



*Dancing* 朵  
*Birds* 朵  
木 *Singing*  
木 *Flowers*  
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翩  
翩

ART BY

**Kevin Woodson**



LIVING  
Lab  
藍瓦空間

catalogue 2022

# Dancing Birds, Singing Flowers

Living Lab Gallery is pleased to present *Dancing Birds, Singing Flowers*, a new collection of paintings by Taoyuan artist, Kevin Woodson.

This exhibit of garden paintings was painted during a time when the Covid pandemic prevented painting sessions in gardens, parks, and greenhouses. Flowers in this collection the result of the artist's effort to find the joy of the garden within himself.

Returning to Living Lab Gallery and following last year's exhibit, *Where the Wild Birds Bloom*, we understand that this is a challenging time for many people, and wish to respond with joy, flowers, and dance!

This catalogue is also a story, that allows you to be part of the show, near and far.

藍瓦空間Living Lab Gallery 很高興再次邀請桃園藝術家Kevin Woodson葉凱文擔綱年度首檔展覽，此次將呈現其新系列創作《Dancing Birds, Singing Flowers朵朵翩翩》。

展覽作品皆是新冠肺炎於台灣大流行期間進行的繪製，雖因疫情而減少了外出至公園、花園、溫室、農場...等場所寫生，但大環境劇烈變動之下，藝術家亦須轉化與調整原有創作型態，這時的他透過長年觀察與描繪花鳥等動植物的經驗，反向覺察自身心中的花園風景，並徜徉其中創造樂趣。

回顧2021年，對於許多人來說是一個充滿挑戰的時期；展望2022年，期待以歡樂呈現新的動力！

此本作品集充滿著故事，使妳/你無論遠近，皆能身歷其境享受歌舞於大自然的氛圍。



Please contact our gallery staff to inquire about purchasing a piece.  
We ship all over the world.

若您有意購藏作品，歡迎聯繫藍瓦空間。  
所有作品皆可運送至世界各地。

OPEN: 11:00-21:00  
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## THE GARDEN

"Human culture, love, and magic begin in the garden."

This statement has been my guiding inspiration since I started painting flowers in my mom's backyard garden as a very young child. But this year was different.

With outbreaks around the world and even in Taiwan, the garden was often closed, and it was almost never 'convenient' to just walk out the door and be in my sacred space. I had to look elsewhere to find my flow state.

I found that, even in quarantine, the sensations and power of the garden never abandoned me. It all lives inside my imagination, and with a little practice, I could get into a garden state of mind and paint the same inspiration that used to be only available outside.

「人類的文化、愛與奧秘都起源於花園。」

這一直是我的座右銘。

從小我就在母親的後院畫花寫生，  
這長久以來的生活在過去這一年很不一樣。

全球疫情肆虐，台灣也無法完全倖免。  
封城時期很多地方都關閉了，  
走到戶外寫生也不再如日常般平凡簡單，  
我必須尋找另一種創作方式。

即使在隔離期間，  
花園的召喚一直都沒有離我而去，  
她一直活在我心中。透過一些方法，  
我可以進入意識中的花園，汲取我的創作靈感。





KEVIN WOODSON

*Dancing Birds  
Singing Flowers*

朵朵翩翩

catalogue 2022



**Symphony of Dahlias,**

By candlelight, Dahlias slowly levitate to a sublime overture,  
rising and falling to the direction of a mysterious conductor.

Symphony of Dahlias is a tryptich that fills any room with its  
gentle power.

1. 交響曲I  
101x153 cm  
NT\$ 250,000

2. 交響曲II  
101x153 cm  
NT\$ 250,000

3. 交響曲III  
101x153 cm  
NT\$ 250,000



4. 祈年 | 56x75 cm | NT\$ 68,000  
*New Year*



6. 蒼穹 | 56x75 cm | NT\$ 68,000  
*Nest in the Sky*



5. 花爾滋 | 56x75 cm | SOLD  
*Waltz of the Flowers*

The fish swim among lotus, blooming for peace and steadfastness, like chakras of the Buddha.

