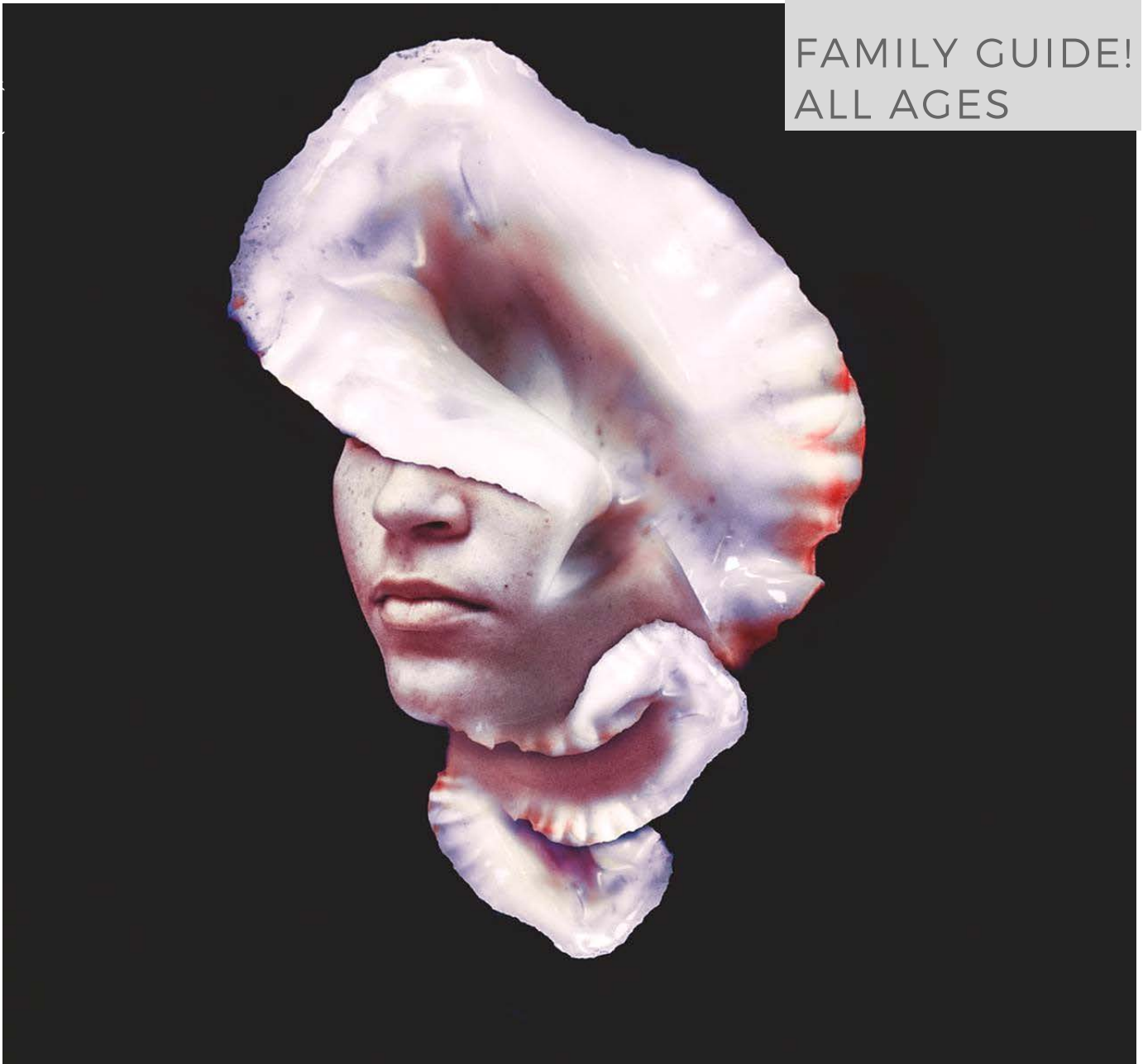


FAMILY GUIDE!  
ALL AGES



# UPON THE SEAS

A CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATION OF CAYMAN'S  
EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OCEAN

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Follow this guide for an experience in “artful looking.”  
Cues and questions encourage discussions that turn  
looking into learning. Share and compare opinions as you  
look at the art on display.

