

The Allure of Fungi

by Alison Pouliot

Although relatively little known, fungi provide the links and flows between the terrestrial organisms and ecosystems that underpin our functioning planet.

The Allure of Fungi presents fungi through multiple perspectives – those of mycologists and ecologists, foragers and forayers, naturalists and farmers, aesthetes and artists, philosophers and Traditional Owners. It explores how a history of entrenched fears and misconceptions about fungi has led to their near absence in Australian ecological consciousness and biodiversity conservation.

Through a combination of text and visual essays, the author reflects on how aesthetic, sensate experience deepened by scientific knowledge offers the best chance for understanding fungi, the forest and human interactions with them.

Features:

- An interdisciplinary exploration of fungi, their ecological significance and relationships with different cultures
- Engaging personal anecdotes take readers on a journey of discovery into the world of fungi and fungus enthusiasts
- Evocative text and stunning macrophotography are combined in an amalgam of history, science and art.

About the Author:

Alison Pouliot is a natural historian who is passionate about fungi. She moves between northern and southern hemispheres to have two autumns each year, guaranteeing a double dose of fungi. Her extraordinary photographs reflect her research on the ecology and conservation of fungi. In this book she documents a forgotten corner of the natural world that is both beguiling and fundamental to life.

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