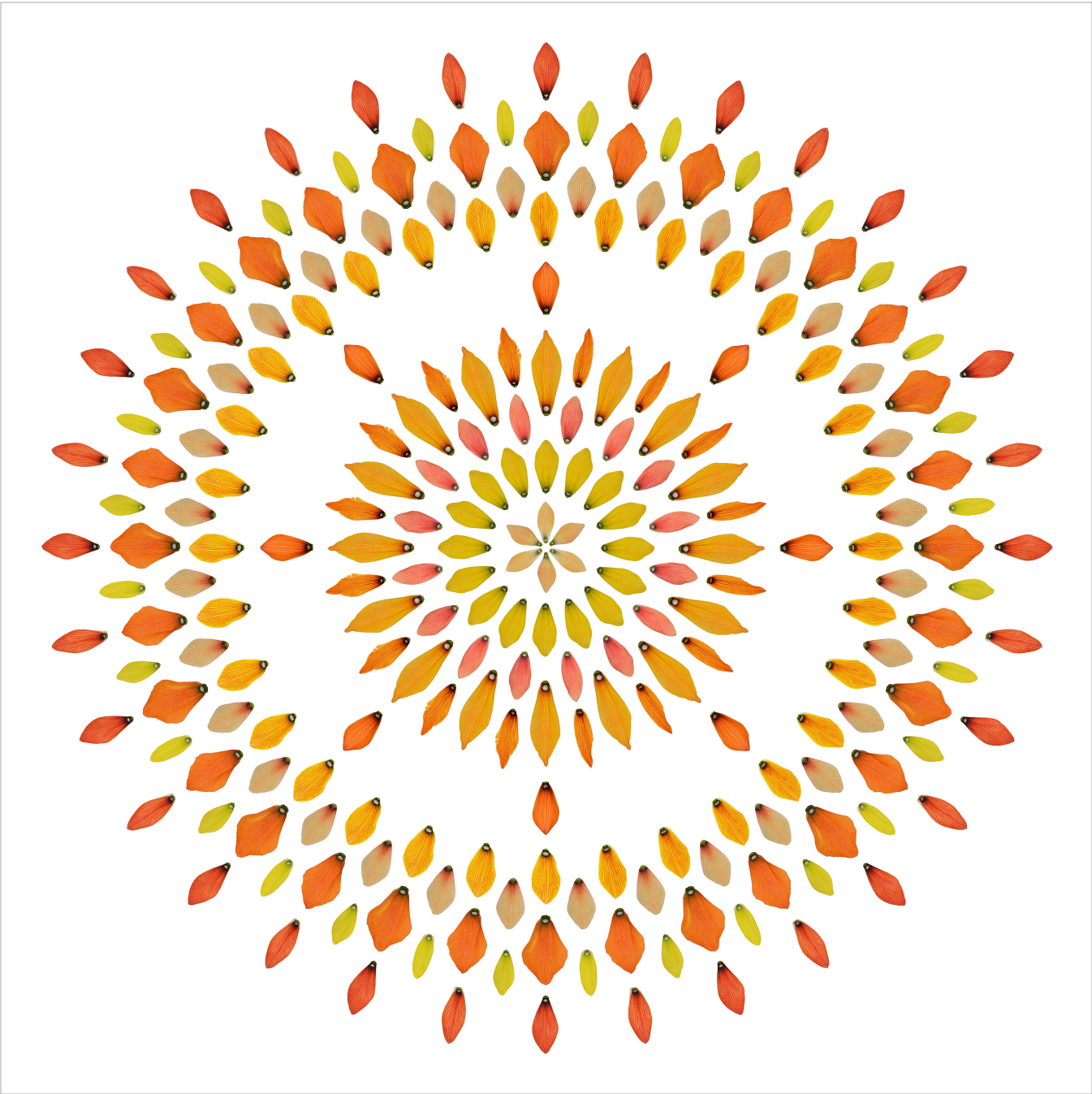
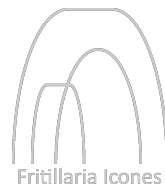


# Mapping the Future



## Mapping the Future

This image reinterprets the Mandala form to celebration plants, the basis of all life on Earth.



Throughout the Mughal Empire, the importance of Nature was reflected in palace gardens, art, and architecture. Many buildings like the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort were adorned with flower images including *Fritillaria imperialis*, the Crown Imperial.

