

D E B O R A H

WACE®

Deborah

WACE

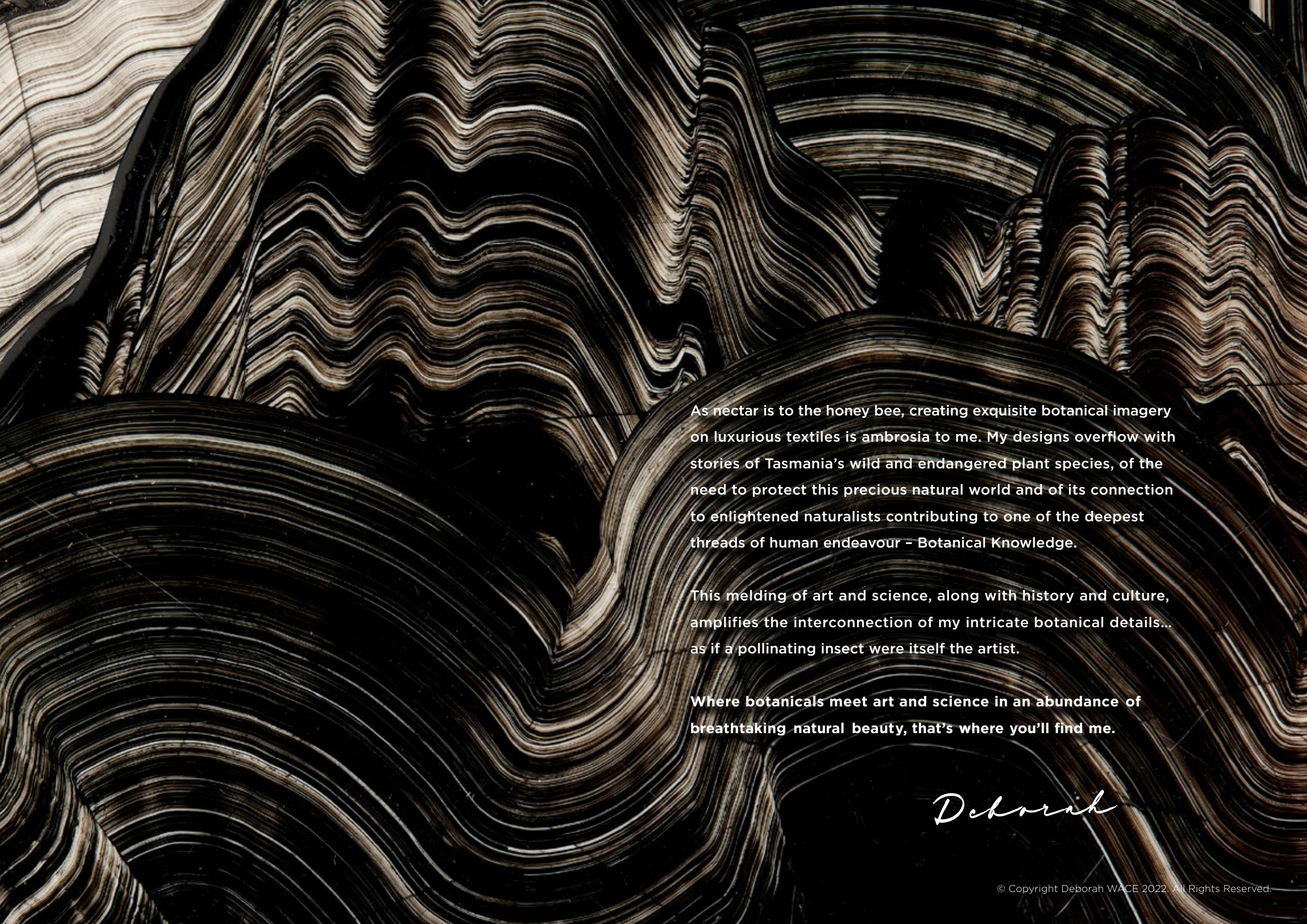
BOTANICALS

SCIENCE

ART

LIFE





As nectar is to the honey bee, creating exquisite botanical imagery on luxurious textiles is ambrosia to me. My designs overflow with stories of Tasmania's wild and endangered plant species, of the need to protect this precious natural world and of its connection to enlightened naturalists contributing to one of the deepest threads of human endeavour – Botanical Knowledge.

This melding of art and science, along with history and culture, amplifies the interconnection of my intricate botanical details... as if a pollinating insect were itself the artist.

