

My upcoming exhibit, “Garden of the Soul”, is the culmination of years of work and research inspired by a small, tattered book gifted to me after the death of my beloved Nana. The book had belonged to her great-grandmother, Elizabeth Kelly, and was a gift to “Eliza” when she embarked on her emigration to Philadelphia from Greencastle (Belfast), IRE in 1875. The spiritual tome, worn ragged by generations of hopes and worries, is titled “Garden of the Soul” and upon first touching it and reading the heartfelt inscription inside it’s cover I felt as if I held a living link to my past. The seed was planted for an artistic endeavor so encompassing I could not even imagine it at the time. That tiny seed has flourished over years of research, work, and contemplation, to finally blossom with this exhibit.

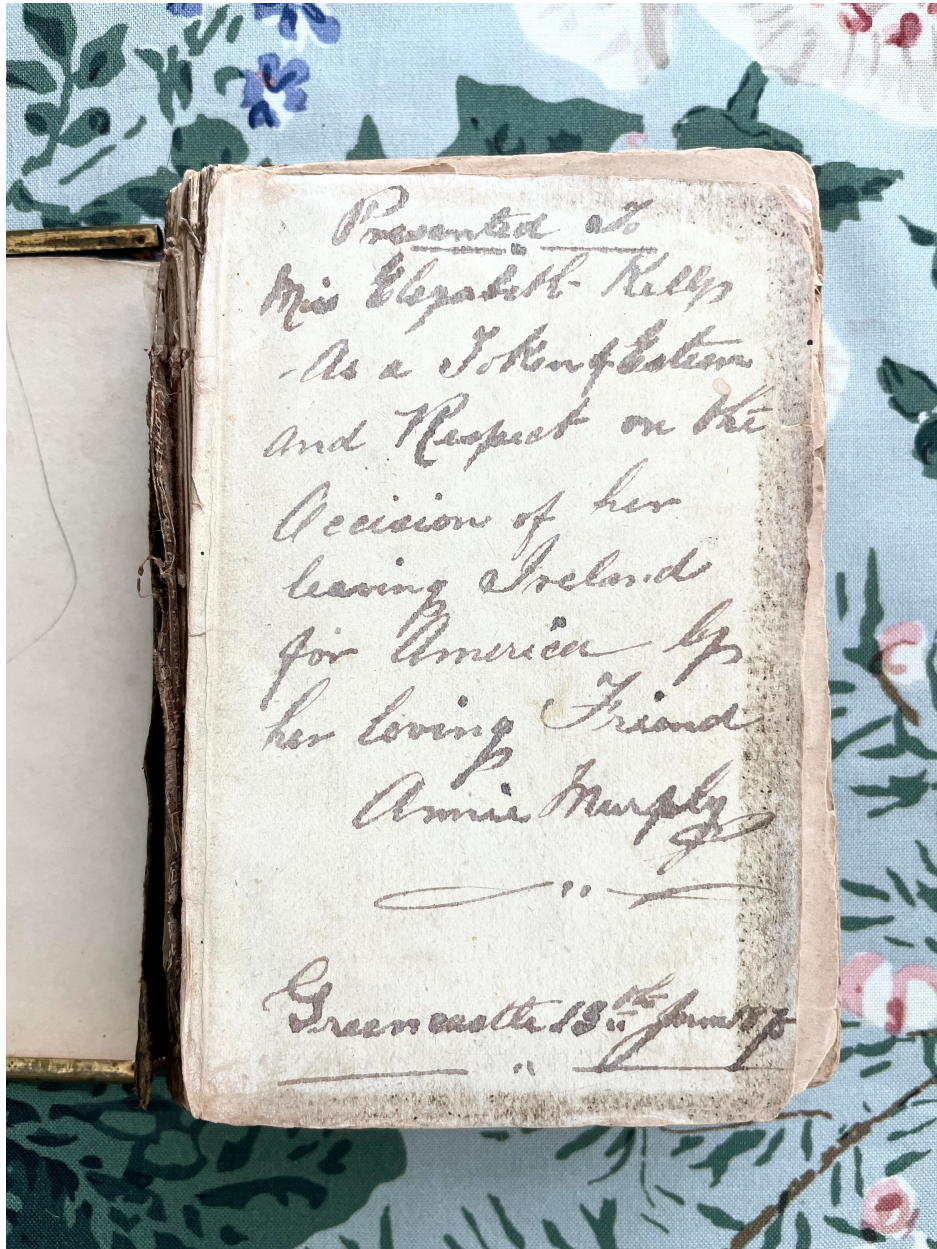
“Garden of the Soul” explores Legacy, Lineage, and a Sense of Place as expressed through botanical watercolors. A familial connection to Hood College makes this the ideal venue for this exhibit as my son, James, is currently a junior at Hood and my great-aunt, Elizabeth Rose Long (also a direct descendant of Elizabeth Kelly), attended Hood in the 1930’s at the tender age of 16!

Erin Daniels - Artist Bio

Encouraged by her artist Grandmother, Erin began painting watercolor florals at the age of 5. Throughout her career Erin has worked with a variety of mediums, including paint and fabric, to create her exquisitely crafted pieces. The events of the past few years have brought Erin's creative practice full circle to her first love of watercolor botanicals. Her botanical paintings are memoirs of a sort, visual tales memorializing the inspiring women of her family. A diary of sorts, her artwork documents the life cycle of plants - exploring legacy, lineage, and a sense of place.

Known as a leader in the field of textile design, Erin's work has been published in Vogue Living AU, she has been a guest lecturer at the Textile Study Group of New York in Manhattan, and she was featured on the television program "State of the Arts" broadcast by NJTV.

As a third generation graduate of Moore College of Art + Design in Philadelphia and the great granddaughter of a seamstress for the Mummies, Erin's discerning eye for detail and love of color and pattern is equal parts heredity, education, and experience. Her extensive travels through Great Britain and Ireland - including a weaving apprenticeship in Scotland - bring a unique perspective to Erin's creative aesthetic.



Presented to Miss Elizabeth Kelly as a Token of Esteem and Respect on the decision of her leaving Ireland for America by her loving Friend Annie Murphy

Greencastle 13th June 1875

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