

# Larger Than Life

DEVONPORT  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY



1-29 Sep 2020

*A creative community collaboration project from the Devonport Regional Gallery*



*Recreating "Industrial Man" painted by Gerald Makin*

*Created by Eve Williams Creative Learning & Public Programs Officer, Devonport Regional Gallery*

## What is it?

*Larger Than Life* is an online collaborative project appropriating an art work from the Devonport Regional Gallery's collection that is currently on display in the gallery's recent acquisitions exhibition (closing Sunday 20th September 2020): *Industrial Man* painted by Tasmanian artist Gerald Makin.

It is part of the *Home is where the 'art is* online art activities from the Creative Space at the Gallery. It encourages a community of creators to collaborate on a communal art piece by contributing their piece to the whole. It aims to pay homage to an art work from the gallery's collection, to spend some time with it and to look at it thoroughly through its replication and appropriation. It aims to encourage people to enjoy some time being creative and to help us through these times of social isolation by demonstrating that although not immediately present with each other, we are still part of a creative community.



# A Bit About the Artist

## Gerald Makin

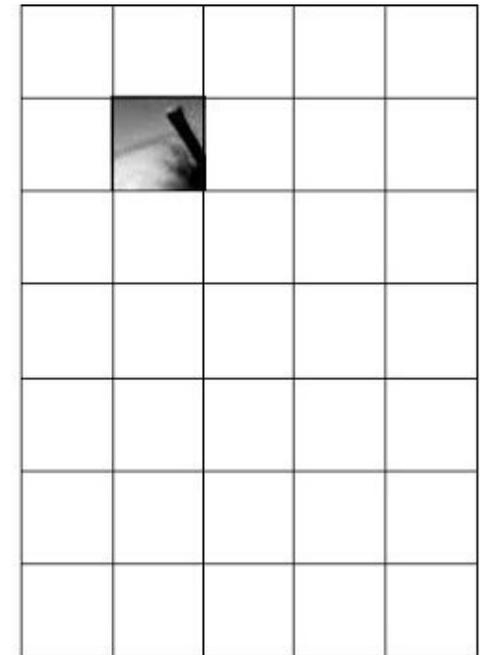
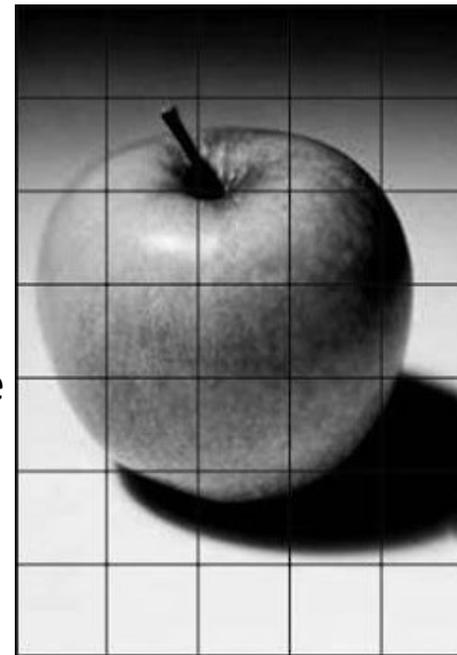
Gerald Makin is a Tasmanian Artist who was born and raised in the industrial parts of the English Midlands. He arrived in Tasmania in January 1972 and began teaching at Ulverstone High School. The following is an artists statement written by Makin in May 1972:

*I began drawing and painting as a reaction to my surroundings in the industrial areas of England. Before words like pollution and environment became fashionable I had looked at and begun to record this landscape, devastated by industry and an unheeding search for minerals. The grey empty, wastes of clay, water filled pits and stunted vegetation, together with the monstrous structures thrown up by industry both repelled and fascinated me. Hence my work was not diversion, decoration or even an intellectual problem but a consideration of our ability to destroy our environment and, through this, ourselves. Since then these ideas have stayed with me. Many pictures combine landscape ideas with mechanical forms. I use man-made objects in metal, wood, or stone, also eroded forms and surfaces as sources of shape. These influences are also present in much of my pottery and sculpture. Other work is concerned with exploring materials for their possibilities in colour and surface qualities.*



