GALLERY COPY

Please leave in the gallery but you can download a copy from the ACEarts website. Or email fiftybees@gmail.com and Lydia will send you a copy.

'FIFTY BEES: The Interconnectedness of All Things' was devised in 2017, as a collaborative, multi-disciplinary art project to raise awareness about the diversity and plight of British bees.

Each bee, presented next to its companion artwork, tells a story, and offers insights into our bee population, how endangered it is and how the pollinators and we are completely interlinked with the ecosystem.

In this document, you can read about how each artist has researched and created their work – I think you will find it truly inspirational.

Please note: ACEarts is part of the Own Art Scheme.

Own Art offers permanent UK residents over the age of 18 an affordable way to buy art over £100 with its interest-free art loans over 10 months.

Look out for this symbol



	1	
201b) Andrena floricola	201a) Paul Hodges - An	drena floricola
Female Chilterns Mini-		
miner	My companion piece for Andrena floricola relates to the	
		men collected at Princes
3 x actual size	_	erns in 1939 just before the
£250		close to the HS2 rail tunnel that
	now emerges from ben	
Vintage gramophone	•	inting that reflected the
needle tin, wool, vintage	headlines from a black	•
kamibari gold, silver and		about this specific environmental
silk thread and		y hope is for the promised
embroidery thread.	_	ration to once more provide a
		cola to reappear. This includes
	parsley, angelica and v	ants such as, hogweeds, cow
	parsiey, arigelica aria v	viid Carror (rape).
	£1090	www.paulhodgesart.co.uk
202b) Andrena lathyri	202a) Maggie Powell –	
Female Burbage Mining	2020/11/1099101000011-	, ordrining (Editry103)
Bee	As the name reflects La	thyrus species is the primary food
		drena lathyri. Also referred to
3 x actual size		ngers and Thumbs, and described
£250	_	uch-loved companion to me
		ny walks. My intention is to
Antique card thread	portray the abundant o	and seemingly vivacious and
container, wool, vintage	playful nature of this da	inty yet generously prolific plant.
kamibari gold, silver and		
silk thread and	NFS	https://www.nattydeco.store/
embroidery thread.		
203b) Andrena lepida	203a) Beca Beeby - And	drena lepida
Female Aldworth Mining	NA//	and the Cold officer and the st
Bee	,	pee, I quickly discovered that
		go on: Andrena lepida has only
2 x actual size		n 3 times, and not since 1951. I
£350		esting and feeding habits and
Vintage jewellery box,		oraged on plants growing in larly the flowers of Brassicaceae,
wool, vintage kamibari	· ·	ae. I began studying microscopic
gold and silk thread and	·	d the plants the bees forage
embroidery thread.	•	and cross-sections of various
	-	gin building a sculpture based on
	1 '	aceae: the carrot family. I
	-	e that mimics the way many bees
		ests: laying down a pulped
	1	ulp etc) layer by layer to form the
	cells needed to protect	
	porcelain mix, I also gav	ve a nod to the Calcareous soils
	that support the Andrer	
	1.00.00	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a
	£950	www.becabeeby.com
204b) Andrena nana Female Barham Mini-	204a) Pauline Pearce - A	,

miner 3 x actual size £300 Antique card thread container, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread.	I was inspired to create this piece when I discovered that my bee was attracted to the colour and aroma of wild flowers. Having recently discovered the joy of making natural inks from plants and being lucky enough to live in walking distance of Lamplighter's Marsh, where many of the same species still grow, I gathered and prepared inks to reflect the bright colours. Allowing the inks to flow into each other reflects the mixing of pollen as the bee moves from flower to flower. One section of the picture reflects the beauty of the natural world, while the other section reflects the stark reality of the bee's fate.
	£280 www.paulinepearce.co.uk
205b) Andrena nanula Female Red-horned Minimining Bee 3 x actual size £200 Vintage silver pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	205a) Carly Wilshere-Butler – Andrena nanula My work is inspired by the elusive origins of my bee, a single female red horned mini miner bee recorded far away from any known established colonies. Queen Ann's lace is her only known food source. Many myths and stories have been woven of the red flower at its centre, distinguishing it from other Umbellifers. In poems this delicate wildflower is described as a force of nature. I imagine my little bee "Andrena nanula" small and fragile, likened to the delicate paper flowers dancing and looping in the shadows along woodland edges as she made her epic journey across the continent!
	£385 carlywilshere@mail.com
206b) Andrena niveata Female Long-fringed Minimining Bee 3 x actual size £250 Vintage watchmakers' container, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	206a) Catherine Hill - Giant Cauliflower Harvest This little mining bee is a solitary fellow foraging amongst crucifer-rich habitats along cliff tops and heathlands, excavating burrows as its home. As agriculture & erosion have slowly changed this beautiful landscape the bee numbers have declined, and it has been listed as rare since 1987. In 2008 it found a new home when it was spotted on an allotment, foraging amongst a vegetable patch full of crucifer vegetables such as kale, broccoli, cauliflower and sprouts. This reminds me of some of my fondest memories including Dad's allotment and the year he produced a bumper crop we named 'The Giant Cauliflower Harvest'! NFS https://www.instagram.com/catherine_hill_textile_artist/
207b) Andrena ovatula Female Small Gorse Mining Bee	207a) Claire Cooper-Walsh - Habitats of the Small Gorse Mining Bee
3 x actual size	In this tapestry I have tried to encapsulate the varied habitats of the Small Gorse Mining Bee, through the

