

Deirdre Dyson

EXCLUSIVE CARPETS AND RUGS





For over 20 years, Deirdre Dyson has been designing carpets and each year creates a themed collection. With a published book 'Walking on Art' by Thames and Hudson, Deirdre Dyson and her carpets are continually celebrated within the interior design and architectural world.

“My passion has always been to explore form and colour. My works in oils on canvas are figurative and colourful, mainly life painting, still life and landscape work. Carpet design is a way to experiment with the abstract a little and I have found my graphic training to be hugely useful.

My aim was to design carpets that weren't repeat patterns like wallpaper, but that each piece would work within its own proportion like a painting. Also, they should be adaptable to suit any requirement.”

Deirdre Dyson

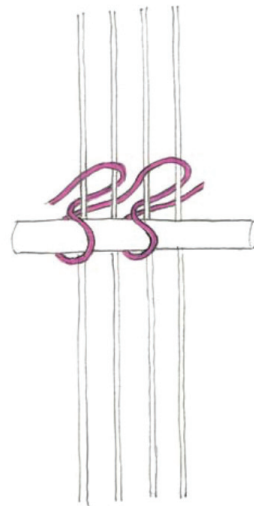
THE ART OF HAND-KNOTTING

Our carpets are made from pure Tibetan wool with a range of over 5000 colours, using techniques true to the traditional and ancient craft which demands time, patience and expertise. Silk can be incorporated to add vibrancy and shimmer. The wool and silks are pot dyed in the traditional way, using eco-friendly and azo-free dyes.

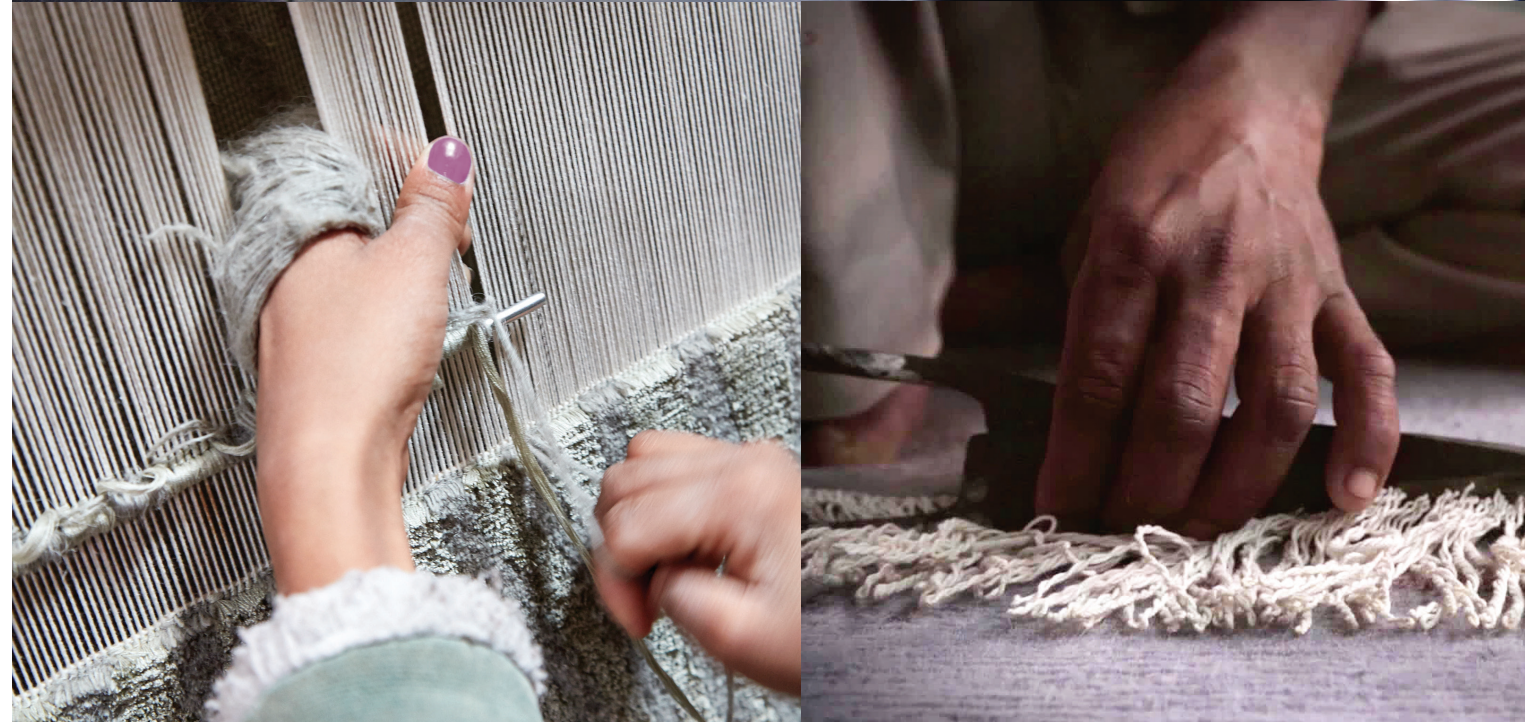
Our hand-knotted carpets utilise the traditional skills of workers in Nepal. Cotton warps are wrapped from the top to the bottom of a wooden or metal loom and pulled taut. Our Tibetan workers use a particular knot, different from the Turkish or Persian knot. Moving from left to right, the yarn is looped around both the previous warp and the next warp to make one knot, and then over a short metal bar temporarily attached to the front of the loom. This is done a section at a time before it is tamped down with a special tool and a knife drawn across the metal bar to cut the pile. The metal bar is released and moved on to the next section to be worked on.

