

## SELECTED ILLUSTRATION PROJECTS and BIBLIOGRAPHY

- *Wellness and Illness in Yup'ik Oral Tradition*, 2026.
- *Vascular Plants of the South Sound Prairies*. Olympia, WA: The Evergreen State College Press, Second ed. 2026.
- *Flora of the Selkirk Mountains*, 2021.
- *Nunam Qaingani Nautulit Nertukngait Inruktukngait Illu, Edible and Medicinal Plants of Southwest Alaska*, 2021.
- *Ilustração Botânica, Técnicas Para Desenhar Flores e Plantas*, 2019, at 134, 135.
- *US Forest Service Artist in Wilderness Residency*, illustrate Lichens of Tebenkof Bay Wilderness area, Southeast Alaska. 2018
- *Civita Institute Fellowship*, document/draw wild flowers, orchids, lichen in Civita di Bagoregio & its canyonlands, Italy. 2017
- *Five Fingers Interpretive Project*; illustrations featuring a variety of native species, create 6 interpretive panels on intertidal and upland ecological zones on the island, the history and the geology of the area, and whale research in Alaska. 2014-16
- Created Illustrations for *Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture*, University of Washington. 2011-12
- Created extensive series of line illustrations for use on *Seattle Art Museum* signage/labels for exhibitions.
- Illustrated and designed 9 large silk screened maps for permanent installation throughout the *Seattle Art Museum* galleries.
- *The Spirit Within, Northwest Coast Native Art from the John H. Hauberg Collection*, 1995 at 19, 22, 94, 132, 154, 194, 270.
- *Early Chinese metalwork in the collection of the Seattle Art Museum*, 1989, at pages throughout.
- *In Pursuit of the Dragon, Traditions and Customs in Ming Ceramics*, 1988, at cover.

## FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020-21 Macfarlane Artist in Residence Fellowship, University of Washington, Friday Harbor Laboratories  
2017 Civita Institute Fellowship, Alto Lazio region, Italy

## RESIDENCIES

- 2018 US Forest Service, National Park Service & US Fish & Wildlife Service, Voices of the Wilderness Artist residency  
2015-16 North Cascades Institute Environmental Learning Center  
2014 North Cascades Institute Environmental Learning Center  
2013 Helen Whiteley Center at Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of Washington College of the Environment  
2011 NKF, Nordic Art Association/Nordiska Konstföbundet, Stockholm, Sweden

## TEACHING

- 2021-26 Evergreen State College, Scientific Illustration  
2020 University of Washington, Center for Urban Horticulture, Natural History Illustration  
2014 -26 Member of the *Community Arts Partner Roster*, teaching artist, art residencies in Seattle Public Schools  
2019 Evergreen State College, Adjunct Art Instructor, Botanical and Scientific Illustration  
Bastyr College, Art Instructor, Botanical Illustration  
University of Washington, Center for Urban Horticulture, Natural History Illustration  
2018 Evergreen State College, Adjunct Art Instructor  
Bastyr College, Visiting Art Instructor  
University of Washington, Center for Urban Horticulture  
2016-17 Seattle Pacific University, Adjunct Art Instructor, Seattle Pacific Art Center  
Teaching Artist, Seattle University / Frye Art Museum  
Evergreen State College, Visiting Scientific Illustration Instructor  
Honolulu Museum of Art Spalding House, Scientific Illustration workshop  
Botanical Illustration workshops; Volunteer Park Conservatory, Seattle Japanese Gardens  
Arts Corps, Teaching Artist  
Bastyr College, Visiting Art Instructor  
2015 Seattle Pacific University, Adjunct Art Instructor, Seattle Pacific Art Center  
Visiting Artist and Instructor, Western Washington University's Graduate M.Ed., North Cascade Institute  
Arts Corps, Teaching Artist  
Teaching Artist, Youth, Student and Teacher Programs, Frye Art Museum  
Teaching Artist, Seattle Public Library Arts Workshops  
2014-18 Member of the *Community Arts Partner Roster*, vetted teaching artists approved to work in Seattle Public Schools  
2014 Arts Corps, Teaching Artist  
2013 Artist in Residence, *Illustration for Books*, Seattle Pacific University  
Frye Art Museum in conjunction w/ Seattle University, *The Art of Scientific Illustration*  
National Tropical Botanical Gardens, *Botanical Illustration*, Maui  
2012 Teaching Artist, Youth, Student & Teacher Programs, Frye Art Museum w/ Seattle University, *Botanical Illustration*  
2010-12 Teaching Artist, Studio Workshops  
1994-95 Teaching Assistant, University of Washington, *Drawing and Printmaking*

