

Flags (and banners) AKA vexil_LOL_ogy

The word Vexillology is a synthesis of the Latin word vexillum (which refers to a kind of square flag which was carried by Roman cavalry) and the Greek suffix -logia (“study”).

Flags are used as a symbol, signalling device, or for decoration. They are a mark or sign that indicates, signifies, or is understood as representing an idea, object, or relationship.

“Every day thousands of flags are hoisted worldwide to display and celebrate territorial, political or religious affiliation. Flags were hoisted in the Arctic and on the moon, who ever wants to conquer should have a flag in his pocket.”

- Kim Asendorf and Ole Fach

Recently I see a resurgence of flags everywhere - from the LGBTQ flag to the BLM and recently the Ukrainian flag - flags are now celebrated in our user names, we hoist them as our PFPs and we promote them in our banners.

Traditionally the materiality of flags makes them kind of limited: they can be hung, taken down, put half mast, strike down, folded etc

I have been wondering what the digital adds to the quality and usability of flags.

Generally, the digital adds a new set of qualities and behaviours. Banners for instance are slightly similar to flags, but now the message can be exchanged targeted to the person that loads (or blocks) it ...

So lets talk about flags - first some basics and then some art projects around flags!



HE WILL NOT DIVIDE US



St. George



The Stafford flag



Royal Banner of Scotland

Pennant of Åland



The exact provenance / history of flags is unknown

It is said they may have come from China or India and were inspired by the banners that were used by the Romans and in the middle ages).

There is a difference between Banners, pennants, streamers and standards.

Distress

Flying the flag upside-down

Half-mast

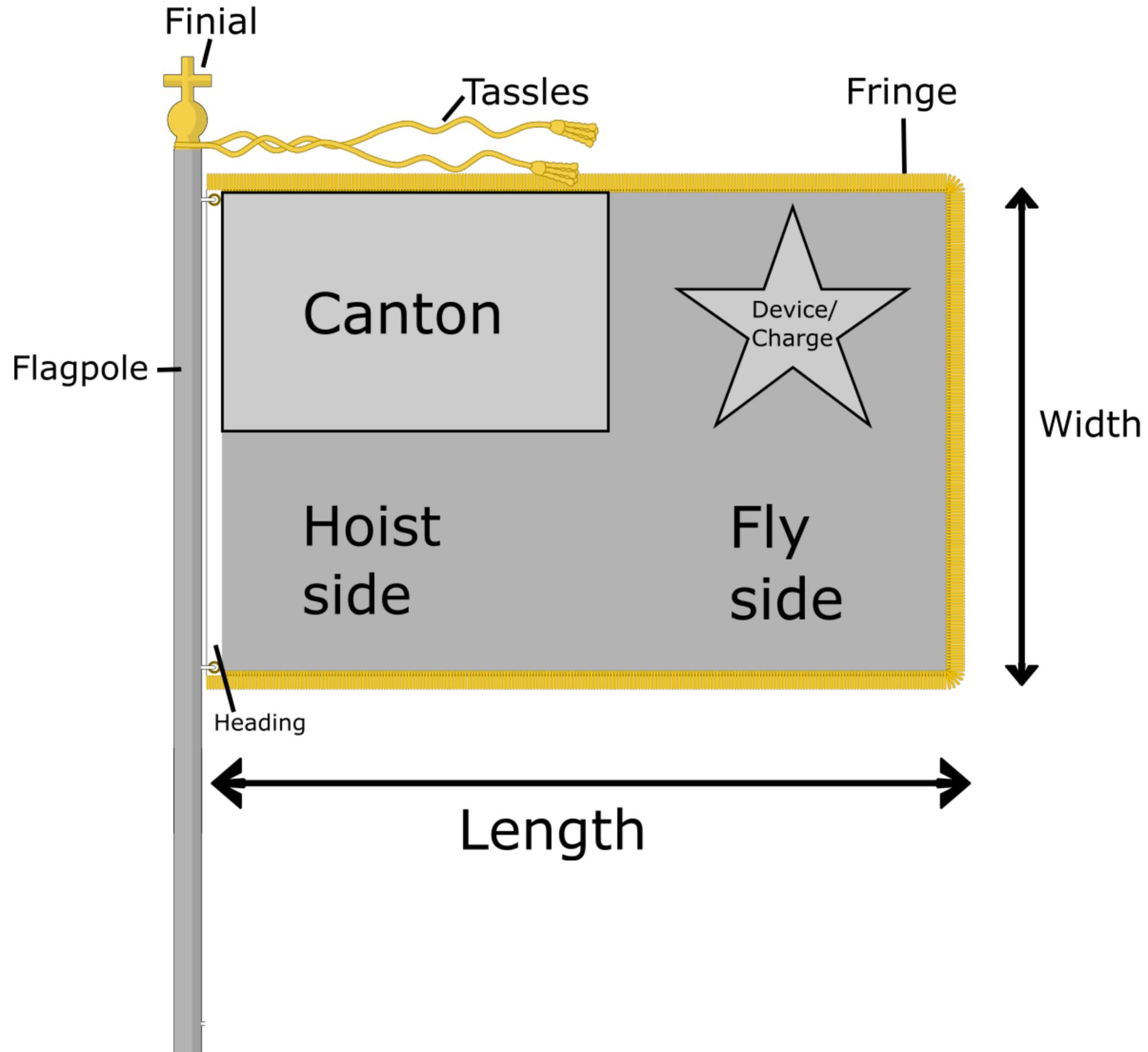
A style of flag display where the flag is flown at least the width of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the pole.

