
NEW DESIGNS BY
Joan Charles
MID-CENTURY DESIGNS REDISCOVERED
TEKTURA



BAZAAR - BLACK PEPPER

Joan Charnley



Joan Charnley (1928 - 2016) was a prolific textile designer during the 50's and 60's. She passed away in 2016, leaving her house in Uppermill and all her artworks to her neighbours and friends Nigel Durkan and Julian Bovis.

During the renovations, they discovered a hidden hoard of Joan's artwork. These had not been seen for almost 70 years, and it's the same designs (and more) we're now delighted to offer as part of our wallcovering collection.

Nigel and Julian completed renovations on Joan's house in 2019, and following her wishes, they have created a contemporary gallery, showcasing new artists, supporting students and the local community. It's called The Weavers Factory.

We at Tektura feel privileged to be part of Joan's story.

WEAVERS
FACTORY



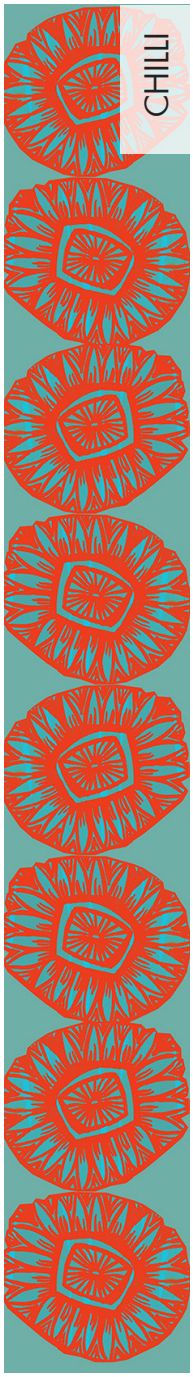
PROSPECTUS

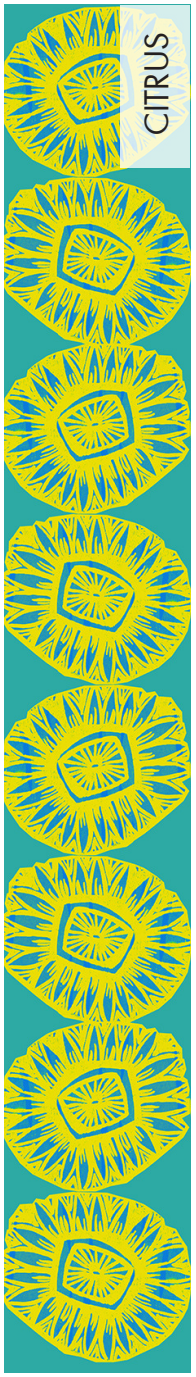


Block Print Mid-Century Simplicity











1928

Joan was born in 1928 in Ainsdale, a seaside suburb of Southport. Even in her early years, she loved designing and drawing and her sketchbooks and scrapbooks clearly show the development of her artistic style.

TV

ORIGINAL ARTWORK, 1954



Naive
Bold Print
Stylised Floral











1949

Joan was the first woman in her family to enter further education, graduating in Textile Design from Manchester School of Art in 1949.

