M Y S H A N G R I - L A

Heather Kelman
Design





Story



immersive



intricate

colour



Radical




LIA
YPTI GL
TEINTURE













My Shangri-La is a space which is my own, selfish and indulgent. I want this project to be a celebration of my abilities both physical and creative, a festival of joy in a time which is anything but. I am surrounded by collections of things which give me memories, feelings, and spark moments of nostalgia and I wonder what a world comprised solely of these objects would look like, and how they might fit together. A tin plane taking flight with feathery wings, or a big blossoming flower which has taken home in an intricate vase.

I really value the aspect of narrative within my work, but I know that I don't want to tell a specific story through the designs I create, it is entirely up for interpretation. I want each aspect of my designs to be able to tell a new story or interpret a new part of an ever-unfolding tale. A way for someone to be engaged in the design and for them to make of it whatever they feel they can make sense of, without it being confined to the restrictions of one tale which they might not feel resonates with them. This way, I am able to capture a wider audience and also allow my designs to be implemented in a more flexible range of interior scenarios.

I also want to really grasp this opportunity to experiment. I am very happy with my design handwriting, it really expresses who I am, and I enjoy the way I produce my work; however, I would love to explore new surfaces, and mediums within this project. For example, I have mentioned the fact that I really want this project to be an immersive experience across a range of textile and wallcovering, and so I am hoping to investigate the idea of a floor tile design. A radical way of thinking for me which might unlock new inspiration and ideas. I am also really intrigued by the idea of exploring a jacquard woven throw to go alongside my collection. My initial plan was to explore some new ways of printing such as detailed linos to elevate my designs, however I need to be realistic about the restrictions of the pandemic and what I can achieve given the circumstances and limited studio access which I might have. Therefore, I think a jacquard weave would be a really nice way for me to view my designs in a different light, push myself into new realms of thinking, and will also be a great way for me to learn something new.

My biggest goal for this project is to start asking myself why not instead of why. A chance to be carefree rather than too precious and precise. This is something which I feel has notably held me back in my previous projects as I have been so concerned about making everything perfect that I lost some of the enjoyment and inspiration I find in just freely drawing and painting. I am hoping that this shift in my mindset will allow me to explore creative freedom and provide me with a well-rounded collection that sings my skills and fascinations. An interior collection which comes from my soul and hopefully speaks to others.

I hope to create a collection of designs which will make a homeowner feel inspired and excited within their surroundings, designs which push the boundaries and welcome a creative freedom, whilst also uplifting an interior layout and being simply beautiful.



CASTLE ASHBY GARDENS

The absolute heart of this project. A Deeply nostalgic and joyous place which has filled my childhood and every season since with copious amounts of inspiration and memories. A beautiful garden in Northamptonshire, Castle Ashby is somewhere of great inspiration to my own mother, who would bring me with her as she drew and painted, my memories are filled with warm summer sun, perfectly cut grass and millions of wonderous pathways to keep me endlessly entertained

















MARK HEARLD



… Mark Hearld's home to be precise. I came across this article in The world of Interiors magazine and was immediately drawn to the eclectic explosion which seems to be happening in each space of his home. Every single crevice and corner has something beautiful and special hiding in it and this really resonated with my own home space and the treasures and trinkets which my parents have collected over the years. A real sense of nostalgia and relatability.
























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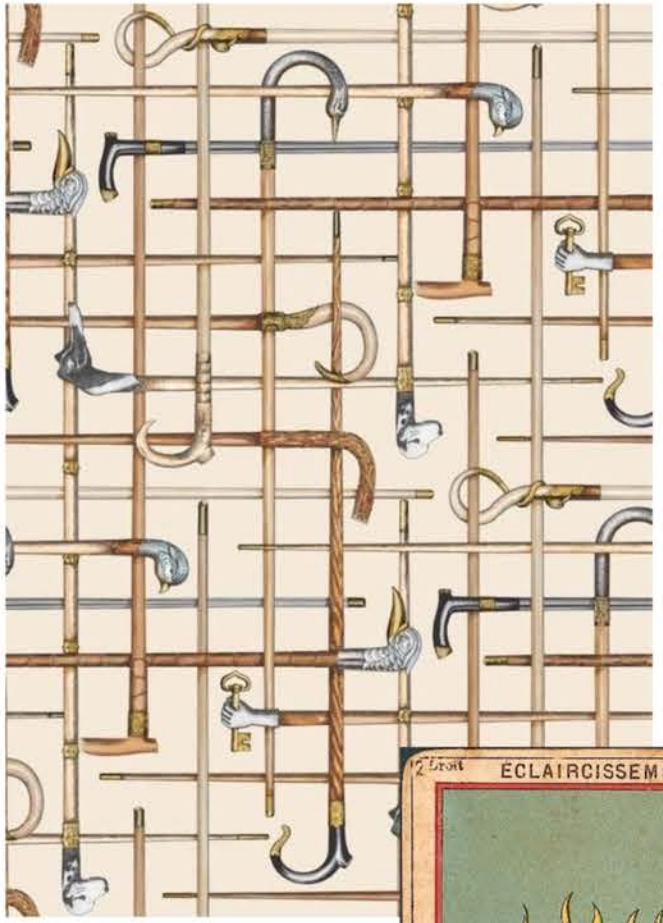
sophierobinsoninteriors • Following



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Initially when I knew that I wanted to focus on nostalgic objects and how they might interact, I came across this Cole & Son design with walking canes. I love the quirky handles and how they interlock in an almost geometric print and this concept is something which I hope to pursue in my work.









COLE & SON

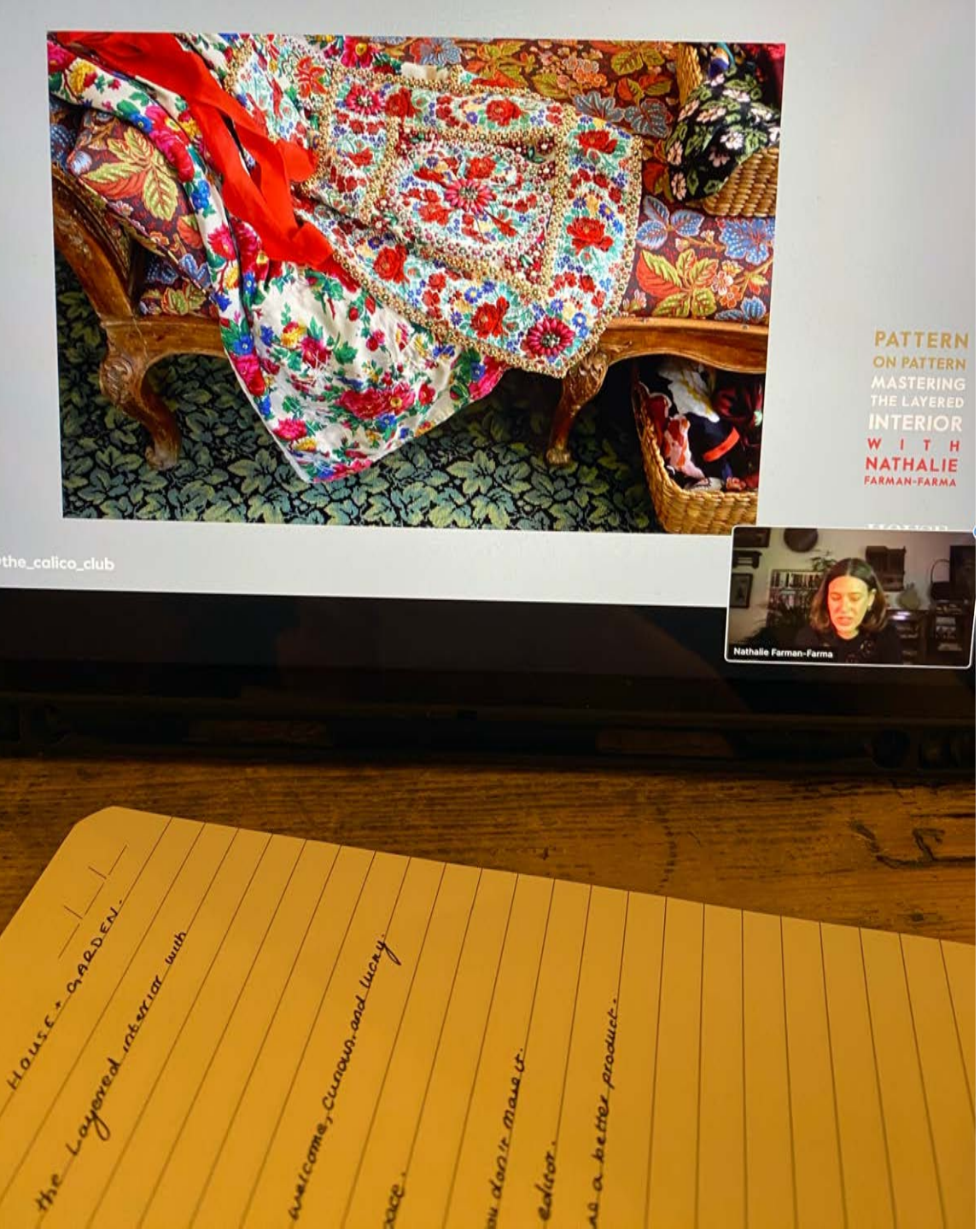






EMMA SHIPLEY

Emma Shipley is a big influence in terms of her pattern forming and the way that her tones, palettes and designs all work alongside each other without fighting. I love the idea of patterns working alongside each other in a space, but it is important for them to sing together rather than be jarring.



Pattern on Pattern was a talk that I attended with House & Garden and was hosted by Nathalie Farman-Farma of Decors Barbares. She spoke about how patterns could work together within an interior, the history of pattern clashing and how to balance things such as colour and print size within a space. I wanted to make sure that I really understood the idea of pattern on pattern before I delved in to this project to ensure that I am able to achieve the kind of end result I was hoping for.




POLLOCK'S
COVENT GARDEN




WILLS'
WHIFFS




WILLS'S
TRADE MARK
WHIFFS


TRADE
MARK
WHIFFS
W. D. & H. O. WILLS
BRISTOL & LOND


PODIUM
TINCT.
SULF.
SUBL. LOT.
Sulfur:
Lotum


RADIX
SINAPIS
ALBA
PULVIS
FOLIA
TEINTURE
CHLOROFORM
LIMONIS
FERR
AMMON.
Sulfur:
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ANIS.STELL