Hoist

The act or function of raising a flag, as on a rope.

Lower

The act or function of taking down a flag, as on a rope.



“GOOD” FLAG, “BAD” FLAG

How to Design a Great Flag



These principles of good flag design distill the wisdom of many people who have written on the subject, including Philippe Bondurand, Frederick Brownell, William Crampton, Michael Faul, Jim Ferrigan, Richard Gideon, Kevin Harrington, Lee Herold, Ralph Kelly, Rich Kenny, David Martucci, Clay Moss, Peter Orenski, Whitney Smith, Steve Tyson, Henry Untermeyer, and Alfred Znamierowski.

What is NAVA?

The North American Vexillological Association (NAVA) is an international, non-profit, scholarly organization dedicated to vexillology, the study of flags and their cultural, historical, political, and social significance. With members across North America and around the world, NAVA comprises flag scholars, designers, collectors, conservators, educators, merchants, manufacturers, historians, and hobbyists. For more information about its activities, publications, and membership, visit www.nava.org.

Note:

Design principles are guidelines, not rules—they help designers create flags that will be effective, widely adopted, and loved. In some cases it makes sense to depart from the guidelines to reach a creative, compelling, or politically acceptable solution.

Like all fields of design, flag-design (vexillography) has a rich and complex history with many nuances. Any full account is beyond the scope of this booklet. Interested readers should seek out the many excellent and informative papers and perspectives in periodicals such as NAVA's *Raven* and *Vexillum*, along with the flag-design resources and case studies on www.nava.org.

It can be tempting to use these principles to denigrate poorly designed flags. The specific examples here only serve to illuminate the principles by showing flags that fail to follow them.

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“GOOD” FLAG, “BAD” FLAG

How to Design a Great Flag



USE 5 BASIC PRINCIPLES TO CREATE AN
OUTSTANDING FLAG FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION,
CITY, TRIBE, COMPANY, FAMILY, NEIGHBORHOOD,
OR EVEN COUNTRY!

COMPILED BY TED KAYE

North American Vexillological Association
The World's Largest Organization of Flag Enthusiasts and Scholars

WHAT IS A FLAG?

A flag's purpose is to represent a place, organization, or person, generally on a rectangular piece of cloth, to be seen at a distance, often moving, and reproduced in quantity and in many sizes.

The 5 principles of good flag design will lead to a successful flag that accomplishes that purpose.

Flags began thousands of years ago, first used for military purposes on land and then as identifying signals at sea. They evolved to represent royal houses, then countries and other levels of government, businesses, military ranks and units, sport teams, and political parties.

