



# Seeds

## Time Capsules of Life

Rob Kessler  
Wolfgang Stuppy

ISBN	9781906506759
Publisher	Papadakis
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding USA & Canada
Size	290 mm x 265 mm
Pages	264 Pages
Illustrations	305 color, 6 b&w
Name of series	Seeds / Pollen / Fruit
Price	£40.00

- An award-winning, beautiful, and fascinating natural history of seeds, jointly created by an artist and a scientist
- Critically acclaimed by national and international press, in print and on TV
- IP Book Awards Gold Medal winner for Outstanding Book of the Year – Most Original Concept
- Seeds / Pollen / Fruit series over 220,000 copies sold across 10 languages
- The Millennium Seed Bank Partnership is the largest conservation project ever conceived and includes the rarest, most threatened and most useful species known to man
- All images were created exclusively for this book
- Will appeal to anyone interested in gardening, science and the natural world
- A source of inspiration for painters and sculptors, architects, designers, and fashion designers
- Shortlisted for the 2024 Gourmand World Cookbook Award in the Design category, winning the UK country contribution
- Seeds won Bronze in the Photo books Category at the 15th International Creative Media Awards, 2024

"One of the most important books in botanical history" – *The Botanist's Library, Carolyn Fry*

"Amazing" – *New Scientist*

"A book that vividly illustrates why plants remain so endlessly fascinating" – *Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland*

Seeds are tiny parcels of life, poised to give rise to anything from ephemeral herbs to giant trees that can live for thousands of years. A close look at these tiny miracles of nature through a scanning electron microscope opens up a view into a fascinating and breathtakingly beautiful microcosm few people, even scientists, have ever seen before. The range of sizes, shapes, and patterns plants have evolved over 360 million years to perfect their one and only chance in life to travel is beyond our wildest imagination.

In this astonishing book, artist Rob Kessler and world-renowned botanist Wolfgang Stuppy, previously of Kew's Millennium Seed Bank, present a unique and highly unusual natural history of seeds. The story of how seeds evolved to ensure the survival of their species and how they adapted to their natural environments including the animals they share them with is stunningly illustrated, combining close-up photography with digitally enhanced scanning electron micrographs.

This book not only captivates and enlightens those interested in the natural world, but also will appeal to artists, designers, architects, and everyone else drawing inspiration from the wonderful and endlessly fascinating world in which we live.

**Rob Kessler** is an award-winning visual artist and Emeritus Professor of Art, Design & Science at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London. For the past 25 years he has worked extensively with botanical scientists and molecular biologists around the world to explore the living world at a microscopic level. Using a range of complex microscopy processes he creates multi-frame composite images of plant organs. Using a sophisticated coordination of hand, eye and intuition, they are modified by the addition of many subtle layers of colour to create intense large format photographs that captivate the eye and extend the traditions of botanical art into a contemporary field. Collaborators include The Jodrell Laboratory Kew, The John Innes Centre, Norwich, and the Max Planck Institute, Germany. He works from studios in London and Corfu and exhibits and lectures internationally. In 2010 he was Year of Biodiversity Fellow at the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência, Portugal. 2014 winner of the RMS Scientific Imaging Competition and in 2022 he was awarded 1st Prize, Botanic Garden Rome for images of seeds from the Arts & Science Synergy Foundation. EU Horizon 2020 Programme. Rob Kessler is a Fellow of the Linnean Society and Ambassador for Royal Microscopical Society. **Wolfgang Stuppy** is an internationally recognised seed specialist. He began his career in plant conservation upon joining the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in 1999. In 2002, he transitioned to Kew's Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst, dedicating 15 years to the meticulous study of seeds from all over the world. It was during this time that Dr. Stuppy acquired a wealth of expertise in the rare discipline of seed morphology that made him a world-specialist in this field. Trained in Germany, he holds a doctorate in comparative seed morphology and anatomy. Presently, Dr. Stuppy is the curator of the Botanic Garden at Ruhr-University in Bochum, Germany.

