



# UNDER~STORIES by Nicola Dickson



NICOLA DICKSON

*Tales of the Owlet- Nightjar, 2025*

Oil on Linen

76 x 122 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

As often as I can I begin my day walking in the Isaacs Ridge Nature Reserve.

Invariably I am treated to a chorus of birdsong and glimpses of native animals, reminding me of the complex, interconnected world I share. On top of the ridge I meet the sky and am treated to a panoramic view of the hills encircling the ACT.

This nature reserve, situated on Ngunnawal Country, is a remnant of the vast Box Gum Grassy Woodland ecosystem which prior to white settlement spread across south eastern Australia. Walking along the paths, I see evidence of shifting human interaction with the reserve in the form of disused fencing, stands of Radiata

pine, a melange of understorey weeds and native plants and active and abandoned quarries.

Under-Stories builds on an earlier exhibition I held at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery in 2023 to include these histories within in the Box Gum Grassy Woodlands of our region. Paintings depict elusive woodland birds and the trees they are inhabit alluding to a complex, fragile biodiversity. The co-existence of alternate past and present understandings of woodlands is the subject of a series of paintings where understorey woodland plants have been re-ascribed their Wiradjuri name.

I have juxtaposed native plants with weeds in drawings which I then used to construct digitally printed wallpaper and fabrics. These are incorporated into two installations that speak to the impacts of European settlement on these woodlands.



NICOLA DICKSON

*Tales of the Southern Boobook*, 2025

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Woodland resident-Flame Robin, 2025*

Oil on Linen

46 x 46 cm

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*Woodland resident-Silvereye*, 2025

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Woodland resident-White-plumed Honeyeater, 2025*

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*Woodland resident-Crested Bellbird, 2025*

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Woodland resident- Hooded Robin II, 2025*

Oil on Linen

46 x 46 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Eucalyptus - "Their timber was of little value", 2025*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 62.3 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Dirramaay- Dichopogon strictus- Chocolate lily (edible herb), 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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*Knowledge Systems: Garal - Acacia pravissima- wattle spp, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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*Knowledge Systems: Ngany - Allocasuarina luehmannii - Bull Oak, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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*Knowledge Systems: Mudah - Melaleuca Wilsoni- Tea-tree, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Milawilang - Hakea ruscifolia- Hakea- (Native shrub), 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Mambal - Grevillea rigidissima- Grevillea (Native shrub), 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Dirramaay - Geranium solanderi - Australian Cranesbill (edible herb), 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

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*Knowledge Systems: Dilangi - Nitraria billardieri - Dillon bush, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Bumbadula - Persoonia Caleyi- Gee Bung, 2023*

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Birrigan- Eremophila longifolia -Emu bush, 2023*

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*Knowledge Systems: Birribee- Eucalyptus microcarpa- Grey box, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

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*Knowledge Systems: Barrinan- Indigofera Australia - Hill Indigo, 2023*

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Dirramaay - Lomandra filiformis- Wattle Mat-rush (edible herb), 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Knowledge Systems: Bururr - Dodonaea viscosa - Hopbush, 2023*

Oil and Acrylic on Panel (Framed)

47.3 x 31.8 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Bulbine Lily- Sweet Briar, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Pyrocanthus - Wattle, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Sweet Briar - Correa, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Privet - Bulbine Lily, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: St John's Wort - Vanilla Lily, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Scotch Thistle - Grevillea, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Vicissitudes: Paterson's Curse -Yam Daisy, 2023*

Graphite and coloured pencil on paper (Framed)

28 x 38 cm

Framed: 41 x 48 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Moving across the Land- hoof vessel, 2023*

Hand built, glazed porcelain

21 x 27 x 14.3 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Mourning Woodlands*, 2025

Oil on Panel in antique glass frame

15.2 x 15.2 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Bunny - Wattlevale c.1911, 2025*

Hand painted Archival photograph re-printed on Canson Platine fiber rag paper in Antique frame

46.5 x 58 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Sorcerer, Residence Section 15 Act 1895, 2025*

Hand painted Archival photograph re-printed on Canson Platine fiber rag paper in Antique frame

48 x 58.3 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Moving across the land- Thorny Embrace, 2022*

Restored Victorian grandmother chair, upholstered in digitally printed cotton drill. Fabric design Nicola Dickson

94 x 60 x 68 cm

Under~Stories

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NICOLA DICKSON

*Moving across the land - Victorian Woodlands Walking Outfit. Made in collaboration with Kerri Land and Sue Weston, 2023*

