

Cultivating the Dutch Tradition in the 21st Century

Jane Jones' Hyperrealist Floral Paintings



INTRODUCTION: This exhibition consists of twenty-five floral paintings produced from 2012 through 2021 by Jane Jones. The artist works within the context of 17th-century Dutch floral painters such as Maria van Oosterwyck (1630 – 1693), Maria Sibylla Merian (1647 – 1717), and Rachel Ruysch (1664 – 1750). The emergence of the Dutch school of painting in the early 17th-century is one of the most extraordinary phenomena in the history of the visual arts. But while Jones has been a life-long student of 17th-century Dutch floral painting, she takes a contemporary, stylistic approach to her own work, producing compositions which are spare and elegant. Peter Trippi, Editor-in-Chief, Fine Art Connoisseur, New York explains it this way: “Jones has an admirable gift for banishing extraneous details in order to focus on the elegance of flowers, juxtaposing their organic forms with the geometric rigidity of their vases, and the stones she sometimes includes, and even of the square or rectangular canvas itself. Her still life paintings highlight what Jones calls the ‘everyday triumphs of nature’ and the ‘power, beauty, and fragility of life,’ none of which should ever be taken for granted.”

While Jones’ paintings respond to works from the Dutch Golden Age, they also take cues from science. Having earned degrees in biology as well as art history, the artist says, “The most important things I took away from my science education were a deep respect for living systems and ecology, their inherent homeostasis, and the importance of precision when observing nature.” Jane Jones also possesses a deep and un-abiding concern, an ethic if you will, about the disruption of the balance of nature that is caused by climate change.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: Jane Jones is a Denver native and continues to live near there at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where the light that she loves is bright and clear, and the seasons, which influence her work, are definite in their character and moods.

Though she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, Jane Jones chose not to work in that field. Of her science education she says it enabled her to look “into the lives of cells, plants, animals and ecosystems gave me a glimpse into the awesome power of living things and an incredible respect for them.” Her hyper-realistic style includes many layers of glazing to create the colors that best represent the glorious expression of color in sunlit flowers. Symbols are used to communicate her love of nature, and the threats that nature faces, while presenting their need to be protected and nurtured.

Jones exhibits her work in museums and galleries across the United States. Her paintings have won numerous national awards including the Award of Excellence in Blossom ~ Art of Flowers which premiered at the Naples Museum of Art and was toured nationally by David J. Wagner, L.L.C.; and the Floral Award in the Annual Exhibition of the International Guild of Realism in 2013 and 2018. She is the author of *Classic Still Life Painting* and is represented by galleries in Denver, New York, Santa Fe, and Scottsdale.

EXHIBITION WEBPAGE: <https://www.janejonesartist.com/museum-shows>

TOUR UPDATES: davidjwagnerllc.com/Dutch_Tradition_Floral_Paintings.html

ABOUT THE CURATOR: David J. Wagner earned his Ph.D. in American Studies and served as a museum director for 20 years. In 2001, he incorporated David J. Wagner, L.L.C. for the purpose of producing and managing traveling exhibitions.

CULTIVATING THE DUTCH TRADITION IN THE 21st CENTURY
Jane Jones' Hyperrealist Floral Paintings
Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C.

(414) 221-6878; davidjwagnerllc@yahoo.com; davidjwagnerllc.com
Member: American Alliance of Museums; International Council of Museums