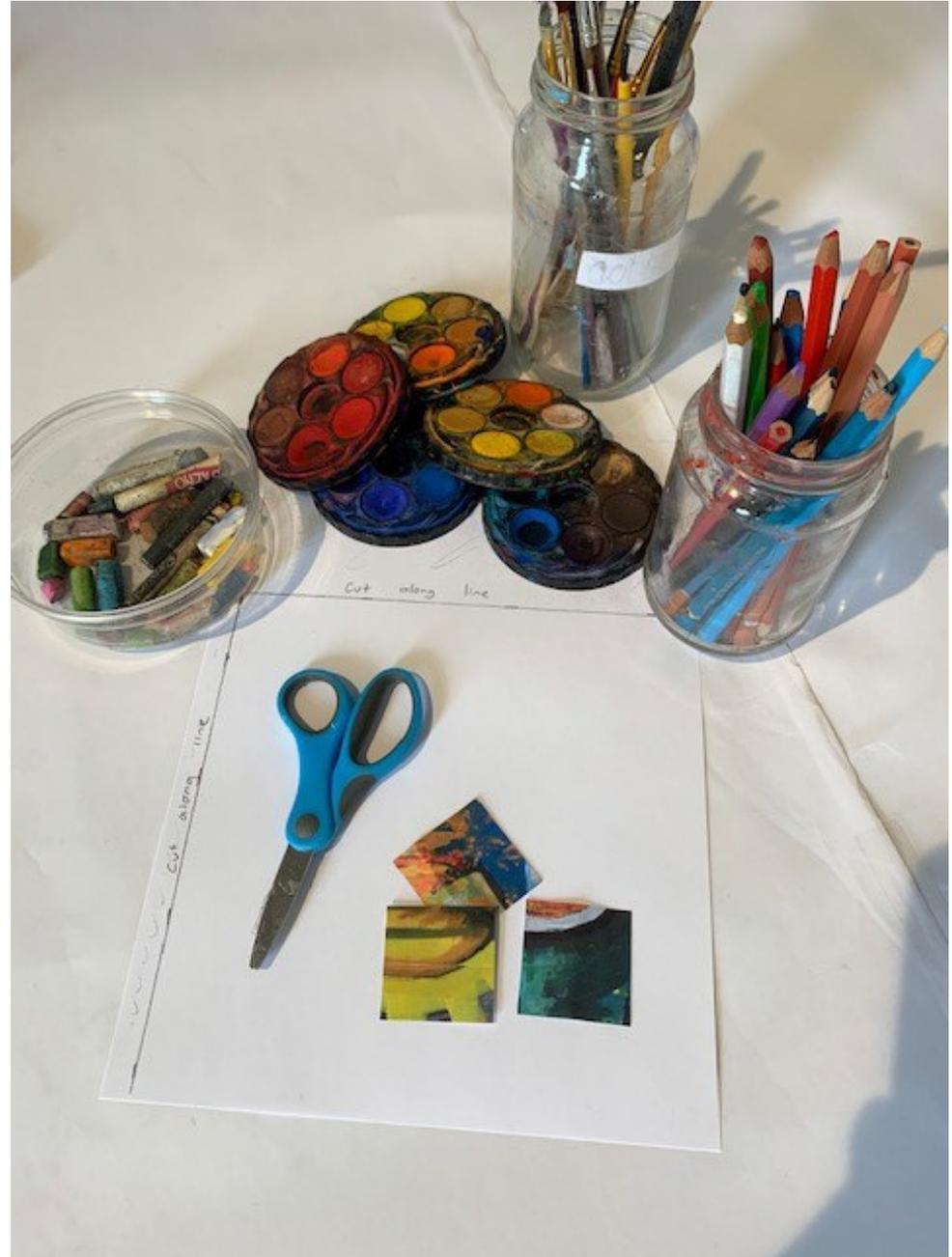
# What do I need to do?

- ◆ **Step 1:** Come into the gallery and Choose a small colourful square from the painting to replicate from tray 1.
- ◆ **Step 2:** Take a square of paper from tray 2, cut it out along the lines as indicated. You will find a number on the back of the square you have chosen, write this number on the back of the paper from tray 2. (This is to help us place your enlargement in the right place.)
- ◆ **Step 3:** Using the grid method (instructions following), replicate and enlarge your chosen square piece exactly as it is. You can use any medium for this project (coloured pencils, paint, collage etc.). Try to keep all the same colours (or as close as you can) and correct proportions so the whole picture fits back together.
- ◆ **Step 4:** Once finished bring your completed square (s) back to the gallery and we will put it its position.
- ◆ **Step 5:** Visit the gallery from 29th September to see the completed community collaboration of our larger than life *Industrial Man!*



