

***Bougainvillea & Bee***

16 x 12 inches  
Pen and ink stippling



## Benjamin Dobbs

### Bio

Benjamin Dobbs was born on June 19th in Fort Smith, AR. He is a third-generation artist through his mother's side. He is the recipient of the Jane Owen Director's Award at the Arts on Main 2023 Adult Art Competition. He is the recipient of multiple People's Choice Awards including the Local Color Studio Gallery 9th and 10th Anniversary shows as well as the Arts on Main 2024 and 2025 Adult Competition.

### Artist Statement

Being somewhat colorblind, I've always favored working in monochromatic mediums, such as pencil or pen and ink. Within the pen and ink medium, stippling quickly became my favorite technique. Compared to other techniques, stippling can be very time consuming. With that though, I feel there's a tremendous amount of control. You can really fine tune the values as they come in. Dark areas can be very forgiving, while light areas require more precise placement. To get values smooth, I do a sort of soft focus where I'm not so much looking at the image itself, but the space between the dots. I'll be so intently focused that I'll forget to blink enough and my eyes will burn and stream with tears. So much so, that I'll have to lean back, so as not to drip on the page. I feel like my body of work not only reflects on myself, but in a way the medium as well, focusing on the light and the dark and what happens in between in a world full of shades of grey.