



Studio Indigo

# Towards Peace

an initiative brought to life *by Studio Indigo*





# Foreword

The concept that sparked a global movement



*The world will be a better place if peace reigns in our hearts! Look at the beautiful and endless good things peace will accomplish. War ends great things, it is all negative and evil thoughts and deeds while peace brings endless amazing things, imagine happiness amongst us, where goodness of all there is life has to offer is shared with others peacefully no matter what race, religion, gender, culture, and country. Isn't that just great?!*

*A message of Peace  
by workshop participant, Viv Feliciano*

This project began with a vision.

Artist and Studio Indigo founder Sasi Victoire felt a calling to respond to the state of the world, not with despair, but with creativity. In a time of increasing conflict, disconnection, and uncertainty, she felt helpless but rather than retreat, she chose to act. With a firm belief in the power of art, she set out to create something meaningful - art as a gesture of peace, rooted in place and community, as is most of her work.

From this intention, a unique collaboration was born.



# Towards Peace

Recognising the sincerity of her vision, Mr. Thong, owner of the Hilton Hotel and Bach Dang Hotel Complex in Đà Nẵng, extended an invitation for Sasi to take on an artist residency and offered a very generous donation towards the project.

Over four intense weeks, Sasi and collaborator Elizabeth Hunter, Master Printmaker, led a series of printmaking workshops, guiding four different cohorts of local participants through the process.

Drawing inspiration from the traditional Đông Hồ woodcut printmaking tradition, Sasi and Elizabeth reimaged the technique through a contemporary lens, helping participants produce prints that connected cultural heritage with modern expression.

Behind the scenes, the two artists worked tirelessly, guiding 43 adults, and often times their children, through the printmaking process. Sasi and Liz moved from one session to the next with rarely a days rest inbetween. They sourced all of their own materials and equipment, set up each workshop space themselves, and did everything possible to make the experience meaningful and accessible to everyone involved.

The residency culminated in two public exhibitions in Đà Nẵng, showcasing a diverse range of wood-carved prints created by participants from all walks of life. The project became more than a series of workshops, evolving into a space for creative dialogue, community connection, and quiet acts of resistance, bridging the gap from turmoil to peace.



# Towards Peace

All artworks displayed were available for purchase, with 100% of proceeds donated to CORMIS, an organisation supporting marginalised communities across Vietnam through education, empowerment, and creative collaboration. The first exhibition, hosted by Mr. Thong at the Bach Dang Complex, was a grand opening event with a large turnout of 120+ guests. Twenty artworks sold on opening night.

The second exhibition came about through a chance meeting and was hosted at Studio 88, Đà Nẵng. The entire experience with Mike and Daga at Studio 88 was marked by genuine support and care, they presented the works with thoughtfulness and professionalism. Another two artworks sold on the opening night, and funds were donated to Cormis.

***Fun fact: Towards Peace was the second exhibition to ever be displayed at Studio 88, which is the first non-government run art gallery in Đà Nẵng.***

Throughout the project, connections formed between Sasi, Liz, Angela (a documentary photographer who captured parts of the project), and the workshop participants. What began as a shared creative process has since grown into lasting friendships, a testament to the warmth, openness, and mutual respect that shaped every part of this residency.

A personal response to global uncertainty became a collective act of hope and creativity, grounded in local culture and strengthened through collaboration. The residency reaffirmed that when art is created and shared with purpose, it has the power to open hearts, build bridges, and move us, however quietly, toward peace.



# Artist Reflection, Sasi Victoire

After the intense activity of developing, planning, creating, managing and remaining open, I have returned to hermit mode.

It is a case of cold turkey, being back to emptiness.

A stark change in weather also reflects a change in my environment.

The happy connections is now one of cold isolation.

The warm engagement from strangers, heartfelt conversations, opening to new perspectives affirmed

my understanding that life had another side, one that that actually flowed; steadily but surely, like the

languid River Han, under the expanse of the yellow Dragon Bridge.;

The participants showed genuine interest, egos aside, to learn, to know another's life and always

looking to help, instead of obstructing.

It was indeed, addictive!

Having had to constantly "push the wheelbarrow upwards" (as a fellow artist once said about the art

industry) I felt compelled to examine the nature of my work.

The question I have is, am I located in a misstep, in a wrong groove, is it merely pie in the sky...Is my

intent to seek and promote peace in self, thus spread to others, an impossibility?

I must try!

I reflect on the causal effect of what this experience has been, it still gnaws and continues to urge me

to shout out, "there is a better way, so why live this."

*"The participants showed genuine interest, egos aside, to learn, to know another's life and always looking to help, instead of obstructing. It was indeed, addictive!"*





# Artist Reflection, Sasi Victoire

Flexibility, focus and commitment were the main elements; there was a togetherness that united us in the camaraderie. It fostered connection to the art community we encountered. They provided solutions to many issues that arose on our mutual journey.

