

# ImaginOn Children's Book Illustrations

## Original Artwork

### Introduction:

- There are several pieces of artwork throughout ImaginOn that were acquired by the library prior to the opening of ImaginOn in October of 2005.
- The collection highlights 10 artists, represented by 14 pieces of artwork
- Many of the artists represented by the collection have received significant recognition for their contribution to children's book illustration
- There are a wide variety of styles of artwork represented. Here are the different mediums represented:
  - Mixed media collage
  - Oil and oil sticks
  - Graphite and watercolors (watercolor and pencil)
  - Linoleum block prints
  - Pen and ink
  - Watercolor and ink
  - Chalk pastels

### 1. Title: Are You a Ghost

- Artist: *Troy Howell*
- Circa 1987
- Oil
- Appears in The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett, ISBN 0-517-22115-2

### 2. Title: Buenos Dias

- Artist: *Elisa Kleven*
- Circa 1997
- Mixed media collage
- Appears in Diez Deditos/Ten Little Fingers: arranged by José-Luis Orozco, ISBN 0-525-45736-4

### 3. Title: Feast or a Dance

- Artist: *Elisa Kleven*
- Circa 1993
- Mixed media collage, using watercolors, gouache, pastels, ink, cut paper, cloth and lace.
- Appears in Snowsong Whistling by Karen E. Lotz, ISBN 0-525-45145-5

### 4. Title: Will Be Our Delight

- Artist: *Chris Raschka*
- Circa 1998
- Oil crayon on pastel paper
- Appears in Simple Gifts: a Shaker hymn, ISBN 0-8050-5143-0

### 5. Title: Animal Song

- Artist: *Marcia Sewell*
- Circa 1988
- Watercolor and ink

- Appears in *Animal Song*, ISBN 0-316-78191-6

Walk around the corner toward the Trolley, then continue through the Story Lab to near the elevator.

6, 7, and 8. Two pieces of Deborah Haefele's work are located here, and there is a third near the Holds shelf in the Lobby. (Haefele is pronounced *HAY-full-ee*).

- Title: Night Tag
  - Artist: Deborah Haefele
  - Circa 1991
  - Chalk pastel
  - Appears in *Island Child* by Lisa Wallis, ISBN 0-525-67324-5
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- Titles: Children on a Bridge (by elevator), Walking Feet (by Holds shelf)
  - Artist: Deborah Haefele
  - Circa 1993
  - Chalk pastel
  - Both of these appear in *The Goodbye Walk* by Joanne Ryder, ISBN 0-525-67405-5
    - Notice the details of these paintings. What season do you think she is representing? What time of day? What are the kids doing?
    - Deborah Haefele is our only artist with a North Carolina connection; she was educated at UNC Chapel Hill
    - She is now a professional oil painter who focuses on cityscapes, national parks, and landscapes
    - She used her own daughter (seen on the left in *Children on a Bridge*) and children from her neighborhood as models for the kids in the paintings, taking lots of photos of them as they played outdoors to get the lighting and gestures just right

You may also need to mention the CTC installation in the display case beside the Vending Cafe. Usually, there is something of interest to the kids.

9. Lobby; Story Lab/Lobby; between Staff Only doors and dollhouse

- Untitled
- Artist: Brian Wildsmith
- Circa 1988
- Watercolor, gouache, and pencil, with pasted paper
- This piece doesn't actually appear in the final book; it was a sketch for *Carousel*, ISBN 0-394-81937-3, written and illustrated by Brian Wildsmith
  - Why don't we find this one in the book? (It was done as practice or a way to brainstorm on paper before creating a final piece). Do you notice places on the piece that look unfinished?
  - Wildsmith lived in England and France
  - His first book, and ABC book, was published in 1962 and it received the Kate Greenaway Medal (this is Britain's version of the Caldecott).
  - He published more than 80 books in his lifetime
  - Wildsmith has said: "I believe that beautiful picture books are vitally important in subconsciously forming a child's visual appreciation, which will bear fruit in later life."

