



DUBUQUE
museum
OF **art**



Smithsonian Affiliate

New Exhibits at Dubuque Museum of Art

*Works by Dubuque artist Ioana Mamali and
Des Moines artist Molly Wood Featured*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November 5, 2019 (DUBUQUE, IA) – The [Dubuque Museum of Art \(DuMA\)](#) will open two new solo exhibitions in its galleries in November.

The Poison Garden: Photographs by Molly Wood opened in the Kris Mozena McNamer Gallery on November 2 and will remain on view through January 12, 2020.

Des Moines, Iowa-based photographer Molly Wood is known for her photographs of botanicals. Named an Iowa Arts Council Fellow in 2018, Wood has exhibited her work in many solo, group, and juried exhibitions, including the 2017 DuMA Biennial in Dubuque.

The artist has also been featured as part of the Art at the Library Series at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines, at the Muscatine Art Center, and at the Sioux City Art Center.

Wood's latest body of work, *Fatal Flora*, evolved from the artist's interest in how plants were used in the Medieval and Renaissance periods for culinary, medicinal, and sometimes nefarious purposes.

According to Wood, "Often the same plants used to nurture and feed loved ones could be used in another way to heal the sick. Different parts of these same plants could also be ... poisonous."

Wood has also observed that, "I believe this is symbolic of many elements of life. Things that can be nurturing and life-sustaining and healing when experienced in one way can also become toxic and poisonous when circumstances are changed or moderation is not observed."

Wood created the body of work during a recent residency at Alnwick Poison Garden in Northumberland, England.

Molly Wood was born in Montgomery, Alabama in 1965. She received her Master of Arts in Art History in 1992 from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and her Bachelor of Arts in Photojournalism in 1987 from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

In addition to making photographs, Wood currently produces photo shoots for Meredith Brand Licensing in Des Moines and is an adjunct professor at Des Moines Area Community College.

The Poison Garden: Photographs by Molly Wood is supported by a grant from the Iowa Arts Council and sponsored by Cottingham & Butler.

Totalitarianism Seen Through Metaphors: Paintings by Ioana Mamali opens in the Amuse Bouche Balcony Gallery on November 19 and continues through January 5, 2020.

Ioana Mamali has lived in Iowa since 1990, when her family moved from Romania to Iowa City, Iowa. Mamali relocated to Dubuque a number of years later for employment at the Durrant Group.

Mamali has a Master of Architecture degree from University of Bucharest-Romania. The artist works in a variety of media, including watercolor, oil, and pen & ink.

Mamali has exhibited locally as part of the Art @ Your Library series at Carnegie-Stout Public Library and in juried exhibits sponsored by the Wisconsin Regional Artists' Association and the Dubuque Museum of Art. Mamali's works are included in private collections in Austria, Belgium, Canada, England, Romania, and the U.S.

Mamali has described her artworks as "metaphorical representations of past and present existence" that reflect her experiences living in a totalitarian society. The artist has added that the purpose of her art is to "awaken the curiosity to understand the truth so much needed for our survival."

Related Programs

Saturday, November 16

1-2 pm

The DuMA will host a program in conjunction with the Dubuque Arboretum on Saturday, November 16 at 1 pm. Fran Hedeman, member of the Dubuque Herb Society, and Kennie Harris, gardener at Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, will talk about specific species of plants featured in Wood's photographs following her talk. Free admission.

Friday, December 6

5-7 pm

A reception for both exhibits will take place at the DuMA as part of the community-wide First Fridays series on Friday, December 6 from 5-7 pm. Admission is free for DuMA members; \$10 suggested donation for guests.

About the Dubuque Museum of Art

The Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA), founded in 1874 and reaccredited by the American Alliance of Museums in 2019, is Iowa's oldest cultural institution. Named a national affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in 2016, DuMA's mission is to excite, engage and serve diverse communities within the Tri-State area through our collections, exhibitions and educational programs. We connect generations of people to their cultural heritage and exceptional art.

DuMA is located across from Washington Park in historic downtown Dubuque at 7th and Locust Streets. Museum hours are Tuesday–Friday 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M., Saturday & Sunday 1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M. The museum is closed on Mondays. Daily admission rates are: \$7 Adults, \$6 seniors, and \$3 College/University Students. The museum is free on Thursdays, and those 18 and younger receive free admission every day, thanks to Prudential Financial. Website: www.dbqart.com

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The Poison Garden: Molly Wood installation shot. Dubuque Museum of Art.



Ioana Mamali

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