

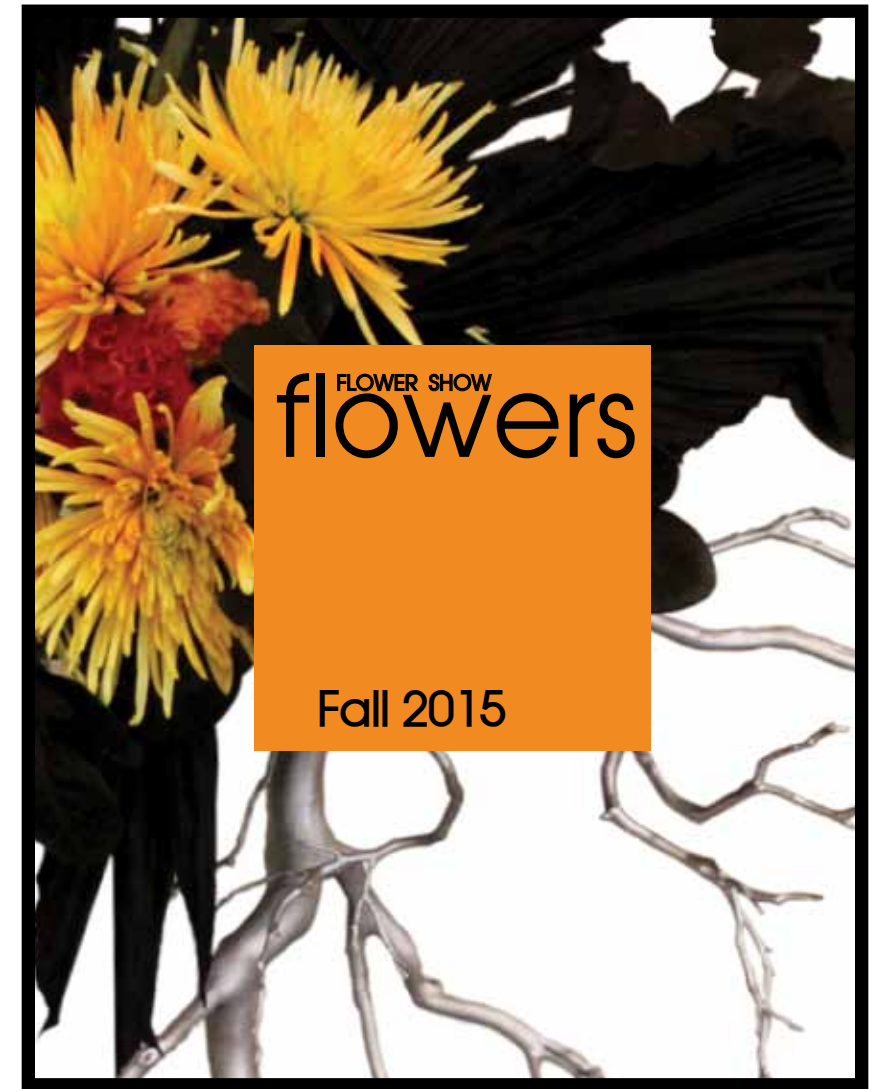


FLOWER SHOW flowers

VOLUME II

NUMBER 4

FALL 2015



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Dear Friends

It's hard to believe that Summer is behind us. Gone are the warm days of August, the growing season has slowed down to a crawl and the leaves on our trees are hinting at turning colors. Soon the trees will be in full color array. In front of us is Halloween and Thanksgiving...both of these holidays offer us many decorating possibilities that we will explore in this issue. Pumpkins, gourds, dried corn, falling leaves and more beg for our attention.

We will have a few how-to's in our article Twist and Turn for your memory banks to store away for future use. Now is the time to begin collecting dried materials to use over the coming Fall and Winter season. Milkweed pods, nuts and seeds, leaves and bark are perfect items for the upcoming seasons.

From the Rainwater...Weather or Not! and A Century to Celebrate flower show...we have some photos of winning floral designs. There are mass floral designs, contemporary styles, designs that are monochromatic and much more for you to review.

This is an exciting season full of many opportunities to design and have fun with found materials from your yard or wooded area. So look through the pages and let the fun begin.

MaryEllen J. M. O'Brien
Editor

RAINWATER...WEATHER OR NOT!

STOCKBRIDGE, MA



BLUE RIBBON / GCA HARRIET DE WAELE PUCKETT CREATIVITY AWARD

Class 3 **Thunder and Lightening**

A design staged on a grey 14.75" cube. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the cube and may rise to 8' from the floor. Viewed from three sides.