£350 Vintage container, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread, antique gold leaf	Spring and Summer seasons. There is the rough grassland with red and white clover and yellow tormentil, then the heathland with its gorse and varieties of heather and crowning it is the sea and the chalky cliffs topped with thrift and kidney vetch. I wove the edges loosely and left the fringe to emphasise the fragile nature of what can look like a robust habitat, and I have used wire mesh to allow shaping to create an undulating landscape.
208b) Andrena polita Female Maidstone Mining Bee 3 x actual size £400 Antique chemist's container, wool, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	£765 https://www.instagram.com/ccooperwalsh/ 208a) Holly Pews – Ox Tongue Weed The Andrena polita, originally found in Kentish chalk downland and pits, has not been spotted since 1934. It gathered pollen from composite flowers such as chicory and ox tongues, whilst visiting other flowers for nectar. My companion piece is a fabric ox tongue weed (similar to a dandelion, but with bristly, rectangular leaves) created from an old duster still smelling faintly of beeswax polish. It lies discarded on reclaimed bricks, like a recently 'weeded' plant, unrecognised by many as a source of nectar and pollen for our solitary bees.
209b) Andrena similis Female Red-backed Mining Bee 3 x actual size £350 Vintage gramophone needle tin, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread. 210b) Andrena Simillima – Female Buff Banded Mining Bee 3 x actual size £350 Vintage powder compact, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread.	With sound work. (*Musician: Adam Clark) This piece is a response to my investigations into the life of the Red-Backed mining Bee. I am interested in the security provided by choosing to live underground and the potential for storytelling using diorama, sound and stop motion animation. This work is in collaboration with friend and Norfolk sound artist and musician Adam Clark. NFS https://sharkcage.wixsite.com/duncancameron 210a) Emma Le Iohe - Precious World This rare solitary bee has managed to survive in small numbers in the UK. My research took me to part of the Cornish coastal path that it inhabits and I was inspired to recreate the world in which it thrives and the connection I felt there. I chose mosaic for its mindful creative process, allowing me to collect and piece together the elements to recreate the interwoven wild landscape and the secret world of the bee within. When you look closely you notice so much, and I invite the viewer to interact with this piece so that I may convey that experience.

	Mosaic Assemblage with vintage ceramic pieces,
	incorporating pottery shards, stone, shell and sand
	foraged from Cornish costal paths and beaches.
	£1,500 www.emmaleloheart.co.uk
211b) Andrena subopaca	211a) Gill Bliss - Andrena subopaca – small black mining
Female Impunctate Mini-	bee
mining Bee	
	Researching the most common plants that Andrena
3 x actual size	subopaca visits, I took inspiration from the wild carrot
£200	(Queen Ann's Lace), which has a red central floret and
	the wild rose, which has a bright yellow centre. I
Vintage tin, wool, vintage	experimented with using a 'kirinuki', hand-building
kamibari silver and silk	method to form the body of the pots. Starting with a
thread and embroidery	solid lump of clay the form is created, and the pattern
thread, antique gold leaf	enhanced, by pushing and scraping from the inside –
	this was my own version of mining. The neck, stem and
	stand section of each vase are thrown, and using
	porcelain paper-clay helped with combining the
	different elements.
	£140 each vase www.gillbliss.com
212b) Andrena	212a) Gina Baum - Plot 1 and Plot 2
synadelpha	
Female Broad-margined	Ceramic sculptures Plot 1 and Plot 2 focus on the
Mining Bee	unobserved and inconspicuous habitats of solitary
	mining bees. Wild clay has been collected and
3 x actual size	processed from the land adjacent to a beech wood, a
£350	place with potential for bee nesting.
Violence III.	By working with porcelain, I hope to elevate the status
Vintage tin, wool, vintage	of raw clay to a position of an object held in high
kamibari silver and silk	regard, something to be cared for, protected, and
thread and embroidery	valued, just as the land and insects that work it should
thread	be.
	£300 each www.Ginabaumart.com
213h) Andrena tibialis	213a) Hazel Mountford & Penny Stapleton - Andrena
213b) Andrena tibialis Female Grey-gastered	tibialis's Book of Hours
Mining Bee	
Willing DGC	Our research of the grey-gastered mining bee inspired
3 x actual size	Penny to write 'A Cradle of Gold'. Interested by themes
£400	of time and struck by the poem's monastic nature, we
2 700	decided to create a medieval book of hours devoted to
Vintage jewellery box,	our bee, accompanied by an audio reading. With
wool, vintage kamibari	verses written in Latin and spoken in modern English we
gold, silver and silk thread	look at time long and time short: solitary bees have
and embroidery thread	been around for millions of years and yet the individual
	only lives a few weeks. As our bee spends most of their
	life in the dark underground in egg/larvae form, while
	we spend most of our life in the light, the book is
	illustrated from a human perspective, showing how the
	flora and fauna of Andrena tibalis's habitat changes
	note and recite of Androna hours Thabital Changes

