

Birdbrain Art

Thank you Rick

Teaching an Old Bird New Tricks

- <https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2022/05/tom-scott-christian-moullec/>

Elizabeth Gould (1804-1841)

Elizabeth Gould, née Coxen, was a British artist and illustrator, married to naturalist and author John Gould. She produced many illustrations and lithographs for ornithological works, including plates in Darwin's *The Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Beagle* and the Goulds' seminal work *The Birds of Australia*.

In 1830, when English taxidermist John Gould was keen to publish his first volume of bird species, his wife Elizabeth asked him who would create the illustrations. She knew her unartistic husband wouldn't be up to the task. According to [an 1893 biography](#) of John, he replied, "Why you, of course." Within the next decade, Elizabeth's artistic talent would help cement the Gould name in ornithological history. But unlike her husband, her name would be largely forgotten.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKYjvHBuBzo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMs6hJciFqE> (17 mins)

<https://www.audubon.org/news/meet-elizabeth-gould-gifted-artist-behind-her-husbands-famous-bird-books>











PETROICA ERYTHROGASTER.

J. Gould and E. P. Wilson del. 1866.

H. B. Swainson sculp.



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APROSMICTUS SCAPULATUS.

Graceanna Lewis (1821-1912)

Graceanna Lewis was an ornithologist, illustrator, teacher, abolitionist, and crusader for temperance and women's suffrage. Lewis grew up on a farm in Chester County which was a stop on the Underground Railroad. When her mother died, Lewis continued her work, not just sheltering [escaping slave families](#), but providing them with clothes and safe transportation. Lewis was educated at the Kimberton Boarding School for Girls and supported herself as a teacher of botany and chemistry at other girls' schools. After Emancipation she pursued her studies in ornithology at the Academy of Natural Sciences with John Cassin, America's leading ornithologist, who became her mentor. As a woman without a college degree, Lewis [could not find work](#) as a teacher or researcher. She supported herself as a scientific illustrator and by giving private lectures in ornithology in people's homes. But she [continued her research](#), which appeared in respected academic journals, and in 1868 she published *Natural History of Birds*, the first comprehensive book on American birds. Lewis' botanical paintings were displayed at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia and the Chicago.





Yellow Oriole



Lucy Qinnuayuak (1915-1982)



Lucy Qinnuayuak was an Inuit graphic artist and printmaker.

“Lucy Qinnuayuak is a prolific graphic artist, well known for illustrations of her favorite theme — the bird image, either singularly or in groups, and in all sorts of situations or relationships. She also depicts other themes which spring from her personal interpretation of the Canadian Inuit traditional way of life. She was born in Salluit, in northern Quebec. At a very young age Qinnuayuak, along with her mother and sister, moved to Baffin Island, Northwest Territories, where they lived in Cape Dorset and in several outpost camps. She met her husband, Tikituk, a sculptor and graphic artist, at Supujuak camp where they enjoyed a traditional way of life. In the early 1960s they moved to Cape Dorset.

