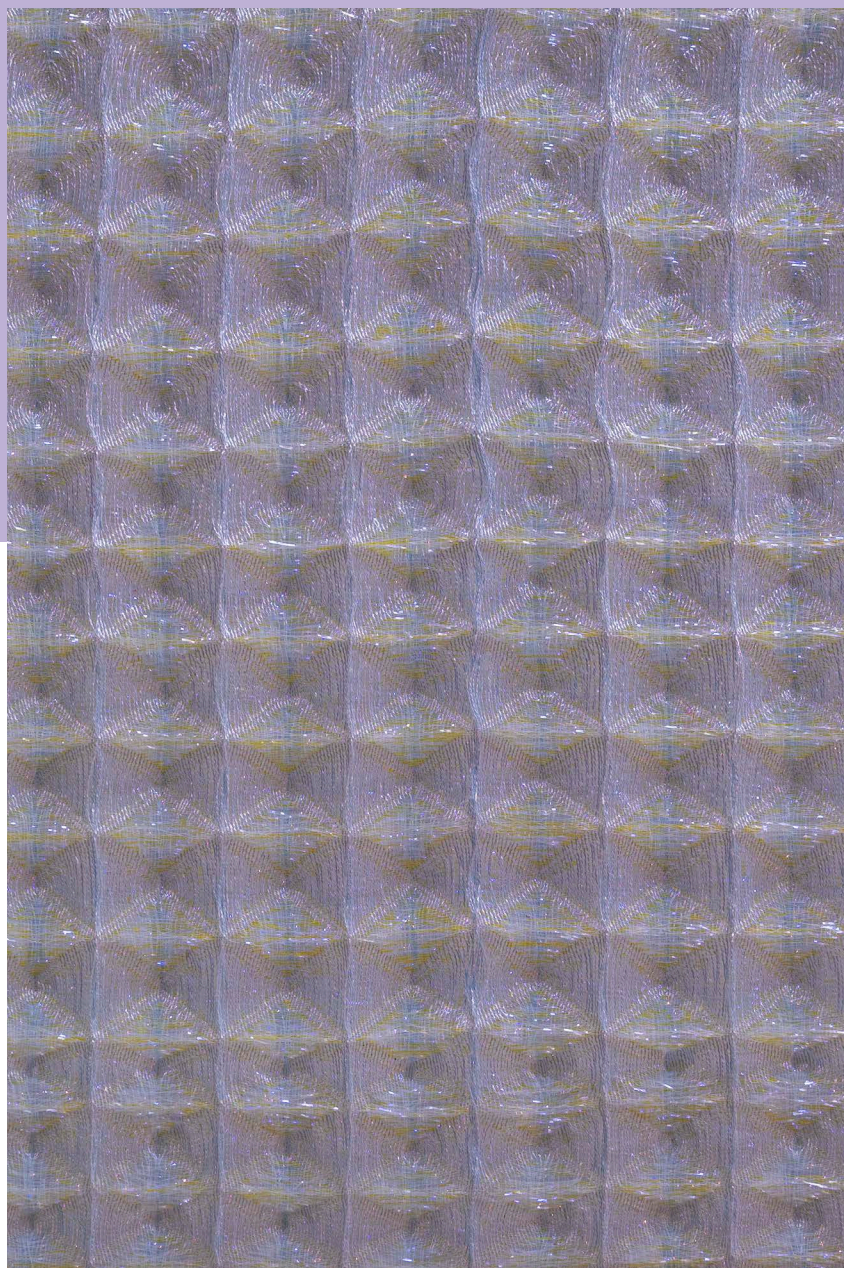


AK TEXTILES



"(s/b)ee, the alternative"
see the alternative
bee the alternative

CATALOGUE 2022

Amy Kerr Textiles



About AK TEXTILES



Amy Kerr is an award winning Textile Designer based in Kildare. She received her BA(HONS) for Textile and Surface Design in the National College of Art and Design in 2021. Her speciality is constructed textiles, focusing on woven textiles and the innovative collaboration between craft and technology for both fashion and interiors. She is very interested in applying new, experimental and unconventional processes and materials to more traditional crafts. Amy's graduate project '(s/b)ee, the alternative' has won numerous awards both nationally and internationally including the prestigious RDS Craft Awards 2022.

Her work is driven by nature and looking at nature through different perspectives. Through looking at the world through the eyes of other creatures, Amy explores innovative methods of problem-solving to create more sustainable alternatives and solutions to the many issues faced in the textiles and fashion industry. Through viewing our world through the eyes of other creatures, it unlocks another level of appreciation and beauty that is all around us. It helps create a more intimate bond between people and the planet and how truly amazing it all is. Amy hopes to help change peoples' attitude towards the industry in a positive and encouraging way.

"(s/b)ee, the alternative"

