



CATHY FRANZI

On the Edge / am Rande

8-17 May 2023



# CATHY FRANZI

## On the Edge / am Rande

Dr Cathy Franzi's latest exhibition of ceramics was created through studio, archival and field research during a residency in the far southwest of Western Australia, at Stirling Range National Park. The jagged ranges of this biodiversity hotspot overlook the Southern Ocean. Buttressed by the water, it is an extraordinary sanctuary of diversity at the edge of a vast continent.

Franzi's practice is concerned with the graphic representation of flora on ceramic vessels. Her pieces reflect their ecological connections, and are informed by the precariousness of the existence of many of the plants that inspire her.

Her scientific background allows for her to engage with botanical research, and has informed her practice since she first began working with ceramics. This knowledge sadly brings with it a profound awareness of the danger that climate change and invasive pathogens bring to the myriad ecosystems of Australia.







It is a land of ancient natural  
landscapes, evolved through  
continental isolation, long geological  
stability and the careful stewardship  
of the First Nations Peoples.

Franzi's depictions of the form and  
beauty of Australia's plant-life  
capture a moment balancing on the  
edge, unknowing which way it will  
fall.

"#resilience - This idea is central  
to my experience of south-  
west WA, where my delight in  
studying plants on location is  
tempered by the fragility of  
their existence due to human  
impact. This remarkable flora  
has evolved over millennia to  
survive a harsh environment,  
the question is, can their  
resilience adapt to new  
global conditions?"

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This project has been  
assisted by the  
Australian Government  
through the Australia  
Council, its arts funding  
and advisory body.

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*Red Kangaroo Paw*, 2023

plant name: *Anigozanthos rufus*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

44 x 17.8 x 17 cm

\$3,250







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*Prickly Banksia*, 2022

plant name: *Banksia aculeata*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

36 x 18 x 16.5 cm

\$3,100







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*Banksia gardneri*, 2023

plant name: *Banksia gardneri*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe,  
glaze and underglaze

29 x 22.8 x 19.7 cm

\$2,750







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*Stirling Range Coneflower*, 2023

plant name: *Isopogon baxteri*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

29.5 x 18 x 16.8 cm

\$2,750







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*Fan Hakea*, 2023

plant name: *Hakea baxteri*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

25 x 23 x 16.5 cm

\$2,750







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*Corky Net-bush*, 2023

plant name: *Calothamnus gracilis*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

20.1 x 17.6 x 14.8 cm

\$2,250







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*Synaphea*, 2023

plant name: *Synaphea petiolaris*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

21.1 x 17.3 x 17.1 cm

\$2,250







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*Coastal Jugflower*, 2023

plant name: *Adenanthos cuneatus*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

11.4 x 13.1 x 11.6 cm

\$800







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*Red Andersonia*, 2023

plant name: *Andersonia grandiflora*

sgraffito on porcelain vessel, with engobe, glaze  
and underglaze

11.3 x 12.1 x 11.6 cm

\$800











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