

IKON ACTIVITY PACK HTEIN LIN

Share your creations via social media @ikongallery #ikongallery or with education@ikon-gallery.org

Please consider making a donation for this free resource.

IKON



Htein Lin is an artist from Myanmar. This artwork is part of a series of paintings the artist has made to document different cities.

This is the artist's impression of a completely new place and what he has noticed in it. It is a colourful scene of large iconic buildings, details like sculptures and trees as well as people going about their lives; walking, driving cars, buses, vans, canal barges and even helicopters!

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

Themes: Place, culture, maps, documenting

Media: Paint on canvas

QUESTIONS

1. What do you recognise in the painting?
2. Can you spot these places?
 - Library of Birmingham
 - New Street Station
 - The Bull
 - The Rotunda
 - Old Joe (clock tower)



Htein Lin
A Show of Hands (2013-)
 Installation view, Ikon Gallery (2025)



Htein Lin
A Show of Hands, Yangon, Myanmar (2013)
 Courtesy the artist

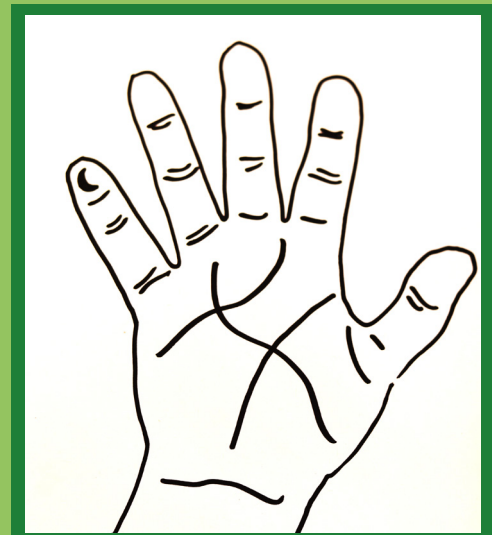
A Show of Hands is an artwork made from hands of other people who, like Htein Lin, have been imprisoned in Myanmar. Each hand represents a different person, and those shown at Ikon Gallery are just a few of hundreds the artist has made.

For each sculpture, Htein Lin sits with the subject and casts the plaster onto their hand, similar to how a cast is made for a broken bone.

While they sit together, they talk about their shared experiences as prisoners. In this way, Htein Lin uses his artwork as a form of healing.

ACTIVITY

1. Draw around your hand with the palm facing up.
2. Looking at your palm, draw all of the little lines you see onto your drawing.
3. Now think of a familiar journey and all the things you notice along the way - it might be a walk to school, a local shop or a friend's house. Imagine the people and things you might see, and draw them onto your hand, creating a map of your imagined journey.



SCHOOLS AT IKON

Ikon welcomes school groups and offers free online resources, activity packs, tours and workshops.

[VIEW SCHOOLS OFFER](#)



Ikon Gallery
1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace
Birmingham B1 2HS
+44 (0) 121 248 0708 / ikon-gallery.org

Open Tuesday – Sunday, 11am–5pm
Free entry, donations welcome

Stay in touch [f](#) [X](#) [i](#) [v](#) [in](#) [d](#)

Front cover image:
Htein Lin, *When I was a Lousy Millionaire* (detail) (2022)
Courtesy the artist

Created by Ruby Lewis, Artist Educator

Taking part in the activities in this pack can contribute towards achieving an Arts Award certificate. For more information visit: www.artsaward.org.uk or contact Ikon's Education Team at education@ikon-gallery.org

Please consider [making a donation](#) for this free resource. Ikon is a registered charity and your support helps us with everything we do.

Ikon is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered Charity no.528892.

This exhibition is supported by the British Council through the Connections Through Culture grants programme and [ai. gallery](#).

IKON



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Supported by
**BRITISH
COUNCIL**

ai.

**arts
award
supporter**