While we struggled with the intense weariness of hurdles, I was revived by the blasts of humour, laughter and trust. I valued the immense respect that people showed us, as contributors to Central Vietnam; we were recognised as skilled and knowledgeable elders and friends. Their embracing of techniques and the honour shown to materials with no waste was so evident as together the place was left so tidy.

The hosts were most generous and caring, we saw how the family unit worked most effectively when united. It was simple!

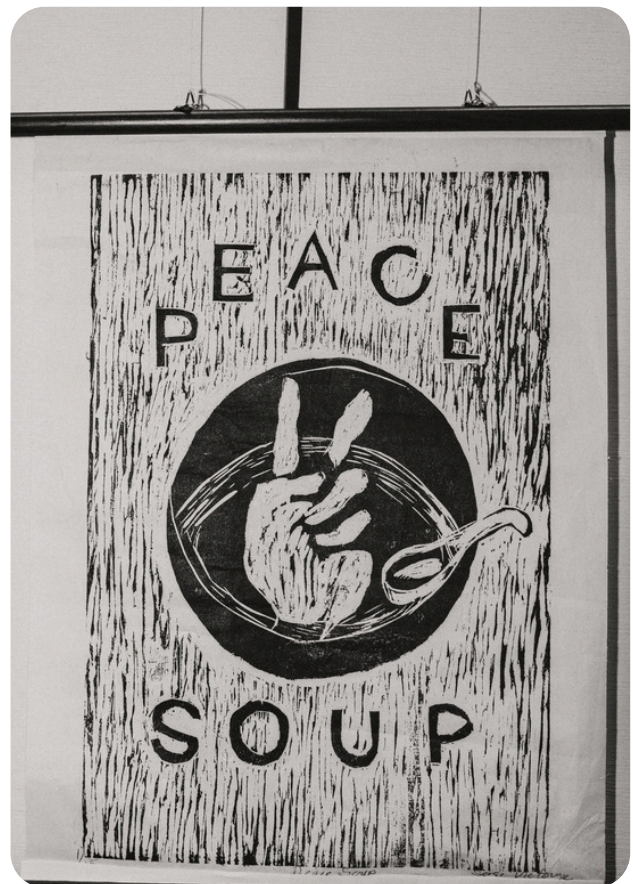
On the partnership with Liz and Angela...there is a certain knowing, a comfortable liaison that is upheld with time, dedication and knowledge that our calling has purpose for those who embrace and trust to fulfil our task.

I am very aware of the fever that invades the soul in the magic of workshops. It captures hearts, souls and ignites dreams that are trapped within, through giving and sharing.

Creativity captures hearts like a young romance but unless fed and cared for will as quickly be lost as anyone who has embraced its touch.

Where to now... to spread more love!

It is essential for the soul, for dreamers to catch that elusive but worthwhile intangible, but this time with balance and dignity.





# Artist Reflection, Elizabeth Hunter

The print workshops were received by the participants with high creative collaboration. For all the groups in Da Nang and the surrounding Hoi An area, the quality of the prints created and the enthusiasm of all the people including and especially the younger ones to learn the inking and printing process themselves was exceptional.

One participant, Duan, exhibited exceptional precision and skill in carving the wooden block and printing. His images related to the subject of Towards Peace very well, he was prolific in the amount of carving that he did and prints that he produced and demonstrated a natural ability for mentoring others within the group especially the younger group members. Duan said he was impressed with the medium of printmaking and would include it in his studies at University this year.

The friendliness, empathy and good will of the group cannot be underestimated, never have I seen such heartfelt compassion from so many people, they live life as all humans should, with calm, acceptance, compassion and humility, such kindness is a spiritual path that we can learn from and aspire to walk in this life.

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# Artist Reflection, Elizabeth Hunter

At the two studios in Hoi An, the wood carving studio embraced us and drew us into their family, not just as outsiders but as kindred spirits connected through the imagination of art. At the Terracotta workshop, Bo was one of the kindest and open people I've had the privilege to know. I just hope that I continue to meet people like the people in Vietnam and life will continue to be blessed.





# Witness Reflection

## Angela Crichton

It feels important to begin by saying that I wasn't prepared for the depth of humanity I would witness in Vietnam, I could never have predicted how deeply community is woven into the everyday rhythm of life in this country. There is a sense of togetherness that underpins everything, and it made a lasting impression from the very beginning.

When Sasi first invited me to take part in this project as a documentary photographer with focus on humanity, I felt a quiet apprehension. How could I effectively capture such a generous offering in a meaningful way with my skillset? Her vision, to create space for artists, meeting each person where they were at, and to guide them as they expressed themselves through the art of ink printing. At its core, the project was grounded in peace, not just as a theme but as a practice, woven into the process as much as the outcome.

Sasi and master printmaker Liz worked passionately and tirelessly throughout the four week workshop period. They gave all of themselves to the people who showed up. It goes without saying that these are two exceptional women, offering their technical skills while also building and nurturing a creative, cross cultural community.