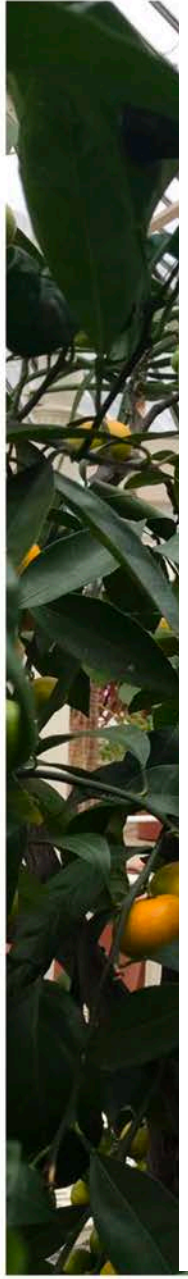


LIBERTY PRINT INSPIRATIONS















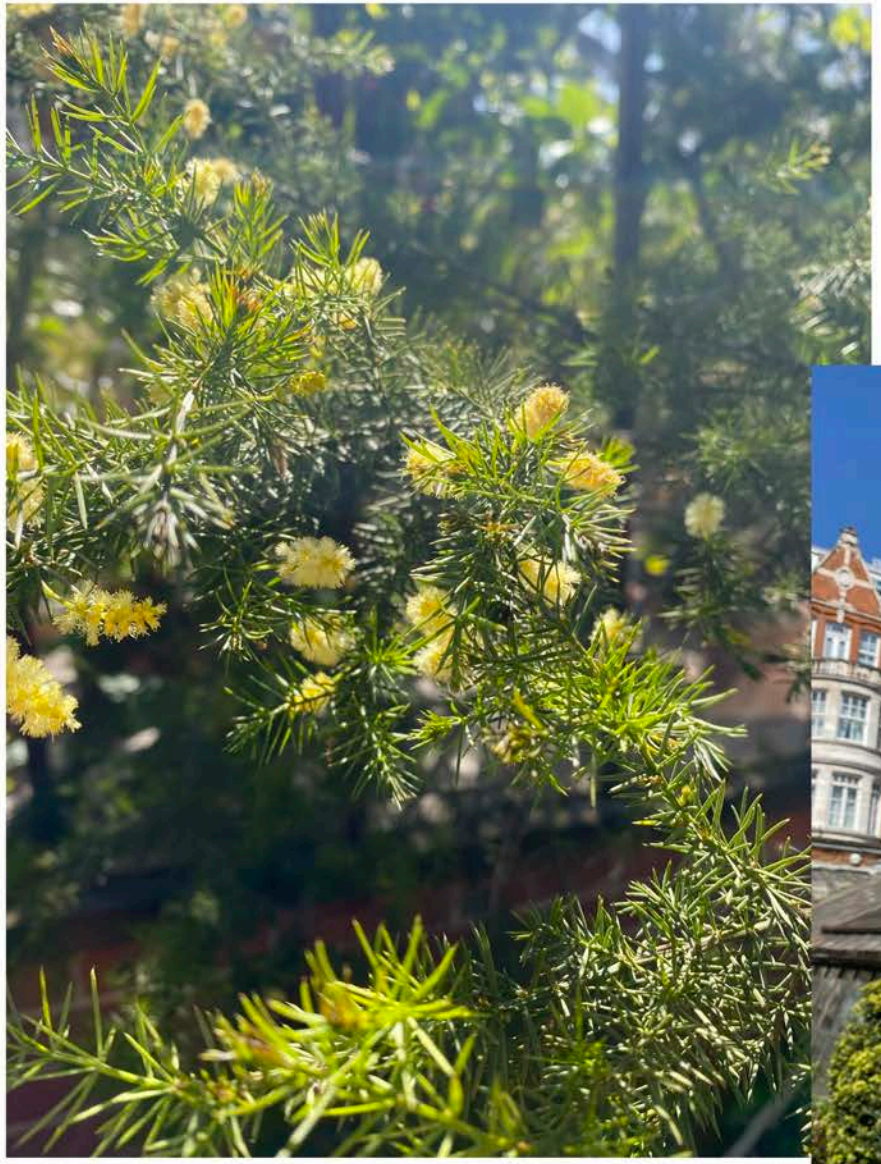








For me, I feel that Liberty, House of Hackney and the likes, are best suited to my interior style and this is the market which I choose to pitch my work towards. I know that my designs are of an acquired taste and I do not design with trends and mass popularity in mind, and therefore find that my work sits much better within a luxury more limited market, especially given the time investment in each piece too.



CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN





I had the opportunity to visit Chelsea Physic Garden whilst in the duration of this project, and really enjoyed being able to immerse myself in a physical garden within which I could get a feel for the layout, surroundings, how the foliage interacted with each other and how architecture and design played a role.





















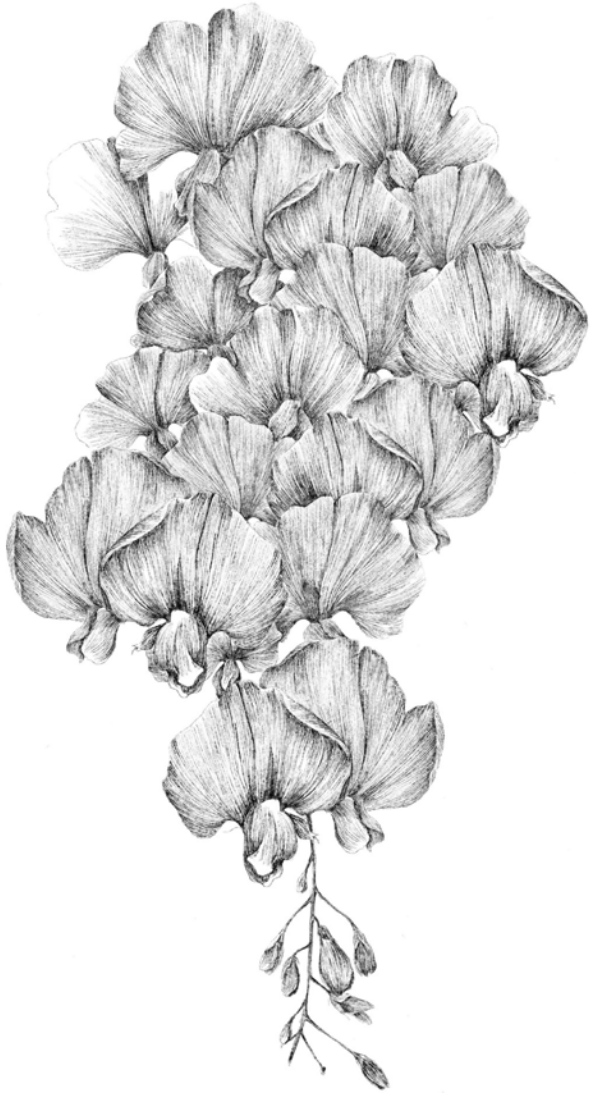


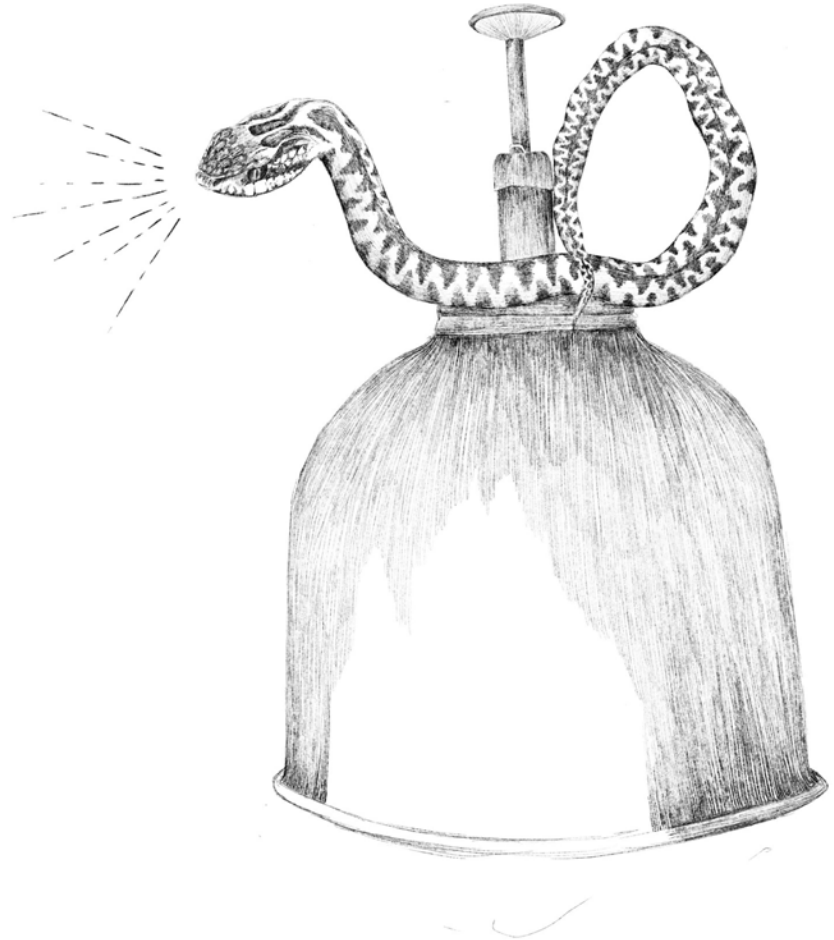
LIBERTINE



These beautiful libertine designs speak to my soul. I love the depth and delicacy which they encompass, and as a result how a story is formed. These designs are more of a mural than a repeating pattern and I love how the intricacy means that even though the garment panels don't match, it adds to the effect, almost like a patchwork.

