



Curriculum Vitae - Deborah Wace

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ARTIST STATEMENT

I have been a practicing botanical artist, fabric designer and professional printmaker for more than 30 years. Based in Hobart, my artistry is inspired by creating designs that amplify the beauty of Tasmania's wild and often endangered plants.

My exclusive designs are influenced by the European botanical collections of early French expeditions to Tasmania and are available across a range of luxury repeat pattern fabrics, fashion accessories, soft furnishings, wallpaper, and limited-edition art; incorporating sustainable print and production processes where possible.

I have created a digitised, element library of 200+ distinctly Tasmanian pressed rare and endangered plant specimens linked to Australia's botanical historical record. I combine these pressed plant images with drypoint (scribing onto an acrylic printmaking plate) and mono-print original artwork and etchings, which I digitally layer to create rich, complex botanical designs onto fine fabric, wallpaper and a range of architectural substrates.

My botanical artistry, designs and marketing materials all communicate the need to protect our fragile land-based and marine ecosystems to the wider community, amplifying the work being done by the scientific community, bringing Art together with Science.

My ultimate goal is to create real conversations about habitat loss and biodiversity, inviting a deeper and more informed and sustainable connection into our natural world.

BOTANICAL ARTIST PROFILE

1994-2024	Botanical artist, fabric designer & professional printmaker - creating luxurious, sophisticated & visually rich botanical designs on repeat pattern fabrics, fashion accessories, soft furnishings, wallpaper, bespoke commissions & limited-edition art
2022	Deborah WACE - business trademark registered
2022	STSC (Sustainable Textile Supply Chain) - engaged to produce highly sustainable fabrics
2021	The Sartorial Naturalist - Botanical design collection launched
2019	Peter Cundall, Churchill Fellow - launched the new Deborah WACE Botanical Design & Fabric Studio, Hobart
2011	Brian Ritchie, founder of MONA FOMA - and Bassist with the band the Violent Femmes officially opened the first Deborah Wace Print & Design Studio, Hobart.
2006	Ogilvy High School, artist-in-residence (created 80m mosaic paver pathway)
1996-2006	Mosaic Teacher, Adult Education/ TAFE.

QUALIFICATIONS/ MEMBERSHIPS

2022	WCEI-Women Chief of Enterprise International, Tasmanian Branch Member
2018	Certificate III Micro Business Operations - NEIS, Mission Australia
2017	Churchill Fellowship - Winston Churchill Memorial Trust
2012	Certificate IV Small Business Management - NEIS, Program Australian Business Development Centre, Hobart
1984-1988	Bachelor of Visual Art: Printmaking, Canberra School of Art.

BOTANICAL ADVOCACY

2023	Beaker Street Crawl - Deborah WACE studio theme: 'Plant Advocacy through Fabric Design'
2016-2023	Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Orchid Conservation Project - volunteered to assist with growing Tasmania's threatened native orchids as insurance populations to prevent extinction, with a focus on species known from single or very small populations
2017	Design Tasmania - part of the 40-year celebration of 'Women in Design' showcasing me as a visual artist/ designer/ singer/ performer for social change & environmental awareness
2016	Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens: Lomatia Tasmanica Propagation Project - incorporated threatened Tasmanian flora leaves such as <i>Lomatia tasmanica</i> into Deborah WACE botanical designs (leaves provided with permission RTBG)
2005	Northeast Peninsula of Recherche Bay - celebrated the culmination of several years' community direct action and work to protect this important Type Locality
2003	Involved in the successful community campaign to protect the historic and wild Recherche Bay in far south Tasmania where the first French expeditions set their base. I actively campaigned for the conservation and appreciation of wild botanical sites and used artwork and song-writing skills to highlight conservation values.

AWARDS/ GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

2023	9th Annual Diemen Awards - Deborah WACE Marketing Brochure won the 'Digital Design: brochure' category, for design undertaken by Angela Pelizzari
2021-2023	Export Market Development grant - to undertake promotional activities for the purposes of marketing an eligible product in a foreign country
2021-2022	New Work for New Markets grant - to facilitate new Tasmanian botanical fabric designs for international licensing and marketing, including development of the Deborah WACE website

2020	Australia Council for the Arts Project grant - \$20,000 for 'The Sartorial Naturalist' film & exhibition
2021	Nina Crone Writing Fund - to produce a researched article published in 'Australian Garden History Journal'
2020	Arts and Screen Digital Production Fund - \$10,000 for assistance with 'The Sartorial Naturalist' film project
2020	Bellendena Small Grants Scheme - \$1,000 for assistance with 'The Sartorial Naturalist' project
2017	Churchill Fellowship 2017 - to develop artwork & fabric design from the European botanical collections of the French D'Entrecasteaux expeditions to Tasmania in 1792-1793, and the Baudin expedition 1800-1803, focused on accessing & examining the significant botanical and illustrative collections held in herbariums in the UK, Italy and France
2018	Recherche Bay Arts Residency - hosted by Jason Whitehead and Fiona Taylor, culminating in 5 days on the Northeast Peninsula of Recherche Bay, far south Tasmania.