Linen, digitally printed cotton drill, buttons, glazed porcelain shoes

144 x 55 x 36 cm

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

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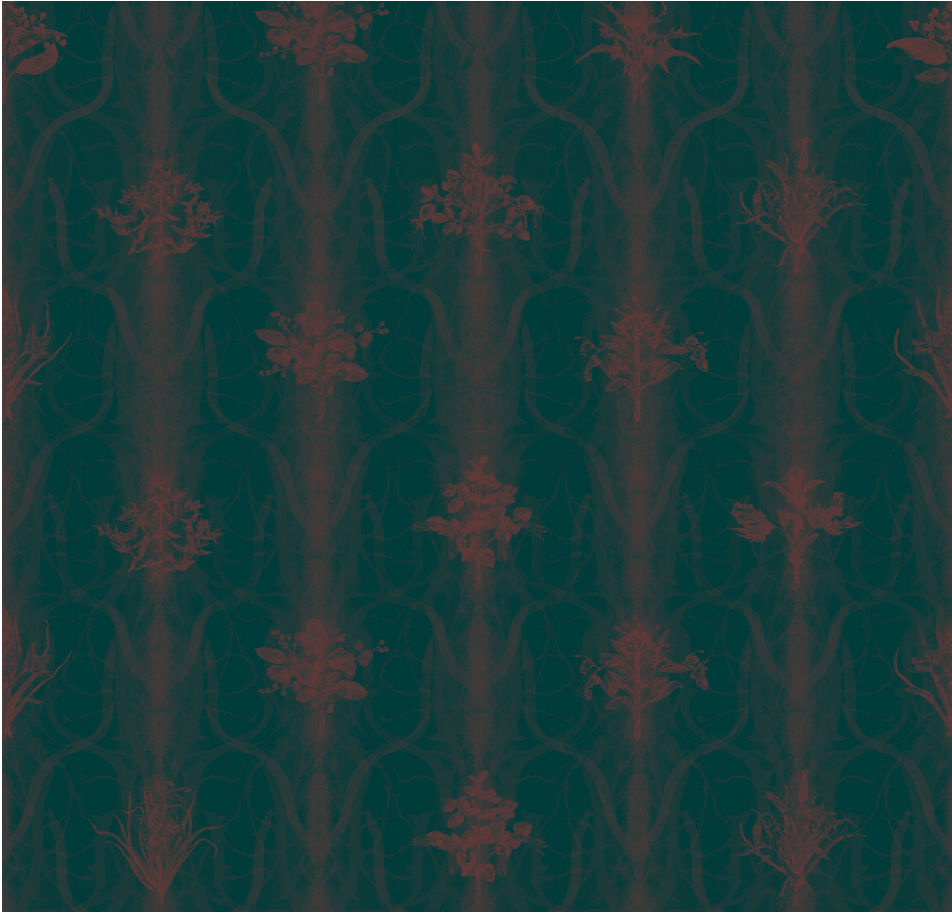
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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Tan on Pthalo Green, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Vermillion on Olive, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

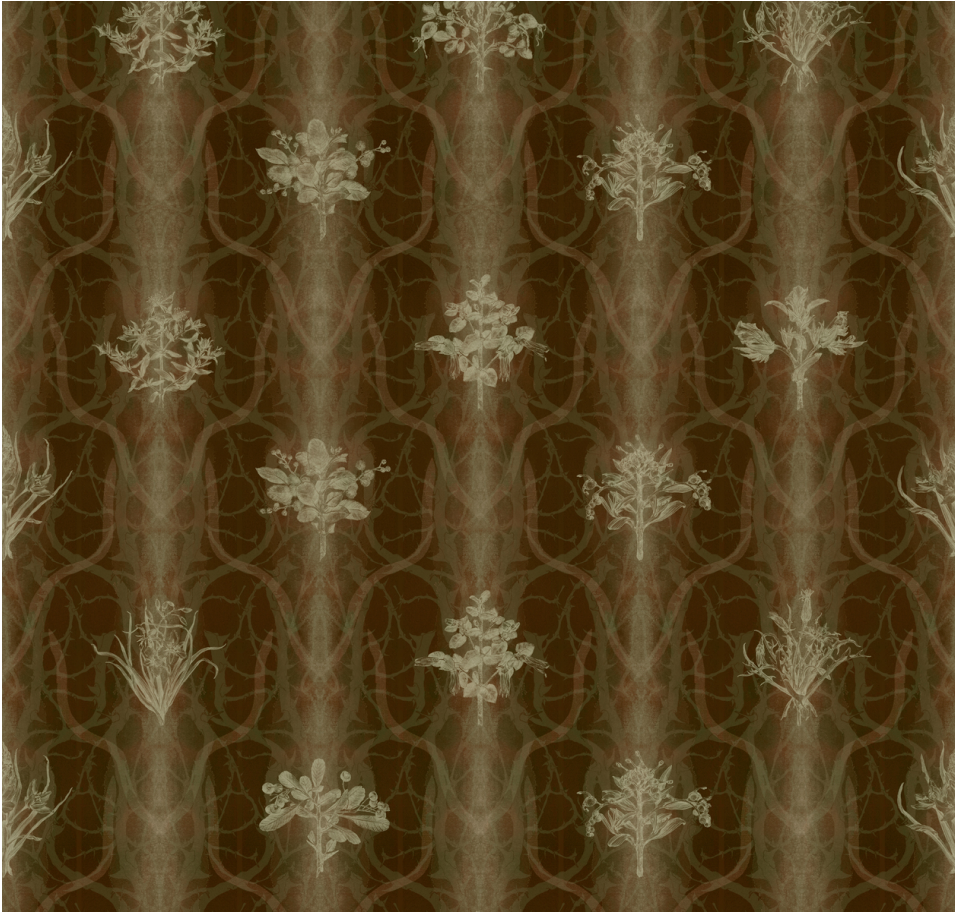
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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Naples Yellow on Chocolate, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

