

## List of Wax Modelers\* (15<sup>th</sup> century – 20<sup>th</sup> century)

Compiled by

Marjorie Parrott Adams  
[marjoriea@hotmail.com](mailto:marjoriea@hotmail.com)

*(This list has been arranged alphabetically)*

Akeley, Carl E. American. “Devised and patented a method for making leaves of wax by using bleached beeswax and various types of clay molds.” (Shteir p. 659)

Barla, Jean Baptist. French (1817-1896). Mycologist. Director of Natural History at Nice. “Casts thousands of mushrooms or has them done from 1840s on. “Since 1854 this is a business activity.”(Natuur p. 3) Wrote guide to the fungi in the Nice area.

Barnard, J. & son. London. Wax modellers.

Barnes, Clara L. Preparator, 1936-1942 of the wax fruit and vegetable models at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, NY.

Blackman, Edith Delta. (né Emmett) British (1855-1940). Wax models of flowers and insects. Examples at Kew and in many other institutions. Niece of Mrs. Mogridge. (Shteir p. 659)

Brackett, G.B. American. From Denmark, Iowa. Secretary, later President of the Iowa State Horticultural Society? Pomologist to the Ag. Dept. Received medals for his work at Paris, 1878 and the World’s Fair, 1891. (Wax Fruit for Paris) Most famous artist in this line in America (Ibid.) Made 410 wax fruit specimens for the Iowa State Horticultural Society, crop of 1875

[www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash\\_18.htn](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash_18.htn)

Brameshuber, George, the Elder. (19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century). Exhibited wax flowers at Nuremberg Exhibition of 1896. (Pyke p. 19)

Calamai, Luigi. Italian (c. 1800-1851). Wax models of plants and mushrooms. (Pyke p. 23) “Worked in Florence at the Instituto Botanico” and produced “botanical specimens in wax, including full scale models of fruit.” (Shteir p. 650)

Calenzuoli, Francesco. Italian (c. 1800 -c. 1860). Wax models of plants. (Pyke p. 23)  
Worked in Florence at the Instituto Botanico, Florence.

Cashatt, Mrs. H. American. From Columbus. Exhibited at the 27<sup>th</sup> Ohio State Fair, 1877.  
Best wax flowers; Best wax fruit. (Annual of the Ohio State Board of Ag. p. 100)

Chipperfield, Mrs. British. Wax fruit?

Dahlgren, B.E. American. Curator of Botany and Head of the facility at the Field  
Museum for producing plant models.

de Robillard d'Argentelle, Louis Marc Antoine. French (1777-1828 or 1829). *Carporama*  
(112 wax models of tropical fruits and plants in wax made from 1802 on the island of  
Mauritius (Reunion)). Exhibited 1829-1830. (Natuur p. 3)

Denton Bros. American. Made plaster fruit for the US Gov. (Wax Fruits for Paris)

Fric, Vaclav. Czech (1839-1916). Natural History dealer in Prague who sold fruit models  
and papier mache mushroom models (Natuur. p. 3)

Gaby, Charlot. French (XV/XVI century) "Worked in Tours. Recorded by Thieme  
Becker as making flowers and shrubs for the festivities on the occasion of the entry of  
Anne of Brittany." (Pyke p. 50)

Galton, Mary Ann (British) Exhibitor of wax flower work at the Great Exhibition of 1851  
"Twelve women were among the fourteen exhibitors..." (Shteir p. 656)

Glover, Townsend. American. From Fishkill, N.Y., Glover was hired to prepare a  
"perfect collection of all the fruits and vegetables grown in the State of New-York." For  
the N.Y. State Agricultural Society. (Transactions. 1852. p. 12) These were placed in the  
Museum of the Society. (Transactions 1853) Not clear if these were wax or plaster.

Greenland, Mrs.Wm. American. From Des Moines, Iowa. Made 610 casts of wax fruit  
for the Iowa State Horticultural Society, crop of 1875.

([www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash\\_18.htn](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash_18.htn))

Henley, John Walter. American (1827-1899). Made a living making wax flowers.  
Worked as a Preparator for the National Museum (now National Museum of Natural  
History) and the Department of Agriculture.

