

NYBG

PHOTO & CAPTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 15, 2022



Digital painting by André Trenier, 2022

Renowned Bronx-based artist and muralist André Trenier has created a new digital painting (above) as the representative art for The New York Botanical Garden's summer exhibition *Around the Table: Stories of the Foods We Love* (June 4 through September 11, 2022). Through expansive displays of living edible plants, art and science installations, weekend celebrations, wellness and culinary-themed programming, and artist-designed tables set throughout NYBG's 250 acres that bring to life stories about the featured and other notable plants, the exhibition examines the art and science of foodways and food traditions and how—from global dietary staples such as rice, beans, squash, and corn to the regional spice and flavor provided by peppers, greens, and tomatoes—plants are at the base of all culinary customs. Trenier says that the table composition in his digital painting for the Botanical Garden was very much influenced by Norman Rockwell and similar American artists.

Distinguished for his dozens of murals in the Bronx and Washington Heights, New York, alone, which include portraits of sports legends Jackie Robinson, Joe DiMaggio, and Muhammad Ali, Trenier will also create two new murals in separate Bronx locations for the multi-faceted *Around the Table* exhibition. NYBG's Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project was launched in 2021 to record and preserve a growing collection of first-hand food narratives from Bronx urban farmers and gardeners that focus on community gardens as centers for food, heritage, community, and social justice. Trenier's murals will celebrate the stories being told through that project. A gallery installation for the exhibition will highlight the people and voices from the Oral Histories Project, as well as the making of Trenier's murals.

For more information or to purchase tickets for *Around the Table: Stories of the Foods We Love*, please visit <https://www.nybg.org/event/around-the-table-stories-of-the-foods-we-love/>.

Contacts: Nick Leshi at 718.817.8658, nleshi@nybg.org
Stevenson Swanson at 718.817.8512, sswanson@nybg.org