

# SUNPRINTING YOUR AMBASSADORS



HEW LOCKE, THE AMBASSADORS ©HEW LOCKE. PHOTO BY ANNA ARCA COURTESY THE ARTIST AND HALES GALLERY, LONDON

In this guide you will learn how to use sunprinting methods to create your own cyanotype print to pay tribute to the ambassadors in your life.

*“Chagossians of Manchester (CoM) is a long-term community project. As a native of the island of Mauritius, with Chagossian origins, I explore Chagossian culture and history through food, music, objects and souvenirs. My work showcases everyday Chagossian and Mauritian ingredients as well as household objects elevated to a trophy status.*

*I share stories of empowerment that celebrate Chagossian culture and heritage. Through these works, I pay homage to Chagossian ancestors (including my own) whose descendants are still affected by forceful displacement.*

*Within the context of my creative practice, Chagossian natives, elders and ancestors are the ambassadors who have paved the way for future generations of Chagossians to thrive.”*

**Who are the ambassadors of your life?**

**What trinkets do they carry?**

**HOW DO THEY ADORN THEMSELVES?**

**WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?**

**WHAT DO THEY WEAR?**

**WHAT OBJECTS DO THEY USE AS AMBASSADORS?**



## THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY AUDREY ALBERT

Audrey Albert is a Mauritian-Chagossian, visual artist and creative facilitator. Based in Manchester, Audrey's research-led practice enables her to consider and investigate themes of national identity, collective memory and displacement. Her work *Matter Out of Place* was part of the “Practise Til We Meet” exhibition at the ESEA Contemporary earlier this year.

Selected for the Future Fires 2020 programme at Contact and the 2021 Creative Fellowship for Manchester International Festival, Audrey is currently working on *Chagossians of Manchester* and *Ble Kouler Lakaz* (Blue is the colour of Home), both socially-engaged art projects engaging the Chagossian community.

# ANTHOTYPES PRINTING WITH LIGHT AND PLANT DYES

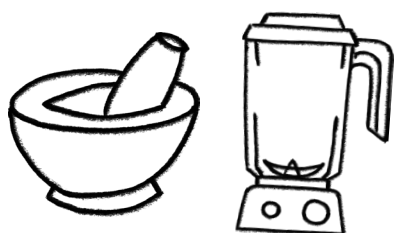
Anthotypes are photographic images which are created and printed without using a camera. It is a “cameraless” process which was invented by Sir William Herschel in 1842. By extracting juice from light sensitive petals, spices, plants, fruits or vegetables, you can easily use your garden or pantry to make beautiful prints. This step by step guide will show you how.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

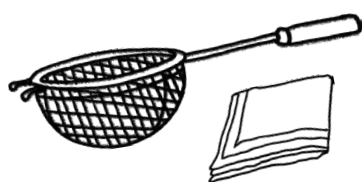
### SPINACH



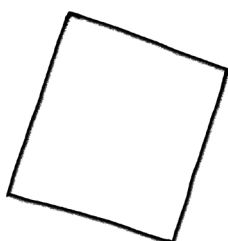
### BLENDER OR MORTAR AND PESTLE



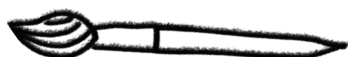
### CHEEESECLOTH OR SIEVE



### PAPER OR FABRIC



### PAINTBRUSH



1

### PREPARATION OF PLANT DYE

Use a blender or mortar and pestle to crush the spinach leaves. The crushed chunks of spinach can then be placed on a cheesecloth, towel or old item of clothing. Use them to squeeze the spinach juice into a cup. Alternatively, use a sieve.



2

### PAINTING YOUR PRINT

Use a brush or a sponge to apply the green dye from step 1 onto a piece of paper or fabric. Depending on how saturated you want the colour to be, you can apply multiple layers of coating (the more saturated it is, the longer time it will need to be exposed in the sunlight. After painting, place the coloured paper away from light (in a cupboard or a shoebox in the dark) and let it dry.



3

### PRINTING ANTHOTYPE

After the paper is completely dry, position any object you want to print on top of the paper and make sure that it is tightly held in place.



Place it on a flat surface that is exposed to the sun (in the garden or on the windowsill) and leave to expose. If it is a sunny day, the process should take 3 or 4 hours, otherwise leave it on the windowsill for a day.