AUGUST 8-9, 2015

BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL GARDEN



FLOWER SHOW flowers

MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien
Editor

Layout & Design
MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien

FLOWER SHOW flowers
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STOCKBRIDGE, MA

An August Forecast

MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien
Photos© MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien 2015

Rainwater... Weather or Not!

Flowers were in the forecast this past August. They reigned, reigned, reigned. Rain gear and umbrellas were optional...cameras a must!

On August 8-9, 2015, The Lenox Garden Club in conjunction with the Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge, Massachusetts held a GCA Flower Show entitled: *Rainwater... Weather or Not!* This show complimented the 2015 theme of WATER at the Berkshire Botanical Garden.

Division I, Floral Design *will take you by storm* with class titles such as "The Calm Before the Storm", "Rain Gear", "Thunder and Lightening" and "Cloudburst". These evocative titles inspired some thunderous designs.

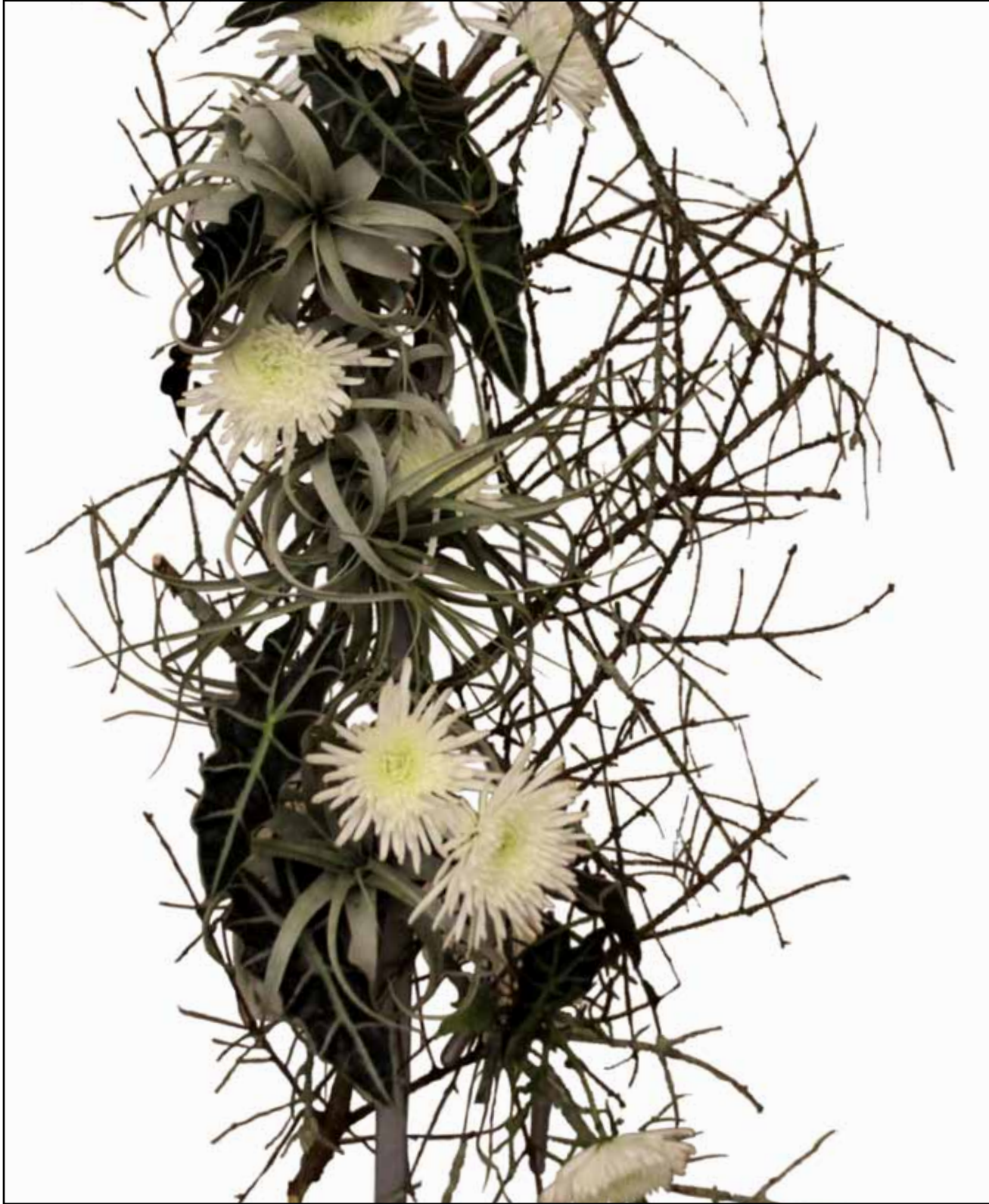
Division II, Horticulture is *right as rain* with classes for annuals, biennials, perennials, bulbs, tubers, roses, woody plants, deciduous and evergreen branches, fruits and vegetables, dish gardens, potted plants, and herbs too.

