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Schoone

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(54) **PHALAEOPSIS ORCHID PLANT NAMED**
'FLOR154934'

(50) Latin Name: *Phalaenopsis*
Varietal Denomination: **FLOR154934**

(75) Inventor: **René Schoone**, Assendelft (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Floricultura**, Heemskerk (NL)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 141 days.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./311**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC Plt./311
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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The International Orchid Register/RHS Gardening 2011 for *Phalaenopsis* Silver Ghost retrieved from the Internet at <http://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchiddetails.asp?ID=61859> Retrieved on Jan. 3, 2013, one page.*

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'FLOR154934' particularly characterized by flowers which are white with some yellow and some purple/red in the labelum; plants which may be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue culture; plants which produce more than one inflorescence; long and sturdy inflorescences; and relatively short, dark-green foliage.

3 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
Phalaenopsis.

Variety denomination: 'FLOR154934'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Phalaenopsis* plant, botanically known as *Phalaenopsis* of the *Orchidaceae* family, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'FLOR154934'.

Phalaenopsis comprises a genus of about 55 species of herbaceous perennials many of which, or the hybrids thereof, are suitable for cultivation in the home or greenhouse. *Phalaenopsis* is predominantly epiphytic or rock-dwelling, and is native to tropical Asia, the Malay Archipelago, and Oceania. The species typically has 2-ranked, fleshy, oblong or elliptic leaves affixed to a short central stem (monopodial growth), which vary in size from 5 to 8 inches to over 2 feet. The leaves may be entirely green or mottled with silver grey.

Phalaenopsis orchids, often referred to as 'Moth Orchids' in the horticultural trade, are frequently used to furnish cut flowers for the florist trade or sold as flowering potted-plants for home or interiorscape.

Phalaenopsis produces upright or pendent lateral racemes, often with many showy flowers which open in succession beginning with the lowermost. The flowers possess three sepals and three petals; the lateral ones being alike. The lowermost petal, called the labelum, is three-lobed and is

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often more brightly-colored than the other flower segments. Flower colors include various shades of pink, white, yellow and red-brown.

Phalaenopsis orchids are typically propagated from seeds.

5 Asexual propagation of *Phalaenopsis* is often done from off-shoots which frequently arise from the lower bracts of the inflorescence. The resulting plants are detached from the mother plant and may be planted in a suitable substrate.

10 The new *Phalaenopsis* 'FLOR154934' is a product of a controlled breeding program conducted by the inventor, Rene Schoone, in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program was to develop a new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar particularly characterized by its attractive and unique colored flowers, economical propagation via 15 tissue culture, rapid growth, and a plant dimension suitable for packaging and shipping to the market.

The new *Phalaenopsis* 'FLOR154934' originated from a cross made by the inventor in 1998 in Strengweg, Heemskerk, 20 The Netherlands. The female or seed parent is the *Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'White Castle', unpatented. The male or pollen parent is the *Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Moon WorldxAmabilis', unpatented. The new *Phalaenopsis* 'FLOR154934' was discovered and selected by the inventor 25 as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in 2006 in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar by tissue culture was first performed in January, 2006 in Cieweg

13, Heemskerk, The Netherlands, and has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar reproduces true to type.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique characteristics of 'FLOR154934', which in combination distinguish this *Phalaenopsis* as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. flowers which are white with some yellow and purple/red in the labellum;
2. plants may be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue culture;
3. plant produces more than one inflorescence;
4. inflorescence is long and sturdy; and
5. relatively short, dark-green foliage

In comparison with the parental cultivars of 'FLOR154934', the female parent 'White Castle' is a large plant and the male parent 'Moon World×Amabilis' is a compact plant, whereas the plant 'FLOR154934' has a size in between the two.

The most similar commercial varieties to the claimed variety are the parent varieties, 'White Castle' and 'Moon World×Amabilis', to which a comparison is provided above.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Phalaenopsis* 'FLOR154934' showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which accurately describe the color of 'FLOR154934'.

FIG. 1 shows a side view perspective of a typical flowering plant of 'FLOR154934' in a 12 cm pot, at 16 months of age.

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of the typical flowers of 'FLOR154934'.

FIG. 3 shows a close-up view of the typical leaves of 'FLOR154934'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar 'FLOR154934' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and day length without any change in the genotype of the plant.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following observations, measurements and values describe plants of 'FLOR154934' as grown in a greenhouse in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Initially, the ideal temperature to grow plants of 'FLOR154934' is 27° C. during the day and at night. Then, during the flowering phase of 'FLOR154934', the ideal growing temperature is 20-22° C. during the day and 18° C. at night. Light levels for growing 'FLOR154934' are a minimum of 5,000 lux and a maximum of 10,000 lux. A balanced fertilizer with level of 200 ppm N, 87 ppm P, 168 ppm K is applied. Duration of growth of 'FLOR154934' from potting size is between 10 and 14 months.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), 2007 edition, except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately noon in Zaandammerweg, Assendelft, The Netherlands. The age of the 'FLOR154934' plants described is 12 months after potting.

