



# Valerie Fowler

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

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My artworks portray settings or scenes illustrating states of nature on earth. Through implied narratives I relay my concern and love for our fragile home as I explore the mark we humans make on it. Stories, taken from my own interactions with nature, are integral. Over time I've developed personal touchstones and archetypes sourced from my native Texas environment, which hint at allegories. Through the unique intensity of my personal vision, I endeavor to communicate themes examining the qualities of beauty in nature, and also, our common mortality.

## ABREVIATED BIO

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Valerie Fowler grew up in Houston. Her father was noted Houston sculptor, Bob Fowler (1931-2010). After graduating from U.T. (with a B.A. in Art) she made Austin her home and has been actively involved in art making and art exhibition for over 30 years. Nature is her chosen subject. Her complex and intricate oil paintings and drawings describe a natural world of extreme beauty and vigor while also conveying nature's sensitive vulnerability.

Her past work includes painting murals for Whole Foods Market in Austin, Chicago and Ann Arbor, illustration and layout work for The Texas Observer, illustrations for CD jackets for local musicians, including a fully illustrated, 64 page book that accompanies the CD for "Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase", a musical project written, recorded and produced by her husband Brian Beattie. The "Ivy" project toured the East and West coasts and she and Beattie produced the full stage production for Austin's Stateside at the Paramount Theater in 2014. In 2016, Fowler held Nature and Other Stories at Austin's Dougherty Arts Center, a solo exhibit and mid career retrospective, with artworks spanning 2 decades. Fowler teaches art in her home studio and is also an art instructor at The Contemporary, The Art School at Laguna Gloria. An active participant in the EAST and WEST Austin Studio Tours and a perennial participant in The People's Gallery at Austin City Hall, Fowler has exhibited widely in Austin and throughout Texas and is collected nationally. Most recently, Fowler was chosen by the Texas Book Festival as their 2018 Festival artist. Her painting: Spring, Everything Changes; Fredericksburg, Texas graced the festival poster and corresponding campaign materials. And, in 2018 she contracted with Pomegranate Communications licensing her artwork images for a 2020 calendar, puzzle and art cards. Both she and her husband maintain studios adjacent to their South Austin home. She paints, draws or gardens daily.

# Valerie Fowler

## EDUCATION

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The University of Texas at Austin, BA in Art

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

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2019 Cloudfree Studios and Pump Project, Women of West Go East  
2019 West Austin Studio Tour

2018 Neill-Cochran House Museum, Valerie Fowler: Art at Flower Hill, solo exhibition  
2018 West Austin Studio Tour  
2018 The Peoples Gallery, Austin City Hall

2017 Bastrop Art in Public in Places (Earth Has a Long Memory, Dedicated to the Lost Pines of Bastrop County),  
placed on extended Loan at Bastrop Public Library)  
2017 West Austin Studio Tour

2016-2017 Dougherty Arts Center, Valerie Fowler: Nature and Other Stories, Solo Exhibition, Austin  
2016 West Austin Studio Tour  
2016 Georgetown Art Center, Botanicals, Georgetown, Texas  
2016 The People's Gallery, Austin City Hall  
2016 La Pena, Artists INC Exhibition, Austin

2015 Utility Research Garden, Vessel, Group show, Austin  
2015 Artspace111, Regional Juried Exhibition, Fort Worth  
2015 West Austin Studio Tour  
2015 The People's Gallery, Austin City Hall

2014 Agaveprint, Shadows and Light, Austin  
2014 The Brandon, Café Brasil, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, Book Illustrations, Houston  
2014 Georgetown Art Center, The Great Outdoors, Georgetown, Texas  
2014 Agaveprint, Spoon, Austin  
2014 Artspace111, Regional, Juried Show, Fort Worth  
2014 Hunting Art Prize, Houston  
2014 The People's Gallery, Austin City Hall, 2014 Exhibit  
2014 Assistance League of Houston Celebrates Texas Art, Houston  
2014 Georgetown Public Library, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, original book illustrations

2013 Dell Jewish Community Center, Austin Out on a Limb-The Tree as Art and Metaphor  
2013 The People's Gallery, Austin City Hall.  
2013 Woodlands High School Art Trust Gala and Fundraiser, Houston (painting: Rio Frio, Opening Earth  
purchased for permanent collection)  
2013 Assistance League of Houston Celebrates Texas Art, Houston

