

**"Bitter Sweet" water color, 20" x 16"**



**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Art & Design Show AD20/21  
Thursday April 7 (Gala) - Sunday, April 10**

**Botanical art** has a long and rich history, dating back to the tomb of Thutmose III, in Karnak, Egypt in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. In the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> botanists and horticulturalists required accurate paintings of the many exotic plants entering Europe from around the world. This led to a demand for botanical artists.

Maria Babylak became a member of the American Society of Botanical Artists, where her botanical artwork was chosen for the exhibits for four years at the Annual Flower and Garden Show at the World Trade Center in Boston and for a traveling show, "From the Mountains to the Sea", featuring native plants of New England. In 2015, Maria's work was selected by a jury for one the most prestigious Botanical Art shows in the USA at Filoli Gardens in California.

There are a number of techniques in botanical art. Maria represents the traditional ways of approaching plant depiction. Smaller size paintings here are executed on wooden panels. She studied Leonardo Di Vinci's notebooks and the technique she used for painting on those panels takes their roots from Renaissance times. The work starts with an accurate drawing, then continues with a number of tone washes and color is only added for the final stage.

Another technique is from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Again starting with an accurate pencil drawing on watercolor paper, and painted using ink and watercolors. This is done by making numerous thin washes of color, creating a deeper 3-dimensional effect. Maria's Botanical water colors and acrylic paintings are featured at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual AD 20/21 Show by From Russia With Art Gallery.

FROM RUSSIA WITH ART

*gallery*



P.O. Box 400302, Cambridge, MA, 02140

(617) 714 3055, (857) 253 8421

[www.fromrussiawithart.org](http://www.fromrussiawithart.org)

**MARIA BABLYAK**

**ART & DESIGN SHOW**

**CYCLORAMA, BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

**Maria Bablyak** is a young, talented and internationally acclaimed artist from St. Petersburg, Russia, where she graduated from the prestigious Baron Steiglitz State Academy of Art and Design. In 2003 she received a major International art award at the Contemporary Art Biennale in Florence, Italy, a Lorenzo il Magnifico Medal in the Painting category. Maria is a member of the New Hampshire Plein Air Artists Society where she is painting and exhibiting on a regular basis. Maria is working in different styles and media, constantly exploring new ways of expression, from scientific botanical art and illustration to free flowing painting on silk, from impressionistic paintings to abstract art, to color consulting and interior design. One can find a lot of symbolism and philosophical thought as well as a range of emotions and overwhelming sense of beauty in her art, whether it's botanical art, landscape, still life, figurative or abstract painting. Currently Maria is painting and teaching in Massachusetts. This is her second exhibit with **From Russia with Art Gallery**.

*Maria Bablyak "Winter Low Light" acrylic on canvas 18"x24"*