Classification:

Botanical.—*Phalaenopsis*.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'White Castle', unpatented.

Male or pollen parent.—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Moon World×Amabilis', unpatented.

Propagation:

Type.—Tissue culture.

Rooting habit and description.—Fleshy; approximately 5 mm-8 mm wide and green in color; freely branching. It takes 12 weeks for plants growing in tissue culture to initiate roots.

Plant:

Size at maturity (including inflorescence).—Height: about 71 cm. Spread: about 62 cm.

Growth habit.—Standard; dark-green leaves and a relatively normal raceme.

Vigor.—Moderate.

Crop time.—Following asexual propagation, at about 26 weeks 2 leaves appear; at about 30 weeks 3-4 leaves appear; after a cold treatment of about 4-8 weeks at a temperature of about 19° C. about 2 peduncles with flowers appear.

Foliage:

Quantity per plant.—About 6 to 8 leaves are produced before flowering.

Arrangement and attachment.—Half up/horizontal and on two sides.

Overall shape of leaf.—Oval, the tip is blunt and asymmetric.

Texture (upper & underside).—Smooth and leathery.

Pubescence.—None.

Mature leaf length.—About 19 to 27 cm.

Mature leaf width.—About 7 to 9 cm.

Mature leaf thickness.—About 1.5 mm.

Mature leaf color.—Upper side: RHS 137C. Under side: RHS 137D.

Leaf base.—Acute.

Margin.—Entire.

Venation.—Pattern: parallel. Color of midvein: upper side: dark green (RHS 137C). Under side: RHS 137D.

Raceme:

Quantity per plant.—About 1 to 2.

Number of flowers per peduncle.—About 10 to 15.

Length.—About 65 and 70 cm.

Diameter.—About 6 mm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Upright.

Texture.—Glabrous and smooth.

Color.—Green (RHS N137D).

Internode.—Length: about 35 mm to 45 mm.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Upright to slightly pendant, racemose inflorescence with bilaterally symmetrical flowers that open in succession beginning with the lowermost flower.

Buds.—Height (from base to tip): about 15 to 30 mm.

Diameter (at midpoint).—About 10 to 20 mm. Shape: egg-shaped. Color: yellow/green (RHS 145C).

Flowering time.—For an untreated plant (flowering plant that has not undergone cold-treatment where the plant grows at a temperature of 18° C. to 19° C. for about 4 to 8 weeks after a period of about 30 weeks at a temperature of 25° C.), 2 racemes appear with about 16 to 20 flower buds and flowers per inflorescence. First flowers can be expected approximately 4 to 6 months after planting a plant with a leaf diameter of 3 to 5 cm. Flowers persistent.

Flowering longevity.—On the plant: about 4 to 6 months; lastingness of cut flowers: has not been observed.

Fragrance.—No fragrance.

Flower.—Rate of opening: Flowers fully opened about 2 to 3 days after tepal separation. Orientation at opening: slanted upward and outward. Shape: Typical shape of *Phalaenopsis* orchid; see FIG. 2. Size: Height: about 85 mm. Diameter: about 102 mm. Depth of tube: about 22 mm.

Petals.—Quantity and arrangement: three petals and three sepals that are trimerous, overlapping and arranged in 2 whorls. Petals are more pronounced than sepals.

Petals.—Arrangement: Inner whorl of petals comprises 3 petals 2 lateral petals and labellum. 2 lateral petals: Overall shape: broadly ovate and weakly cupped. Apex: oval. Margin: weakly undulate. Base: broadly ovate. Length: about 55 mm. Width: about 45 mm. Texture: Upper surface: smooth and satiny. Under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): upper and underside :white (RHS NN155C). Labellum: Overall shape: 3-lobed with 2 prominent callosities at central junction of the lateral lobes and base of the midlobe. Lateral lobes of labellum fold upward about the column; the midlobe extends forward and is terminated by 2 short filiform appendages at the apex. Lateral lobes of the labellum are ovate in shape while the midlobe is triangular with a bump and a rib on it. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Length: about 22 mm. Width (not flattened): about 22

mm. Texture: Upper and under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): Upper surface: The main color is white (RHS NN155C). At the base of the lateral lobes are purple/red stripes (RHS 64A). At the lower edges of the lateral lobe and at the base of the mid lobe is green/yellow (RHS 1A). Under surface: main color is white (RHS NN155C) with green/yellow (RHS 1B) at the base of the midlobe and on the lower edges of the lateral lobes. Chirri (filiform appendages at the apex): long and curly. Color: white (RHS NN155C). Pestle (Callosities): Length: about 6 mm. Width (not flattened): about 7 mm. Color: yellow (RHS 12 A) with purple/red stripes/spots (RHS 64A).

