

# **Adam Noah Berman Printmakers Field Guide**

**Artist statement**  
**Adam Noah Berman**

**I continuously strive to show the multiple-level connection plants and prints have. Prints have copies or “multiples” so to speak, and so do plants. Each one is a little different from the next, and through the progression of differences, evolution is in process. With this evolution also comes extinction, and the connection it carries between the natural world and that of printmaking. Many of the plants that catch my interest are endangered, and their numbers are limited. There is a term in biology, Functionally Extinct, which means a species has such a small number left that there is no way they could reproduce enough to continue their survival. This is reflected by the editions of prints, reminding us of their fragility in numbers and that each print series is essentially Functionally Extinct. observe and take notice.**

**This series of prints highlights the intricacy, inherent beauty, and ecological importance of plants in a format that bridges our indoor/synthetic tendencies with the complexity and beauty of the natural world. This work connects viewers with the natural world through my deeply rooted curiosity by using techniques that mimic natural processes propagation and artistic succession to depict the interactions between the environments and these plants.**



**Carolina lily**  
Adam Noah Berman  
2021  
22"x30"  
Van Dyke with Lithograph  
\$575

The Carolina lily print inspiration is taken from what was from a much-needed excursion to West Carolina and the Blue Ridge Parkway back in 2020. In May, these lilies are blooming all up and down the Blue Ridge Parkway roadside and stopping to take pictures of them would be foolish to pass up. This is one of the first prints that I successfully merged the photo process of Van Dyke and Lithography.



**Trout Lilly**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2022  
 22"x30"  
 Lithograph with Screenprint  
 \$575

Trout lilies only grow in deciduous forests where they take advantage of the dappled sunlight after the trees lose their canopy leaves. The lilies have a very short lifespan in which they grow, bloom, and distribute seeds in a short time between late winter and early spring, right before these trees grow their leaves back. This print is my interpretation of the forest floor with the moss in the dappled light of the deciduous forest.



**Lady Slipper**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 44"x30"  
 Lithograph with Screenprint  
 \$860

The native North Carolina yellow lady slipper orchid is something we came across in the mountains of western North Carolina as we walked along part of the Appalachian trail. Upon the mountainside path I found one lady slipper and felt lucky, but as we hiked further, they became more frequent, and my excitement grew. This print represents this experience for me of finding the first one and then seeing more and more orchids as I continued to look.





**Crane fly orchid**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Van Dyke with Lithograph

\$575

Spring hikes in the coastal plain of Eastern Carolina are full of all kinds of surprises. One such surprise were the dark green and deep purple leaves of a plant I could not yet identify. It wasn't until I returned to that same hike a month or so later that I witnessed the bloom of this terrestrial orchid and knew what it was. This print tries to encapsulate my memory of the very first time I saw a blooming Crane fly orchid and the stark contrast it created to everything else near it.



**Fleabane Daisy**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Lithograph with Screenprint

\$575

The Fleabane daisy has always been appealing to me, with its white and purple flowers made up of tiny ray petals in perfect miniature daisy fashion. Its opposing leaves have always reminded me of delicate brushstrokes. Personally, I've made some beautiful, yellow-dyed cotton paper, using this plant as the dye medium. I also just like that it grows how it wants, and where it wants. Yes, I am attached.



**Swamp Sunflower**

Adam Noah Berman

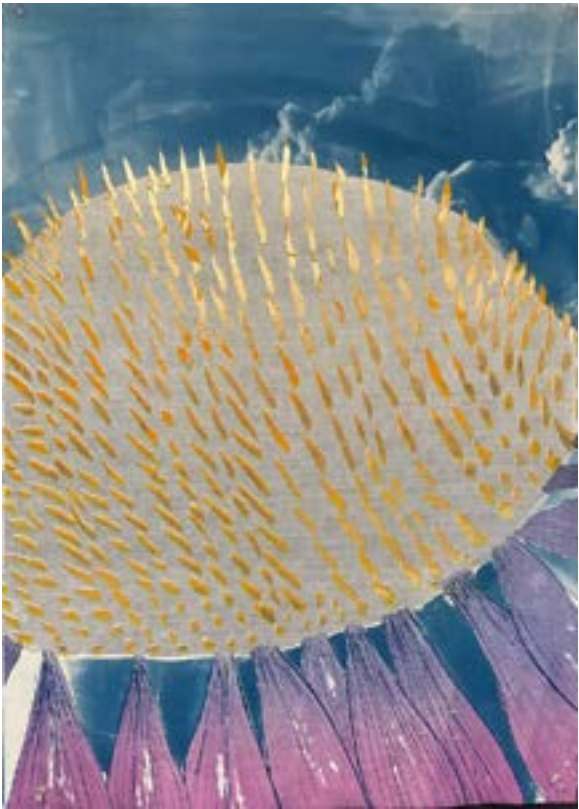
2021

22"x30"

