



# MUSEUM OF THINGS



Maryhill Integration Network



# Maryhill Integration Network (MIN)

Human Rights - Wellbeing - Creativity

Since 2001, MIN has been developing projects which support positive social change, by investing in communities and providing a welcoming, safe and inclusive space with opportunities for collaboration and connection.

MIN's Mission is to create a unique and creative environment in which communities can come together to share experiences, and demonstrate the value of cultural diversity in Scotland.



# Our Shared Creative Space

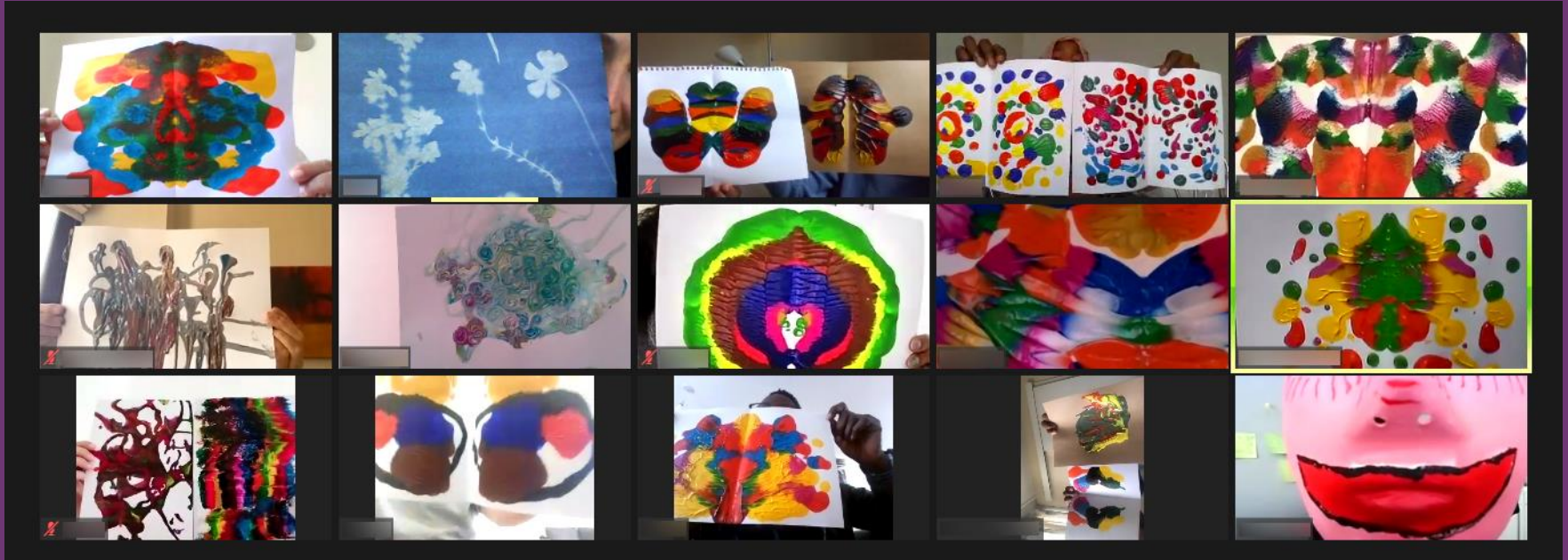
Since February 2021, Museum of Things has supported participants to celebrate self-expression, as well as sharing and developing their skills.

The group promotes creativity, removing barriers to participation through inclusive weekly creative sessions.



# Background

MIN's first visual arts project, Museum of Things began in the middle of the first COVID-19 lockdown, using weekly online classes to engage with participants through different art methods and techniques.



# Participation

Museum of Things  
welcomes participants  
from various backgrounds.  
14 different nationalities.



Participants skills range from trained artists to beginners. This maximises collaborative work, forging friendships and making social and supportive connections between participants, and creating a welcoming place for all.

Participant quote:

*"I feel like I have entered a new world where the most kind-hearted people from different countries have gathered to design and decorate it with the most beautiful colours, art and culture."*



# Creativity

Different techniques each week to improve skills and compliment activities, using creativity as a problem solver. We did:

**Painting | Drawing | Sculpture | Photography |  
Printmaking | Creative Writing | Graphic  
Design | Performance | Calligraphy | Blueprint  
| Collage | Paper mache | Landscape Painting  
| Storytelling | Curating | Life drawing |  
Ceramics | Animation**



# Outcomes

**Creative Engagement** - creating opportunities to develop participant networks and bonds through participation in collective creative activities.