Sepals.—Arrangement: Outer whorl of the flower comprises 3 sepals. Overall shape: elliptical and weakly cupped. Margin: entire and weakly cupped. Length: about 45 mm. Width: about 31 mm to 35 mm. Apex: oval. Base: broadly ovate. Texture: Upper and under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): upper and under surface: white (RHS NN155C).

Reproductive organs:

Arrangement.—The stamens, style and stigmas are fused into a single, short structure called the column, possessing one terminal anther with pollen grains united into a pollinia, which are covered by an anther cap. The stigma is located under the column behind the pollinia. The ovary is inferior with three carpels present. The plant has not produced seed.

Column.—Length: about 10 mm. Diameter: about 7 mm. Color: white (RHS NN155C).

Pollinia.—Quantity: Two. Diameter: about 1 mm. Color: orange (RHS 25A).

Ovary.—Length: about 6 mm. Diameter: about 7 mm. Color: white (RHS NN155C).

Pedicel.—Length: about 35 mm and 45 mm. Diameter: about 3 mm. Texture: glabrous and smooth. Color: green (RHS 137C) which runs into yellow/green (RHS 145A).

Disease/pest resistance/ susceptibility: No specific resistance or susceptibility observed.

Temperature tolerance: Tolerant to a low temperature of about 15° C. and to a high temperature about 30° C.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'FLOR154934', as illustrated and described herein.