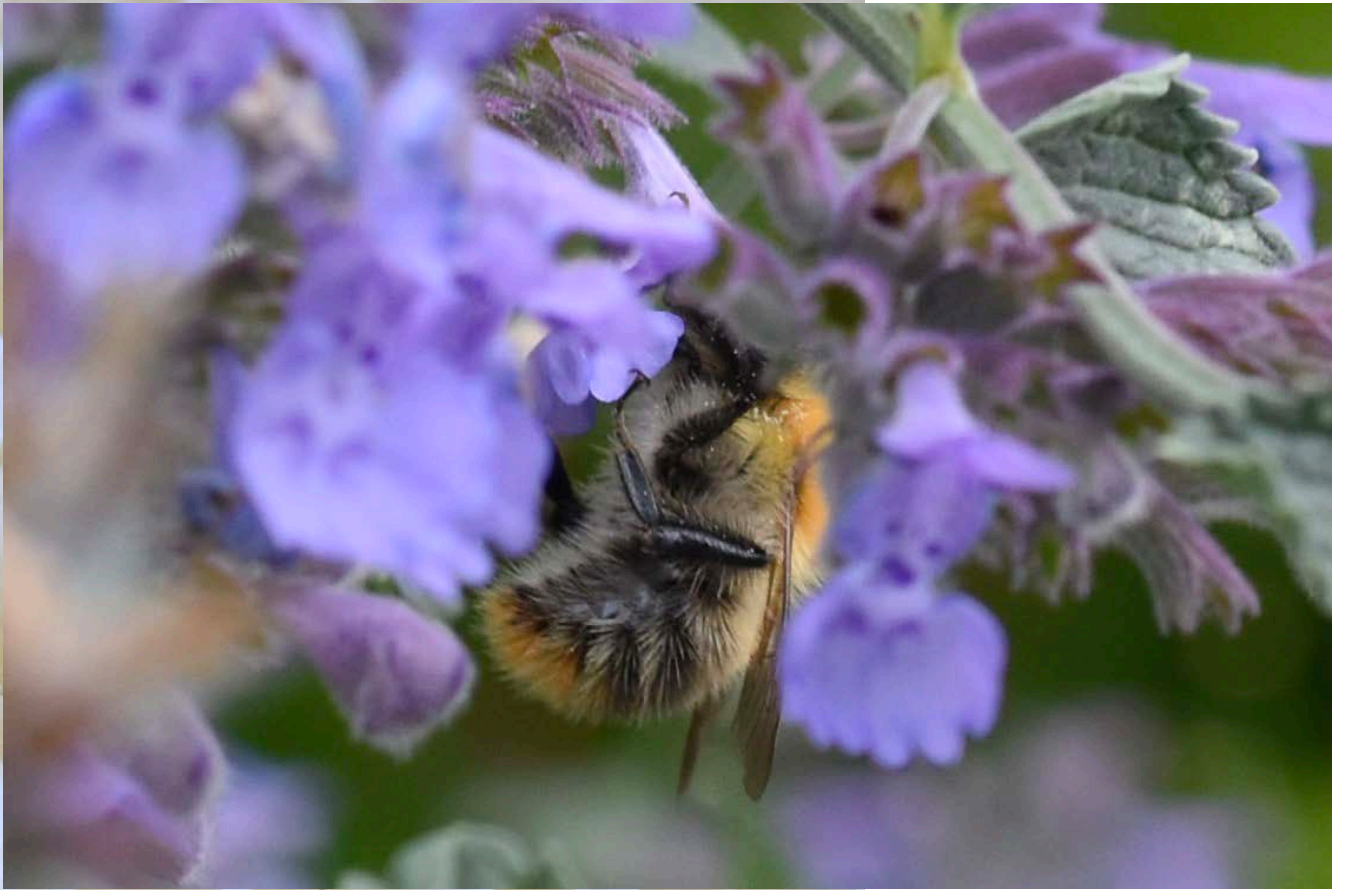
see the alternative

bee the alternative

This textile collection is inspired by bees, their incredible UV vision and how they see a new world of colour unseen to us. '(s/b)ee, the alternative' is driven by the innovative process of combining craft with technology. Through the exploration of a range of 3D technologies and methodologies, I have utilised various techniques which have been unconventionally applied to the construction of textiles and versatile materials to create three dimensional surfaces. Looking at colour through our own eyes and through the eyes of a bee, this collection combines two different worlds of colour. One half of this collection is the interpretation of the world through the eyes of a bee, merged with the other half of our own interpretation of the world.

'(s/b)ee, the alternative' aims to convey an alternative sense of reality to help alter and change the perception of the viewer. I invite my audience to a new world as seen through the eyes of a bee, which I have created through optical effects and the interaction of colour within my textiles which react to light and movement. Through the use of phosphorescent pigments, material experimentation and research, this collection reacts, reflects, absorbs and emits light and colour, giving the textiles ever-changing iridescent and luminescent glowing qualities.

As a result, I hope we can '(s/b)ee, the alternative'.





"(s/b)ee, the alternative" in your home

'(s/b)ee, the alternative' has been developed and re-created to be apart of your space. This award winning collection of hand woven textiles is now available as contemporary pieces of framed art. Each artwork is 8 X 10 or 8 X 8 inches plus the frame, with a selection of UV reactive pieces available too.

This is a limited edition collection of artworks with a small amount of stock. The yarns used throughout this collection are the remaining stock from the original collection. As they are not as sustainable as AK Textiles strives to be, they will not be purchased again so there is a very select amount made.

These pieces have been handmade and designed in Ireland by Amy Kerr.

"a bees dream"



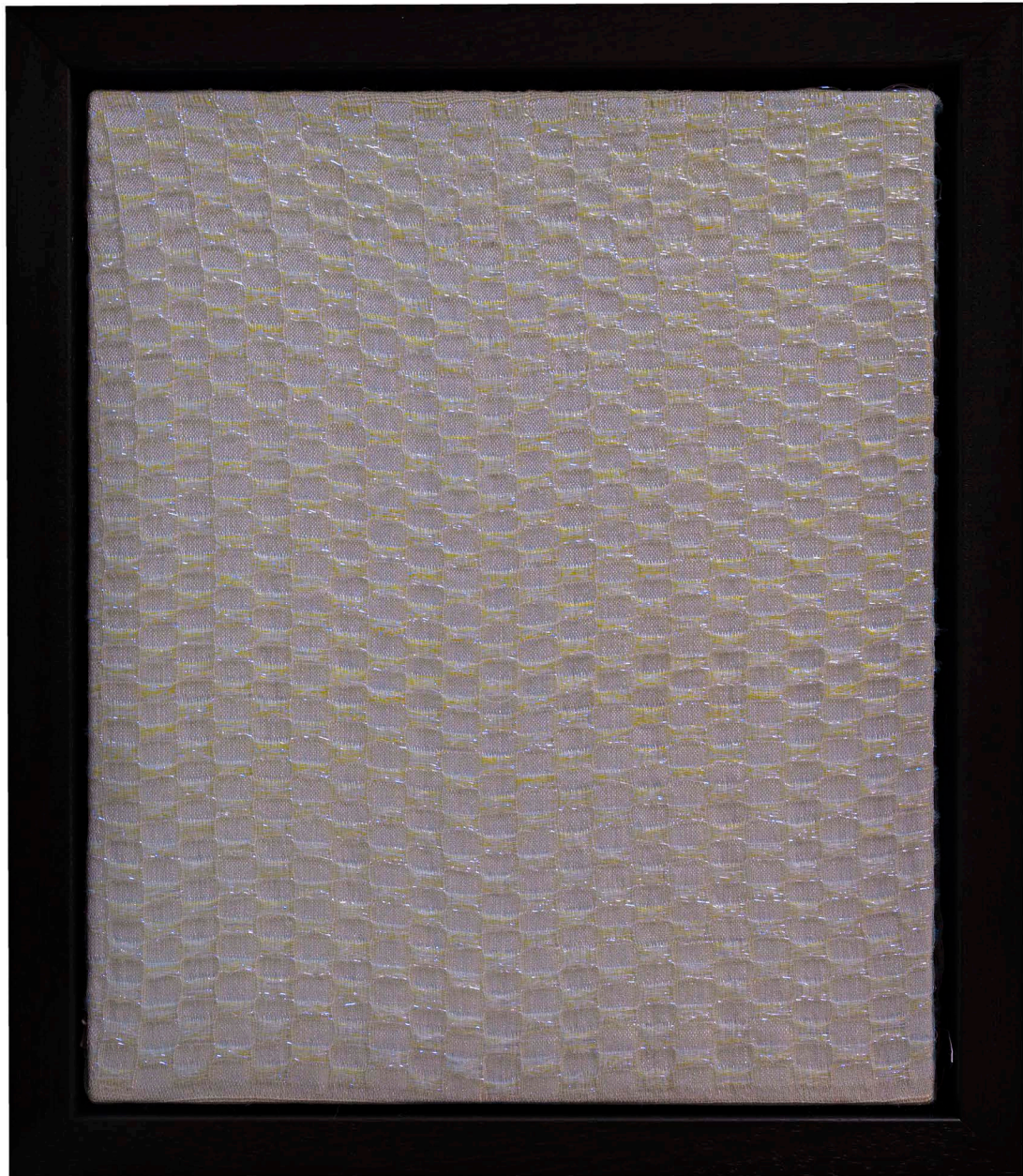
This iridescent purple honeycomb piece of hand-woven textiles is inspired by bee's incredible Ultra Violet vision. Using the honeycomb weave this structured piece of textiles interacts with light giving it an ever-changing iridescent hue of purples.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.