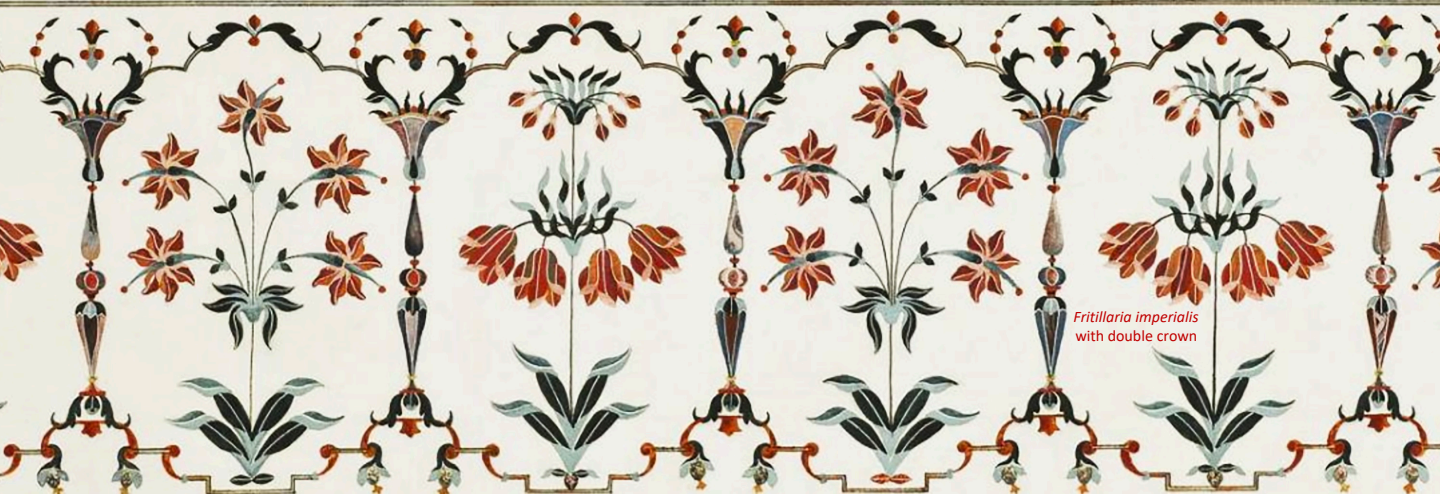
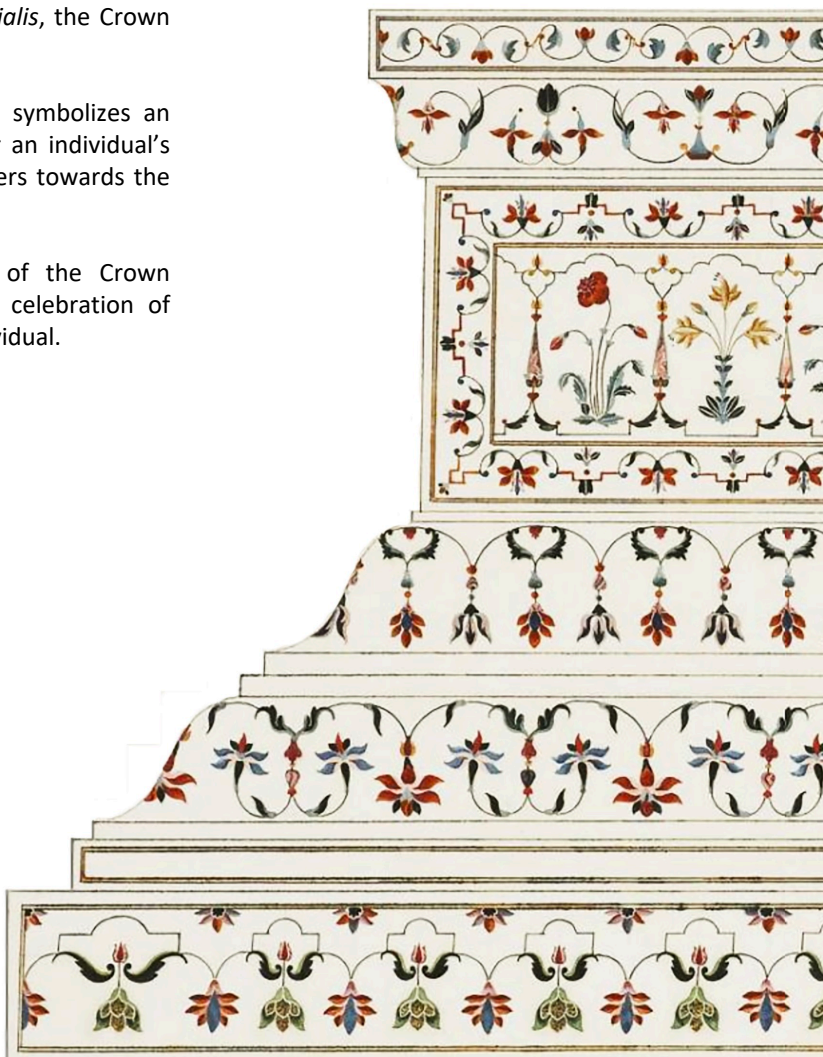
In numerous Eastern religions the Mandala symbolizes an ideal universe or is an aid to meditation for an individual's spiritual journey, starting from the outer layers towards the center.

In Mapping the Future, the composition of the Crown Imperial petals explodes like a firework in celebration of Nature. The focus is outward beyond the individual.



Detail from the Red Fort  
Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India

The Cenotaph of Shan Jahan, Taj Mahal, Uttar Pradesh, India  
Simon Ray © 2012



*Fritillaria imperialis*  
with double crown