

ANNA LAURENT

ARTIST & AUTHOR

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37, American; Los Angeles-based

REPRESENTATION

Apollinaire Fine Arts Ltd, London, UK
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Jonathan Dawid, director
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PUBLISHER / PROMOTIONS

University of Chicago Press, USA
Kristen Raddatz
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Octopus Press, London, UK
Matthew Grindon
Matthew.Grindon@octopusbooks.co.uk

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MA / CLASS OF 2000
B.A. in America History &
Literature; extensive coursework
in Biological Anthropology

MASSACHUSETTES
COLLEGE OF ART
BOSTON MA / CLASS OF 2004
Graphic Design, Typography

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dispersal (2010 - present): An ongoing series of close-up portraits of fruits and seeds, 'Dispersal' crosses the boundaries between art and science. Often abstract and sculptural in composition, each image doubles as a scientific enquiry into how plants reproduce. As well as collecting specimens in the wild (from as far afield as Iraq and Hawaii), I frequently work in collaboration with botanical gardens and arboreta to explore particular aspects of their living collections. Project partners include: Harvard University Arnold Arboretum (Boston, Massachusetts), UC Berkeley Botanic Garden (Berkeley, California), Lotusland (Santa Barbara, California), The Ecology Center (San Juan Capistrano, California), Queens Botanical Garden (New York, New York), Hawai'i Tropical Botanical Garden (Hilo, Hawai'i).

EXHIBITED

(forthcoming) **Berkeley Botanical Garden at Berkeley University** // Jan—Feb 2017
Solo show, photographs of specimens collected at the Garden

Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University // Oct 2013—Jan 2014
Solo show, photographs of specimens collected at the Arboretum

(commissioned) **Natural History Museum Los Angeles** // 2013—2023

Collected & photographed urban fruits & seeds for 'Nature Labs', a permanent exhibit about biodiversity in L.A.

Gulf Photo Plus Dubai // June 2012

Group show of international photographers

PRESS COVERAGE & PUBLICATIONS:

Harvard Magazine, "The Sorcery of Seed Pods" // January 2014 issue

Hymn, Laboratory Arts Collective, "Fear" // Summer 2014

Evolve, Journal of The Ecology Center, "Seed Pods as Shelter" // Issue 09 Spring 2014

The Boston Globe, "The Seed Pod Army" // January 04, 2014

Arnoldia: Arnold Arboretum at Harvard, "Dispersal" // Volume 71, no. 2. Autumn 2013
Imprint, Print magazine // August 2008—March 2012

BOOKS

The Botanical Wall Chart: Art from the Golden Age of Scientific Discovery

224 pages, University of Chicago Press, October 2014 (US);

Octopus Press, August 2014 (UK)

The Botanical Wall Chart is an exploration of the historic use of botanical art as a teaching tool. The large-format book draws on original research conducted at archives and universities around the world to bring together over 200 botanical wall charts, many of which are published here for the first time. Organized by plant family, the book includes taxonomic summaries and compares species illustrated by different authors; long-form captions discuss each chart as a pedagogic document informed by the illustrators, authors, and the social context of the species. An illuminating journey through a revolutionary period of educational reform and scientific development, the book aspires to be as educational and beautiful as the charts themselves.

PRESS COVERAGE & PUBLICITY:

Sunday Telegraph, 28 August, 2016, "The botanical writing is on the wall", book review

Royal Horticultural Society, 19 November 2016, author talk & presentation