

I am Melissa Hamlyn fabric & paper artist, intrepid explorer of lands inner & outer, far & near of colour & texture.

My fascination with colour and shape has led me to a vocation in surface pattern design, textile and paper arts.

Bold colourways, geometric patterns, collage and everyday materials form the basis of my designs - photography and digital abstraction too.

My obsession with colour, patterns and motifs stems from my curiosity of mythology and its use of symbolic imagery to tell stories of culture, ritual practices and phenomenons of nature. The abstraction of shapes and intuitive use of colour and composition in both my paper and fabric artwork act as map making - maps of previously fictional places, of vanished places distantly remembered, of ephemeral places gone before the map is complete. As a means of wayfinding that speaks to place and then you listen as it speaks

A perpetual yearning for mind expansion oftens sees me journeying to far flung lands to learn (not in an academic sense) and to gain a broader perspective, my designs reflect a deeper journey. In addition to the pictorial plane an element of my work is the use of the written word for its texture and sound rather than sense by using rhythms and mnemonic patterns to create shape.