



FABRICNATION

the textile collection

Fabricnation was established in Cape Town, South Africa in 2007, but it has its roots in a bond forged two decades earlier when its owner/designer, Jane Solomon and designer, Jann Cheifitz, began printing and handpainting together in a garage, whilst at Art School, united by their shared love of textiles.

Fabricnation is inspired by the African textile tradition, rendered in a modern urban context with its blending of diverse sources and influences to create the Fabric of a Nation.

Fabricnation textiles are original, unusual and products made out of the fabrics may act as "conversation pieces" in your home/space. Each design has a story and is created from a "sense of wonder" for the world around us.

Fabricnation supports "homegrown". All fabrics are printed in South Africa.

Fabricnation prints on 100% cotton fabrics with water based pigment inks.

Fabrics are suitable for home-ware, upholstery and curtaining. On orders of 25 meters + designs can be printed on alternative base cloths and print colours customized.

Selected designs are available as wallpaper as part of the [Robin Sprong Wallpaper Collection](#).

Fabric by the meter and products are available for sale directly to the public from our website, fabricnation.co.za. Wholesale/trade clients please contact us at f.nation@gmail.com.

Fabricnation has a home studio in Woodstock, Cape Town. Feel free to contact us if you would like to view fabrics.

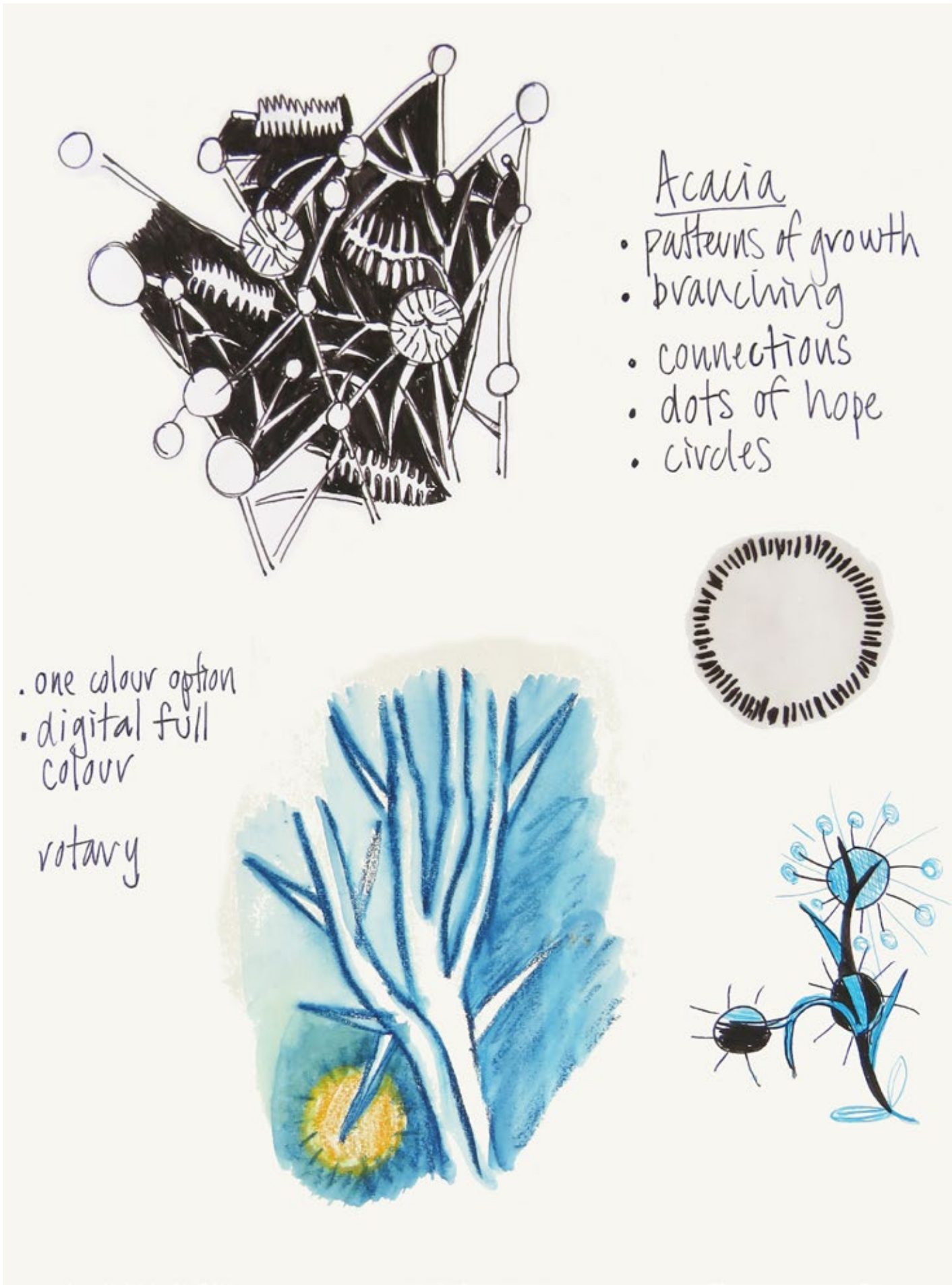


the collection

The Fabricnation collection currently includes 17 designs, the earliest of which was created in 2006. Over the years, as new designs were added some designs were discontinued. The 17 remaining form a time capsule, these designs tell both personal and South African stories. Each design is handcrafted using cut and paste to build imagery and create repeats. Time and care is taken to ensure the designs have a long life. The designs can be loosely grouped under the following categories

- LANDSCAPE
- FLORA / BOTANICAL
- AFROPOP / SIGNS AND SYMBOLS
- FAUNA / ANIMALS
- TRADITIONS OF TOMORROW