COMMISSIONED ART

2023	Van Diemen's Band's Harpsichord - designed and produced a bespoke artwork showcasing 31 Tasmanian botanical species, and multiple drypoint and monoprint elements which features on the underside of the lid of the Van Diemen's Band's Harpsichord, which was officially launched in Hobart on 21 August 2023. A special addition to this internationally acclaimed chamber orchestra, the harpsichord travelled all the way from Titus Crijnen's workshop in Sabiñán, Spain to Australian shores. The design masterpiece I created especially for the harpsichord. Art and science were interlinked through the entire design process, and remarkably, a great many of my plant specimens were collected from Tasmania as Type Specimens by the French naturalist JJH Labillardiere in the early 1790s, not long after the true Baroque period
2023	Sister Hives Australia - designed licensed artwork for global beekeeping record participation certificates
2023	On Board Tasmanian Expedition Cruises - designed a luxury cushion cover range featuring intricate wild and endangered Tasmania flora designs for the 24-meter catamaran 'Odalisque III', which travels waterways in remote southern Tasmania
2022	Daughter of the Plateau - created bespoke novel cover for author Karen Harrland: Forty South Publishing
2001	Meander Primary School - Mosaic fronts piece
2001	Hastings Caves Visitors Centre Tasmania - created backlit agate & fern fossil mosaic
2000	Salamanca Arts Centre - Mosaic Courtyard Development
1999	Clarence City Council - Lauderdale Canal Skateboard Park Project: Mosaics.

PRESENTATIONS/ WORKSHOPS/ AMBASSADOR ROLES

2024	FCEM/WCEI 71st WORLD CONGRESS Sydney - invited to give a 40-minute interactive presentation under the theme 'Connecting the Dots: Women leading globally'
2024	Tasmanian Fashion Festival - presented 14 'looks' at an evening runway show, showcasing a range of silk garments with designs featuring the flora of Tasmanian
2024	Small Giants 'Wisdom & Action Forum' Victoria - printmaking demonstration and presentation about the need to protect our botanical assets to 200 Thought leaders
2024	The Biological Club of Tasmania - presentation of slides, film and artwork
2023	Huon Valley Studio Art Trail - Art Ambassador for Huon Valley region
2023	Times Square Fashion Week - invited to participate in Australian Designers contingent to New York
2023	The Queen Mary Club - delivered a fabric designs and new garments modelled presentation
2023	Hunter Island Press - opened the 'Botanical' exhibition

- 2022 **Australian Garden History Society 'Landscape on the Edge: Challenge and Opportunity,' conference** - delivered a keynote presentation and showcased artwork, Hobart
- 2022 **WCEI and invited guests** - delivered 'Looking beyond Tasmania to the luxury fashion houses of Europe' presentation at Deborah WACE Hobart studio
- 2018 **Society for the History of Natural History** - presented at the 'Bon Voyage? 250 Years Exploring the Natural World' summer meeting & AGM in association with the British Ornithologists' Club, at World Museum Liverpool, UK
- 2012 **Friends of TMAG** - presentation about how my artwork is inspired by Tasmania's unique botanical heritage.

BOTANICAL PRINTMAKING DEMONSTRATIONS

- 2024 **Print, Press & Draw** - sold-out series of 22 workshops to 60+ participants from the Deborah WACE print-making studio, Hobart. The workshops guided participants in the various mono printing techniques using found items, botanical specimens & hand-cut stencils
- 2023 **Tarkine Impact Safari** - printmaking demonstration in Corinna incorporating audio-visuals & original songs, to 25 leaders & change makers. The event was held by Small Giants Academy in partnership with the Bob Brown Foundation & Patagonia
- 2017 **TMAG: Centre for Learning and Discovery** - print-making workshop for Baudin Voyagers Exhibition: The Art of Science as part of the Public Program
- 2015 **Tarkine Bio Blitz: a festival of science in nature** - botanical printmaking demonstration

