

# SARAH GRAHAM



*Sarah Graham in Kenya 2025. Photograph by Miguel Flores-Vianna.*

## BIOGRAPHY

Natural forms, insects and the plant world are Graham's primary source of inspiration. She works from life, using items borrowed from the Natural History Museum's extensive archives or from her personal collection of objects, often found during her travels. Graham focuses on one type of flower or insect at a time, often approaching the subject from every perspective.

Minimal, clean lines, and swathes of colour depicting larger-than-life organic forms and monumental compositions typify her work, which is often drawn over several sheets of canvas. Reinforcing the connection between subject and material, the inks themselves are organic compounds of plant-based dyes and iron-based mineral pigments sourced from a family of artisan colour alchemists in Basel, Switzerland. These organic inks produce livelier and more subtle tones than chemically derived colours. Graham now uses inks with acrylics (treated like watercolour) which anchors the pigments more permanently. Applied with animal hair Chinese brushes the canvas is placed on the floor to control the flow of the ink. 'Ink is a merciless medium. It cannot be removed. It dries in pools, and so mistakes and variations become part of the work.'

Although frequently depicting the natural plant world, Graham's paintings are not botanical studies, but rather expansive and personal interpretation of a particular plant. Documenting nature with faithful accuracy is not the aim of her work, but instead it is to magnify it into bold artistic forms punctuated by calligraphic brush-strokes. 'Too much dedication to the original source deadens it for me', she says. 'I am looking for an expression. I see a curve or a twist or a pronunciation of some form that I've somehow got to get into my studio and enlarge'.

Graham lives and works in London and shows worldwide, with exhibitions in London, New York, Shanghai, and Aspen, Colorado.

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

### 2025

Lyndsey Ingram, London, UK  
The Armory, New York, NY

### 2024

Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO

### 2023

Christie's, Shanghai, China

### 2022

Lyndsey Ingram, London, UK

### 2021

Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO

### 2020

Lyndsey Ingram, London, UK

### 2019

Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO

### 2018

Lyndsey Ingram, London, UK

### 2016

Lyndsey Ingram, New York, NY

### 2015

Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO

### 2013

Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO

### 2012

Sims Reed Gallery, London, UK

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## LYNDSLEY INGRAM

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