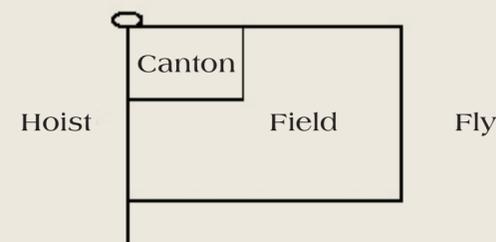
Ultimately, a flag's design should reflect its intended use—flying from a pole, hanging downward, draping limp, displayed with other flags, portrayed from lapel-pin to football-field size.

Flags grew out of heraldry—the practice of designing coats of arms—and follow many of the same design principles. Following this guide will help any person or group produce a great flag.

A flag should be simple, readily made, and capable of being made up in bunting; it should be different from the flag of any other country, place or people; it should be significant; it should be readily distinguishable at a distance; the colors should be well contrasted and durable; and lastly, and not the least important point, it should be effective and handsome.

— William Porcher Miles, 1861

ANATOMY OF A FLAG



This guide was compiled by Ted Kaye, former editor of *RAVEN, A Journal of Vexillology* (published annually by NAVA), who is solely responsible for its content and the opinions expressed.

THE FIVE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FLAG DESIGN

1. KEEP IT SIMPLE

The flag should be so simple that a child can draw it from memory . . .

2. USE MEANINGFUL SYMBOLISM

The flag's images, colors, or patterns should relate to what it symbolizes . . .

3. USE 2–3 BASIC COLORS

Limit the number of colors on the flag to three, which contrast well and come from the standard color set . . .

4. NO LETTERING OR SEALS

Never use writing of any kind or an organization's seal . . .

5. BE DISTINCTIVE OR BE RELATED

Avoid duplicating other flags, but use similarities to show connections . . .



1. KEEP IT SIMPLE

THE FLAG SHOULD BE SO SIMPLE THAT
A CHILD CAN DRAW IT FROM MEMORY . . .

Flags flap. Flags drape. Flags must be seen from a distance and from their opposite side. Under these circumstances, only simple designs make effective flags. Furthermore, complicated flags cost more to make, which often can limit how widely they are used.

Most poor designs have the elements of a great flag in them—simplify them by focusing on a single symbol, a few colors, large shapes, and no lettering. Avoid the temptation to include a symbol for everybody.

Ideally the design will be reversible or at least recognizable from either side. Don't put a different design on the back.

YES



BANGLADESH

With two strong colors and a single symbol—the rising sun of independence (slightly offset to the hoist), this flag succeeds admirably.

NO



TURKMENISTAN

This very complicated rug contains 5 traditional patterns! Better to leave it off and keep the moon and stars.

YES



REP. OF THE CONGO

With bold, contrasting colors, large shapes, and parallel lines, this flag is also easily recognized when reversed.

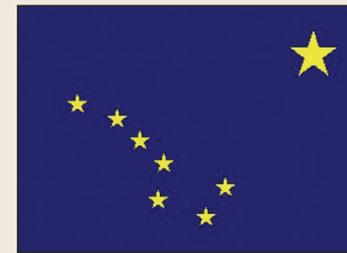
NO



WEST VIRGINIA (USA)

The seal itself is complex, the white background is boring, and the overall design differs from other state flags only in its blue border.

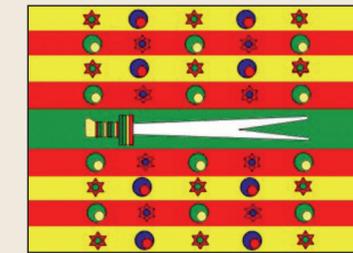
YES



ALASKA (USA)

The stars, a standard U.S. symbol, form the "Big Dipper" constellation and the North Star, representing the northernmost U.S. state.

NO



BEY OF TUNISIA

Replete with stars, crescents, and the Sword of Ali, this 19th-century design's overwhelming complexity defeats its purpose.



2. USE MEANINGFUL SYMBOLISM

THE FLAG'S IMAGES, COLORS, OR PATTERNS SHOULD RELATE TO WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES . . .

Symbolism can be in the form of the “charge” or main graphic element, in the colors used, or sometimes even in the shapes or layout of the parts of the flag.

Usually a single primary symbol is best—avoid those that are less likely to be representative or unique. Colors often carry meanings: red for blood or sacrifice, white for purity, blue for water or sky.