# Welcome!

The ocean is a place that is both familiar and strange. Here in the Cayman Islands, the ocean has always been very important to us. In the past, men would earn a living from the ocean through activities such as turtling and shipbuilding. Nowadays, visitors from across the world come to see our beautiful beaches and coral reefs. Because the sea is so important to us, we need to make sure we protect it and respect it, so that people can keep enjoying the ocean for years to come! The artists in this exhibition have all been inspired by the ocean. As you look at their artwork, think about what the sea means to you.

## Head over to the laptop to start

Look through the photographs on the laptop that make up the project *Pterois Volitans (life/Lionfish)* by Elena McDonough. Many different people and organizations are working together to protect our oceans from lionfish.

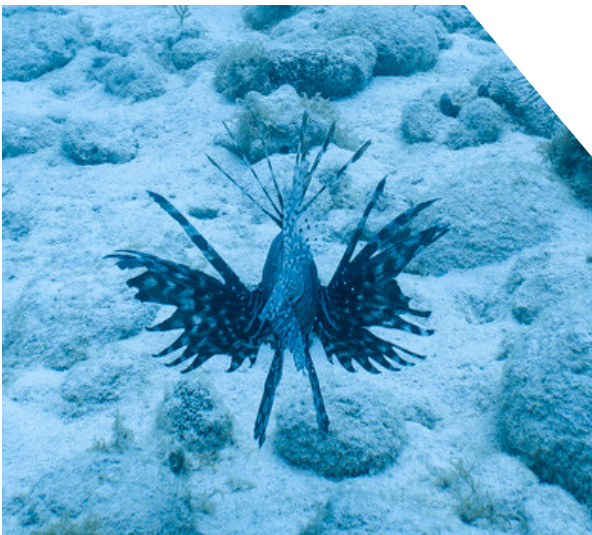
Why are these fish dangerous?

Write one way that you can help protect our oceans:



Listen to *Sound Waves* using the headphones

Tell your family members something you learned by listening to the interview.



Elena McDonough (2016) *Pterois Volitans* (detail)

## Look at *Turtle Crawl* by Courtney Platt



Courtney Platt (2012), *Turtle Crawl*

What are the men in the photograph doing?

Turtling was an important job for many Caymanian men in the past, but people no longer catch and sell turtles today. By placing an old photograph over a new photograph, this artist shows us how things change over time, and reminds us to preserve our unique way of life.

## Turn around to see *The Ark* by John Broad

Although the painting is beautiful and full of bright colours, it actually tells the story of a boat used by people from Cuba trying to reach the United States, in search of a better life. They often sail in small homemade boats, and the journey is very dangerous. Sometimes they land in Cayman, but they are not allowed to stay.

How do you think you would feel if you were at sea in search of a new home?



