

# The Garden of Adornment

Joyce Gordon Gallery is pleased to present, *The Garden of Adornment*, Oakland Artist Kevin Woodson's new collection of paintings and adorned multimedia paper sculpture flowers.

The Garden of Adornment embarks into realms of design and ritual, and asks us where the garden really ends and human culture begins – or if there was ever a separation between the two.

Returning to Joyce Gordon Gallery after exhibits in 2016 (*Peace Within Chaos*) and 2018 (*Night Flowers*), the Garden of Adornment builds on Kevin's well-known studio and plein air flowers, exploring new ideas in design, painting, paper, and adornments.

### KEEP YOUR DREAM ALIVE, artist statement:

"Even during dark times of this pandemic, I maintain the belief that art, love, and human expression have never been defeated by fear. But, as I make final preparations for The Garden of Adornment, many local galleries post cancellations and shutdowns. My commitment goes beyond this May 2020 show. I'm dedicating the Garden of Adornment to remind us all that staying safe isn't only about protecting yourself, it's about remembering to keep your dream alive and to live for what you love."

#KeepYourDreamAlive — Kevin Woodson, Oakland, March 15, 2020

Joyce Gordon Gallery is a commercial fine art gallery located in the downtown district of Oakland, California. It exhibits art that reflects the social and cultural diversity of the Bay Area and international artists. The aim of the gallery is to respect the creative pursuits of the individual and seeks to make such work accessible to a broad audience.

For more information, or to acquire any of the pieces in this catalogue, please contact:

# **Joyce Gordon Gallery**

406 Fourteenth St., downtown Oakland Between Broadway and Franklin (510) 465-8928 jvbgg2@gmail.com www.jgordongallery.com

International shipping available Local delivery and installation available



# Adorned Paper Sculpture Flowers



Incorporating ritually cut and sculpted paper, garden flowers and wild birds, meditative water painting, and adornments of beads and gemstones, the final artwork unites naturalist, humanist, and spiritual traditions in a synthesis that is mounted and suspended upon an obscured mirror, reflecting the viewer while suggesting the infinite.

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# Phoebus of Roses

# **Phoebus of Roses**

15.5 x 36", 2020

Roses, Northern Black Phoebe

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper.

Mounted on laser cut
.25-inch form-fit acrylic,
Adorned with agate, jade,
pink quartz, Swarovski
crystals, textiles, and other
handcrafted metal and glass
beads on a bronze mirror.

# Chamber of Flowers

### **Chamber of Flowers**

15.5 x 31", 2020

Roses, Gouldian Finch

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper, Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic,

Adorned with textiles, chains, glass and mineral beads, on a bronze mirror.

\$900



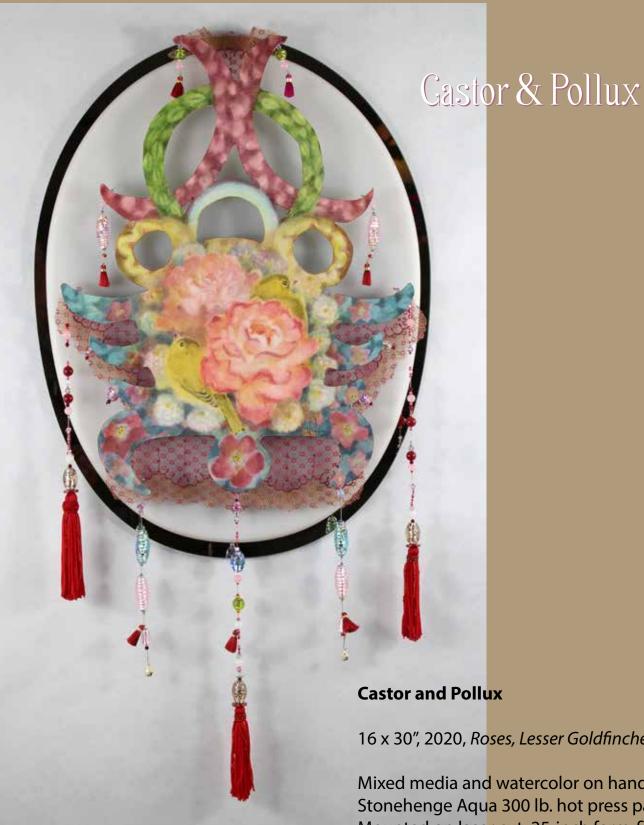
# Fountain of Lif

### **Fountain of Life**

15 x 13", 2020, Roses, Sparrow

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic,.