- MAPPING / SENSE OF PLACE
- CELLULAR / MICROSCOPIC FORMS

Please note: Colour seen (in images) may vary slightly from printed fabric colour.



about the designers



Jane Solomon

Born in 1963, Jane graduated with a diploma in Graphic Design from Michaelis School of Fine Art, UCT in 1985.

Jane started Fabricnation in Cape Town, South Africa in 2007. Alongside her textile design and print business, Jane's work includes the design of art-making processes, learning materials and the facilitation of workshops where creativity and skills training are used as a starting point for transformation, income generation and personal growth.

As an artist/designer she has exhibited in a number of group exhibitions.

Jane lives and works in Woodstock, Cape Town, South Africa.



Jann Cheifitz

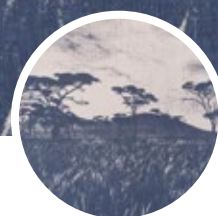
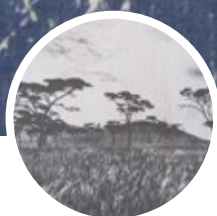
Jann is owner and designer of Lucky Fish, an independent, creative business, based in New York, that creates handprinted clothing and home furnishings. Alongside Lucky Fish, Jann designs prints for the Fabricnation collection.

veld

The Veld print shows an African savannah rendered in repeat in the style of a 1970s landscape photograph, offering a window onto the great outdoors that is at once expansive and calming.

The Veld print is classic and a cornerstone of the Fabrication collection. This is especially noticeable (since Covid lockdowns) with customers wanting to bring nature and the feeling of wilderness spaces into their homes.

This can be achieved through use of the fabric for; upholstery, blinds, curtains, headboards, cushions and as a wallpaper (in collaboration with Robin Sprong).



Print colours: Charcoal, burnt orange, blue grey and green
all on 100% cotton natural basecloth

Design: Jann Cheiftz 2007 (Screen print)

kokerboom forest

This print recreates a Kokerboom forest on a photograph of a landscape where "once were kokerbooms". The Kokerboom tree, a member of the Liliaceae family faces extinction – some say as a result of global warming? If only it were as easy (as in photoshop) to bring these real trees back to life.

