professional and plastic cameras in her endeavors to document the world today for posterity.

Artist's Statement

This alluring Purple Thistle was photographed in Everglades National Park. I was attracted to the vivid color as a subject, but became more interested with closer inspection as its stem is enveloped with thorns; a natural defense mechanism for predators. It was inspiring to discover such unexpected relationship between nature and human behavioral concepts while documenting this endangered region.



Photo credit: Patricia Howell



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada

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Joseph Marcou, "FLOR 471: Rabbitbells (*Crotalaria rotundifolia*)", Acrylic, 14" x 18", 2013 (CC)

About the Artist

Graduated Art School of NY State Tech. Early career art director positions followed by opening Marcou Design Inc. Over 33 years in business we designed packages, logos and brochures for General Mills, Johnson & Johnson, and many others. After retiring I returned to painting and exhibit at outdoor art fairs and create commissioned art. Juried member of Delray Art League. www.josephmarcou.com

Artist's Statement

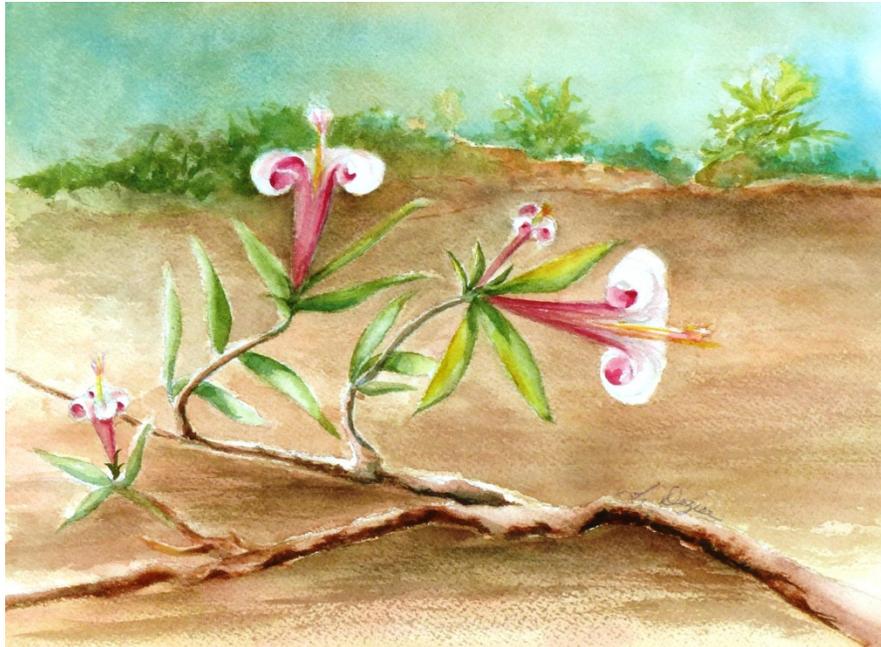
The rhythm of creating draws me to painting. From the frustrating starts, through the fitful decision making, to the joys of discovery, the process of painting is exhilarating. I particularly like exploring close up on the limitless imagination of nature. The style of my paintings is contemporary realism, not copying nature but seeing a new reality.



Photo credit: Matthew Merritt



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jacqueline Dozier, "FLOR 473: Beach Creeper (*Ernodea littoralis*)", watercolor, Arches cold pressed watercolor paper, 9" x 12", 2014 (CC)

About the Artist

I am a self-taught watercolor artist currently displaying and selling my art at the Artamorada Gallery at the Rain Barrel Artisan Village in Tavernier, Florida. I also belong to the Purple Isles Art Guild, which is composed of over 90 local artists of all media.. It was through that organization that I heard of this project.

Artist's Statement

The Beach Creeper, *Ernodea littoralis* Sw., is of the Madder Family (Rubiaceae). My limited knowledge of the Keys native plants is growing, as I volunteer more and more at various national and state parks in Monroe County. The flower of this sprawling, ground-hugging perennial is a pinkish, tubular sort with 4 curled lobes, each measuring only about 1/2 - 5/8" long.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Kristina Thalín, "FLOR: 474 Scorpionstail (*Heliotropium angiospermum*)," acrylic on gessoed on paper, 8" x 7 1/2", 2014 (CC)

About the Artist

Kristina is a native of Broward County, Florida and currently resides in Margate, Florida as a graduate of Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in painting. Her work has been in multiple group exhibitions, most recently at Whitespace Gallery in West Palm Beach, as well as the Nathan D. Rosen Museum Gallery in Boca and the Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale. (More on website.)

