

Interaction Art News: News that melds art with science

Interaction Art, Inc. Debra Jane Carey, Artist-Illustrator-Researcher

On The Pallet: New Original Art Work

Debra uses her art as a vehicle to educate on plant-animal conservation. Clients continue to drive the art produced by Debra. Since October 2008 over a dozen images were released. Debra loves her connection to nature and the relationships that are formed with client and subject. She is often asked how long it takes to produce a piece. The

three part process includes research, field study and composition. Research is done using books, journal articles and verbal communication. Field study may take her to a park, museum or botanical garden. It may also mean air freighting specimens to the studio. The final artwork is photographed and combined with a story before translating into product. Thank you to those that gave her these inspirations.

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CAPABILITIES

Commissioned Services

- Original
- Wall Mural
- Residential Portrait

Reproduction Services

- Paper—matted or framed
- Canvas— gallery wrap
- Tile—mural, accent,
- Fabric— bag or pillow
- Vinyl— wallpaper



FS127C Black-eyed Susan, AS156C Caracara, AS149W Miami Blue, AS148W FL Purplewing, AS150W Zebra Longwing, FVS109C Strawberry, AS154W Monarch, FVS116C Orange, FS128W Trillium, FS126W Ornithogalum, AS152C Burrowing Owl, AS153C Gopher tortoise, AS155C Coral Bean

Current Solo Exhibit and Sale: Bok Tower Gardens

Bok Tower Gardens National Historic Landmark Hosts *The Birds, Bees, Flowers and Seeds*. A solo exhibition and sale running **May 30-July 30, 2009**. Illustrator Debra Jane Carey will be on site June 28, 2009 1-4 discussing the exhibit.

Discover how plant-animal communities support Florida's wildlife as illustrator Debra Jane Carey brings to life dynamic images capturing the essence of nature. Through illustrations of her art and prose, Carey showcases Florida's natural

inhabitants as she takes visitors on a journey through the world of pollinators. Viewing the exhibit in the Visitor Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. is included with general admission or membership. The artwork is available for purchase with a portion of the profits benefiting the Gardens.

Bok Tower Gardens 1151 Tower Boulevard Lake Wales, FL www.boktowergardens.org

Gift Products

Original Art
 Reproduction Art
 Greeting card
 Marble coaster
 Glass cutting board
 Mural & Accent Tiles
 Print
 T-shirt
 Bag
 Mug

Products that bring you the magic of nature: Eco-friendly Alternatives

Interaction Art is conscious of eco-alternatives by sourcing recycled, natural or biodegradable components. Couple that with over 100 images on reusable products printed on demand. The addition of shopping bags to the gift line is a natural evolution says President Debra Carey.

“With the renewed interest in green products we were happy to discover many of our products fit the trend. Our standard frames are made of reclaimed wood products. Packaging is biodegradable. Marble tiles are a natural product. T-shirts and bags are 100% cotton. Greeting cards contain 20% post consumer content.”

We strive to supply small quantity minimums with quick delivery. Ask yourself what the complete package should contain then, talk with us about what we can do to enhance your promotion.



Select an image from portfolio then select your product.
 Shown on bag FS127C *Black-eyed Susan*
 T-shirt AS129W *Purple Spotted Swallowtail*



#AS155C ©2009 Debra Jane Carey

Co-Evolution: Coral Bean and Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Coral Bean *Erythrina herbacea* Linnaeus, 1753
 Fabaceae North America

With Pollinator

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*
 Linnaeus, 1758 Trochilidae

At Oscar Scherer State Park the most perfect hummingbird flower stopped me in my tracks along the roadside in the shade like a lighthouse beacon. The pollinator, Ruby-throated hummingbird have been migratory birds since at

least the last glacial period.

Erythrina comes from the Greek word erythro meaning red. Herbacea or herb means grass, and refers to herbaceous plants. There are 130 known *Erythrina*. The size varies in the genus from herbaceous plants to 30 meter woody trees. *Erythrina* lives in pineland and hammock areas encircling the Gulf from Florida to Mexico. The seeds are buoyant in salt water making them easily dispersed by water through river and coastal habitats. There is no fossil record but studies reveal the genus has either South

American or African origins 30-40 million years on earth.

Erythrina herbacea is a member of the pea family and native to warm regions. The distinguishing features are trifoliolate leaves, showy red or orange flowers, and pods often containing brightly colored seeds.

Red and orange are the colors that attract birds. Combined with bloom shapes to accommodate perching birds or trumpets for hummingbirds, each species of *Erythrina* has perfect anatomy. The reward is nectar an important source of moisture for birds. *Erythrina herbacea* is pollinated by ruby-throated hummingbirds. Blooming in

early spring *Erythrina* attract the birds on their migration north.

Studies in Mexico determined toxicity levels of *Erythrina* species vary and *Erythrina herbacea* has the lowest toxicity in the genus. Native Americans use root, leaves, seeds and inner bark medicinally. Native Andeans use flowers and seeds of their native species for food. Many countries utilize native species to feed cattle. Species in Central and South America are grown as live fences taking advantage of their re-curved spines. Use of these trees to shade cocoa and coffee plantations dates to the earliest cultivation practices.

We are offering a free 11"x14" print of this image to anyone that asks. Open to any one with an address in continental U.S. Email where to ship by July 30, 2009. Hummingbirds are insect eaters. Nectar is a supplement that fuels them for flight. Wintering in Central America they fly north following one of two patterns through Texas or 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico into Florida. Canada is the northern destination with complete migration by May. Unlike other hummingbirds, Ruby-throated, want warmth so when the days get shorter they head south. Exploitation of food sources caused this hummingbird to migrate. One would think over the years they would develop the ability to handle cold temperatures.

