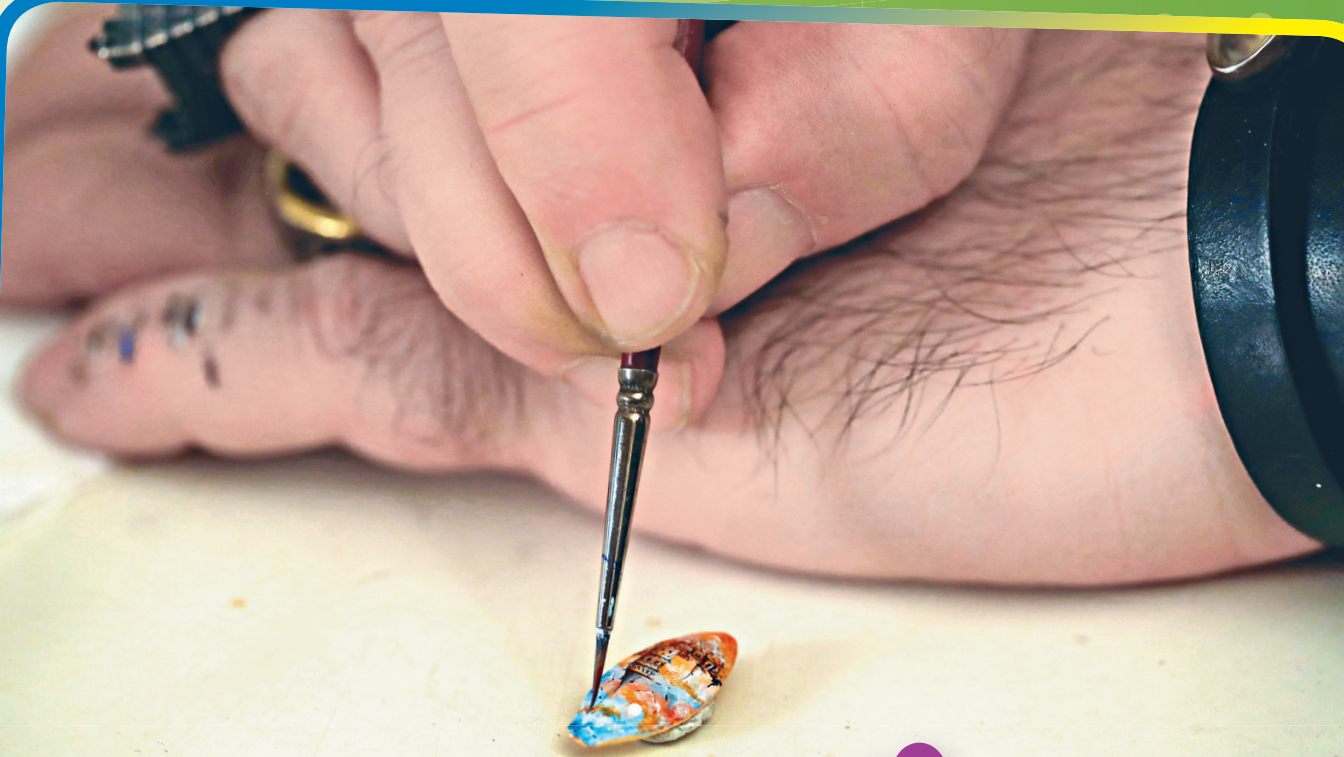




Alex



# The artist with a tiny canvas

**A**LTHOUGH Hasan Kale, the famous Turkish (土耳其的) micro-painter, has never had any **formal** arts training, he can still paint on any tiny surface, including **throwaway** items like the head of a matchstick and pumpkin seeds.

Kale's micro-pictures are quite **exquisite**, and he paints in every detail. People usually have to use a **magnifying glass** to see these small elements. Kale said it usually takes him six months to finish one art piece.

Kale's most famous paintings are a scene from the movie *Pulp Fiction* reproduced on a popcorn kernel, and a **portrait** of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey, on a grain of rice.

Kale began researching about micro-painting back in the 1980s, and nowadays he can paint on about 300 kinds of tiny things. Items that most people **dismiss**, such as tiny rocks, sand from the beach or even a fish bone, can become his **canvas**.

## G TIPS

'Formal' here means 'official'.

Although Hasan Kale ... never had any **formal** arts training ...

If used to describe a person, 'formal' means stand-offish.

People mistake Harriet for being **formal**, but she is just shy.

In North America, 'formal' can also be a noun, meaning a party that you have to dress up for.

Abby bought an evening dress for her school **formal**.

A word with the opposite meaning is 'informal'.

The president likes **informal** barbeques more than formal balls.

## G FUN

- |  |                                   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. What kind of painting does Kale do? | 2. Whose portrait did Kale paint? | 3. When did Kale start researching about micro-painting? |
| A. Street art                          | A. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan           | A. 1980s   |
| B. Micro-painting                      | B. Saint Nicholas                 | B. 1970s   |
| C. Murals                              | C. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk          | C. 1990s   |

Answers on P12

throwaway (adj) 隨手拋棄的  
exquisite (adj) 精緻的  
magnifying glass (n phr) 放大鏡

## Vocabulary

Challenge ★★★★★

portrait (n)  
肖像

dismiss (v)  
對...不予考慮

canvas (n)  
油畫布