Artist's Statement

My goal in making my work is to create awareness of the dark place our minds can take us if we do not guard our thoughts, and at the same time encourage people that there is always hope. Sometimes we just need to find the light beyond what the mind tells us we see.



Photo credit: Dennis Girard



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Julia Morrisroe, "FLOR: 476 Buttonsage (*Lantana involucrata*)," Gouache, watercolor, color pencil, ink on paper, 10 x 12", 2012 (CC)

About the Artist

Julia Morrisroe is an artist and Associate Professor in painting and drawing. Morrisroe holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Fine Arts from University of Washington.

Exploring issues of consumerism and corporate ownership, Morrisroe has exhibited her creative research throughout the United States and abroad. Her work was included in the national traveling exhibition "Comic Release: Negotiating Identity for the New Generation" which originated at Carnegie Mellon University, (PA). Morrisroe's site-specific projects have been commissioned at Purdue University, Bakehouse Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University and SPACES. , and South Bend Museum of Art (IN). Morrisroe serves on the Artist Services Committee of the College Art Association, writes exhibition reviews published by Sculpture Magazine and curates exhibitions. She has received grants from the State of Florida, Michigan and City of Chicago and was commission to complete a public art project for the Jacksonville Airport.

Artist's Statement

Based in the tradition of painting and drawing, my research engages with the essence of their definition—the relationship of substance and support. I strive to expand the viewer's understanding of this tradition through diverse media ranging from substances such as paint, drywall compound or embroidery floss. For supports I use material such as canvas, paper, wallpaper, gypsum board or baby diapers. My work also explores and frequently exploits the interplay between technologies and the handmade as I follow my inclination to let ideas rather than materials lead my studio work. The subject matter of my creative research is based on a focused examination of the environment around me. I look critically at the 'stuff' that fills our space, that arrives in our mailboxes, that is marketed to us in catalogs, and on the web and imagine the metaphysical impact of this visual stuff on our society.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Norma Delgado, "FLOR 479: Corkystem Passionflower(*Passiflora suberosa*) ," oil on canvas 11" x 14", 2012 (CC).

About the Artist:

I was born in Havana, Cuba and came to the United States in 1962 as part of the Pedro Pan program which brought Cuban children to the USA without their parents. I worked for the Miami Dade County Schools for 35 years and recently retired. I started taking oil painting classes 5 years ago and I have found it to be both challenging and rewarding. I would like to paint more images that depict the flora and fauna of Florida.

Artist Statement:

I started painting because I wanted to write and paint illustrations to my writing. However, painting has become more absorbing than writing. It is a path to self improvement that provides a challenge and a degree of personal accomplishment. I have a great respect for nature and I believe no artist can create anything that compares to the pure beauty of what God has created. I stop to watch sunsets and the graceful run of a squirrel for these are fleeting moments in life that, try as we may, we cannot recreate.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Tom Virgin, "FLOR 480: Seaots (*Uniola paniculata*)", Diptych Relief print on Chinese paper with gold leaf,

13" x 20", 2012. (CC)

About the Artist

Midwest born and raised, Tom Virgin has lived and worked in Miami since 1992. His work has been shown internationally in the United Kingdom, Japan, Canada, Mexico, and New Zealand, as well as nationally from Portland, Oregon to Key West. He was awarded an MFA in 1994 from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. His BFA was earned in 1989 at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. His work has been featured in 1,000 Artists' Books: Exploring the Book as Art, U.S. National Park Service print and web publications, the Miami Herald, and Accent Miami.

Artist's Statement

When I arrived here, I made a beeline from the white sand beaches of Lake Michigan to the golden sand of Boca Raton's Spanish River Park on the Atlantic Ocean. One could still find whole shells on the beach, and the coarse sand was warm and golden in color. As I stood in the shallow water in the sun, huge schools of silver pilchards and other bait fish would swim by taking minutes to pass. They would actually bounce off my legs as they swam by, tickling my shins.



Photo credit: Ken Marks



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Laurel Baker, "FLOR 483: Wand Goldenrod (*Solidago stricta*)," Sharpie and watercolor, 6" x 9", 2013 (CC)

About the artist

Laurel Baker is a 14-year-old artist living in Miami. She works in photography (both digital and analog), drawing, painting, and creative writing.

Artist's Statement

My art is a personal expression of my life and emotions.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Diana Contreras, "FLOR 484: Hairy Dawnflower (*Stylisma villosa*)," mixed media on canvas, 12" x 12", 2012 (CC).

About the Artist:

Diana Contreras is an emerging artist living and working in Miami. She was born in Chiclayo, Peru in 1981. Contreras has distinguished herself as an artist of exceptional brightness, creativity, and dedication. Her work has been seen in many exhibitions around Miami and private collections in the United States and abroad.