We work primarily with 100 knots per square inch as this gives us the right amount of “resolution” whilst also allowing flooring beneath the rug to breath. Complex shapes are hard to achieve when weaving horizontally, and we are proud that our specialist craftspeople successfully meet all the complicated design challenges that we give them.

Once the knotting is complete, the carpet is taken off the loom and is ready for the final finishing process where carving, trimming and washing take place. The result is a perfectly hand-crafted piece.



Nepalese Knot Method







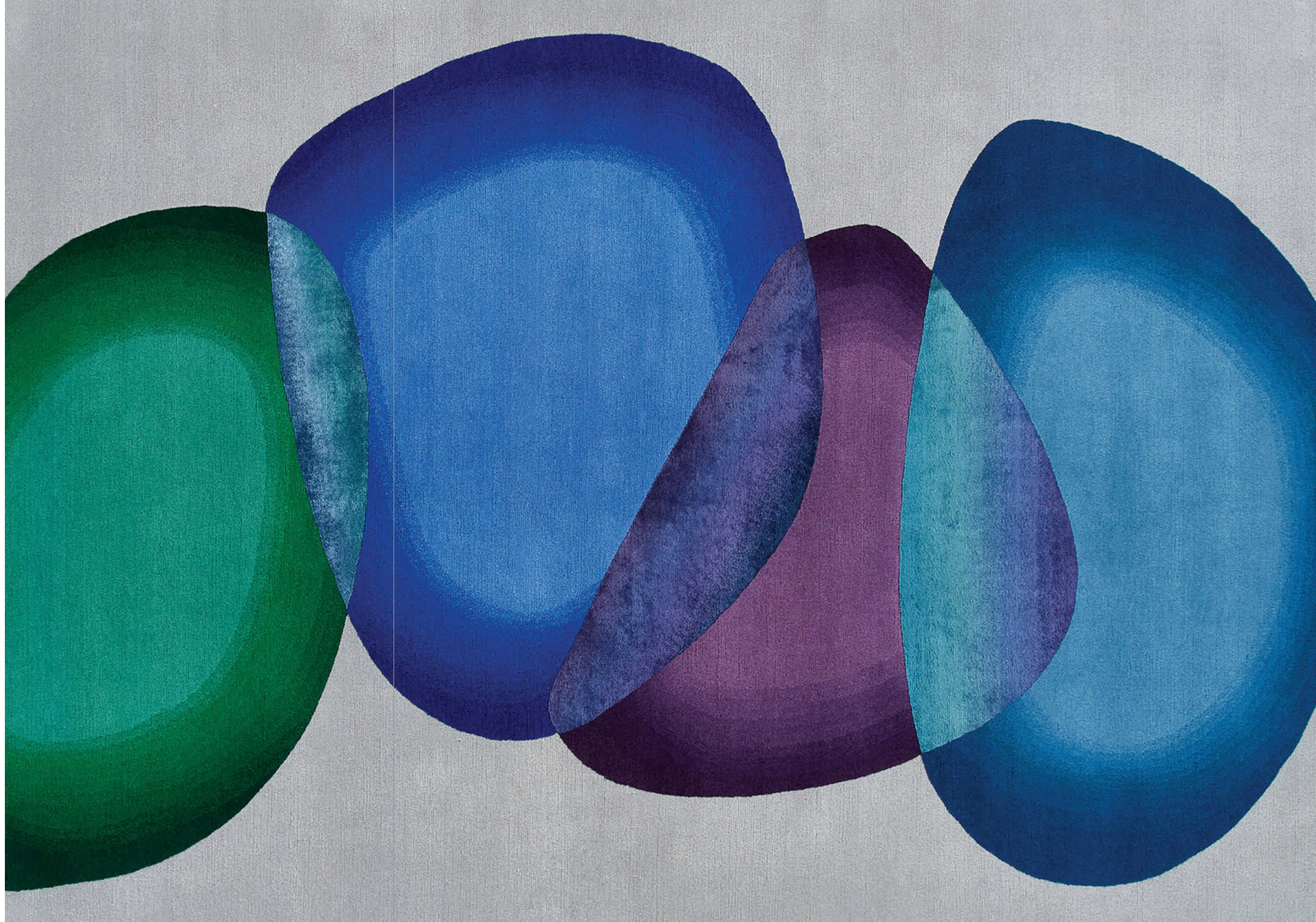
PLAYING WITH COLOUR

Deirdre thinks and works as an artist, so for her, designing a carpet is not about flat or repeat patterns, or just choosing a set of colours.