Adorned with crystals, jade, agate, tiger eye, rose quartz, glass beads, textiles, and a Swarovski crystal, on a bronze mirror.



16 x 30", 2020, Roses, Lesser Goldfinches

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with textiles, chains, hand blown glass, rose quartz, agate and glass beads, on a bronze mirror

Beating Heart

# **Beating Heart**

9 x 17", 2020

Roses, Northern Black Phoebe, Ferns

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with jade, agate, lapis lazuli, rose quartz, hand blown glass, and ceramic, beads, and textiles on a bronze mirror.

**SOLD \$500** 





# Double Grescent

### **Double Crescent**

9 x 13", 2020 Roses, Northern Black Phoebe, Ferns, moons

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with textiles, Swarovski rhinestones, on a bronze mirror.



**Ring of Solomon** 

12 x 24", 2020

Roses, Purple Finch

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with metal and glass beads, polished, cut crystal, and Swarovski crystals, on a bronze mirror.





# The Garden of Adornment

23 x 44", 2020 Orchids, Taiwan Barbet

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with jade, lapis lazuli, rose quartz, agate, polished cut crystals, on a gold mirror.





### **Rainbow Warrior**

56 x 13.5", 2020, Orchids, Warbling White-eye

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with Blue-Crowned Conure feathers, jade, agate, pink quartz, lapis lazuli, turquoise, wood, and glass, on a gold mirror.



#### The Kiss in Flowers

16 x 32", 2020

Orchids, Lovebirds

A floral tribute to Gustav Klimt and the Kiss, one of my all time favorite paintings. I stay true to the spirit of the original work while embarking into my own world of gardens and adornment. Love Birds, like this enraptured duo, remind us how important intimacy is, especially in such uncertain times as these. Floral kisses to everyone.

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with hand blown glass, Swarovski crystals, and textiles on a pink mirror.



# **Fuchsia Sky**

10 x 20", 2020, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Rose, Hydrangeas, Fuchsia

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with agate, jade, rose quartz, lapis lazuli, textiles, polished cut crystal, glass and metal beads on a pink mirror.

# Royalty of Birds

# **Royalty of Birds**

8.5 x 17", 2020, Gold Crowned Kinglet, Roses, Marigold

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with agate, jade, glass beads, wood, and textiles, on a gold mirror.







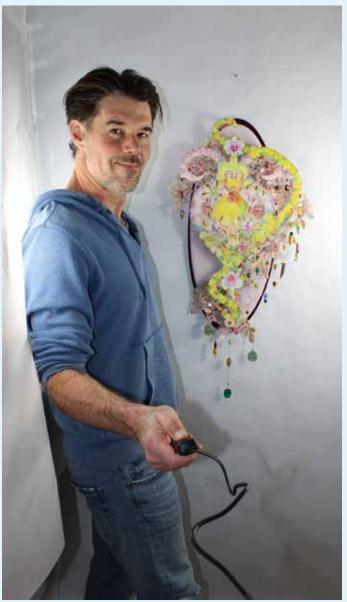
## **Blue Bird**

6.25 x 13", 2020, Steller's Jay, Roses, Ivy, Ferns

Mixed media and watercolor on hand cut Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. hot press paper. Mounted on laser cut .25-inch form-fit acrylic

Adorned with lapis lazuli, wood and metal beads.

\$225



Shooting the sculptures.

With this collection, I very much wanted to break out of the two dimensional framed format. But documenting sculptures vs. flat paintings suddenly becomes a whole lot more difficult.

But with a Cannon Rebel, two floodlights, and some creativity with paper, I've taken my first steps to photography!

