## **AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND**

Kim Michelle Toft has been drawing since the age of four. Her artistic career and path has spanned over the past 48 years. Kim has lived her entire adult life on a beach somewhere in Australia and during that time has been a teacher, graphic designer, full time marine and silk artist exhibiting nationally and internationally and for the past 20 years she has been a celebrated author and illustrator. Kim currently lives on a picturesque beach in Northern NSW.

All Kim's books have a strong environmental focus and reflect her great love for the ocean and the coastal habitats which support it. Using a combination of interesting, interactive, prose-style text and stunningly detailed hand painted silk illustrations, her books have won many coveted awards both nationally and internationally.





Kim Michelle Toft creating unique hand-painted silk illustrations

Silkim Books was established by Kim in 2006, publishing the last 4 titles.

Each book takes approximately 18 months to 2 years to research, draw, paint, design and produce. One hand painted silk illustration takes up to 3 weeks to produce. An original silk can measure up to 2 metres x 1 metre!

All Kim's books are still in print, which is a testament to their quality and relevance.



Silkim Books ABN: 66 093 901 369

KIM MICHELLE TOFT • SILKIM BOOKS • PO Box 693, BALLINA, NSW, AUSTRALIA 2478 Phone: 61 7 0431 429 092 • email: info@kimtoft.com.au • website: www.kimtoft.com.au