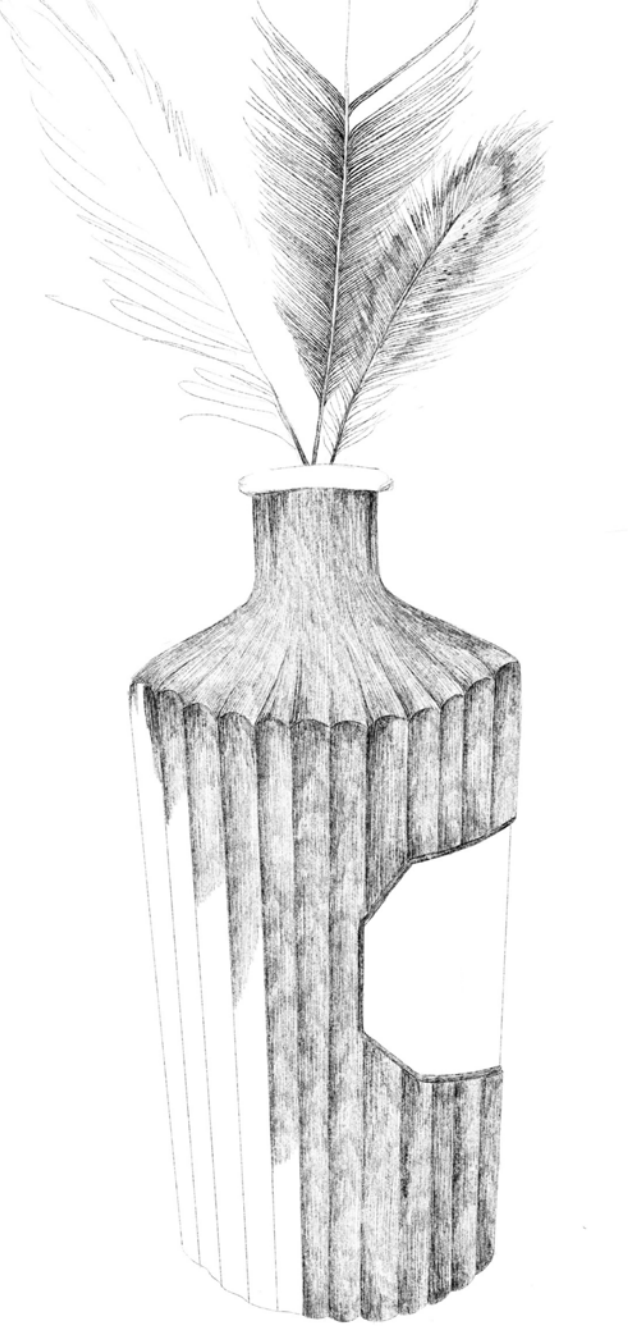


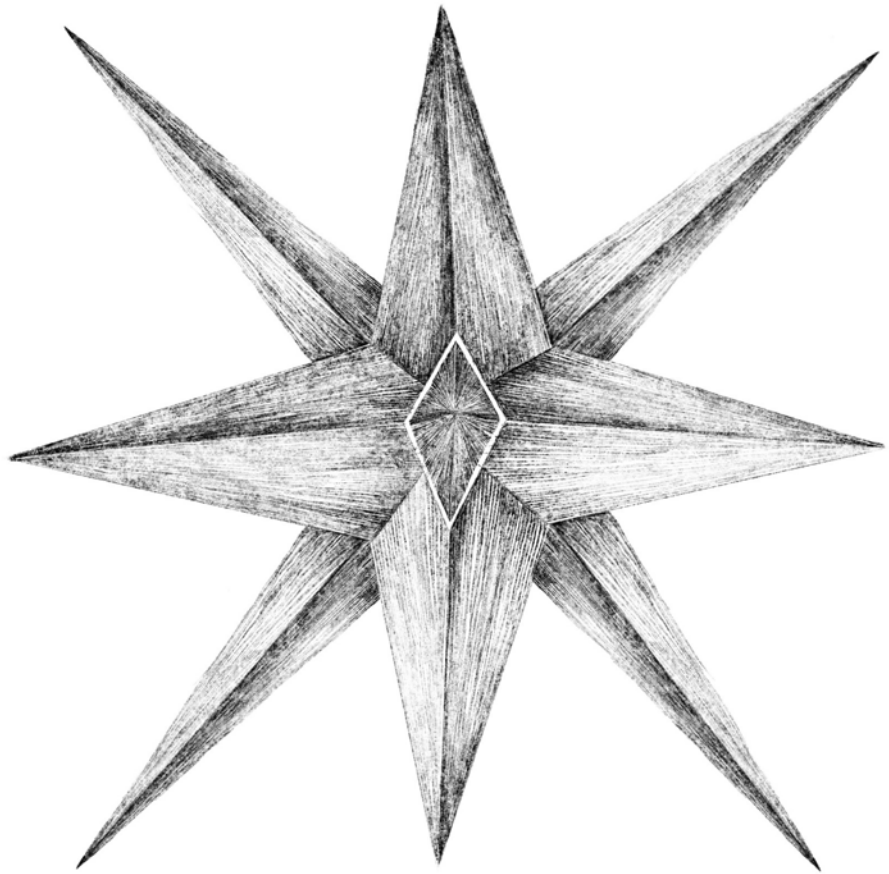


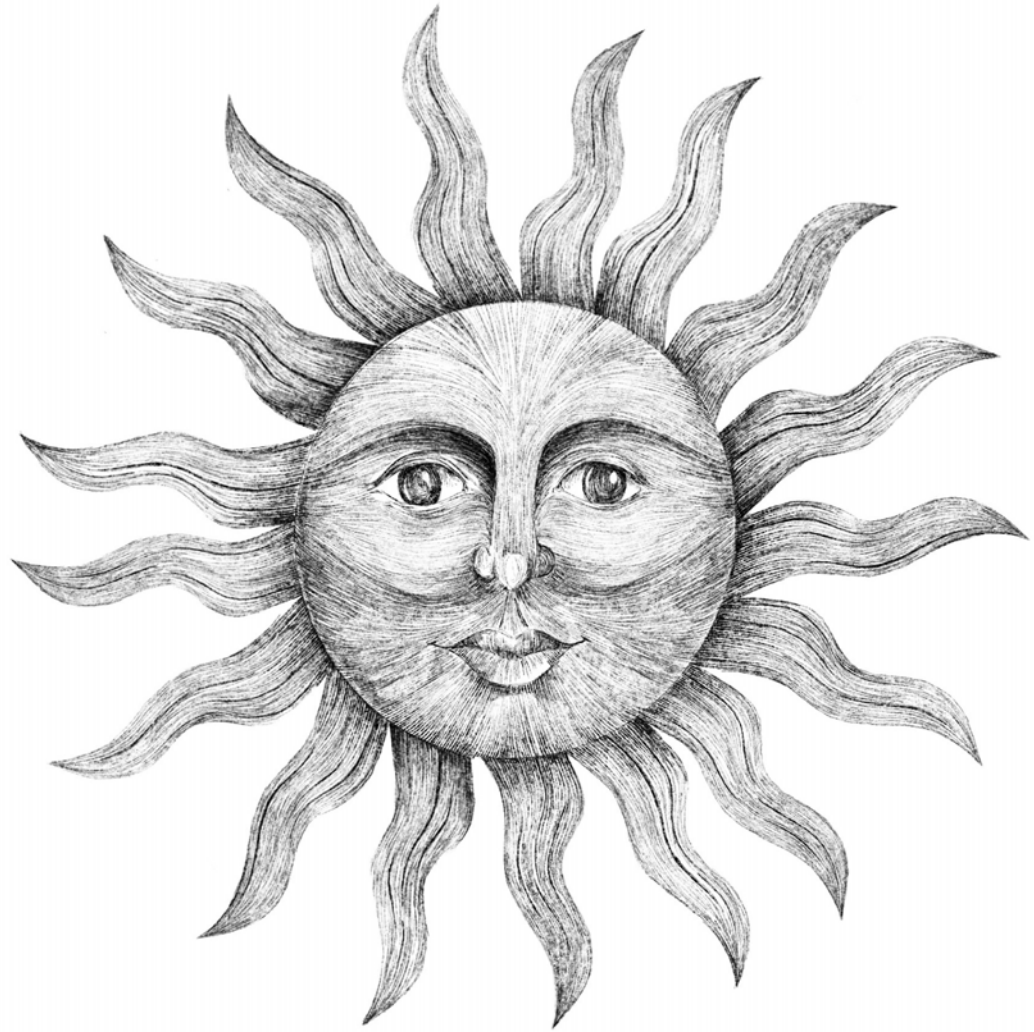






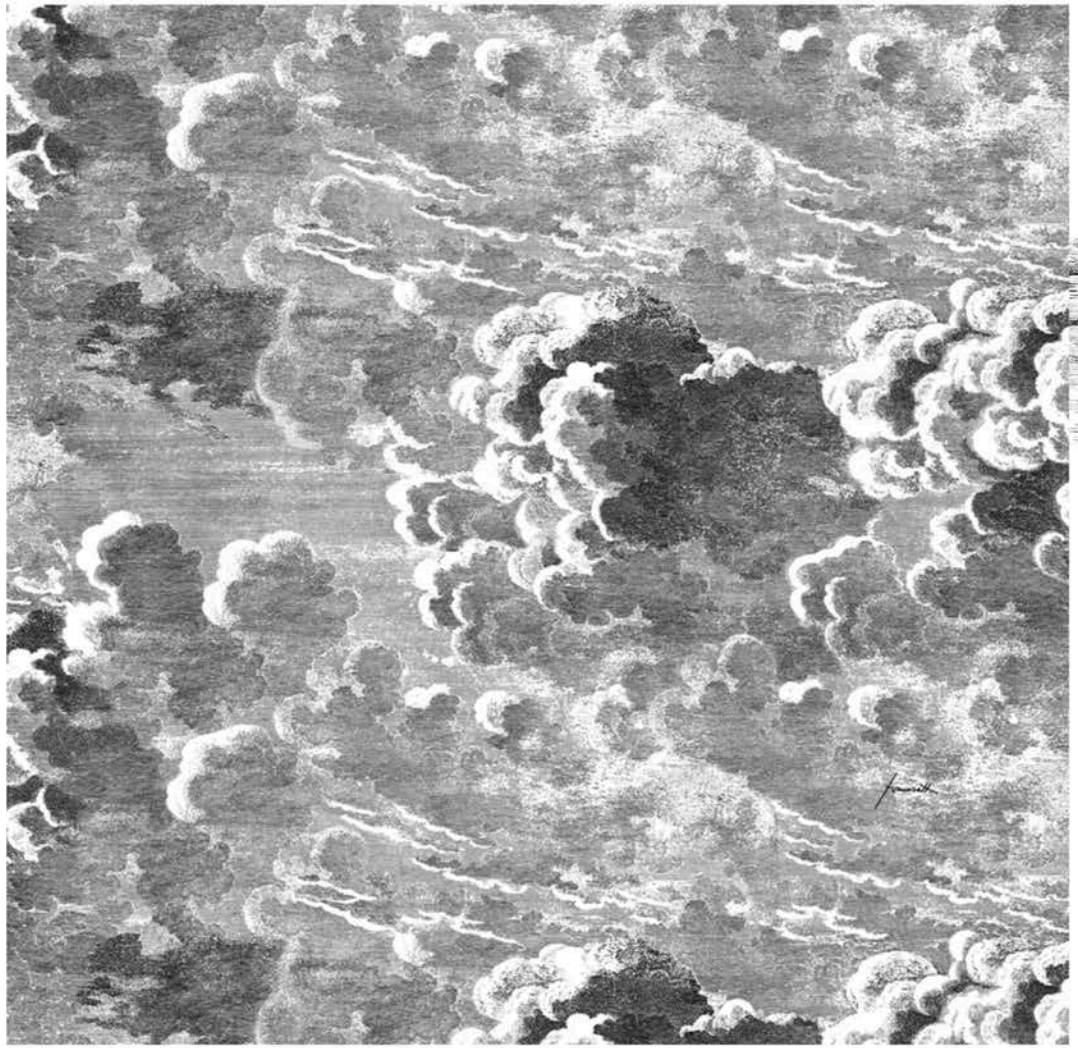


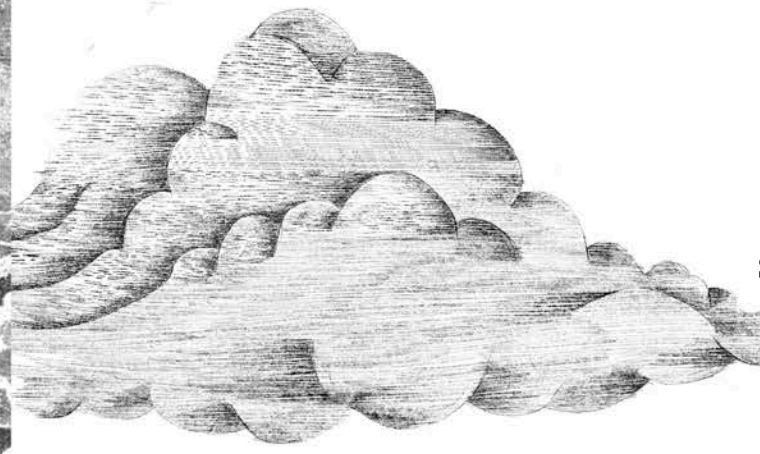






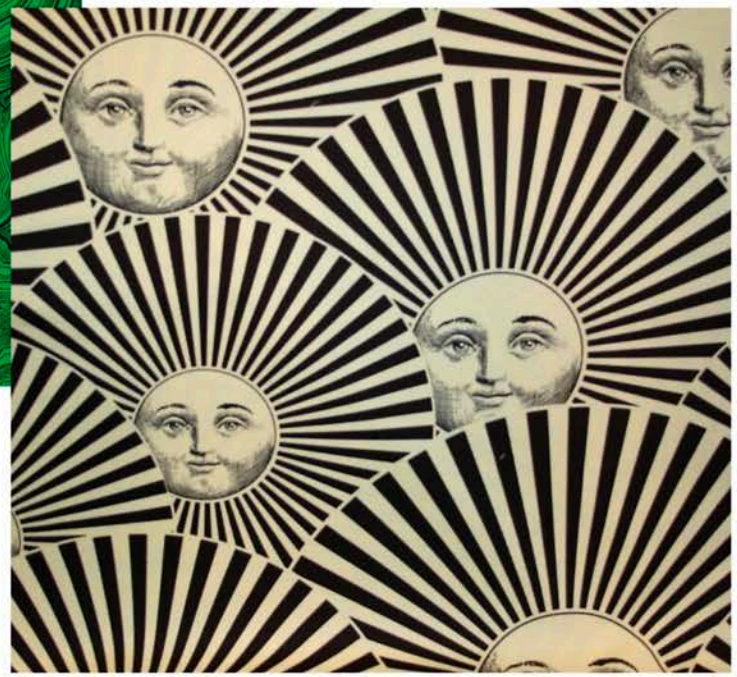






Fornasetti was a huge inspiration for my drawings within this project. I love the depth and detail and this is something which I can see a bit of within my own work. The cloud print definitely sparked my imagination for my little tin plane and where it might fit within my collection.





FORNASETTI

KRISTJANA WILLIAMS

Kristjana Williams's work really inspired me throughout the beginning of this project whilst I was trying to pinpoint a concept and formulating all of my thoughts and ideas. I love the whimsical narrative which follows across each of her pieces and how the seemingly random flora and fauna throughout all converse with each other and connect.