Layering colour is fundamental, and is approached in the same way as when building a painting – starting with the bones and then building body from there. In a similar vein, Deirdre intuitively knows which colours work against and with one another.

Perhaps most recognisably, Deirdre is known for her grading of colours.

Slivers – Looking Glass Collection



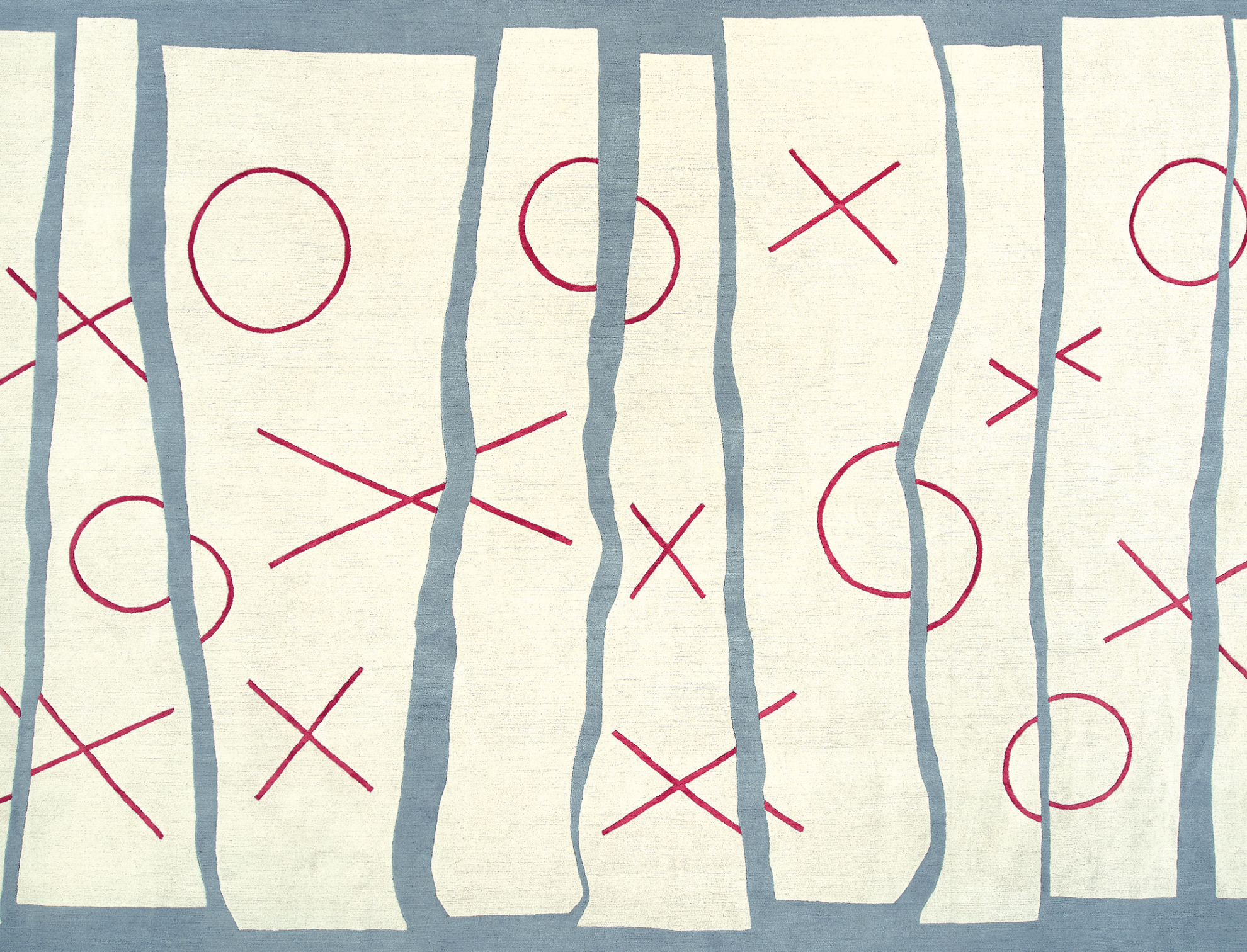
INSPIRATION FROM NATURE

The natural world has always been an inspiration for Deirdre. She has always been fascinated by the colours and forms found in nature.