Lithograph with Chine-collé

\$575

For this print, I collected, dried, and made a lithographic plate with a dried specimen of the flower. I felt compelled to incorporate more of the plant itself into the print, as the swamp sunflower has time and time again helped inspire me over the years. This bold little plant is one of my favorites, and this print is the last of several interpretations I have made. During the hot summer these flowers begin to poke their heads out over the shrubs in ditches and along waterways, not shying away from the sun but reveling in it.



**Echinacea**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

44"x30"

Cyanotype and Lithograph with Gold leafing

\$860

I knew about Echinacea as an herbal remedy before knowing what the plant looked like. This homeopathic medicine is used to help boost our immune system and comes from the root of the echinacea plant. It was once commonly given to me as teas and tinctures by my mom whenever I got colds. The making of this print was from my experience studying cone-flowers growing in the botanical gardens in arboretums of East Carolina, thus making the connection. I used gold leafing to represent the glow that comes from the Inflorescent of the purple coneflower.





**Dandelion**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Etching with Chine-collé and Lithograph, Screenprint

\$575

My personal connection with the dandelion started as many others might: by picking them as a small child to complete the age-old tradition of blowing a wish into the air along with all the seeds on the dandelion pappus. Decades later and I still cannot resist the temptation, but recently began to truly take note in how detailed and harmonic this little flower is. Here is that small world on a magnified scale in what I call a printmakers print; it uses many different processes; each an integral part to achieve the resulting work.



**Goldenrod**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Lithograph with Screenprint and Gold leafing

\$575

Goldenrod is an often-misunderstood plant; a lot of people contribute fall allergies to goldenrod, unaware that their itchy noses can be attributed instead to ragweed. Rather than being a pest plant, Goldenrod has many medicinal uses; a lot of herbalists make tinctures, teas, and even salves to reduce inflammation out of the goldenrod blooms. After studying, learning, and enjoying this plant, it only made sense for me to use the gold leafing to portray something that truly lives up to its name.



**Common Violet**

Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22"x30"  
 Screenprint  
 \$575

Growing up in Florida, it was unusual to come across wild violets. Upon moving to North Carolina and hiking in East Carolina as well as in the Piedmont, there are wild violets everywhere in spring. In this print I try to show the vast ground and how the common violet clusters in little bunches. I find the rich blue green and the soft purple of the patches to be magical and inviting, like somewhere fairies would lay down for a spell.



**Mullen**

Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22"x30"  
 Cyanotype and Gum Print with Lithograph  
 \$575

This mountain plant has always piqued my curiosity after reading stories of people smoking it to help with coughs and lung ailments. Additionally, and possibly more sensibly, the leaves of the Mullen plant have reportedly been used as diapers for children. Studies say that the plant has antimicrobial properties and would help with diaper rash. Mullens grow well in disturbed earth and in areas of sustainable development. The Mullen represents something intangible to me, like an idea whose concept has not fully been implemented. A field of windmills helps convey this.





### **Elderflower**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Screenprint

\$575

Elderflower has long been used for both medical purposes and to make drinks and cordials. I first enjoyed an elderflower drink when I visited Croatia, where we were greeted by our hosts and offered this as a refreshment. It has the delicate flavor and floral essence that you smell from the elderflower and is reminiscent of a fermented lemonade. Since this experience, I have carried a fond admiration for the elder flowers that grow along the wastewater ditches and sides of highways and hold personal reverence for their delicious flavor.



### **Bull thistle**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Van Dyke with Lithograph and Screenprint

\$575

There is something terrifying yet delightful about thistles. Their hairy appearance becomes more sinister upon closer inspection, and children and animals learn quickly not to touch the spiny plant, however interesting it may look.

My friends from Louisiana call it Chadron and after harvesting the bull thistles with protective gear on and cleaning them well, they use the stalks and enjoy them as homemade pickles.