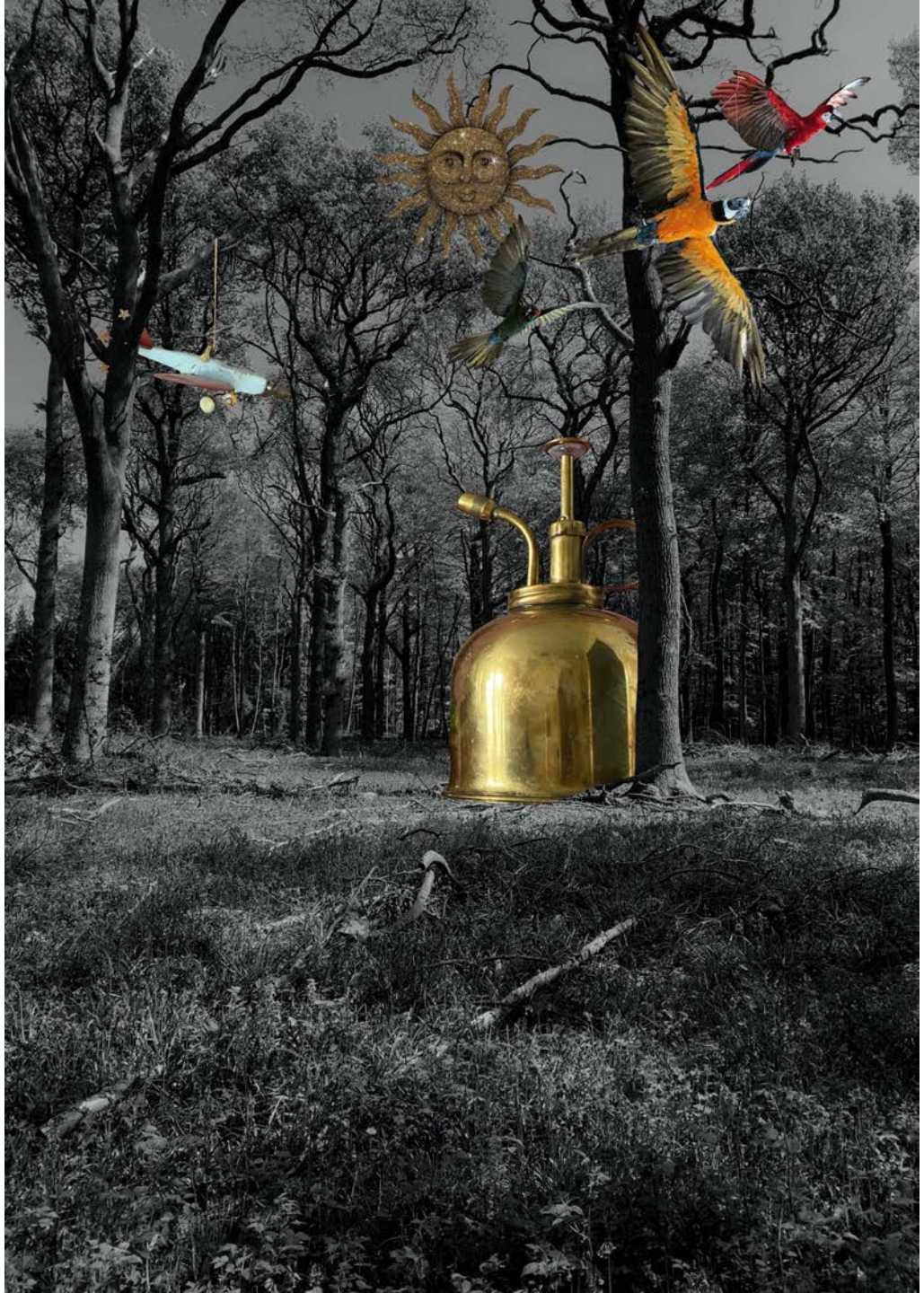
















DE GOURNEY

De Gourney is a design brand who's mega and wonderous motifs have captivated me throughout my time as a design student, and in particular this wisteria mural really sparked my inspiration in encouraging me to think about my drawings and illustration in a new way. I really love how this mural stretches across the wall panelling and allows an element of breathing space between each section of the design and this is an approach which I would like to attempt in my own work as I know that such a huge scale would otherwise be daunting and unappealing to me.





