

# Denis Benjamin



I grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa and later emigrated to the Pacific Northwest in 1970. I practiced pediatric pathology at the children's hospitals in Seattle, Washington and Fort Worth, Texas.

I became an amateur mycologist soon after my arrival in the USA.

I am presently a Research Associate at the Botanic Research Institute of Texas in Fort Worth.

I was a consultant to the regional poison control center, a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Puget Sound Mycological Society and a past Chairman of the Toxicology Committee of the North American Mycological Association.

I am a frequent speaker at mushrooms clubs and societies. In addition to nearly 100 professional publications, I have contributed to the lay literature and mushroom magazines.

I was a community Op/Ed writer for the Fort Worth Star Telegram.

I authored the landmark book on the health effects of mushrooms (*Mushrooms: Poisons and Panaceas*) and published a collection of mushroom foraging essays (*Musings of a Mushroom Hunter: A Natural History of Foraging*).

In later years I have become a watercolorist focusing on fungi and botanical art. I was recently featured in 360West Magazine - <https://360westmagazine.com/features/2019/06/the-art-of-the-plant/>