Thunder clapped its approval for the floral designs and the flood of horticultural specimens that were on display for the show. Flowers reigned in the Berkshires.

AUGUST 8-9, 2015

RAINWATER... WEATHER OR NOT!

BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL GARDEN



Class 3 Thunder and Lightning
A design staged on a grey 14.75" cube. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the cube and may rise to 8' from the floor. Viewed from three sides.



Class 3 Thunder and Lightning
A design staged on a grey 14.75" cube. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the cube and may rise to 8' from the floor. Viewed from three sides.



Class 6 Cloudburst

A Monochromatic Design staged on a gray pedestal 36" high x 18" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from three sides.



Class 1 Calm Before the Storm

A design staged on a gray pedestal 45" high x 18" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from three sides.



Class 5 **Forecast: Wind and Rain** Side 1



Class 5 **Forecast: Wind and Rain** Side 2
A Two Sided Design staged on a gray pedestal 36" high x 18" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from all sides.



Class 6 Cloudburst
A Monochromatic Design staged on a gray pedestal 36" high x 18" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from three sides.



Class 4 Rain, Rain...Go Away
An Underwater Design staged on a gray pedestal 46.5" high x 14.5" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from three sides.



Class 6 Cloudburst
A Monochromatic Design staged on a gray pedestal 36" high x 18" square top. Floral design may not exceed 15" from the center of the pedestal. No height restriction. Viewed from three sides.



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A Century to Celebrate



*The North Shore Garden Club of Massachusetts
Celebrates 100 Years*



Class 3 Our Colorful Centennial

A monochromatic design not to exceed 30" in width or depth. No height restriction. Staged on an 11" square top white pedestal, 36" high. Color choices: red, green, blue or yellow, chosen at the time of registration. No duplicates. Viewed from all sides.



Class 6 As Thyme Goes By

A design of predominately fresh plant materials, fruits, vegetables and/or herbs. Staged in a white niche, 32" high, 28" wide with an interior back 40" high. Niches will be placed on a table 36" high and covered with a white cloth. Viewed from the front.



Class 5 **Fascinating Rhythm**

A "fascinator" or hat constructed of fresh and/or dried plant material. Display head forms will be supplied by the Committee in advance of the Show and may not be altered in any way. No size restriction. Staged on a 15" round while pedestal 48" high. Viewed from all sides.



Class 5 **Fascinating Rhythm**

A "fascinator" or hat constructed of fresh and/or dried plant material. Display head forms will be supplied by the Committee in advance of the Show and may not be altered in any way. No size restriction. Staged on a 15" round while pedestal 48" high. Viewed from all sides.



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Class 3 **Our Colorful Centennial** Side 1
 A monochromatic design not to exceed 30" in width or depth. No height restriction.
 Staged on an 11" square top white pedestal, 36" high. Color choices: red, green, blue or
 yellow, chosen at the time of registration. No duplicates. Viewed from all sides.



Horticulture Class Dish Garden



Horticulture Class Agave



Horticulture Class Dahlia



Horticulture Classes



Educational Class The Food Project



Educational Class The Food Project

The mission is to teach a diverse group of 14 to 17 year olds how to grow, harvest, distribute and cook fresh, healthy food through a three year program. The North Shore Garden Club provides a scholarship to an inner city child who will benefit from all factions of the Food Project.



Educational Class The Food Project

The Food Project manages 68 acres of suburban farm land and more than 3 acres of urban agriculture plots. These plots are made up of historic conservation land owned and managed by The Trustee of Reservations. Additionally, delinquent land has been preserved through a partnership with the city of Boston as well as neglected north shore residential properties which have been conserved through planting produce gardens. This Exhibit will illustrate how The Food Project conserves land as well as educates students and the community.



SupermarketChic

MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien
Photos© MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien 2015

Never under estimate the items in your local grocery store. The aisles are filled with interesting items...only limited by one's own imagination. I don't like to use processed food items like pastas and ground spices, but consider all the great dried beans and seeds they have there....and that's just in the dry goods areas.

Walk on over to the Produce Department. Look at the colors, textures and patterns that the fruits and veggies offer. Seasonal offerings are the best. The look is so interesting. Imagine using radishes...removed the greens and skewer the root into your floral design with the root tips exposed. Best when used in multiples as a block of color and texture. Kale and so many other greens, peppers, squash and carrots too. The possibilities are endless. Winter Squash, pumpkins and gourds, cabbage...and on and on.

These days, supermarkets offer many choices in their Floral Departments too. Yes, there a lot of mixed bouquets; but, often times you can find bunches of a single type of flowers. This is my personal favorite when shopping at the grocery store.