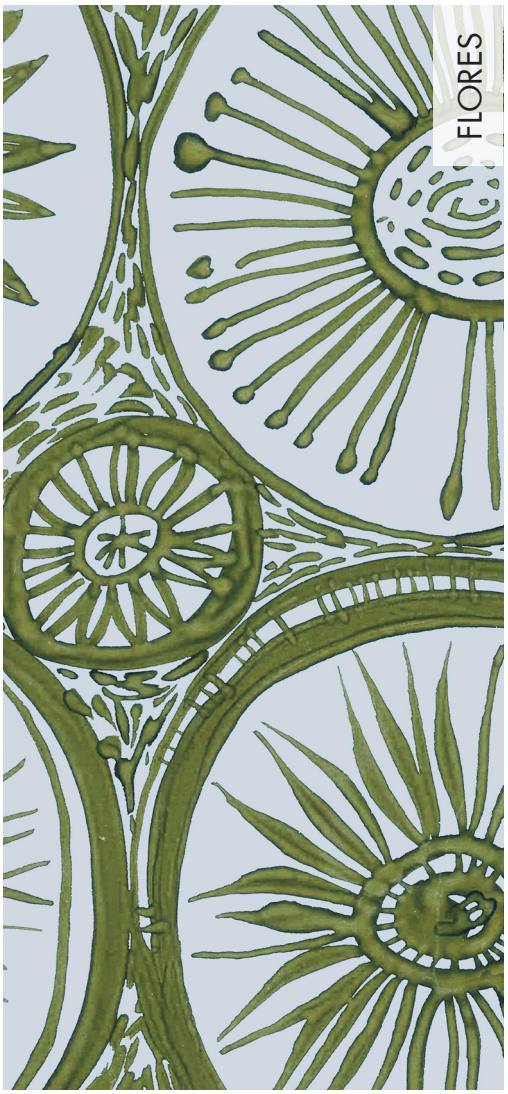
SEA ANEMONE

PERSIAN



Organic
Contemporary
Freehand







1951

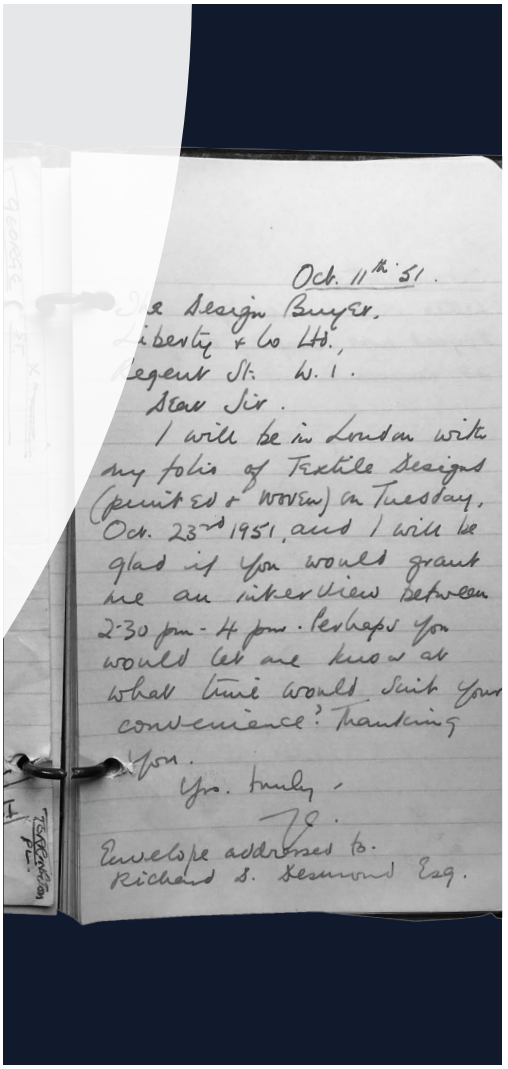
Six years after World War II, the Festival of Britain took place to raise spirits and celebrate British Design. Joan travelled to London to show her designs to the leading textile houses of the day such as Liberty of London, Heal's and Sanderson & Sons. They deemed her as

"Too contemporary for the current market"

"Not commercial enough"

"Too experimental"

Joan left London disheartened, wrapped her designs up in leather portfolios and hid them under her desk. These designs weren't seen for another 67 years.



Oct. 11th '51.

...e Design Buyer,
...iberty & Co Ltd.,
...egent St. W.1.

Dear Sir.

I will be in London with my folio of Textile designs (printed & woven) on Tuesday, Oct. 23rd 1951, and I will be glad if you would grant me an interview between 2-30 pm - 4 pm. Perhaps you would let me know at what time would suit your convenience? Thanking you.

Yrs. truly,

J...

Envelope addressed to:
Richard S. Desmond Esq.

