

Denis Benjamin - Art



Painting from nature is not copying the object. It is realizing one's sensations - Paul Cezanne

Trained as a pathologist, I became a hiker and mushroom enthusiast, spending much of my leisure time on the eastern slopes of the Cascades in the northwest of the USA.

Now retired from medical practice, I am devoting my energy to natural history and documenting our many travels, flowers and mushrooms with photography and watercolors.

The latter was inspired by a workshop with the noted Russian botanical artist (Alexander - Sasha - Viazmensky).

The delicate transparency and vibrancy of watercolors proved to be the ideal medium to capture the images of nature.

I attended botanical illustration courses at the Gage Academy of Art in Seattle.

I authored *Mushrooms: Poisons and Panaceas* (1995, WH Freeman and Co. NY, NY) and *Musings of a Mushroom Hunter: A Natural History of Foraging* (2019 Tembe Press, Fort Worth, TX).

I now live in Fort Worth and am a Research Associate at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. I am a member of the Southwestern Watercolor Society (Dallas), the American Society of Botanical Artists and a Signature member of the Society of Watercolor Artists (Fort Worth).

Juried shows include Society for Watercolor Artists, Trinity Arts Guild, Fort Worth Botanical Gardens, Southwestern Watercolor Society, Irving Arts Association, CampFire T X.