

MEDIA RELEASE

TWO WITH NATURE

Ellen Hickman & John Ryan

About the Book

Ellen Hickman is an illustrator and botanical scientist who captures the natural world in layers of fine detail and colour.

John Ryan is a writer whose botanical poetry explores what he calls the inherently mysterious nature of the plant world.

Fusing art and science, words and images, *Two with Nature* stimulates new ways of knowing the green world.

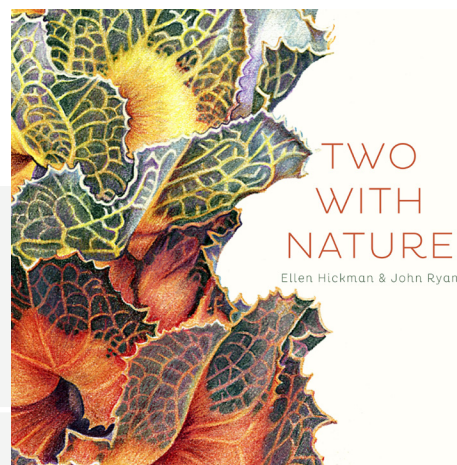
About the Creators

Ellen Hickman completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Botany in 1991, and spent many years as a botanist for the Department of Environment in WA. In 1993 she travelled overseas, working as an illustrator at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew before completing a Diploma of Visual Arts in Illustration in Melbourne. Hickman has exhibited at the Biennial Art of Botanical Illustration at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, illustrated two children's books, won the Henry Allan Gleason Award at the New York Botanic Gardens in 2001 and secured a coveted Churchill Fellowship. She lives in Albany, Western Australia, where she works as a consultant botanist and artist.

Born in New Jersey in the United States, John Ryan survived a hodgepodge of professional callings and spent many seasons of his life just walking: from Mexico to Canada along the Pacific Crest Trail, from the American South to the North on the Appalachian Trail, from the southern corner to the northern tip of Newfoundland, Canada. On these long trips, he kept a poetry journal, bearing witness to the transformations of plant communities across time and space, and between many places.

Media Points

- Ellen Hickman's hand-coloured pencil work captures 70 moments of floral beauty from her home in the south-west corner of Western Australia.
- Hickman illustrated the children's book *Tuart Dwellers* which was shortlisted for a Children's Book Council Award and a WA Premier's Award, and won a Wilderness Society Award.
- Hickman has studied the Haemodoraceae plant family (including the Kangaroo Paw) in South Africa and Australia and in 2010 was awarded a Winston Churchill Fellowship Trust to study the plant in the Americas. Hickman's artwork was selected for the International Botanical Congress Exhibition at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne in 2011.
- John Ryan's 20 poems focus on flowers, leaves, bark, roots and the ecologies of herbs, shrubs and trees. Ryan is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at ECU where he is developing the project 'Cultures of Biodiversity in Western Australia'.



Pub. date: December 2012
ISBN: 9781922089120
RRP: \$35.00
Genre: Fine Art
Format: 220 x 220mm
HB with dust jacket
Extent: 104pp



For review copies or to speak with the author please contact Claire Miller, Publicity & Marketing:

T: (08) 9430 6331
F: (08) 9430 5242
E: cmiller@fremantlepress.com.au

See www.fremantlepress.com.au for more of our titles.

FREMANTLE 
fine independent publishing **PRESS**