Hello, Petal

BOTANICAL
WORK BY
LYDIA THORNLEY

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Lydia Thornley is a designer, creative director, illustrator and live sketcher. Her quick, gestural sketching is rooted in her design practice, where it's used for looking and thinking. Lydia's sketching is commissioned for illustration, live events work, investigative drawing, creative engagement and sketch activities.

Lydia's botanical work is full of discovery: colours more complex than they first appear, astonishing engineering and above all, what nature can show us about the beauty in every part of a lifecycle. For Lydia, drawing is a form of note-taking so her work has handwritten observations.

The giclée prints are of watercolour sketches. The original drawings are line and wash sketches, watercolours and watercolour pencil. And for the first time, Lydia has added textile pieces to her body of plant drawings, made specially for this exhibition.

Springfield Park Café,
Springfield, London E5 9EF
24 April - 11 June 10am - 4pm
Meet the artist Saturday 10 May
10.30am – 3.30pm

Contact Lydia for sales enquiries:
lydia@thornley.co.uk

Order archival quality giclée prints online:
lydiathornleyprints.etsy.com

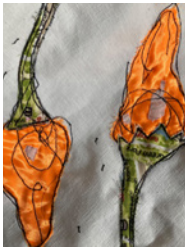
Hello, Petal mug and t-shirt:
lydiathornleytshop.teemill.com

Enquire about commissions or event sketching:
lydia@thornley.co.uk

Instagram: @lydiathornley
Website: thornley.co.uk

Visit *Dispatches from a Small World*, the archive of Lydia's lockdown project reporting from her garden:
dispatchesfromasmallworld.blog

All work © Lydia Thornley 2025

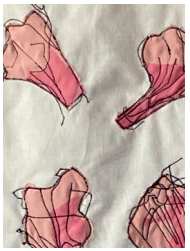


First frost, last chilli harvest
Appliqué, machine embroidery, hand embroidery
from original watercolour sketch
1030 x 1030mm / 40 x 40 inches
£400

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Cheery little Forsythia flowers, reliable visitors every Spring
Appliqué, machine embroidery, hand embroidery from original watercolour sketch
630 x 970mm / 25 x 38 inches
£350

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.



Petals from a rose pruning, like ironing ready for Winter storage 'til next season
Appliqué and embroidery, from original watercolour sketch
500 x 970mm / 20 x 38 inches
£300

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Jasmine leaves dancing their last Winter dance before green growth comes.
Water-based marker and waterbrush on paper
28.5 x 33.5 x 3 cm
£120 with reused frame

Hyacinths all structure as they go over, flower bases like ceramic vases, petals like curled glass.
Water-based marker and waterbrush on paper
28.5 x 33.5 x 3 cm
£120 with reused frame

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Carrots hugging at a Cody Dock harvest
Line and watercolour on paper
245.5 x 52 x 3.5 cm
£100 with reused frame

“I’m taking this one because I want to draw the colour.” Cody Dock turnip
245.5 x 52 x 3.5 cm
Line and watercolour on paper
£100 with reused frame

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Clockwise from top left:

Bluebells, my little bit of Kent woodland in the city, almost-purple, hoverflies coming to peer at me as I draw

Species tulips, a flash of jazzy lining before they burst into bloom

Nature doesn't wait... over before they're out, the tulips racing through Spring

Posh things, workaday thing – Dandelion, resplendent in the Aquilegia

Watercolour pencil, highlighter and fineliner original sketches on paper
30 x 40cm
£120 each with frame

Prices are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Archival quality giclée prints from watercolour sketch originals:
Prints in the exhibition: £65 initialled, with frame
Unframed prints made to order: £42 + delivery

Ranunculus, like a gaggle of friends at a party in various states of colourful disarray

The Cerinthe Major out, promising warmer times, already busy with bees in the sun

Dancing in a still-chilly end of April breeze, the first Aquilegia, each flower with its own dress of petals

Wild sweet peas – glorious, vintage, fashiony thug

Prices for the framed exhibition prints are based on collection at the end of the exhibition. Delivery costed on request.

Cerinthe Major getting ready to set seed

Like boats of the garden, sweet pea seed pods carrying their precious cargo for next year's fragrant flowers

No-mow meadow flowers before the first trim of June

Roses blooming in great big, blowsy bunches, all the pinks, reds and yellows, buds like stubs of lipstick

As dry flowers give way to new bud, beautiful vintage lace, like an elderly aunt

Hanging out the washing, I was diverted by this extraordinary modernist leaf

I had taken colour notes when I was given this lovely sprig of shamrock, sure that in pressing it would dull. But here, all the colours

The artwork for the test giclée prints has details of everything in a row, like colour swatches... it's a lovely thing so it's available on a mug and a tee, printed to order by Teemill and delivered in plastic-free packaging.

Mug: £10 + P&P

Oversized organic cotton unisex tee: £24 + P&P

lydiathornleytshop.teemill.com