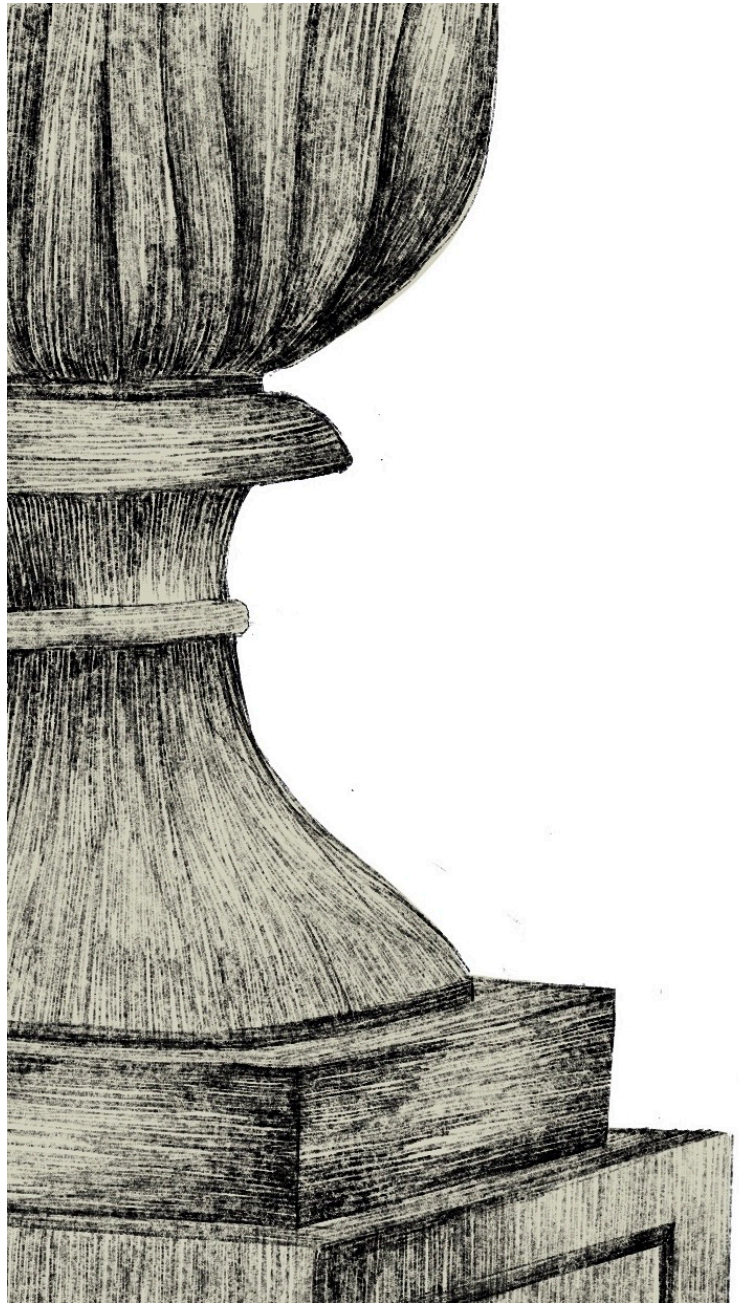




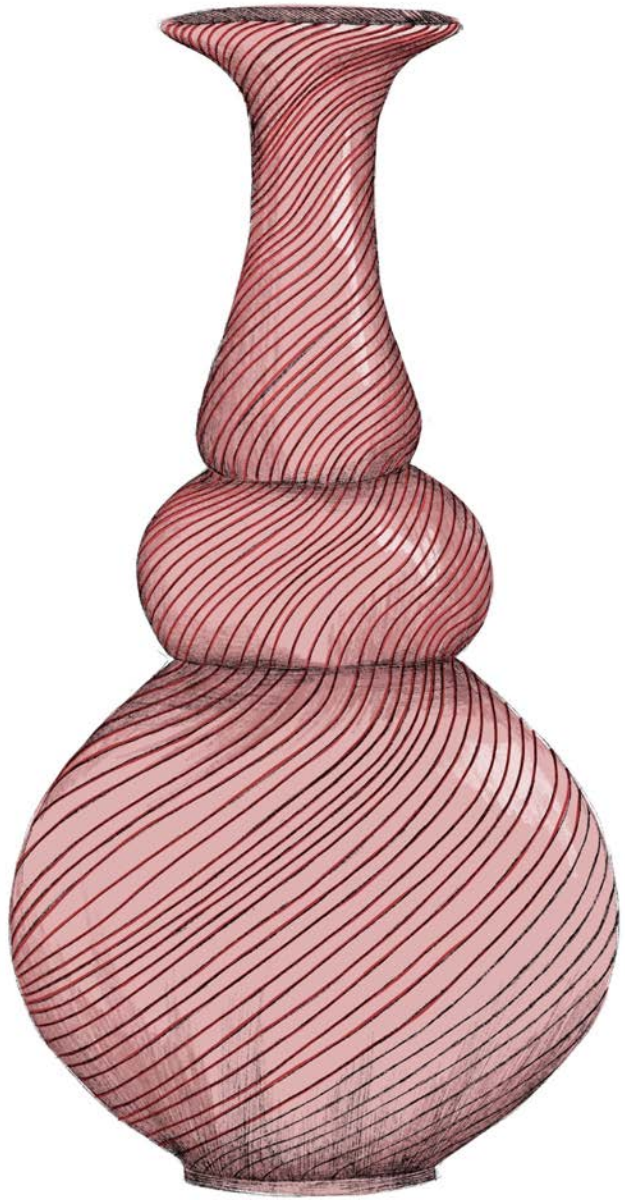




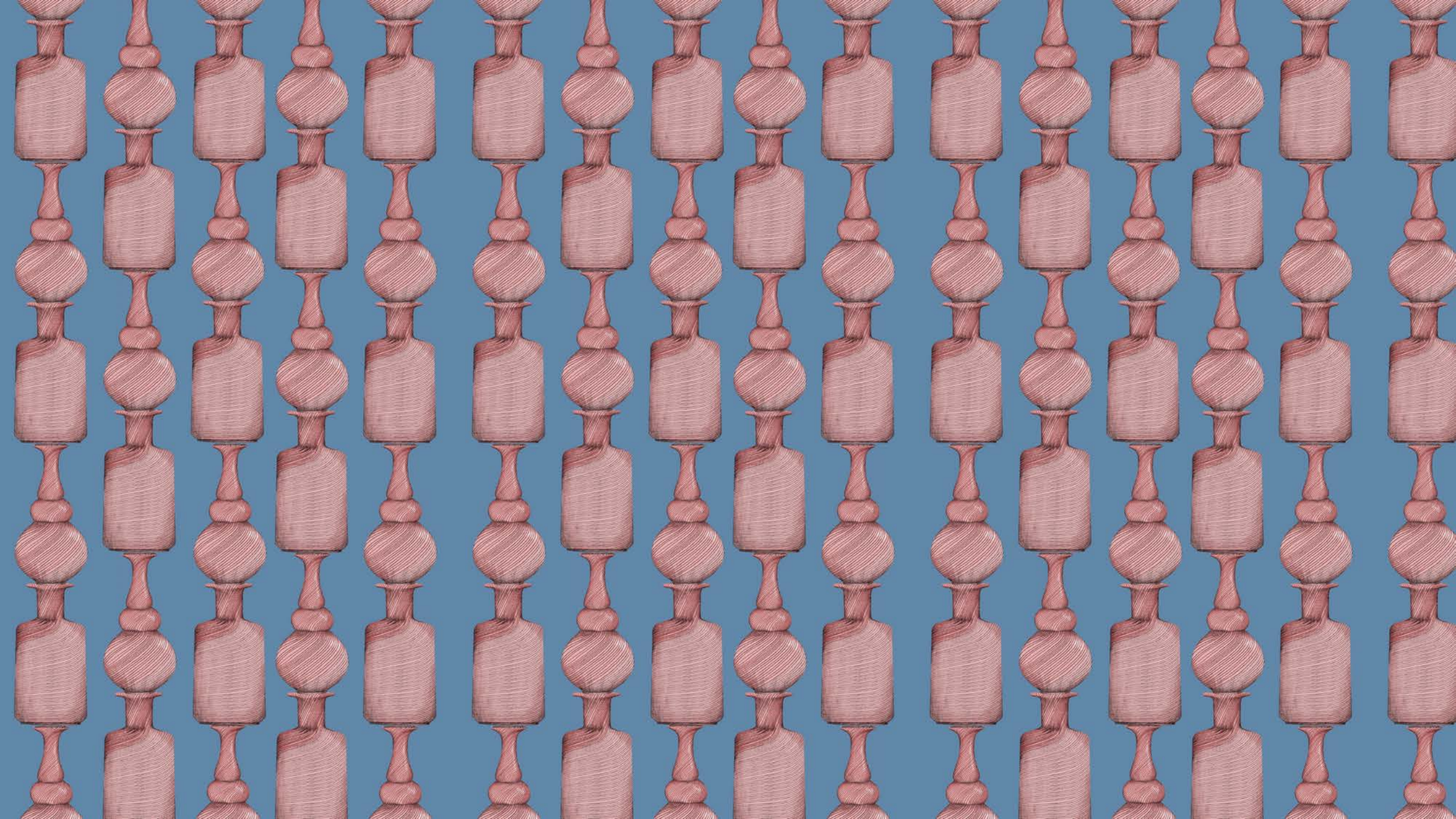












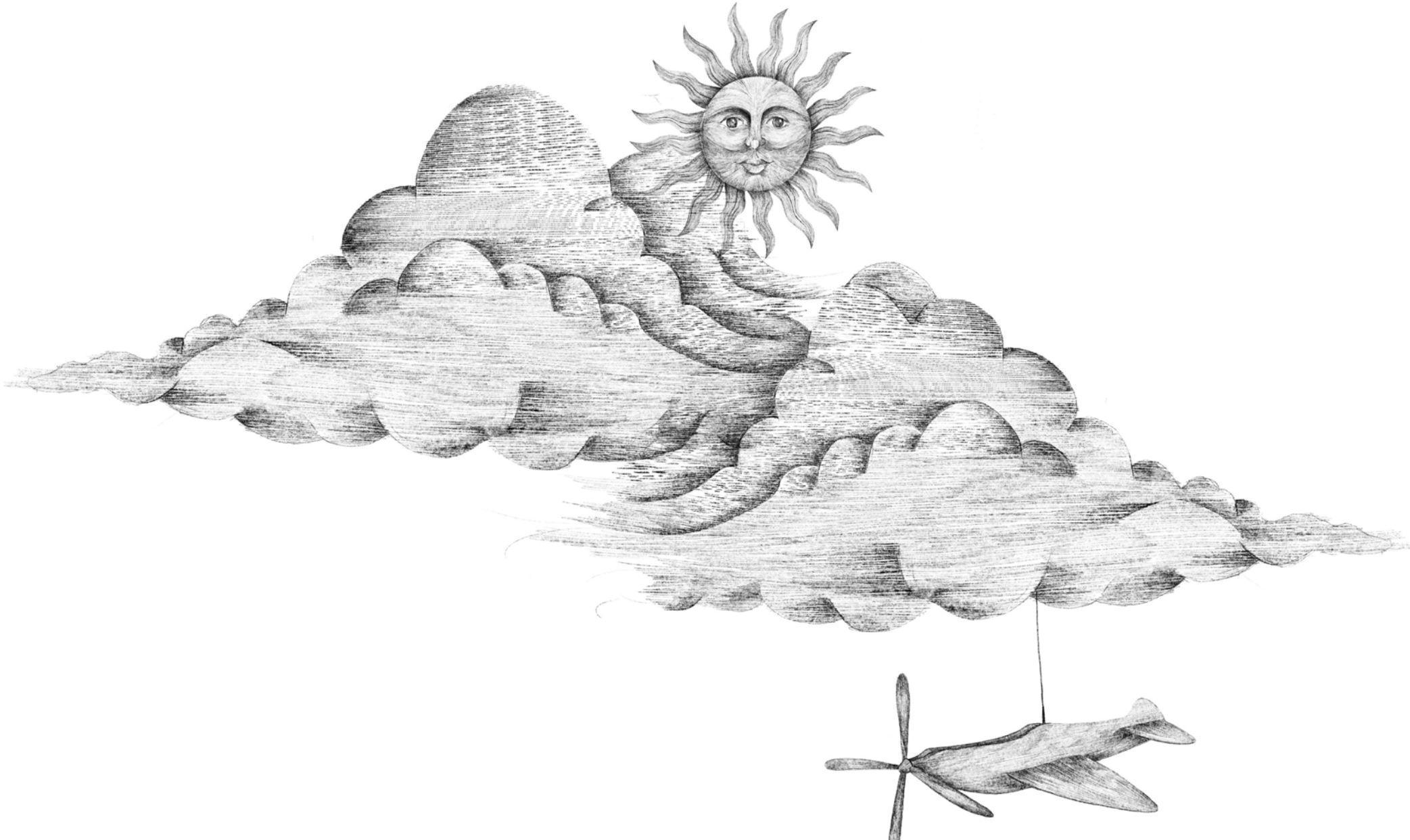

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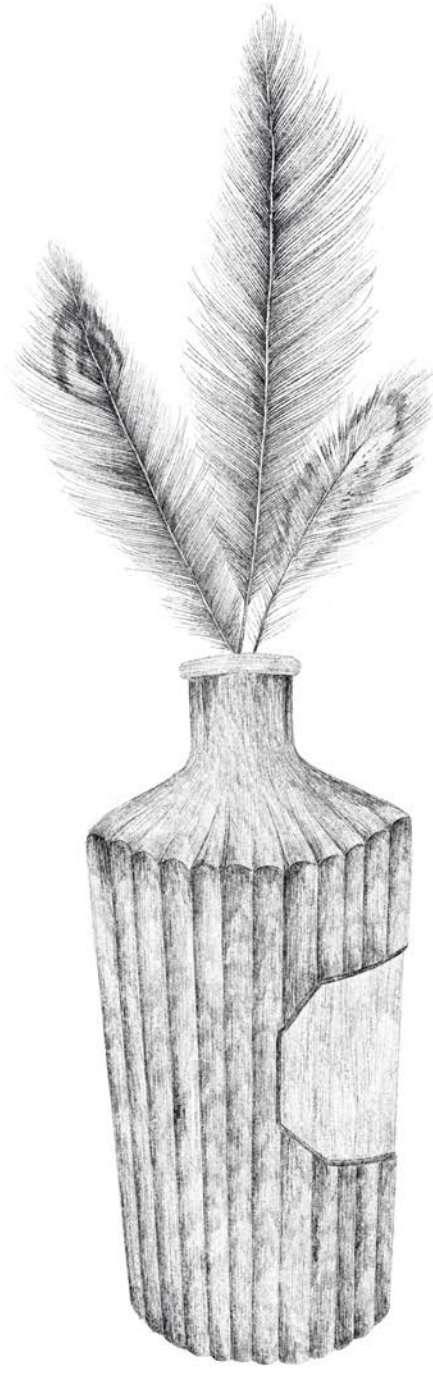