"violet eyes"

This iridescent purple piece of hand-woven textiles is inspired by bee's incredible Ultra Violet vision and the actual structure of their eyes. Bee's compound eyes are made up of thousands of tiny lenses. Using this weave structure, I have created a repeat pattern like the lenses of a bee's eye. The iridescent purple gives the piece an ever-changing glisten.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.



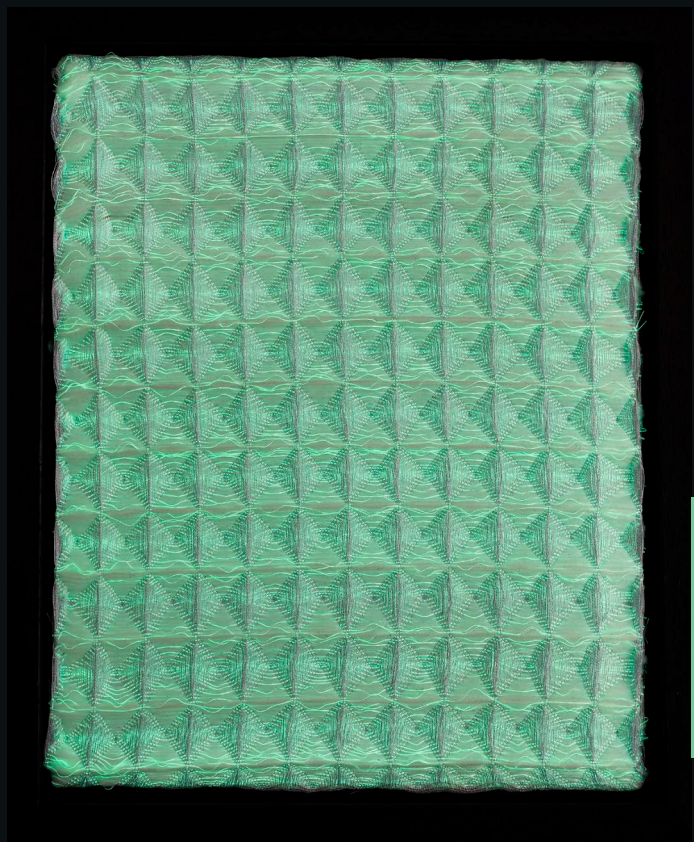
"Hi-tech honeycomb"