Choose a combination of cut flowers and vegetable produce to make your creations. The flowers are always beautiful but the veggies will add interest and some a bit of whimsy.

During my recent trip to the grocery market, I picked up three leaves of Aloe vera, a bunch of Orange Lilies (3 stems), 2 bunches of the Green Trick Carnations (12 stems), 1 bunch of green Fuji Mums (6 stems), 1 bunch of rusty colored Mums (6 stems) and a Horned Melon (*Cucumis metuliferus*).

Over the course of creating these design... some materials were used and reused. The leaves of the Aloe vera are extremely long lasting. They are still holding up after four weeks and I suspect they will continue onward for many more weeks. This is a good plant material to use in design when no water source will be used.

I chose some contemporary containers in black and white. Beaded green Midellino was used along with floral foam, mono filament string, florist wire and skewers were used throughout the design. Skewers were inserted into the Aloe vera to secure it into the floral foam. Clear mono-filament string (fishing line) was used to suspend the Horned Melon off of the tips of the Aloe.

The Green Trick Carnations were cut short and inserted into the floral foam to resemble grass. These too are long lasting flowers but do need a water source.

During this Fall season the supermarket has some great seasonal offerings: Mini pumpkins in orange and white

Gourds

Peppers (contorted and colorful)

Add this to all the nuts and berries, seed pods, colorful autumn foliage and interesting moss covered branches gathered from the wild. Fungi and wild mushrooms can add much interest too. Remember, if you don't like to pick wild mushrooms...your supermarket has many varieties to choose from for all your *Supermarket Chic* designs this season.



Aloe vera, horned melon and orange lily.



Aloe vera, horned melon and orange lily. Melon is suspended with monofilament fish line.



Aloe vera, Fuji mums and beaded midellino create rhythmic space.



Aloe vera, green trick carnations and chrysanthemum (close-up detail).



Aloe vera, green trick carnations and chrysanthemum.



Aloe vera and lily bloom.



Festive & Fun
 MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien
 Photos© MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien2015

Fall has arrived. The days are warm and the nights crisp. The temperature change puts you in mind of decorating for the fall time...Halloween and Thanksgiving. In the following pages we have some ideas for your Halloween pumpkins and Thanksgiving tables. It's all about the harvest with pumpkins, gourds, squash, ornamental colored corn, vines and seed pods. And don't forget those falling leaves in your decorations! Lots of plant materials for this most festive, fun FALL!



No carving required...

This orange pumpkin began with a piece of wet floral foam attached to the top by the stem. Green string beans, mushrooms, artichokes, red and green peppers, moss and yellow gerbera daisies finish the design for this clinging, hairy, black spider.



Spiders and Pumpkins...Oh my!

For this frightening FALL pumpkin for Halloween...Go to the Fall 2013 edition of Flower Show Flowers for hints and instructions. Pick a pumpkin, gather some interesting vegetables and flowers and make your goblin or ghost. Here, a white pumpkin is decorated with yarn in a cobweb pattern and green peppers, mushrooms, string beans, chrysanthemums and aspidistra leaves were added and then topped with a hairy spider.



By the Light of the Silvery Moon

White Gourds on a bed of white Rice with a Lichen covered branch, dried Magnolia leaves and dried Hosta leaves and Lotus pods.



Blue Moon Pumpkin

An orange sugar pumpkin has been painted with a water base acrylic paint in metallic pale blue. Tillandsia, Echeveria, dried Millet, dried Magnolia leaves, dried Corn foliage, and painted, dried Phalaenopsis Orchid foliage finish this design.

**Harvest Moon Pumpkin**

An orange pumpkin with decorative dried corn, dried Magnolia leaves, a variety of Chrysanthemums, Alstroemeria and Statice.



Indoor Display
Pumpkins and ornamental corn with fresh flowers.



Outdoor Display
Gourds, pumpkins and squash create that Fall mood.



Outdoor Display

Gourds, pumpkins and squash create that Fall mood. Additions of hydrangea, tillandsia, crab apples and a chrysanthemum plant invite visitors in.



(Above) Knobby gourd with tillandsia, echerveria, loriope , autumn leaves and wild cucumber vine create a rhythmic design.

(Right) Milkweed and mini white pumpkins are ghostly as the milkweed pods explodes within the glass vase.





Spider web pattern from cut out black felt and pinned to the pumpkin...just for fun!



Black fishnet stocking stretched over the pumpkin...tulle and mask of the black cat.



Here a stocking is put over a mini pumpkin with decorative black head pins for added texture.