**Community Connections** - tackling isolation and developing the knowledge, skills, confidence, and creativity. Making positive life choices, enhancing health and well-being.

**Empowerment** - we believe that individuality, and creativity are advantageous in building a positive group environment. Having the participants at the centre of activities has developed a sense of ownership and agency within the project.

How does coming to the group make you feel:

"excited!", "great", "happy", "much better", "therapy for mind".





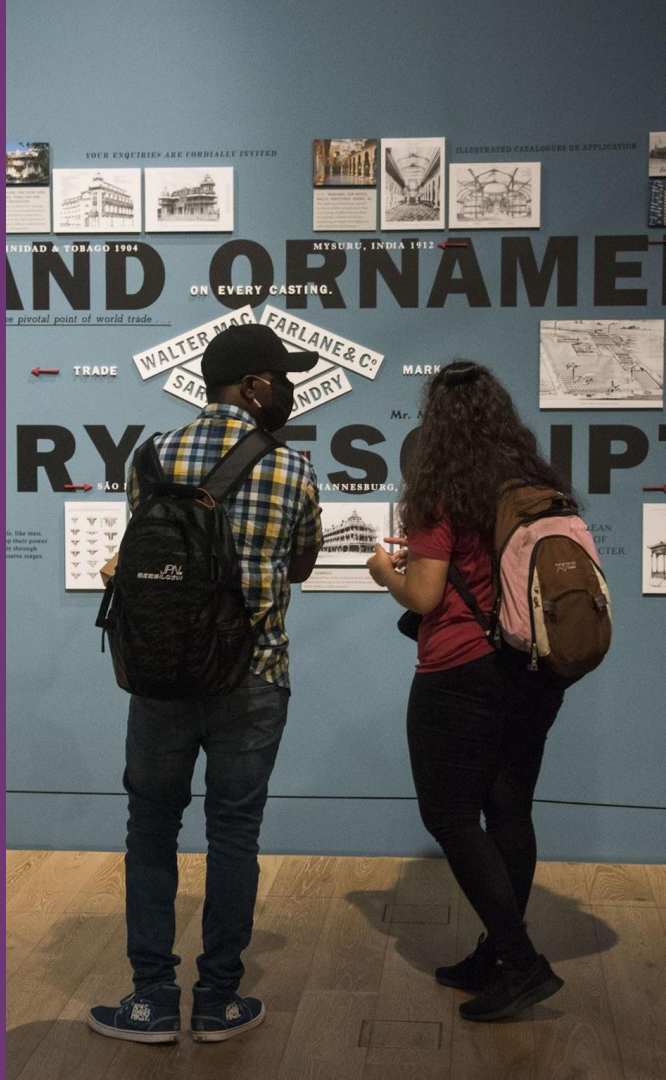
## Partnerships

Since 2021, Museum of Things has collaborated with various partners including:

- Edinburgh Printmakers
- Glasgow Open Museum Project
- The Hunterian Museum
- Multaka Project (Berlin)
- Glasgow Sculpture Studios
- Centre for Contemporary Arts
- Refugee Festival Scotland
- Glasgow Connected Arts Network

Partners help us to become part of the creative fabric of the city, interweaving with one another to create new experiences and interactions. This engenders valuable motivation and encouragement within the group, celebrating diversity and collective achievement.





# Sustainability

**Building roles** and responsibilities for participants to gain experience and confidence to lead and present themselves in the future.

**Enhancing partnerships** to give platforms to engage with the wider community and arts and cultural institutions

**Exhibitions** to provide exposure for participants, improving awareness about refugees and what they bring to society.

**Outreach** with more remote communities to educate and support.

# Feedback

## How does coming to the group make you feel?

"I have these feelings about drawing, that I can't explain, sometimes it can be a good feeling and bad feeling, but now I am open to experiencing them all"

"I can make the world colourful"

"Art gives me ideas and makes me creative"

"Helps me express who I am and from where I come"

"It expresses what I cannot say"

"it makes me think differently, I benefit from the experiences of the different cultures and ideas of my friends"

"it's given me a good mood for creativity and changing my mental state"

"I feel bold to do art work now than before. Being part of it is a once in a lifetime opportunity."

"Communicating with others and seeing their creativity makes me feel happy."