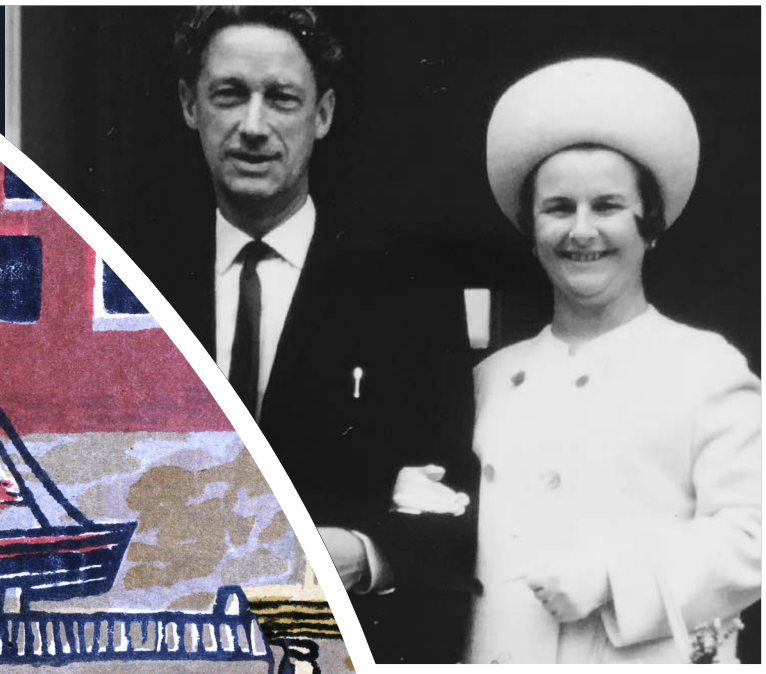
QUAYSIDE

CREEK



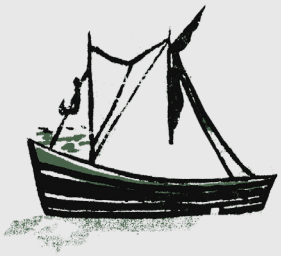
Nostalgic
Scrapbook
Sketch
Watercolour

ORIGINAL ARTWORK, 1957





Great Yarmouth Port



1960

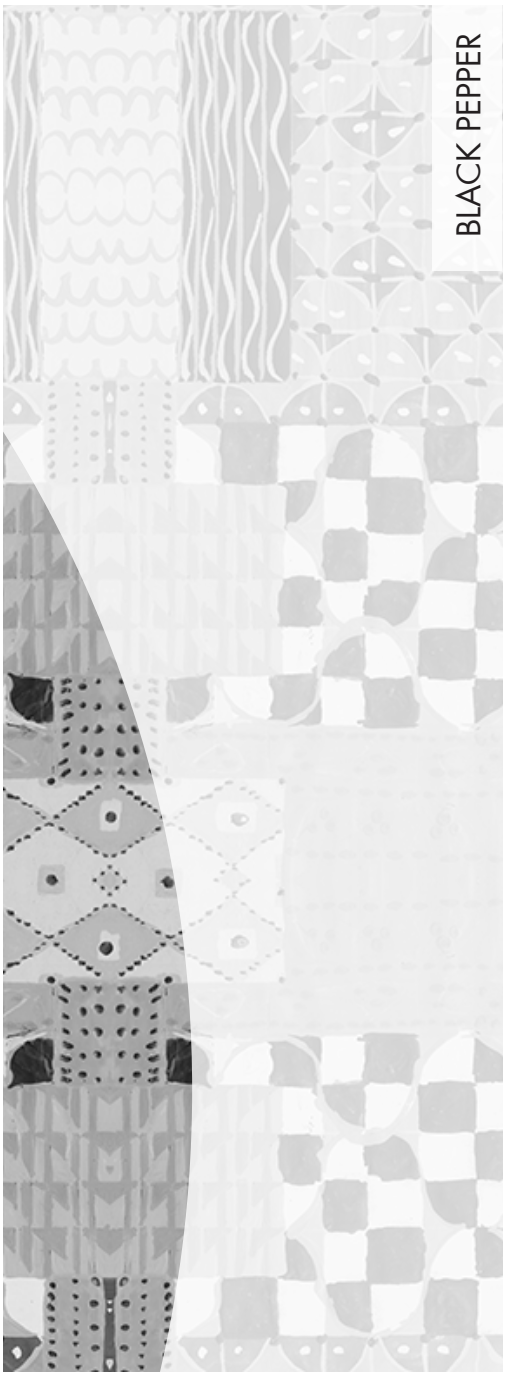
Joan carved out a successful career in teaching. She married Archie MacDonald and two weeks after their wedding, she fulfilled her ambition of becoming Principal at Great Yarmouth School of Art.




