

Author



Anneli was born, grew up, and completed her education in Finland. During her school years she pursued numerous hobbies including orienteering, reading, acting and handicrafts.

After her Baccalaureate Exams, she studied Economics and Marketing at Helsinki School of Economics. She then did a further course at the Institute of Exports which trained graduates to work abroad for Finnish companies in their export business. This led her to England, first to open and run the sales office of a children's wear company in London, and later to work at the Commercial Section of the Finnish Embassy.

During her time in London she met her future husband, and they eventually moved to Harpenden, where she found the new leisure activity of flower arranging. This developed into a major interest. Anneli joined a local flower arranging club where she became an active member, became a competitor, tutor, and NAFAS qualified judge.

She has received awards in Chelsea Flower Shows and in Area and National Shows of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS).

This book is a showcase of her years in the world of flower arranging and design.

Preface

Finland is covered in snow for several months in the winter. The only green colour seen in nature comes from spruces, pines and junipers, often laden with snow. In contrast, summers are a delight: beautiful wild flowers, lichens, mosses, myriad lakes and rivers and wood, wood, beautiful wood, everywhere - all unconsciously printed deep in my psyche. I gathered endless wild flower bunches to bring home. Flower arranging as a hobby did not exist in Finland, and still does not: the florists import their blooms, and consequently they are expensive.

My childhood roots in the Finnish countryside have formed my style and imagination more than I realised. Now I call myself a 'sticks and twigs' girl, which is clearly evident looking through the photographs in this book. The magic of wood, cones, seed heads, twigs and sticks gives me never-ending inspiration: they are nature's beautiful free materials, have endless possibilities in their use, and allow the imagination to fly free. Mixing man-made and natural materials together, as I have done in many of my designs, creates a pleasing naturalistic look for a permanent flower arrangement.

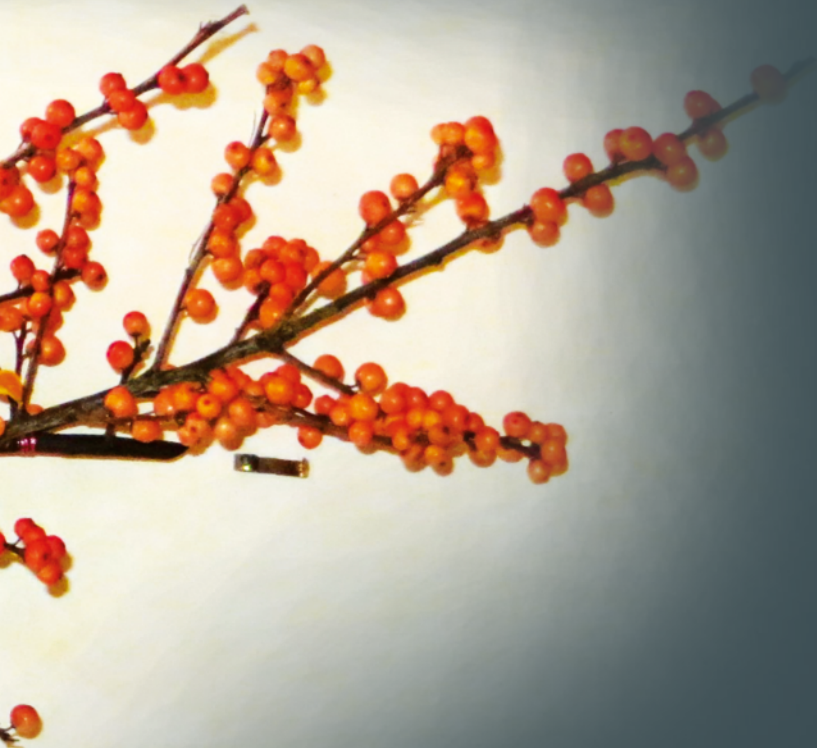
Some time ago I started thinking of putting my designs into a book. I have collected, since my teenage years, 'pearls of wisdom' - wise/profound/inspiring/funny sayings that touch and tickle our heart, mind and soul. In this book I have combined each design with a 'pearl of wisdom' and have found some good matches!

Making this book has been a lot of hard work, but it has also brought me excitement and joy. I hope the book gives you something, too.



Happiness is good health and bad memory.

Ingrid Bergman



Where
wisdom reigns,
there is no
conflict
between
thinking and
feeling.