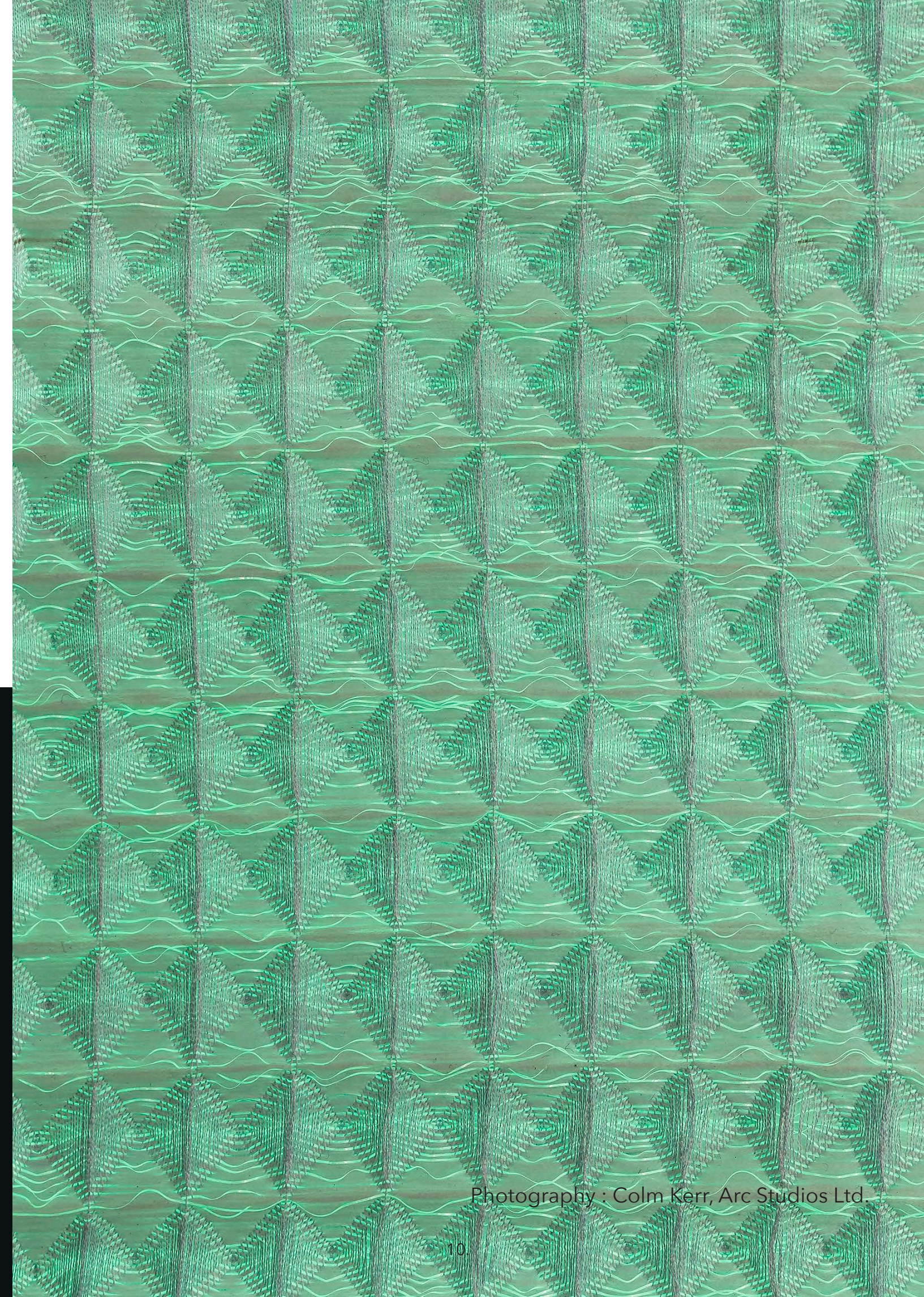


This is a UV (ultra violet) reactive piece of hand- woven textiles inspired by bee's incredible UV vision and the honeycomb structure. Using phosphorescent based materials and a polypropylene yarn, this piece changes in darkness when charged with a UV light and emits a glowing bright green light. As this piece also has polypropylene woven throughout, only sections of the honeycomb blocks glow.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.

It also comes with a small UV light keychain.



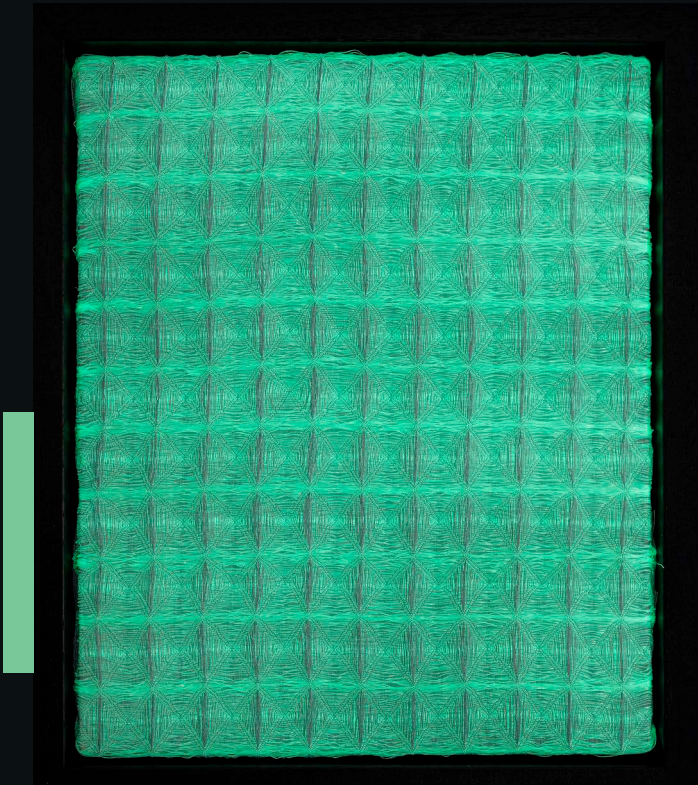


Photography : Colm Kerr, Arc Studios Ltd.



Photography : Colm Kerr, Arc Studios Ltd.

"(s/b)UV"



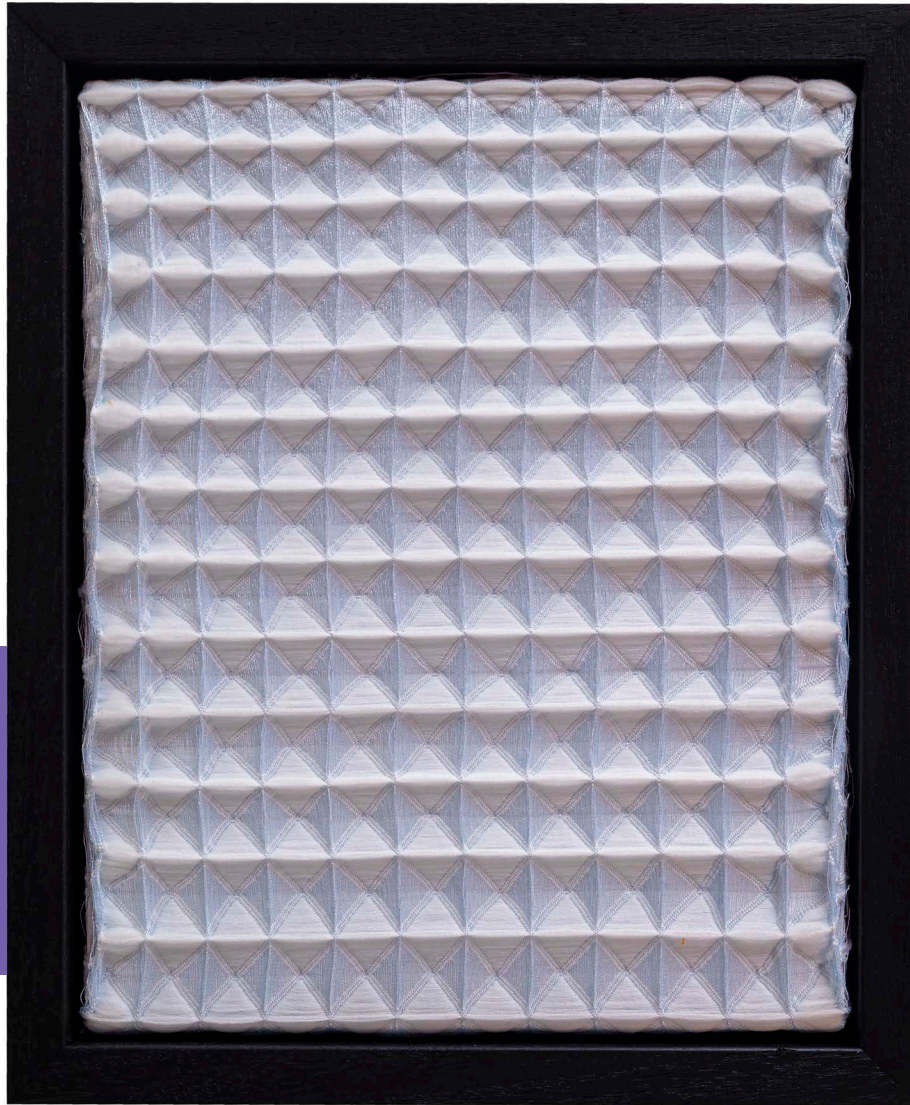
This is a UV (ultra violet) reactive piece of hand-woven textiles inspired by bee's incredible UV vision and the honeycomb structure. Using phosphorescent based materials, when this piece is charged with UV light it absorbs the light and changes in darkness. Glowing and emitting a bright green light.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.