Diagonal stripes are an alternative to the generally horizontal and vertical stripes of European countries.

In choosing symbols, consider their history, cultural heritage, emotional value, branding, and usage—assure they resonate with the people or institutions represented. Stylized or silhouette symbols often succeed better than realistic depictions.

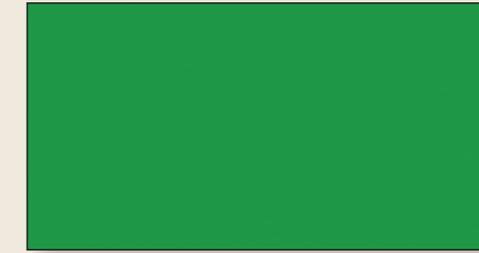
YES



ITALY

Based on the revolutionary flag of France, the vertical orientation of Italy's stripes represented a challenge to the typical horizontal stripes of the ruling kingdoms of Europe.

NO



LIBYA
(1977-2011)

Although Libya's green field was chosen for its Islamic symbolism, a solid-color flag is too simple to represent a country, and is meaningless when depicted in grayscale.

YES



IROQUOIS
CONFEDERACY (USA)

“Hiawatha's Belt”, a symbol for five tribes since before 1600, appears on the traditional blue of wampum shell beads.

NO



NAVAJO NATION
(USA)

Over 20 graphic elements overwhelm the viewer and none are large enough to be seen easily.

YES



UKRAINE

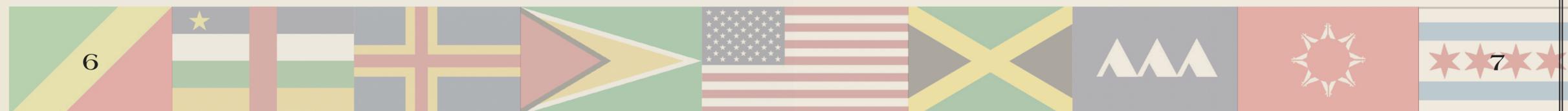
The light blue and yellow represent the sky over wheat fields—both the color and the direction of the stripes carry the meaning.

NO



ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN
STATES

Believe it or not, this flag depicts the flags of all the member countries, and must be changed each time one joins, drops out, or changes its flag!



3. USE 2–3 BASIC COLORS

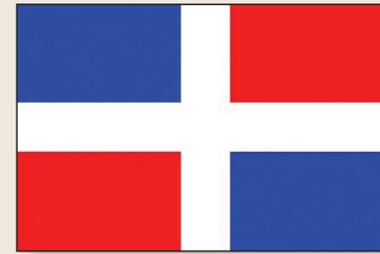
LIMIT THE NUMBER OF COLORS ON THE FLAG TO THREE, WHICH CONTRAST WELL AND COME FROM THE STANDARD COLOR SET . . .

The basic flag colors are red, blue, green, black, yellow, and white. They can range from dark to light. Occasionally other colors are also used, such as purple, gray, and orange, but they are seldom needed in a good design.

Separate dark colors with a light color, and light colors with a dark color, to help them create effective contrast. A good flag should also reproduce well in “grayscale”, that is, in black and white shades.

More than four colors are hard to distinguish and make the flag unnecessarily complicated and expensive. Flag fabric comes in a relatively limited number of colors—another reason to stick to the basics.

YES



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

These colors provide balance and contrast, leaving a white cross as “negative space” in the middle of the flag.

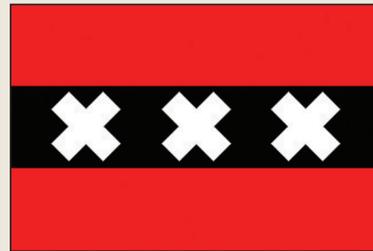
NO



DOMINICA

By using ALL six basic flag colors, this flag creates unnecessary cost and complexity. Who can see the parrot’s red and black eye?

YES



AMSTERDAM (NETHERLANDS)

These colors contrast well, even though the red and black are not separated by a light color.

NO



CHINESE ADMIRAL (1882)

Too many colors! At the least, the yellow and white should be separating the dark colors. While the dragon is in the position of honor, it is very hard to distinguish.