Eventually I'll graduate, but currently, very thankful for the 'auto' setting!!!

#### **Adorning the Sculptures**

Going to museums as a child, I suffered great confusion that someone somewhere had decided that there were objects that would be categorized as 'art,' and thus exhibited in 'Art Museums.' Other objects labled 'culture' are interred in 'Museums of Anthropology.' And my favorites, plants and flowers, were shut outdoors in gardens and parks.

In *The Garden of Adornment*, my goal is to unite these three worlds in a synthesis that preserves the beautiful delicacy of the 'art,' the ritual significance of cultural artifacts, and the natural wonder that blooms before us every day.

I've taken great care in creating, handling, and displaying the Adorned Paper Sculpture Flowers in this collection.

The paper shapes are hand cut in forms and trichilia that reflect the garden in meditations, and painted directly from the flowers and birds.

And they are adorned. Taking advantages of my travels to Asia, I acquired jade, lapis lazuli, quartz, crystals, and boxes of semi-precious stones and textiles that are fit for the finest collections in the world.

The painted Stonehenge Aqua from Legion Paper is varnished and mounted on an artist-quality quarter-inch acrylic (plexiglass), laser cut by *Weldon Hall, OakLabs*, Oakland, which is in turn suspended in front of an ovular wall mounting.

The wall mounting is made of two pieces of artist-quality acrylic from *Mr. Plastics, San Leandro*. The base acrylic is a mirror - gold, bronze, pink... the colors are limitless. When I overlay the mirrored surface with an inset translucent white plexiglass, the effect appears to open up a misty portal to another world, infinite and open to possibilities.

**Suspended in front of these magic mirrors**, the sculptures invite you to reach out and pick them up. And you can carefully lift them off individually-designed hangers and admire them in your hands, on an altar, or in the ritual of your design.

During the careful and deliberate process of creating these pieces, I realized that in synthesizing the ideal, existential, and the natural worlds, the sculptures had taken on a life of their own as sacred regalia.

My hope as an artist is that you will use these as art, regalia, or in natural appreciation as you most desire. On the wall, or in your arms dancing around a bonfire, the magic you create is up to you.

http://www.oaklabs.co | https://www.mr-plastics.com/www.legionpaper.com





Collecting gemstones and artisanal beads in Taiwan.



















# Flowers Houveau

How free can you be in the garden?

In the transcendent garden of art and poetry, there is no time, no gravity, no limit to what imagination can create.

Flowers come alive in this series of adornment paintings that captures the romantic freedom and poetry of the Art Nouveau movement of the 19th Century.

These watercolor-based multimedia works on paper are varnished, mounted, and framed without glass in contemporary floater frames in the style of oil paintings. I've noted paintings that are also adorned with patterns of Swarovski rhinestones. Frames are included with your purchase.



#### **Queen Without a Throne**

16 x 52", 2020

Mourning Dove and Magnolias

Title from a song by Danny B. Sunday

Mixed media and watercolor on paper.



**Open Doors are Everywhere** 

30 x 40", 2019, Bougainvillea, Jasmine, Roses, Mixed media and watercolor on paper. Title from song by Danny B. Sunday





### **Open Doors are Everywhere II**

16 x 52", 2020, Cymbidium, Purple Finch, Pieris Rapae title from song by Danny B. Sunday

Mixed media, additional Swarovski rhinestones, and watercolor on paper.

I've embedded Swarovski crystal rhinestones to create patterns and new designs on top of this varnished painting.