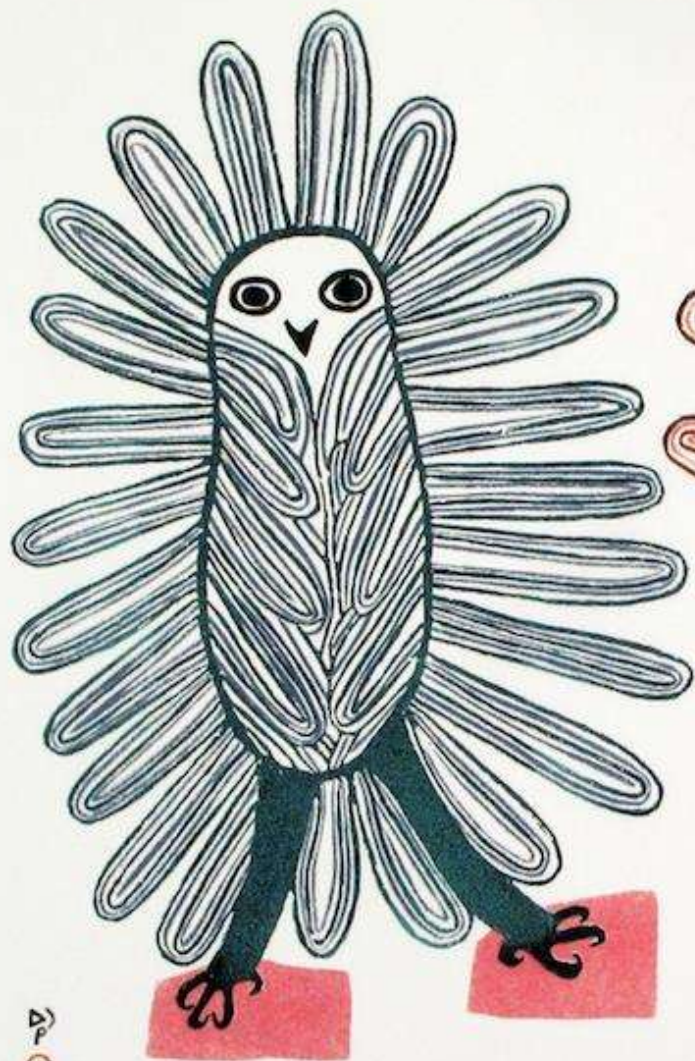
Qinnuayuak started to draw in the 1950s while living in Supujuak camp. Her drawings were turned into graphics from 1961 until 1983, excluding 1973. She also created her own plastic repertoire of forms that clearly defines the aesthetic values in her works. Over the years she has drawn all kinds of birds in various poses — the features of their eyes and feathers connecting them to each other. In her compositions movement and stability are often ambiguously juxtaposed.

At the end of the 1970s Qinnuayuak began working with acrylic paint in conjunction with other mixed media. Her compositions from that period are colorful, extremely vibrant, and powerful. They are also much more elaborate and complex with a broader story line. Qinnuayuak’s art is realistic and humorous, and it reflects the traditional Inuit way of life.” Odette Leroux in in “North American Women Artists of the Twentieth Century: A Biographical Dictionary”, 1995

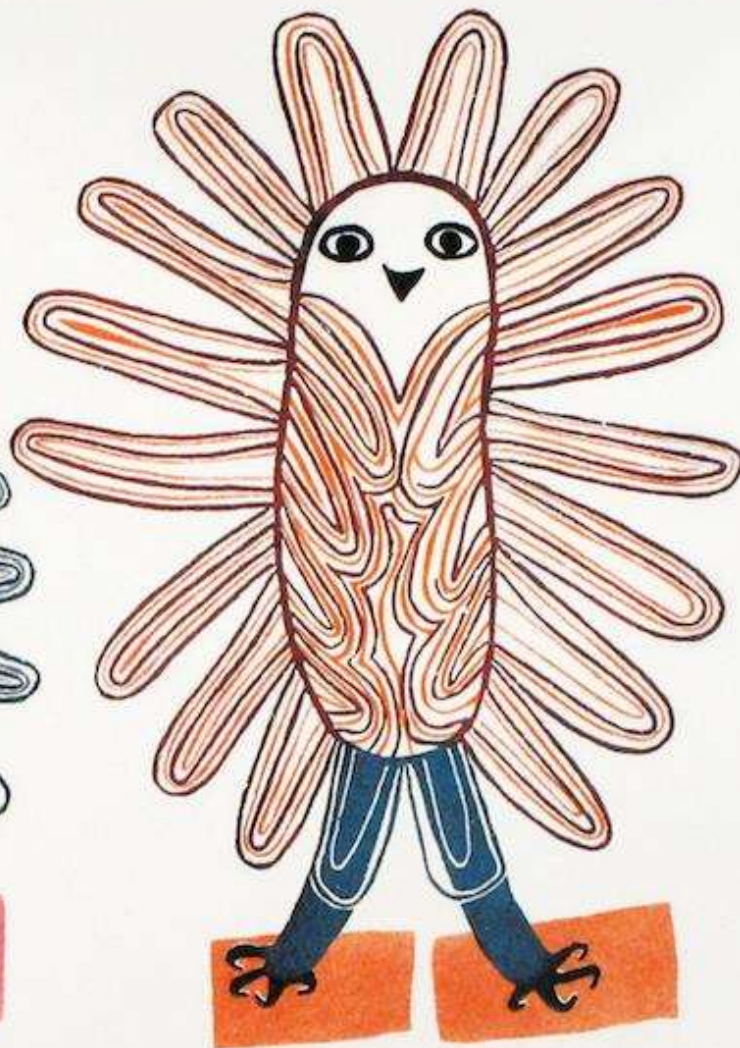
<https://www.rcinet.ca/eye-on-the-arctic/2019/12/05/inuit-artists-in-their-own-words/> (8 mins)