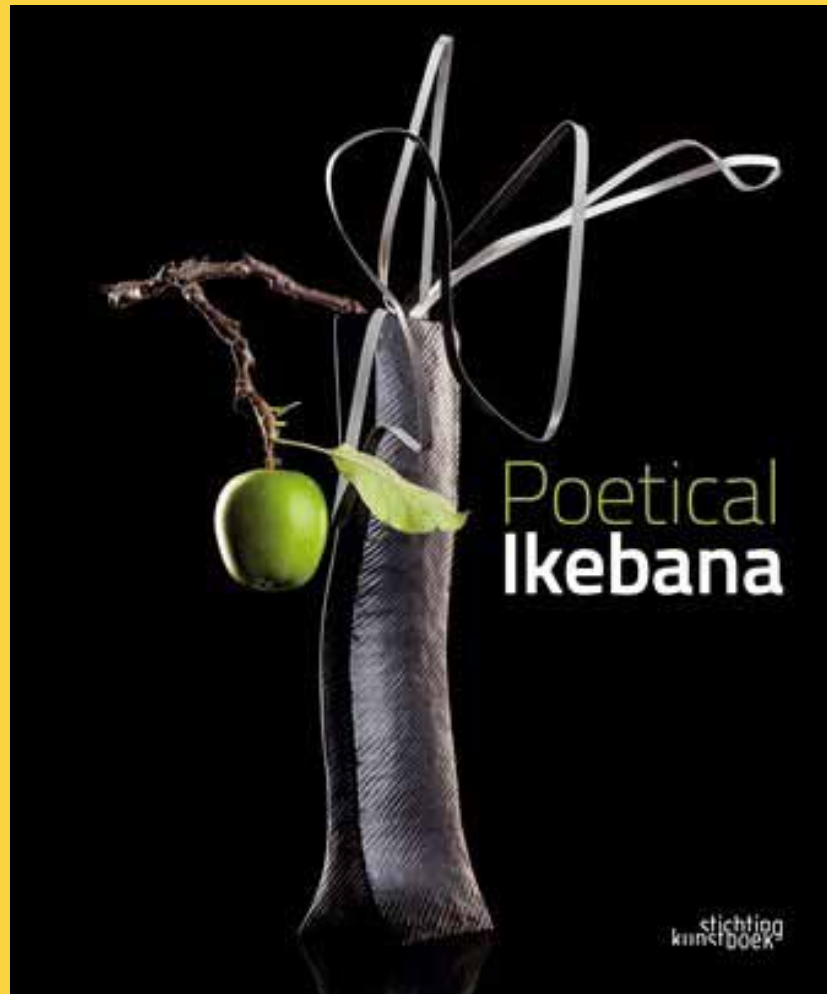


Black striped stocking and a black ribbon bow for that touch of elegance.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



And the scary collection bids you all a Happy Halloween!



POETICAL IKEBANA

By: Mit Ingelaere-Brandt (Compiler)
Katrien Van Moerbeke (Editor)

