

Title: Cattywampus Caterpillar

Artist: Gerri Young and Nancy Norton

This critter has no resemblance to any real garden creature, but we are guessing the real caterpillars may be very envious of this colorful visitor.

Brief Artist Biography: Gerri Young has been creating art in Blacksburg since 2010. She works mainly in acrylic, watercolor and ink and enjoys the "outside the box" aspect of creating something for Simply Elemental every year. In between these outdoor shows, she can sometimes be found doing plein air paintings of the garden. A print and notecard of the bridge and stream are available for sale in the garden pavilion. She has been the president of the Blacksburg Regional Art Association for the last five years.

Brief Artist Biography: Nancy Norton began her artistic journey in stained glass twenty years ago. That journey had taken many interesting twists and turns. She now works primarily in acrylic, watercolor, and ink and is exploring papermaking and mono-printing.

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Art Statement: Our original plan was to create a giant spicebush swallowtail caterpillar, the beginning of the Virginia State butterfly. Alas, the best made plans of mice and caterpillars did not come to be. What you see here is our third-generation caterpillar, made purely of fantasy, balloons, cloth, glue and stubborn refusal to quit. The chance swallowtail stopping by to check this creature out would be hard pressed to claim any relationship!





