

ALAN OLIVER
Handweaver, Dyer & Printmaker



Alan Oliver

Alan Oliver is weaver, dyer and printer who uses traditional craft processes to make handwoven rugs, wall hangings and printed textiles, as well as works on paper.

His work is often concerned with ideas around identity present within traditionally crafted textiles, and in particular an identity of place which he explores through the use of natural dyes made from locally collected and foraged resources. Pieces also draw on elements of storytelling inherent within traditional textile crafts, and his exploration of history, folklore, and ideas specific to a locality result in topographies of a sort, anchored to place, but not limited by it.

Index

Alan Oliver

Weavings	4
Printed Work	8
Commissioned Work	12
Price List	16

Credits	23
---------	----

Weavings

I see my woven art pieces as maps, in a way. They are often anchored to a specific place, but travel beyond that, to explore themes around identity, making, migration, and displacement. They tell stories, inspired by history, folklore, people, and place. Choice and the use of materials often plays a central role, helping to tell that story, whether it be a natural dye that is place specific or a fibre that has a connection to the area in some way.

Like most of the applied arts, hand-weaving is a very labour driven activity, with process and repetition at its heart. I consider making to be at the very core of what it means to be human. therefore, process, and the repetitive nature of craft, form as much a part of any identity we give the objects we make as any immediately identifiable, cultural identity. We see these traditional processes as being extraordinary today, but the materials we use and how we use them are the basis of our humanity and tell our story.



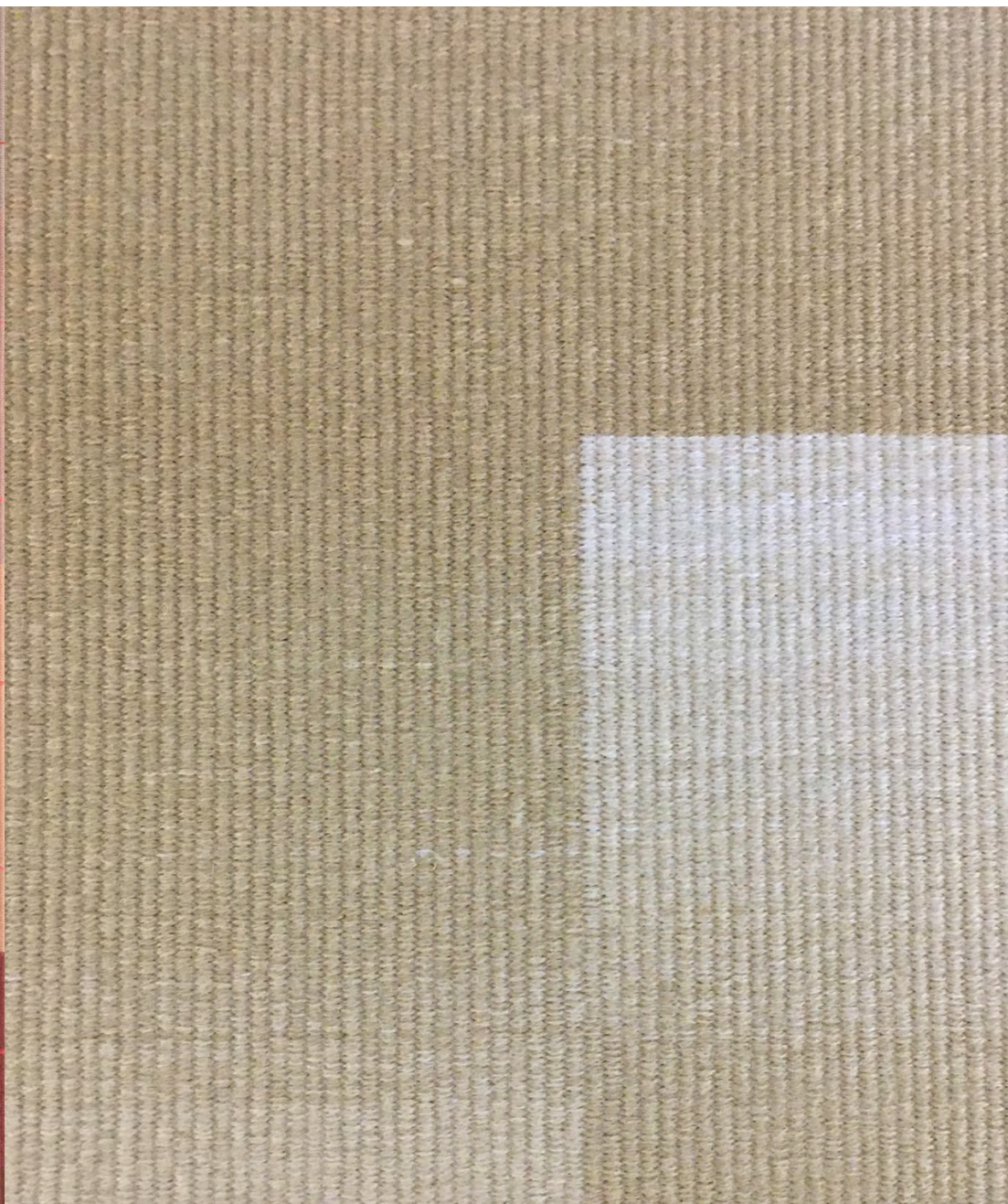
Rebar | Wool, linen, rebar.
110 w x 180 h (cm), (2020)