	over the seasons.	
	£700	
214b) Andrena tridentata	214a) Ian Bride - Miner problems?	
Female Pale-tailed Mining	214d) Idit blide - Miller problems?	
Bee	Despite having a considerable background in, and	
	knowledge of, the science and practice of biodiversity	
3.5 x actual size	conservation acquired during a previous academic	
£350	career, as I researched A. tridentata even I was amazed	
	at the high number of Miner bee species recorded in	
Vintage watchmakers tin,	the UK and Europe. Moreover, as I explored further, I was	
wool, vintage kamibari	really taken aback by the incredible paucity of	
gold and silk thread and	knowledge concerning virtually all of them – particularly	
embroidery thread,	because of their important role as plant pollinators and	
beads	given how much we supposedly 'all love bees'. Using	
	images from the Natural History Museum's enormous specimen collection and expert witness interview	
	material, my piece represents the highly distorted and	
	monocular public perception of the bee as an	
	anthropogenic construct and the dearth of key	
	knowledge, notably that concerning the genus	
	Andrena - and of 'my' species, A. tridentata, in	
	particular. In so doing, it also poses important relevant	
	issues, as well as the problem of bee conservation.	
	£400 each www.ianbride.com	
215b) Anthrophora	215a) Nina Gronw-Lewis - Anthrophora quadrimaculata	
quadrimaculata		
Male Four-banded Flower	My research of the Four banded flower bee ecology	
Bee	represented here in four pods made with paper and	
	natural fibres. The selected plant fibres being some of	
3.5 x actual size	the food sources of this bee, sage, false nettle, lavender	
£350	and mint. Materials that could be returned to the earth	
Vintago rougo pot wool	with little impact.	
Vintage rouge pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold	£50 each www.ninagronw-lewis.co.uk	
and silk thread and	www.filliagionw-lewis.co.uk	
embroidery thread		
216b) Apis mellifera	216a) Joy Merron - Apis mellifera	
Female or worker		
Western Honey Bee	The skep represents thousands of years of domestic	
	beekeeping. It's an iconic structure that shows how	
2.5 x actual size	design can facilitate our symbiotic relationships with the	
£300	more-than-human world.	
Viotago tie vyod vietera	I hope that we can empathise with biodiversity loss, as it	
Vintage tin, wool, vintage	is interwoven with our own losses due to the pandemic.	
kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery	I want to highlight the often-overlooked importance of	
thread	trees as a source of pollen. Willow and hazel catkins provide early foraging opportunities for the bees in	
	Spring.	
	To tell this story, I stitched skeletal leafy forms with pearly	

	The purpose being, to create a shrine with a hopeful	
	message of change and regeneration.	
	0075	
217b) Popolicio dell'imperiore	\$875	
217b) Bombus cullumanus Queen Cullum's	217a) Jacky Oliver - Bee 217: Bombus cullumanus	
Bumblebee	The Bombus cullumanus was last seen in the UK in 1941,	
Burnblebee	making it one of two species that have likely gone	
2.5 x actual size	extinct from the UK in the last 80 years. It can still be	
£500	found in Russia and Asia.	
2000	The piece draws its form from the nests that the Bombus	
Vintage jewellery box,	cullumanus make underground in the abandoned	
wool, beads, vintage	burrows of rodents. A circular linear structure echoes the	
kamibari gold and silk	form of these cavities. At its base is the suggestion of	
thread and embroidery	shadows. The etched and pierced panels, in turn create	
thread, antique gold leaf,	shadows themselves. The shadow reference (the	
	temporary nature of shadows) and the skeletal qualities	
	of the linear structure have been used to hint at the	
	decline of the species. Details about the bee, its	
	preferred flowers, who discovered it, and its colouring	
	have been etched and pierced into permanent	
	shadows while the colouring of the piece is taken from	
	the striking red tails of the females.	
O10le V D a reales se la se est une	£1500 www.jackyoliver.co.uk	
218b) Bombus lucorum Queen White-tailed	218a) Jana Nicole Conway - Bee-tanical	
Bumblebee	There is a symbiosis between mycelium and bees, and	
Dombiebee	the way that they act together as a community to thrive	
3 x actual size	and help others around them to do the same.	
£500		
	In creating this piece, it was very easy to transpose what	
Vintage jewellery box,	I would normally create as a mycelium landscape into a	
wool, beads, vintage	bee landscape even down to the fact that the bee	
kamibari gold, silver and	community resides underground. All the plants and	
silk thread and	botanicals used in the artwork specifically relate to	
embroidery thread	those used by the bees in their natural habitat.	
010b) Doroby o recomme	£1200 www.jananicole.com	
219b) Bombus pomorum	219a) Polly Hughes – Apple Blossom	
Queen Apple Bumblebee 2.5 x actual size	Only four specimens of the Bombus pomorum have ever	
2.5 x actual size	been found on British shores. They were discovered in	
2.5 x actual size	the sand dunes at Deal in the mid-19 th Century, and it	
£500	was assumed they were windblown vagrants from	
	eastern Europe as none have been spotted here since.	
Vintage tooled leather	It is appropriate that the apple bumblebee was	
Liberty jewellery box,	discovered in Kent "The Garden of England" famed for	
wool, beads, vintage	its vast number of apple orchards, but it is disputed that	
kamibari silver and silk	its eponymous name means it feeds exclusively on the	
thread and embroidery	pollen of apple blossom, given the limited flowering	

