

Artist statement  
Clarice Yuen

***Unbounded Limbs and a Simulacrum*** features *Kennedia nigricans* (Black Coral Pea) and its artificial flower of the same species. Observing its growth in her home garden and its surroundings, she depicted a magnified view of its vigorous climbers. This characteristic is labelled as 'weedy', reflecting societal tendency to dismiss unfamiliar species and cultural appropriateness. This sentiment strongly resonates with her own experiences as an immigrant. Given its robust growth, this allowed her to handcraft ink from its fallen flowers and use it to illustrate its flesh.

While the depicted artificial flower is not commercially available, its personal significance reminds us of our persistent ignorance regarding the vitality of plants. The earliest artificial flowers were made about 1500 years ago. Plastic flowers today can be found everywhere in our daily lives, representing one of the hybrid creatures of the Anthropocene.

This work seeks to blur the boundaries between natural and artificial, revealing hidden similarities between weeds and immigrants, and shedding light on how our relationship with plants often mirrors our own vegetal entity within us, highlighting our poor understanding of them as beings.