



TOUT EN CANETTES

• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Julie DUPRE designs jewellery and is also an illustrator and graphic designer. In all three of her creative activities, her focus is on handcrafting. Her concern for the environment has led her to use only recycled materials such as aluminium cans and natural and traditional materials such as bark cloth, seeds, feathers and dried leaves.

Julie creates her jewellery at home, where she feels close to nature in an atmosphere of calm and serenity. "Daylight is my only source of light and I need solitude to create my designs", she explains. However, Julie enjoys meeting and exchanging ideas with other people at craft markets or workshops. Moreover, in addition to her work as a graphic designer, and at the request of schools and training and work access organisations, Julie loves sharing and passing on her skills at educational workshops.

• BACKGROUND

Julie spent much of her childhood living on a yacht, learning to make a variety of things by hand "I have never forgotten what I learned crafting and creating by hand and I quite naturally decided to follow an arts course at a

visual arts university.

Her interest in using old cans as a raw material was stimulated by arts workshops with young people focussing on waste-related issues. She experimented and gradually discovered the rich artistic potential of used cans. "I created my "Tout En Canette" jewellery range after spending years exploring with others the concept of artistic recycling used as a means of expression and of raising awareness about pollution caused by waste", she explains.

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Julie creates collections of jewellery, each designed around a range of colours, motifs or themes. "I adore the contrast between the cold brilliance of metal and the subtle hues of the natural world", she says.

Her work reveals the profound influence of Oceanian art and techniques such as weaving and botanical prints on bark cloth. She also draws inspiration from motifs and patterns found in nature. "By combining natural materials and dyes with waste produced by mass consumption, my modest ambition is to give a tangible reality to the dream of harmonious coexistence between humans and nature", says Julie.

