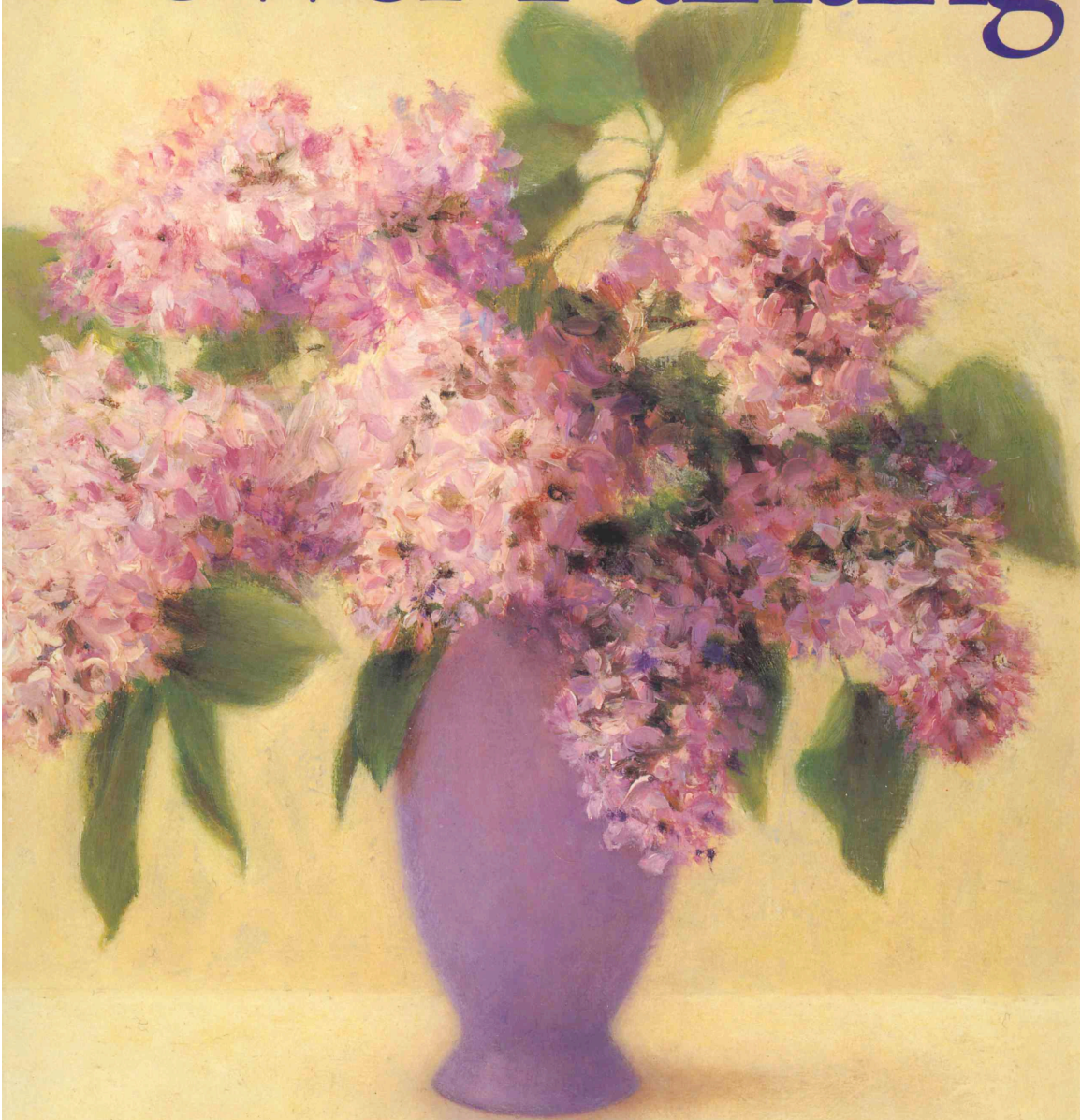


# *The Best of* Flower Painting



*A celebration of more than 150 of today's best  
floral paintings in all mediums*

EDITED BY KATHRYN KIPP



"SHADOWS" Sandra Sallin  
Oil on canvas over panel, 30" x 37½" (76cm x 95cm)

## Sandra Sallin

One evening, as I drove home from an art show opening, I became aware of the street and its shadows lit by old-fashioned lamps. The late night subtlety of color and pattern was reduced to a monochromatic vision, the power of which stunned me. I was seeing color in black-and-white shapes. I immediately wanted to translate these images into paintings. I wanted the whites of flowers to emerge from shadows, to radiate, to suddenly confront the world.

In working with a monochromatic color scheme, I created a luminous palette of whites, blacks and grays. Thus, my gray is not solely gray, but a blending of Lefranc's Space Blue, Winsor & Newton's Flesh Tint, Naples Yellow and Winsor White. My black is not merely black but a combination of Alizarin Crimson, Phthalo Green, Ultramarine Blue and Cassel Brown mixed with a little Lamp Black. The white of the gessoed canvas shining through imparts a glow and radiance to the images.

Each petal is finished one at a time and becomes virtually an individual painting. I rarely glaze after a petal is completed. If glazing is required, it is to darken a value. After applying the paint, I brush the excess away, leaving the white of the gessoed canvas to glow through the very fine layer of pigment. It is a reductive process, resulting in floral images that are infused with an inner light.



"WHITE HARVEST" Sandra Sallin, Oil on canvas over panel, 30" x 24" (76cm x 61cm)

# *The Best of* Flower Painting

ALIVE WITH LUMINOUS COLOR, delicate textures and moments of rare beauty, *The Best of Flower Painting* showcases the ever-fresh interpretations of 133 contemporary painters—including such well-known artists as Jan Kunz, Elizabeth Mowry, Joseph Sheppard and Joyce Pike.

Whether inspired by stretches of untamed wildflowers, elegant arrangements, or quiet backyard gardens, each of the 150 floral paintings in this collection is a unique and brilliant expression of its artist's love for the subject. They are wonderfully diverse in medium and style, ranging from precise botanical studies to spontaneous explosions of color and light.

Big, blooming reproductions are accompanied by the artists' own stories behind the paintings, in which they share their inspirations, creative concepts and painting techniques.



The classic sentiment of Joseph Sheppard's "Fior da Rita" was inspired by the flower shops of Italy, and painted life size in oils on canvas.



"White Harvest" by Sandra Sallin (oil on canvas) began with a powerful vision that stunned the artist—luminous white tulips among dark evening shadows.



Ruth Baderian's watercolor "Sunflowers" were painted wet-into-wet with Aureolin Yellow, Permanent Rose and Cobalt to create light, transparent yellows.



Elizabeth Mowry's quietly spiritual "Daisy Medley" was painted with soft pastels in a limited palette of blues, purples and greens, with only small amounts of white.