

Plantlife Press Alert

For immediate release

Nature's Palette Unleashed: Iris Hill's 'Fragile Nature' exhibition chronicles a conservation journey



Fragile Nature, a new art exhibition - highlighting wild plants that are at risk of extinction and exploring the relationship between art and conservation - is about to be unveiled. Lisa Gardner, known by her artistic pseudonym Iris Hill, will be showcasing her passion for nature as she completes her time at conservation charity Plantlife as their first artist in residence. The exhibition, born out of Lisa's transformative journey last summer visiting some of the rarest plants in the UK, is a testament to her growing passion for conservation. From the rugged coast of the Highlands to the road verges of Kent, Lisa has encountered and connected with overlooked but remarkable plant species such as Lady Orchid and Twinflower.

The pieces in "Fragile Nature" include watercolour and natural pigment works, providing a raw and emotional response to the fragility and resilience of life.

Lisa said: *"I've discovered that something doesn't have to be loud or seem extraordinary to be important, and that the fragility of life isn't something to be feared. It's something to embrace; there is elegance in decay."*

A huge driving force behind '**Fragile Nature**' is Lisa's deep belief and passion that the arts have a duty to support conservation. The exhibition explores how the arts have the power to inspire a sense of connection, helping draw people closer to nature's needs.

Fragile Nature will be on view from Tuesday 23rd January 2024 until Friday 26th January 2024 (9:30 am – 6pm on Tues-Thurs, 9:30am – 12pm on Fri) at the Philip Mould & Co Gallery in London. Alongside mixed media pieces, the exhibition will be accompanied by a short film of Lisa's time exploring these species which are on the edge of survival.

Exhibition Dates and Details

Philip Mould & Co Gallery, 23rd – 26th January 2024. 9:30 am – 6pm on Tues-Thurs, 9:30am – 12pm on Fri. No appointment necessary.

There is a private viewing and celebration event on Thursday 25th January, 6-8pm. If you would like to attend, please see contact information below.

Exhibition Support

This exhibition is supported by The Arts Council England's Developing your Creative Practice Fund. A huge thank you to Philip Mould and Company for the opportunity to show this exhibition.

About Lisa Gardner (who works under the name [Iris Hill](#), in tribute to her nan)

Lisa Gardner is a watercolour artist based in Winchester, England, who has been working with the medium for over 20 years. She is deeply inspired by the natural world, the connection between breath and brushwork and the utter joy that can be found when paint meets the canvas.

Often asked what drew her to first plant the seeds of her art, her answer is simple: it has always been a part of who she is. Art is her therapy, and it is this deeply intuitive, sensitive and healing energy that she strives to embed into every single piece that she creates.

Lisa recently completed a one-year post as Plantlife's artist in residence, where she explored the intersection of where art and conservation meet. Exploring rare wildflower species on the edge of extinction, her work balances beauty and meaning, presence and reflection.

About [Plantlife](#)

Plantlife is the global charity working to enhance, protect, restore and celebrate the wild plants and fungi that are essential to all life on earth. With two in five plant species at risk of extinction, biodiversity loss is now the fastest it's ever been and Plantlife's work has never been more vital. Plantlife champions and accelerates conservation action, working at the heart of a global network of individuals and organisations, to influence and inspire landowners and land managers, public and private bodies, governments and local communities. As time begins to run out, Plantlife's position as the global voice for wild plants and fungi will help to bring lasting and positive change to our natural world – for everyone's sake.

Further information

For press enquiries, or if you would like to receive an invitation for the private viewing and celebration event on Thursday 25th January 2024 6-8pm, please contact caitlin.thomas@plantlife.org.uk

To get into contact with Lisa Gardner (the artist and curator of the exhibition), please contact hello@irishill.co.uk

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