	sprig of apple blossom to reference the brief cycle of life for both blossom and bee.
	£225 hughespolly.art@gmail.com
220b) Coelioxys afra Female Short Sharp-tail	220a) Janine Heschl – Echoes
Bee	'Echoes' was inspired by the striking pattern on the back of the Coelioxys Afra, which reminded me of sound
3 x actual size £350	waves. The idea was to create an embroidery of the spoken words: 'Schuppenhaarige Kegelbiene' – the
Vintage jewellery box, wool, vintage kamibari	German name of the bee, as she is listed as endangered in this part of the world, and I wanted to 'raise my voice' for her species and to hopefully create
silver and silk thread and embroidery thread,	an echo in people's minds to be more empathic and mindful when it comes to our delicate ecosystem.
antique gold leaf	The embroidery was stitched in free motion with a vintage Singer 107W102 sewing machine, using variegated thread on a base of black calico fabric.
	£680 www.textilewildlifeart.com
221b) Colletes marginatus Female Little Colletes	221a) Julia McKenzie - Colletes marginatus
3.5 x actual size	This tiny plasterer bee lives on the very edge of our island on shingle beach margins. It is ground nesting and only
£350	feeds on a small selection of native plants such as hare's foot clover, sea holly and common vetch. This rare
Vintage jewellery box, wool, vintage kamibari	creature is threatened by coastal erosion and global warming.
gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread,	I was really drawn to its fragility and solitary isolation. It was last seen in Studland, Dorset in 1938.
antique gold leaf	My glass dome houses a singular habitat made from old British maps. The man-made signs, names and symbols
	no longer function as a map but are fragmented like the habitat they represent.
	The dome makes us think of a museum piece and the ephemeral nature of paper itself makes you want to protect it.
	£1850 www.Juliamckenzie.co.uk
222b) Dufourea halictula Female Sheeps-bit Dufourea	222a) Lauren Cattle - Fragile Resilience 3D shapes forming this sculpture are called truncated octahedrons. Their hexagonal sides reference a beehive structure, yet their roundness resembles the full bloom of
3 x actual size £200	a flower called sheep's-bit; a particular favourite of the Dufourea halictula bee.
Antique pot, wool,	The colours shift from translucent to vibrant blues and honey-yellows, whilst some octahedrons are crystal
vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and	clear. The fading colours invites the audience to reflect upon endangered bee species.
embroidery thread	In this work, the glass symbolises the interconnectivity and fragility of bee colonies. A single piece, the of glass is delicate, yet when supported by others, the medium

	unrecognisably strong and resilient. As these octahedrons cluster together in an organic structure, we	
	are reminded of the strength that comes from collective	
	effort and unity.	
000175	£2800 www.laurencattle.co.uk	
223b) Dufourea minuta	223a) Lisa Stevens - More Precious Than Gold	
Female Shiny Dufourea	Easily overlooked, as it is so small, Shiny Dufourea may	
3 x actual size	be extinct. The plants that it fed on are also overlooked	
£250	– Dandelion, Hawkweed, Ragwort and others in the	
	same family are seen as weeds, but they are vital for	
Antique pot, wool,	pollinating insects. They scatter, like stars, across lawns	
vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and	and wastelands, stubbornly popping up where they're	
embroidery thread	unwanted, but more precious than gold for the bees.	
ornorodory miroda	The back of the plate reads: "You may see us as	
	insignificant weeds, but we sustain the hardworking and	
	overlooked. We are akin to the stars and more precious	
	than gold."	
	£650 Instagram@lisasearchin	
224b) Eucera nigrescens	224a) Louise Pettifer – A Delicate Balance	
Male Scarce Long-horned		
Bee	My work alludes to the interconnectedness of the	
	natural world, a system which supports our insects, birds,	
3 x actual size £450	wildlife and of course, ourselves. The work reveals traces of the beautiful wild plants favoured by my bee – the	
3430	Scarce Long-horned Bee - plants such as vetches,	
Antique tooled leather	clovers and wild sweet peas. These plants would have	
pot, wool, vintage	been widespread when meadows were a common	
kamibari gold, silver and	feature of our countryside. My hope is that we are	
silk thread and	learning to appreciate and value the vital role these	
embroidery thread, beads	plants hold in the ecosystems we live in and that we allow them the space to grow and flourish again.	
	Show thom the space to grow and hourst again.	
	£325 www.louisepettifer.co.uk	
225b) Halictus maculatus	225a) Louisa Crispin - Glimpse FPS019	
Female Square-headed	"Programed extinct in the LIK"	
Furrow Bee	"Presumed extinct in the UK" Working on this bee coincided with an introduction to	
3 x actual size	the world of recording insects and discovering why it is	
£350	so important that we continue to monitor and count our	
	wildlife.	
Vintage gramophone	Are such free as a comp Dutition and Harrist and a Comp Control of the Control of	
needle tin, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and	Apart from our British enthusiasm for lists, these recordings give valuable insights into the changing	
silk thread and	environment which can help make conservation	
embroidery thread	decisions and give early warning to the impacts of	
, ,	habitat loss, justifying funding decisions. We may use the	
	information to pursue protection from developments	
	(such as protesting against the building of a theme park	