Where botanicals meet art and science in an abundance of breathtaking natural beauty, that's where you'll find me.

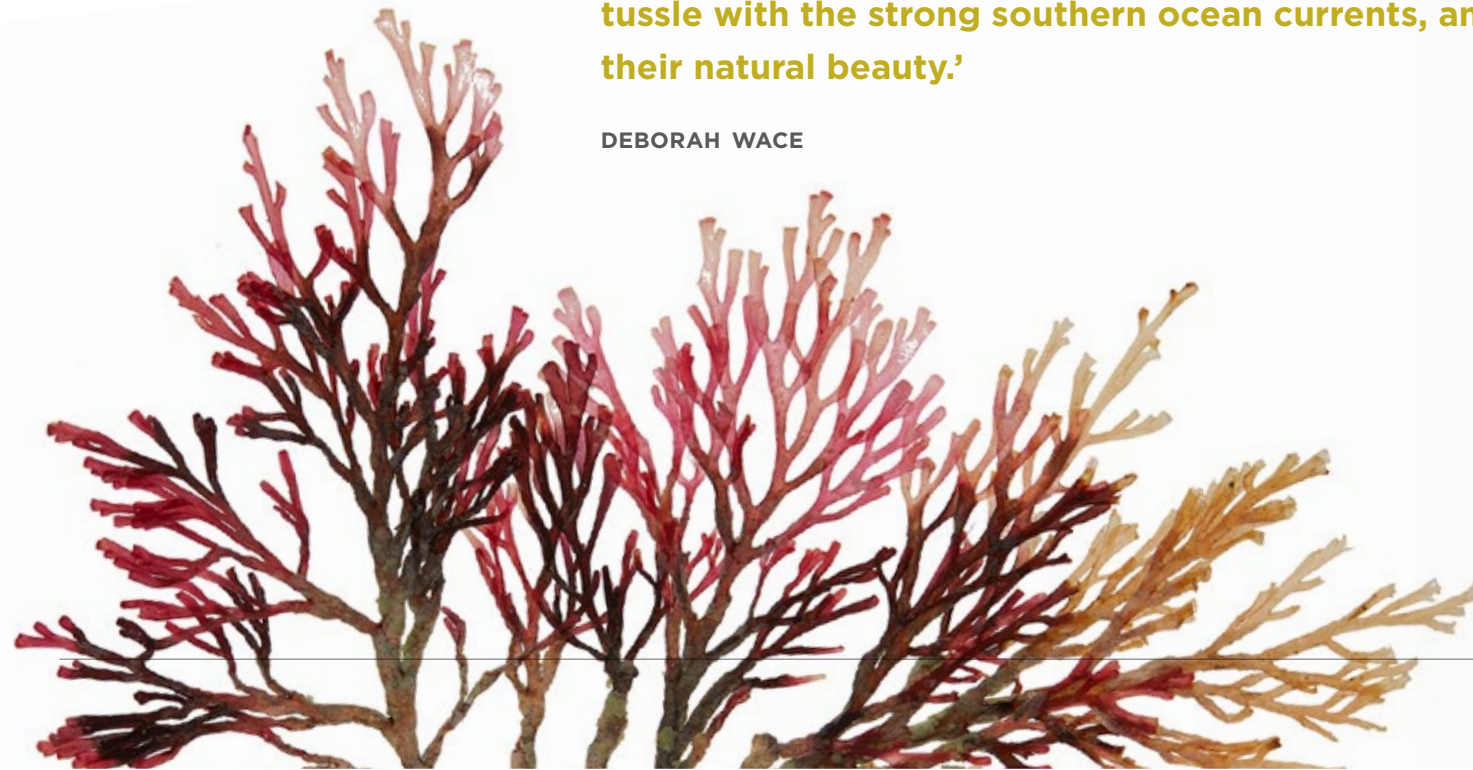
Deborah





‘My designs are a magical gathering of Tasmania’s exquisite flora, from rare orchids and lichens found deep in the Tarkine (takayna) rainforests through to giant sea kelp strands that tussle with the strong southern ocean currents, amplifying their natural beauty.’

DEBORAH WACE





Deborah WACE is a Hobart - based art, fabric design and professional printmaking company creating luxurious, sophisticated and visually rich fabrics, fashion accessories, soft furnishings, wallpaper and limited edition art.

Celebrating the uniqueness of Tasmanian plants and flowers, each design is an intimate artwork that creates a window into the botany of Tasmania's wild and often endangered plant communities: from its threatened native orchids, marine plants, and wild buttongrass heathland communities near Lune River or around Recherche Bay, to species only found deep within the threatened temperate rainforests of the Tarkine region.