BAZAAR
ORIGINAL ARTWORK, 1957
Travel
Culture
Curiosity
Eclectic
Authentic







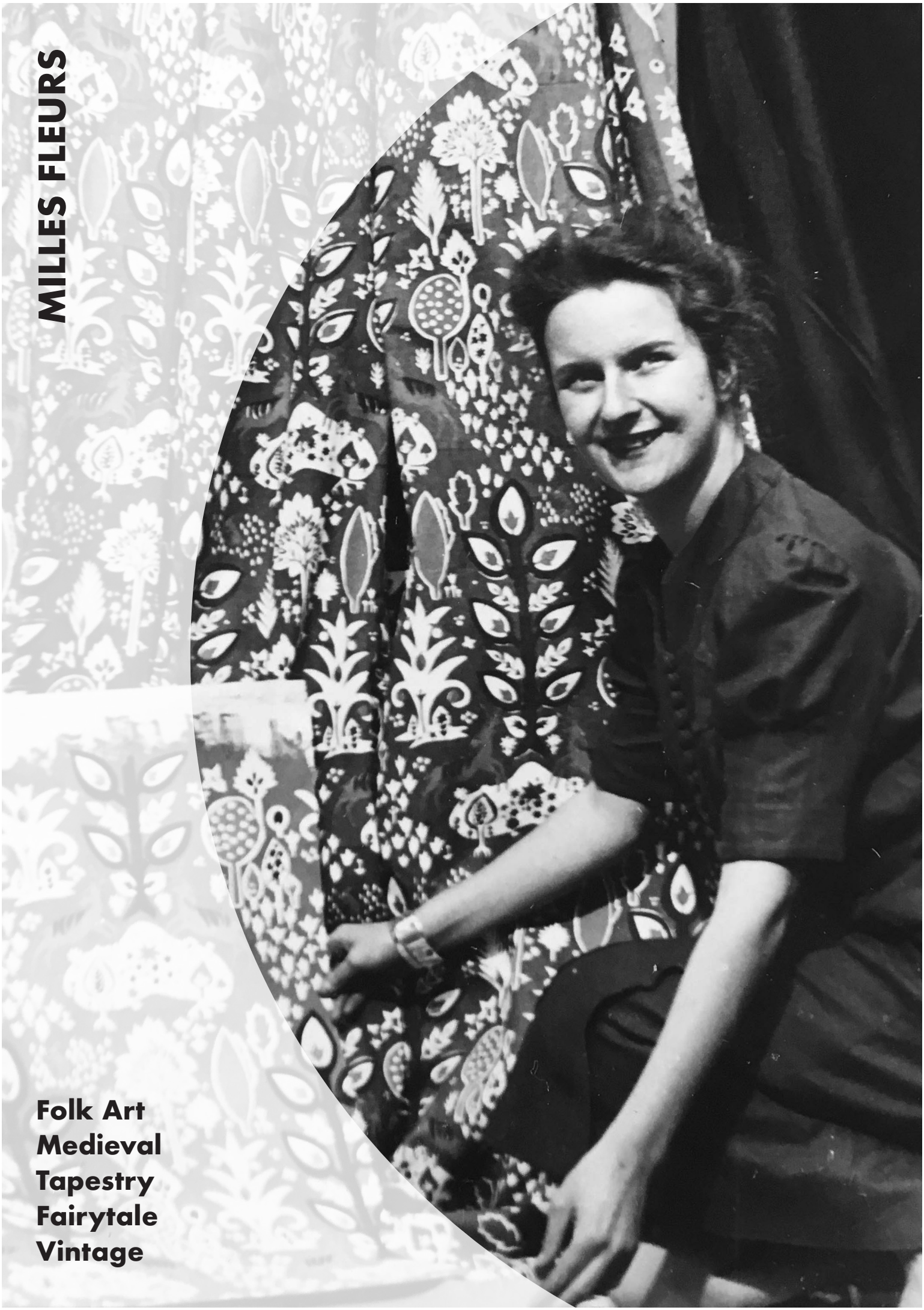
1970's - 1980's

After retiring from full time teaching, Joan continued to work in her studio at home in Uppermill. Not one for slowing down, she discovered a new interest in botanical illustration, and held regular exhibitions of her work.

After her husband Archie passed away, she took on further challenges and embarked on tours of the USA, India, Japan and Australia. She travelled across Europe, South America and celebrated her 80th birthday in the Galapagos Islands, with each adventure influencing her creative style.



