



## DENNIS, JEAN

b. Southampton, England

RESIDENCE: Australia

Email: jean\_dennis04@yahoo.com

### EDUCATION

School of Arts, Southampton, 1947

Art, Benalla College, Benalla, 1978

Coronary Care Certificate, Benalla Hospital, Benalla, 1979

Watercolor classes with Margaret Metcalf, Ross Patterson,  
Judith Stoney, 1970–1980s

Botanical illustration workshops, intensives and master classes  
with Jenny Phillips, Anne-Marie Evans, Fiona McKinnon,  
Botanical Art School of Melbourne, 1993–2003

Microscope course with Mali Moir, Friends of the Royal  
Botanic Gardens Melbourne, South Yarra, 2002

Etching classes, Victorian College of Arts, Melbourne, 1990s

Ink and acrylic, insect and fauna workshop with Wendy  
Jennings, Bendigo Botanic Gardens, Bendigo, 2009

Pen-and-ink classes with Agathe Ravet-Haevermans, Mount  
Macedon, 2011

Watercolor pencil workshop with Wendy Hollander;  
watercolor workshop with Lara Call Gasteringer, American  
Society of Botanical Artists Annual Conference,  
Pittsburgh, 2013

Watercolor and colored pencil workshops with Mali Moir,  
Fiona McKinnon; insect illustration workshop with Kate  
Nolan, Bendigo Botanic Gardens, Bendigo, 2014

### CAREER

Auxiliary nurse, Tasmania, 1954–1956

Registered General Nurse, Geelong Hospital School of  
Nursing, Geelong, 1956–1961

Freelance art teacher, mixed media, Victoria, 1974–1990

Nurse, Tasmania, 1954–1961; Victoria, 1977–2003

Acting Coordinator, Gilburn Day Therapy Centre, Euroa  
Hospital, Euroa, 1992–1993

Freelance botanical illustration teacher, Eastern Australia,  
1994–2015

Private project illustrating the genus *Brachychiton* Schott &  
Endlicher from native habitats, 1997–

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Botanical Artists

Benalla Artists Guild, Co-founder, 1976

Botanical Art Society of Australia

Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens, Botanical Illustrators

Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Botanical  
Illustrators

Friends of Wollongong Botanic Garden, Botanical Illustrators

### ARTWORK MEDIA

Watercolor, graphite pencil, pen-and-ink, colored pencil,  
silver-point

### ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

*Scenes of the North-East*, Bookshop Gallery, Benalla, 1983

*Benalla Sketched*, Benalla Art Gallery, Benalla, 1984

*Brachychiton* prints, Library and Archives, Royal Botanic  
Gardens, Kew, London, 2005

*Brachychiton* project exhibition, Castlemaine Art Gallery,  
Victoria, 2016

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

Rotary Art Shows, Victoria, 1970

Rose Festival Exhibition, Benalla, 1980–1981

*Benalla Sketched*, Benalla, 1984

*Jenny Phillips and Students*, Noel's Gallery, Red Hill, 1994

*Portraits of Old Roses*, Como House, Melbourne, 1994

*International Rose Show*, Exhibition Building, Melbourne, 1995

*Art in Nature*, Puffinry Gallery, Melbourne, 1997

Botanical Art Exhibition, Eltham Wiregrass Gallery, Eltham,  
1997

Garden Expo, Benalla, 1997

*The Art of Botanical Illustration*, 4th Biennial Exhibition

Presented by the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens  
Melbourne, National Herbarium of Victoria, South Yarra,  
1998

Royal Horticultural Society, London, 2000

*Town and Country*, Benalla Art Gallery, Benalla, 2000, 2001  
[Exhibition catalogue]

*Flowers and Gardens*, Annual Open Exhibition of the Society  
of Botanical Artists, Central Hall Westminster, London,  
2001

*Botanical Bliss*, Paynter Gallery, Bendigo Pottery, Bendigo,  
2008, 2009

*A Fascination with Nature*, Artists Realm, Gisborne, 2009

*The Eternal Order in Nature: The Science of Botanical Illustration*,  
the XVIII International Botanical Congress, presented  
by the Friends of the Gardens, Domain House, Royal  
Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Melbourne, 2011  
[Exhibition catalogue]

*Capturing Flora: 300 Years of Australian Botanical Art*, Art Gallery  
of Ballarat, Ballarat, 2012 [Exhibition catalogue]

*From the Forest to the Foreshore—Natural History: Ferns, Fungi  
and Their Allies*, Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens  
Melbourne Botanical Illustrators, Domain House,  
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, South Yarra, 2013  
[Exhibition catalogue]

*Bendigo Botanica*, Dudley House, Bendigo, 2015

*reFraming Nature: Natural History Art Exhibition*, Friends of the  
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Botanical Illustrators,  
Domain House, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne,  
South Yarra, 2015 [Exhibition catalogue]

#### HONORS/AWARDS

Best Watercolor, Rose Festival Exhibition, 1980–1981  
Silver-Gilt Medal, Royal Horticultural Society, 2000

#### WORK REPRODUCED IN

Basset, J. 1984. *Benalla Sketched*. Victoria: Neptune Press.

Botanical Art of Queensland: Newsletter of the Botanical  
Artists' Society of Queensland, 2007, p. 3  
Series of Australian roses, Golden Vale Nursery, 1998

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aisthorpe, J. 2015. Top-end flower a final piece of the puzzle.  
Northern Territory News 18 December, p. 3.
- Dennis, J. 2002. The travels and work of Victorian artist Jean  
Dennis. Botanical Art Society of Australia Newsletter  
10: 7.
- Dennis, J. 2003. Gallery big 4-0. Wildlife Australia Magazine  
Autumn: 22.
- Dennis, J. 2014. Australia's hidden trees revealed. Bot. Artist  
20(1): 29.
- Entwisle, T. 2010. Passion for plants: Gets pretty in pink.  
702 ABC Sydney. [http://www.abc.net.au/local/  
stories/2010/11/05/3058617.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/11/05/3058617.htm).
- Jenkins, V. 2014. Botanical Illustrators' Christmas lunch.  
Botanic News: Journal of the Friends of the Royal  
Botanic Gardens Melbourne Autumn: 15.
- Mitchel, L. 2013. An artist's quest. Bendigo Advertiser 18 May,  
pp. 1, 4–5.
- Moir, M. and A. Ahmed. 2011. *The Eternal Order in Nature:  
The Science of Botanical Illustration*. Melbourne: Friends  
of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. [Exhibition  
catalogue; pp. 30–31.]
- Morrison, G. and A. George. 2012. *Capturing Flora: 300  
Years of Australian Botanical Art*. Ballarat: Art Gallery of  
Ballarat. [Exhibition catalogue; pp. 256, 258–259.]
- Pedler, C. 2010. [Jean Dennis.] Bendigo Miner October, p. 17.

#### 5

*Brachychiton chillagoensis* [*Brachychiton chillagoensis* Guymmer,  
Sterculiaceae] 2008

Watercolor on paper 53.5 × 38 cm

Lent by the artist

PORTRAIT PHOTO CREDIT: Tumi, June 2015