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FIG. 1

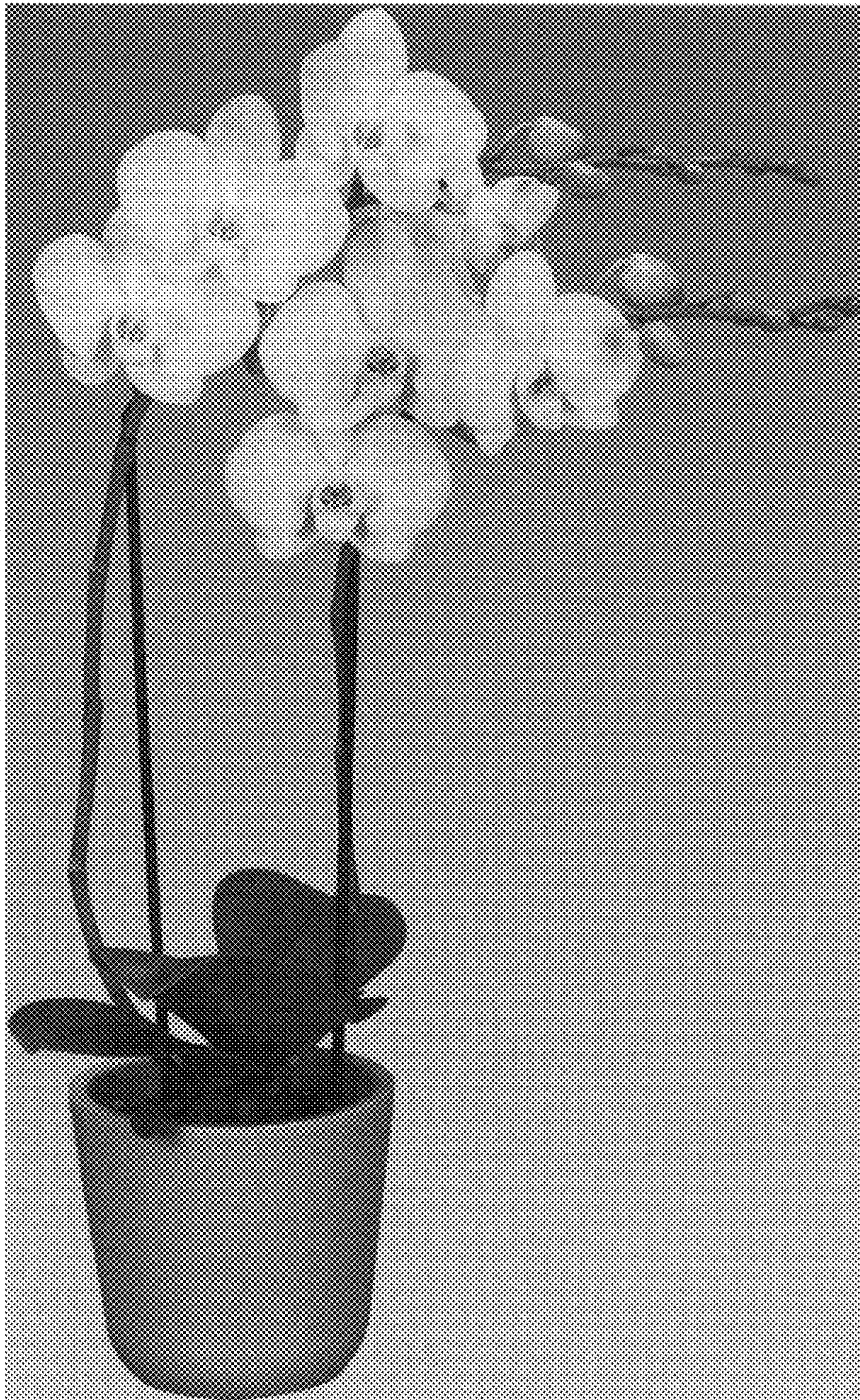


FIG. 2

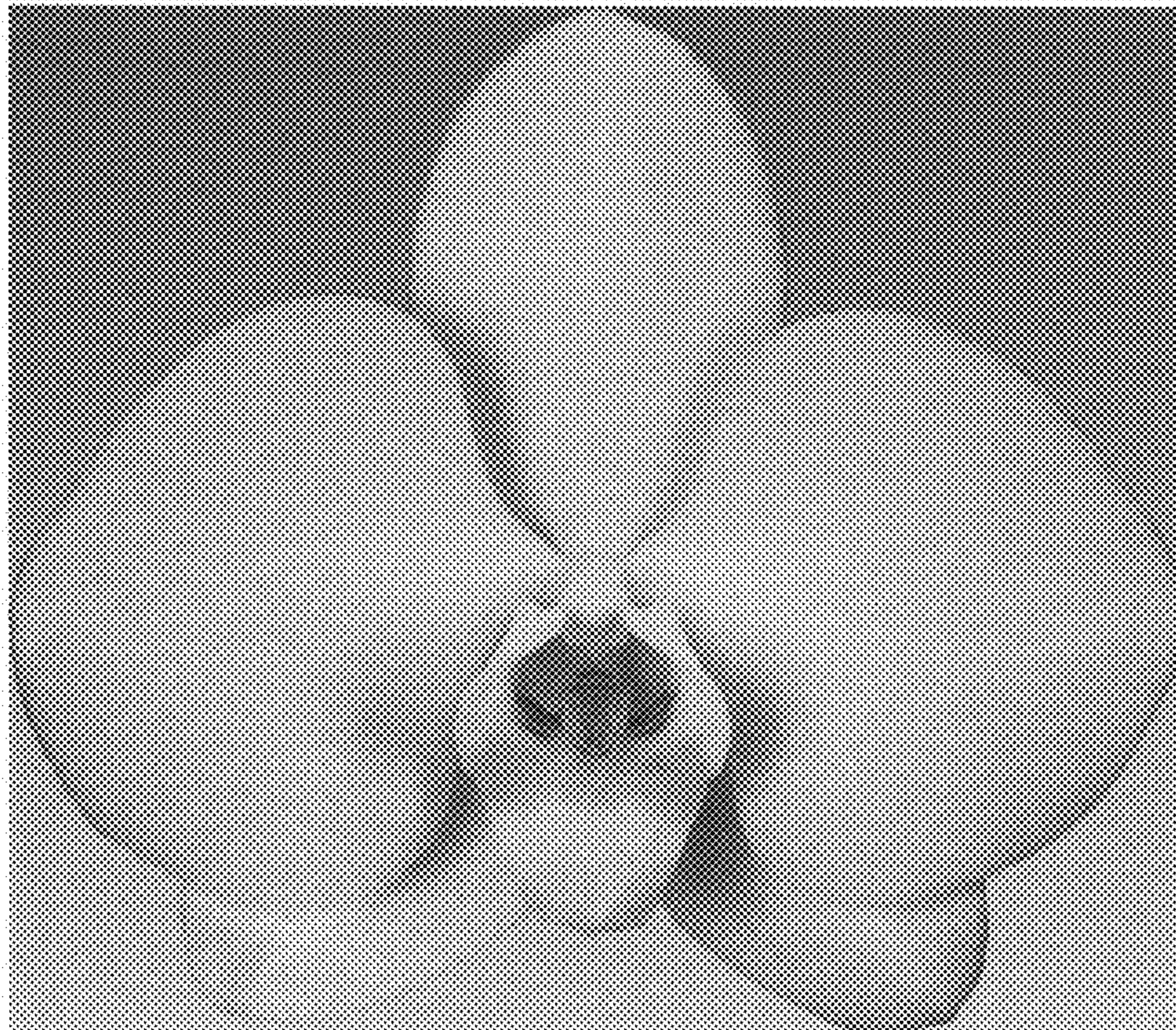


FIG. 3