It also comes with a small UV light keychain.

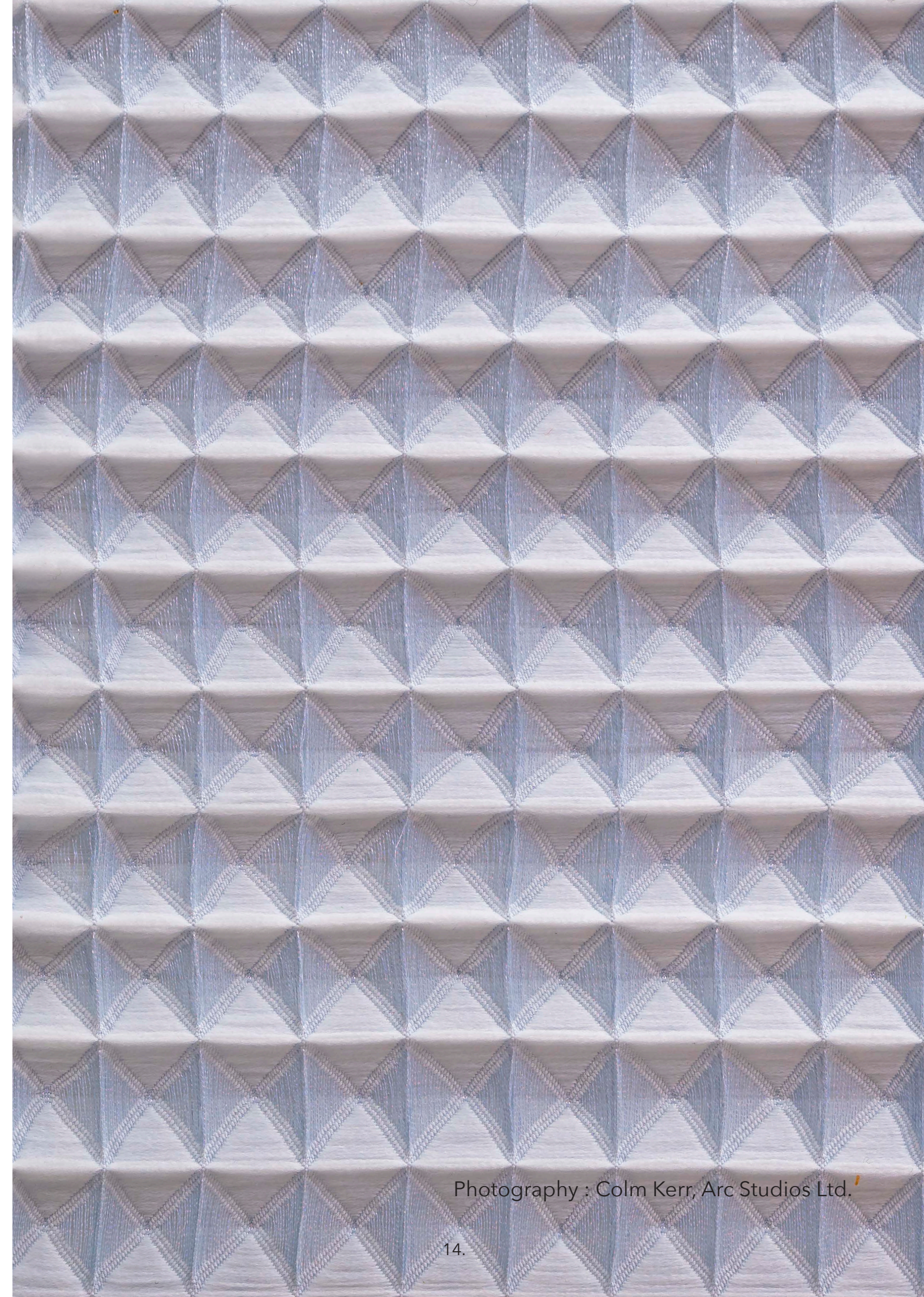


"iced honeycomb"



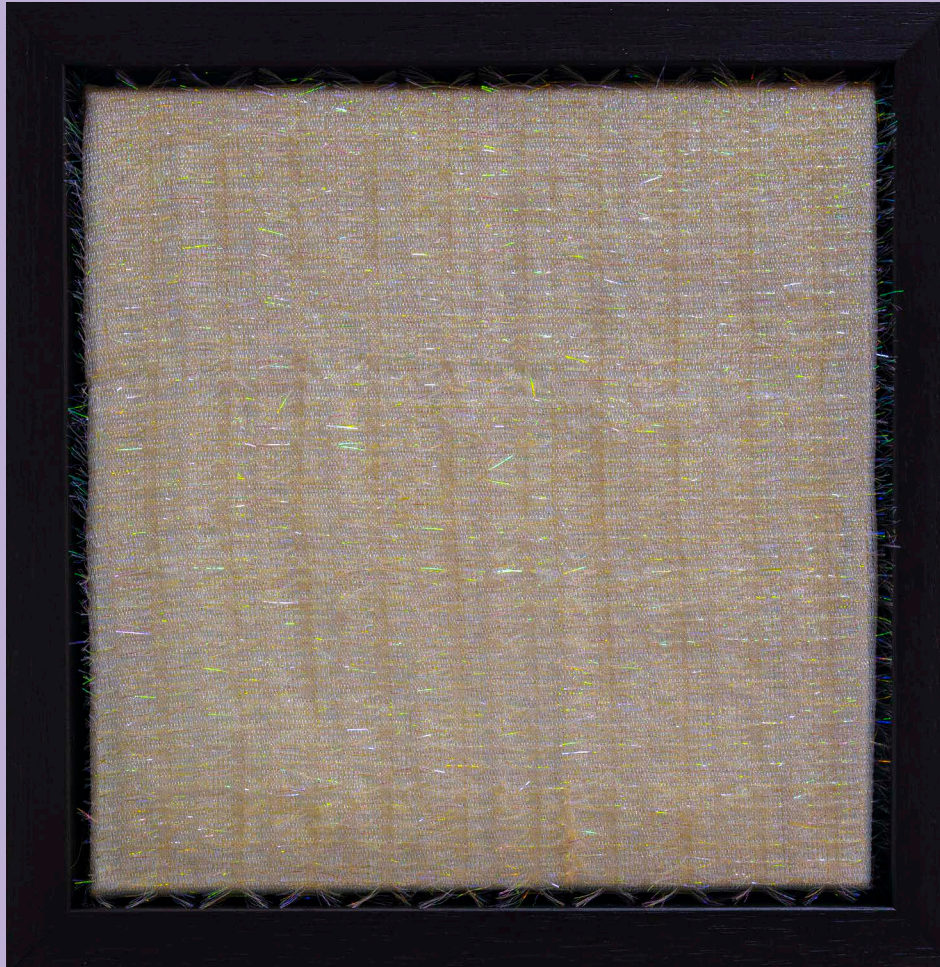
This structured hand woven piece of textiles is inspired by bee's incredible honeycomb structure. Using polypropylene yarn, this piece is highly structured with 48 threads per block. It is also extremely soft to touch.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.