Rarely in western society do we encounter people so ready to help in times of need so it stood out to me when a flood of messages came

*Humanity in Vietnamese culture doesn't seem to rely on words, it appears to live in actions. In daily rituals and traditions, in kind gestures, in quiet acts of service and love. Humanity is generational family sharing a meal on the street or the one seat of a motorbike. Humanity is showing up for others even when it's not convenient to do so, because you care. To be in the presence of people who live this way has restored my faith in humanity, when the world is in such despair, in quiet and lasting ways.*





# Witness Reflection

## Angela Crichton

through following a call out to help Sasi and Liz who alone had the huge task of preparing all artworks for hanging at the exhibition at Bach Dang complex. The group rallied around them and helped bring it all together.

Participants brought their families and friends to opening night, ensuring that their sense of pride in the works, and their gratitude, was fully felt. It was clear that this project meant something deeply personal to everyone involved.

We were blessed with unique networking experiences with local businesses and organisations, genuine community care, and friendships we would never have encountered if we hadn't taken this leap of faith. We were welcomed with open arms into one particular family, invited to travel and stay with them, to share meals, to visit sacred places, and to be a part of their story. Their kindness knew no bounds.

Others invited us to share a meal with them, offering their time and care as a gesture of gratitude. There was an ease to these exchanges, an unspoken understanding that we were now connected, and that we shared something beyond the project, a sense of belonging was established.

It became apparent to me that there is no right way to document this experience, much of it had to be lived, felt, and digested before words or photographs could hold true meaning.

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*Towards Peace is more than a project, it's a global movement. The goal for humanity must always be peace, however it can be found, felt, and shared. This experience has set the tone for what is to come, next time with deeply rooted connections and relationships built on mutual trust and respect.*



## With love and gratitude

This workshop was more than just sketching, carving, and printing—it was a space of gentle transformation, a soft landing in the middle of my whirlwind life. I found peace in places I didn't expect.

I found peace in speaking with Sasi, who felt like a messenger from the universe, saying exactly what I needed to hear. I found peace in Liz, whose passion for art and quiet dedication gave me the courage to try something entirely new. She made the whole process: sketching, carving, printing, feel less intimidating and more like discovery, especially for someone like me, full of ideas but often tangled in execution.

I found peace in talking with Thu, an inspiring tour guide from Bắc Ninh, a connection that felt meant to be. I found peace in a new friendship with Tung and An, young GenZ artists full of energy, cheeky joy, and inspiring creativity. They reminded me that peace can be playful too.

And of course, I found peace in the quiet, calm, still moments wrapped in the beautiful landscapes of Dien Ban, where both workshops took place. Every breeze, every shared glance, every carving stroke was a meditation I didn't know I needed. This was a truly peaceful experience. One that came to me at exactly the right time. With love and deep gratitude, Yen Do.

### Inner peace

I am very happy I had the time to sit down and look inside myself and really see what peace meant to me. Thanks to the workshop, thanks to Sasi and Liz, it was a very meaningful project. I hope more people will have the chance to participate. - Vu Huyen Trang

### Let's do it again

Sasi and Liz, you are both awesome! Thank you for sharing your talent and skills with us. Would love to be able to do more workshops with you as I really enjoyed it even though was not really an art enthusiast, being part of the workshop encouraged creativity, value art brings to people, and learning new skills, not to mention meeting great people. Thank you, hope to do it again. - Viv Feliciano

### Amazed!

I was amazed that this workshop was offered completely for free! Truly blown away that we received not just the materials, but the time and expertise of 2 highly accomplished artists. I love that as much as possible, we used natural materials too. I do admit that, after not having drawn anything since childhood, to suddenly 'create a piece of art', was a little overwhelming and I almost gave up. But having the time and space to do so really helped. - Penny Atkinson



# Acknowledgements

This project would not have been possible without the generosity, support, and belief of the many individuals and organisations we connected with and built relationships with along the way. From those who offered resources and space, to those who shared their time, skills, stories, and hearts — we are deeply grateful. We also want to thank all the participants who generously volunteered their time to help us set up the opening exhibition when we needed it most. What began as a vision grew into something much greater through the dedication and care of everyone involved. We're excited about the possibility of collaborating with these trusted partners and new allies again, as we continue working to make Towards Peace even bigger, better, and more impactful in the future.



Studio Indigo

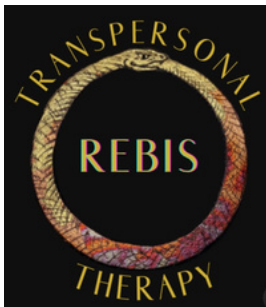


CORMIS

**Hilton**  
and Bach Dang Complex Danang



Le Duc Ha  
Teracotta  
Studio



Queensland Government



ANGELA ALICE  
co.

## Biết Ơn

Used when the gratitude runs deeper.  
“Biết” means to know. “Ơn” means grace.  
To “biết ơn” is to know the grace someone gave you  
often in moments that changed your life.

STUDIO  
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Da Nang



TOWARDS PEACE 2025