

Artist Biography

Name: *Jenny Phillips*

Year of Birth: *1949*

Place of Birth: *Boort, Victoria, Australia*

Current place of residence: *South Yarra, Melbourne*

Qualifications/Career: Teacher

AS a child, living through a drought during the 1950's in the Mallee on the NSW/ Vic border, and seeing sheep starving and too weak to move, just waiting to die in the burning, windswept dust, had a most profound impact on my awareness of plants in my life. My mother's green garden was my world of exploration and discovery.

My self-motivating energy and curiosity made the garden a paradise for me. When 2 years of age, seeing watercolour moving across paper was the first, most wonderful life moment for me. I had to paint!

My own home, garden and my father's encyclopedias were my focus for study and learning.

Through that I became:

- Fellow of the Linnean Society of London UK.
- Trained teacher.
- 1995 Founder of the Botanical Art School of Melbourne which encompasses a Botanical Fine Art Gallery, School, and art print business in South Yarra, Melbourne. Where I continue to hold classes, masterclasses and have other teachers come in to give classes too.
- **From early 1990s to current day I have taught Master classes in:**
- The Getty Gallery LA,
- New York Botanical Gardens,
- Denver Botanical Gardens,
- Canberra Botanic Gardens, and beautiful rural Victorian locations.
- Tokyo Cultural Centre, Japan.
- Leiden Botanical Gardens, Netherlands.
- Paris Botanical Gardens. France
- Filoli Gardens, San Francisco. USA
- Huntington Gardens in Pasadena. USA
- Virginia Robinson Garden in Beverly Hills, Pittsburgh USA.
- Chelsea Physic Garden in London. UK
- **For Dr Sherwood's Masterclasses**
- Venice Italy,
- Charleston (South Carolina) USA,
- Cape Town and Johannesburg in South Africa,
- Sydney at the Observatory Hotel. Aust.
- Taught at Melbourne Botanic Gardens from 1989 –91, 93- 1997
- Hon. Member of:
 - Botanical Artist Society of Australia
 - American Society of Botanical Artists
 - Chelsea Physic Gardens Florilegium Society
 - Filoli Florilegium

Collections: Work represented in:

- The Shirley Sherwood Contemporary Botanical Artists Collection
- State Collection held at Royal Botanic Gardens
- *Government House Melbourne: Florilegium Collection*, held at State Library of Vic.
- Filoli Gardens, San Francisco, Florilegium
- H.R.H. Prince of Wales Trust: 3 paintings selected for Highgrove Florilegium
- Three paintings selected for inclusion in the 'Transylvania Florilegium,' under the umbrella of the Prince of Wales's Foundation Romania to record in a permanent way, the flora of Transylvania.
- Australia Post – Philatelic Stamp Collection: Ferns of Christmas Island.
- Three paintings Australian Water Plants.
- The Hunt Collection at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA
- Works in in many private collections both in Australia and overseas.

Publications: Works represented in:

The Dr Shirley Sherwood Collection. Includes:

1991 'Contemporary Botanical Artists' 2001 'A Passion for Plants'

2005 'A New Flowering' 2008 'Treasures of Botanical Art'

2009 'The Art of Evolution'

- 1984 Illustrations for '*Stumbling on Melons*' by T Garnett.
- 1991 Grape illustrations for '*Wine Atlas of Australia and New Zealand*' by James Halliday.
- 1993 Grape illustrations in James Halliday's "*Wine atlas of California*"
- 2010 Australia Post Christmas Island stamp collection
- 2001/2. 10th International Exhibition Catalogue of Botanical Art and Illustration." Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1999 "AUSTRALIA. Three Hundred Years of Botanical Illustration", by Helen Hewson
- Publication, 'Botanicasia' Catalogue for exhibition held at Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2010 'Florilegium' The Government House of Victoria. The Botanical Art School of Melbourne.
- 2010 Australia Post Christmas Island stamp collection

- 2012 "Capturing Flora" 300 years of Australian botanical Art" Art Gallery of Ballarat.
- 2016 "The Florilegium. Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney.

National Trust Desk Diary, 'Jenny Phillips' Australian Botanical Artists'. 2001,2003,2007,2009, 2011,2014.

Prizes and Awards:

Painting prizes and awards as a child.

1961 Bendigo Art Gallery, Landscape (Oil)

1966 Bendigo Art Gallery, Portrait. (oil)

1992. Wildlife Artists' Society, Melbourne. (Botanical Watercolour.)

- 1987 – Gold Medal in National Print Awards
- 1993 – Gold Medal in Royal Horticultural Society Exhibition, London
- 2003 –Elected Member of The Linnean Society of London.
- 2008 – Celia Rosser Award – Melbourne Botanic Gardens Exhibition
- 1979 – 1988 Joshua McClelland Gallery, Melbourne.

EXHIBITIONS

- 1979 – 1988 Joshua McClelland Gallery, Melbourne.
- 1986 – Melbourne Botanic Gardens. Exhibited 82 paintings in joint exhibition with Colin Woolcox at Melbourne Botanic Gardens Herbarium.
- 1998 Exhibitions annually in 'Jenny Phillips Gallery', South Yarra.
- 1994 - 'Classifying Nature'. Four contemporary botanical artists from Victoria in Westpac Gallery, Melbourne Arts Centre.
- Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Biennial Exhibitions since 1992.

Exhibitions with **Dr. Shirley Sherwood's Collection**

- – Internationally- 1996 Kew Gardens, London.
- Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh. USA
- 1997 Gibbs Gallery, Charleston South Carolina. USA
- New Orleans Museum of Art. USA
- Wave Hill, NY. USA
- Museum of Modern Art, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- 1998 S. H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney.
- Yasuda Kasai Museum of Art, Tokyo. Japan.
- Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, South Africa.
- Tryon and Swann Gallery, Cork Street, London

- 1999 Millesgarden Museum, Stockholm, Sweden. Dixon Gallery & Gardens, Memphis, Tennessee. USA.
- 2001 Marciana Library, Venice, Italy.
- 2001 Tryon Gallery, Bury Street, St James's, London.
- 2002 Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, England,
- 2005 – The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

Solo Exhibitions.

- Arader Galleries, Madison Avenue, New York, San Francisco, USA
- 1998 Exhibitions annually in 'Jenny Phillips Gallery', South Yarra., Vic. Aust.
- 2009 – 2010 Retrospective at Mornington Peninsula Gallery. 'The Hidden Meaning of Plants'

Recent group Exhibitions

- 2012 -Ballarat Regional Gallery, "Capturing Flora ,300 years of Australian Botanical Art"
- Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne Botanic Gardens Exhibitions
- Kew Gardens, in The Shirley Sherwood Botanical Art Gallery.