Photography : Colm Kerr, Arc Studios Ltd.

"buzz fuzz"



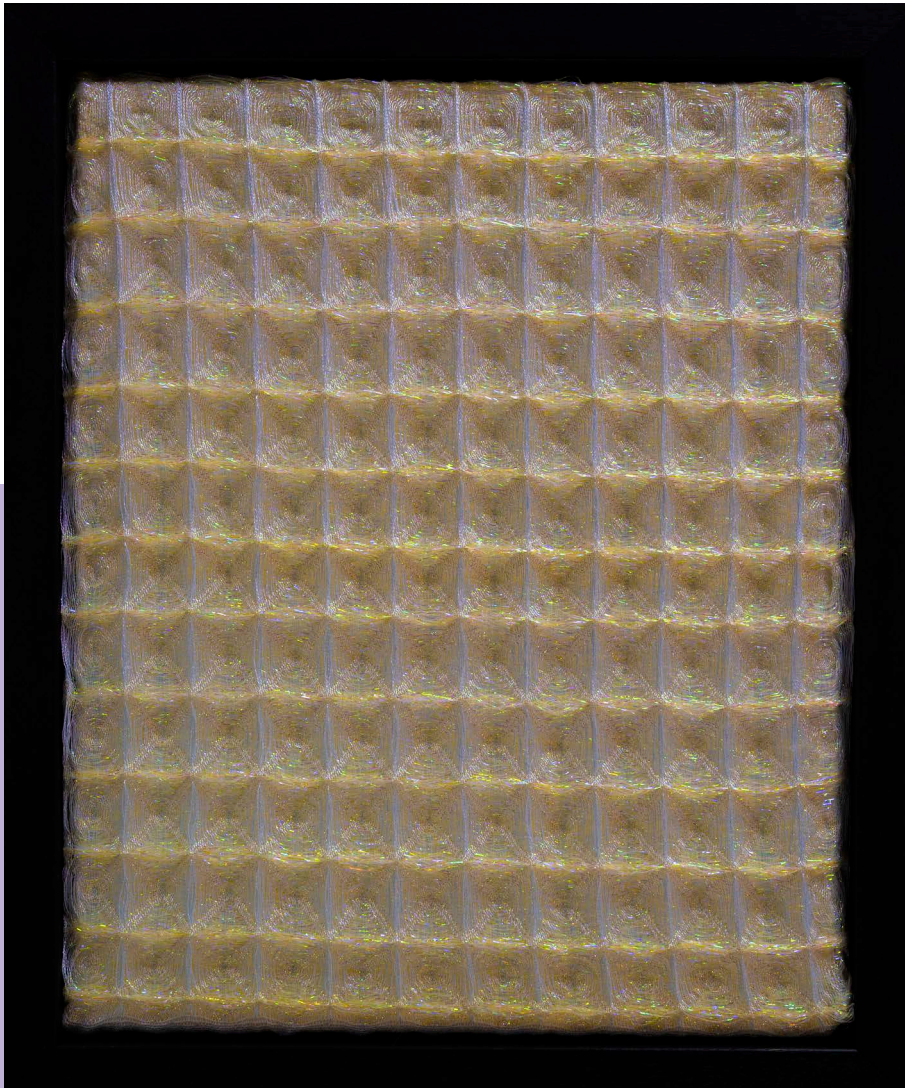
This iridescent yellow and purple piece of hand-woven textiles is inspired by bee's incredible UV vision and fuzzy little bodies. Bee's see yellow in UV light which is a different colour to how we would see it. It is a yellowish purple called "a bees purple". Using a structure in which some of the threads could be cut, this piece has a soft and fuzzy texture just as the bees fuzzy bodies do and it also interacts with light giving it an ever-changing iridescent hue of colours.

This piece is 8 X 8 inches, with the frame included.

"bee's purple"

This iridescent yellow and purple honeycomb piece of hand-woven textiles is inspired by bee's incredible Ultra Violet vision. Bee's see yellow in a different light to us and see this new colour called a "bee's purple". Two yarns have been mixed together to try and recreate this colour. Using the honeycomb weave this structured piece of textiles interacts with light giving it an ever-changing iridescent hue of colours.

This piece is 8 X 10 inches, with the frame included.



Photography : Colm Kerr, Arc Studios Ltd.

"(s/b)ee, the alternative" accessories





"(s/b)ee, the alternative" has also inspired a collection of hand crocheted sustainable bags and "not silk, silk scarves".

These accessories have been handmade and designed in Ireland. All the materials and processes have been consciously and sustainably sourced, using as many Irish suppliers and businesses as possible.

They are the perfect eco-conscious contemporary piece & accessory to add to your wardrobe.



"(s/b)ee, the alternative" bee bags

This hand crocheted bag is inspired by the bee's honeycomb structure and the weave structure seen throughout this collection. They are made from a plant based fiber, which was chosen because bees are pollinators. The yarn fiber used is Hemp, an extremely sustainable and durable fiber. The bags are also naturally dyed using a range of dyes such as Indigo and Lac.

The handles of this bag are hand

made from the up and coming 17 year old Darragh Whelan from Kilkenny. They are made from 100% Irish Oak and varnished with Irish bees wax.

The bags come with small hand-made drawstring inserts made from the prints and fabrics from the initial sampling to reduce waste as much as possible. When these are removed the bag folds and flattens for easy storage and travel.







not silk, silk scarves

As the ethos of AK Textiles has sustainability and ethics at its heart, the scarves created in this collection are not made from real silk. The process in making silk is very harmful to silk worms, people and the planet so alternative more sustainable fabrics have been used instead.

Two different fabrics are available, both are eco-certified and sourced from a small fabric digital printing business in Donegal. The first fabric available is a recycled polyester satin made from recycled water bottles. The second is a light weight breathable cotton.

The printing process used to digitally print the designs uses water based inks with no harsh chemicals. The designs are also fixed with heat and not any harsh chemicals or coatings.

The hems are sewn by the local seamstress in Celbridge, just 5 minutes away from Amy's studio.

All of the designs are inspired by different elements of bees, their vision and their behaviour.