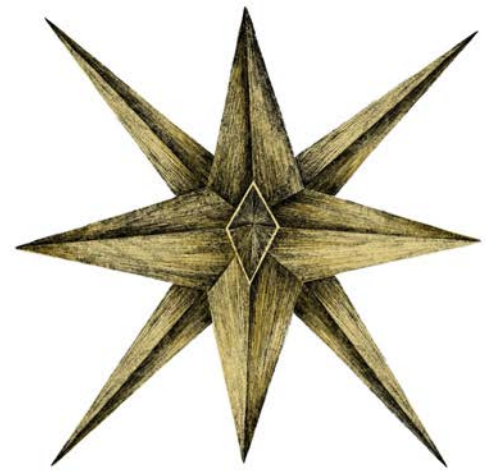


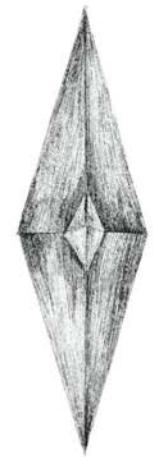


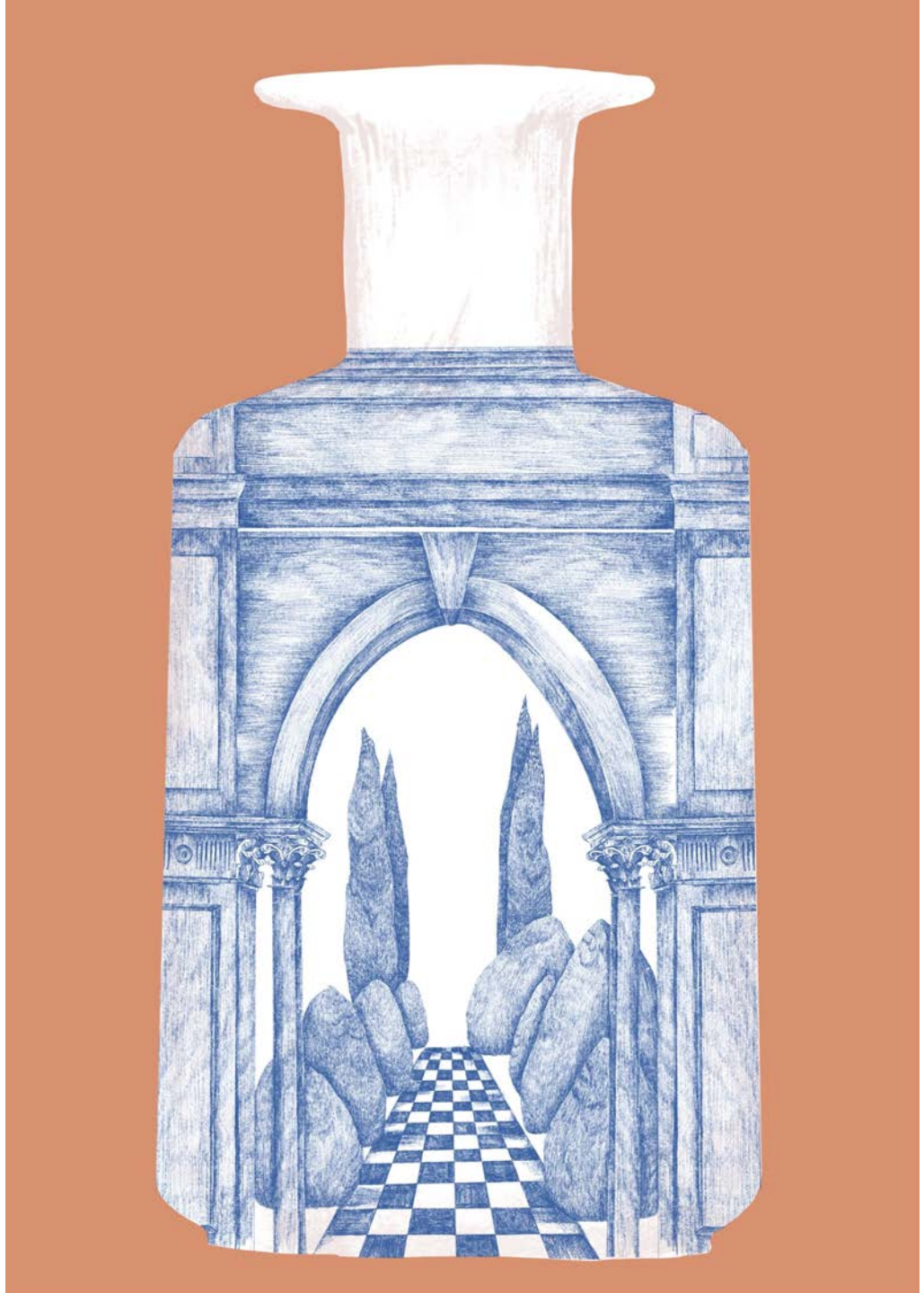


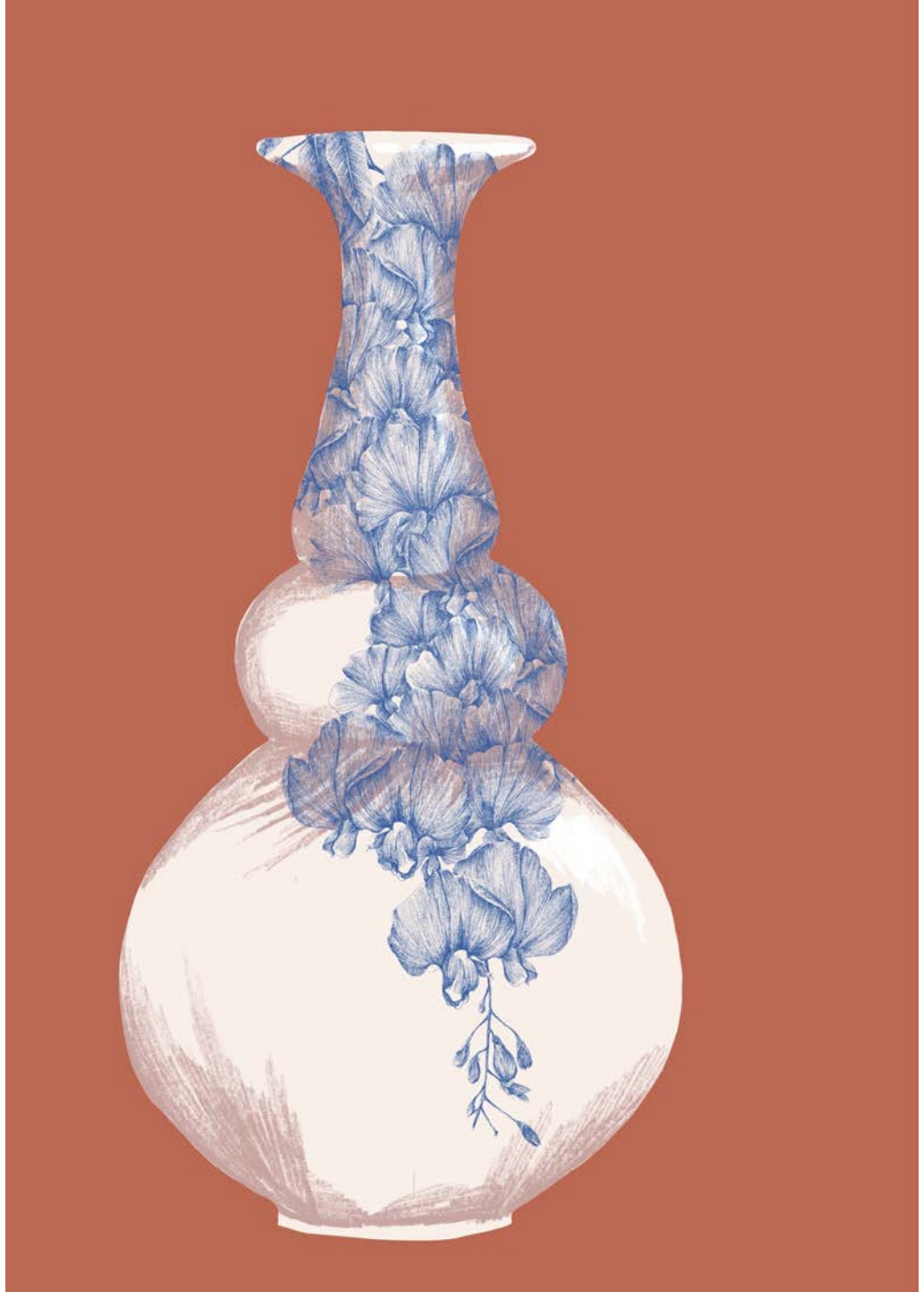


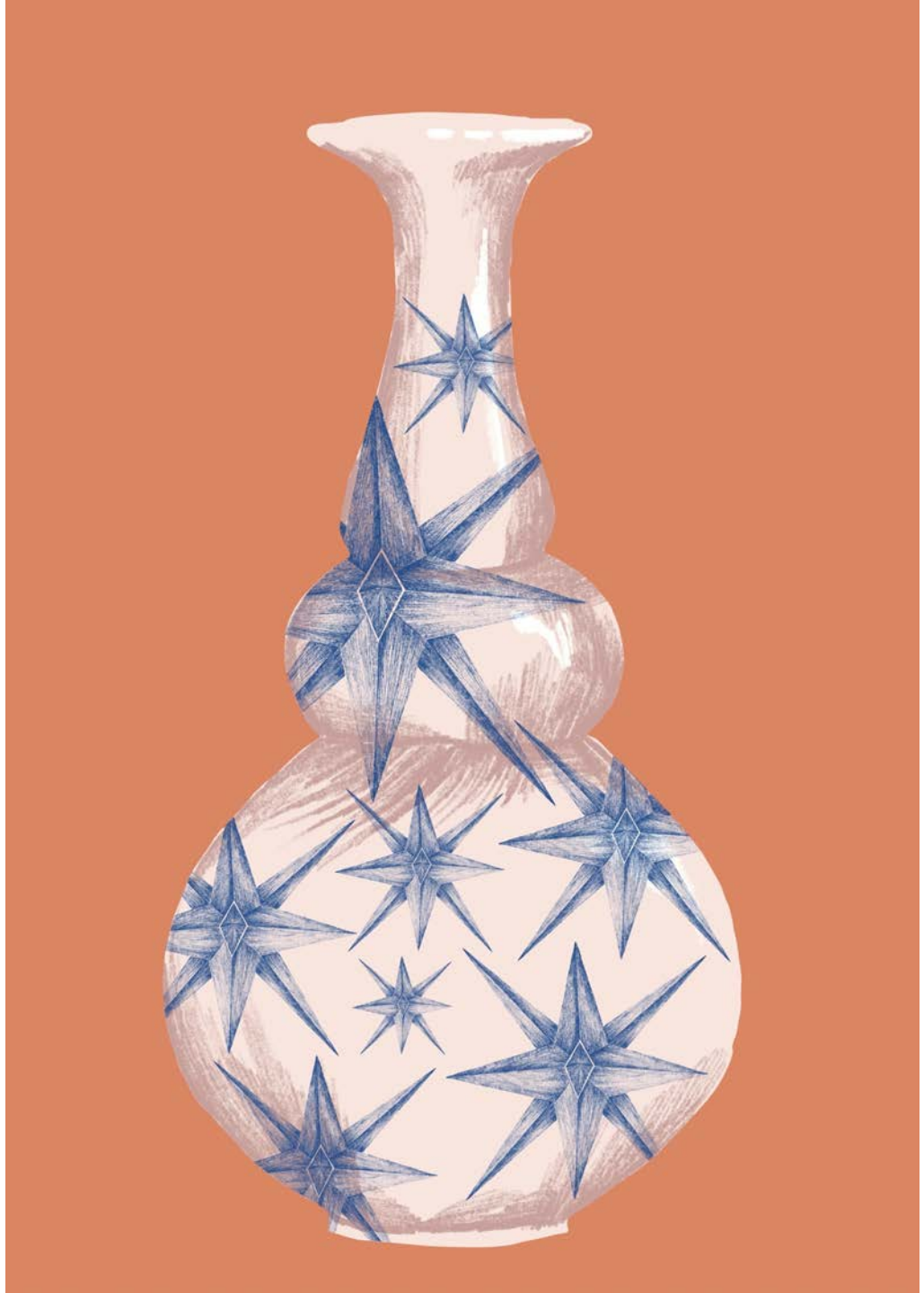


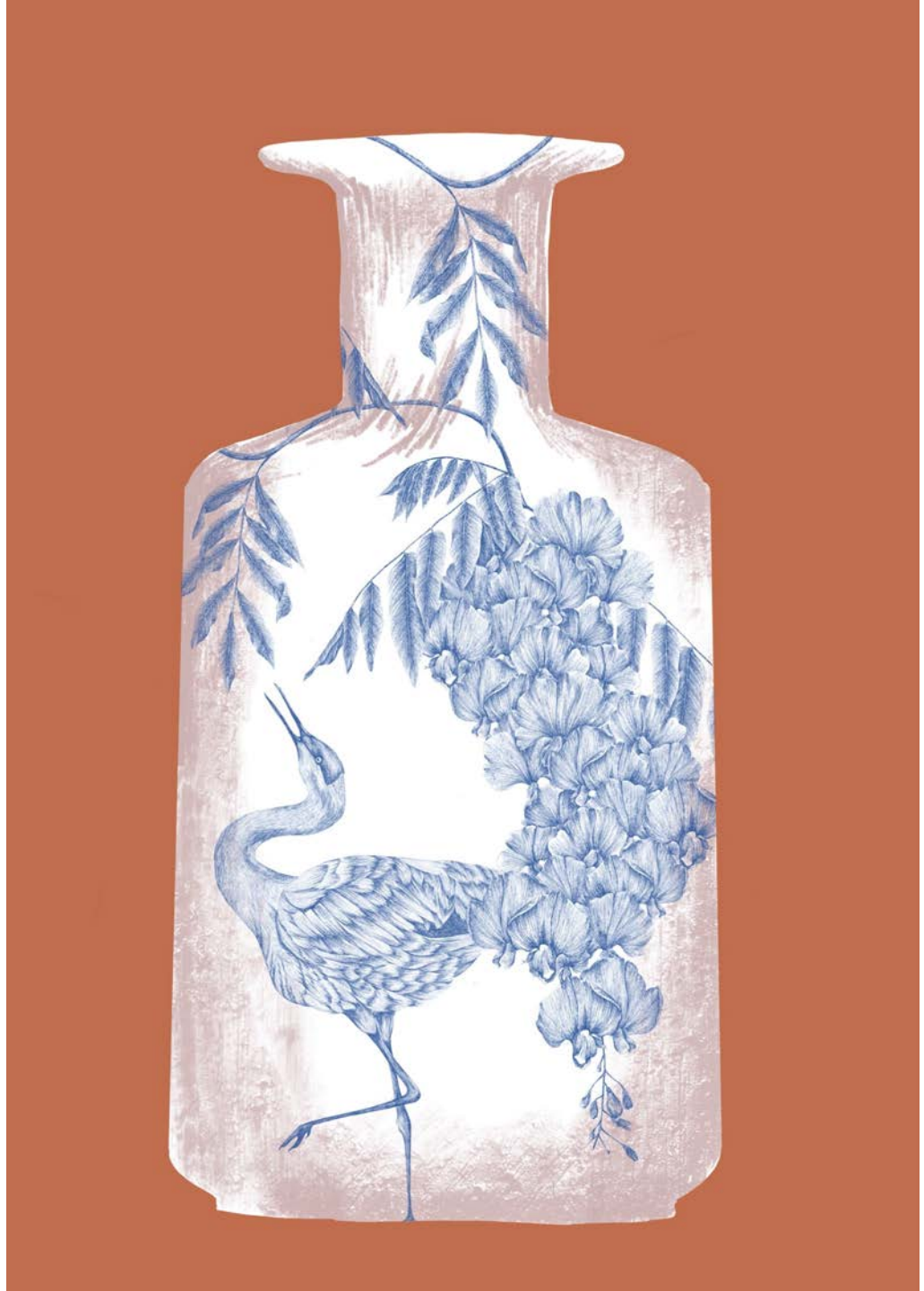