Landscape textiles in the home soothe and relax. This print, in earthy grey on cotton linen, works well for oversized cushions, upholstery, curtains and blinds.

Print colour: Charcoal on cotton linen

Design: Jane Solomon 2012 (Rotary print)



Oversized cushion size: 1.2m x 45cm



kelp forest

Is an organic stripe depicting the patterning of seaweeds that sweep against the coast of Southern Africa as part of the great Afromante forest.

This print brings to the surface an underwater landscape and works well for blinds, curtains, cushions, upholstery and headboards.



Print colour: Emerald on natural 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2013 (Screen print)

after the fire

Destructive as it is, fire sets in motion a chain of biological events which ensure the survival of Fynbos. The Protea's woody cones are opened by the heat and release precious seeds.

This vibrant, energetic and optimistic pattern enlivens a living environment. After the fire works well for curtains, blinds, upholstery, cushions and is available as a wallpaper.



Print colours: Navy, protea pink, chartreuse, jade
all on natural 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2016 (Rotary print)



namaqua daisy

Namaqua Daisy is a fabric field of some of the diverse daisies of the Namaqualand spring.

This print has a fun 60s/70s vibe and can be used to brighten up a living space. The repeat of the daisy, a symbol of freedom, creates a playful textile that can be used and enjoyed as curtains, blinds upholstery and all sizes of cushions.

**Print colours: Kale green, mustard
on white 100% cotton basecloth**

Design by: Jane Solomon 2016 (Screen print)



liliacea

Liliaceae is a variation on a traditional botanical/floral print. The print investigates the strange succulents that are part of the family, Liliaceae. Printed "with roots" the textile celebrates indigenous South African flora and the healing properties, associated with these plants.

This fabric makes a connection to the natural world. The symbol of the scarab, dung beetle, has been included to represent transformation. Liliaceae works well for outdoor living spaces as well as for curtains, blinds, upholstery and cushions.



Cushion size: 60 x 60cm



Print colours: Lichen green on dark grey basecloth, black on natural 100% cotton basecloth, chartreuse on cotton/linen basecloth

Design by: Jane Solomon 2009 (Screen print)

seedpod mobile

The Seedpod Mobile print is inspired by the seed of the Karoo Boerboon tree and the mobiles of Calder.

This initially handpainted organic/geometric design suspended in potential marks a move by Fabricnation from the figurative towards abstraction. As this design is digitally printed colour can be customized to suit your space and project.

Perfect for curtains, blinds, upholstery and cushions (all sizes) and as a wallpaper (in collaboration with Robin Sprong).



Print colours: Green and Karoo on 100% cotton natural basecloth,
Blue grey and Natural on off-white basecloth, Full colour option

Design: Jane Solomon 2024 (Digital print)

