



• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Emmanuelle KREBS DELADRIERE uses Indian ink to draw New Caledonian landscapes on a variety of surfaces, although she mainly works with thin slabs or slivers of giant clam shell, an unusual choice which gives her drawings a distinctive style. Emmanuelle's favourite themes are coastal scenery, scenes of tribal village life, landscapes with traditional Kanak huts, column pines and coconut palms, Isle of Pines outrigger canoes... She also creates specially designed frames to enhance some of her drawings.



• BACKGROUND

Emmanuelle began studying visual arts in 1978, completing courses in bookbinding at Châtenay-Malabry, and taking weekly lessons in a Youth Centre at Place Monge in Paris.

In 1982, in Reunion Island, she gave lessons in bookbinding as part of a vocational block release training program.

In 1990, five years after her arrival in Noumea, Emmanuelle established herself in a Chamber

of Trade workshop, where she continued working as a bookbinder for 3 years. She then founded the New Caledonian Arts & Crafts Association in collaboration with the North Province women's Batefo Association and around twenty other artisans from the South Province. As a result, New Caledonia gained its first ever 100% local crafts store. Around the same time, Emmanuelle met painter Michel Moulimois and studied painting with him.

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Emmanuelle first discovered Aboriginal bone art during a trip to Australia. She fell in love with this delicate and intricate ancient art and threw herself into making drawings on framed bone. "I continued this kind of craft work for a few years" she says, "and then a gem cutter suggested that I should try using clam shell, an exquisite material that is a pleasure to work with."

Emmanuelle adds "In Lifou, I discovered gourds and began working with them. And the last cyclone had blown quite a few pieces of sheet metal into my garden, so I started painting on them and thoroughly enjoyed it."