

**BOTANICA 2012 – THE MASTERS & MOORE**  
**31 MARCH - 22 APRIL 2012**  
**Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney**  
**OPEN DAILY 10am- 4pm. Free Entry**

**An extraordinary exhibition of works by Australia's finest botanical artists.**

Never before has the Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney, hosted an exhibition of botanical art of the calibre that will be seen in *Botanica 2012 – The Masters & Moore* exhibition, to be held in the Maiden Theatre & Moore Room.

Presented by Friends of the Botanic Gardens, this spectacular collection of works will be exhibited over three weeks and feature works from over 70 of Australia's premier botanical artists. These include: Beverly Allen, Deirdre Bean, Annie Hughes, Elaine Musgrave, David Mackay, Susannah Blaxill, Jenny Phillips, John Pastoriza-Piñol, Fiona McKinnon and Mali Moir.

*Botanica* is acknowledged as one of the country's leading botanical art exhibitions. All the exhibited artists' works appear by invitation only and many have very significant international reputations.

*Botanica* curator Lindy Stuart can't speak highly enough of the depth of talent featured in the 2012 exhibition. "I'm delighted *Botanica – The Masters & Moore* will include the cream of our internationally renowned botanical artists. Australia has a wealth of talent in this field of the arts and this exhibition will feature at least 10 artists who have won Gold Medals at the Royal Horticultural Society's Exhibition of Botanic Art in London, arguably one of the most important botanical art exhibitions world-wide. Many of the other artists' works are regularly exhibited and collected all over the world – including the Shirley Sherwood Gallery (Kew Gardens). Visitors to *Botanica 2012 – The Masters & Moore* will be treated to a world-class collection of botanical art."

Botanical art remains a popular and highly collectable art form, originally documenting the natural world for scientific reference, this clear and lucid illustration of plant-life is now appreciated by a wide audience for its contemporary art value.

Debbie Mills, Executive Officer of Friends of the Botanic Gardens welcomes the return of the *Botanica* exhibition, a featured event in the *Autumn of Arts* calendar, "The



*Lotus by Beverly Allen*



*Camellia by Annie Hughes*



*Lillies by Elaine Musgrave*

featured event in the *Autumn of Arts* calendar, “The *Botanica* exhibition has long been a favourite of the Friends and I’m delighted it will return in 2012. The Friends have a tradition of supporting this beautiful art form and I know the 2012 exhibition promises to be one of the most spectacular ever.”

***Botanica 2012 – The Masters & Moore* exhibition will be opened on Friday March 30 by the Executive Director of The Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust, Professor David Mabberley at a ticketed Opening Party from 6pm. Opening Party attendees will have the opportunity to view the exhibition prior to it opening on Saturday 31 March. Tickets to this opening event can be purchased from the Friends of the Botanic Gardens’ office, ph. 02 9231 8182.**



*Hydrangea by Lindsay Watts*

---

**BOTANICA 2012 – ‘THE MASTERS AND MOORE’ EXHIBITION:**

**Opening Party: Friday 30 March – tickets available from the Friends’ Office on 02 9231 8182.**

**Free public exhibition: Saturday 31 March to Sunday 22 April 2012, 10am to 4pm daily.**

**Maiden Theatre & Moore Room, The Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney.**

**Entry to the exhibition is free and all works are for sale.**

**PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE FRIENDS OF THE BOTANIC GARDENS AND THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS AND DOMAIN TRUST. [www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/friends](http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/friends)**

The Friends of the Botanic Gardens Inc was established to encourage the use and enjoyment of the estates of The Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust and to involve the community in the scientific, educational, horticultural, cultural and recreational functions of the Gardens. The Friends serve as a link between the Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust and the community and promote, support and contribute to the development of the Gardens.

**In 2012 the Friends celebrate 30 years of supporting the Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust.**