

herbarium

This stunning book of photographs by Robyn Stacey, one of this country's finest photographers, is the first of its kind. Stacey, along with essayist, Ashley Hay, throws open the closed doors of the National Herbarium of New South Wales at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, to reveal the secret history of Australia's flora. *Herbarium* tells fascinating stories about the nature of collecting, those who collected, what they collected and when, and also provides the scientific background to each of the specimens. A list of botanical notes provides a unique link between the specimens and their collectors. The exquisite photographs of the botanical specimens – some extremely rare – comprise a collection of extraordinary beauty.

Robyn Stacey is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Communication, Design and Media at the University of Western Sydney. She is one of Australia's most acclaimed photographers and has exhibited her photographic work in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Australia and internationally since the mid-1980s to high critical acclaim. Her work is represented in the National Gallery of Australia, all state galleries in Australia and Art Bank, as well as in university and private collections, both here and abroad.

Ashley Hay has written two books of narrative non-fiction, *The Secret: The Strange Marriage of Annabella Milbanke and Lord Byron* (Duffy and Snellgrove, 2000), and *Gum: The Story of Eucalypts and Their Champions* (Duffy and Snellgrove, 2002). She has also published essays and short fiction and works for *The Bulletin*.



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Robyn Stacey & Ashley Hay



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For John, Helen and Allan

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The original Botanical Museum, attached to the Herbarium, c. 1900