'Whatever is done by only me is your doing' | Wool, linen,
oak frame.
114 w x 101 h (cm), (2021)



When was the World Pink? | Wool, linen, oak frame.
110 w x 108 h (cm), (2021)



Mother and Son | Wool, linen, oak frame.
114 w x 101 h (cm), (2020)



Current | Wool, linen, oak frame.
72 w x 62 h (cm), (2021)

Printed Works

I suppose the type of printing I do is fairly idiosyncratic, in that it is a process I have developed myself, using a silk screen as a tool for application, as opposed repetition of image, thereby creating one-off monotypes.

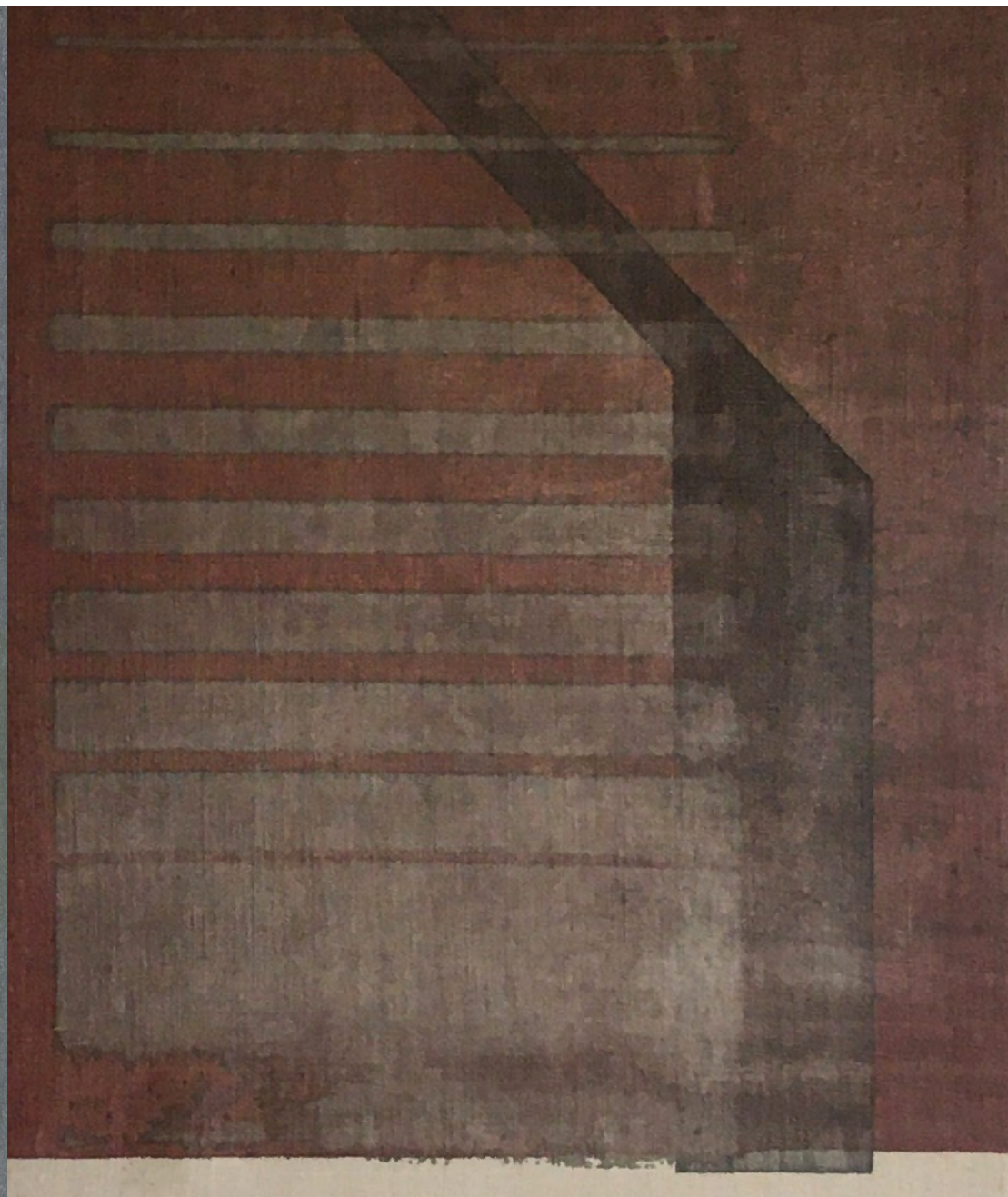
I started printing at college, as a means of extending the use of some of the natural dyes I had been developing and testing. What I love about printing is its immediacy, in terms of application. It allows me to take a more painterly approach in that area of my practice. But unlike weaving, which can always be unpicked and reworked, the moment of application with printing is definitive. Failure and success abound in equal measure, regardless of planning or intent, which can make the process as exciting as it is terrifying.

As well as printing on paper, I also print on linen or hemp cloth which I then stretch over a frame like a canvas and apply a traditional wax varnish to.





This is where we are going | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth. (2022)



I met my Girl at Woolwich Pier, beneath the big crane standing | Natural dyes pigments, gum tragacanth (on linen). (2021)



Thames Sunset I | Natural dyes pigments, gum tragacanth. (2021)

Commission Work

More often than not, the starting point for any commission is an existing work that the client has seen. Following an initial consultation, where design, fibre choices and colour are discussed, sketches, and, if required, dyed yarn samples are supplied. That process is essentially repeated until a final design is agreed upon, and then work can commence with dyeing and then weaving the work.

Commissioned work may be one-off art pieces for the wall, a bespoke rug, or printed work on paper or linen/hemp. For woven works, both natural and synthetic dye options are available, depending on preference and/or the intended function of the piece being commissioned. Please do email me with any questions you may have about commissioning work at enquiries@alanolvier.co.uk





Price List

Printed Works



Willow & Gold | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth and watercolour.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



Willow & Gold | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2021)

£ 450



Shibboleth | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



Green Mist I | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



Rust I | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2021)

£ 450



Green Mist I | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450

Price List

Printed Works



Flotsan&Jetsam I | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth and watercolour.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



Flotsan&Jetsam II | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth and watercolour.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



This is where we are going | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
46 cm w x 58 cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 450