## EDUCATION

- 2021-24 Royal Botanical Gardens of Edinburgh Diploma of Botanical Illustration, w/ distinction, 2024  
2014 Washington State Arts Teaching Artist Training Lab  
2010 Scientific Illustration Certificate, University of Washington  
1995 MFA, University of Washington  
1990 BFA, Cum Laude, Cornish College of the Arts

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Gathering from the Land*, University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, Miller Botanical Library  
2012 *Medusae Fossae*, Shift Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2011 *Sharon Birzer, New Works*, Candyland, Stockholm, Sweden  
2010 *Observatio*, Shift Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2009 *'Tis of Thee*, Shift Gallery, Seattle, WA

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Forest Field and Garden, Pacific Northwest Botanical Artists*, University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture  
2019 *GNSI and AIMBI Members Exhibit*, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia  
*Focus on Nature XV*, Roberson Museum and Science Center, Binghamton, New York  
*Bellingham National Juried Art Exhibition and Awards*, Whatcom Museum  
2017 *Focus on Nature XIV*, Roger Tory Peterson Museum, New York  
2015 *Nature: With Hands and Eyes*, Pacific Science Center, Seattle  
*Pacific Northwest Botanical Artists*, Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Is.  
2014 *The Scientific Eye: Art & Science*, North Seattle College Gallery  
*Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Annual Exhibition*, University of Colorado Museum of Natural History  
*Drawing on Nature*, Washington State Convention Center  
*The Symbiosis Project*, Rising Sun Arts Centre, 30 Silver St, Reading, UK  
2013 *Pacific Northwest Botanical Artists*, Center for Urban Horticulture  
2012 *The Spirit of Observation; From the Art of Scientific Illustration*, Russell Day Gallery, Everett, WA  
*Jasmina Cibic; Situation Anopthalmus hitleri*, Maribor Gallery, Maribor, Slovenia  
*Shift*, Kirkland Performing Arts Center, Kirkland, WA  
*A Celebration of Washington Artists*, Washington State Convention Center  
*Currents: Seattle Print Arts 2012*, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, University of Washington  
*The Printmakers Hand II*, Northwind Arts Center Port Townsend, Juried by Sam Davidson  
*Anacortes Arts Festival*, Juried by Barbara Matilsky  
*Pacific Northwest Botanical Artists*, University of Washington Botanical Gardens and Bloedel Reserve  
2011 *Bountiful*, Mount Vernon Arts Commission, WA  
2010 *A Celebration of the Natural World*, Burke Museum, Seattle, WA  
*Steiner Workshop Exhibition*, Kyoto, Japan  
*Botanical Art Exhibition*, Center for Urban Horticulture, Seattle WA  
*10, Seattle Print Arts Anniversary Exhibition*, Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA  
*Seattle Print Arts Salon Invitational*, Patricia Cameron Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2009 *Touch*, Columbia City Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*Sea Shift*, G Gallery, Houston, TX  
*Inaugural Invitational Print Exhibition at Mighty Tieton*, Tieton, WA  
*PONCHO Invitational Fine Art Exhibition*, Western Bridge, Seattle WA  
*Art Port Townsend*, Northwind Arts Center, Port Townsend, WA  
2008 *Zero*, Columbia City Gallery's Third Annual Juried Exhibit, Seattle, WA  
*Collective Works at Up Front Art*, Issaquah, WA  
*PRINT! Seattle Print Arts 3rd Biennial Juried Exhibition*, Anne Focke Gallery, Seattle City Hall, WA  
*Art Revealed*, City of Lynnwood Arts Commission Exhibit, Lynnwood Convention Center, WA