Shallows and Aquarelle – All at Sea Collection



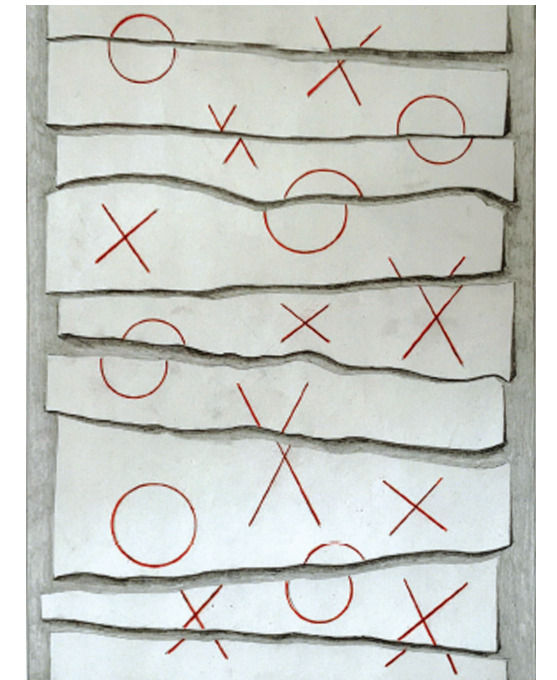


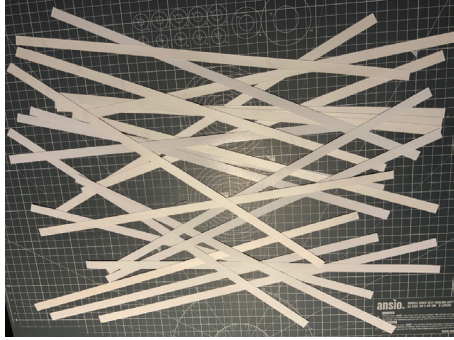
DESIGN

Each design starts as a drawing - from there, it can become anything the client wants it to be. We offer a fully bespoke service – almost everything can be altered: size, shape, colours, pile height, knot count, even the design itself.

Love Letter – Paper & Stone Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

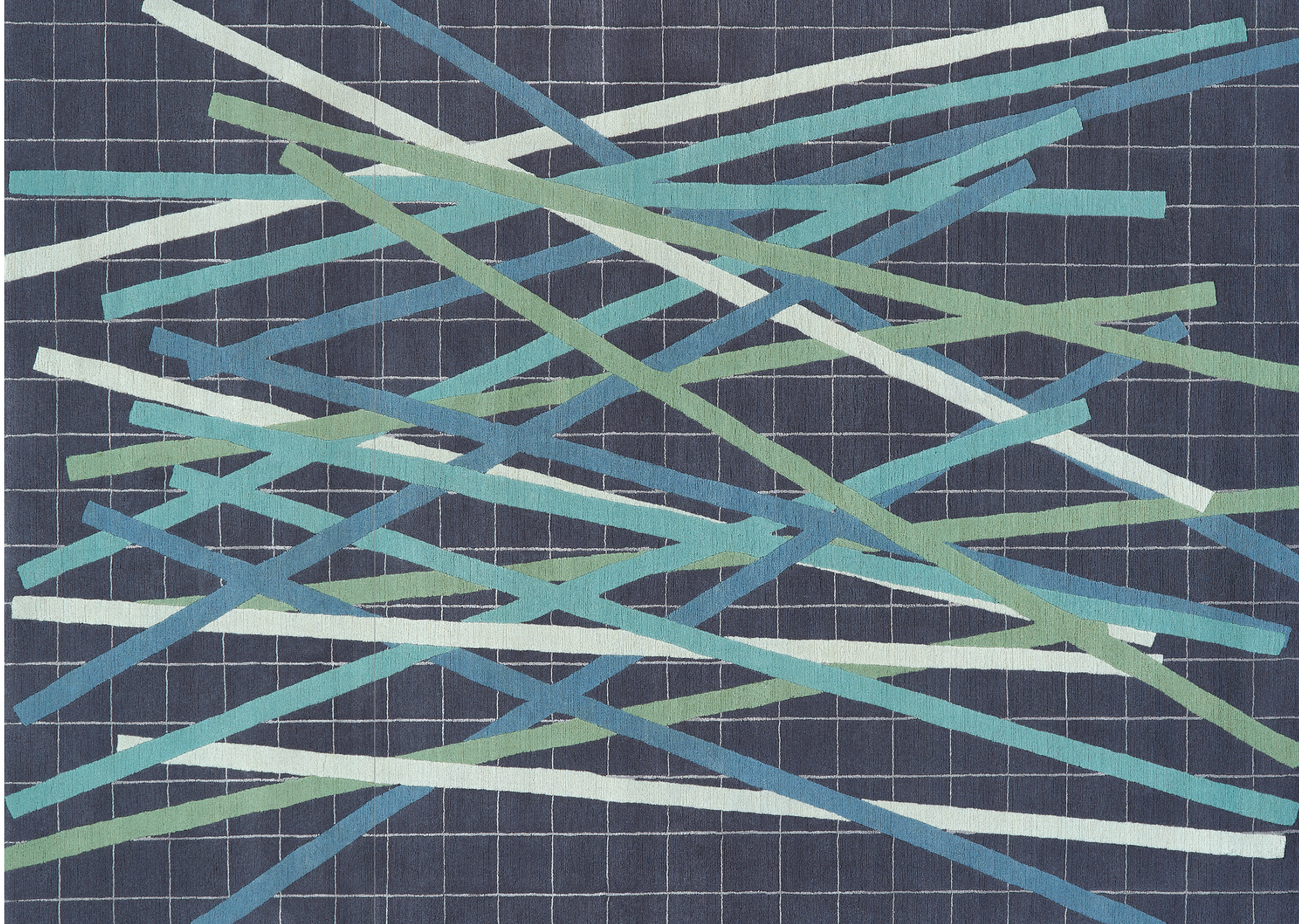
Inspired by a torn and discarded love note.