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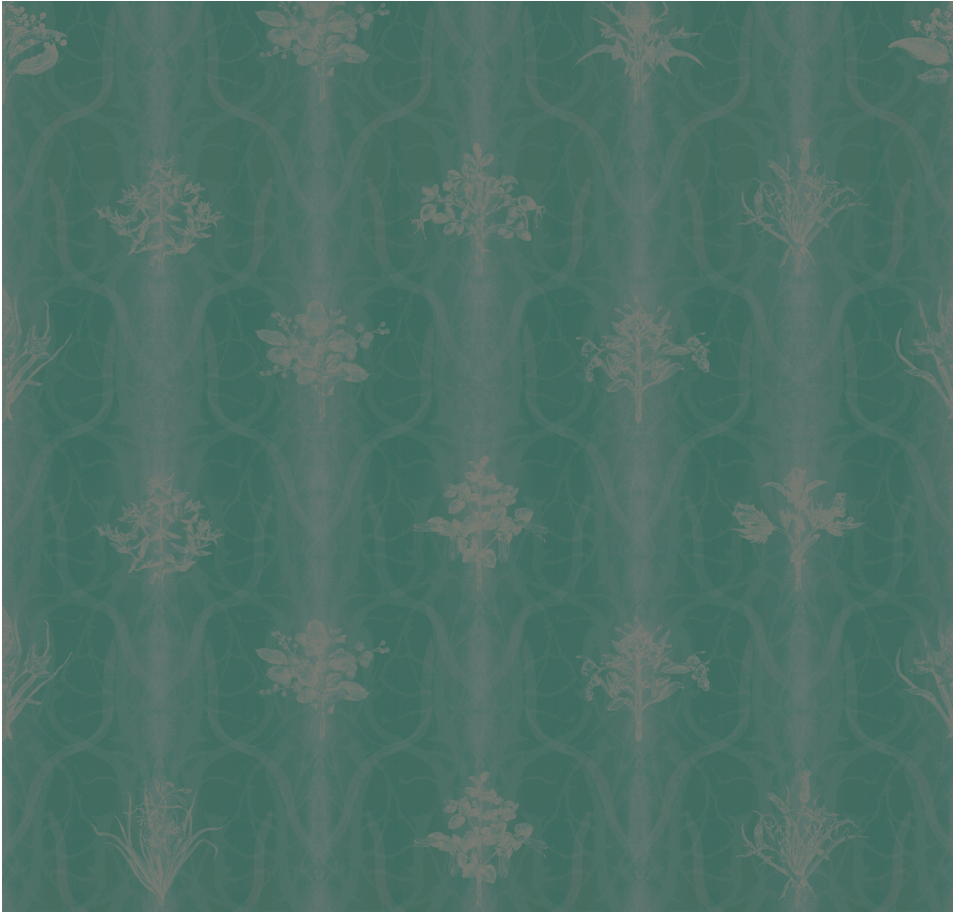
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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Soft Green, 2023*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

