

**Artist Statement**  
**Janice Browne**

**Virginia Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*)**

Spiderwort was probably named for the delicate spider web-like filaments supporting its anthers. Personally, I also see a giant arachnid in the leggy silhouette of arching leaves and bracts. Flower buds in terminal clusters open in succession over several weeks in spring (thus serving as useful reference material), but each blossom lasts only one day. This life-size image of the top half of the plant is intended to emphasize the natural color variation, ranging from sky blue to violet. Sepals then collapse around the spent flowers, forming hairy seed capsules dangling on colorful pedicels which fade as they age.