The artist Deborah Wace is the creative force behind the Deborah WACE brand.

The creative force behind the brand

Deborah is a botanical artist, fabric designer, professional printmaker and ecological activist with a deep-seated connection to the natural environment. She possesses a remarkable way of seeing and expressing the botanical world and holds a fascination for the smaller species that are easily missed. Often studying her subjects under a magnifying glass, Deborah expertly captures the minutia and innermost details of the specimens she draws, unveiling their very essence and amplifying their natural beauty.

She delights in upscaling and hand-rendering images of these tiny plants to make them large - immersing you in a wonderland of Tasmanian flora, to help you look closer and forge your own connection with the spirit of country; all while telling their stories.

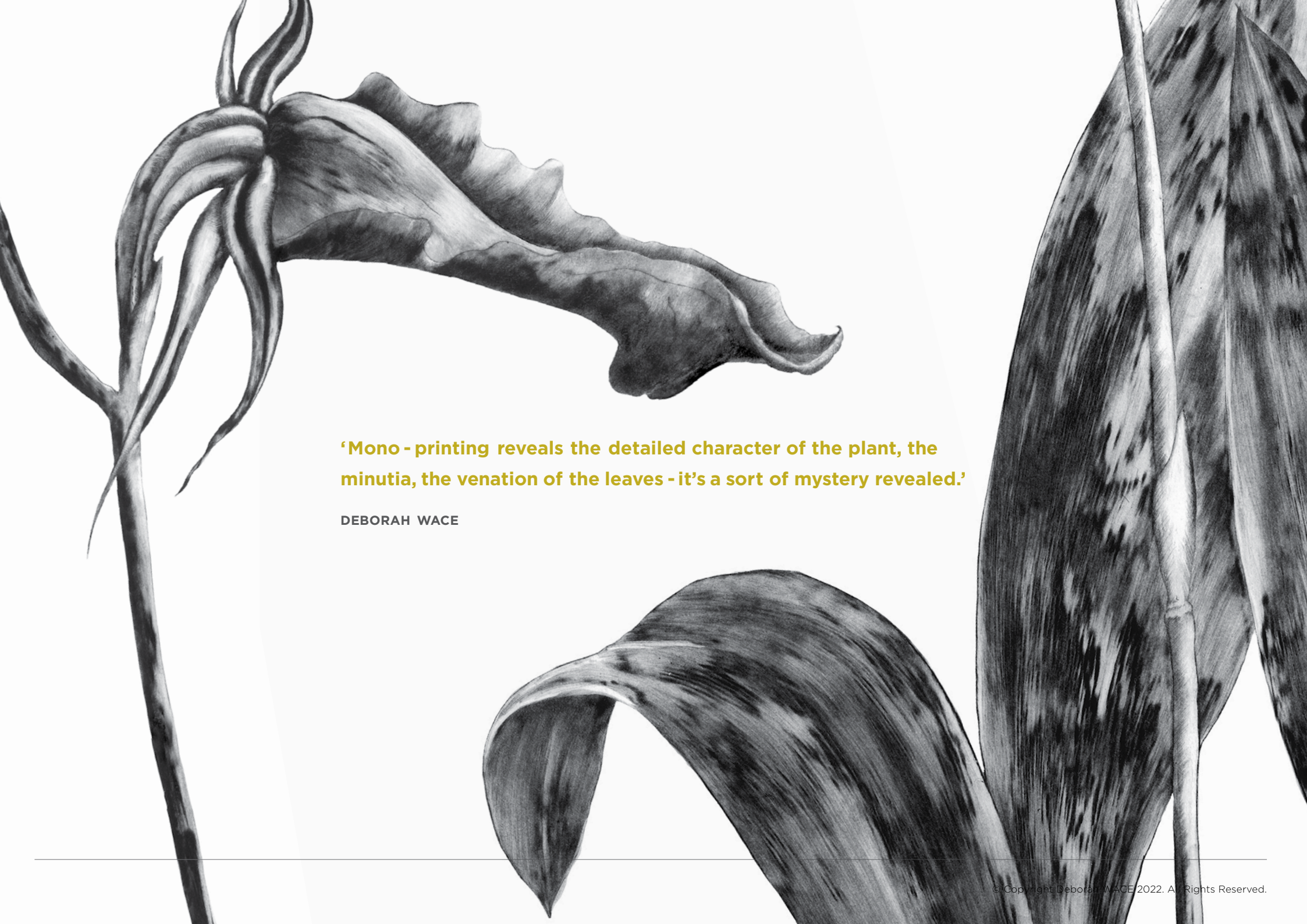
Time - honoured print techniques

Deborah's inspiration is drawn from her extensive botanical library. She combines pressed plant images with drypoint (scribing onto an acrylic printmaking plate) and mono-print original artwork and etchings, which she digitally layers to create rich, complex botanical designs.