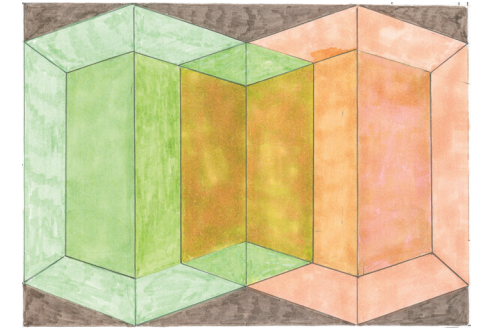
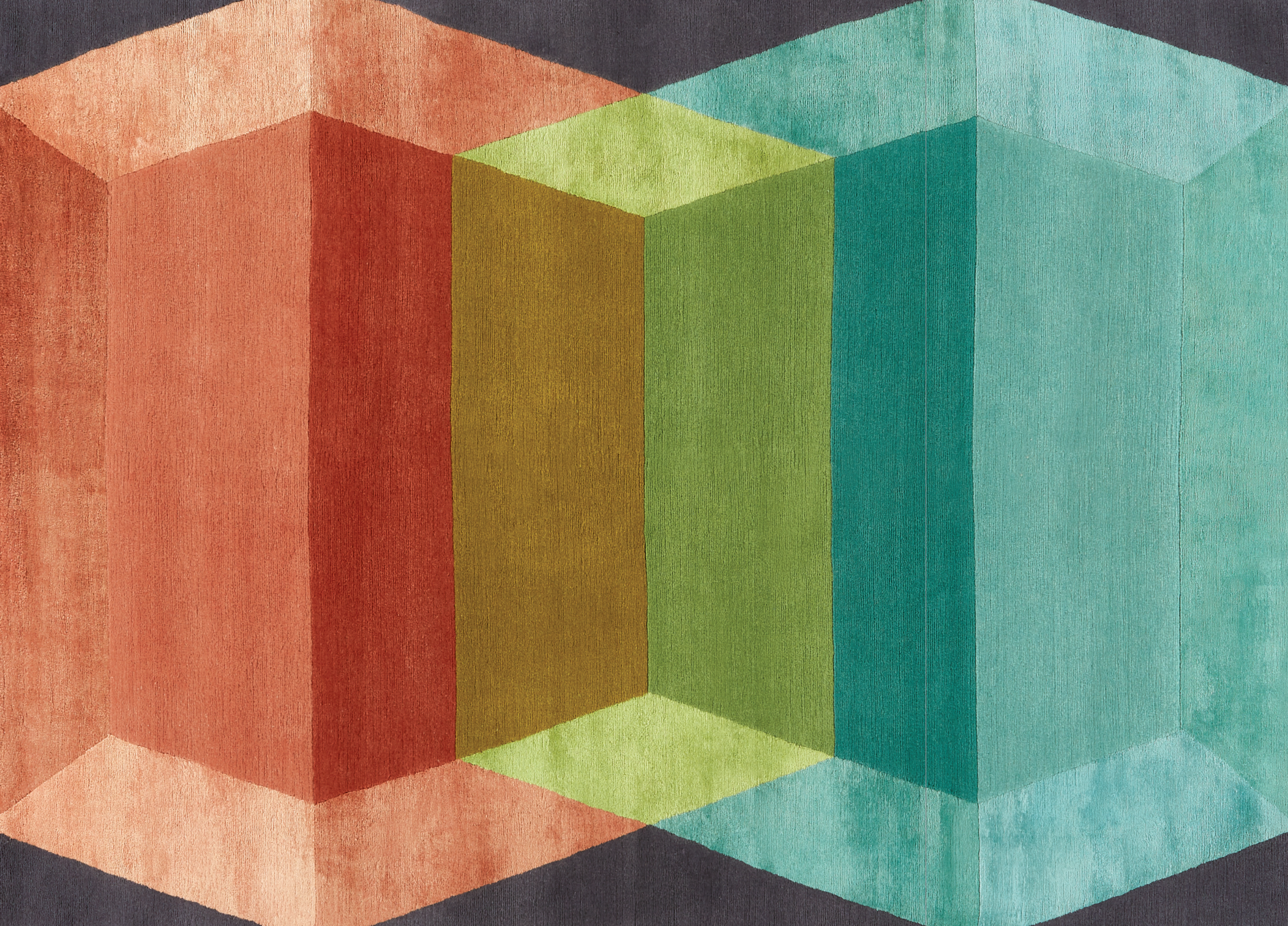




