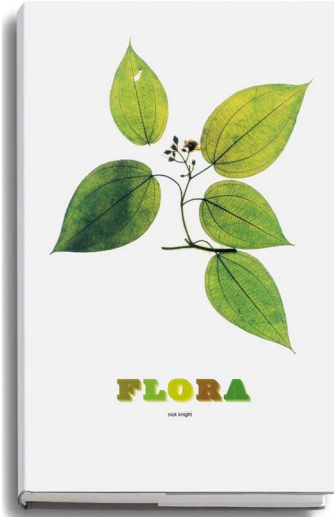


Munich, April 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Nick Knight: Flora



**Nick Knight
Flora**

Photographs by Nick Knight
Text by Sandra Knapp
80 pages, 46 Novaspace plates
ISBN 978-3-8296-0677-6
€39.80, US \$ 49.95, GBP 39.95

On one of his expedition strolls through the herbarium at the National History Museum in London Nick Knight, the young international star among British photographers, discovered the fascinating world of pressed plants in the Museum's collection, botanically one of the most significant.

Nick Knight spent over three and a half years screening and examining the herbarium's over six million plants. Thousands were considered for this publication, hundreds were photographed. And he selected the final 46 of them in what were "many, extremely difficult and agonising hours" as he puts it.

His choice was influenced less by scientific criteria than by the overwhelming beauty of the individual specimens. What impressed him most was that the plants did not look at all like plants. Several are shaped like fans, some look like feathers and others resemble happy-go-lucky children's sketches. One feature shared by them all is their fragile corporeality, filigree transparency and their amazingly subtle colours that powerfully accentuate the magnificent texture of every single plant.

In Nick Knight's colour photographs nature and art blend to form a unique combination. The whole book seems to be imbued with the aesthetic happiness Nick Knight experienced on his photographic expedition, which he describes in these words: "There are few things that make one happier than discovering a new way of seeing the familiar. Seeing in a way I could not have imagined. It is a very liberating feeling and one that makes me very optimistic."

The curator of the National History Museum, Sandra Knapp, has written the short explanatory texts on the individual plants selected, a number of which were preserved over 300 years ago. They reflect the botanical characteristics of the plants, the history of botanical research and the technique of botanical preservation, which makes the book indispensable for botanists and biologists alike.

It should also be added that the credit for the delightful design of this book goes to Peter Saville, the famous designer. The superb colour separations in the printing and the colour reproductions stemmed from the Novaspace technique of the Berlin lithographer Dieter Kirchner.

I would really appreciate if you introduced the floral enchantment of this very special book to your readers. FLORA certainly ranks among the most beautiful books to be launched this spring.

Schirmer/Mosel Press Department

Carola Conradt // press@schirmer-mosel.com // Tel. +49-89-2126700