	alongside Swanscombe Marshes). Long term recording helps to identify trends, often early warning systems particularly for what is known as "indicator species" - the annual Big Butterfly Count falls into this arena, encouraging everyone to become a citizen scientist for a few days each year.
226b) Halictus subauratus	£450 www.louisacrispinart.co.uk 226a) Louise Thompson - Halictus subauratus
226b) Halictus subauratus Female Golden Furrow Bee 4 x actual size £300 Vintage jewellery box, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	My artwork focuses on the flora and fauna that the golden furrow bee favours, open meadows with chicory, chamomile, and thistles. I created small etching plates and printed them mostly in Prussian blue ink as bees perceive plants in ultraviolet. I added gold leaf and stitched golden threads to some of the little hand printed squares – whilst reading about the bee one of the things that stood out was the description of the female having a thick covering of felt-like golden hair on their head. The finished prints are framed in a wooden box case housing lots of little squares to emulate the bees' underground nesting cells and cavities they create.
	£ 75
227b) Hoplitus leucomelana Male Kirby's Lesser Mason 3 x actual size £200 Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	Kirby's Mason Bee has only been recorded once in England in 1802, at Coddenham, Suffolk. A very elusive species indeed. As it was challenging to find out about this rare creature, I became fascinated by the black body of the bee itself. Its dramatically pointed shape and fabulous tufts of yellow, sprouting from the glossy surface, led to an exploration into the materiality of delicate disintegration. My intention was to represent a vulnerability and fragility of the species. Plotting a grid, mapping through stitch, this became a method of structure and order as the search quite literally fell apart. The cocoons suggest a safe space, ethereal and sensitive waiting to receive new life, full of promise for the future. A poignant commentary on the human destruction of nature, with the ultimate loss and extinction of entire species.
	NFS @suegreenart
228b) Hylaeus pectoralis Male Reed Yellow-face Bee	228a) Mark Butler - Hylaeus pectoralis The Reed Yellow-face bee is associated with the common reed, making its nest in vacated galls
3 x actual size £200	previously occupied (and formed) by a nesting fly, and this is what I chose to focus on with this piece.

Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	The text is taken from a report describing the bee's habitat and nesting behaviour, with the outline of common reeds painted over the top. The inset piece is in cast bronze, based on the reed galls used by the bee as its nesting chamber. \$495 www.msbutlersculptor.co.uk
229b) Hylaeus	229a) Mark Mulholland – Rise
punctulatissimus Female Onion Yellow- face Bee 4 x actual size £300 Vintage pill pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold, and silk thread and embroidery thread	Are churches and chimneys enough for us to grow? Should we think back to times before? To a land where there were flowers and seeds to sow? Set on the banks of the Thames in the mid-1800s, this allegorical scene is a 'call to arms'. The subject is the divine feminine that dwells within each of us. Responsible for our growth and wisdom, she stands like a Colossus guarding the last plot of fertile land in an everchanging industrialised and gentrified urban landscape. Whilst wearing elderflowers, her head becomes an onion plant suggestive of how humanity can help manifest the correct ecological environment for our pollinators.
	£3500 www.markmulhollandartist.co.uk
230b) Lasioglossum leave Female Ridge-cheeked Furrow Bee 2.5 x actual size £300 Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	My assigned bee is Lasioglossum laeve. A bee that once was abundant in the UK, but due to the human effect, has been extinct here since 1901. I researched and struggled to find much, but I did establish that this tiny bee would have been a solitary bee that made its nests underground in soil. Looking at other underground nesting, solitary bees, I found that they generally have one entrance, a few food stores and one larger chamber for the young to be laid. These nests would be used by either a single female, or a pair as sometimes the females will partner up for safety as it allows them to raise their young more efficiently and they can collect more food as a pair. That made me smile. But my response is a sad one. This is an empty nest. It should have busy bees inside it, plenty of stored food and some wriggling babies But it doesn't. It's empty. We did that. I used plaster bandage to create the empty nest. This is a comment on the broken ecosystems that we need to start healing. And I 'framed' the empty nest, as we humans are obsessed with transforming everything into a commodity to be bought and sold and profited from. If we can't profit from it, we don't care. This response may seem dark, but it's truly full of the emotion that researching this lost bee triggered in me. It also came at a time when I too am struggling with my own empty

	nest, making this piece quite personal.	
	£300	MANAY moraliyagany oom
231b) Lasioglossum		www.merakivagary.com rd - The perfect imperfect lawn
rufitarse		a - me peneci impeneci iawn
Female Rufous-footed	My research led me to	thinking about 'weeds' and what
Furrow Bee	*	ooted Furrow Bee feeds on what
	*	ds, for example, brambles,
2.5 x actual size	hawkweed and butte	rcups. My thoughts then turned to
£250	*	us are familiar with and where we
		effort trying to wipe out weeds –
Vintage tin, wool, vintage		d that 87% of homes in the UK
kamibari silver and silk		nabitat loss detrimentally affecting
thread and embroidery		s are becoming increasingly
thread	The state of the s	ere are many variations on what a in it, but common themes are
		d/s. Lawns can be beneficial: they
		for insects and in turn, food for
	•	vith slowing rainwater run-off.
	=	nat 'perfect' patch of green grass
	requires a lot of time o	and resource; watering, feeding,
	and weeding. Lists of	'lawn weeds' include hawkweed,
		s, red and white clover, selfheal
		more lists of ways to eradicate
		e of chemicals. Sadly, many of
		o great food sources for pollinators.
		peds can also be wonderful places et for pollinators, but again it is
		rs carefully, some are not so
		le, highly hybridised plants (i.e.,
	-	ybrid tea roses) which may look
	· · · · · ·	ting, offer very little food.
	In short, the perfect la	wn may actually be an imperfect
	lawn and the flower b	ed may be another desert,
	depending on your po	
		ch and many articles to help with
		e more bee friendly, the good
	news seems to be tha	t you can start with less mowing.
	£450 h	ttps://www.miriamsheppard.co.uk
232b) Lasioglossum		hompson - Unnatural Habitat
semilucens	,	,
Female Small Shiny Furrow	This tiny species is bec	coming ever rarer. Key causes are
Bee		ental pollution and climate
		velling bee that resides in sandy or
2 x actual size		ners pollen from yellow asteraceae
£200	·	ated this using embellished and
Vintago containor wast		d textiles combined with sandy
Vintage container, wool, vintage kamibari gold		te plastic packaging to convey
and silk thread and		e tragedy. The embossed ever-increasing urbanisation, but
embroidery thread	-	diles shows how nature fights on
ombioladiy inicad		and shows how halord lights off

