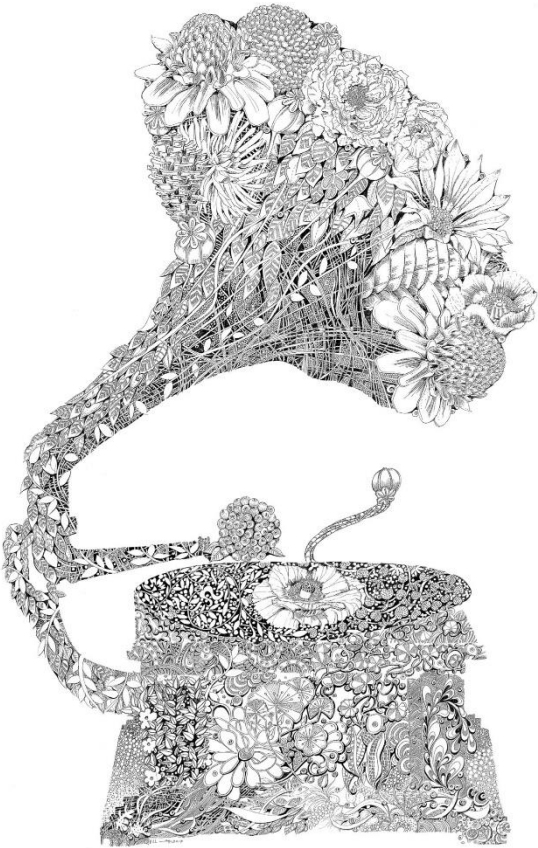


ELL HERREN



“When I was a schoolgirl, I used to draw at math class. Afterwards my classmates would get interested in my drawings and so it was impossible to continue the class. Later I realized that I should have taken a special course on drawing, and I spent many years on the professional training. I used my drawing skills while working as an interior designer decorating apartments, restaurants, boutiques, and salons. At the same time, I was always plunged into drawing, sometimes mounting personal exhibitions.

Once I happened to read Bhagavata Purana and it told that demigods (inhabitants of the higher planets in Universe) travel by airships made of flowers. I was greatly amazed! It made me think a lot and I was trying to imagine it all in my head. That’s how my first sketches came out. People became interested in them and I went on making a series of drawings.

Each flower is a completed perfect form or system representing a certain kind of character. The sacral geometry determines the number of its petals, sprigs, and curves. And in terms of describing the beauty, a flower is a perfected harmonious form of existence. Probably this way the form is employed by Devas (the Demigods) to fly in higher levels of the Universe.

When you turn your hand to drawing and want to express an idea with the use of simple means like paper and a pen, you never see the whole picture at once. Usually there is one distinct idea, e.g., a character or some particular traits, and the details come out within the process of creation.

Usually, the best drawings are made when you are “empty”. Then the idea enshrouds you and then the process of creation begins. Background music, its tempo and tonality, and mantra singing can contribute a lot here. As a result, you make up characters and their traits; you imagine how they move; you think of their lifestyle and aspirations. Then you go on with the habits and interests, but you never focus on details since they are always unpredictable and out of control.

When I start working on a new drawing, I expect nothing but harmonious creation. Then the music makes me slip into meditation and very often when I finish my drawing, I become quite astonished by the result of the work. And it happens to be that my drawings are like frozen music assuming various forms ... All of them are made up during the meditation process and my personal attitude is practically excluded. Apparently for this reason people, who have bought my drawings, admit that the drawings give them silence, peace, and mind appeasement, what inspires me greatly.” (Elmira Herren)

Image: Ell Herren / Grammophone / Papier, Stift, Filzstifte, Mischtechnik / 59,4 x 84,1 cm, 2017

“When resting The Dancer of Lotuses likes listening to music of the old Gramophone. During each season new flowers blossom on the Gramophone and new fragrances appear. Music accompanied by fragrances is such a marvellous thing.”