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Gilda's Club, Capitol Hill, Seattle, WA  
Snohomish County 1% Arts Program, Everett, WA

## PROFESSIONAL & RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2014-16 Illustrator, The Alaska Whale Foundation, develop a series of illustrations for Interpretive Panels, Alaska  
2011-12 Illustrator, Burke Museum, contract  
2009-12 Member of SHIFT Collaborative Studio, artist-run exhibition space in Tashiro Kaplan Arts Complex, Seattle  
2003 Advanced Printmaking study with Kathleen Rabel and Stephen Hazel  
1999 PPI Exhibit Design, Graphic Designer, Portland, OR  
1997 Preston Gates and Ellis LLP, Graphic Designer, Seattle, WA  
1991-96 Seattle Art Museum, Illustration, Graphic Design

## Biography

Sharon Birzer is a botanical illustrator whose art and illustration practice investigates our world of living organisms. In 2024 Sharon earned her (distance) Diploma of Botanical Illustration with distinction from the Royal Botanical Gardens Edinburgh, and she earned an MFA from the University of Washington.

Working with an ethnobotanist and a cultural anthropologist she created botanical illustrations of medicinal plants for two books; *Wellness and Illness in Yup'ik Oral Tradition*, 2026, by Ann Fienup-Riordan as well as for *Yungcautnguuq Nunam Qaingam Tamarmi, All the Land's Surface is Medicine, Edible and Medicinal Plants of Southwest Alaska*, by Ann Fienup-Riordan, 2021. In 2022 Sharon completed 49 scientific illustrations of grasses to be published in the second edition of *Vascular Plants of the South Sound Prairies*, The Evergreen State College Press. During a *Voices of the Wilderness* artist residency with the US Forest Service, National Park Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service Sharon traveled to remote coastal areas of SE Alaska with a botanist and lichenologist to document botany and especially lichen in the Tebenkof Wilderness. Since 2009 Sharon has illustrated lichens which are sensitive to air quality and therefore are bio-indicators of climate change. During a North Cascades Institute residency, Sharon Birzer documented lichen communities in the environs around the North Cascades Institute Learning Center and taught a co-lichen illustration workshop. She is building a series of lichen works as a way of addressing the degradation of the environment. Birzer also taught a field journal illustration workshop to the graduate students in the North Cascades Institute Master of Education in Environmental Education Program. Sharon created illustrations of marine biology and designed interpretive signage for The Alaska Whale Foundation in collaboration with AWF and the Juneau Lighthouse Association in SE Alaska under a State of Alaska Marine Wayside grant.

Birzer has exhibited work in North America, Europe, Japan and Australia. Amongst others, she exhibited in *The Scientific Eye; Art and Science* at the North Seattle College Gallery, *Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Annual Exhibition* at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History, *Drawing on Nature* at the Washington State Convention Center, and *The Symbiosis Project* at the Rising Sun Arts Centre, Reading, UK., *The Steiner Workshop Exhibition*, Kyoto, Japan, *GNSI and AIMBI Members Exhibit*, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, *Sharon Birzer, New Works*, Candyland, Stockholm, Sweden. She has exhibited her work at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle, and multiple times at the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture. She has taught art and illustration at The University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, Seattle Pacific University, The Frye Art Museum and Seattle University, Evergreen College, The National Tropical Botanical Gardens in Maui, as well as teaching art residencies in Seattle Public Schools.