YES



NEW MEXICO (USA)

Red and yellow recall the state’s Spanish heritage, while the sun symbol comes from the Zia Indians. This design was voted the best U.S. state flag by NAVA members.

NO



VIRGINIA (USA)

Imagine, 18 different colors in the official flag specifications! Not only are they difficult to distinguish, but having so many colors drives up the manufacturing cost.



4. NO LETTERING OR SEALS

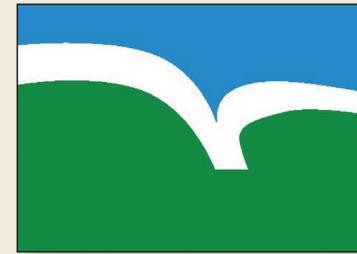
NEVER USE WRITING OF ANY KIND OR AN ORGANIZATION'S SEAL . . .

Words defeat the purpose: why not just write "U.S.A." on a flag? A flag is a graphic symbol. Lettering is nearly impossible to read from a distance, hard to sew, and difficult to reduce to lapel-pin size. Words are not reversible—this forces double- or triple-thickness fabric.

Don't confuse a flag with a banner, such as what is carried in front of a marching band in a parade, or draped behind a speaker's platform—such banners don't flap; they are seen from only one side; and they're usually seen closer-up.

Seals were designed for placement on paper to be read at close range. Very few are effective on flags—too detailed. Better to use some element from the seal as a symbol. Some logos work; most don't.

YES



*CÔTES D'ARMOR
(FRANCE)*

Rather than the logo style frequently used by French departments and regions, CÔTES d'Armor uses a stylized seagull in the shape of its coastline.

NO



*LOIR-ET-CHER
(FRANCE)*

All those words, plus an indistinguishable gray shape . . . Better to have used the stylized salamander on a more interesting background color.

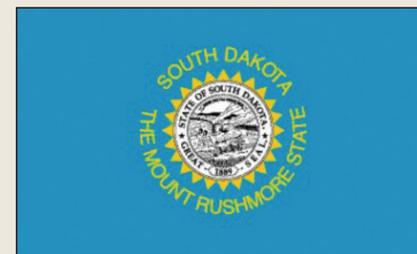
YES



SOUTH CAROLINA (USA)

The palmetto tree represents the "Palmetto State" far better than the state's seal could. The crescent is in the position of honor.

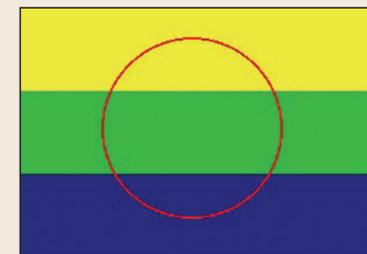
NO



SOUTH DAKOTA (USA)

This flag uses a seal AND lettering! The name of the state actually appears twice.

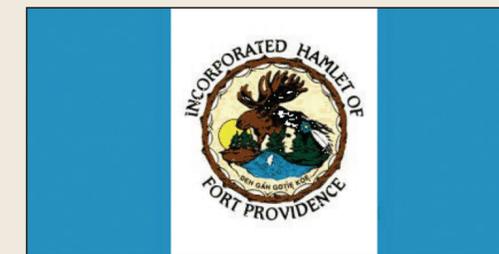
YES



*PEGUIS NATION
(CANADA)*

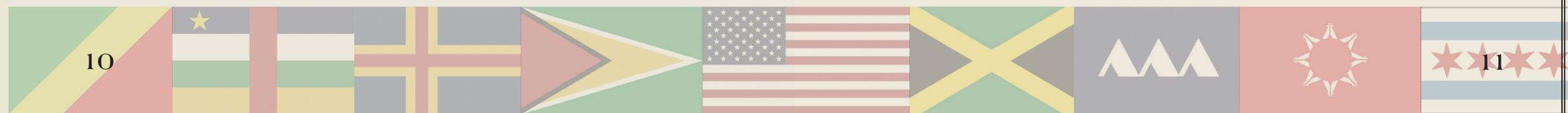
The contrasting colors with a single central symbol represent this Indian nation far better than could any seal.