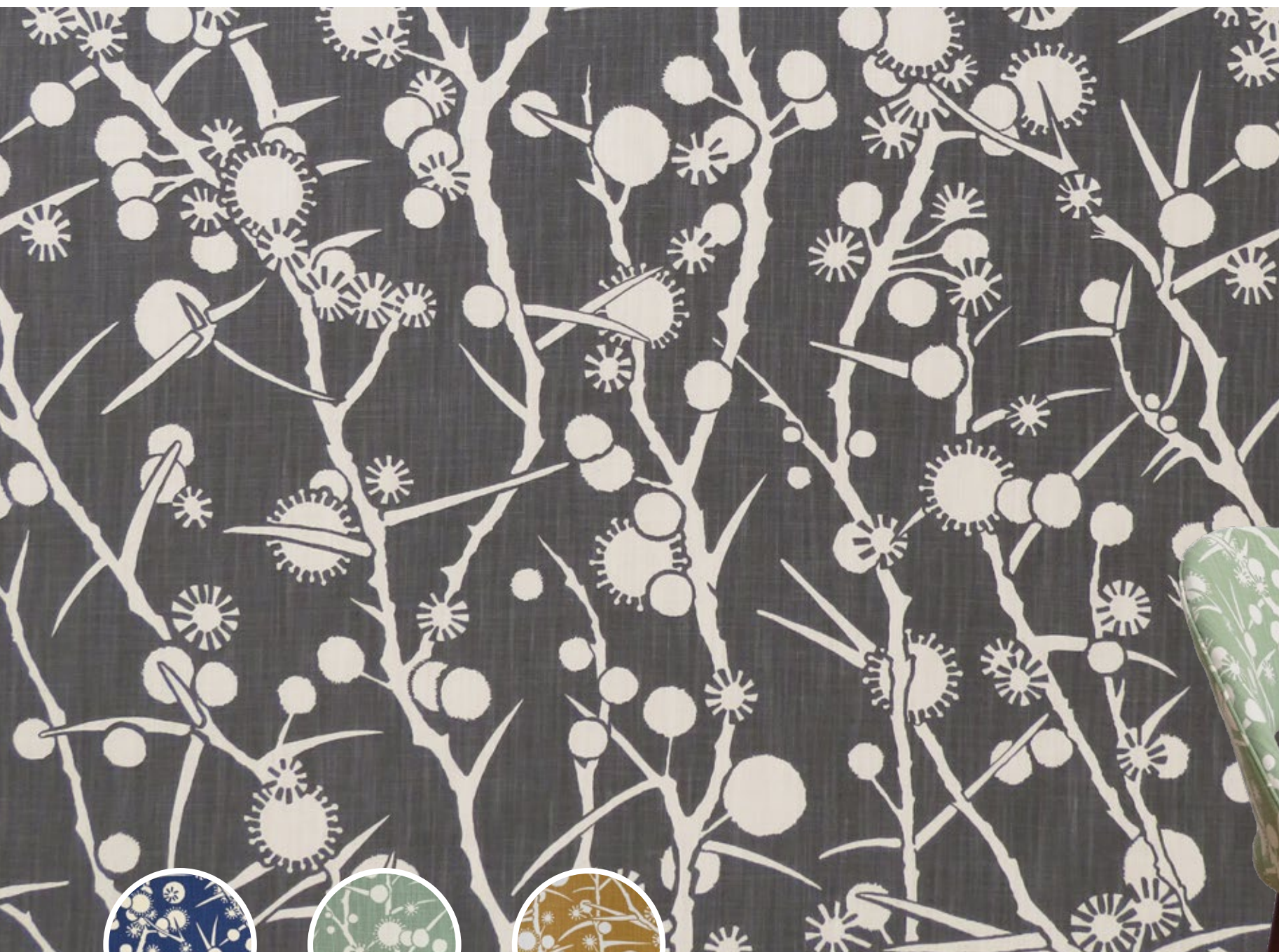


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acacia

The Acacia print is inspired by, how the cherry blossom is used in Japanese textiles, but reinterpreted as a bold African pattern. Small, round flowers cluster on branches and are linked by thorns. This design, the Acacia also called the Fever tree, marks the times it was created in (2020/2021). It presents optimism in the face of adversity.

The Acacia tree (of life) grows with every meter used. This print is a lively addition to any interior or exterior space. It is suitable for cushions (all sizes), curtains, upholstery, headboards hats and bags. This design is also available as a wallpaper (in collaboration with Robin Sprong).



Print colours: Charcoal, indigo, chinese green and mustard gold all on 100% cotton natural basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2020/2021 (Rotary print)



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waterlotus

The Waterlotus print depicts the indigenous blue water lily, a flower, sacred to many cultures for its ability to emerge pure and clean from the slimy mud that it grows in. The lotus symbolizes renewal and is sometimes called the flower of light.

This meditative design works well for curtains, blinds, cushions (all sizes), upholstery and bedding. Also available as a wall covering in collaboration with Robin Sprong wallpapers.



Print colours: Navy, duck egg blue, and sandstone all on natural 100% cotton basecloth, ash grey on off-white 100% cotton basecloth

Design by: Jane Solomon 2023 (Rotary print)

no 1

Is a fabric collage of images from packaging of basic South African household products with visual referencing to No 1 mealie meal, Impala mealie meal, Prices candles and Lucky Star Fish. This fun, graphic textile evokes a nostalgic response. South African viewers respond to the imagery but as the references are visually collaged they often, cannot quite remember where they know the symbols from.

