

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR WORKSPACE?** Le Salon Aux Fleurs is a studio for our floral work where we prepare flowers for friends and clients' homes, dinner parties and celebrations. We're also open for locals to buy flowers and have a chat. **WHAT INITIALLY APPEALED TO YOU ABOUT THE SPACE?** **DID IT REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION?** It used to be a cupcake shop. I couldn't wait to darken it and strip the floor to a natural, aged, rose-coloured concrete. I wanted a home for my favourite Geddes mirror and 1930s spider-leg pendant. I also wanted it dark and romantic with a touch of theatre.

**WHAT ARE YOUR DAILY ESSENTIALS?** Garden scissors, Trudon candles and a written diary that I leave open every night on the next day's page. We can't go a day without soft wrap for flowers: baby blue, pastel pink, soft lemon and leopard print for the locals. **WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SPACE?** We are located in the beautiful Kings Arcade [in Armadale] which dates back to the 1800s. It's a thoroughfare from the main road to the train station and is traditional, with shops and a glass roof. We wanted it to feel like a classic European salon, which it does. It's the perfect fit.

**WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY?** Visiting clients' homes to prepare their weekly flowers, client meetings and sales, designing concepts for events. **WHAT IS A DREAM WORKSPACE OBJECT YOU WOULD BUY?** I buy everything I stock. I have always been passionate about Cire Trudon candles. I also love Portuguese fragrance and soap brand Claus Porto, which I plan to carry at the store. **DO YOU USE YOUR OFFICE TO ENTERTAIN CLIENTS?** My friend, restaurateur Jason M. Jones, prompted me to set up the space next door as his French restaurant Bouzy Bar À Vins (co-owned with Brem Perera). At night we convert Le Salon Aux Fleurs into an intimate private dining room serving their cuisine. **WHAT INFORMED THE DECISION TO OPEN YOUR SALON?** The business evolved when I was on a break from working at the flower market. Scanlan Theodore asked me to do their flowers, followed by Graham Geddes Antiques and [restaurant] Entrecôte. I'd always loved working in shops. I ran a NY-style grocer in Fitzroy and bespoke framers Murdoch & Barclay. I grew up behind a greengrocer, hence the passion for retail. **IF YOUR SALON WAS LOCATED ANYWHERE ELSE, WHERE WOULD THAT BE?** London, Paris, Rome or New York. I love older, bustling cities full of character. **WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO IN 2021?** Hopefully another store filled with scents and perfumes, candles, books and vintage French pieces. Also some fashion, design and photography work. I'm excited to add more beautiful objects to the shop, such as vases by Mark Douglass, Italian gardening tools and scents from Middle Eastern brand Amouage. @le\_salon\_aux\_fleurs



*Steven Maccora*

# Coming up roses

In an under-the-radar arcade, Steven Maccora's Parisian-inspired salon is a florist by day and a private dining space by night.