The Taiwan swallowtail butterfly represents dreams coming true, spreading its wings and flying while the Koi swim on.





### *Luminescence*

Roses are precious to me because I can feel warm light coming from them long after the sun has set, like each flower has a little candle inside.

We all pulsate with life, and flowers live so much faster. When I paint, we sing together.

Can you spot the five tiny bulbuls in this painting? They are the bulbul family we rescued in Taiwan this spring.

7. 夜光曲  
40.5x132 cm  
NT\$ 98,000



### *Eye of the Beholder*

These dahlias mean so much to me because they are flowers from a garden in San Francisco that I have painted every year for longer than I can remember.

This year, I use sketches and studies from San Francisco to make my dahlia painting while I am living in Taiwan.

A bird keeps one eye looking at the San Francisco garden, but his other eye is here, comfortably at home in Taiwan,

8. 花見  
40.5x132 cm  
NT\$ 98,000



9. 吟遊詩人 | 56x75 cm | NT\$ 68,000  
*Wandering Minstrel*



10. 孕育  
28x37 cm  
NT\$ 20,000  
*Conception*



11. 來跳舞吧  
28x37 cm  
NT\$ 20,000  
*To Dance With Flowers*



### *Yin Yang Cockatiel*

When I'm upside down, the right side's up, when I'm red, I'm blue, when I'm black, I'm white. It's all in how you dance with birds.

Duality is the ultimate state of harmony, but it is never as easy as it looks.

These birds change their moods constantly. White cockatiel with a red rose? Black cockatiel with a white rose?

The back of the painting has two hangers so you can turn it as your mood strikes, or twirl it for the joy of the dance!