2012 EAST Austin studio Tour at Pump Project, Agaveprint, and Boom Gallery, Austin  
2012 Austin Airport, Grassroots  
2012 Austin Art Connections, Seven Takes on Landscape  
2012 The Peoples's Gallery, Austin City Hall

2011 East Austin Studio Tour, guest of Agaveprint  
2011 Home Studio Art Show and Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase Musical Preview, Austin

2010 U.S. Art Authority, Austin, Drawing it Out

2009 Home Studio Show, Austin

2008 Painting Agave; Later, purchased by the Kimber Modern, Austin

2007 Davis Gallery, Paint, Austin  
2007 The People's Gallery, Austin City Hall

2005-06 Phlox, Valerie Fowler: New Paintings, Austin

2004 2040 Gallery, Summer Swim, Austin

2003 Gallery Lombardi, Austin, Texas, Secret Furniture  
2003 2040 Gallery, Austin, Texas, Love Connection  
2003 Gallery Lombardi, Austin, Texas, Christmas Assembly

2001 D. Berman Gallery, Austin, Texas, Summer Show

1988 Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston, Texas, Introductions

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

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2018 Selected by The Texas Book Festival as official 2018 Festival Poster Artist

2016 - 2019 City of Austin Cultural Arts CORE Grant recipient

2017 Silver Award, 2 Dimensional Art, Bastrop Art in Public Places  
2017 Finalist, Faces of Austin, short film competition, Valerie Fowler: Nature and Other Stories, a short film by John Clark

2015 Fellow, Artist Inc, through the City of Austin and the Mid-America Arts Alliance

2014 Hunting Art Prize Finalist, Houston

2013 Georgetown Artworks, Art Hop, First Prize winner for two dimensional artworks

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2015-present, Faculty Art Instructor, The Contemporary at Laguna Gloria, The Art School

## PERFORMANCES

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- 2018 November, Art Alliance Austin's Artbash, Flower Hill Crankie #1.
- 2018 September, Flower Hill Crankie #1, Neill-Cochran House Museum, Austin, plus performances during the
- 2016 December, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, Dougherty Arts Theater, Austin
- 2016 February, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, Faulk Central Library, Austin
- 2015 Spring, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, West Coast Tour
- 2014 November, Set Design and live performance, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, Stateside at the Paramount Theater, Austin
- 2014 Summer, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, East Coast Tour

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2018 October, Meet the Texas Book Festival Artist, Artist Talk and performance: Flower Hill Crankie #1, The Contemporary, Austin
- 2018 Artist Talk, Neill-Cochran House Museum, Valerie Fowler: Art at Flower Hill
- 2018 June, Pecha Kucha, Austin #31
- 2017 February, Guest Artist Talk, St Edwards University
- 2017 January 4, Artist Talk, Dougherty Arts Center, Nature and Other Stories, solo exhibition
- 2015 Art After Six, Artist Talk in connection with Austin City Hall's 2015 Exhibition
- 2014 Artist Gallery Talk, Georgetown Art Center

## COMMERCIAL AND GRAPHIC ART EXPERIENCE

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- 2018 Contracted with Pomegranate Communications, artwork images used for calendar, puzzle and greeting cards
- 2017 Illustrated CD cover, Born Again Virgin, Anna Roenigk
- 2016 Artwork: Newning and Park Lane used for Austin, KUTX radio, promotional CD cover
- 2011 Illustrated book, 62 illustrated pages, Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase, to accompany CD for musical, written and produced by Brian Beattie
- 2009 Illustrated CD cover, The Cimarron Banks, Amy Annelle
- 1994-2000 The Texas Observer, Contributing Artist, Austin, Tx.
- 1993-1994 Painted Murals for Whole Foods Markets in Austin, Chicago, and Ann Arbor
- 1987-1989 Public News, Layout Artist and Illustrator, Houston, Tx
- 1985-1987 The Texas Observer, Layout Artist and Illustrator, Austin, Tx.
- 1986 Album Cover, The Reivers, Saturday, Capital Records