

Kim Youdan

Hand Painted Photography | Country of Origin, UK | www.kimyoudan.com

Artist Statement

Stepping out of my comfort zone and into the unknown ignites the creative spark that I continually seek. My eyes are wide ready to capture differences in colour and culture. Walking old streets, hiking new trails and exploring many places provides the best source of inspiration for my art practice.

My need to travel is almost as strong as my need to create, the two come hand-in-hand as integral parts my creative outlet.

The marriage of monochrome imagery impacted with abstract colour is the basis of the hand painted photography that I continue to develop. My camera has historically been the tool I use for quenching my creative thirst. Capturing moments through image-making is complimented with colour combinations inspired by the countries I visit and culture I experience. Abstract brush strokes bring an added element of excitement and rule breaking to my work. The colour expands on, and brings attention to, certain parts of the image, this could be movement in the captured moment or highlighting particular details of the image.

Establishing the colour in the layered process is hugely important for creating the emotional connection and communicating my experience. The cultural research around colour certainly provides a depth to my work and these aesthetic elements are equally as important to the photography in order to create balance.

The passion I have for visiting new places and the impact it has on my creativity has resulted in my leading a nomadic lifestyle. The unsettled nature of nomadic living has ensured I have a constant flow of ideas and this keeps my art expanding into different and sometimes unexpected areas of focus.

The varied photography used throughout my portfolio is a reflection on my interest in capturing many walks of life. From architecture, landscape and people, I use a documentary style of photography whilst capturing moments and places. The variety is also a direct response to the lifestyle I lead, the change in scenery inevitably has a big impact on this element of my work. The different subject matter of the printed image together with the added colour, shows how unique each place is. It shows what my focus was when visiting each country and what made an impression during that time.

Artist Bio

Inspired by colour culture and driven by travel, Kim creates hand painted photography inspiring people to explore our world and to lead full and creative lives.

With a degree in photography it's no surprise that the foundation of Kim's work is built upon the printed image. Detailed imagery and a minimalist approach when adding abstract colour are the

fundamentals recognised throughout Kim's portfolio. Pleasing composition and compelling colour combinations are also an element of her layered technique.

Since taking her art practice full time, Kim has embarked on a nomadic lifestyle. Continuously moving and experiencing different culture, creates a constant source of ideas and photographic opportunities. The decision to live this way gives Kim the best chance of absorbing the important elements that influence her creative work.

Aiding the creation of interesting environments and igniting conversation where people are curious about culture is of interest and plays a part in Kim's creative process. High contrast monochrome photography and bright colour combinations make her work instantly identifiable.

A feeling of joy, changes in weather and the speed of a city have all influenced Kim's work in the past. Her varying travel experiences create different outcomes and the artwork is a response to those emotions when visiting different places around the globe.

Experience

Chester Arts Fair | Chester UK | November 2018

Tiled | Group Exhibition | London UK | November 2018

Ideal Destinations | Hebden Bridge UK | October 2018

Sheffield Botanical Gardens | UK | August 2018

Kirkstall Art Trail | Leeds UK | July 2018

Artform | Collaboration with ArtBound | Shipley, UK | May 2018

Artful | Corporate Exhibition | London, UK | January 2018

Off the Wall Gallery | International Women's Day Show | Cardiff, UK | 2017/18

ArtWorks Pop Up Gallery | Halifax, UK | December 2017

Pop Up Gallery | Bradford, UK | December 2017

Selected Group Exhibition, Mona Youssef Gallery | Montreux, Switzerland | November 2017

Chester Arts Fair | Chester UK | November 2017

New Artist Fair | London UK | September 2017

Featured Articles & Publications

[Take Five Blog with Deborah Henry Pollard | December 2018](#)

The World of Interiors | Featured Artwork, Ben | December 2018

Wotisart? #14 | Featured Artwork, Africa Rain | May 2018

[Art With A View | Art & Culture Blog | May 2018](#)

[Aesthetica | Art & Culture Magazine | April/May 2018](#)

[OiOi Arts | Art & Culture Blog | April 2018](#)

[CreativPaper | Magazine | Cover Artist | March 2018](#)

Wotisart? #12 | Featured Artwork Faster February | March 2018

[A Stronger Version of Her | Lifestyle Blog | 2017](#)

[Culture Trekking | Travel Blog | 2017](#)

Education

Photography Digital Imaging Degree | Leeds Beckett University | Leeds UK

Art Foundation Degree | Bootle Collage | Liverpool UK