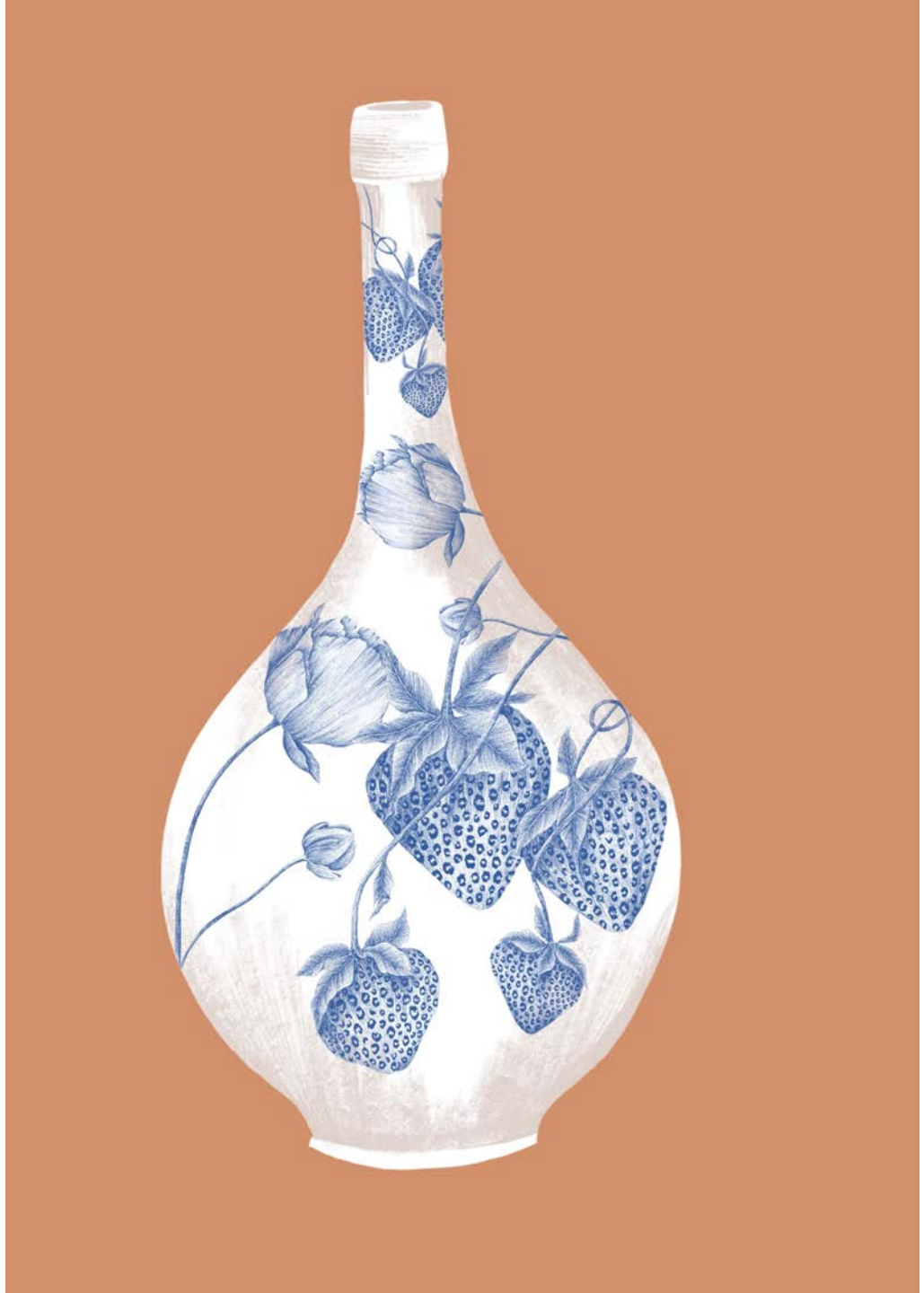




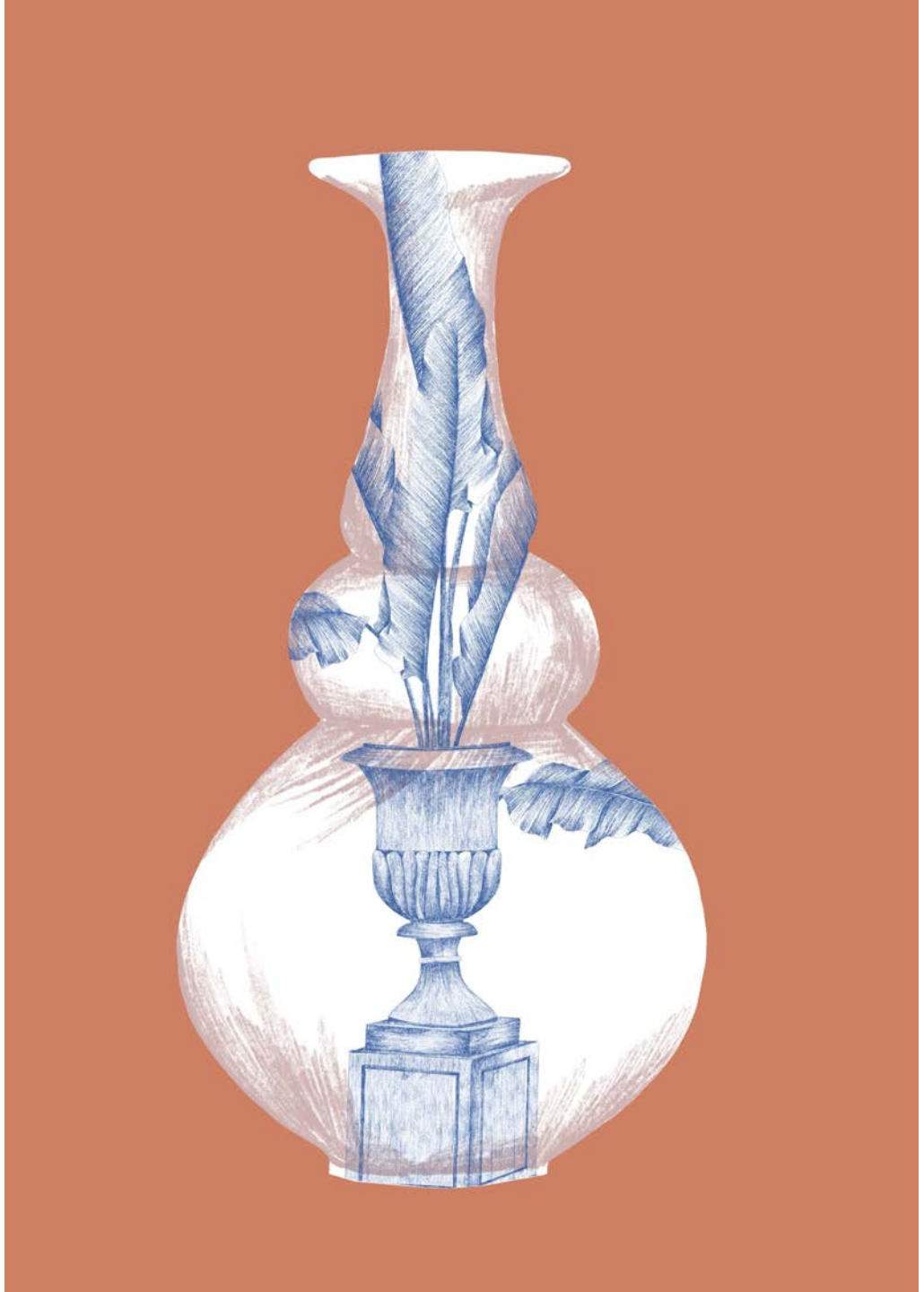


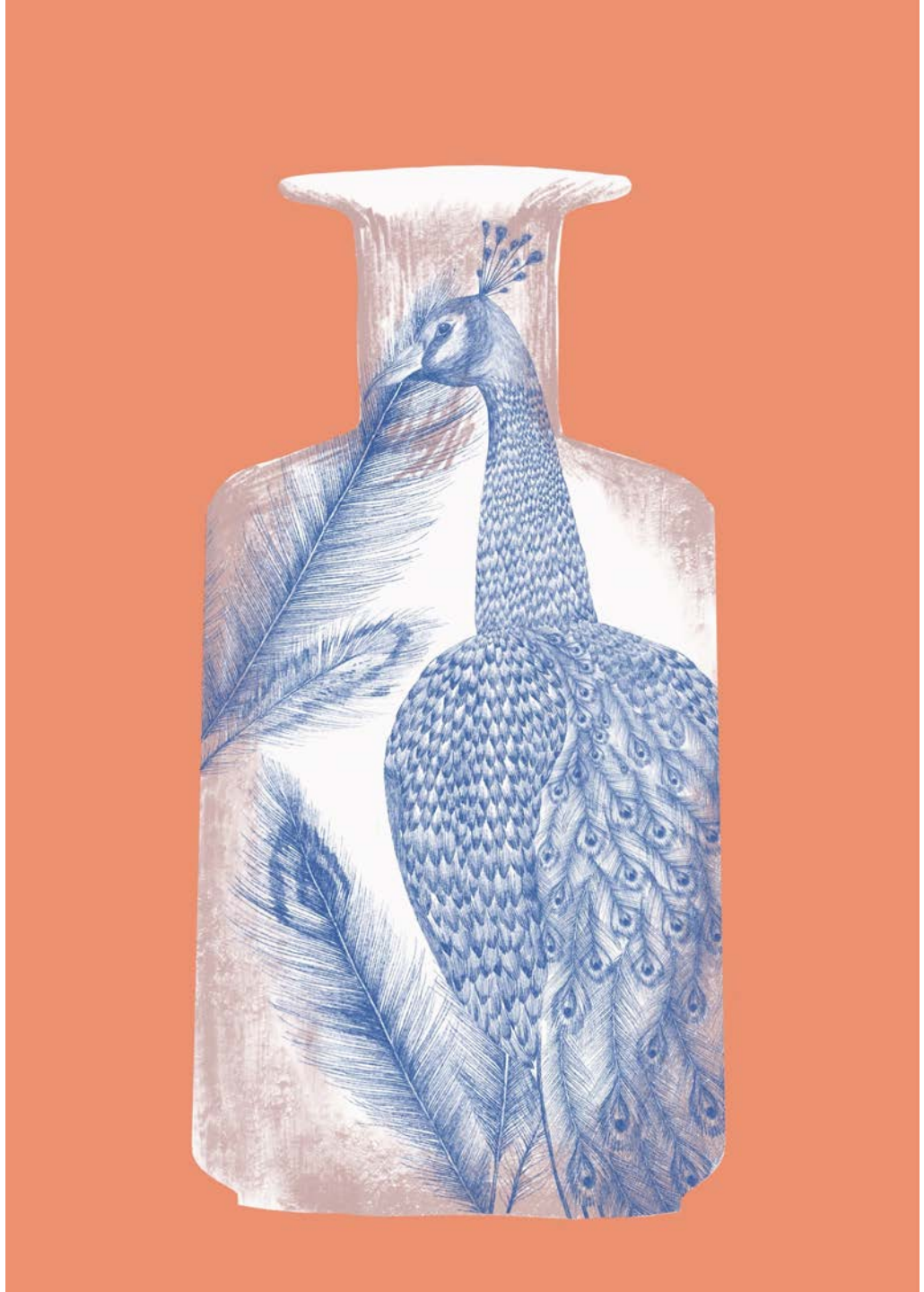






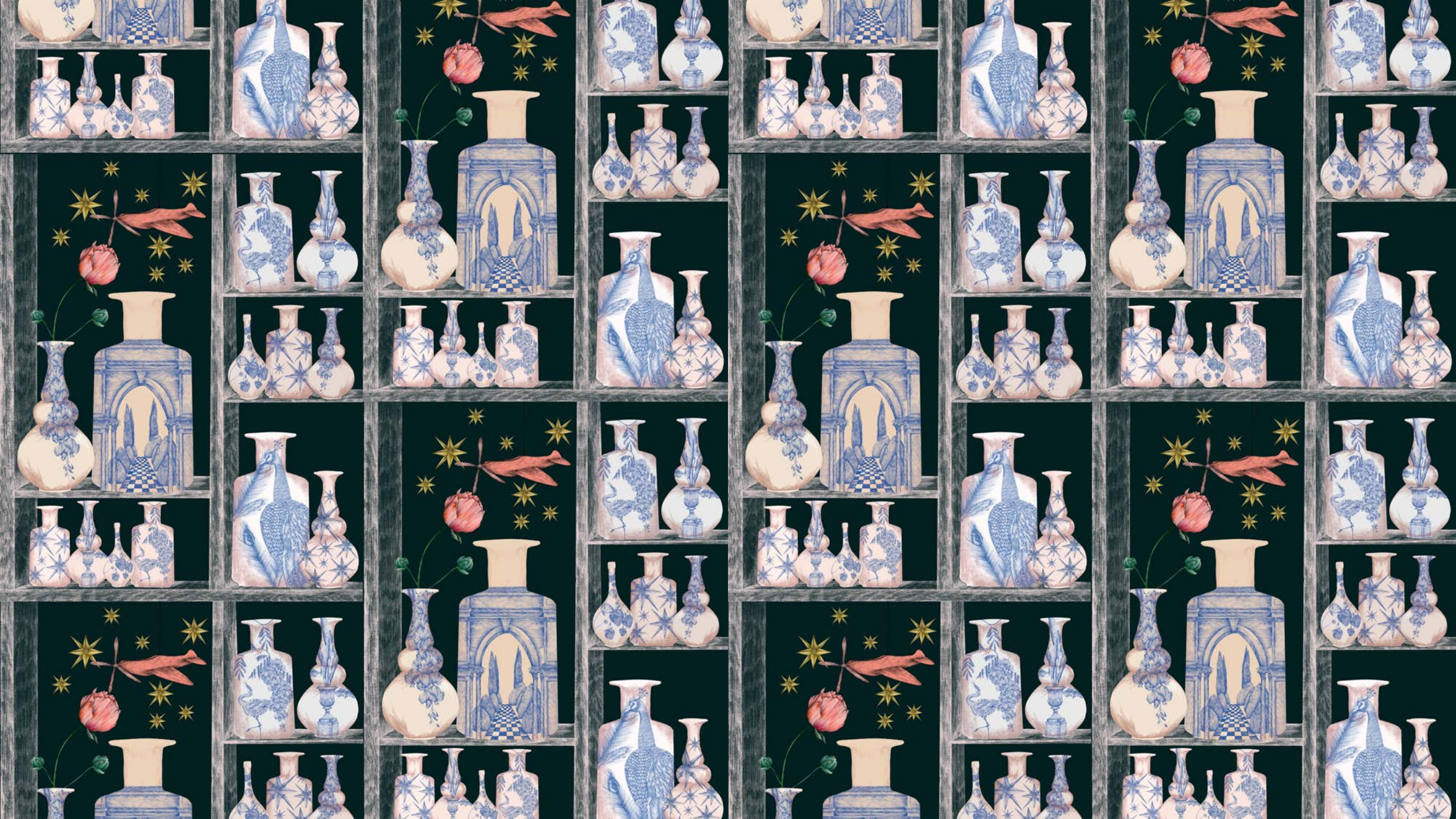








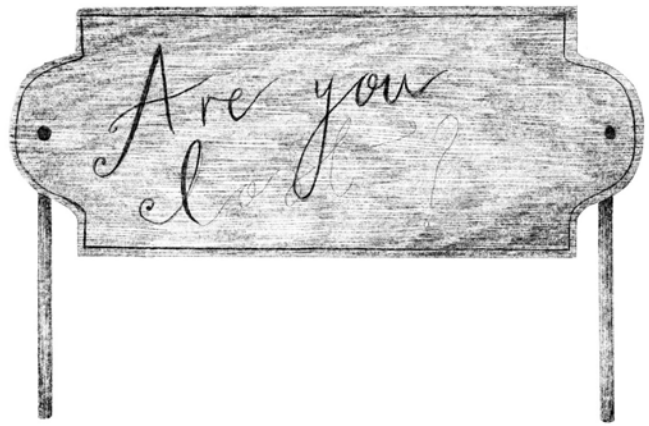




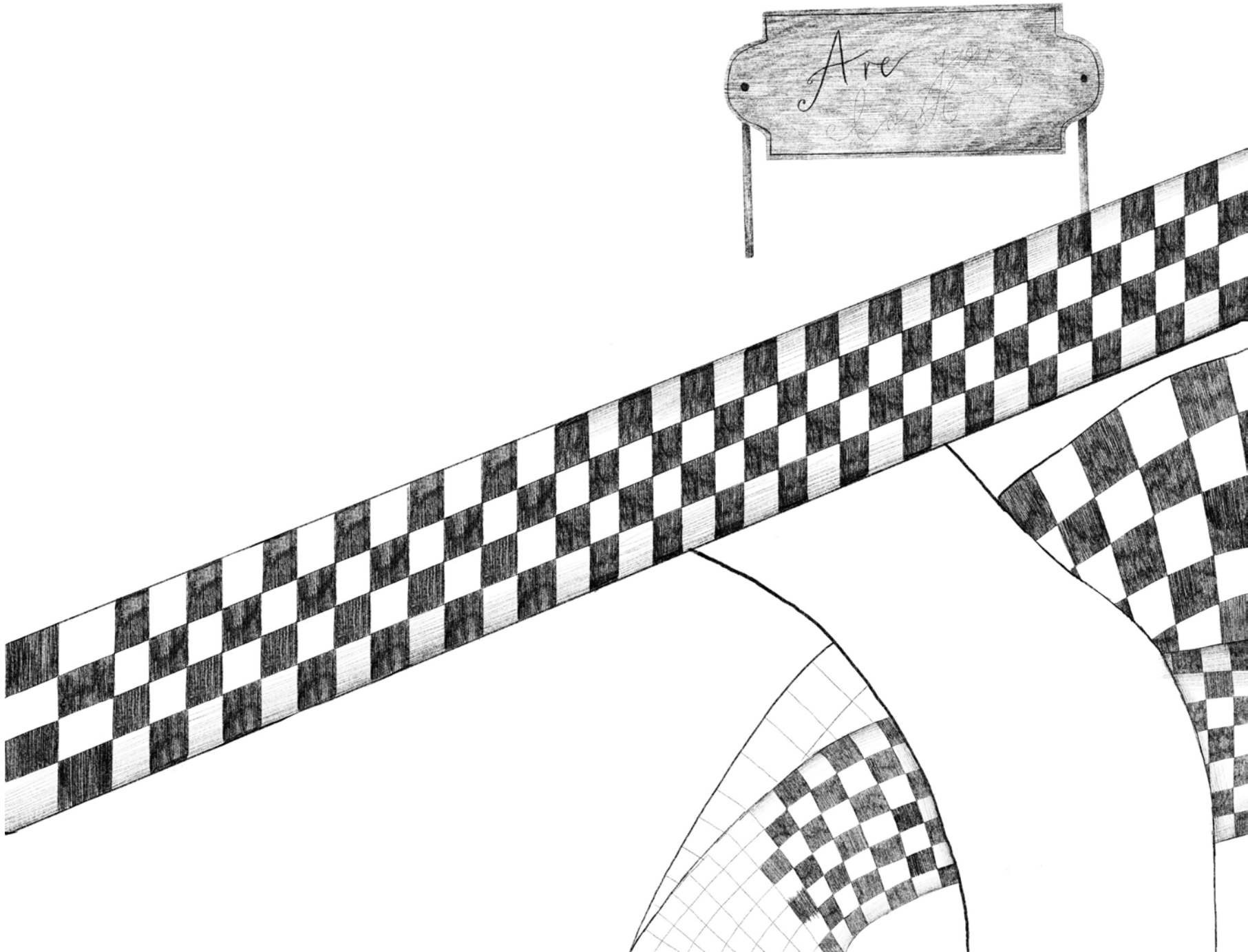