NO



*FT. PROVIDENCE, NWT
(CANADA)*

Despite the overall pattern recalling Canada, this flag (for a Native community) stumbles with a virtually indistinguishable seal.



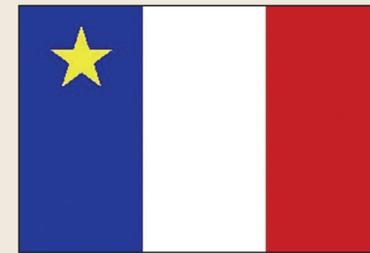
5. BE DISTINCTIVE OR BE RELATED

AVOID DUPLICATING OTHER FLAGS, BUT USE SIMILARITIES TO SHOW CONNECTIONS . . .

This is perhaps the most difficult principle, but it is very important. Sometimes the good designs are already “taken”. However, a flag’s symbols, colors, and shapes *can* recall other flags—a powerful way to show heritage, solidarity, or connectedness. This requires knowledge of other flags.

Often the best way to start the design process can be looking to one’s “roots” in flags—by country, tribe, or religion. Use some of the many resources available to help you with flag identification and history, such as “Flags of the World”: www.fotw.info, or your local library.

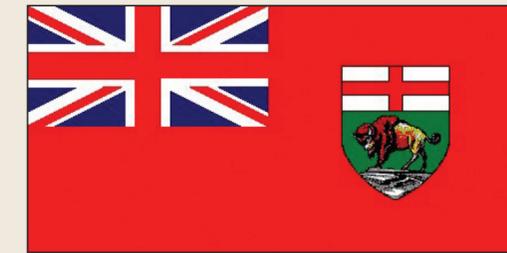
YES



ACADIA
(CANADA)

French-speaking Acadians in Canada place a yellow star for St. Mary, their national symbol and patron saint of mariners, on the flag of France.

NO



MANITOBA
(CANADA)

While the British “Red Ensign” signifies connectedness within the Commonwealth, the distinguishing feature is the small shield. Better to have used the bison as the main flag symbol.

YES



GHANA

Using the same colors used by many countries in West Africa, this flag shows a strong connection to its neighbors’ flags.

NO



INDONESIA

Except for its proportions, this flag is exactly the same as Monaco’s (which had it first), but there is no connection between the two countries. Upside-down it is the same as Poland or as Cantabria, Spain!

YES



LIBERIA

Founded by free African Americans, Liberia reflects that heritage with a similar yet distinctive flag.

NO



VERMONT
(USA)

This flag is virtually indistinguishable from 20 other U.S. state flags, all with a seal on a blue field.

A rectangle is the standard flag shape. Keep the width-to-length proportions between 1:1.5 and 1:2. Canadian flags are usually 1:2; U.S. flags are usually 1:1.5 or 1:1.67. Square flags are unusual in North America. Abandon such rectangles only when meaningful.

Flags wear. By retaining a rectangular shape and avoiding symbols at the fly end, a flag can be hemmed repeatedly and given a longer life.

The point of honor is the “canton” area—the upper-left corner. This corresponds to the part of the flag that is seen when it hangs limp from a flagpole. The center or left-of-center position is the most visible spot for a symbol when the flag is flying.

Consider the fabrication methods. Curved lines add to the cost of sewn flags. Holes or “negative space” hurt a flag’s fly-ability and wear-ability. “Swallow-tail” shapes fray more easily.

All rules have exceptions. Colorado’s “C” is a stunning graphic element. Maryland’s complicated heraldic quarters produce a memorable and distinctive flag. Military unit flags often need letters or numbers. California’s design recalls a historic relic from 1846. All six colors on South Africa’s 1994 design have deep symbolic meaning. But depart from these five principles only with caution and purpose.



COLORADO (USA)



MARYLAND (USA)



CALIFORNIA (USA)



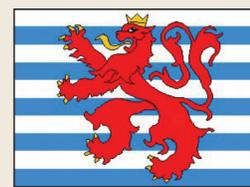
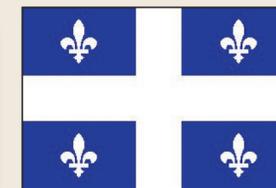
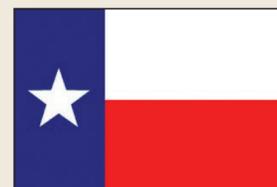
SOUTH AFRICA

Don’t allow a committee to design a flag. Instead, empower individuals to design flags, and use a committee to select among them.

