

# YEMEN

There are many different forms of contemporary art in Yemen. Some of the art that is being created has emerged as an acknowledgement that Yemen has faced difficult times and conflict; out of this conflict, art is still very much alive, and continues to reflect hope through creativity.

In this activity, we would like you to consider how different forms of art can reflect what is going on in the world, and how you can create art that conveys messages of hope, resilience, appreciation, understanding or positive change.



The painting above is called "A Yemeni Woman's Look into the Horizon" by Shihab Abdulbaset Ali Karman.

Karman is an engineer, activist and conceptual artist. The painting is of a Yemeni woman in a traditional wear called the Sana'ani sitara dress. "This work reflects women's resilience during three years of war," stated Karman.



This painting titled "A Woman, Challenge, and Resilience" is by artist and English teacher Umhani Abdullah Mohammed Al-Wareeth.

Al-Wareeth says that, "The artwork reflects how Yemeni women have grown stronger and more resilient despite the difficult situation the country is going through and she can overcome with patience and strength."



This photo is from Rahman Taha's series called "From Mountains To The Sea", which shows Yemenis' relationship with the landscape. In regards to his other film *Short Scenes Based On A True Story*, he shares his viewpoint: "It showed how you can make art in Yemen. I'm trying to understand Yemen the place and the people, and we have too many beautiful things in Yemen, even Yemeni people don't know about this."

## STEP 1

Look at the different pieces of art from Yemen to help gather inspiration. Next, think of what sort of positive change you would like to see in the world, or a message of hope, resilience, appreciation, or understanding about the world that you would like to express.

## STEP 2

Once you've picked your topic of change or the message, think about how you want to show it: you can try photography, painting, drawing, sculpture, writing, or a new way that you choose.

## STEP 3

Write a description to help inform your audience about your artistic choices. For example, you can explain what topic or message you were trying to convey through your art, what inspired the piece, why you choose the artistic form, or the importance of any symbols, colors, or details you included.