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/inuit-printmaking> (2:45)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o54y4S-2NHc>



AP
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Blue & Orange

Orange & Blue

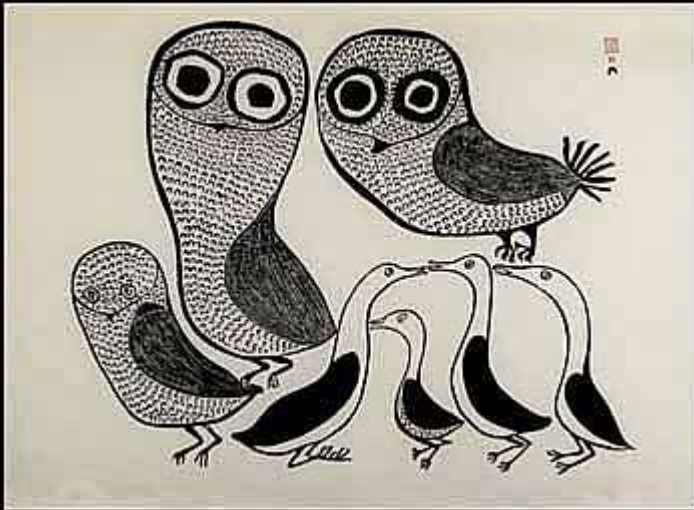
Blue

Orange

Blue









Jessie Hazel Arms Botke (1883-1971)

Jessie Hazel Arms Botke was an Illinois and California painter noted for her bird images and use of gold leaf highlights.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sf_3mImM1ew (just visuals)















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Rachel Berwick

Rachel Berwick's sculptural installations investigate ideas of vulnerability and loss in the animal world. Her past projects have explored the extinct Tasmanian Tiger; the Galápagos giant tortoise, Lonesome George; and Martha, the last passenger pigeon. Berwick employs materials such as amber, crystal, and glass to reference natural phenomena and create haunting reminders of what has been—or is nearly—lost.

- <https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/birds/online/rachel-berwick>



Fred Tomaselli

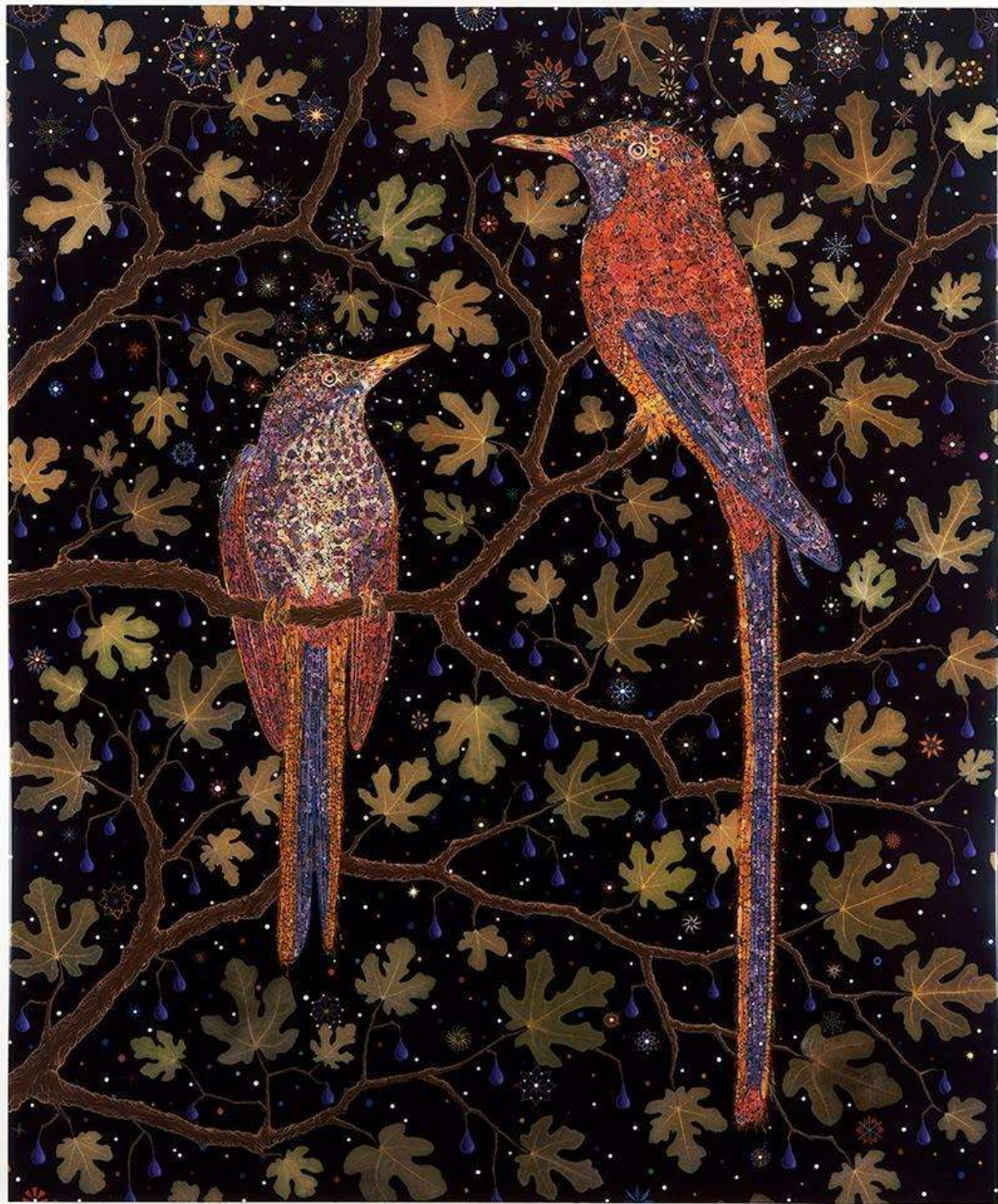
Fred Tomaselli is an American artist. He is best known for his highly detailed paintings on wood panels, combining an array of unorthodox materials suspended in a thick layer of clear, epoxy resin.