Henslow, John Stevens. British (1796-1861). "Prepared a set of wax models illustrating  
the structure of fruits for the Paris Exhibition of 1855." (Walters p. 246)

Herbert, Roy. Successor to Jenkins at the National Museum and Galleries of Wales.

Jenkins, Eveline. British (b. 1893). Worked for 32 years making wax botanical specimens  
for the National Museum and Galleries of Wales. Specialist in modeling wax fungi.  
(Townsend p. 13)

Lawson, James S. (Sharp). Canadian. b. 10 Jan 1890, Esquesing Halton Co., Ont. (ancestry.com, <http://boards.ancestry.com/localities.northam.canada.ontario.halton/913/mb.ashx>). Died 1977. Collection of toadstools and mushrooms for the Ontario Agricultural College, with Mrs. Potter. Was Preparator, 1920-1935 of the wax fruit and vegetable models at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, NY.

Lemare, Jane Clara. (British) Exhibitor of wax flower work at the Great Exhibition of 1851. "Twelve women were among the fourteen exhibitors..." (Shteir p. 656)

Lusini, Giovanni. Italian (1809-1889). Worked in Florence at the Instituto Botanico. Wax models of fruit and flowers in polychrome wax. (Pyke p. 8)

Lyan, Mrs. Jean. Canadian? Student of Potter, made 30 specimens.

Maestri, Angelo. Italian (active 1835-1885). Naturalist and physician compiled a collection of over 200 wax fungi in Pavia.

Makepeace, Eliza. British. Exhibitor of wax flower work at the Great Exhibition of 1851. "Twelve women were among the fourteen exhibitors..." (Shteir p. 656)

#### Marchand Family.

Marchand, Jules Henri (Father) Franco-American. Student of Rodin. Employed by the Buffalo Museum of Science. Also created "Fungi: The Charles H. Peck Testimonial Exhibition", for State Museum in Albany, NY.

Marchand, George (Son) American. With his brother Paul made dioramas for the Buffalo Museum of Science. Both left the Museum in 1944.

Marchand, Paul (Son) American. Made wax mushrooms and the Marchand Hall of Wildflowers for the Buffalo Museum of Science. With his brother George made dioramas for the Buffalo Museum of Science. Both left the Museum in 1944. Paul returned in 1965. His work at other institutions includes; Milwaukee Public Museum, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Floor Mushroom Display, 1940s, Grandfather Museum. Work also at museums in Springfield, Urbana, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Rochester, Westport, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Montreal, Smithsonian, National Parks System and New York Botanical Garden.

Mintorn Family. British. 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Exhibited Great Exhibition, 1851. Won medals for their wax specimens, mainly flowers.

Mother. Widowed, made a living making wax flowers. (Rochester)

Sons: Named Queen's modeller by Victoria. (Blunt p. 289) Some of their models are in Kew. (Blunt. Roses, Color Plate 107). "Manufactured materials at their workshop in London and sold them for export or by retail from their own counter at Soho bazaar." (Shteir p. 655) "invented imperishable wax fabric." (Pyke p. 93)

Mintorn, Horatio. (Son) British. Wax models of flowers and fruit. Author of book on subject. (Pyke p. 93) Made wax *Victoria regia* in wax for Kew Gardens.

Mintorn, John Haynes. (Son) British. Wax models of flowers and fruit. Author of book on the subject. (Pyke p. 93) Made wax Victoria regia in wax, Kew Gardens. This may be James, who made wax models of plants and insects for the naturalistic dioramas at the Museum of Natural History with his sister Mrs. Mogridge. (Shteir p. 659) Worked there 5 years. (“Artists in Wax”) He and his sister exhibited at Chicago World’s Fair for USDA, Entomology Div. (Ibid)

Mogridge, Mrs. (Daughter) British. Helped her brothers. (Pyke p. 93) Made wax models of plants and insects for the naturalistic dioramas at the Museum of Natural History with her brother James Mintorn. (Shteir p. 659) Worked there 5 years. (“Artist on Wax”) She and brother H. exhibited at Chicago World’s Fair for USDA, Entomology Div. (Ibid)

Mintorn, Elizabeth and Rebecca. (Daughters) British. Exhibited the Great Exhibition, 1851. (Shteir p. 656)

