



# GONE GARDENING



## Milwaukee Art Museum 'Art in Bloom' 2013

By Zannah Crowe, Horticulturist – Monches Farm, LLC – All photos courtesy of Zannah Crowe.



First Place: *Shades of Violet* by Frantisek Kupka, floral design by Alka Bhargava



Honorable Mention: *Miss Frances Lee* by Francis Cotes, floral designer by Joe Divine



Honorable Mention: *Breath* by Gerard Richter, floral design by Sarah Gutierrez & Amy Huber



Honorable Mention: *Chocorua II* by Frank Stella, floral design by Cindy Hum



Third Place: *Still Life with Fish* by Gaetano Cusati, floral design by Vicki Kunz & Karin Jamel



Second Place: *Untitled* by Donald Judd, floral design by Greg Leyba, Samantha Rodgers & Ted Steffens

Last weekend those looking for a way to escape the dreary weather and become inspired by the beauty of nature and the creativity of local artists found what they were looking for at the Milwaukee Art Museum's sixth annual 'Art in Bloom'. This annual event,

billed as "A Tribute to Art and Flowers", brings together some of Southeastern Wisconsin's finest floral designers to interpret pieces of art from the museum's collection. The result is an already spectacular venue made sublime with floral fragrance, color & form. Art in Bloom has steadily gained

in popularity since its inception and attendance for the four days has grown to over 15,000. This year's event coincides with the 125th anniversary

of the Milwaukee Art Museum and included not only exquisite floral displays but also a garden themed marketplace as well as seminars and workshops offered by nationally recognized experts in garden and floral design. The opening night festivities included an 'Iron Designer' Competition in which floral designers competed against one another, and the clock, to create an award winning design.

Each year a panel of judges selects three winners from among the many magnificent floral designs.

The judge's winners this year were:

**First Place:** *Shades of Violet* by Frantisek Kupka, floral design by

Alka Bhargava

**Second Place:** *Untitled* by Donald Judd, floral design by Greg Leyba, Samantha Rodgers & Ted Steffens

**Third Place:** *Still Life with Fish* by Gaetano Cusati, floral design by Vicki Kunz & Karin Jamel

**Honorable Mention:** *Miss Frances Lee* by Francis Cotes, floral designer by Joe Divine

**Honorable Mention:** *Chocorua II* by Frank Stella, floral design by Cindy Hum

(art pieces are appointed through a raffle system). This painting portrays the city's stately town hall with its elegant clock tower rising into a peach/orange sunset sky. The evening light casts a blue shadow over the face of the building. Our interpretation featured an abundance of multi-colored tropical succulents juxtaposed with an ornate bluish colored metal framework symbolizing the largest architectural element in the painting, the town hall. The orange suffused sunset was represented by rich ginger colored succulents surrounding the central metal framework.

A visit to 'Art in Bloom' is a great way to whet the gardener's appetite for an anxiously awaited spring. Now we're ready for the Real Thing!



Interpretation of Michael Carl Gregorovius' 1825 painting *View of Danzig*. Design by Zannah Crowe and Johanna Kleckner, Monches Farm, LLC