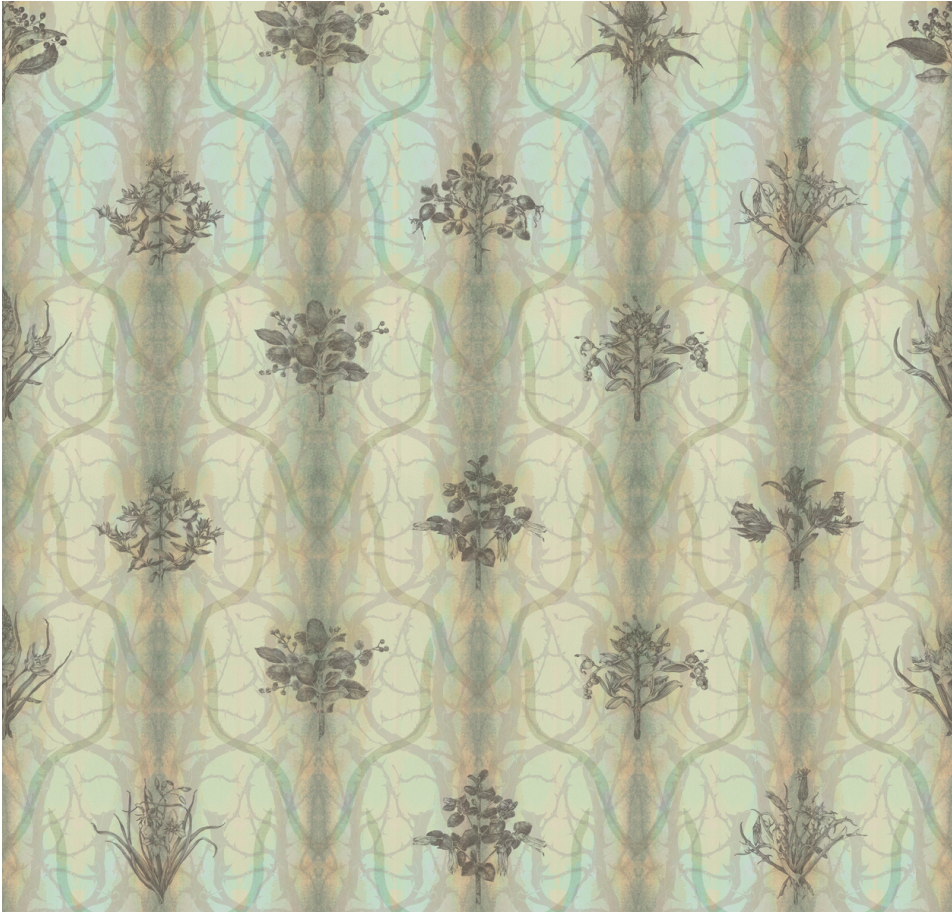
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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Soft Grey on Olive Brown, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

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Under-Stories builds on an earlier exhibition I held at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery in 2023 to include these histories within in the Box Gum Grassy Woodlands of our region. Paintings depict elusive woodland birds and the trees they are inhabit alluding to a complex, fragile biodiversity. The co-existence of alternate past and present understandings of woodlands is the subject of a series of paintings where understorey woodland plants have been re-ascribed their Wiradjuri name.

I have juxtaposed native plants with weeds in drawings which I then used to construct digitally printed wallpaper and fabrics. These are incorporated into two installations that speak to the impacts of European settlement on these woodlands.



NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Sienna with Magenta, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