These mirror the type specimen sheets held in herbarium collections internationally, where the pressed plant specimens and accompanying field notes provide direct inspiration for detailed engravings published in botanical reference books.



Labillardière Type specimen sheets - Webb Herbarium, Museum of Natural History, Florence, Italy.



‘Mono - printing reveals the detailed character of the plant, the minutia, the venation of the leaves - it’s a sort of mystery revealed.’

DEBORAH WACE



The French Connection

Tasmania's history is rich with French connections from the early European voyages of discovery.

In the 1790s, the French d'Entrecasteaux scientific expedition explored, documented and named Recherche Bay on the extreme south-east corner of Tasmania. They gathered important pioneering botanical specimens that are now held in the great Herbaria of Europe and the United Kingdom. Deborah Wace's 2018 Churchill Fellowship took her to Europe to study the botanical records of this and other Tasmania French expeditions. She studied botanical specimens located in Herbarium collections in Paris, Florence, and Kew from the d'Entrecasteaux expeditions to Tasmania in 1792-93, and the Baudin expedition from 1800-1803.

ORIGINAL, CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL MOTIFS BORN FROM THIS EXPERIENCE ARE WOVEN INTO DEBORAH WACE ART AND FABRIC DESIGNS.

Story-telling through Art

Through her visually rich and flowing artistry, Deborah tells stories of her connection to landscape, history and her passion for the flora of the beautiful island, Tasmania. She weaves a narrative through her designs of plant collectors and early French naturalists, the palawa people of lutruwita and of her deep connection to flora and botany. This historical foundation builds a greater understanding of the significance of these early botanical collections, our interconnection with nature, and fosters greater respect for our flora.



Rare Botanical Library

Deborah WACE holds an immense botanical element library of 200+ distinctly Tasmanian pressed plant specimen assets that are linked into Australia's national botanical historical record.

Gathered over 30 years by Deborah and recently digitised, these incredibly rare and unique botanical and printmaking assets are the essence of each design.

The element library consists of plant pressings, drypoint etchings and mono-prints - all digitised and isolated for design. They are available through licensing agreements for corporate, fashion and interior design applications.

Interested? Contact Deborah WACE to discuss.



The image is a full-page collage with a vibrant yellow background. It features several dark, possibly black or dark brown, trophies and vases. These objects are rendered with a painterly, textured style, showing brushstrokes and highlights. They are scattered across the frame, some overlapping. In the center, the word "LUXURIOUS" is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font. The background is also decorated with faint, stylized floral or leaf patterns in shades of yellow and gold, creating a rich, textured effect.

LUXURIOUS



‘Collecting and printing from plant specimens brings me sheer delight every time. There’s always something new: the structure, the function and the mirroring of form in nature. It’s endlessly fascinating.’

DEBORAH WACE

An abundance of breathtaking natural beauty



The Sartorial Naturalist Collection

Inspired by the wild and often raw Tasmanian environment, The Sartorial Naturalist Collection is an ever-evolving and alluring range of products bearing the signature Deborah WACE botanical designs. Fagus leaves, orchids, giant kelp, mosses, seed pods and other endangered flora are captured on swathes of luxurious silks, European flax linens, crinkle silk chiffons and high - quality paper and wallpaper.

Each piece is saturated with the warmth and richness of chartreuse greens, antique golds, seaweed pinks, lichen blues, burnt umbers and a myriad of other colours inspired by nature.

Deborah WACE is synonymous with quality:

- Exquisite silk satin scarves and handkerchiefs
- Sumptuous European flax linen cushions
- Repeat pattern fabric yardage
- Elaborate wallpaper art panels
- Botanical greeting cards
- Limited edition prints.

Discover Deborah WACE as you **Wrap** yourself in Wild, **Immerse** yourself in Luxury and **Express** yourself with Art.



Golden Fagus Leaf

Nothofagus gunnii

The stunning Fagus or native Tasmanian beech tree is found nowhere else on the planet. Each autumn, people from around the world flock to 'Tassie' to witness the autumnal beauty of the Fagus tree's leaves as they turn a multitude of rusty red and golden yellow tones. Its beauty has been immortalised in a luxury range of silk cushions, wallpaper, scarves and prints by Deborah WACE.