Offcuts – Paper & Stone Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

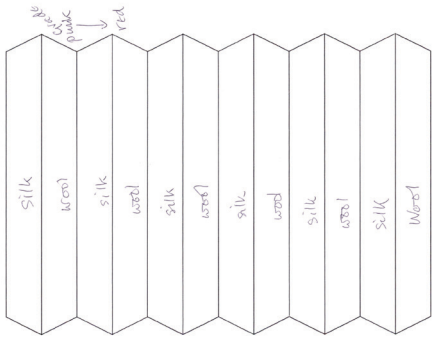
Deirdre looked at a pile of paper cuttings on her cutting matt and saw a carpet! The 3D effect is created by the layered spindles of paper in blue, green and beige tones.





Glass Cubes – Looking Glass Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

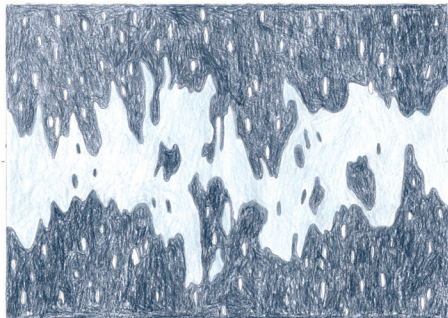
Inspired by light through two different coloured rectangular vases. The resulting overlapping colours matched exactly by Deirdre to give a 3D quality.



Concertina – Paper & Stone Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

By using a cut out edge and graduated shades of wool and silk pinks, Deirdre creates the perfect pleated effect.

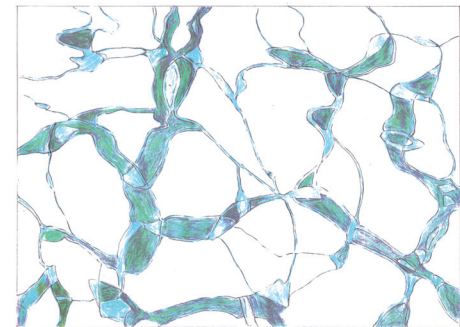




Sunshaft – All at Sea Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

This design was inspired by an intense shaft of sun light reflected on the deepest ocean.

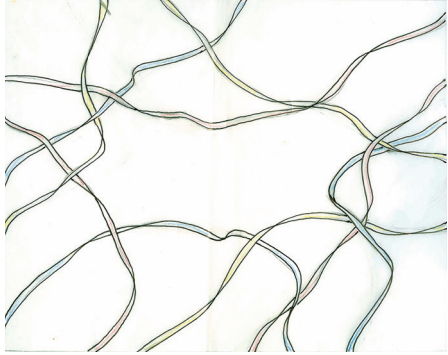




Sunlit — All at Sea Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

Deirdre has always been fascinated by “the light patterns the sun makes in shallow water.”



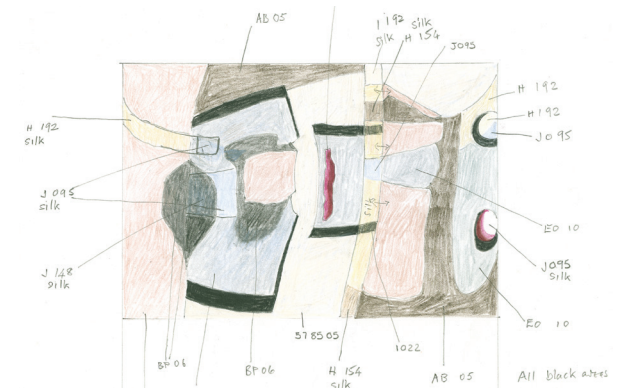


Carnival

Hand-knotted silk & wool

Deirdre has employed the ribbon motif in various designs throughout the years. Carnival, as shown here, uses the ribbons to full effect with clever positioning for sense of movement and gentle flow. Each ribbon requires both light and dark tones to create the three dimensional illusion and works well in many colour combinations.