Available: October 21, 2015

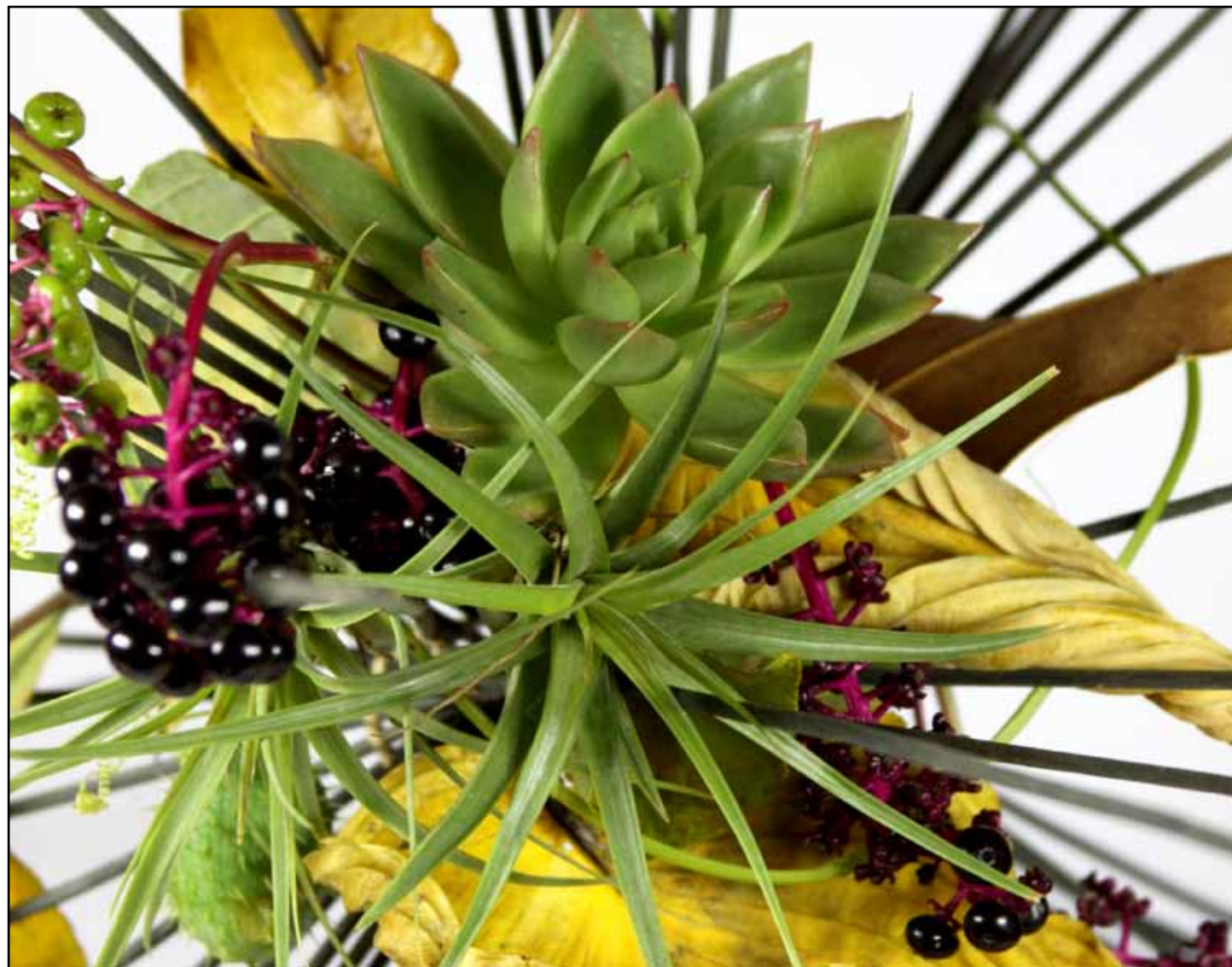
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Cost: Under \$54.00

Coming Soon...A new floral design book available from
Amazon.com

<http://www.amazon.com/Poetical-Ikebana-Mit-Ingelaere-Brandt/dp/905856519X>





MATERIALS

- 30 Slim Dowels (approx, 24")
- Spool of paper covered Bind Wire
- Spray Paint for wooden dowels