MILLES FLEURS



Folk Art
Medieval
Tapestry
Fairytale
Vintage

ORIGINAL ARTWORK, 1949



A breath of fresh air

Lively and outgoing

Raucous and subversive

Impish

That's how Joan was often described. She liked to party, adventure and new challenges.

MILLES FLEURS

PURPLE SAGE





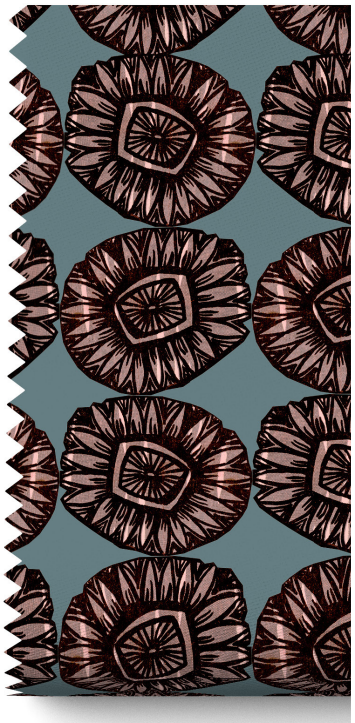
2016

Joan had become great friends with her neighbours Julian and Nigel. She called them ‘the boys’. The sense of fun they shared is clear from stories about themed dinners in fancy dress, to playing scrabble (with prizes) to the simple pleasures of gardening and companionship.
Joan passed away in 2016 and following her wishes Julian and Nigel converted her home – a Grade II listed building – into a contemporary art space called The Weavers Factory.

“I leave my house, my art collection and personal archive to my soul mates Nigel and Julian. My wish is they turn my home into an art house. If they don’t want to do that, they can sell the bloody lot!”



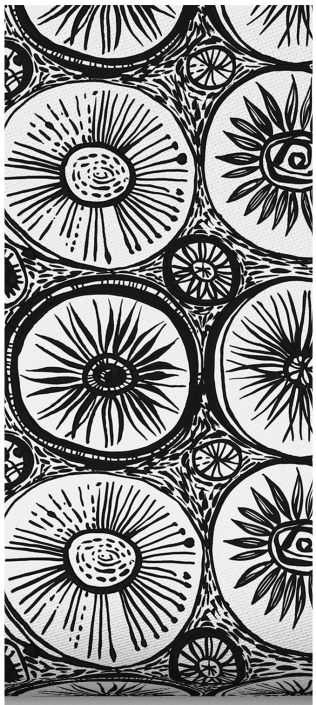
THE FULL COLLECTION



PROSPECTUS



TV



SEA ANEMONE

Artwork is Scaleable



See all designs and colourways available by clicking on any of the samples



BAZAAR



QUAYSIDE



MILLES FLEURS





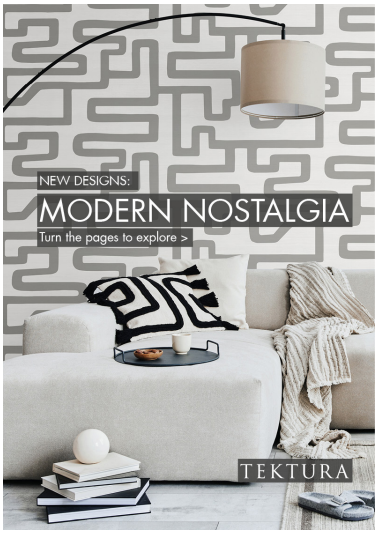
Check out the Weavers Factory

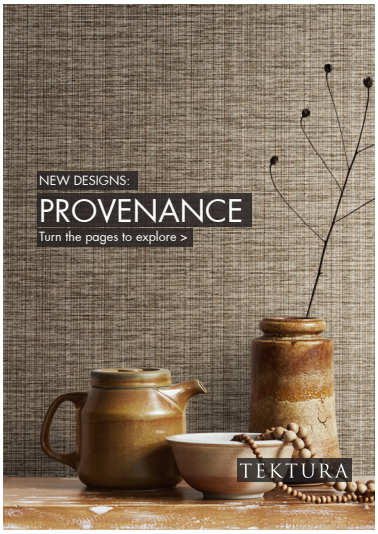


Read More about Joan Charnley

want to see more?

click on the images below to see some of our latest brochures







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