'The changing of the Fagus leaf in alpine Tasmania is a truly awe-inspiring experience to witness when its incredible beauty and majesty can be fully appreciated. I feel that I have captured this in my designs. I tell its story; I hope that you can too.'

DEBORAH WACE



Recherche Bay Red Seaweed

Callophyllis rangiferina, *Ceramium virgatum* Roth, *Chaetomorpha coliformis* and *Delisa pulchra*

This amazingly diverse range of marine plants has more than 440 species living in Tasmanian waters alone. They are a window into the wild world beneath our waters. Its delicate and exquisite details have been pressed to perfection. These seaweeds, in pinks, greens, blacks and whites, adorn the Deborah WACE range.

‘I collected my precious red seaweed specimens at Recherche Bay, Tasmania in 2018. I had a quest to follow in the footsteps of French naturalist JJH Labillardière in his 1791-93 collections of this same species. This nourishes my connection to the past and the labour of the world’s great botanists.’

DEBORAH WACE



Lomatia Tasmanica

Lomatia tasmanica

King's Lomatia is a critically endangered plant, surviving in just one location in southwest Tasmania. It has sterile flowers and regenerates by root suckering and coppice, due to its inability to produce seeds. There are thought to be only 500 plant stems clustered around 1.2 kilometres of rainforest gully, meaning one catastrophic bushfire could eradicate it forever. It may be one of the oldest plants on earth. Explore this scientifically remarkable plant which features in Deborah WACE designs.

‘The story of Lomatia tasmanica is one of resilience and survival. There is hope however, as the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens is successfully propagating it to ensure its survival.’

DEBORAH WACE



Large Tongue Orchid

Cryptostylis subulata

This beautiful native orchid was originally collected from Recherche Bay, Tasmania in 1792. The type specimen is attributed to the French naturalist JJH Labillardière but it may have actually been collected by Felix de Lahaye, a gardener aboard the d'Entrecasteaux expedition. Lahaye created the French Garden at Recherche Bay and went on to be chief gardener in charge of rare and exotic plants for Emperor Napoleon and Empress Josephine at their Paris estate Château de Malmaison. You can find this luscious orchid in buttongrass moorlands, damp woodlands, peaty sand soils and embellished on the Deborah WACE range.

'I find orchids to be objects of such exquisite minute detail, so highly evolved to fit their ecological niche.'

DEBORAH WACE



Blue Seed Pods

Billardiera longiflora

'Seed Pods in Blue' is a fantastical blend of herbarium samples of *Billardiera longiflora*, combined with mono-print techniques on a field of duck egg blue. The Purple Apple-berry was first described by, and named after, JJH Labillardière - the French Naturalist aboard the d'Entrecasteaux expedition to Australia in 1791-93. This delightful climbing vine adorns the Deborah WACE range.

'I have used my original printmaking work to show portals into the landscape where you might find *Billardiera longiflora*. Look closely into a whole other world.'

