

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.

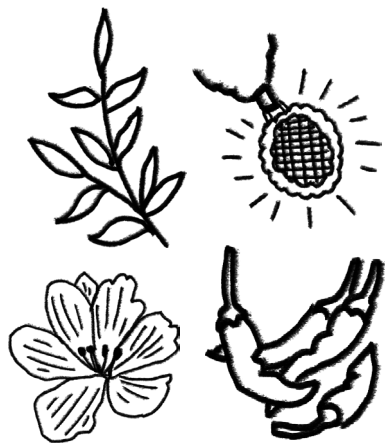
CYANOTYPES

PRINTING WITH LIGHT AND IRON SALT SOLUTIONS

Cyanotypes 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. Cyanotypes use the power of the sun and iron salt solutions (ferric ammonium citrate and potassium ferricyanide combined) to produce dark blue prints. Botanist Anna Atkins, Herschel’s family friend, was the first to use the cyanotype printing process in a photographic way by creating the first photobook documenting algae specimens. She is considered to be the first female photographer. This step by step guide will show you how to make your own cyanotypes.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

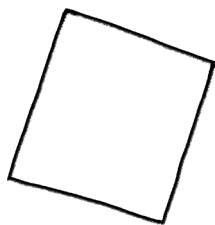
OBJECTS YOU WANT TO DOCUMENT



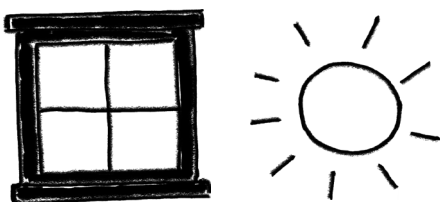
BOWL OF WATER



SUNPRINT PAPER OR CYANOTYPE PAPER



A WINDOW IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT



1

PLANNING LAYOUT

Take a minute to figure out what you want your print to look like and what layout you are going to experiment with. You can make stencils to put on your paper, use objects or create different sceneries with various flowers, leaves, shapes or dry ingredients.



2

PRINTING

Once you’re set on the layout, put everything you will use onto your sunprint paper. Leave your print with your objects on in the sun between 5 - 15



3

WATER BATH

Remove the objects on top of your print and put the print in a bowl of water for 1-3 minutes.



4

DRYING

Leave your print to air dry. To keep it flat, put it in between the pages of a big book when dried.