'Along the line of Lapse' | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
39 cm w x 47cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 345



Lagan | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
39 cm w x 47cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 345

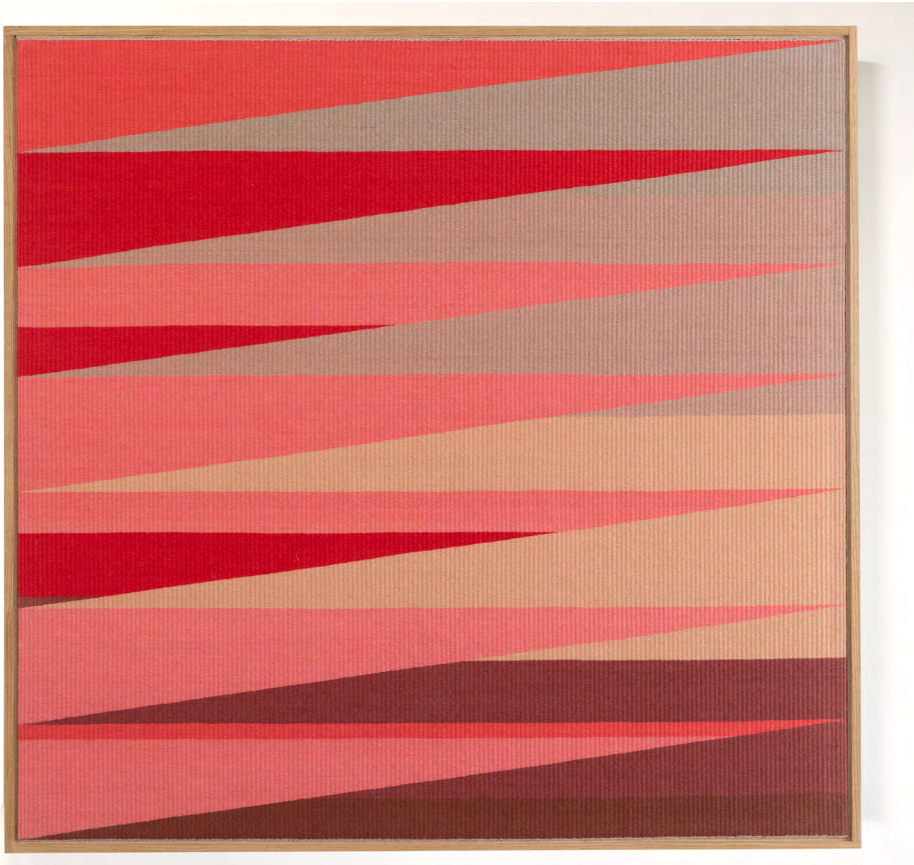


Aurora I | Natural dyes / pigments, gum tragacanth.
39 cm w x 47cm h (framed)
(2022)

£ 250

Price List

Wallhangings



When was the World Pink? | Wool, linen, oak frame.
110 w x 108 h (cm), (2021)

£ 4,500



Current | Wool, linen, oak frame.
72 w x 62 h (cm), (2021)

£ 1,300



Horizon | Wool, linen, yute. oak frame.
114 w x 101 h (cm), (2020)

£ 1,900



Mother and Son | Wool, linen, oak frame.
114 w x 101 h (cm), (2020)

£ 3,800

Price List

Rugs



Latice Fade Rug (Acid Green) | Wool and linen
70 w x 150 h (cm), (2019)

£ 700



£ 1,900

Credits



Editorial Design

Manuel Lopez

Photography

Alan Oliver

Manuel Lopez
in: @imanagered

Benedict Johnson
in: @benedictjohnsonphoto

Olivia Thompson
in: @ Olivia.thompson

Alan Oliver Handweaver, Dyer & Printmaker

London, SE17 2DG.
in: @Alan_oliver_weaver
e-mail: enquiries@alanoliver.co.uk

ALAN OLIVER

Handweaver, Dyer & Printmaker