	between the cracks.
	£795 www.nerissact.co.uk
233b) Lasioglossum sexstrigatum	233a) Niamh Geraghty-Morris - Journey
Female Fringed Furrow Bee	My print is a visual narrative inspired by the documented finding of a tiny female Lasioglossum sexstrigatum in June 2008, the habitat surrounding the flooded sandpit
3 x actual size £250	in Surrey, and her journey to find food.
Turned wooden pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	A beautiful summer's day, leaving her warm sandy bank, she flies along the water's edge. Through the rushes, sedge, and long grasses gently swaying in the welcome breeze. The loosestrife stands tall nestled amongst creamy meadowsweet, a fragrant backdrop to her destination. Nourishing gold cat's ear, where she stops to feed, leans towards the glowing sun.
	£250 niamhgeraghty@tiscali.co.uk
234b) Lasioglossum smeathmanellum Female Smeathman's Furrow Bee 3 x actual size £300 Vintage container, wool, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	My piece shows an area of wall, (old mortar being a common nesting site of Smeathman's Furrow bee), within a brownfield site commonly perceived as ugly areas of our landscape. Graffiti poses the question of whether we value the 'weeds' which are beneficial to many species. During research I have come to appreciate these areas act as important reservoirs for wildlife and can be more species rich than the 'green' spaces that surround our towns and cities. Unfortunately, these sites are under increasing threat. They are seen as undesirable areas with a tendency to antisocial behaviour. They are the first to be used as land development.
235b) Lasioglossum villosulum Female Shaggy Furrow Bee	235a) Anne Guest - Flight Paths and Portals Lasioglossum villosulum, the Shaggy Furrow Bee, is a solitary bee that chooses to nest in large aggregations.
4 x actual size £250	Each of these circles represent aspects of the different habitats in which these bees live.
Vintage card pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	I have used the cyanotype process to make the image. This is a photographic contact print process which results in a blue image. I have changed the colour of the image with a toner made from dandelion leaves and roots which is one of the flowers that it forages for pollen and nectar. This has resulted in a browner appearance which represents the brown field sites which is one of its

	preferred habitats.
	The gold metal leaf dots suggest the flight path of the bee as well as referencing the widely spaced punctures on its back which differentiate this bee from its close relatives.
	£335 www.anneguest.co.uk
236b) Megachile ericetorum Female Banded Mud Bee 3.5 x actual size 3.5 x actual size £400 Vintage tin, wool, vintage	236a) Susan Mannion - Don't Call Me A Leafcutter When I first saw a picture of my bee for this project, I thought it looked almost like a wasp with a banded body. But it is a very interesting bee, gathering pollen from legume. The females differ from all other British leafcutters by having no bevelled cutting edge to the mandible, so they do not cut leaves, hence the title for the artwork, Don't Call Me A Leafcutter.
kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	I decided to represent the banding of the bee in the application of enamel layers to the outer surface of the copper vessel and using greens to represent the legumes from which they gather pollen.
	£140 www.susanmannion.com
237b) Megachile lapponica Female Willowherb Leafcutter Bee 3.5 x actual size £400 Vintage jewellery box, wool, beads, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	The willowherb leafcutter bee is extinct in the UK but has been seen occasionally by bee watchers – two near North Curry in Somerset in 2018. It uses leaves of the Rosebay Willowherb to cut circles and make walls for chambers where it lays its eggs. The plant is the starting point for my work, and I am puzzled why the bee became extinct when Rosebay Willowherb is so common in the UK – it was chosen as the county flower of London after the blitz due to its capacity to grow in derelict bomb sites and represent resilience. Rosebay Willowherb is a plant with many uses such as dye, tea and fabric making. I collected it from my local area using stems and leaves for weaving and eco dye. Weaving - Make Like a Bee 1 £450 Sculpture - Make Like a Bee 2 £300 JaneHigginbottom.co.uk
238b) Megachile parietina Female Black Mud Bee 3.5 x actual size	238a) Donna ValeAnd Then It Was Too Late The research focus for my companion bee was the nest site of the Megachile parietina. Formed from cavities, natural and artificial, pre-existing or excavated. These
£400 Vintage tin, wool, beads,	can be found in the ground, on earth faces or in dead wood around old window frames. It is the largest Megachile on the British list, though only tentatively so,

vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread,	on the basis of an ancient Jersey record that has no supporting specimens.
antique gold leaf	Being a member of the subgenus Chalicodoma, this is not a leafcutter but creates clusters of mud cells. As a consequence, it lacks a bevelled cutting edge to the mandibles because it does not need to cut leaves.
	While wandering around a junk shop, I found a collection of vintage film reel tins and their educational booklets. There were two tins: Soil, part one and two. A perfect combination for my companion piece and Lydia's bee.
	As the research showed, there was once a record but this bee hasn't been catalogued for many years so I choose to work with absence, mirroring the filled and the void, as a reflection of the changed habitats for this missing bee. The cells have been formed in, around and out of the tin, encroaching the frame. Fragile in its nature and delicate to the touch, using recycled paper pulp as a sculpting medium. The structure is built like the sprawling housing estates, concreting our green spaces and bulldozing through habitatsand then it was too late.
	NFS www.foreverycloud.co.uk
239b) Melecta luctuosa	239a) Sarah Connell – Into the Night, Image 1, 2021
Female Square-spotted Mourning Bee	Sadly, presumed long since extinct, The Square Spotted
3 x actual size £450	Mourning Bee was last recorded on heathland and soft rock cliffs. Shot along the coastal path during twilight, the image provides a quiet contemplative space for the viewer to reflect upon their relationship with the natural
Vintage powder	world
compact, wool, beads, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	£250 www.sarahconnell.co.uk
240b) Nomada	240a) Sarah Hinds - Nomada castellana
castellana Female Castell's Nomad Bee	The song Nomada Castellana was written with the ideas of connection, disconnection, and loss in mind. This solitary bee hasn't been seen in the UK for many years
3 x actual size £350	and I wondered what part it played in the wider ecology and how a tiny creature matters in ways we might not understand. The video is an improvisation with
Vintage jewellery box, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	dancer Lucy Bird exploring loss and connection. Dancing with the different imagined characteristics of a cleptoparasitic bee of only a few millimetres in size. Part of the dance is based on the idea of 'extinction cairns'-piles of stones built to honour species lost to extinction.

	NFS https://sarahhinds.wordpress.com
241b) Nomada errans Female Purbeck Nomad	241a) Amy Bonsor - Declining Cuckoo
Bee	The piece responds to the decline of the Nomada errans, likely now extinct in Britain, and its relationship to
3 x actual size £200	the host bee Andrena nitidiuscula. The paired pieces are each made up of 144 individual elements, one for each of the years since the bee was first found in 1878. The
Vintage card pot, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	piece aims to capture the similarities between the bee species, essential to the nature of the host/parasite relationship, their visual differences, most notable texture and markings and a sense of absence with no sightings of Nomada errans in Britain for the last 40 years.
	£450 www.amybonsor.com
242b) Nomada Obtusifrons,	242a) Sheena Spacey - One Alone
Female Flat-ridged Nomad Bee 4 x actual size	A solitary parasitic species, also known as a Cuckoo Bee, due to its habit of using the nests of others. A pollinator found where its hosts are established including
£300	edge of woodlands and alongside rivers in dry gravelly flats. Drawn to the nature and life of this bee, my research
Vintage card pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold	has taken me to another like-minded soul, the Cuckoo Bird.
and silk thread and embroidery thread	Combing insect wings and patterns with bird like features, a hybrid form has evolved, using paper thin material of recycled teabags, music sheets and rearranged exerts of vintage lyrics. A melancholy piece of words and image emerging, a means of survival, reflecting the fragile stitches of life and nature, the call of the cuckoo and the wild.
	£425 sheenaspacey@yahoo.co.uk
243b) Nomada sheppardana	243a) Nicola Coe - A recipe for success
Female Sheppard's Nomad Bee	A recipe of 'ingredients' sit in a vintage measuring cylinder case. They reflect the shared habitat of several species and when mixed together will give this tiny
3 x actual size £250	nomad bee, the greatest chance of continuing its lifecycle. Our bee enjoys the nectar of Cat's Ear flowers, to fuel its
Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	flight path over warm, well-drained soil. Where it patiently waits, whilst a Furrow bee carries pollen from the same Cat's Ear flowers. Both bees enter a nest chamber, dug from the same soil where the roots, and one day the seeds, of the pollinated Cat's Ear flowers will grow.
	£NFS www.nicolacoe.co.uk