12. 雙生 I  
19x56 cm  
NT\$ 20,000



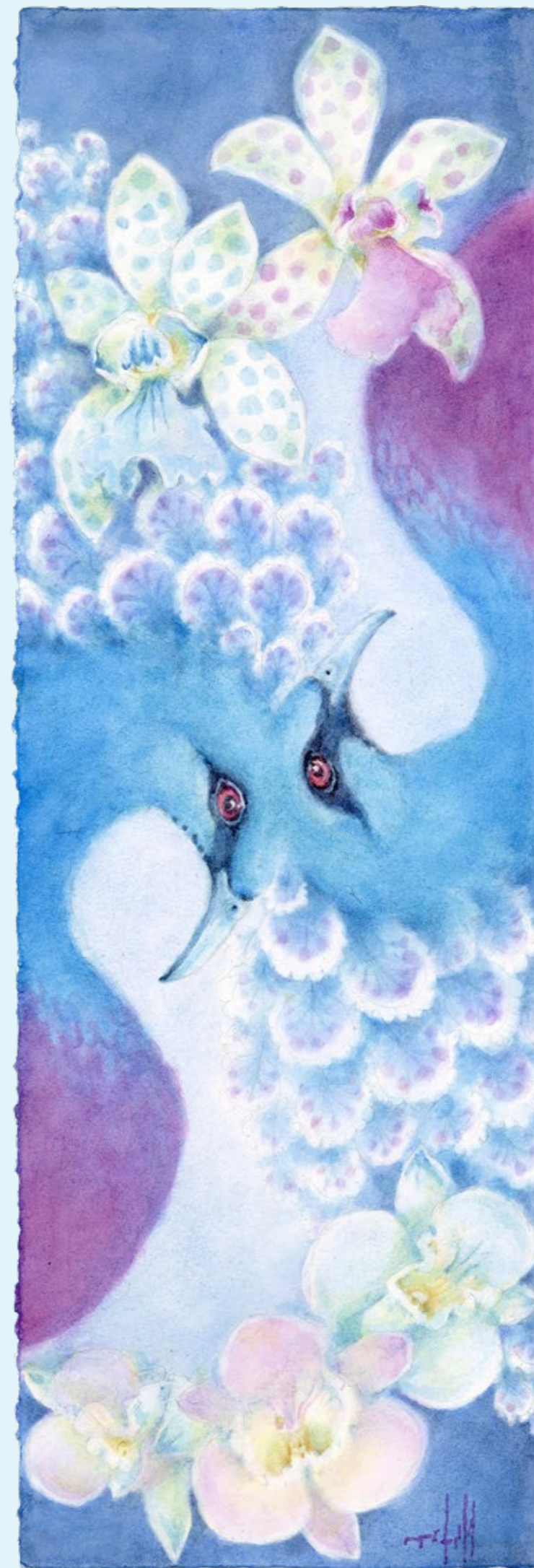
### *Victor, Victoria Pigeon*

Victoria Crowned Pigeons tumble about in their kingdom at the Taipei Zoo, feathered crowns billowing like clouds, flowers blown asunder, as they are making their way into my mind.

Summersaulting through the world, I will hold on to this bird and its crown.

The art of flowers and gardens from my new collection reflects on a garden that will live forever in my heart, a treasure I can call to change and always stay the same.

13. 雙生 II  
19x56 cm  
NT\$ 20,000







14. 藍色大明星 | 18x29 cm | SOLD  
Stellar Blue



15. 尋幽 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Down in the Valley



16. 華麗登場 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Red Velvet and Pearls



17. 歌舞亮晶晶 | 18x29 cm  
SOLD  
Gemstones Birdsongs



18. 三朵花 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Three Part Harmony



19. 踢踏踢 | 18x29 cm | NT\$ 8,800  
Tit Toe Through the Dahlias



20. 璀璨 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Gloriosa in Green



21. 飛行的節奏 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Rhythm on the Wing



22. 霓裳羽衣 | 18x29 cm  
SOLD  
End of the Rainbow



23. 紅色旅人 | 18x29 cm  
NT\$ 8,800  
Red Odysseus



24. 金艷  
14x18 cm  
NT\$ 5,000  
Drop of Gold



26. 陶醉 | 14x18 cm | NT\$  
5,000  
Amaryllis Virtuoso



27. 很陶醉 | 14x18 cm | SOLD  
Cleodendrum Virtuoso



25. 3Q  
14x18 cm  
SOLD  
Thank you Very Much



28. 啦啦啦 | 14x18 cm | SOLD  
La la la la Lantana



## SKETCHBOOKS

Sketchbooks are my connection with the true sensations of the garden back to the studio and into paintings.

For many artists, photography is an option. But for me it is not. Only by making pages and pages of studies of flowers or birds where they bloom and live, can I preserve the moment of inspiration in the garden. I made many quick trips to gardens while they were open, zoos and bird shops, and even sketched the birds out my window.

My sketches focus on color and dreams. They are not just black-and-white representations of the world, like snapshots. I love making sketches; they set me free!

Most of the paintings in *Dancing Birds*, *Singing Flowers* are the result of twenty or more sketches. Once I had a good idea, I drew it, and drew it again. Looking at the sketchbooks, you can trace a direct line from drawings of individual flowers and birds to ideas for final paintings, and then final compositions and color tests.

素描本是最重要的橋樑，讓我把花園裡的感知帶回工作室與作品裡。

很多藝術家會用攝影的方式，但我不是。只有透過一頁一頁的描繪，我才有辦法捕捉花鳥的生命力。當花園、鳥園、動物園還開放的時候，我大量速寫，有時甚至是家中窗外片刻停留的鳥兒，我也把握機會。

「朵朵翩翩」這個展覽中大部分的作品都來自許多的速寫及素描。當我一有靈感，我會反覆地一畫再畫，在我的素描本你可以看出作品從初稿到上色的演變歷程。



## ICONS

Because I used a different process, I was able to spend much more time considering the composition of a painting before making the final piece of art.