DEBORAH WACE



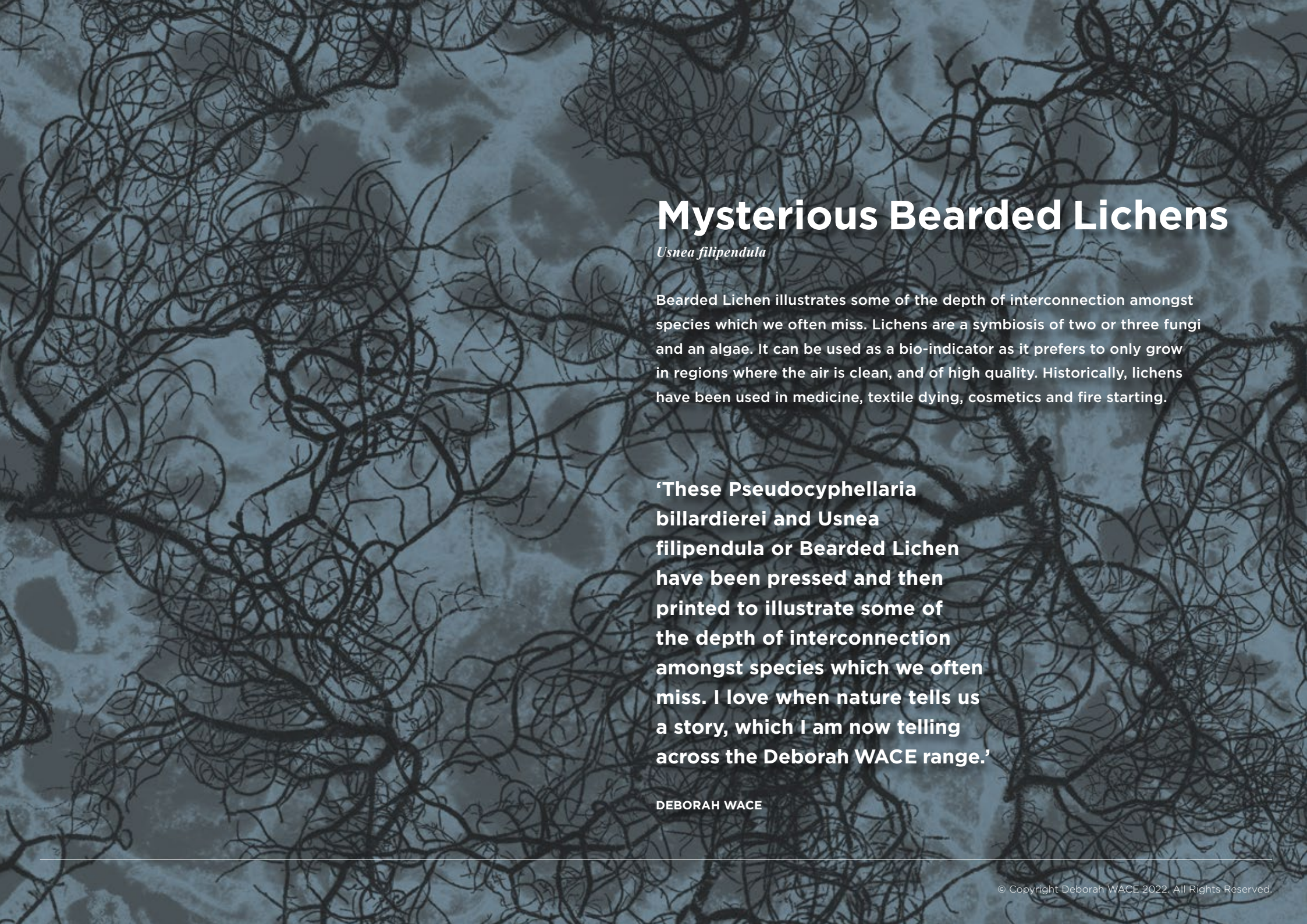
Giant Australian Kelp

Macrocystis pyrifera

Commonly known as Giant Kelp, this magnificent plant can grow to 30 metres from the sea floor to the water's surface, creating dense forests along the exposed coasts and deep water reefs of Tasmania. These giant forests support an incredible range of species and are at dire risk of extinction from the rising sea temperatures created by human-induced climate change. The Giant Kelp forests are now classed as a threatened ecological community. This striking design has an important message for us all with its story replicated across the Deborah WACE range.

'The whole ecosystem is under threat from sea temperature rise, and the kelp, a massive underwater forest system which supports a whole ecology, is collapsing. I want to let people know of the giant kelp's imminent peril, through the lens of my designs.'

DEBORAH WACE



Mysterious Bearded Lichens

Usnea filipendula

Bearded Lichen illustrates some of the depth of interconnection amongst species which we often miss. Lichens are a symbiosis of two or three fungi and an algae. It can be used as a bio-indicator as it prefers to only grow in regions where the air is clean, and of high quality. Historically, lichens have been used in medicine, textile dyeing, cosmetics and fire starting.

**‘These Pseudocyphellaria
billardierei and Usnea
filipendula or Bearded Lichen
have been pressed and then
printed to illustrate some of
the depth of interconnection
amongst species which we often
miss. I love when nature tells us
a story, which I am now telling
across the Deborah WACE range.’**

DEBORAH WACE

The Sartorial Naturalist film

Be seduced by the allure of Deborah WACE's exquisitely designed fabrics flowing beneath the waves. The Sartorial Naturalist is a 12-minute award-winning film made in collaboration with nationally and internationally recognised film makers, designers, musicians, and costume and dance professionals.

The story embraces the deep connection that Deborah has to both the early French naturalists and the palawa custodians of lutruwita.