An old rule of heraldry has images of animals look toward the hoist.

And most of all, design a flag that looks attractive and balanced to the viewer and to the place, organization, or person it represents!

FIND THE GOOD DESIGNS AND THE BAD DESIGNS:



DRAW YOUR FLAG!



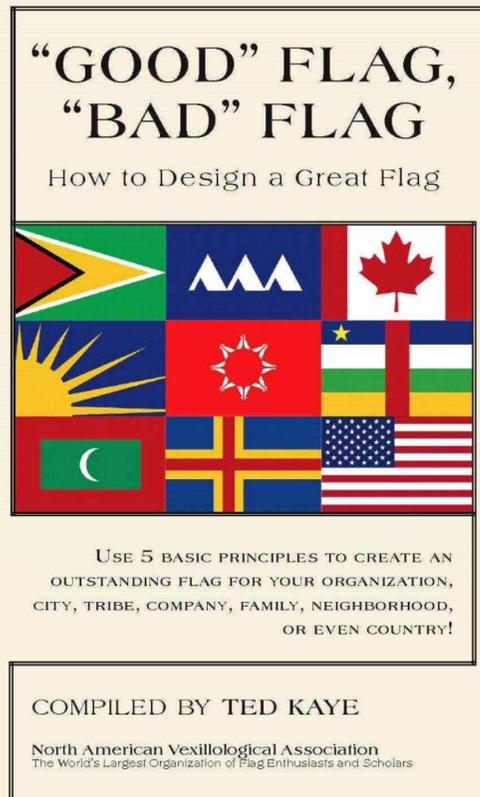


North American Vexillological Association

The World's Largest Organization of Flag Enthusiasts and Scholars

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"Good" Flag, "Bad" Flag



The 16-page *"Good" Flag, "Bad" Flag*, compiled by Ted Kaye from the expert wisdom of over 20 vexillologists/vexillographers, has become a classic resource for those wishing to design or re-design a flag. The booklet lays out five basic principles for good flag design, and then shows examples of flags that follow them and flags that disregard them, all illustrated in color.

You can use these five basic principles to create an outstanding flag for your organization, city, tribe, company, family, neighborhood, or even your country!

"Good" Flag, "Bad" Flag is not meant to be an in-depth look at flag design, but a quick reference and primer for anyone interested in vexillology or who wants to create a flag.

Introduced in 2001 and published in print in 2006, *"Good" Flag, "Bad" Flag* has been translated into seven languages. National, state/province, city, and community flag-designing initiatives around the world have used it. A simple, straight-forward guide, the 16-page full-color booklet, 5.5" x 8.5", allows organizations or individuals to encourage good flag designs for all wishing to try their hand at it.

The Five Principles are:

1. **Keep It Simple.** The flag should be so simple that a child can draw it from memory.
2. **Use Meaningful Symbolism.** The flag's images, colors, or patterns should relate to what it symbolizes.
3. **Use 2 or 3 Basic Colors.** Limit the number of colors on the flag to three which contrast well and come from the standard color set.
4. **No Lettering or Seals.** Never use writing of any kind or an organization's seal.
5. **Be Distinctive or Be Related.** Avoid duplicating other flags, but use similarities to show connections.

Of course there are exceptions to every rule, but depart from these five principles only with caution and purpose.



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Flags for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

HM Queen Elizabeth II has reigned for longer than any other British monarch and celebrates her Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Flags, of course, will play a big part in the festivities. There is no official Platinum Jubilee flag so various styles are available – including many that display the official Platinum Jubilee Emblem (shown left). [...]



Flag of Ukraine

The Blue-and-Yellow and its struggle to fly. The sky blue and yellow of the flag of Ukraine have become the symbol of international solidarity with the Ukrainian people and of protest against the Russian invasion. Except in Russia and a few satellite states, the Ukrainian flag is flying widely. And its colours light up famous [...]

