

A detailed botanical illustration of an orchid plant. The central focus is a stem with several long, lanceolate green leaves and a cluster of vibrant orange flowers. To the right, a single flower is shown in a larger, more detailed view, highlighting its intricate structure and color. In the bottom right corner, another single orange flower is depicted. On the left side, there are three smaller, detailed drawings: a yellowish-green seed pod at the top, a yellowish-green seed pod in the middle, and a yellowish-green seed pod at the bottom. The background is a plain, light color, making the plant stand out.

the
Botanical Artist

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CULTIVATING THE FIELD OF BOTANICAL ART SINCE 1994

2026

Exhibition in a Medieval Garden

Submitted by Dominique Delattre

The Association of Botanical and Naturalistic Illustration Enthusiasts (AsPIB) was invited to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Jardin Médiéval d'Uzès, a historic medieval garden in southern France. The location was ideal—in the heart of this beautiful garden which was blooming magnificently, and hosting a botanical illustration exhibition for the first time.

We developed a professional and cheerful partnership with the *in situ* association, that manages this remarkable garden, classified as a *Monument Historique* with the *Jardin Remarquable* designation.

Organizing an exhibition far from home presented a new challenge for AsPIB in 2025. Two members—Françoise Piquet-Vadon, botanical artist, and I—handled most preparation: designing exhibition guidelines, managing jurying, framing, and shipping. Additional members joined us for installation, and everything proceeded smoothly.

AsPIB presented 40 works on the theme "From Flower to Seed" from May 22 to June 29, 2025. Fourteen members submitted original artworks and fine art prints in watercolor on paper, watercolor on vellum, graphite, and ink. On opening day, a botanical drawing workshop led by Dominique Delattre and Marie Malissen gave members an opportunity to explore different illustration techniques.

For nearly two months, approximately 3,500 visitors from 13 countries discovered the garden and viewed these contemporary botanical illustrations. The visitors' book overflowed with expressions of admiration and delight. We successfully achieved our primary objective: promoting botanical illustration to a broad, international audience.



TOP Uzès, Medieval Garden, Exhibition hall

RIGHT Marie Malissen, front; Dominique Delattre, back



Kick Start to Retirement

Submitted by Cindi Standley

As a recently retired professor from the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix, I was anxious to return to my love of botanical art. Even though I moved to Michigan (after 30 years in Arizona), I was still excited about depicting Arizona wildflowers. After renewing my membership in the Southwest Society of Botanical Artists last year, I took a course through the Denver School of Botanical Art and Illustration, which provided the vital support I needed to kickstart my artistic endeavors. I took the online course *Botanicals in Ink and Watercolor* in September 2025. This was my first time taking an online art course of this caliber, and, I must say, it was an awesome experience! The instructor

BELOW Cindi Standley
RIGHT Artwork produced during online class