An autobiographical fantasy, it showcases both Deborah's artistic practice and the inspiration behind her designs. Be inspired as her designs take on a life of their own.

www.deborahwace.com/the-sartorial-naturalist

This film was made possible by generous funding through the Australia Council for the Arts, Arts Tasmania & Screen Tasmania and Bellendena Small Grants Scheme. As well as significant 'in kind' support from across Tasmania.





S O P H I S T I C A T E D

Designs gifted by nature but inspired by You

Deborah WACE provides a range of bespoke services for Australian and international private clients and businesses. Her design services are perfect for restaurants, hotel chains, fashion designers and clients seeking an authentic, exclusive and one-of-a-kind work of art or design for their home or business. Sustainability across the whole supply chain is sought wherever possible by the Deborah WACE brand. All plant specimens are collected sustainably and with permissions.

Deborah can work with you and your team to create a custom designed piece inspired by you, which embodies the signature Deborah WACE style using her designs, prints, etchings and botanical assets.

Bespoke pieces include but are not limited to:

- Limited edition fabrics featuring one - off designs in a range of sustainably produced fabrics
- Unique, one - of - a - kind interior designs across a range of architectural substrates such as glass panels and shower screens
- Art commissions
- Limited - edition botanical and art prints.

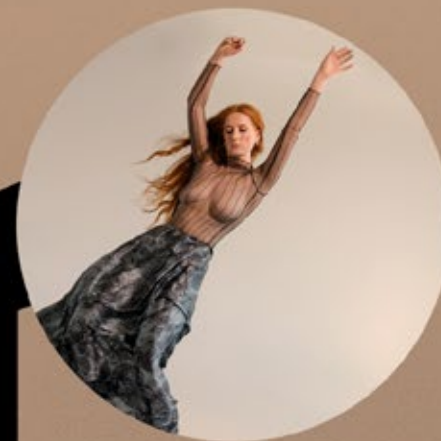
If you are after something truly unique, contact Deborah WACE to discuss your idea.



'I am pivoting my entire layered body of botanical artwork onto fabric for print and garment, a moving gallery, worn by someone who loves it, alive in the elements. Mine is a story of connection to landscape and history, sharing a deep passion for the flora of this beautiful island.'

DEBORAH WACE





2022

Feature article in Green Magazine Upfront section showcasing Recherche Bay Sawweed Wallpaper
Accepting to exhibit artwork in 'On the Edge: Species at Risk', March 2023 - Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
Joined WCEI Women Chief of Enterprise International - Tasmanian branch
Created cover artwork for 'Daughter of the Plateau' by Karen Harriland - Forty South Publishing
Feature article in Broadsheet & Tourism Tasmania magazine
Guest article in Tasmanian Society for the Environment on the Edge: Opportunity and Challenge' - Hobart conference (11-13 November)
Feature on ABC TV Gardening Australia 'Dorset Garden Park' 725 minute segment aired 5 June
Designed underlid artwork for new Hampshire built for the Van Diemen's Bay Regional Council
'The Sartorial Naturalist' raises international market portfolio photographic shoot (Amy Brown-photographer, Angela Pelizzari-stylist)
Feature article in Australian Garden History Society 'Nina Cone Writing Fund Grant'
Recipient of an Australian Garden History Society 'Nina Cone Writing Fund Grant'
Engaged Desirée Sheehan to focus on marketing and communicating my work, my passion and my history to the world
STSC Sustainable Textile Supply Chain fabric developers engaged
'The Sartorial Naturalist' screened - FlickerFest, Cymnet (March)
Grant recipient 'Export Market Development Grant' Forging pathways to international markets'
Solo show - Wild Island Gallery, Hobart

2021

French Consul to Tasmania opened the premiere screening of 'The Sartorial Naturalist' at my exhibition of all elements, fabrics and wallpapers (Hobart studio June 2021)
Filmed 'The Sartorial Naturalist' - a multi-form art collaboration of nationally and internationally recognised design, cinematic, post production, musical composition and dance professionals to capture the beauty and fragility of some of Tasmania's endangered flora
Engaged Jess Adams from Adamsography as article researcher and media assistant
Awarded an Australia Council for the Arts Project grant for The Sartorial Naturalist project
Awarded an Arts Tasmania/Screen Tasmania grant for The Sartorial Naturalist project
'New Work for New Markets' grant recipient for development of international licensing and marketing for new Tasmanian botanical fabric designs
Feature article 'The Orchid Eye' - The Monthly magazine (by Keely Jobo)

2020

Botanical silk scarves presented to ABC Journalists Virginia Trolor and Caroline Jones, at Women in Media launch (held at MONA)
Feature article 'The Artist & the Ancient' in Forty South Magazine (by Rayne Allison)

