

## Paul Speh

Paul Speh is the Fine Arts Packer for the Brooklyn Museum. He has worked for the museum for nearly 12 years as part of the Registrars Department. In this role, he is solely responsible for designing, constructing, and packing of fine art crate interiors and exteriors for a large and diverse encyclopedic museum collection. He consults and collaborates closely with registrars, conservators, collections management, and the art handling staff on a daily basis to ensure the safe travel and return of objects to and from the museum. Paul has extensive experience as a Fine Arts Crate Shop Manager and Technician. For more than 20 years, he has worked with or for most, if not all of the museums and societies in New York, as well as multiple private collections. Since joining the museum in 2008, He has established the Crating and Packing Waste Cost Reduction Program. A successful ongoing effort to recycle and repurpose materials normally discarded. The materials are collected, redesigned, and reused in more than three-quarters of loaned objects shipped per year. Resulting in more than 12 years of sustainable packing. A formally trained artist, he also has a BFA in Printmaking from Purchase College 1996, and an MFA in Printmaking from the Cranbrook Academy of Art 1999.

I am an artist as well as an avid angler. In recent years, I have been combining the two elements to create works that reflect the love of both endeavors. Much influence over my works has been gained by the first- hand knowledge of some of the world's treasures that have passed through my fingers. Folk art, jewelry, textiles, stained glass, as well as many other elements have been guides while creating my fly drawings. Sometimes directly, other times indirectly. It began in 2007 when I started commuting to the Brooklyn Museum from my home in Lake Ronkonkoma. A two-hour commute each way. I long commute for sure, but it is 4 hours to do whatever you please. Most people read or sleep. But I decided I would attempt to draw between those other endeavors. A meditation of something I truly enjoy. Saltwater Fly lure tying and fishing. I have been drawing them for about 12 years now only in a small sketchbook format. When I discovered the call for entry for Hand Drawn in late January 2020. I knew it was time to create a larger version of the commuter fly fishing drawings in more detail and at a drawing table, not a shaking train. The results are what you see here today.