**Ginkgo**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22"x30"  
 Lithograph with Chine-collé  
 \$575

Ginkgo biloba or the maidenhair tree, which is its fabulous common name, is native to China. The ginkgo is a living fossil, as it has been in a family of its own since about 290 million years ago. The leaves of the ginkgo itself remind me of dinosaurs, somehow prehistoric in their shape. In autumn, these primordial trees turn from green to a bright gold in one of the most impressive displays of decay I have ever seen.



**Carolina Jasmine**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2022  
 22"x30"  
 Cyanotype with Lithograph and Screenprint  
 \$575

Carolina jasmine is one of those plants that I literally have always looked up at, high in the trees. It's one of the first signs for me that spring is here to stay. This print is a combination of illustration, printmaking, and photography all in one. It has a cyanotype background with photolithography in the mid-ground as well as hand-drawn screen-printed specimen in the front. For me one of my favorites.



### **Rattlesnake master**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

44"x30"

Lithograph with Screenprint

\$860

Rattlesnake master is a fiber plant that gets its scientific name *Eryngium yuccifolium* because of similarity the leaves bear to that of the yucca plant. The plant is so fibrous that a pair of 2000 year old shoes in North America were made from Rattlesnake master. Nowadays however, this plant is hard to come by because it does not like disturbed earth and as we know, humans like to disturb the earth. This print is my interpretation of the lone standing rattlesnake master, isolated in the long shadow it casts over time.



### **Aloe**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

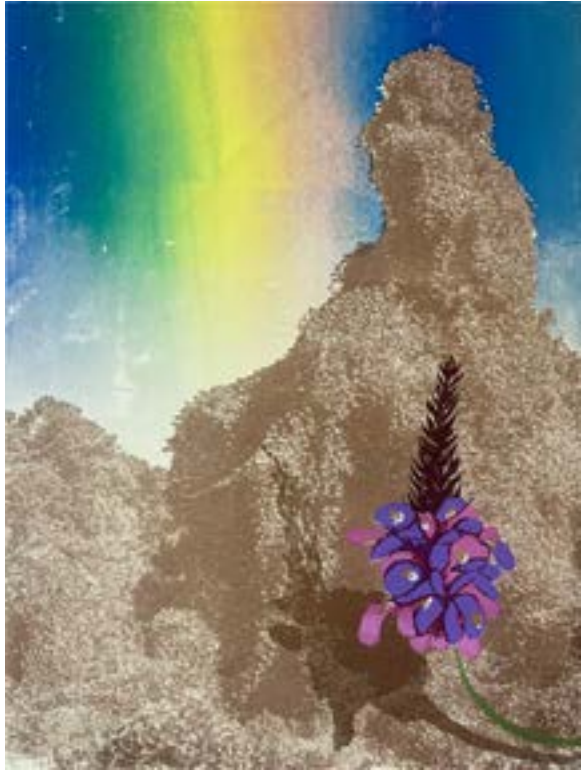
22"x30"

Lithograph with Screenprint

\$575

We often think of aloe vera as one specific plant, but the aloe has an estimated 500 species worldwide, pretty much all of which are used for both decorative and medical purposes. As a redhead growing up in Florida, I specifically knew of its helpfulness after spending too much time in the sun. Use of the plant and the gel that its thick leaves contain date back to the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BCE.





### **Kudzu**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Lithograph with Screenprint

\$575

There are a few things in the botanical world that are as beautiful and destructive as Kudzu. Although the kudzu plant is a devastating invasive, I needed to add it to the community because it is now a part of our community. Humans introduced the kudzu, along with thousands of other non-native plants, and it is important to recognize this. By acknowledge-ment, we can now work towards a solution. The fast growing invasive, edible Kudzu plant makes a giant botanical sculpture as it engulfs all the native plants and structures in path. Throughout my travels up the Eastern coast, I have seen kudzu take over whole sides of mountains. Occasionally I would imagine what the hillsides would have looked like were the kudzu never brought here.

It was not until the last few years that I have ever seen the kudzu bloom. In the pea family, it has a brilliant pink and purple flower that I have interpreted here. By capturing both the sinister nature and the delicate beauty of this plant, I aim to bring the viewers' attention to a problem not often discussed. The photograph of the Kudzu structure in the background of this print is the plant engulfing a longleaf pine forest somewhere in the piedmont of North Carolina.



### **Solomon's seal**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Lithograph

\$575

The Solomon's seal print is another direct inspiration from the trips I've taken to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Up tiny paths and along narrow creeks, boulders jutting out on all sides, this plant also begins to stand out in its environment. The structure, dark leaves, and white bell flowers are immediately eye-catching. Indigenous cultures of North America once used the plant in herbal medicine as well as consumed the starchy potato-like root of Solomon's seal. This print brings the rhizome front and center for although the greenery of Solomon Seal is beautiful, the true star is underground.