TOOLS

- Metal Clippers or Utility Scissors to cut the Bind Wire

PLANT MATERIALS

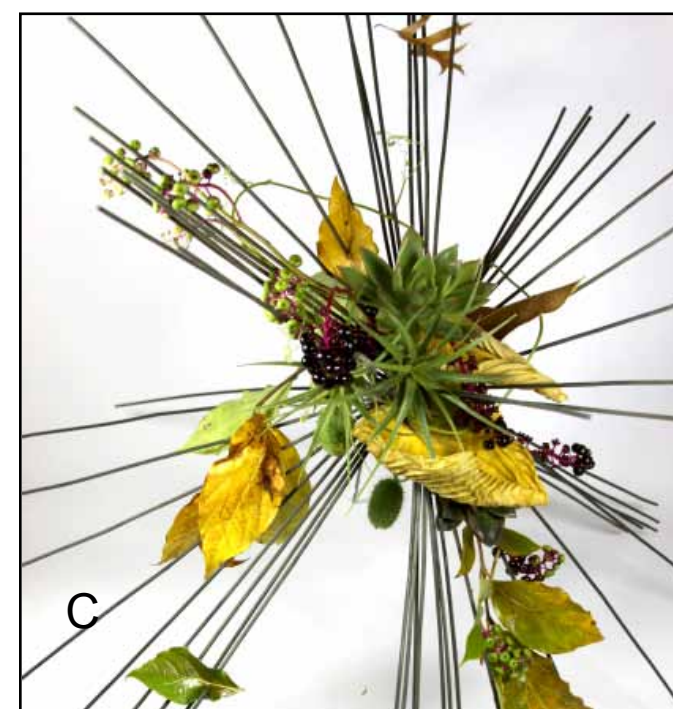
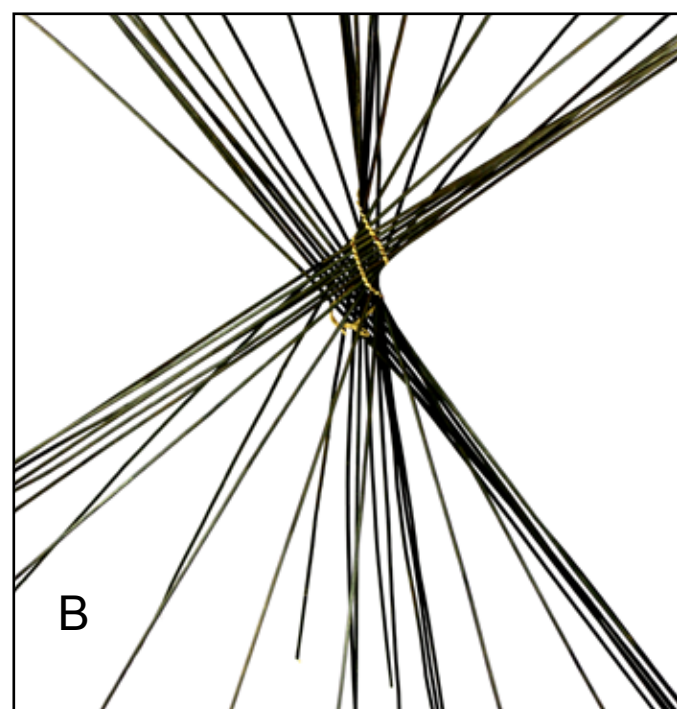
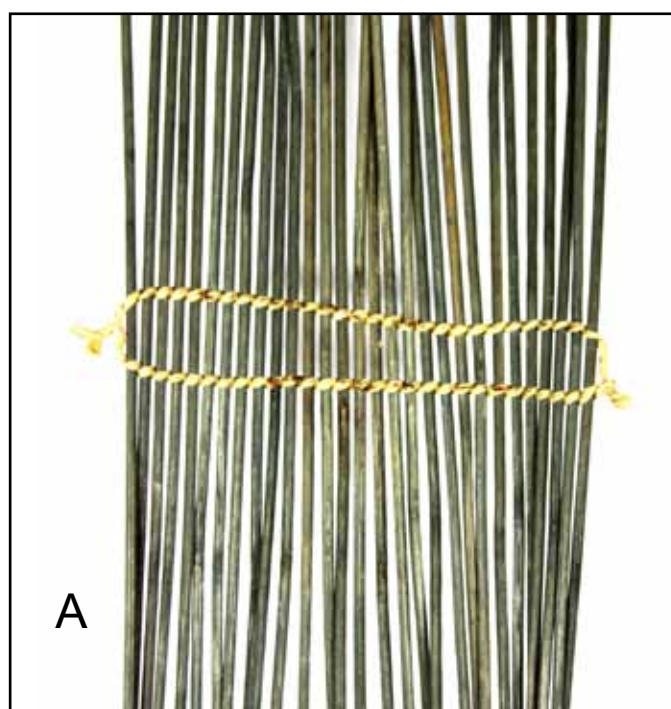
- Dried Hosta Leaves
- Dried Magnolia Leaves
- 2 Echeveria
- 2 Air Plants - Tillandsia
- Pokeberries
- Wild Cucumber Vine
- Autumn Leaves

To begin (A), take two lengths of bind wire and wrap a dowel over and under. Add a second, third and so forth continuing with the same process. Keep the tension uniform and tight. Complete all the dowels and repeat the process with a second set of pieces of the bind wire. Make any adjustments with the finished rows and bring the twisted lines to about 1/2" of each other.

Spray paint to the desired color at this point or leave natural.

Now the fun; see (B). Twist and turn the pieces to a swirl pattern of your liking. The dowels will support itself and stand up if the bind wire was applied in a uniform tight manner.

Dried flowers and long lasting plant material can be added at this point. Use water tubes for all other plant materials. The dowel sculpture can also be attached to a structure for more stability. Consider multiple dowel twists for added interest.



S-T-R-E-T-C-H

A STRETCH FLORAL DESIGN is comprised of two units of unequal size that are joined by a prominent stretch component. The smaller unit should appear to be pulled away from the larger unit. Tension between the two objects is essential.

Designs and Photos by
MaryEllen J.M. O'Brien
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Anthurium
Aranthera Orchid
Millet
Gloriosa Lilies
Twigs.





Anthurium
Calla Lilies
Castor Bean foliage
Croton foliage
Gloriosa Lilies.

OCTOBER 6 - NOVEMBER 25

Fall colors take center stage at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory's annual Fall Flower Show which opens Saturday, October 6. This year's show will feature hundreds of chrysanthemums, ornamental peppers, and ornamental grasses that will fill the Sunken Garden with a stunning array of red, orange, yellow, gold, green, bronze, and maroon. The tradition of the annual Fall Flower Show began in 1915 when the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory first opened. Today, the Conservatory hosts five season annual flower shows. Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Dr, St Paul, MN 55103 is open daily October 6 through November 25 from 10:00am-4:00pm. There will be a show change October 29 – November 2 during which the Sunken Garden will be closed, but all other rooms of the Conservatory will remain open to the public.