2019

ABC 635 radio interview with Helen Shield (August)
Press Council Churchhill Fellow - Honoured Deborah WACE studio
Moved into new Deborah WACE studio (Level 9, 65 Murray Street, Hobart)
Feature article 'Fagus' in Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens magazine

2018

'Fabric of Botany' film premiere and showcase exhibition - Hobart State Cinema
ABC Radio National interview with Catherine Zengeler (November)
'Bon Voyage' 250 Years Exploring the Natural World' summer meeting of the Society for the History of Natural History, and AGM
In association with the British Ornithologists' Club, at World Museum Liverpool (14-15 June)
Travelled to Florence, Paris and London herbariums to view the Type Specimen collections as part of Churchill Fellowship
Conducted 5-day Arts Residency on the North East Peninsula of Recherche Bay, far south Tasmania
Held 'Morphology of Desire' solo show - Wild Island Gallery, Hobart
Featured article 'Weaving Threads of Art & Science' - Tasmania + The Tasmanian Magazine Issue #4

2017

Awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study the early French botanical historical collections from Tasmania, held in European herbaria
Group show - Wild Island Gallery
Exhibition - Elemental Art Space Gallery, Deloraine
Exhibition - Cradle Mountain Wilderness Gallery
Exhibition sell - Blooming Tasmania, Launceston
Winner of Best New Stall - Deloraine Craft Fair, Tasmania

2016

Solo exhibition - Westwinds Community Centre
Solo exhibition - Wild Island Gallery, Hobart
Turkey in Motion Exhibition - Long Gallery
Curation and performance - 'Irkline Commotion Peacock Theatre, Salamanca

2015

Filmed 'Art of the Wild Tasmanian Orchid' a short film about my arts practice (by Leonie Fahey)
Exhibition - Kingston LINC Library
Joint orchid works show - Kingston Beach Arts Hub

2014

Exhibition 'Osmosis' - Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
Hobart City Mission Exhibition - Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
Solo exhibition - Magnolia 73, Hobart

2012

Design Showcase 'Sustainable Living Festival, PW1', Hobart
The Art of Christmas - Menzies Research Institute Exhibition
Orchid etchings and botanical wall friezes - Parnella Gallery, St Helens,
Artists behind the Action, Church Studio Gallery, Franklin

2011

Opening of new studio, Hobart (by Brian Ritchie)
Register, Print exhibition S.P.A.C.E. Scotch Oakburn College, Tasmania
Burnie Print Prize exhibition, BRAG, Burnie, Tasmania

2010

Presentation of etching works - Junction National Regional Arts Conference, Launceston, Tasmania
Re-located to Hobart from Lune River, Tasmania

2009

Understorey Network Touring Exhibition around Tasmania (TPA)
Beyond Buttongrass - Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (opened by Senator Bob Brown)

2007

Buttongrass - far from plain - Eucalypt Cafe, Port Arthur (opened by Melva Truchanas)
Tasmanian Wildflower Spectacular - City Hall, Hobart

2005

Co-ordination and teaching for 80m of cast mosaic pavers - Ogilvie High School, playful Pavers Project
Celebrated the culmination of several years' community direct action and work to protect the NE Peninsula of Recherche Bay

2001

Mosaic fronts piece - Meander Primary School, Tasmania
Backlit agate and fern fossil mosaic - Hastings Caves Visitors Centre, Tasmania

2000

Mosaic Courtyard Development - Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart

1999

Lauderdale Canal Skateboard Park Project Mosaics - Clarence City Council

My Journey



‘Satisfy your curious mind as you reconnect to your deeply wild and nourished self.’

DEBORAH WACE



FOR ALL ENQUIRIES



Deborah WACE operates from studios in the Hobart CBD, Tasmania.
Local, interstate and international enquires are welcome.

Mobile / +61 458 176 239

Email / info@deborahwace.com

Website / www.deborahwace.com

Address / Studio 65 - Level 9/65 Murray Street, Hobart Tasmania, Australia 7000

Acknowledgement to Country

Deborah Wace acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. The palawa people are the traditional owners of the country upon which I live and work in lutruwita (Tasmania). I stand for a future that profoundly respects and acknowledges Aboriginal perspectives, culture, language and history.

Herbarium sheets, plant specimens, original printmaking: Deborah Wace

Branding, Concept and Stylist: Angela Pelizzari / angelapelizzari.com

Modelled Content Photographer: Amy Brown / amybrown.com.au

DEBORAH
WACE®