

Weaving Eucalypts Project 2020–22

Silk dyed by artists in Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and South Africa with locally sourced eucalyptus leaves, bark or twigs; dyed silk handwoven as weft into a linen and cotton warp

Courtesy of the artist, Sydney

The *Weaving Eucalypts Project* interweaves local colour, cultural connections, and universal weaving traditions. It began in November 2019 with an invitation from Dr Kevin Murray to participate in the 2020 exhibition ‘Make the World Again’ of contemporary Australian textiles with work that revealed the capacity of textiles to connect cultures.

“To create this collaborative work, I invited colleagues to colour silk fabric with locally sourced eucalyptus leaves, weaving the dyed silk as weft into panels referencing rag weaving traditions. The colours reflected place and location while the process involved friendship creating a unique community of practitioners.” – Liz Williamson

Weaving Eucalypts Project features contributions from:

Australia: Sue Hays, Julie Ryder and Sally Blake from ACT; Annette Brown, Omila Bir, Ro Cook, Blake Griffiths, Chris Hutch, Joanna Fowles and Andrea Larkin from NSW and leaves collected in Stanmore; Judith Kentish from Queensland; Robyn Barrow, Mary Burgess, Siri Hayes, Jo Horswill, Anne Langdon, Rebecca Mayo, Marion Mathews, Catriona Sexton and Ilka White from Victoria along with leaves collected in Halls Gap, Lake Eppalock and Central Victoria; Diane Kearney and Aukje Boonstra from Tasmania; Anne Farren, Penny Jewell, Annette Nykiel, Trudi Pollard, Nalda Searles, Holly Story and Katie West from Western Australia; and the Kimberley region Lily Chin, Diane Chungall, Cherry Smiler and Patricia Torres

Bangladesh: Aranya Crafts (NGO), Dhaka and Living Blue (NGO), Rangpur

India: Aranya Natural (NGO), Munnar in Kerala; Papri Basak, Santiniketan, West Bengal; Jagada Rajappa, Hyderabad, Telangana; and eucalyptus leaves collected from the roadside in Muli and the grounds of Kala Raksha, Sumrasar Sheikh, Kutch, Gujarat; Top Station and Munnar in Kerala; a park in Prantik district of Santiniketan, West Bengal and the grounds of a tea plantation, Jorhat, Assam.

Indonesia: Novieta Tourisia from Cinta Bumi Artisans (NGO) in Ubud, Bali; Novi Bamboo and Puthut Ardianto, both from Yogyakarta, Java

Madagascar: Andrée Etheve, Mahajanga

Malaysia: Edric Ong, Sarawak

New Zealand: Kelly Thompson, Wellington, North Island

Pakistan: Noorjehan Bilgrami, Karachi; Kiran Farooq Kahn Kakar Beaconhouse University, Lahore; and Professors Dr Tanveer Hussian and Sharjeel Abid, National Textiles University, Faisalabad; and Hassan Zafar, Karachi

Singapore: Huiping Guo

Sri Lanka: Eshadi Yaddehiarachchi, Keppetipola, Uva Province

South Africa: Ira Bekkar, Gauteng; Claudia Dallabona, Johnnesburg; Kristen McClarty, Kommetjie; Natasha Sale, Napier; and Jane Schaille, Voelkip Hermanus

Thailand: Chai Smanchat, Ubonratchathani

Liz Williamson

Sac 2007

Cotton and rayon threads; wool fabric dyed with eucalypts; leather lacing

Green sac 2008

Cotton and rayon threads; silk fabric dyed with black henna

Earth sac 2008

Cotton and rayon threads; handspun wool yarn and wool fabric dyed with eucalypts; leather lacing

Dark sac 2008

Cotton and rayon threads; silk fabric dyed with logwood