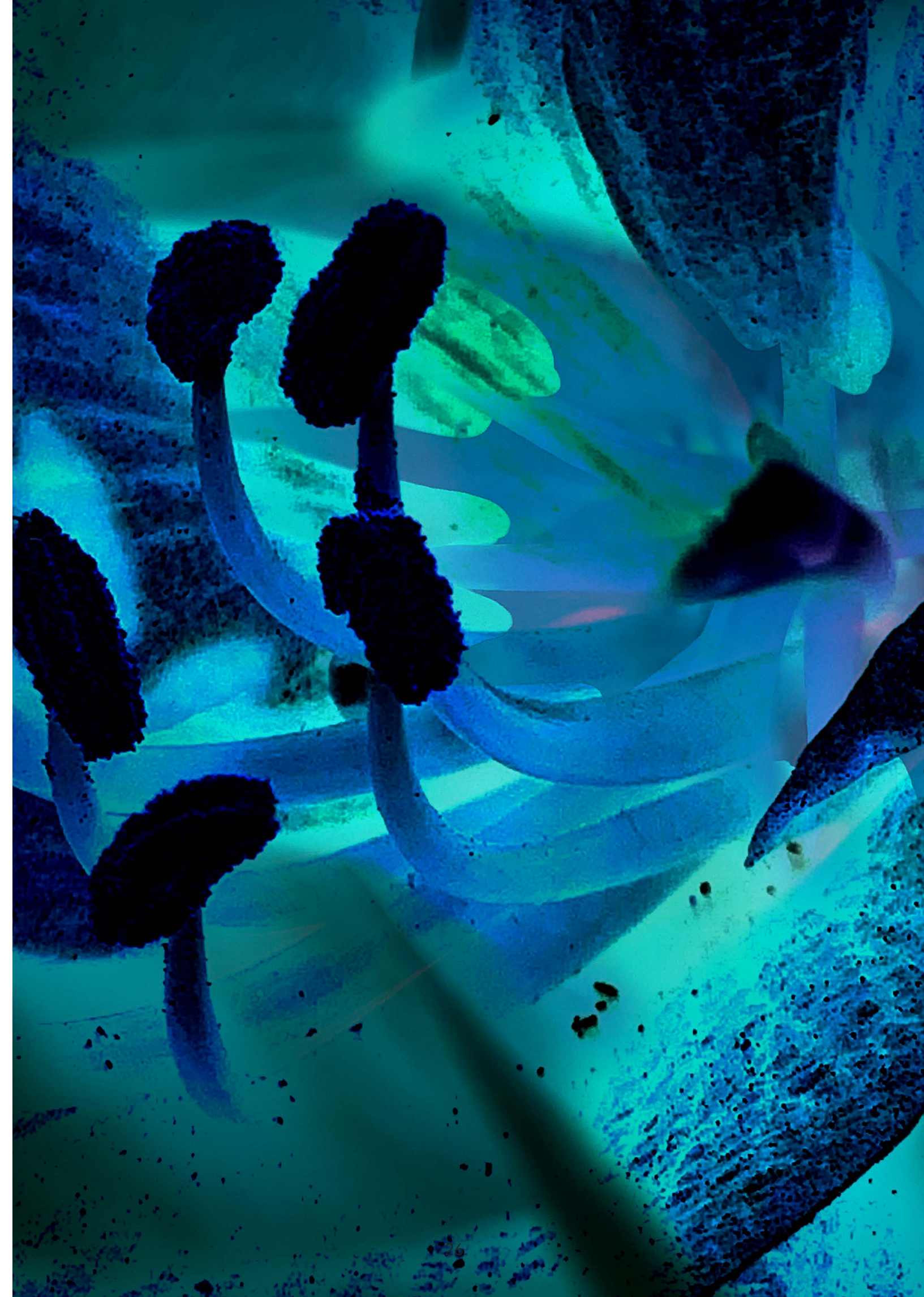


"a bee's perception"

This scarf is inspired by the bee's Ultra Violet vision and the other world like way they see flowers.