John Broad (2016), *The Ark*

## Find *Foundation* by Chris Mann



Chris Mann (2017), *Foundation*

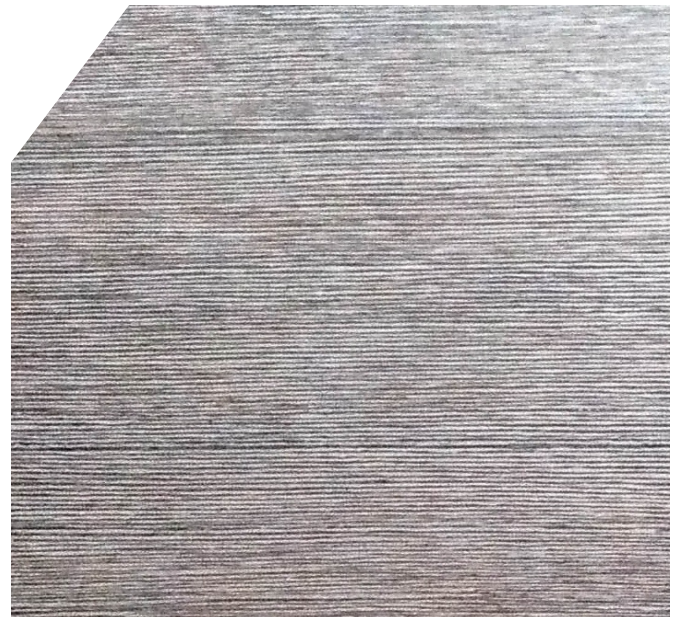
This piece is about Cayman's deep connection to the ocean. The top represents the sharp ironshore and the different shades of blue show the depths of the sea. The red roots are mangroves, which protect our coastline from storms. The rope wrapped around the whole piece is made from a special material, unique to Cayman.

Do you know what the rope is made from?

What do you think this piece of wood was used for before the artist transformed it?

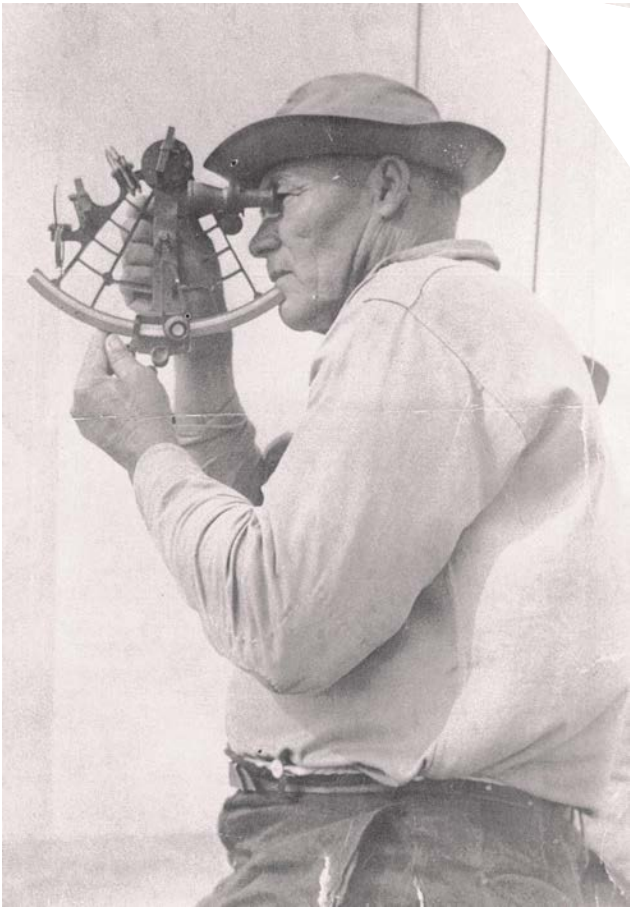
## Move to the middle room and view *Migrate* by Al Ebanks

*Migrate* explores the movement of people by land and sea. From far away, all the lines blur together, but if you take a closer look you'll see that each line is unique. This is because each line is supposed to represent a person and the journey they have travelled on. The artist wanted to remind us that everyone has a unique story and journey, even though sometimes we may forget this.



Al Ebanks (2016), *Migrate*

Look closely at the lines. Which colours do you see?



Allie Osmon Ebanks, b. 1891

## Find the Wall of Honour

Each of the men in the photographs worked in Cayman's maritime industries.

They worked different jobs, such as shipbuilding or being the captain of a boat. You can pick up the pictures to read about each man's life.

Read about a man in a photograph and tell your family what his name was, and what job he worked.



## Walk around the Catboat and observe it from different angles

This model catboat was made by Captain Kem Jackson, who is one of only a few people today who still makes them. These boats used to be very common in Cayman, both for transportation and for fishing. They are recognized as an important part of Cayman's culture and heritage.

Why do you think the boat is painted blue?



Kem Jackson, *Catboat Model*