This print works well for blinds, curtains, upholstery and on a variety of cushion sizes.



Print colours: Navy on cotton linen and candle blue on white 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2007 (Screen print)



champion

In the Champion print images from the packaging of basic South African household products have been combined to create a playful stripe. With visual referencing to Champion mealie meal and Cobra floor polish. This fun, graphic textile evokes a nostalgic response. South African viewers respond to the imagery but as the references are visually collaged they often, cannot quite remember where they know the symbols from.

This print works well for blinds, curtains, upholstery and on a variety of cushion sizes. Also available as a wallpaper in collaboration with Robin Sprong wallpapers.

Print colour: Red on natural 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2007 (Screen print)



four aces

4 Aces is a mix of images; 4 Aces and Induna mealie meal and the Lucky fish star combine to create a strip pattern repeat evocative of West African textiles. This fun, graphic textile evokes a nostalgic response. South African viewers respond to the imagery but as the references are visually collaged they often, cannot quite remember where they know the symbols from.

This print works well for blinds, curtains, upholstery and on a variety of cushion sizes.



Print colours: Orange on natural 100% cotton basecloth, navy on cotton linen basecloth

*Design: Jane Solomon 2007
(Screen print)*

money animals

frees a banknote from its function as a medium of exchange by transforming it into something decorative. In the new South Africa wild animal iconography replaced controversial colonial figures on the Rand notes and in 2012 the animals were scaled down to make way for Madiba.

Money Animals works well for cushions, upholstery and can be used for curtains and blinds. Also available as a wallpaper in collaboration with Robin Sprong wallpapers.



Cushion size: 60 x 60cm



Print colours: Charcoal and blue grey on natural 100% cotton basecloth

Design by: Jann Cheifitz 2008 (Screen print)

our birds

The format for the "Our Birds" design is based on 18 century ceramic tiles from Bristol. The birds from the original tiles have, however been replaced by South African indigenous birds including the African Hoopoe, the Cape Barn Owl, the Sugarbird, the Pied Kingfisher, the Fiscal Shrike ("Johnny hangman"), the Black Throated Honeyguide, the Stripe Breasted Swallow, the Yellow Eye canary and the Cape White Eye.

The Our Birds fabric creates a peaceful atmosphere when used indoors or outdoors. This design can be used for upholstery and headboards with buttons or studding placed in the center of the circles. It is also suitable for cushions, curtains and blinds.



Print colours: Blue grey on cotton/
linen, grey and mustard on natural
100% cotton basecloth

*Design: Jane Solomon 2007
(Screen print)*

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bokkie

Is a reinterpretation of the springbok, inspired by the patterning of art deco textiles.

The Bokkie print has a rhythmic, energetic yet calming pattern repeat.

It is suitable for blinds, curtains, upholstery, headboards and cushions. Also available as a wallpaper in collaboration with Robin Sprong wallpapers.



Cushion size: 60 x 60cm



Print colours: Brick red on cotton linen basecloth, charcoal on natural 100% cotton base cloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2006 (Screen print)

toile du jozi

The Toile du Jozi design tells the story of an African city rendered in the faded style of a Toile du Jouy fabric but instead of depicting typically French rural scenes it shows Johannesburg (Jozi) street scenes. Urban meets rural, formal meets informal, tradition meets modernity.

This design is inspired by Timorous Beasties interpretation of a French Toile, called Glasgow Toile (2004). In Fabricnation's Toile du Jozi print the traditional patterning has an African twist and provides a conversation piece in your home as blinds, curtains, upholstered furniture or cushions.



Print colours: Black, blue/ grey print all on natural 100% cotton basecloth. Red on cotton/linen basecloth

*Design: Jane Solomon 2009
(Rotary print)*

Cushion size: 60 x 60cm



cape town weave

Cape Town Weave is based on a street map of the city center. Roads, manmade structures and natural features connect as threads, weaving together the patterning of this port city.