244b) Nomada signata	244a) Sue Spence - Dandelion (What the Bee Saw)
Female Broad-banded	
Nomad Bee	Dandelions are major sources of nectar and pollen for
3 x actual size	the Broad-banded nomad bee emerging in early April. Their familiar flowers are easily recognised even by small
£350	children. But whereas we see dandelions as uniformly
	yellow, bees' ultraviolet vision perceives the flower's
Vintage tooled leather	centre as alluringly vivid pink/red. There their food
pot, wool, vintage embroidery thread	reward is concentrated, and there the bee picks up pollen which the dandelion wants it to carry to pollinate
embroidery infedd	the next flower visited.
	Seeing ultraviolet photography of dandelion inspired me
	to write the poem stitched in this triptych's central
	panel. The side panels show dandelions as perceived by us and bees.
	os and bees.
	£1650 www.suespencetextileartist.co.uk
245b) Nomada similis	245a) Cally Conway – Eden
Female Guernsey Nomad Bee	My companion piece celebrates the beautiful flora and
DCC	fauna of the Island of Guernsey, the home of Nomada
3 x actual size	similis. This bee frequents thistles and scabious, and the
£350	fascinating Tormentil flower which is the centrepiece of
Vintage jewellery box,	the print. Tormentil has been used for centuries as a medicinal plant (the name derives from relieving
wool, vintage kamibari	torment) and the red dye from the roots by the textile
gold, silver and silk thread	industry, hence it's folklore name of 'Bloodroot'.
and embroidery thread	Guernsey knotwork from the famous Gansey knitting pattern edges the print, with Guernsey palm and
	notable wildlife of the island framing the plant forms,
	emphasizing the interconnectedness of all things.
	£600 www.callyconwayprints.com
246b) Osmia niveata	246a) Tom Katsumi - Osmia niveata
Female Jersey Mason Bee	The level Advis Res (Ossis Ni establis establis
3 x actual size	The Jersey Mason Bee (Osmia Niveata) is a migrant species to the UK, adapting to living in pre-existing holes
£350	in dead wood and collecting pollen mainly from the
	inhospitable thistle. To me this is a story about life
Vintage watchmakers'	adapting and flourishing in the tiny pockets that exist in
container, wool, beads, vintage kamibari gold	a hostile environment. I wanted to show this using the motifs of holes in a barren dead surface, the sharp
and silk thread and	edges of thistle leaves and the fertile landscape of the
embroidery thread	meadows and forests that the bees pollinate.
	£680 www.tomkatsumi.com
247b) Osmia spinulosa	247a) Tzipporah Johnston - Reverend Kirby's Specimen
Female Spined Mason	Box
Bee	In this piece I imagine the natural history specimens that
4 x actual size	parson-naturalist the Reverend William Kirby might have
£350	collected on his walks around Suffolk chalk pits in the

Vintage tooled leather pot, wool, vintage kamibari gold and silk thread and embroidery thread	autumn of 1797, when he made his first observations of the Spined Mason Bee. The bee collects pollen for itself and its larvae from Asteraceae plants such as autumn hawkbit (left). It makes its nests in empty snail shells (centre), creating cells within the spiral and sealing the entrance with mortar made from chewed-up creeping cinquefoil leaves (right). Finally, it carefully turns the shell over, hiding its young from predators and parasites.
	£2000 www.yarnandglue.co.uk
248b) Rophites quinquespinosus Female Five-spined Rophites 4 x actual size £300 Vintage watchmakers' container, wool, vintage kamibari gold, silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	Rophites quinquespinosus is only classed as a British bee because two females were captured in Guestling, Hasting in 1877 and 1878. This got me wondering, what Hastings was like at the end of the nineteenth century? My curiosity led me to a fascinating photographer called George Woods who lived in Hasting in 1890. His pictures focused on rural life and work in the area and show the astonishing difference in farming compared to today. With the help of the Hastings Museum, I found this photo of farm workers at rest and embroidered native wildflowers around the transferred image. Farming has become so industrialised it threatens the survival of so many essential pollinators, but a new focus on more environmentally friendly practises brings hope of real change.
	£850 www.victoriamatthewson.com
249b) Sphecodes marginatus Female Margined Blood Bee 4 x actual size £250 Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread	This little bee has led me on a fascinating journey through magic, folklore, medicine, mythology, Shakespeare, and physics. The flowers visited by Sphecodes marginatus, such as rock samphire, fennel, thistles, knapweeds and heathers, provided a gateway through which to explore narratives and connections between the natural world and the human world, the past, present and future, and led me to distant constellations (Centaurus), enormous stars (V766) and ancient myth and legend (Chiron the centaur and snakes' use of fennel). The sheer breadth of life, endeavour and history encountered though Sphecodes marginatus inspired me to create this intricate print exploring the mosaic of life that has supported us as a species throughout human existence and which must be sustained for our world to thrive.
250b) Sphecodes Miniatus Female False Margined Blood Bee	£150 victoriaowen.org 250a) Zoe Snape - Wivenhoe Park, Essex (after Constable 1816) 2022

3 x actual size £250

Vintage tin, wool, vintage kamibari silver and silk thread and embroidery thread Sphecodes Miniatus is a scarce bee, last seen in 2018, so I visited the location of its last sighting in Wivenhoe Park, Essex and documented its habitat. It's a mining cuckoo bee, so I became a cuckoo artist; using other artists' works to create my own. John Constable depicted the location in the painting below, entitled, 'Wivenhoe Park, Essex' 1816, so I recreated his oil-painting in the same medium but with a contemporary style.

I contacted my host bee artist, Pippa Sibert, for off-cuts from her companion piece for a previous Fifty Bees exhibition. She provided fabric that I collaged into the foreground to represent my bees' favoured flowers and, just as Constable used a fence to direct the eye, the flowers direct the viewers towards the reflection of Wivenhoe House. Cows became dog-walkers and students, a Canada goose replaced swans, and a water-fountain rather than a fishing boat. Mary Rebow, the daughter of the Estate's owner riding a horse and cart in the original, is replaced by me holding a Missing Bee poster.

Reassuringly illustrating the interconnectedness of all things, are the exact same oak trees that are in Constable's painting, notably larger. Can you see a cuckoo bird looking at the hole of a mining bee? Perhaps there is a little False Margined Blood Bee in it, emerging from its egg.

£1200

www.zoesnape.com