titles from the poetry of Sappho

### With Flowers Fair, Adorn Thy Lustrous Hair

12 x 30", 2018

Dahlias

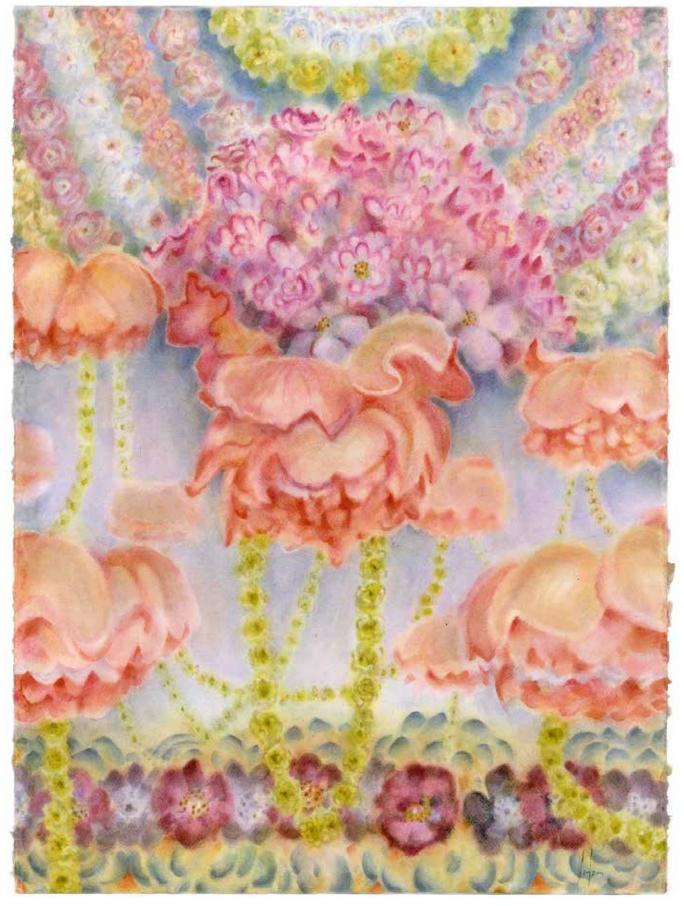
Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press.



Cleis Fair, Golden Flowers In The Air 12 x 30", 2018, Dahlias Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua. \$800 SOLD



**Before Thee, Aphrodite Stands** 12 x 30", 2018, Dahlias Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua. \$800



**Heaven in Oakland** 22 x 30", 2018, Roses, Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua. **\$1500** 



Avatar of Roses  $22 \times 30$ ", 2018, Roses, Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua. \$1500



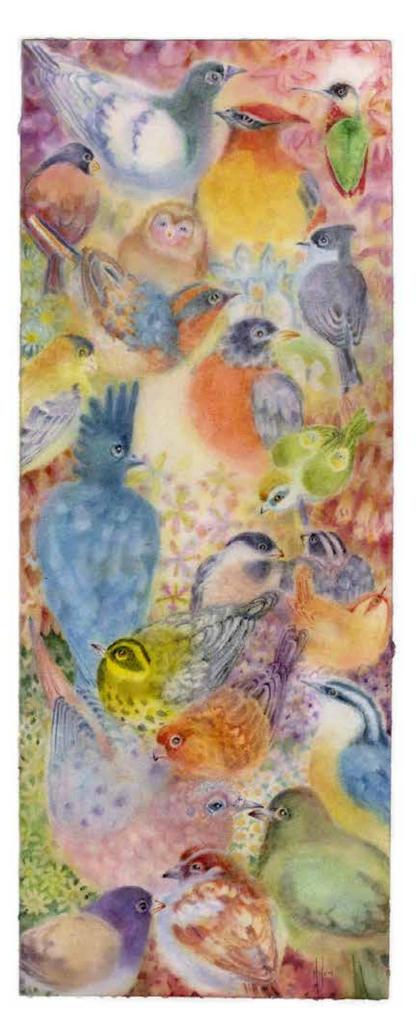
**Philosophy Flowers** 22 x 30", 2018, Roses, Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua. \$1500

# Kevin's Birds

Do you love the birds in the garden?

I do too!!! Since childhood, my mom has hosted birds of all colors and sizes in feeders, fountains, baths, and other left offerings. Along with flowers, birds have been one of my favorite subjects.

I hope you love them as much as I do.



# **My Shelter**

12 x 30 ", 2018

21 birds: Pigeon,
Waxwing,
Hummingbird,
Juncos, Bushtit,
Phoebe, Goldfinch,
Varied Thrush,
Robin, Steller's Jay,
Chickadee, Kinglet,
Sparrows, Townsend's
Warbler, Purple Finch,
Wren, Nuthatch,
Mourning Dove,
Catbird

title from a song by Danny B. Sunday

Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. .