Carl Gustaf
Jung



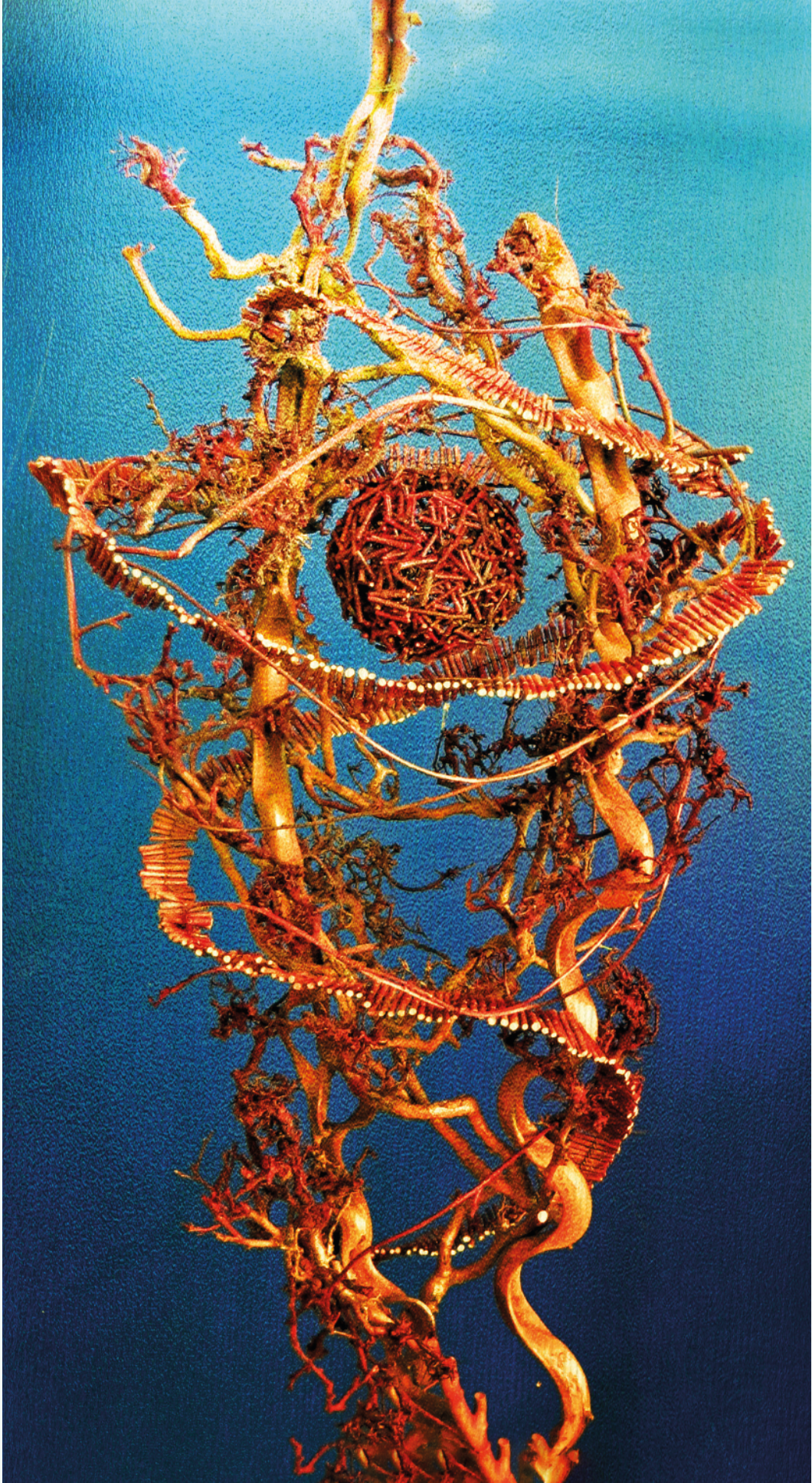


Watch carefully
the magic that
occurs when
you give a
person enough
comfort to just
be themselves.

Atticus Poetry: Love
Her Wild

Time is all we have
and don't.

Atticus Poetry





People do not like to think. If one thinks, one must reach conclusions.
Conclusions are not always pleasant.

Helen Keller



The only thing we never
get enough of is love, and
the only thing we never
give enough is love.

Henry Miller

