



Ikon Activity Pack KS3

Ikon's activity packs are designed for creative learning at school or home. Inspired by [Hew Locke's](#) work *Foreign Exchange*, Victoria Square, Summer 2022. presented by Birmingham 2022 Festival and commissioned by Ikon.

Created by artist [Monica Perez Vega](#), the packs 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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Hew Locke

Hew Locke is a Guyanese-British artist based in London. He was born in Edinburgh, but grew up in Georgetown, Guyana. Locke became interested in statues as a child in Guyana, where he passed a sculpture of Queen Victoria every day on his way to school. He has been re-imagining historic statues for over twenty years, often using photographs which he then paints over and decorates.

Key words and themes: Empire, Commonwealth, history, identity, intervention.

Method: Drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, photography.

Materials: Paint, fibreglass, found objects (including replica medals and bronze).

Related artists: Lubaina Himid, Keith Piper, Thomas J. Price, Marc Quinn.



Hew Locke, *Hinterland* (2013)



Hew Locke, *Souvenir 9 (Queen Victoria)* (2019)

There are over eight hundred public statues of people in the United Kingdom. Statues provide a way to celebrate, remember and tell stories of historically significant figures. For example, a statue of Mary Seacole, a British-Jamaican pioneering nurse, was unveiled in 2016.

Why do we have statues?

Do you think the meaning of statues stays the same or changes over time?

Who would you like to see a statue of?

How might you use technology to re-imagine and develop a new statue?

There are many statues of Queen Victoria across the Commonwealth.

Can you find images online?

Do the statues look the same? How are they different? What do they represent?

What materials are they made from?

How might the meaning of the statue change, depending on where it is located? For example, in a park, in front of a justice court or in a museum.

There is a statue of Queen Victoria in front of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. The original statue was made in marble by Sir Thomas Brock in 1901 and recast in bronze by William Bloye in 1951. Look at the artwork *Foreign Exchange*.

Why do you think the artist has added a boat and smaller Victorias around the existing statue?

Why has the artist titled the artwork *Foreign Exchange*?



Foreign Exchange by Hew Locke, a temporary public artwork presented by the Birmingham 2022 Festival and commissioned by Ikon. Photo by Shaun Fellows. Courtesy of Birmingham 2022 Festival and Ikon

Re-imagining Queen Victoria

Hew Locke is interested in re-imagining public sculptures of historical figures. He does this by decorating them with materials including gold chains, medals and lace. Can you re-imagine Birmingham's statue of Queen Victoria by stitching 'gold chains' into an image of her statue? What else can you add to redecorate her image?

You will need: Queen Victoria line drawing print-out [page 5] (on cartridge or heavier paper), pen, needle and embroidery thread. Optional: pencil, coloured pencils.

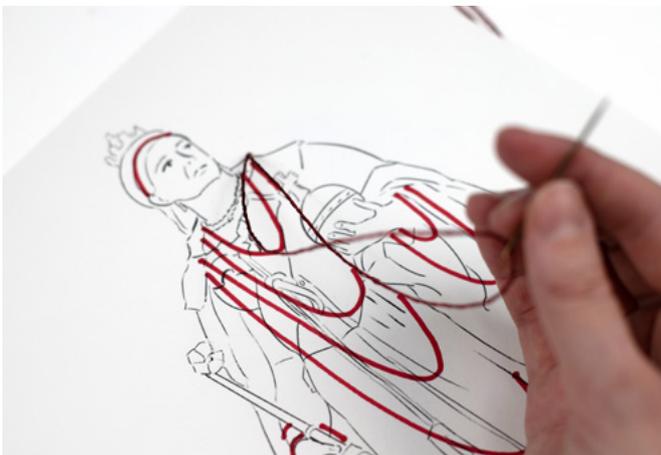
1. Print the line drawing of Queen Victoria onto cartridge or heavier paper.



2. Draw lines onto the image of where you will stitch your 'chains'.



3. Thread your needle with embroidery thread.



4. Stitch into the line drawing. Optional - add colour or tone into your artwork.



I am Victoria

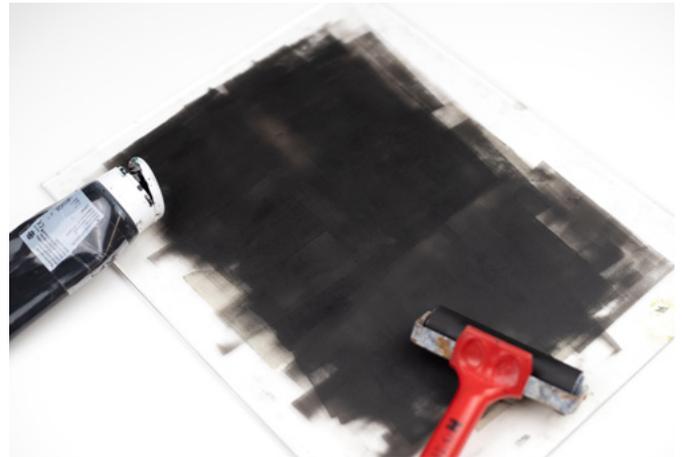
Create a self-portrait of yourself, resembling the image of Queen Victoria, using printing techniques.

You will need: Camera, printer, A4 paper, cartridge paper, printing ink and roller, pencil, crown prop.

1. Take a black and white photograph of yourself wearing a crown and print onto A4 paper. Can you find or borrow a crown, or try making your own out of paper or other recycled materials?



2. Roll out black printing ink onto a clean flat surface. Use a sheet of newspaper or tissue to absorb excess ink.



3. Place your cartridge paper down onto the ink surface with your photograph taped on top.



4. Draw over your photograph with a pencil to make the transfer print.





Share your artworks

We invite everyone to exhibit their artworks in their homes or classrooms and share them with us on social media #ikongallery or email learning@ikon-gallery.org

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