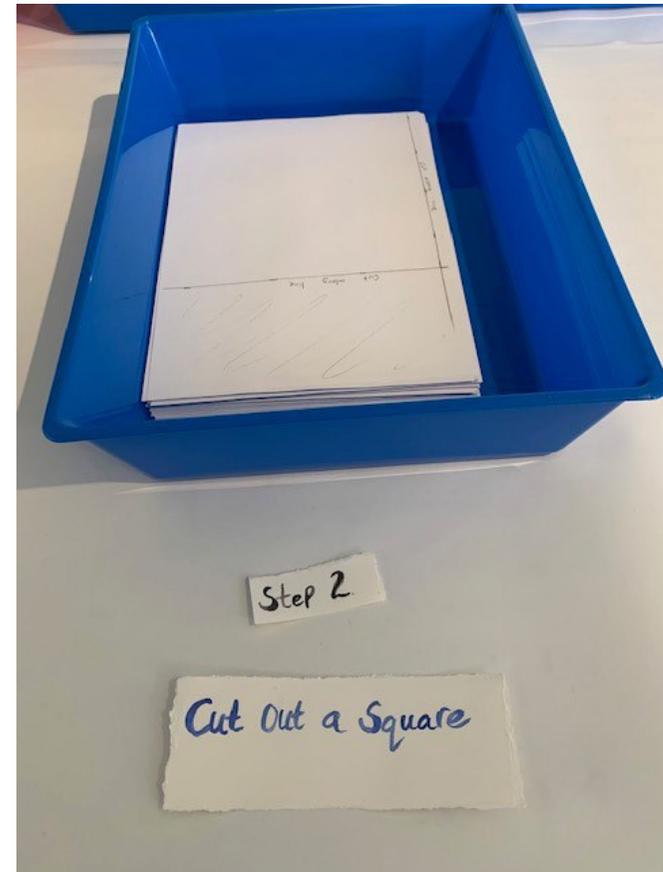
## You will need:

1. Small numbered square of the work to replicate (from step 1 basket, available from the gallery. These will look quite abstract on their own, but when put together create the image of *Industrial Man*).
2. Larger square blank (from tray 2 available from the gallery) Cut out along the lines as indicated.
3. Any art medium/ materials you have at home (paint, pencils, pens, collage materials) to draw and colour/ replicate and enlarge your chosen square.



## Step 1: Collect your squares and paper.

Come into the Devonport Regional gallery to collect a square (or squares... as many as you like) to copy from the step 1 basket and a blank square from step 2 tray. Remember to take one blank square per chosen square.