SHORT ART FILMS

- 2023 **Storytelling through Film Collaborations** - In mid-2023, I collaborated with Ivett Dodd in the production of Ivett's book, 'Designers of lutruwita / Tasmania'. The book is about the unique diversity of Tasmanian design culture and focuses on 24 makers, designers and artisans. Ivett held a photo shoot at a secluded beach with Lily Sassafras modelling new silk garments and swimsuits printed with botanical artwork, the same art adorned full body swimming costumes as in 'The Sartorial Naturalist' but this time conveyed using the photographer's unique creative. Filmed by Michael Gissing.
www.deborahwace.com/storytelling-through-tasmanian-film-collaborations/
- 2023 **Van Diemen's Band Harpsichord** - In 2023, I completed the commission from Van Diemen's Band to design and produce a bespoke art piece for the underside of their Spanish harpsichord lid. 31 Tasmanian botanical species are showcased on the final masterpiece. This short film by cinematographer Michael Gissing, tells the story of the bespoke botanical artwork being designed and installed.
<https://deborahwace.com/bespoke-van-diemens-band-harpsichord-ornamentation/>
- 2023 **Threatened Species Dance** - This is a slow-motion video screened on YouTube to promote threatened seaweeds. The alluring slow-motion dance features the fabric designs of endangered Tasmanian flora. The dancers, Lily Sassafras and Clementine Robertson, wrapped in swathes of rare and endangered Tasmanian flora including *Lomatia tasmanica*, seaweed and Giant Kelp adorned silks, move to original music created by Linsey Pollak & Lizzie O'Keefe.
<https://www.deborahwace.com/threatened-species-dance/>
- 2022 **The Sartorial Naturalist** - This 12-minute Australia Council for the Arts funded, award-winning film, documents the process of collecting and pressing Tasmanian flora. Screened at FlickerFest in Cygnet, Tasmania, it was made in collaboration with high-profile film makers, designers, musicians, and costume & dance professionals. The film explores the deep connection I have to early French naturalists and the palawa custodians of lutruwita; and depicts the inspiration behind the designs.
<https://deborahwace.com/the-sartorial-naturalist/>

- 2022 **Down My Garden Path** – I appeared in the Gardening Australia TV 7.5-minute segment ‘Down My Garden Path’. In this segment I spoke about my highly detailed and intimate artwork through which I create a window into the botany of Tasmania’s wild and often endangered plant communities: native orchids, rainforest, buttongrass and more (screened 3 June). www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwEyy7fKmng
- 2019 **Art of the Wild Tasmanian Orchid** - A short film on myself and my arts practice. It explores how endangered Tasmanian flora is incorporated into my designs. Art of the Wild Tasmanian Orchid was directed, filmed and edited by Leonie Fahey. <https://deborahwace.com/fabric-of-botany-film/>
- 2018 **Recherche Bay Arts Residency** - Film about my arts residency in Tasmania’s Recherche Bay. The experience allowed me to add to my herbarium and follows the footsteps of the French D’Entrecasteaux expedition. Filmed by Joe Shemesh, the film won the Silver Award in the Cinematographers Society of Australia: nature category. <https://deborahwace.com/arts-residency/>
- 2018 **Fabric of Botany** - This 28-minute film produced by Tasmanian filmmaker, Joe Shemesh, captures my Arts Residency on the Northeast Peninsula of Recherche Bay, Tasmania and the 2017-18 Churchill Fellowship where I travelled to Europe to study the early French historical botanical collections from Tasmania, held in herbariums in the UK, France and Italy. It premiered at the State Cinema, Hobart. <https://deborahwace.com/fabric-of-botany-film/>
- 2011 **Barrack St Design Studio Launch** - In December, Brian Ritchie, founder of MONA FOMA and Bassist with the Violent Femmes, launched my first print studio at Barrack St, Hobart. He spoke about the intricacies and meaning of my work. Guest speakers included Rosalie Woodruff, Geoff Hardy and Jasper Wood. The launch was filmed by Alexander Palmer from Flowing Image Videography with live music performed by Michael Helman. <https://deborahwace.com/films/>

View films: [My Films](#) | [Tasmanian Botanical Artist](#) | [Deborah Wace](#)