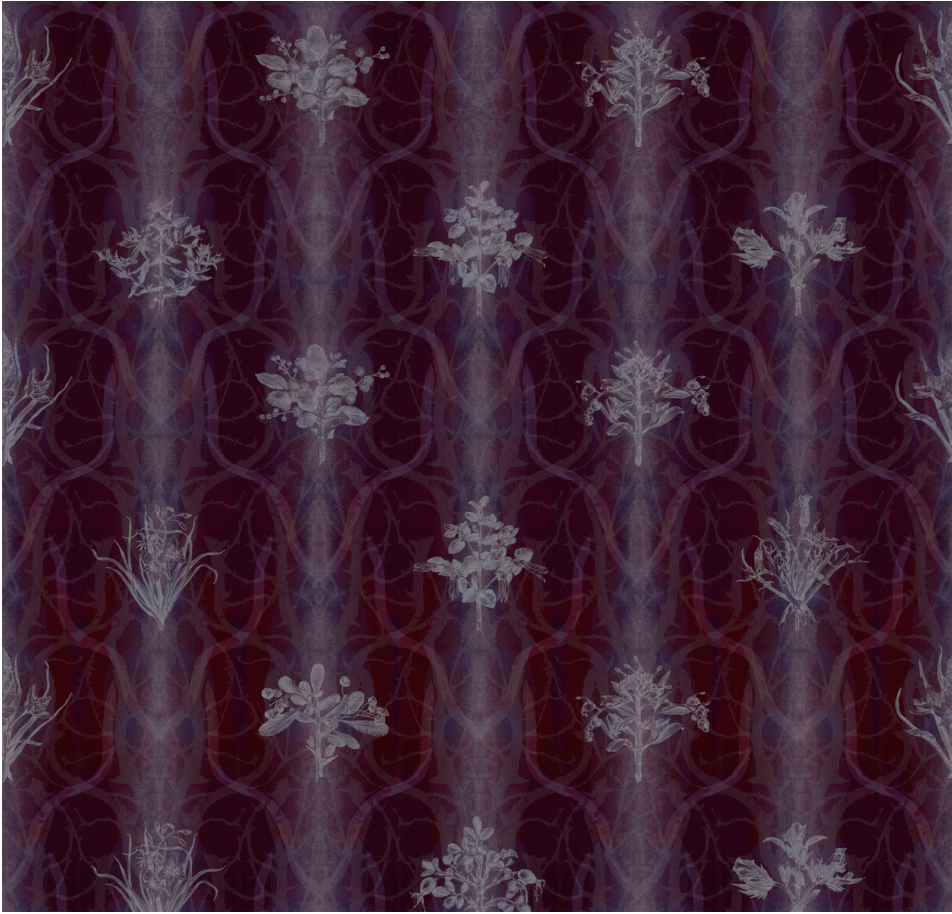
As often as I can I begin my day walking in the Isaacs Ridge Nature Reserve.

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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Soft Pink on Burgundy, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

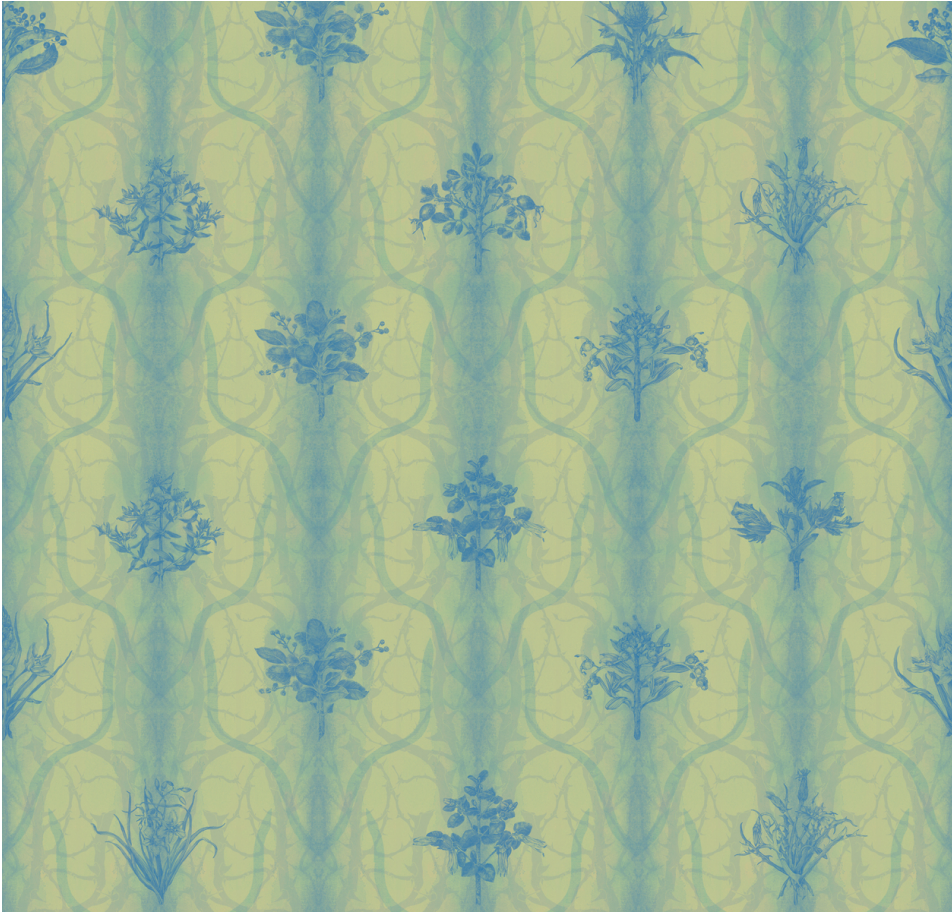
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NICOLA DICKSON

*The Colonialists Wallpaper Ultramarine on Lime, 2025*

Bespoke Wallpaper Printed To Order POA

Under~Stories

Solo Exhibition

17 July Grainger Gallery

Photography by Brenton McGeachie

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