- He even has his own museum: The Brian Wildsmith Museum of Art opened in Japan, where he is very popular, and houses around of his 800 paintings
- Wildsmith recently passed away in 2016

You may also get questions about the dollhouse while you are in this area.

10. Lobby; to the left of the Holds bookshelf (next to Women’s restroom)

*George and Martha Rise and Shine*

- Title: *George and Martha* 1976
- Artist: James Marshall
- Circa 1976
- Pen and ink
- Appears in *George and Martha Rise and Shine* by James Marshall, ISBN 0-395-24738-1
  - Like several of the other artists we’ve learned about, James Marshall had a different career in mind before becoming an artist. He was an accomplished classical musician, but a hand injury ended his professional musical career.
  - He had no formal training as an illustrator; rather, he taught himself through scribbles and doodles
  - This particular piece was a pen and ink study that began when he found a blank piece of paper with two tiny ink dots already on it. He began to doodle and those dots became the eyes of one of the hippos. The names of the hippos came from something he overheard from the TV.
  - *George and Martha* launched his career as an artist. He illustrated more than 70 books (some he wrote and illustrated) during his lifetime.
  - After Marshall died in 1992, ALA honored him with Laura Ingalls Wilder medal for “substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children.”

Turn and travel up the ramp to the Loft balcony.

10. Loft Balcony to left of Loft Service desk, beside the doors that lead to Administration.

- Title: *Puck Came Upon Lysander and Hermia*
- Artist: Dennis Nolan
- Circa 1996
- Graphite and watercolor on watercolor paper
- Appears in *William Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream* retold by Bruce Coville, ISBN 0-8037-1784-9
  - Both of Nolan’s parents were artists. One of Nolan’s early memories is of being backstage at the opera where his father was a tenor. He was moved by the makeup, costumes and the “dramatic, colorful storytelling.”
  - His drawings and paintings are very detailed and realistic. He is best known for illustrating the works of other authors, most recently creating the illustrations for Eve Bunting’s picture book *Thunder Horse*
  - Nolan uses a storyboard format for planning his illustrations (much like an animated film is done frame by frame), before creating his final artwork piece by piece.

You may also get questions about the large art pieces in the Loft.

11. Loft Balcony to the right of the McGuire Woods Board Room door.

- Titles: Rocking Jerusalem, In His Hands
- Artist: Ashley Bryan
- Circa 1974
- Linoleum block prints
- Appear in *Walk Together Children: black American spirituals*, selected and illustrated by Ashley Bryan, ISBN 0-689-30131-6
  - Do you recognize how this artwork was created? It is a style we've seen once already on the tour.
  - Ashley Bryan was born in Harlem in 1923 and raised in the Bronx in New York City
  - He was drafted into the Army for World War II, and drawing was so important to him that he always kept art supplies in his gas mask so they would be close at hand to document what he saw and experienced
  - Bryan self-published his first book in kindergarten, but his work wasn't commercially published until he was 40 years old. He was the first African American to publish a children's book as both author and illustrator (1962)
  - He has been honored in many ways throughout his career. In 2012, he received the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement (you can find several of his works in the Coretta Scott King Award reference collection in the Spangler Library)
  - He lives on one of the Cranberry Isles off the coast of Maine. His art studio is often open for visitors to explore his paintings, illustrations and handmade toys and puppets

12. Loft Balcony to the right of the elevator doors.

- Title: Skunk's Appearance
- Artist: Nonny Hogrogian
- Circa 1990
- Watercolor and pencil
- Appears in *The Cat's Midsummer Jamboree*, written by David Kherdian, ISBN 0-399-22222-7
  - Husband and wife collaboration
  - Their cat "Tessie" was the model for the cat in this illustration
  - Nonny remembers her father painting on Sunday afternoons, and on Mondays, while he was at work, she would "paint" too by picking up the brushes and "adding to his paintings". What a forgiving and supportive father!
  - She has won two Caldecott medals for her work

Dismiss tour from here or return to Lobby by elevator or ramp.