

James Gurney to Present Art Workshop & Science Lecture at the Bruce Museum



Artist and author James Gurney in his studio.



A painting of Pelagornis, a prehistoric pseudotooth bird.

GREENWICH, CT, September 18, 2018 – The Bruce Museum is pleased to welcome renowned artist and author James Gurney for two special public events: On Monday, October 8, 6:00-7:30 pm, the Museum will host an Art Workshop, “**Techniques for Science Illustration with James Gurney.**” And on Tuesday, October 9, 6:30-8 pm, Gurney will present the Marianne Smith Memorial Lecture, “**How I Paint Dinosaurs: Art, Science, and Imagination.**”

At the October 8 Art Workshop led by Gurney, participants will use water-soluble colored pencils, watercolors, and gouache to depict an inspiring array of specimens from the Museum’s collections. Materials will be provided. The cost is \$40 for Museum members; \$55 for non-members. To register, please visit brucemuseum.org and click “Reservations.”

On Tuesday, October 9, Gurney will share the practical methods that he uses to translate a scientist’s understanding of an extinct creature into a realistic painting. A reception takes place at 6:30 pm; Gurney’s talk begins at 7 pm and will be followed by a book signing. The “*How I Paint Dinosaurs: Art, Science, and Imagination*” lecture is free for Museum members and students with ID; non-members \$15. Reservations can be made at brucemuseum.org; please register in advance as space will be limited for both events.

Gurney’s career as an artist and illustrator began in the 1980s. He painted more than 70 covers for science fiction and fantasy paperback novels and worked on numerous assignments for National Geographic magazine, specializing in reconstructions of ancient civilizations and depictions of legendary voyages. He also created several stamp designs for the US Postal Service, most notably *The World of Dinosaurs* in 1996.



BRUCE MUSEUM
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Press Release

In 1992, Gurney's masterwork, *Dinotopia: a Land Apart from Time*, was published. The book landed on the *New York Times* Bestseller List, and Gurney won many awards for his writing and illustrations, including the Hugo. Original artwork from the *Dinotopia* books has been exhibited at the National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution and the Norman Rockwell Museum and has toured to museums throughout the United States and Europe.

Throughout his career, Gurney has helped inspire emerging generations of artists and illustrators drawn to the fascinating intersection of science and fantasy. He has written two art instruction books: *Imaginative Realism* (2009), about drawing and painting things that don't exist, and *Color and Light: A Guide for the Realist Painter* (2010). These books are based on the daily posts on his weblog, [Gurney Journey](http://GurneyJourney.com), for illustrators, plein-air painters, sketchers, comic artists, animators, art students, and writers.

"Few artists have been able to insert real paleontological science into their art so masterfully as James Gurney," says Kate Dzikiewicz, the Museum's Paul Griswold Howes Fellow. "As a Museum of both art and science, the Bruce is delighted to be able to host someone who so fully embodies our dual mission."

For more information about the Gurney workshop and lecture, please contact Kate Dzikiewicz at kdzikiewicz@brucemuseum.org or 203-413-6747. For the complete calendar of upcoming special events and programs for youth, families, and adults, please see the online calendar at brucemuseum.org or call 203-869-0376.

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About the Bruce Museum

The Bruce Museum is located in a park setting just off I-95, exit 3, at 1 Museum Drive in Greenwich, Connecticut. The Museum is also a 5-minute walk from the Metro-North Greenwich Station. The Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm; closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students with ID, and free for members and children less than five years. Individual admission is free on Tuesday. Free on-site parking is available and the Museum is accessible to individuals with disabilities. For additional information, call the Bruce Museum at 203-869-0376 or visit brucemuseum.org.

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