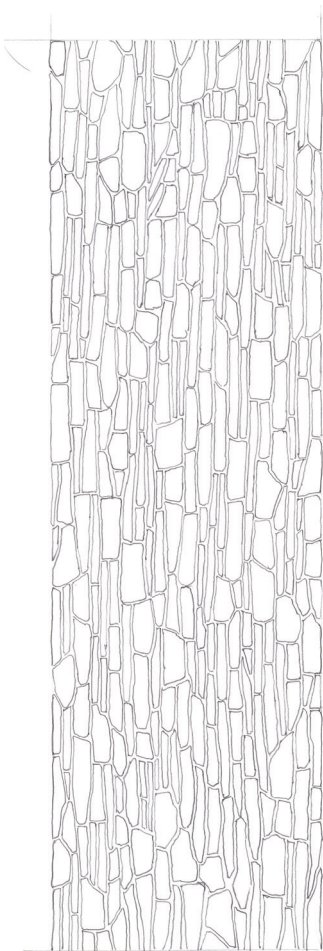
Light Fragments – Looking Glass Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

For this design Deirdre observed random abstract and distorted shapes and colours through a water-filled flask.



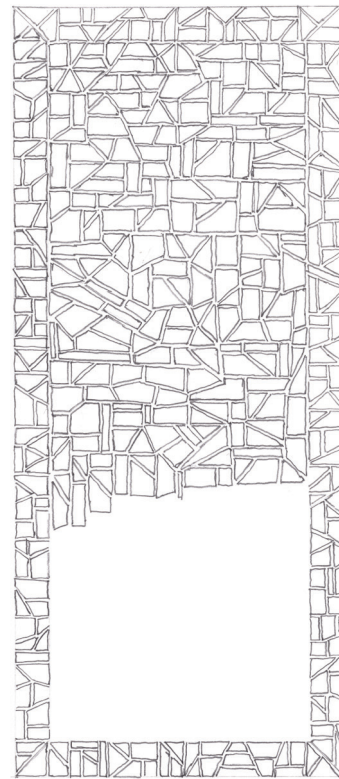
Dry Stone – Paper & Stone Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

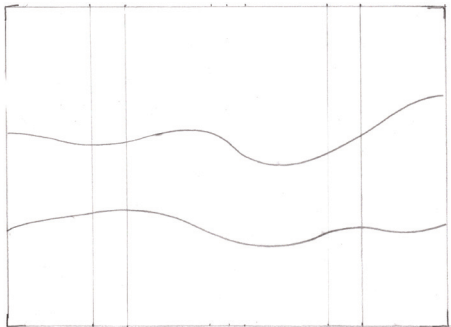
Inspired by the dry-stone walling of its name, DRY STONE is wrought in silk with wool 'grouting' to ground the natural tones of the design.



Blue Stone – Paper & Stone Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

Inspired by mosaic flooring with several ingots picked out in a topaz and turquoise blue.