The result of this is that the paintings in this show are much more iconic. Each painting is composed to become an icon of free flight, finding love, connecting with friends and family, or exploring dreams, for example. These are some of the feelings and emotions I associate with being in the garden.

Because of this, some of the images might even look familiar. Like the cover of a book you can barely remember, or a long-lost record album. That is the power of symbols that resonate at the level of the garden.

透過層層構思，我琢磨出每件作品的最終樣貌。對我而言，這次展出的作品更具象徵性，像是自由的飛翔、愛的追尋、親人朋友相伴、夢的探索等，這些都是我在花園所感知感受的。也因為如此，有些畫面讓人感到熟悉，像是記憶中依稀想起一本書的封面，或是一張遺失久遠的唱片。這就是自然元素帶給人類的共鳴。



## VARNISHING

I apply a coat of varnish to the finished paintings to preserve the feel of my wet-on-wet paper technique, and to turn paintings into liquid dreams that bring us all together.

People ask me about the technique and whether it preserves the artwork as well as a glass frame. I think the varnish is much more reliable. I've been using varnishes in my artwork for the last two years, and I have perfected the process.

First, I use a highly reliable paper -- Stonehenge Aqua 300 lb. I use hot press, which is the smoother and more colorful than cold press.

The finished painting is 'glued' to an archival sturdy board. The 'glue' I use is actually Golden Hard Molding Paste, which is PH neutral and archival. It takes about a week for the paste to dry. During that time, the artwork is also pressed to be extremely flat.

Only after the glue is totally dry do I add varnish with Liquitex pouring medium. Like the materials in the previous steps, Liquitex is archival and protects the artwork. I work fast in a high-heat room (30 degrees Celsius) because the varnish hardens based on a chemical reaction. It doesn't air-dry. For this exhibit I had help from Kelly Tung.

這些作品的表層經過特殊處理，為的是讓畫作保持水彩濕潤飽滿的特性，呈現出渲染如夢的質感。

人們常問我這樣處理後，作品保存是否如同裱框。我認為表面處理後作品保存更好，過去兩年多來我不斷改良表面處理的技巧臻於純熟。

首先，我使用高品質300磅的Stonehenge水彩紙，我選用表面較平滑的熱壓紙，色彩呈現更飽和。然後將完成的作品以Golden塑型劑固定在無酸裱板上，壓平待乾之後，再用Liquitex潑灑媒劑進行表面處理，並在溫室中凝固定型。

優秀的裱框師傅也很重要，我長年與磐石畫廊合作，完成最後的裱框。



## PAPER

None of this is possible without a good paper. I use Legion Paper's Stonehenge Aqua, 300 lb. hot press. Michael Ginsburg and Legion Paper have been producing specialty papers for artists since 1973, but Stonehenge Aqua is a relatively recent paper, introduced to the art world about five years ago. Stonehenge Aqua is important to me because I had the chance to participate with the team of artists that created it. Every month, I and top artists across the United States would test new samples Michael Ginsburg sent us.

As an artist, I push my paper to its limits, with varnish, extended time wet in the studio, and now pencil and erasing. So you can imagine I gave a lot of input to make sure this paper can handle your wildest dreams and turn them into beauty beyond your imagination.

好的水彩紙可以帶你上天堂。我選用 Legion 紙業出品的 Stonehenge 水彩紙。Michael Ginsburg 所創立的 Legion 紙業自 1973 年起就開始製造藝術家專業用紙，而 Stonehenge 水彩紙是近年研發生產的紙。我有幸參與這款紙的研發過程，Michael Ginsburg 每個月寄來新的紙樣，我和美國其他幾位藝術家則負責測試回饋。

身為一個藝術家，我極力要求畫紙的品質，也提供了大量的測試報告回饋，終於讓這款水彩紙能夠圓滿創作者對於美的追求與想望。