Peachey, Mrs. British. Wax modeller to the Queen. Author on the subject. Exhibited from her home, Rathbone Place, London. Also sold materials. (Shteir)

Pinson, M. or Andre Pierre. French (1746-1828). Made wax mushroom models in Paris c. 1825. (Natuur p. 3) Wax models of toadstools and flowers. (Pyke p. 108). “Over 500 botanical models of fungi in wax to illustrate stages of growth, as well as to distinguish poisonous from non-poisonous specimens.” (Shteir p. 650)

Potter, Sarah Irish. American (Mrs. Stanley) b. West Genesee, NY July 24, 1843-d. Oct 25, 1913 in Santa Monica, CA. From 1899 – 1905 she created 900 wax copies of various fruits and vegetables for the Ontario Agricultural College. She made a collection of wax mushrooms and toadstools with James Sharp Lawson. (Obituary. <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com>. Sarah (Irish) Potter; Stanley Z. Potter, From The Sabbath Recorder, a newspaper of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.) Note: This artist appears to be referenced in some sources as Elizabeth Potter.

Rohu, Ada & Tost, Jane. Australian. Their shop in Sydney (Tost & Coates, later Tost & Rohu) sold wax fruit, offered lessons in fancy work. The firm operated from 1872-1930s. (Most Curious & Peculiar Women Taxidermists)

Royal and Imperial Museum of Physics and Natural History Artisinal Workshops, Florence. Ceroplastics Workshop, a few years before 1775. Produced botanical wax models, amongst other types.

Schaumann, Johann Carl. German (1721-between 1787 and 1795). Wax models of fruit.

Skill, Mrs. Rebekah. British? Author on subject. (Shteir p. 655)

Smith, James. American. From Des Moines, Iowa. Made the largest amount of the wax fruit specimens for the Iowa State Horticultural Society, crop of 1875. ([www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash\\_18.htm](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/historical/LightsOn/1880wash_18.htm))

Stafford, Mrs. B.A. Guernsey. Had a stand of wax fruit at the Great Exhibition, 1851. (Museum Guernsey p. 4)

Stammwitz, S.L. British. Associated with the Natural History Museum, London “was in charge of the model-making section there, improvised new methods and produced interesting results.” (Blunt p. 291)

Susini, Clemente. Italian (1754-1814). Wax models of fruit and flowers. (Pyke p. 143) “Worked in Florence at the Instituto Botanico” and produced “botanical specimens in wax, including full scale models of fruit.” (Shteir p. 650)

Tayspill, Miss. British. Wax models of *Victoria regia* and *Rhododendron Dalhousie*, Kew ?.

Technological Museum, Sydney. Made wax fruit models for the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne 1888. Some may be in the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.

Temple, Mrs. (British exhibitor of wax flower work at the Great Exhibition of 1851. “Twelve women were among the fourteen exhibitors...” (Shteir p. 656)

Theveny. Produces plaster vegetable and fruit casts, work at World’s Fairs of 1889 and 1900, and Musee d’Economic botanique de Verrieres-le-Buisson (Natuur p. 3)

Toms, Charles. Australian. The Technical College, Sydney, painted wax apples 1888-1899, now in Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.

Tortori, Egisto Italian (1829-1893). Wax Models of botanical specimens 1852-1877. (Pyke p. 149) Worked in Florence at the Instituto Botanico, Florence.

Tost, Jane & Ada Rohu. Australian. Their shop in Sydney (Tost & Coates, later Tost & Rohu) sold wax fruit, offered lessons in fancy work. The firm operated from 1872-1930s. (Most Curious & Peculiar Women Taxidermists)

Trattinnick, Leopold. Austrian (1764/65-1849) Made wax mushrooms from 1809. (Natuur p. 3) Collection in the Observatory, Kremsmunster.

Vilmorin. French. Made fruit models, wax? (Transactions 1852. p. 178)

von Mueller, Baron Ferdinand. Government Botanist, Melbourne. Showed thirty-six wax models of Victorian fungus, wax model of Victorian Waratah plant (*Telopes Oreganos*, FvM), under vegetable resources of Australia and other works.” (Report of the Royal Comm. 1887 p. 37)

\*Included are wax modelers of fruit, flowers and vegetables. Excluded are wax anatomical and silhouette modelers.