Are you lost?


Are







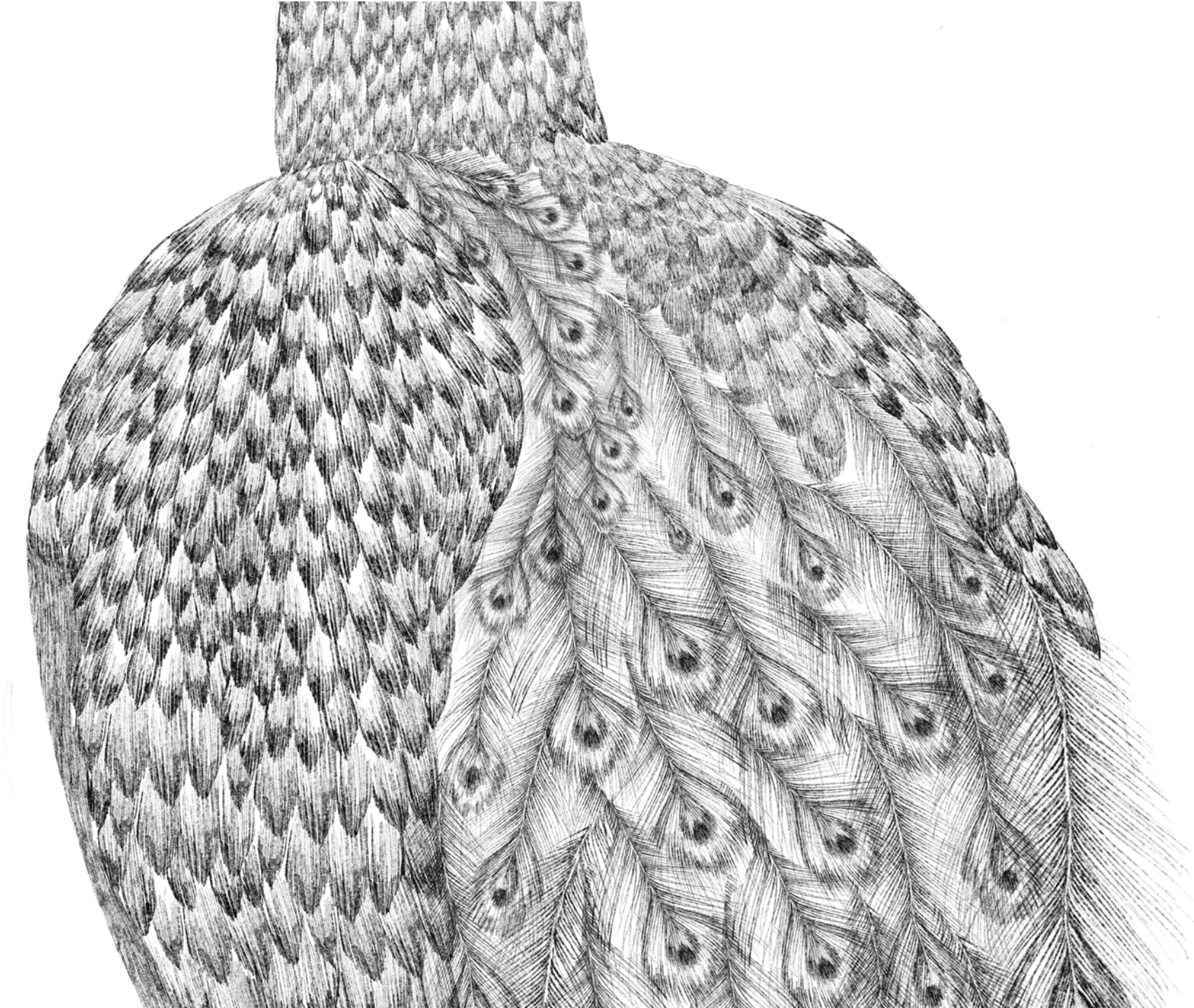
















HOUSE OF HACKNEY



HOUSE & GARDEN


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Gardens'
Exhibition
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