\$800 SOLD



**Brother Eight** 8 x 12", 2020 Myna, Anthurium Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. . \$200





**Super Cat** 8 x 12", 2019 Catbird, Camellias Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. \$200





**Dream Bird** 6 x 8", 2020 Kinglet, spring flowers Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press.



Rune of Salvation 8 x 11", 2019 Junco, Ferns, Camellias Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. \$200

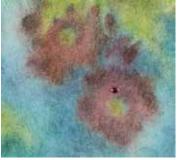


Bird Behind the Mask 8 x 11", 2019 Townsend's Warbler, Camellias, Ivy Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press.

**Nuthatch Winters** 8 x 11", 2019 Red Breasted Nuthatch, Ivy Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. \$200







**Fern Kings** 8 x 12", 2019 Nuthatch, Roses, Fern Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua, with one Swarovski rhinestone. \$200

**Purple Dragon** 6 x 8", 2019 Purple Dragon, Chickadee Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. \$110





**Fern House** 6 x 8", 2020 Red Breasted Nuthatch, Ivy Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press. \$110



Glow 6 x 8", 2020 Cedar Waxwing, Rhododendrons Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 Ib hot press. \$110

**Rain Flowers** \$110



6 x 8", 2020 Wren, Jasmine Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press.

# Sparkle

Do you see a little extra in some paintings? I love the additional layer of pattern and meaning Swarovski crystal rhinestones give to some of the paintings in this exhibit. I selected some paintings to adorn with some extra glam. Let these paintings sparkle in your eyes!



**Same River Twice** 

6 x 8", 2020

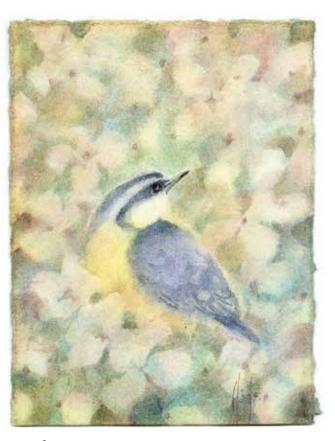
*Ivy*, Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua, additional Swarovski rhinestones **\$110** 





**Golden Plums** 

6 x 8", 2019, Lesser Goldfinch, Plum Blossoms, Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press., Swarovski Rhinestones





#### **Sea of Dreams**

6 x 8", 2019, Nuthatch, Hydrangeas, Mixed media and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press., Swarovski rhinestones.





**Blue Door** 

6 x 8", 2020, Crabapples, Bushtit, Mixed media, Swarovski rhinestones, and watercolor on Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb hot press.

#### \$110





**Open Doors are Everywhere III** 

6 x 8", 2019, Purple Dragon, Chickadee, Mixed media and watercolor on Stonehenge Aqua, Swarovski rhinestones. title from song by Danny B. Sunday



The Garden of Adornment

New Work by Kevin Woodson | May 1 – June 28, 2020 Joyce Gordon Gallery, 406 14th st. in Oakland

Joyce Gordon Gallery is located in downtown Oakland, between Broadway and Franklin Streets, at 12th st. BART.

During the Shelter-In-Place directive, the gallery will remain closed to the public, but host frequent online tours and events using Facebook Live and Zoom. Please contact the gallery, check the website, and get on the mailing list for up-to-date information.

We also invite you to contact us to schedule an **personal video walk-through** with Kevin for you or a small group, such as co-workers, family, and friends.

When State and local guidelines are relaxed, we will be open to individual appointments and small groups. Please contact the gallery for more information, and to schedule your appointment. If possible before the end of the show, we will reschedule artist talk, reception, and flower painting workshops. Please keep in touch to find out more.

All the paintings and sculptures in this catalogue are for sale, and we can arrange sales and shipping locally and internationally. Please contact us to acquire any of these pieces, or to find out more via email or direct video conference with Kevin. Kevin will be available for local delivery and installation of the larger artworks.

Thank you very much for your interest and patronage.