### Bladderwort

Adam Noah Berman

2021

44"x30"

Lithograph with Chine-collé

\$860

The carnivorous bladderwort has its namesake small bladders underneath the water. These bladders act as buoyant floating devices to help keep the top of the plant above water, and as small traps for floating microbial animals and tiny bugs to feast upon. These interesting plants grow in bogs, swamps, and little lakes where they can multiply and create vast underwater lairs of bladder traps. From the view of the top, it has a small and buttery yellow bloom, looking like a little flag coming up out of the mire.



### Pitcher plant

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Screenprint

\$575

My first encounter with these plants was at the University of North Florida where they have a small preserve with a few re-introduced pitcher plants growing in the wild, tucked back in some little buggy marsh areas so perhaps they are purposefully hard to pick out, yet ever so rewarding to spot. Since then, I have sought out the different species of pitcher plants to gaze at like living art. These plants evolved to become carnivorous because they couldn't get enough nutrition from the soil.



**Venus fly trap**

Adam Noah Berman  
2021  
44"x30"  
Lithograph with Screenprint  
\$860

Venus fly traps are only native to about a 75 mi.<sup>2</sup> area on the North and South Carolina border. They are one of the most famous carnivorous plants, partially due to the classic Little Shop of Horrors, and are traded amongst plant enthusiasts around the world. When I look at the print, the bold red magenta swash in the middle of the print grabs your attention and points down to the ground where the small and ever so interesting Venus's fly trap resides.



**Butterfly Weed**

Adam Noah Berman  
2021  
22"x30"  
Lithograph with Screenprint  
\$575

This native milk weed is a host plant for most people's favorite butterfly, the Monarch. Attention grabbing to both humans and butterflies alike, I chose to focus on the structure of the miniature blooms that make up the composition of the whole flower.





**Bee Balm**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22”x30”  
 Lithograph with Screenprint  
 \$575

It is said that when the American colonists were boycotting English tea, they began instead to steep bee balm into their cups, which grew prevalently in the region. Sometimes called Oswego tea, this herbaceous plant has many medicinal uses as it contains a natural source of antiseptic. This print is inspired by the hills and fields of Bee Balm in western North Carolina.



**Columbine**  
 Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22”x30”  
 Screenprint  
 \$575

The first time I heard the word columbine was a 1999, from then on, I associated it with a tragedy in Colorado. It wasn’t until about 10 years later that I even knew the columbine was a flower, and a beautiful one at that. On our hikes in the spring, we come across many wild columbines, often next to streams and along rocky ledges. For this screen-print I painted each layer directly from a photograph I took during one of those hikes.





**The Coast**

Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22"x30"  
 Lithograph  
 \$575

This print represents the oak scrubs of the central and northern coastline of Florida where I spent much time exploring as a kid, and eventually collecting specimens for my research years later. This print happens on the edge, on the heel of the sand dunes, right before reaching the water. It is a magical moment to walk through these sugar sand forests to the white shoreline of the Atlantic.



**Lake Woodruff**

Adam Noah Berman  
 2021  
 22"x30"  
 Cyanotype and Lithograph  
 \$575

There's a place in central Florida that's near, dear, and close to my heart; Lake Woodruff. The Biological diversity is in all of Florida, with sandhill cranes, alligators, otters, great blue herrings and so many other wild animals co-existing. The plant biodiversity is the same. Several species of bladderworts grow in the water. The bank waterway is filled with different kinds of mallows, aquatic grass, and thistles. The long hot, humid, and sometimes very buggy hikes in this amazing place have brought endless inspiration to me, even when I don't get a chance to visit often. Whenever we adventure to a new place, I do hold it to the standards of Lake Woodruff. Eastern North Carolina has some very similar areas with some of the same flora except for maybe a few palm trees. The area around Lake Woodruff has a blend of ecosystems that are some of my favorites.



**Savannah**

Adam Noah Berman

2021

22"x30"

Lithograph

\$575

The Savannah is our favorite view, according to the research. This is attributed to humans’ humble beginnings, the place of origin where humans started. Some studies suggest that the selective pressures imposed on early hominids in Africa during the Pleistocene, specifically in the savanna environments, were so decisive for the evolutionary history of the human species that, to date, there seems to be a universal preference for this type of landscape.