OCTOBER

16-18, 2015

Ikebana Show

The Boston Chapter of the Ikebana International Society presents its biennial exhibition of traditional Japanese flower arranging. This event features many educational opportunities to learn about the mechanics and techniques of ikebana.

Tower Hill Botanic Garden

11 French Drive

Boylston, MA 01505.0598

OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 8

Phipps Conservatory Mum Show

1 Schenley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

See a seasonal favorite in a brilliant new light.

Starting Oct. 17, this year's Fall Flower Show brings a new perspective to the season's famed chrysanthemums through the lens of Japanese horticulture. Join us for a spirited introduction to Kiku-no-hana, or Kiku, the Japanese name for chrysanthemum, as we showcase the unique ways the blooms are traditionally grown in Japan and their importance in Japanese culture.

The wonder begins in the Palm Court, which represents China, the chrysanthemum's country of origin and the inspiration for the Japanese tradition, with vibrant plants in shades of red and orange, massive origami cranes, metal ornate lanterns and flickering candles. The Serpentine Room winds through a gradation of white, yellow, golden yellow, orange and deep red mums, while the Sunken Garden overflows with cascade towers of chrysanthemums and undulating waves of wagasas, or Japanese umbrellas. More beauty awaits in the Victoria Room, where the Japanese royal crest floats in the tranquil pond, and the East Room, where orange and coral blooms surround an ornate bridge and lanterns.

NOVEMBER 7 - NOVEMBER 22, 2015

SMITH COLLEGE Fall Chrysanthemum Show

Lyman Plant House

Northampton, Massachusetts

10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily

Fridays extended hours: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

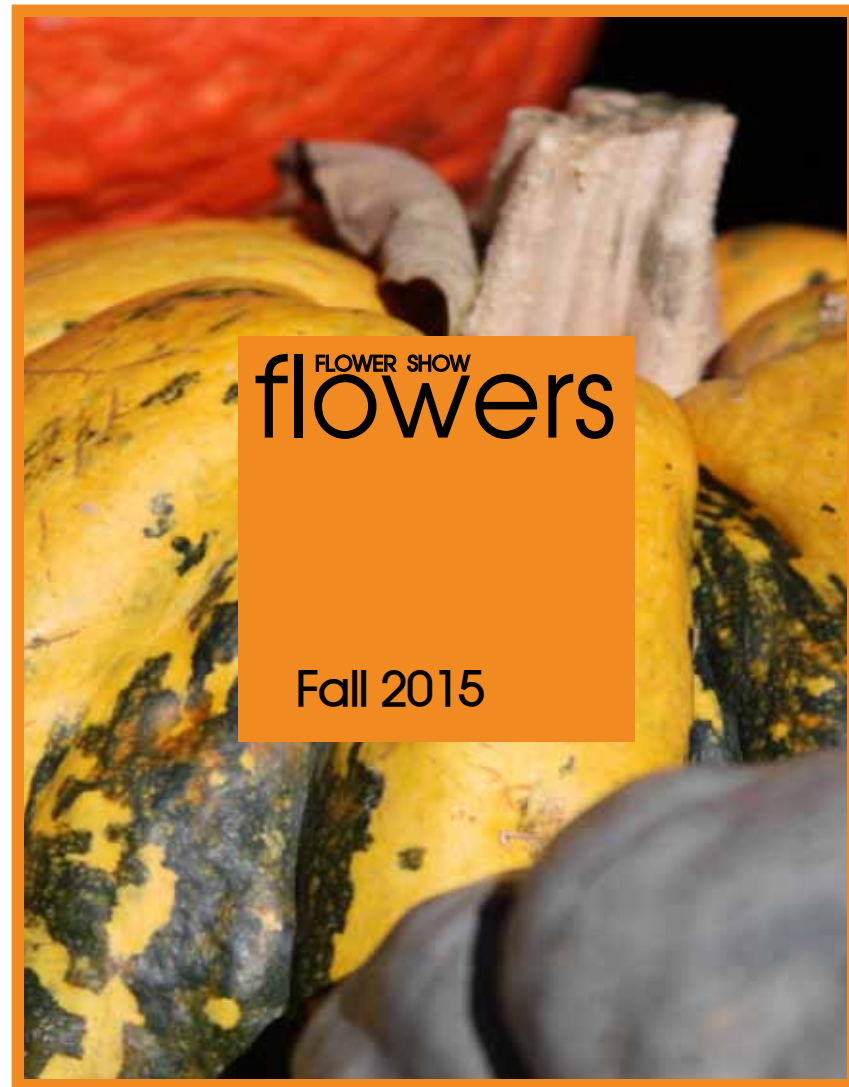
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FLOWER SHOW

flowers

Volume II

Number 4

FALL 2015