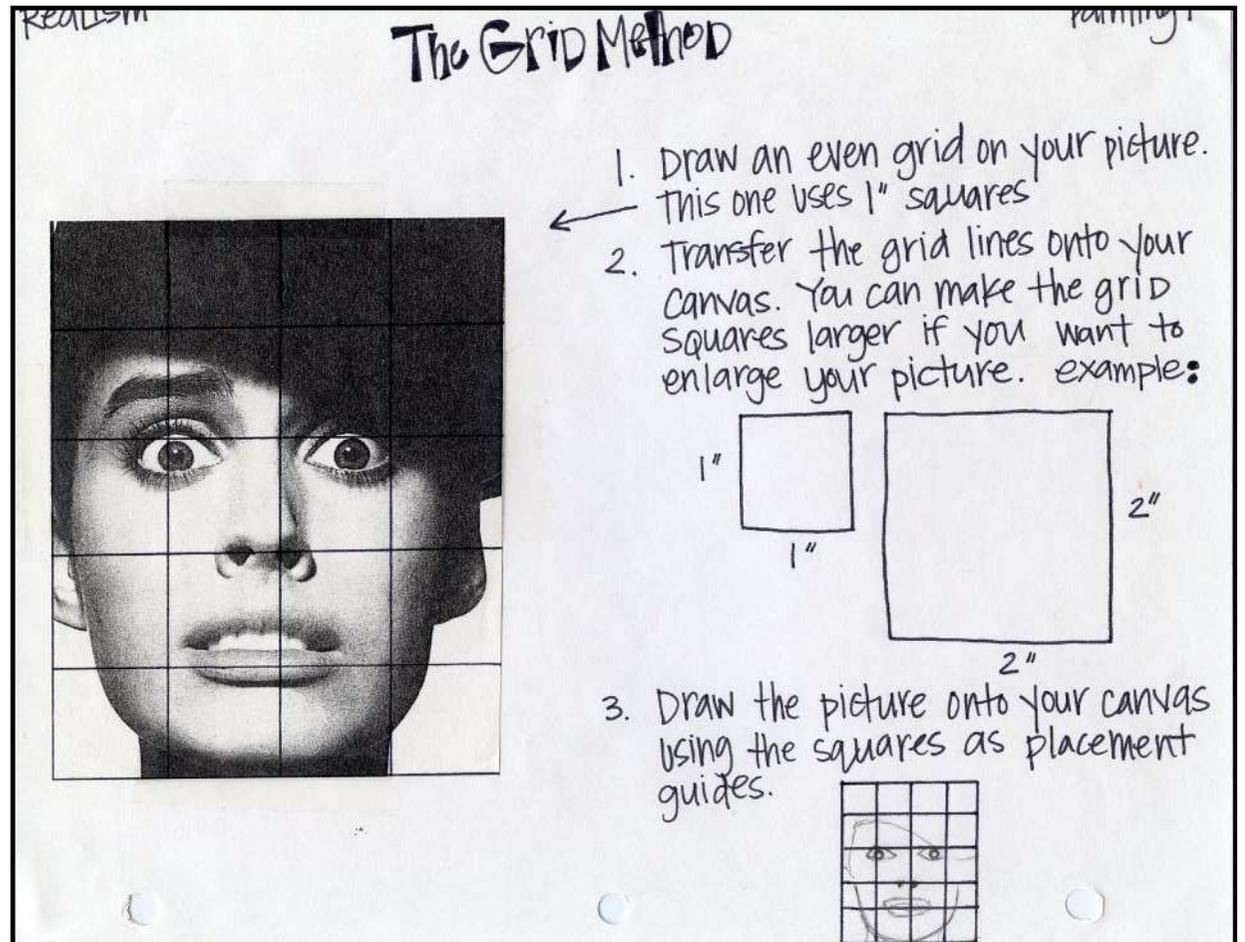
### **IMPORTANT!**

**PLEASE DO NOT TAKE A SQUARE UNLESS YOU ARE GOING TO REPLICATE IT AND BRING BACK YOUR ENLARGED SQUARE ART WORK... EACH IS A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE AND WE NEED THEM ALL TO COMPLETE THE PICTURE!**

## Step 2: Using the grid method to enlarge work...

In order to help you replicate your work to scale so the pieces all fit back together to form the whole, you can use the grid method. This means drawing a measured grid on both squares that are equal in ratio.

For example: rule up your small square into 2cm wide squares (a cross in the middle of your 4cm square) and your larger blank square into 10cm squares (also a cross in the middle of your 20cm square).



Above is an example of how to use the grid method. Note: 1 inch is equal to 2.5cm.

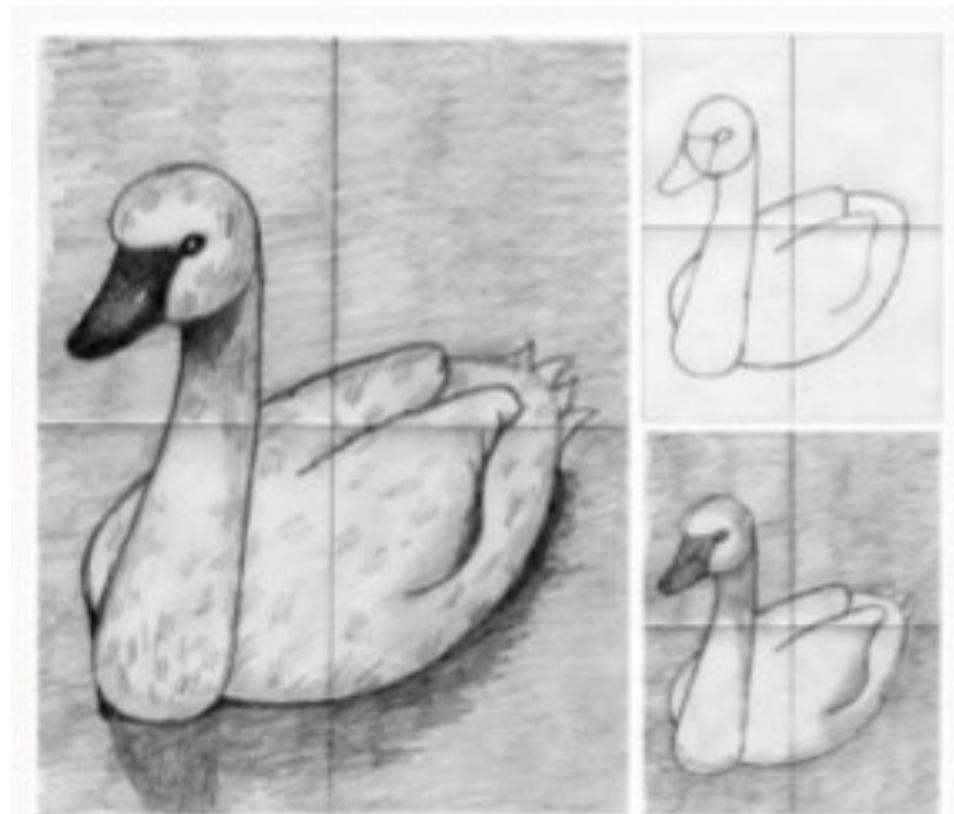
## Step 3. Recreate your enlarged image onto your blank square.