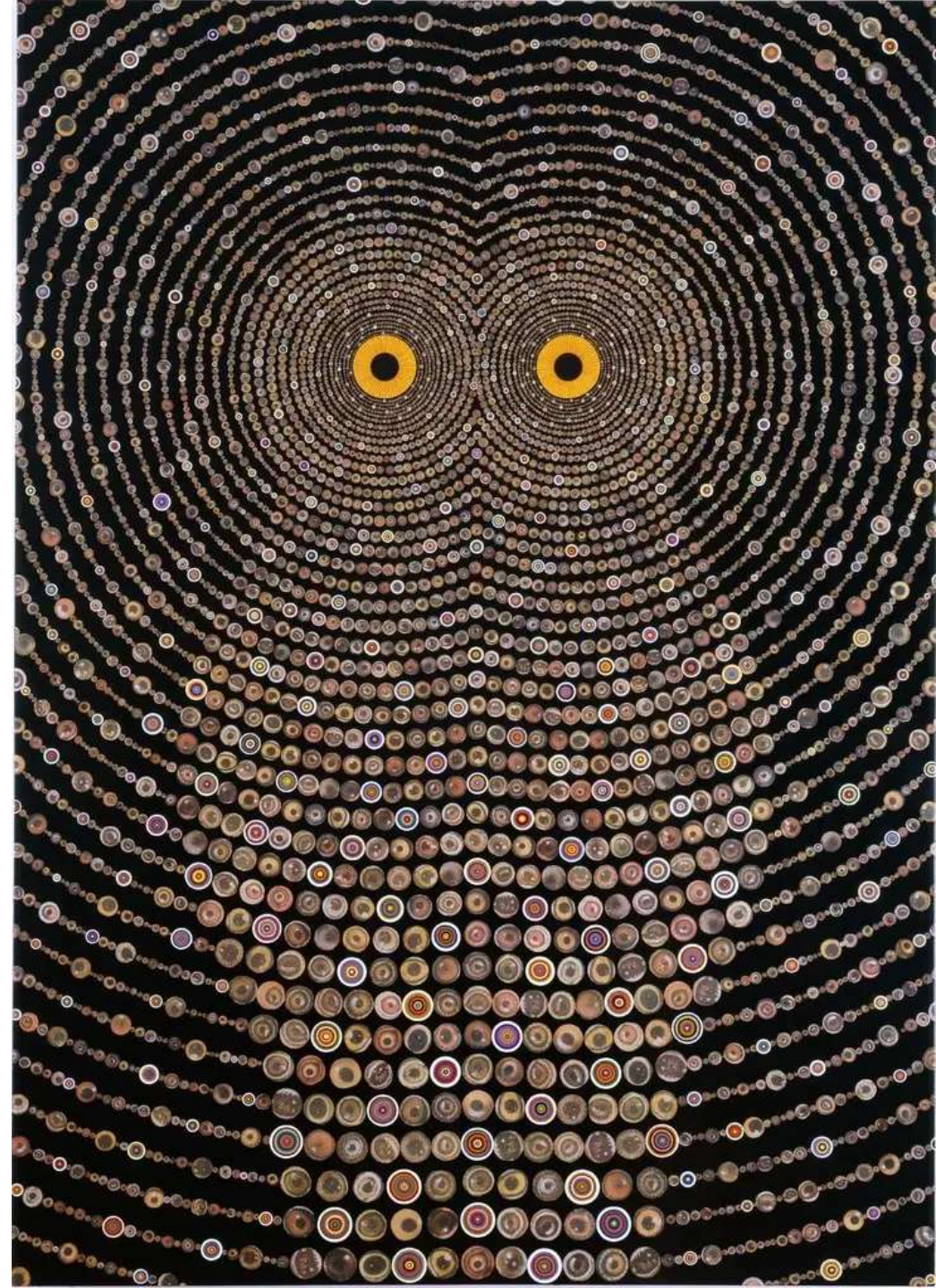


<https://www.jamescohan.com/exhibitions/fred-tomaselli7/selected-works?view=slider>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VuAzThzH_E

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYnENVaZ1TE>







Amate (Mexican Bark Painting)

Amate is a type of bark paper that has been manufactured in Mexico since the precontact times. It was used primarily to create codices.

The Amate paper paintings combine the paper crafting from San Pablito Pahuatlan in Puebla and the [Nahuatl folk paintings](#) from La Mezcala region on the [Balsas River](#) basin in Guerrero.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BAV8oLU-FmI>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0ZsnDf_I4s (4 mins)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FX7l1FIA_hU







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Walton Ford

Walton Ford is an American artist who makes paintings and prints in the style of naturalist illustrations, often depicting extinct species.

- <https://wingatestudio.com/project/walton-ford>



Falling Bough



Columba migratoria Passenger Pigeon



More than a Mile, The White Mountains, February, 1893.



Florentijn Hofman

Florentijn Hofman is a Dutch artist who creates playful urban installations like the Rubber Duck and the HippopoThames, a 2014 installation on the River Thames in London.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFNoXv9VD68>









Elizabeth Butterworth



Elizabeth Butterworth is not the first British artist to succeed in capturing on paper the brilliant plumage of Macaws, but with Edward Lear she must be considered one of the best. Certainly she is without rival this century. Her success stems partly from intense powers of observation and partly from an encyclopedic knowledge of her subject. She has bred Macaws, looked after them, fed them and listened to their noisy antics from the first call of the morning to the last shriek at night. She has sketched them in the privacy of her back garden and in their natural state in the rain forests of South America. She has examined the skins of dead birds in natural history museums in London and New York and she could tell you the number of feathers in a tail and the size of a beak to the nearest millimeter.

It is this attention to detail combined with powers of observation that lifts her prints, watercolors and drawings from plain description into the realms of high art. Although she belongs to a distinguished ornithological tradition in which British artists like John Gould and Archibald Thorburn have excelled, she seems closer to a watercolorist like Edward Lear who can be appreciated as an artist on his own level and whose work appeals to collectors who do not know a Macaw from a Toucan. Her realism has surreal or super-real quality, and it is this aspect of her work which caught the eye of critics and curators on both sides of the Atlantic (and in Australia) and which has led to her work being exhibited alongside that by other contemporary artists in prestigious shows in New York, including the survey of contemporary art held at the Museum of Modern Art in 1984.