Artist's Statement:

My freedom of expression comes through painting and my emotions are left on the canvas. The reoccurring themes in my art include love, heartbreak, and beauty. My intention is to express emotions with a beautiful image on canvas. Although, some of the subjects may look melancholic there is always hope. Oil paint is my favorite medium because of its buttery texture and blending abilities. When I work with paint, I am reminded of the power in the movement of the brushstrokes and use of colors. The paintbrush becomes an extension of my body. I also enjoy experimenting with mixed media, layers, and texture.



Photo credit: Shirley Denton



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Rishona Cann, "FLOR 485: Fakahatcheegrass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*)," mixed media, 16" x 8", 2013 (CC).

About the Artist:

Rishona was born in Miami, FL. By age four, her travels began. As the daughter of an airline pilot a family trip to Israel to support the Ethiopian airlift effort, introduced her to the excitement of international adventures and a sensitivity to the world. She hopes to convey positive thoughts, an open mind, and living life to the fullest through her energy filled representations.

Artist's Statement:

Rishona's art embodies the emotional connection between humans and nature captured by an intense color palette, merged with her love for sculptural materials. She joins her hyper-imagination with her experiences gained by studying in Israel and Italy to make mesmerizing images that overtake the viewer's mind. She explores the energy force that is in each subject she depicts



Photo credit: Betty Wargo



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Martina Gonzalez, "FLOR 487: Florida Fishpoison Tree (*Piscidia piscipula*)" graphite, water color, photography, digital, 24" x 13.5", 2013 (CC).

About the artist

Martina Gonzalez is a landscape and furniture designer. She strives to integrate her creativity and everyday life with the inspiration she receives from nature and its complexities.

Artist's Statement:

Piscidia piscipula was once used by indigenous people of the Caribbean as a means of catching fish. After trapping fish in shell-mounds during low tide, the plant was added to sedate the fish, allowing an easy catch. The artwork illustrates a relationship between a native flower and its indigenous use. The plant is still used as a medicine to this day.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Fred Koehler, "*FLOR 489: Snowy Orchid (Habenaria nivea)*," Digital Illustration, 5.25x7.5", 2011 (CC BY-NC-ND)

About the artist

Fred Koehler is a children's book writer / illustrator in Lakeland, Florida.

Artist's Statement:

I spent my youth tracking through Florida's natural paradise – climbing pine trees, mucking through the lakes and rivers, and bringing home all manner of potentially dangerous wildlife. Now I'm teaching my children to do the same, and to appreciate the natural paradise we live in. The snowy orchid is a wonderful example of the delicate and breathtaking landscape that is available to all of us, if only we go looking for it.



Photo credit: [Betty Wargo](#)



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Cindy Moss Smith, "FLOR 491: Passion Flower", acrylic on panel, 6 x 6 inches, 2011. (CC)

About the artist

Cindy Moss Smith is an artist that works mainly in acrylics, but utilizes other mixed media. Cindy is a Florida-native and resides in Gainesville, FL. She graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in Public Relations and a minor in Art. She's a board member of the Gainesville Fine Arts Association and active in the Doris Bardon Community Cultural Center.

Artist's Statement:

While I'm creating a piece of art I get lost in the process and hours become minutes, that's true bliss. Art in any medium creates a feeling, and that's the goal to invoke feeling! It's a real joy when someone appreciates a piece of art work and wants to give it a home. It's my hope to keep the arts alive--Support your local ARTS!



Photo credit: [Asit K. Ghosh](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Jack Stenner, "*FLOR 493: Button Rattlesnakemaster*", digital image, 2011. (CC)

About the artist

Jack Stenner is an artist who utilizes techniques from ubiquitous and physical computing, game technologies, and experimental software to create conceptual work often taking forms such as installation, network practices, or experimental video. He is an Assistant Professor of Art + Technology in the School of Art + Art History at the University of Florida.

Artist's Statement:

Jack's work addresses issues related to our socio-culturally constructed "reality." He is interested in the forms and means with which ideology is embedded, particularly how meaning is manipulated and transcoded in "place." To this end, his work explores the construction of a "hybrid subject;" a subject neither entirely human nor machinic.



Photo credit: Michael Drummond



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada

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Angel Marin, "FLOR 494: Curacao Bush (*Cordia globosa*)", mixed media, 8.5" x 11" , 2013. (CC)

About the artist

Angel Marin is a Miami born artist. His work deals with the memories of his childhood. His work is primarily in ceramics, but he also works with printmaking and collage.