100 x 100cm
50 x 100cm





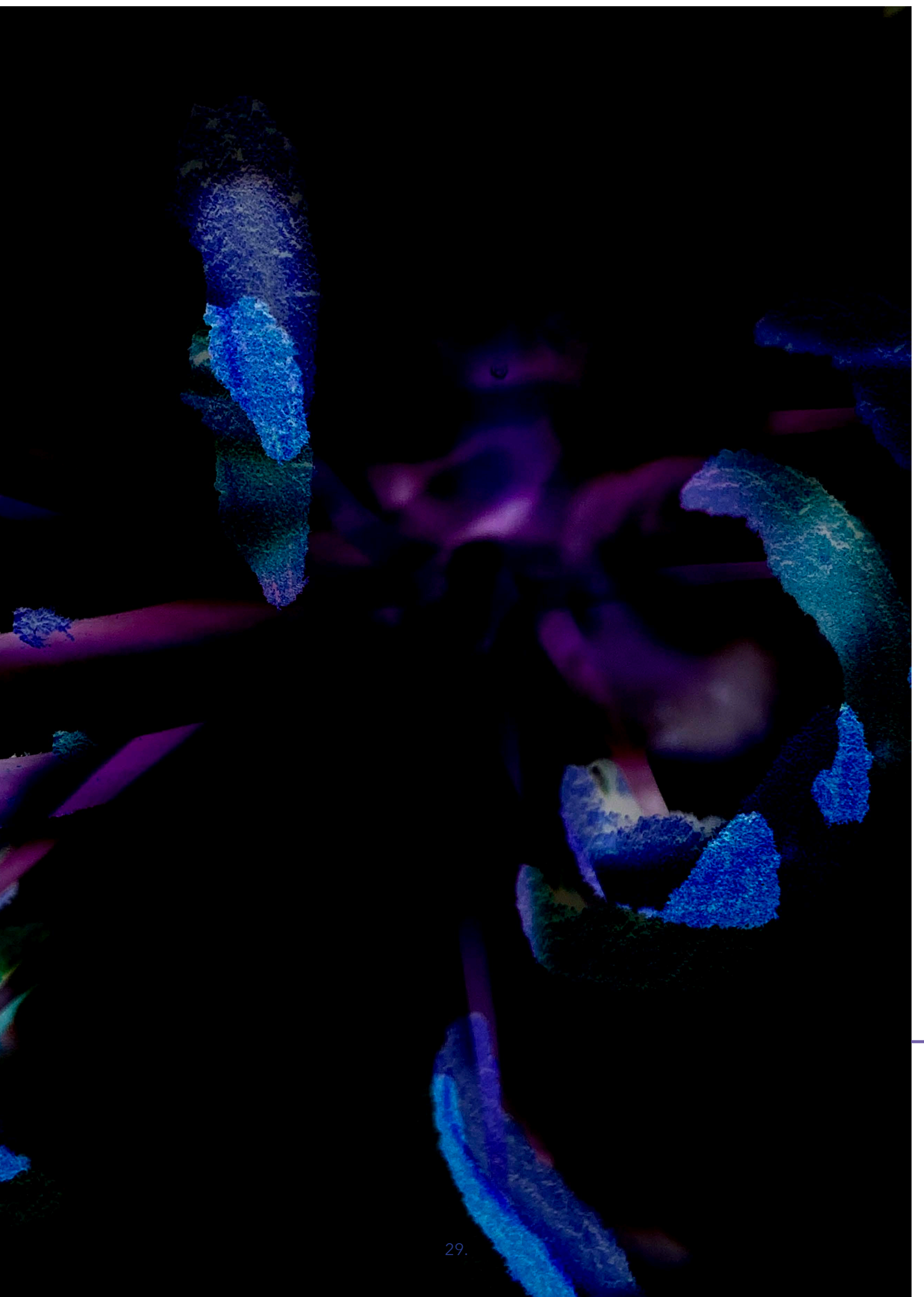




"the waggle dance"

This scarf is inspired by the bee's waggle dance, this is a form of communication with each other. They shake their bums and move in a figure of 8. Depending on the direction of the dance and figure of 8, they tell each other different pieces of information like the direction of pollen or danger.

120 x 30cm





This scarf is inspired by the bee's Ultra Violet vision and the other world like way they see flowers. This scarf is meant to feel like the inside of a UV Lily.

100 x 100cm
50 x 50cm

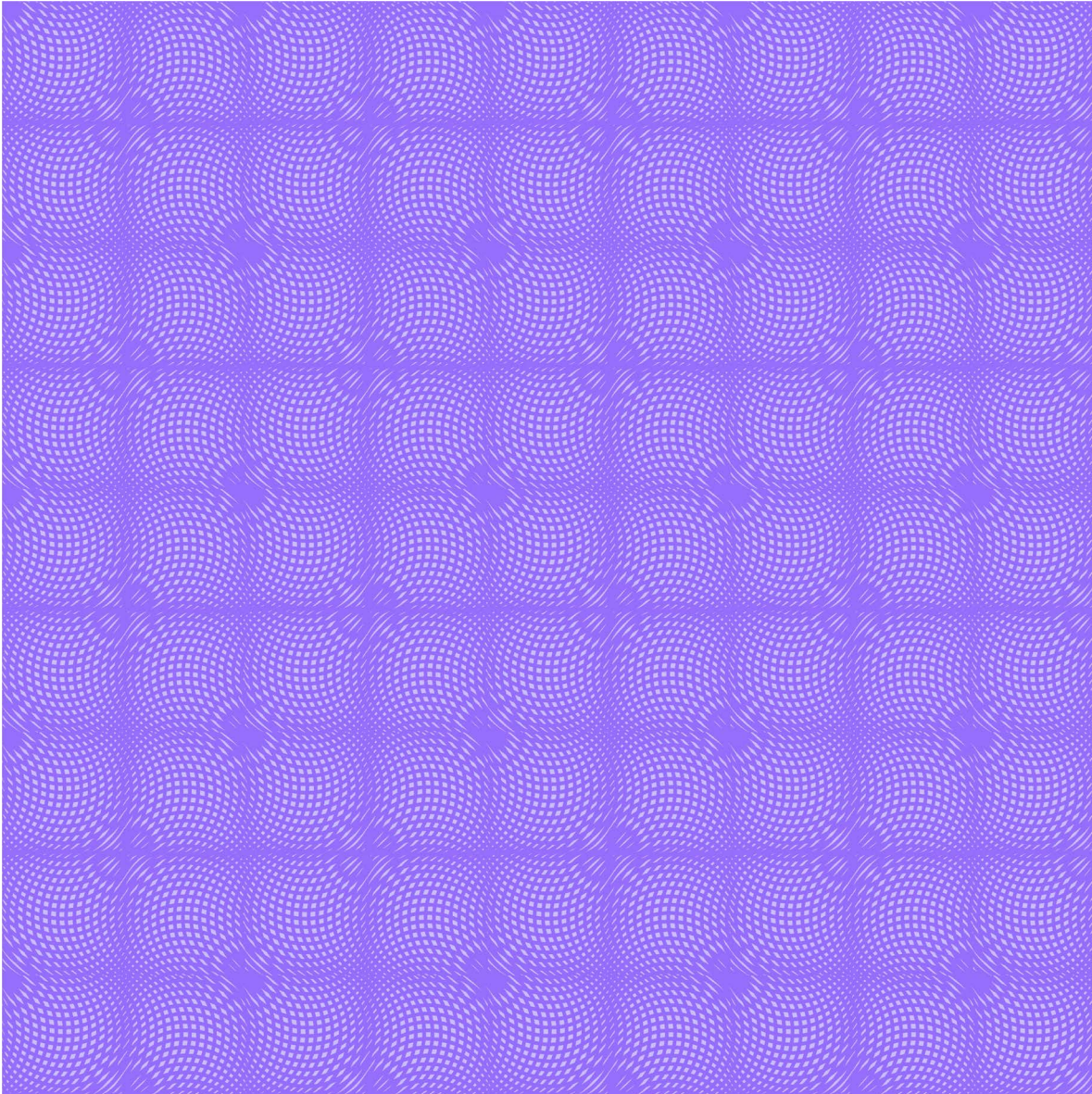
"flower of light"







"optics"



This scarf is inspired by the bee's Ultra Violet vision and the structure of their eyes. Bee's have 5 eyes, 2 large compound eyes that are made up of thousands of tiny lenses and 3 smaller eyes with different roles on the top of their head. The compound eyes are almost optical to look at so this repeat print was designed as an interpretation of these thousands of lenses.

50 x 50cm









orders & enquiries

For orders and enquiries please visit :

[*www.aktexiles.ie*](http://www.aktexiles.ie)

or email : [*amykerr@aktexiles.ie*](mailto:amykerr@aktexiles.ie)

Orders can be customisable (terms & conditions apply). Total length of time of order will vary per order, estimate timeline will be given when order is made, discussed and approved by both creator and customer.

Most products from AK Textiles are made to order to avoid as much waste as possible. There will be some occasional drops with limited stocks and new collections in the future. To keep up to date with AK Textiles make sure to follow on

Instagram : [*@ak.textiles*](#)



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