

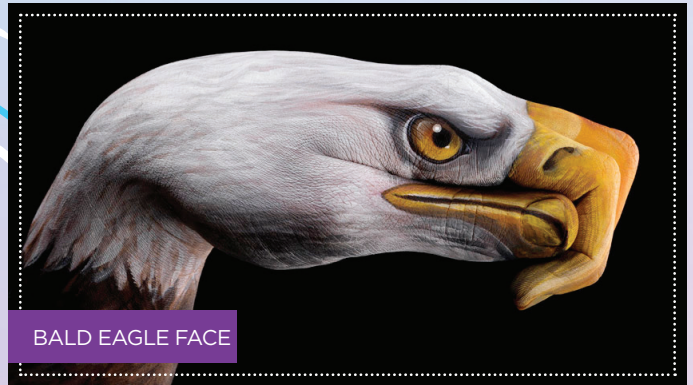
got to Had it to You

I'm sure you're familiar with face painting, but have you ever heard of hand painting? Meet **Guido Daniele of Milano, Italy**, who became world famous for his breathtaking hand art. He has been nicknamed "Micheal-hand-gelo" for his ability to create "handimals" or realistic-looking animal portraits from human hands. **One thing's for sure: You will never look at hands the same way again!**

Before Guido starts to paint, the hands need to be washed with soap and water and then dried. He softly outlines the animal shape with a makeup pencil. (This way, he can fix any mistakes early in the process.) He then colors it in with watercolors... and the hands magically transform into handimals. Most paintings take three to six hours of work. Some more complex paintings can take up to eight hours!



BALD EAGLE



BALD EAGLE FACE



BRIDGE



Before starting any project, Guido carefully studies his own hands in the mirror. He twists his hands this way and that until he finds a shape that looks kind of like an animal (or anything else, for that matter). Then he creates a sketch of the position. He outlines the animal on the sketch and carefully colors it in. This is his blueprint for the hand painting.



BIRD ON ITS NEST



CORN



PARADISE FISH



ELEPHANT

The paint is actually colored powders which Guido dissolves in water. It dries from body heat and it lasts for a few hours before being washed off with soap and water. Guido only uses non-toxic and hypoallergenic paints designed for body painting. When he's finished, he sprays it with a non-toxic spray to protect the painting. Then it's time for the photo shoot!



DOLPHIN



ROYAL PYTHON



CHECK OUT HOW REAL THIS LOOKS!



MANDARIN DUCK



REGAL SWAN



ELK



CORALS



FALCON



PAINTING A BRITISH SOLDIER

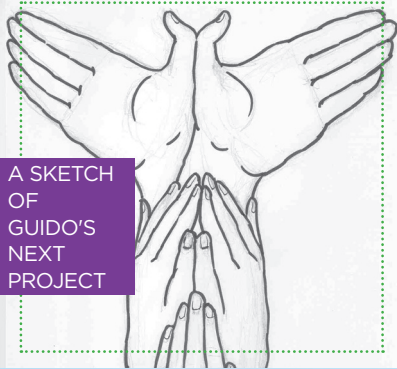
Guido's favorites are the elephant, the zebra, the python and the peacock. Notice how all the elements in each photo are made up of hands; the peacock's feathers, the grass under the elk, or the ledge the frog is leaning on, are all hands or fingers!



PEACOCK



MONARCH BUTTERFLY



A SKETCH OF GUIDO'S NEXT PROJECT

Guido has painted over 80 handimals, but he's painted many other things too: architecture, landscapes, trees, flowers, even advertisements! When a company sees his work, they know that people will stop to analyze his incredible art. So they'll commission a painting and put their logo on it, or incorporate their product so that everyone will stare at their advertisement.

AD FOR NISSAN



APPLE



BET YOU THOUGHT THOSE WERE FEET...



CHEETAH



CROCODILE



CLOWN FISH

None of Guido's portraits include his own hands; he paints only on hand models, usually his children. Sometimes, two hands are simply not enough; in fact, the Mandarin duck is made up of six hands! Other times, Guido will Photoshop in a third hand to complete the picture. The python is made of two pictures — his son's right and left hands, and his son's right arm again at the bottom.



ZEBRA

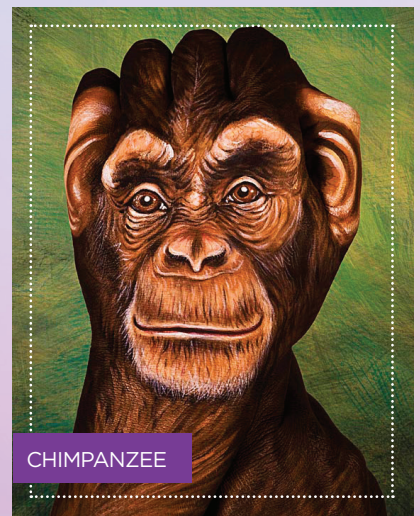


FROG

Guido uses different kinds of hand models for different animals. Some smaller animals require smaller, child-like hands, while some need older, more wrinkled hands to replicate texture, like on the elephant. "[Painting on people] is difficult because skin is not flat and still like a canvas," he says. "But that's why I find it interesting."



CAT



CHIMPANZEE



LEMUR