This geometric, urban, graphic print can be used for upholstery cushions curtains and blinds. It is also available as wallpaper in collaboration with Robin Sprong wallpapers.



Print colours: Charcoal on natural 100% cotton basecloth,
Delft blue on white 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2014 (Screen print)

no man is an island

No Man is an Island depicts significant places in the city; like the Grand Parade, Stadium and Seapoint Promenade. The different people who live in and visit Cape Town are connected through these places. The boxer on Robben Island reminds us to keep fighting to protect freedom(s) won.

This two coloured, narrative print can be used for headboards, blinds, curtains, upholstery and cushions.



Print colours: Chartreuse, navy on white 100% cotton basecloth
Sky blue, black on white 100% cotton basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2016 (Rotary print)



positive power

is a floral pattern inspired by late 60s early 70s "folk/hippy" textiles - The flowers that make up this pattern have been created by mutating, collaging elements from a variety of medical diagrams of the HI virus. This fabric honors the courage, dedication and power of all people living with HIV who have grown to live and love - free positive lives.

The starting point and motif for this print is the HI virus. This has been used in the same way a textile designer may use a teacup as the main motif for a fabric design. The HIV images have intentionally been used to create an aesthetically pleasing, (decorative) design. When looking at the print without knowing the content a viewer may be heard to express "What a wonderful design - I love it" It is then difficult for the same viewer to express distaste (when reading or hearing that the image is the HI virus) without observing their own prejudice towards HIV. It is hoped that this design works to shift prevalent stigma and discrimination towards the virus and people living with HIV.

This conceptual textile was exhibited as part of the Spier Contemporary Exhibition, Cape Town (2010).

"The inspiration and motivation to create the Positive Power print comes from my work with courageous and beautiful men and women, who live positively with HIV, in Southern Africa. This work involves facilitating body mapping workshops where narrative therapy and art-making are used as tools to create life size body portraits and share (talk about) life experiences."

Positive Power can be used for upholstery curtains blinds and cushions.



Print colours: White on red cotton twill basecloth, White on grey cotton twill basecloth

Design: Jane Solomon 2009 (Screen print)





about printed fabrics

- All fabrics are handprinted in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Fabrics are screen-printed with pigment inks, which may fade over time, or in harsh sunlight.
- Fabric colours are subject to availability. Substitutions will be made with approval from client only.
- Fibre base cloth has natural colour variations.
- "Perfectly imperfect" – all fabrics are hand printed. 3 -5 % variation from sample color may occur.
- All designs work on a 64cm vertical repeat.
- Pattern match specified on website.

fabric care instructions:

- Cold water wash with gentle detergent
- Line dry
- Iron prints on the reverse side of the fabric.
- Do not dry clean
- Do not tumble dry.
- Fabrics can be steam cleaned (no detergent used)

ordering information

- Minimum order of 2 meters. Per print and colour way
- If you require less than 2 meters of a fabric you can email us ,if we have stock we can supply smaller lengths (please note no trade price on orders of less than 2m)
- On orders of 25 meters plus you can customize fabrics (select a print color and basecloth from our collection)
- Delivery 3 - 4 weeks after ordering (deposit made) or as negotiated.
- Retail customers can view prices and purchase via website or contact us at f.nation@gmail.com
- Trade clients please email us at f.nation@gmail.com for wholesale prices

other services include:

- Selected designs available as wallpaper see www.robinsprong.com
- We are able to design exclusive and produce theme/site specific textile and wallpaper designs according to your brief. Quotes given according to scale/nature of the project.
- We can manage small upholstery projects (when using Fabricnation fabrics) for you and/or refer you to a skilled upholsterer.

Thank you to loyal customers who have sent us images of furniture pieces they have had upholstered in Fabricnation prints (many of them used here to illustrate prints).





contact

Email f.nation@gmail.com

Website www.fabricnation.co.za

Instagram [@fabricnationjane](https://www.instagram.com/fabricnationjane)