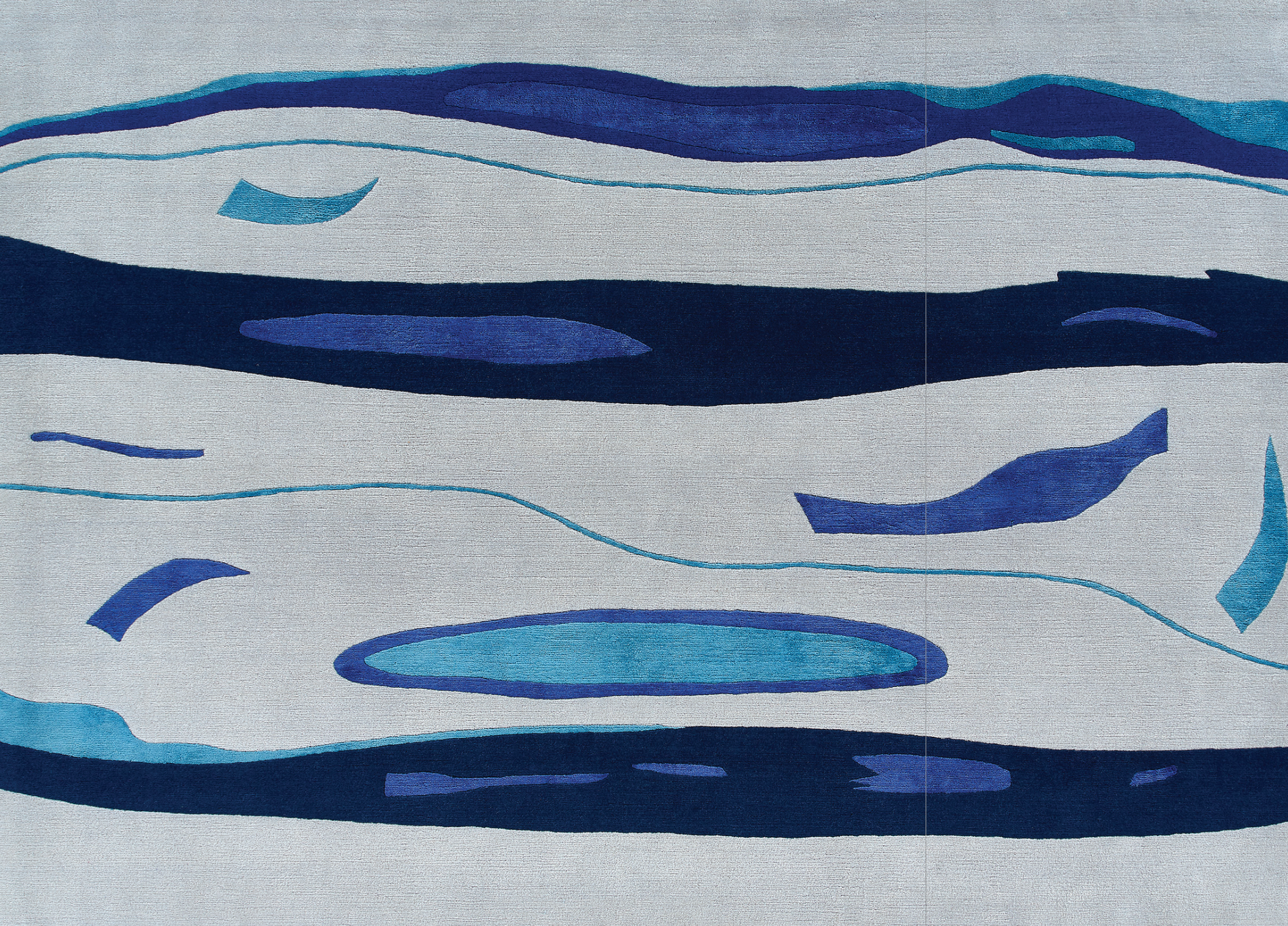




Light Between – Looking Glass Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

Monochromatic wool grading with a central 'path' of light and two simple but vibrant 'glassy' bars in silk that pass over the greys and light between.





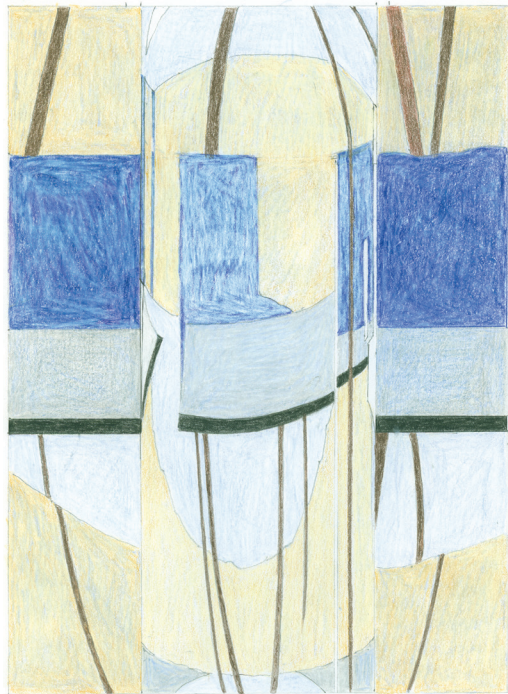
Floating Glass – Looking Glass Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

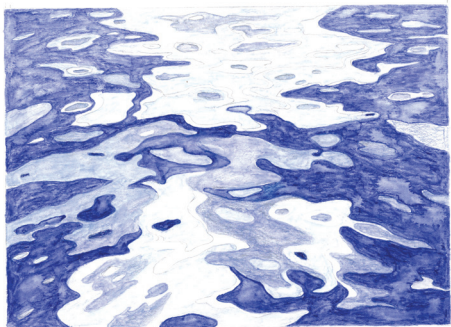
The vibrant blue silks in this design 'float' in their watery setting.



Looking Through – Looking Glass Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

Inspired by 'looking through' a water-filled flask at boat rigging and blue cushions reflected on a shiny surface, Deirdre painted these distorted objects without drawing the outline of the flask.





Splash – All at Sea Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

In this design Deirdre focuses intently on the colours and reflections of sea water.







Skyscape – Horizons Collection
Hand-knotted silk & wool

Constructed as a large carpet to show the possibilities of scale. Our example of 'Skyscape' measures 5m wide and illustrates the colours of cool skies with a glimmer of silken sunlight shining through.

DEIRDRE

Today, Lady Dyson creates at least one themed carpet collection every year and receives commissions from all around the world – from individuals, designers and architects. Inspiration is discovered and never sought, as natural as it always has been for Deirdre. With her small professional team, Deirdre's concepts, sketches and paintings are developed in to beautifully hand-crafted carpets.

It is a fascinating blend of art and process, of ancient skill and new technology. Quality – colour matching over 5,000 different hues of pure Tibetan wool and Chinese silk. The skills of the makers – are everything. You can find a comprehensive selection of

works that are an inspiration for any visitor at her contemporary London gallery.

Through their charitable foundation, Deirdre and James support art, design and technology education - both institutions and individuals. She is a trained soprano and has made the vocal leap from choral works to opera.

Each year, Deirdre hosts a charity evening of opera, which raises funds for medical research charities; one of her paintings hangs in the pioneering Neonatal Care Unit at Bath's Royal United Hospital, with another underway for its cancer unit, a cause they have long supported.



