

Close

Dynamic View

ARTISTS IN BLOOM

‘Stunning’ exhibit fits beautifully with the Gardens

‘Flowers’ can be seen at Ann Norton through March 6.

By **Andres David Lopez**
Palm Beach Daily News

The tip of Winston Churchill's brush provides a touch of red. With a cigar hanging on his lips, the statesman keeps several bottles within reach, including a bottle of Pol Roger Champagne.

Surrounded by serious books, either read by him or written about him, Churchill is depicted at work painting flowers.

“You’ve got a contrast between all the things that people know about him,” Edwina Sandys, the artist and Churchill's granddaughter, said by phone. “And then also he did love painting.”

“Brush with History” is part of the “Flowers” art exhibition on display through March 6 at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens. Sandys came up with the idea for the showcase and presented it to Karen Steele, interim executive director.

“The art is stunning and will be a beautiful complement to our gallery and gardens,” Steele said in a news release. “Most of the artists have ties to Palm Beach, which makes this exhibition even more special to the local community and art enthusiasts alike.”

A giant tulip sculpture



“Flower Women Trio,” a 3-piece aluminum sculpture set made by Edwina Sandys, is featured prominently outside the Ann Norton historic house.



Babette Bloch contributed this laser-cut stainless steel sculpture to the “Flowers” exhibition at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens.

ture created by Robert St. Croix of West Palm Beach, placed in front of the Ann Norton historic home, welcomes visitors to the exhibition.

Works by photographers Jean Matthews and Dragana Connaughton, both of Palm Beach, are featured inside the gal-

lery. Connaughton contributed a landscape scene framed full of sunflowers. She composed the shot in Bordeaux, France, according to Marie Scripture, Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens’ art and cultural historian.

Matthews, who has often explored mac-



Marie Scripture, art and cultural historian at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, gives a gallery talk about the “Flowers” exhibition on display through March 6.



“Brush with History,” by Edwina Sandys, of Palm Beach and New York, depicts Winston Churchill at work painting.

ANDRES DAVID LOPEZ PHOTOS / PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS

ro-photography, contributed a close-up shot of an orchid mirrored by its reflection in water. She dubbed the photograph “Party Lantern.”

The most well-known artist featured in “Flowers” is Ben Schonzeit of New York City. “He was one of the original photo-

realists,” Scripture said.

Schonzeit contributed “Middle Rose,” a painting of pink flowers, acrylic on a polyester canvas, depicted with the background and foreground out of focus, emulating a camera’s bokeh effect.

A laser-cut stainless steel flower arrange-

IF YOU GO

What: “Flowers” at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens

When: Through March 6. The Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for children. Members are free.

Where: 2051 S. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach
More Info: 561-832-5328 or www.ansg.org

ment, “Amore,” created by Babette Bloch of Connecticut, is one of several exhibition sculptures featured. The artist is known for her large commissioned pieces, including a 16-foot stainless-steel re-creation of Leonardo da Vinci’s “Vitruvian Man” made for a corporate park in Shelton, Conn.

“Flower Women Trio,” a three-piece sculpture set by Sandys, is set near the home. The three women with flower heads are either red, white or both depending on the angle from where they are observed.

“I think it’s rather nice to be able to go around,” Sandys said. “That’s my new baby. Triplets!”

alopez@pbdailynews.com
Twitter: @ADLReporter