MEDIA

- 2024 **Channel 10 ‘The Project’** - botanical designs profiled as part of my interview about Cohousing Co-operatives in Tasmania titled: Australia’s House Crisis Fix
- 2023 **ABC 936 Radio** - Huon Valley Studio Art Trail, presenter Joel Rineburger
- 2023 **The Mercury** - Huon Valley Studio Art Trail & Deborah Wace as Art Ambassador feature article
- 2023 **ABC 936 Drive Show** - Van Diemen’s Band Harpsichord, design and creation, presenter Lucy Breden.
- 2023 **The Mercury** - Van Diemen’s Band Harpsichord & Deborah WACE botanical design underlid feature article
- 2023 **2023 International Seaweed Symposium dinner** - seaweed experts from EnviroStrat, University of Waikato & AgriSea modelled Deborah WACE lycra body suits designed by Celyna Ziolkowski to resemble Leafy Sea Dragons for ‘The Sartorial Naturalist’ range
- 2023 **Radio 3CR Earth Matters** - ‘Valuing the worlds disappearing kelp forests’ podcast
- 2023 **The Mercury** - donation of WACE cushions to Landcare Fundraising Art Auction article
- 2023 **ABC Radio National’s The Science Show** - interview about ‘On the Edge: Species at Risk’
- 2023 **Huon & Kingston FM radio ‘Local Vocal’** - artist interview
- 2020 **Women in Media launch, MONA** - key speakers, Virginia Trioli & Caroline Jones, presented with Deborah WACE botanical silk scarves
- 2019 **ABC 936 Radio** - interview with Helen Shield
- 2018 **ABC Radio National** - artist Profile, interview with Catherine Zengerer.

PUBLICATIONS

2023	seaweednews.com - WACE seaweed design bodysuits worn during the International Seaweed Symposium
2023	seaweednews.com - 'On the Edge: Species at Risk' exhibition artist profile
2022	Green Magazine - artist profile titled: 'Red and Green Seaweed' (issue 88)
2022	Broadsheet x Tourism Tasmania magazine - artist profile
2022	Australian Garden History Journal - article titled: 'A Wild Garden in remote Tasmania: In the footsteps of Labillardière' (Vol.33, No.4)
2021	The Monthly Magazine - 'The Orchid Eye' by Keely Jobe feature article
2020	Forty South Magazine - 'The Artist & the Ancient' artist profile by Rayne Allinson
2019	Fagus - Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens magazine feature artist profile
2018	The Tasmanian Magazine - 'Weaving Threads of Art & Science' artist profile (Issue#4).

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023	ArtBox - Deborah WACE garments, accessories, home wares & wallpaper display, Huonville
2022	Solo art display - Wild Island Gallery, Hobart
2021	The Sartorial Naturalist - premiere and exhibition of all Deborah WACE elements, fabrics and wallpapers: opened by The French Consul to Tasmania
2018	Morphology of Desire - Wild Island Gallery
2017	Elemental Art Space Gallery - Deloraine
2017	Solo art exhibition - Cradle Mountain Wilderness Gallery
2016	Solo Show - Westwinds Community Centre, Woodbridge
2016	Solo Show with Printmaking Workshop - Wild Island Gallery, Hobart
2016	Tarkine in Motion Exhibition - Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
2016	Tarkine Commotion - curation & performance at, Peacock Theatre, Hobart
2015	Tools of the Trade - Kingston LINK
2014	Osmosis - Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
2014	Hobart City Mission Exhibit - Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
2013	Etchings & Botanical Art - Magnolia 73, Moonah: opened by Kylie Eastley
2012	Design Showcase - Sustainable Living Festival, PW1, Hobart
2012	Orchid Etchings and botanical wall friezes - Parnella Gallery, St Helens
2012	Artists Behind the Action - Church Studio Gallery, Franklin
2011	Register print exhibition - S.P.A.C.E. Scotch Oakburn College, Tasmania
2011	Burnie Print Prize exhibition - BRAG, Burnie, Tasmania
2010	Etching works - Junction National Regional Arts Conference, Launceston
2009	Understorey Network Touring Exhibition - Tasmania
2009	Beyond Buttongrass - RTGB, opened by: Senator Bob Brown
2007	Buttongrass - far from plain - Eucalypt Cafe, Port Arthur, opened by: Melva Truchanas
2007	Tasmanian Wildflower Spectacular - City Hall, Hobart.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023	On the Edge: Species at Risk - Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
2023	Beneath the Surface: Seaweed-inspired art - IMAS, Hobart
2017	Group show - Wild Island Gallery
2015	Joint orchid works show - Kingston Beach Arts Hub
2012	The Art of Christmas - Menzies Research Institute Exhibition.