Artist's Statement:

I chose the curacao bush as it reminded me of flowers I used to pick in my youth. I've noticed that these memories are starting to get harder to recall, and that this species is endangered. Maybe there is a correlation, and once it goes extinct it will all be completely forgotten. I hope that doesn't happen, and I hope this message is heard.

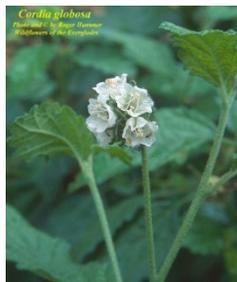


Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Anna Scharnagl, "Flor 495: Yellow Milkwort", colored pencil on paper, 6 X 8 inches, 2011 (CC).

About the artist

Anna Scharnagl is a native to south Florida and an FIU alumna with a BA in Religious Studies and a BS in Biology. She has spent the greater portion of her life either working or playing out of doors. She views the world as both artist and scientist..

Artist's Statement:

As a south Florida field biologist I have continually photographed native wildflowers. Upon hearing of FLOR 500 I was compelled to join the ranks of artists and do a rendering of one of my shots to share the simple yet astounding beauty that so oft moves me in the field.



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Benjamin E. Groff, "FLOR 496: Cinnamon Bark (*Canella winterana*)," mixed-media, 8" x 8", 2013.
(CC)

About the Artist

Having been raised by a family of artists and teachers, Benjamin Groff has been an artist since grade school and has been teaching art for 20 years. Since college, he has produced hundreds of works that can be found in private collections throughout the United States, France, Spain, and Sweden.

Artist's Statement

I believe that my work is never truly final. Through constant experimentation and research, I seek to develop new techniques that evoke a wide range of reactions from the viewer. I wish to expand the viewer's palette of appreciation and interest by pushing traditional boundaries beyond the realm of predisposition into the unknown.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Gretchen Scharnagl, "FLOR 497: Poisonwood", gouache and pencil, 15 X 11 ¼ inches, 2011 (CC).

About the artist

South Florida suburban artist, Gretchen Scharnagl, creates work that is a hybridization of environmental issues, commentaries on the human condition, and suburban natural history. She is interested in ideas of authorship, collaboration and the ephemeral. Currently she is a visiting lecturer at Florida International University.

Artist's Statement:

Through hurricanes and human encroachment, the loss of natural habitats reduces the number of poisonwood trees. With homeowner's reluctance to plant this noxious tree, the native white-crowned pigeon loses this important traditional element in their diet. Scientists do not know what the long-term effects will be for this near-threatened species



Photo credit: Keith Bradley



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Lea Nickless, "FLOR 499: Florida Butterfly Orchid," watercolor and graphite, 7" x 4.5", 2011 (CC).

About the artist

Lea Nickless uses watercolors, mixed media and the structure of the book to explore her vision. Her work is found in the collections of Scripps College, the University of Central Florida and the Bienes Museum of the Modern Book. She has also worked in museums and arts administration in Miami for many years.

Artist's Statement:

I am drawn to the fecund beauty of the natural world and the interconnectedness of all things -- the delicate web that connects all life and energy, both the seen and the unseen, and the tension between restriction and release.



Photo credit: Roger Hammer



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Xavier Cortada, "FLOR 500: Red Mangrove," digital art, 2011 (CC).

About the artist

Miami artist Xavier Cortada created art installations at the North Pole and South Pole to address environmental concerns at points in between. In Florida, he's developed participatory eco-art projects to engage others in bioremediation. Launched in 2006, his Reclamation Project volunteers have reforested eight acres of mangroves along Florida's coasts.

Artist's Statement:

Ponce de Leon probably first saw mangroves. Their propagules drop down and, like those who've journeyed here, wash ashore and take root. Mangrove roots symbolize our interconnectedness: Floridians build stronger communities by reaching out to others, as the mangrove roots' "walking feet" do in building formidable structures that nurture new life.



Photo credit: [Keith Bradley](#)



A participatory, art, nature, and history project by Xavier Cortada



Xavier Cortada is an artist and Professor of Practice at the University of Miami Department of Art and Art History. Cortada's work is intended to generate awareness and action towards issues of global climate change. Using the power and elasticity of participatory art to engage, Cortada educates and inspires community members to work together and learn together to solve our community's problems.

Cortada has created art installations at the North and South Poles to help address environmental issues at every point in between. His work is also in the collections of Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), the Patricia and Philip Frost Art Museum, the MDC Museum of Art + Design, the NSU Museum of Art in Ft. Lauderdale, the Whatcom Museum in Washington, and the World Bank and is the Artist-in-Residence at Pinecrest Gardens.

To learn more, visit www.cortada.com.



**XAVIER
CORTADA**
studio and projects
www.cortada.com
@xcortada

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