Draw the image onto your blank square focusing on one square at a time paying close attention to the points of placement of objects and colours. Making sure your lines and colours are in the right place will help the overall image work together. Fill in all of the squares until your entire picture has been transferred. You can use any art materials you have for this, but try to make the colours the same so they make sense as the whole picture when put back together.

*Tip: Look at one square at a time and draw what you see, not what you think you can see.*

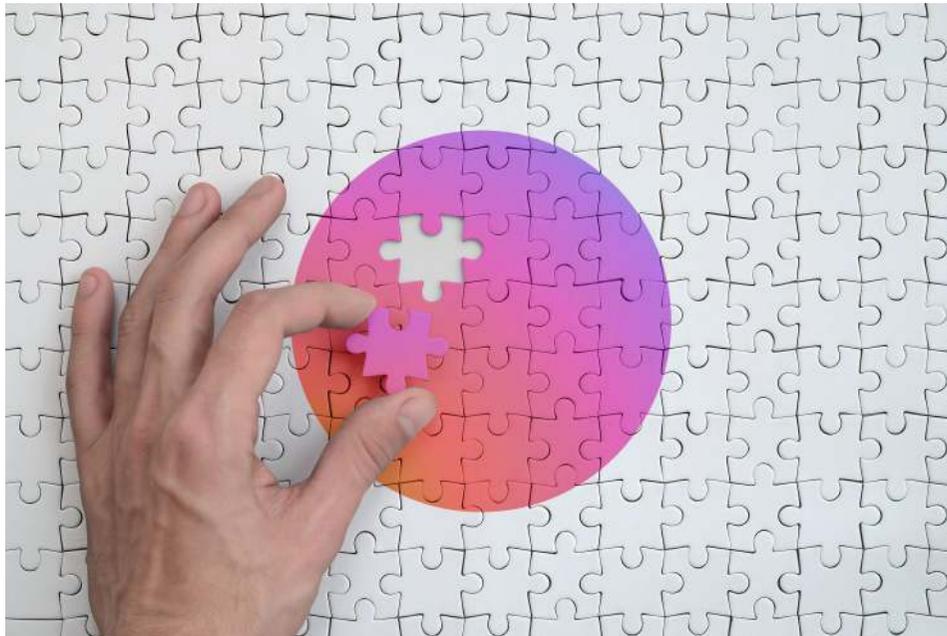
- Photorealists frequently used a grid technique to enlarge a photograph and reduce each square to formal elements of design. Each grid was its own little work of art.

From: <https://www.slideshare.net/bthemuck/shading-technique-slideshow-2014>



## Step 4: Return your square(s) to the gallery to add to the whole.

Visit the Creative Space at Devonport Regional Gallery before the 29th of September and bring in your completed replicated/enlarged squares for assembling with the whole. Stick your square in the correct numbered position on the wall. Write your name on the back if you would like to pick up your square at the conclusion of the display.



## Step 5: Visit the completed art work

Re-visit the gallery after 29th of September to see the completed art work of our enlarged *Industrial Man!*

