

Ikon Activity Pack

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Ikon's activity packs are designed for creative learning at school or home. Inspired by Ikon's exhibitions by [Betsy Bradley](#) and [James T. Hong](#).

Created by artist Haseebah Ali, they include questions for thinking and talking about art in relation to other subjects, including global cultures and environments.

Share your creations with learning@ikon-gallery.org or via social media [@ikongallery](#) [#ikongallery](#).

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James T. Hong

Animal

James T. Hong is a Taiwanese-American artist and filmmaker. His work encourages us to think about our own thoughts and actions. The artist often films animals behaving like humans. Filmed scenes in East Asia reflect the artist's cultural heritage and his experience of living there.

Key words and themes: Human, animal, behaviour, culture, identity, migration.

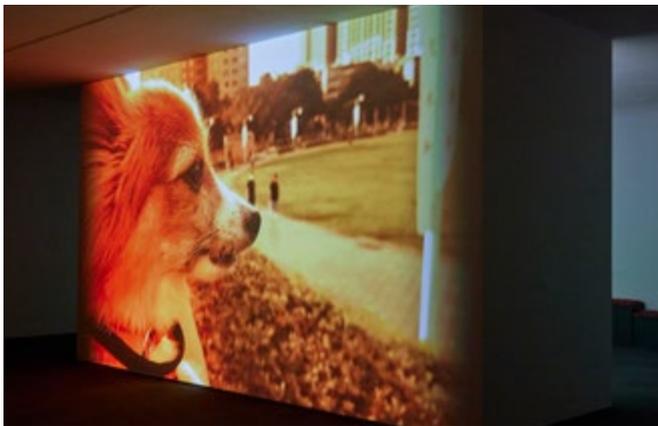
Method: Film, photography, sound.

Materials: Camera, microphone.

Related artists: Francis Alÿs, Craig Baldwin, Yin-Ju Chen.



Installation view, James T. Hong, *Animal* (2021)



De Anima (2021)

Watch the trailer [James T. Hong : Animal](#).



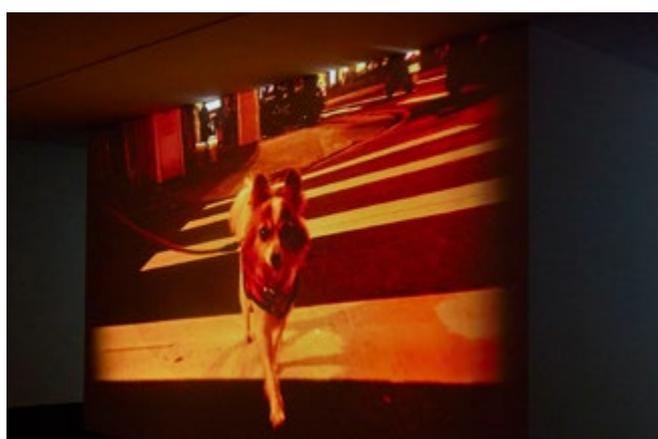
The Duck of Nature/The Duck of God (2010)

James T. Hong includes animals in his films, such as ducks and dogs. *The Duck of Nature/ The Duck of God* (2010) follows the journey of a robotic duck who wants the 'real' ducks to listen to what it has to say.

How are humans and ducks similar?

How do the real ducks react to the robotic duck?

If you could be an animal, which animal would you be and why?



De Anima (2021)

One of the films, *De Anima* (2021), is recorded in Taiwan, where the artist lives. It gives a picture of what the artist's culture and community is like.

What does the word culture mean to you?

Can you describe your culture to a friend?

What are your favourite things about your culture?

Animal mask making

Create your own animal character mask, inspired by the animals in James T. Hong's films.

You will need: Paper plate, scissors, coloured paper, marker pen, paint, paintbrush, lollipop sticks, glue stick.

1. Cut your paper plate in half using scissors and turn it over so the plate is facing down.



2. Evenly paint the plate with the colour of your animal character using a large paint brush. Wait for it to dry.



3. Using a pen or pencil, draw the nose of your animal character on coloured paper and carefully cut around the shape using a pair of scissors. Stick it onto your plate.



4. Create two eyes using a black marker. Apply some glue to the top of the lollipop stick and stick it onto the end of the plate to finish your mask.



Betsy Bradley

Chasing Rainbows

Betsy Bradley creates big, bold and colourful paintings using see-through fabrics which absorb the paint. The artist makes her own large paintbrushes to create different brushstrokes. She uses her whole body to make interesting marks. Bradley's artworks are inspired by the environment, such as the colours of light and water.

Key words and themes: Colour, mark-making, dance, movement, everyday, environment.

Method: Painting, sculpture, printmaking.

Materials: Paint, fabric, canvas, wood, found objects.

Related artists: Claire Barclay, Bernice Bing, Giorgio Griffa, Masahiro Suda, Alexis Teplin, Lee Ufan.



Installation view, Betsy Bradley, *Chasing Rainbows* (2021)



Surfing Between Dreams (2021)

Take a [3D tour of the exhibition](#).

Watch the film [Introducing Betsy Bradley](#).



Boogie Wall (2021)

Betsy Bradley uses colours inspired by nature and the environment.

How can colours be used to portray emotions?

How do the colours in the artist's work make you feel?

What colours do you think of when you think about nature?



Kensho (2020)

Betsy Bradley uses different shaped paintbrushes, tools and objects she finds at home to create the marks in her work.

What shapes can you see in the painting *Kensho* (2020)?

Does the painting look like anything to you?

What movements would you make to create the brushstrokes?

Marble painting

Create a marble painting, inspired by the different brushstrokes in Betsy Bradley's artworks.

You will need: Paper, masking tape, paint, paint pot, marbles, tray.

1. Take a strip of masking tape and press it on and off a table to make it less sticky. Then tape it along the edge of a piece of paper to create a border. Place your paper into a tray.



2. Pour some paint into a paint pot and add a splash of water to make it slightly runny.



3. Drop a marble into the paint and swirl the paint pot around before dropping the marble onto your paper. Move the tray around so the marble rolls across the paper. Repeat with a different colour.



4. Wait for the paint to dry then remove the masking tape from the edges of the paper, leaving a border.



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