Women in Art History Series: Mary Morris Vaux Wallcott (1860-1940)

American artist and naturalist Mary Walcott was born to the most prominent Quaker family in Philadelphia. Summers spent in the Canadian mountains with family would give way to her naturalist life.

At age eight Mary was introduced to watercolor. After graduating she worked on the family farm and began painting wildflowers. She later married Charles Walcott, paleontologist working at the Smithsonian. Charles discovered the famous Burgess Shale fossil deposits in the Canadian Rockies.

Mary's pursuit of life shared by family extended to mineralogy, photography, and mountain climbing. She assisted her brothers on recording mountain

ranges and glacier movements. Walcott's skill in draftsmanship combined with field study captured realistic interpretations during a time lacking women in science.

Mary Vaux Walcott's *North American Wildflowers* was published by the Smithsonian Institute in 1925. The reproductions from this set of 400 lithographed plates measure 11" x 14". Originally selling for \$500 today's market bears \$6,000. In 1935 Smithsonian published *Illustrations of American Pitcher-Plants* that contained 15 illustrations.

Mount Mary Vaux, in Jasper National Park, Alberta, Canada is named after her.



Cliffrose (*Cowania stanshuriana*)
1934 Mary Vaux Walcott
Smithsonian American Art Museum Collection

Trends: Nature Art In Healthcare Environments

An article by Carolyn BaRoss in Contract Magazine March 2009 highlights artists commissioned during the design process to design art for health care facilities. She quotes studies that show the stress reducing effects and positive distraction nature art has in the healthcare environment.

While this is an enormous project it stresses Interaction Art motto. "Art should not be an afterthought but the inspiration for design". Ulrich et al. 2004 studied evidence that even brief encounters with real or simulated nature

manifest stress into pleasant feelings.

It congers ideas in the mind of this illustrator-researcher. Animal foot prints on textured glass tiles installed in the floor. Framed prints of plants, butterfly, bee or birds living in the vicinity accompanied by a courtyard garden to attract these visitors. The addition of Debra's education stories would reduce the stress of adult and youngster alike.

Ulrich, R., Zimring, C., Quan, X., Joseph, A., and Choudhary, R. 2004 The Role of the Physical Environment in the Hospital of the 21st Century: A Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity The Center For Health Design 69pp.

*even brief encounters
with real or simulated
nature manifest stress
into pleasant feelings*

National Pollinator Week June 22-28, 2009

Are you aware the United States has a national pollinator week? Florida is one of 31 states that signed on.

Organizations such as the The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) and Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) offer education to learn about what can be done to protect pollinators.

Start today, get involved by hosting your own education program with ideas from NAPPC on The Pollinator Archives. Write your Governor in support of National Pollinator Week.

BUILD A BEE TO EMAIL

Corporations like Häagen-Dazs are supporting pollinator conservation with funding and educational support like build a bee.

*Join Debra in celebration of
National Pollinator Week June 28th
1:00–4:00 at the visitor center of
Bok Tower Gardens, Lake Wales
Florida*



Caption AS104W ©1999 Debra Jane Carey



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Interaction Art, Inc.

Debra specializes in depicting plant-animal interactions.
She is Botanical Art & Illustration Certified and Faux Finishing Certified. www.interactionart.com

PRODUCTS THAT BRING YOU THE MAGIC OF NATURE

INTEGRATE NATURE INTO YOUR NEXT DESIGN

Original, Reproduction and Commissioned Art Products and Services

Economic Plant and Pollinator Series: Pineapple

Ananas comosus (L.) Merr., 1917· Bromeliaceae

With Pollinator

Phaethornis pretrei Lesson & Delattre, 1839· Trichilidae

North South America

crates per year to New York via Flagler's railroad during the height of farming. By the 1940's major production shifted back to the Caribbean.

The common name pineapple first appeared in print 1398. Named after their resemblance to pine cones. The Carib Indian word 'anana' translates to 'excellent fruit'. Since Colonial American time architect, artisan and craftsmen adopted the pineapple as an icon known world wide as the symbol of hospitality.

Pineapples are a subtropical plant native to Brazil. Pineapple is the one species in the Bromeliaceae family of economic importance. Explorers collected specimens on return to Europe. Spain took the fruit to Hawaii and South East Asia establishing commercial plantations by 1886. Pineapples today are grown globally with non-seed varieties. To assure the seedless crop import of hummingbirds into Hawaii was banned. The flowering process is extremely important to produce premium fruit. The use of ethylene derivatives to control flower induction was discovered in 1874.

Florida pineapple culture began in 1860. Culture on United States mainland is limited to tropical climate. The plants grown in what is termed open culture cannot withstand even a light frost. In Florida this region is the southern most area of the peninsula on the Atlantic coast where winter temperature variations are less abrupt. Use of palmetto fronds and construction of covered sheds over the acre provide shelter and produce favorable crop yields.

Hickory and Pine scrub soils have the most favorable mix of sand, humus and clay for growing pineapple in Florida. The soil is amended by burning and incorporating the litter bears fruit for five to six years. Rustic farming whereby pear, avocado, lime and sapodilla planted at the same time provide natural protection, sustain insect diversity and continue farming of that field. By 1844 Elliotts Key was the center of pineapple cultivation in Florida. Florida shipped one million



FVS102G ©2004 Debra Jane Carey

Upcoming Shows Debra will participate.

October, USF Botanical Garden Fall Plant Sale

November, Tampa Federation of Garden Clubs
Holiday Market

November, Silver River State Park, Ocali Days