



NATURAMI

• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Anne-Marie D'ANGLEBERMES and Patrick DUFFIEUX are New Caledonian painters. Working side by side, they create imaginative and original works in their own distinctive styles. Anne-Marie seeks to capture the essence of New Caledonia through collages of natural materials, mainly niaouli tree bark. Patrick uses various mediums - watercolour, acrylics and oil paint - to create works imbued with the intense light and colours of New Caledonia. Working on various surfaces, including tapa bark and carved bamboo, he creates pictures in relief using natural plant materials.

The two artists are complementary, each drawing inspiration from the other to create works they show at "Naturami", their own gallery in Noumea. They each seek to distill the cultural history of Oceania through the rich heritage of local legends.

• BACKGROUND

When he began his career working at a printing press, Patrick possessed a natural talent for graphic design; he became skilful in illustration, model design and photo-engraving. He also worked in advertising and for a graphic design firm specialised in tee-shirt printing. Anne-Marie has always wanted to use her hands to create something artistic. When she was at home looking after her kids, she began exploring

materials

such as sand and niaouli bark. She worked hard to master complex techniques demanding great delicacy to portray scenes from everyday life in New Caledonia.

Following various individual and collective exhibitions, the two artists decided to pool their talents and open their own art gallery. For Patrick "doing a Naturami" is equivalent to "telling a story against an Oceanian background".

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Anne-Marie's art is rooted in themes drawn from her own experiences and her deeply felt ties to her homeland. Her native land is the source of the materials she uses to create her works: niaouli bark, natural sands, red earth from the south. "Under my fingers, niaouli bark is transformed into the bush landscapes I love so much. Sand has a mythical significance for me, I keep it for all my creations inspired by New Caledonian legends or ancient tales".

"The landscapes, life and legends of my country have all played their part in making me who I am and therefore what I create" explains Patrick. Figurative landscapes are one of his preferred forms of artistic expression. The glorious landscapes of the Deep South, the Loyalty Islands and, above all, New Caledonia's savannah are key sources of inspiration.