Lacinae
Hyacinthine

Yellow on the Perostictal Line is more
saturated Yellow than on Core which is white
and on the cheek patch which
is Spectrum Yellow

Lacinae
Cerulea



Lacinae
Cerulea



Lacinae
Cerulea



Anodithus Leon

More greenish blue than the
ultramarine of *Hyacinthina*
Head less ultramarine with
gray brown near bill

Pale gray on nape + mantle
and scapulars

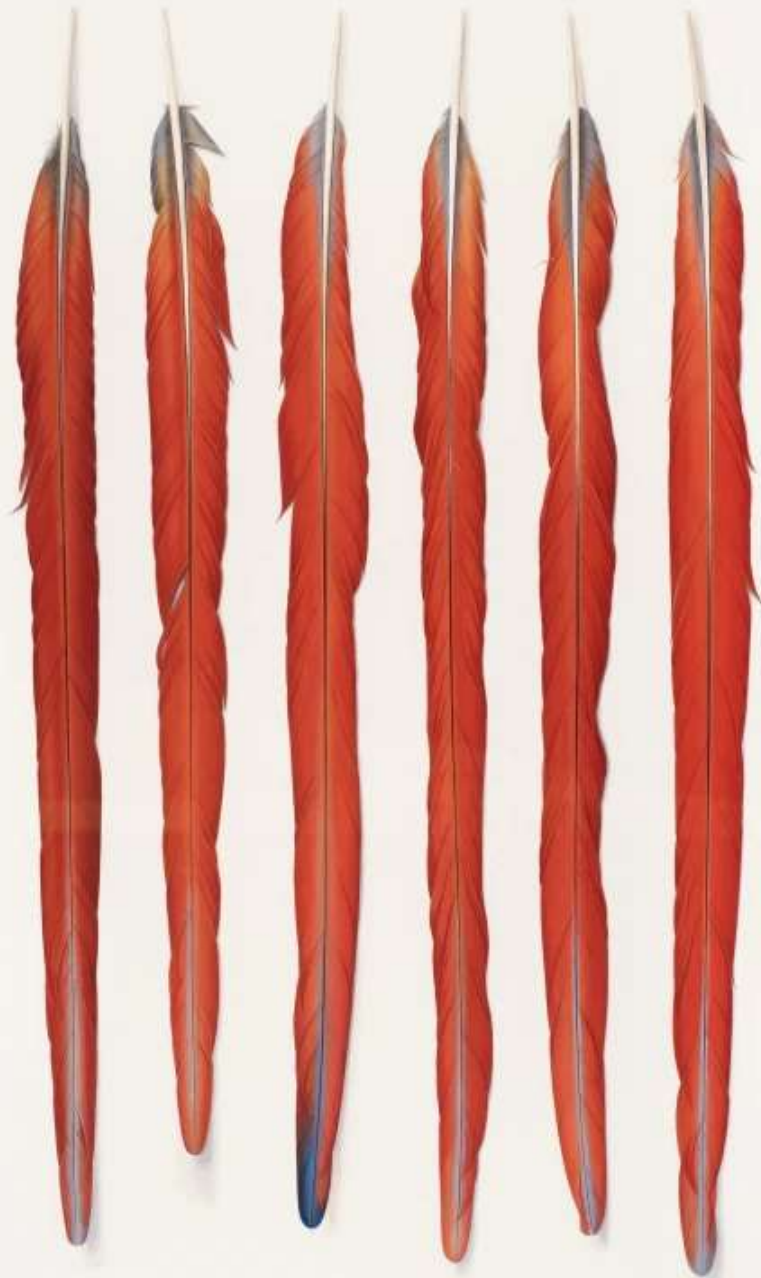


Actual Size









Laurel Roth Hope

Laurel Roth Hope, sometimes known as Laurel or Laura Roth, is an American artist. A native of Concord, California, Roth Hope works in San Francisco. Self-taught as both an artist and a naturalist, she has called herself "an artist that wishes she was a scientist", which is reflected in her work.

<https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/birds/online/laurel-roth-hope>









Tom Uttech

Tom Uttech is an American landscape painter and photographer who was born in Merrill, Wisconsin. He received a BA from Layton School of Art in 1965 and earned an MFA from the University of Cincinnati in 1976. He currently resides in Saukville, Wisconsin.

<https://americanart.si.edu/artwork/mamakadendagwad-110761>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4ZWV5lw5wg>









Jodi Bonassi

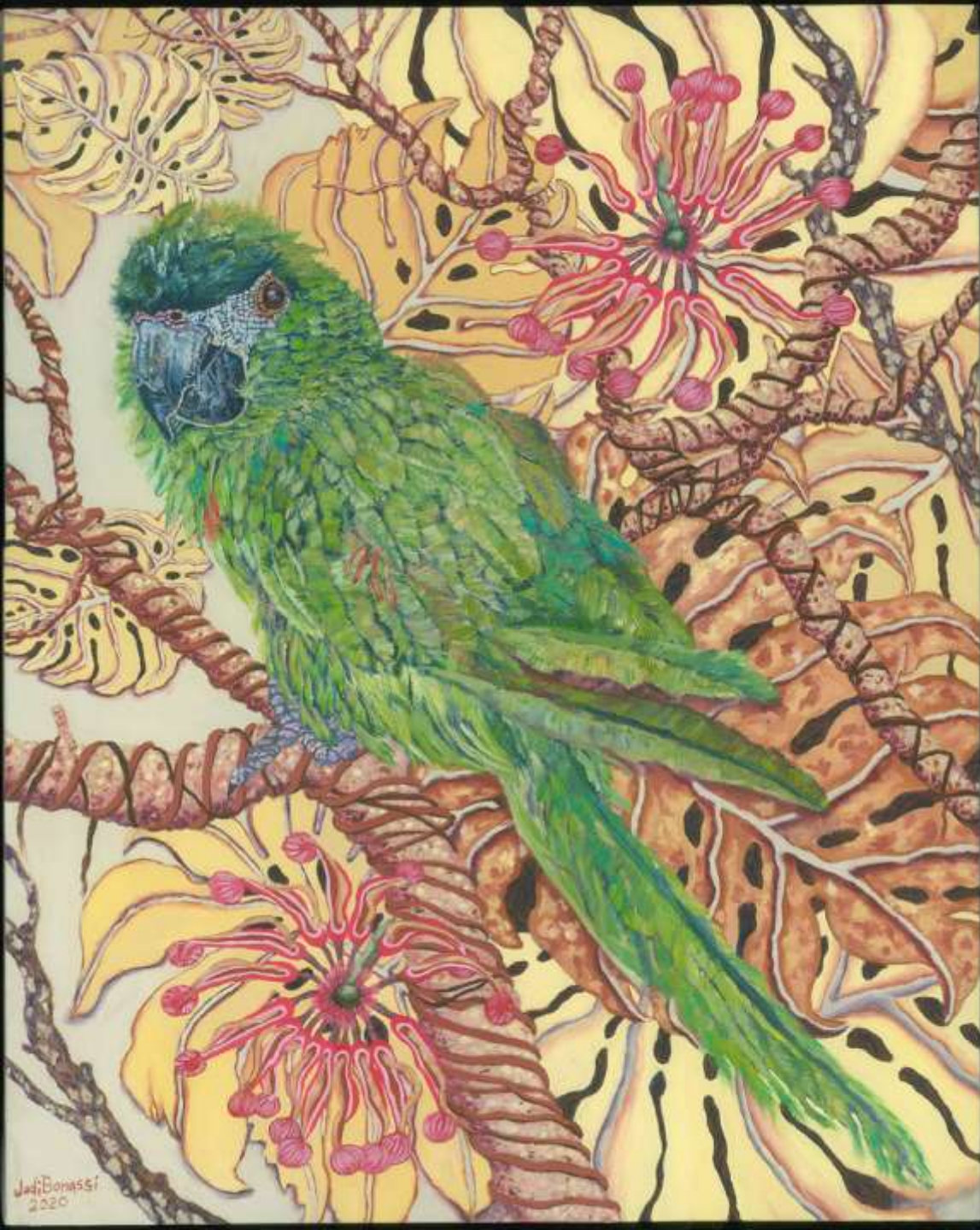


I am an LA native. I have had an active art practice since 1991. Over the years my work has been seen as expressionism, social realism, historical painting, political art, surreal, decorative and more. The title doesn't matter. It is about being authentic. Take your time. This is a "Looking for Waldo" experience. I am a narrative painter of people, life, and now birds.

My new bird series is a new focus of my work. I have always added animals into my figurative works of people so this is a natural progression and has become a new passion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oK3rr9_kuv4







Oiva Toikka (1931-2019)

Oiva Kalervo Toikka was a Finnish glass designer, best known for his designs for Iittala.

- <https://www.finnstyle.com/iittala-toikka.html>









Assignment Suggestions...

- Capture the gesture of a bird or flock of birds
- Create a pattern from bird feathers
- Paint an interpretation of your favorite bird