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Flag Days

MAY 30 Mon 2022	all-day Anguilla Day (National Day)
JUN 1 Wed	all-day Dorset Day: Feast of St Wite (Co...)



2021 AGM & Winter



Philip Tibbetts joins

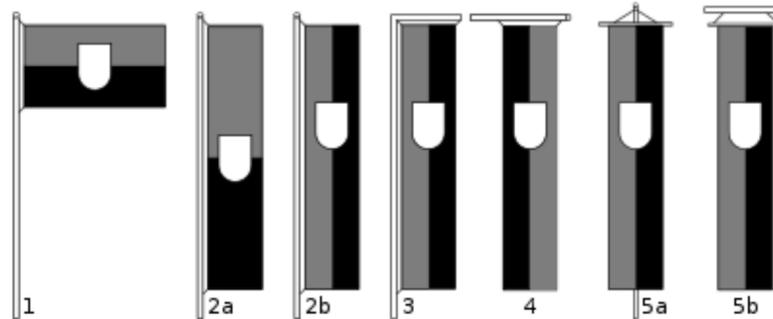
Basic patterns

Name	Illustration	Example
Border/bordure		 Flag of Maldives
Canton		 Flag of Australia
Quadrisection		 Flag of Panama
Greek cross (couped cross)		 Flag of Switzerland
Symmetric cross		 Flag of Georgia

Fess		 Flag of Austria
Bend		 Flag of Tanzania
Chevron		 Flag of Palestine
Pall		 Flag of South Africa
Saltire		 Flag of Scotland

Vertical flags

Vertical flags are sometimes used in lieu of the standard horizontal flag in central and eastern Europe, particularly in the German-speaking countries. This practice came about because the relatively brisk wind needed to display horizontal flags is not common in these countries.^[15]



The standard **horizontal flag** (no. 1 in the preceding illustration) is nonetheless the form most often used even in these countries.^[16]

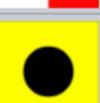
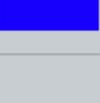
The **vertical flag** (German: *Hochformatflagge* or *Knatterflagge*; no. 2) is a vertical form of the standard flag. The flag's design may remain unchanged (No. 2a) or it may change, e.g. by changing horizontal stripes to vertical ones (no. 2b). If the flag carries an emblem, it may remain centred or may be shifted slightly upwards.^{[15][17]}

The **vertical flag for hoisting from a beam** (German: *Auslegerflagge* or *Galgenflagge*; no. 3) is additionally attached to a horizontal beam, ensuring that it is fully displayed even if there is no wind.^{[15][18]}

The **vertical flag for hoisting from a horizontal pole** (German: *Hängeflagge*; no. 4) is hoisted from a horizontal pole, normally attached to a building. The topmost stripe on the horizontal version of the flag faces away from the building.^{[15][19]}

The **vertical flag for hoisting from a crossbar** or **banner** (German: *Bannerflagge*; no. 5) is firmly attached to a horizontal crossbar from which it is hoisted, either by a vertical pole (no. 5a) or a horizontal one (no. 5b). The topmost stripe on the horizontal version of the flag normally faces to the left.^{[15][20]}

Signal flags!

Letter flags and ICS meanings				
Letter/ phonetic name	Flag	Blazon	ICS meaning as single flag	Meaning when used with numeric complements
A Alfa		<i>Swallowtailed, per pale argent and azure</i>	"I have a diver down; keep well clear at slow speed."	Azimuth or bearing
B Bravo		<i>Swallowtailed, gules</i>	"I am taking in or discharging or carrying dangerous goods." (Originally used by the Royal Navy specifically for military explosives.)	
C Charlie		<i>Azure, a fess gules fimbriated argent</i>	"Affirmative." ^{[a][b]}	Course in degrees magnetic
D Delta		<i>Or, a Spanish fess azure</i>	"Keep clear of me; I am manoeuvring with difficulty." ^[b]	Date
E Echo		<i>Per fess azure and gules</i>	"I am altering my course to starboard ." ^[b]	
F Foxtrot		<i>Argent, a lozenge throughout gules</i>	"I am disabled; communicate with me." ^[c]	
G Golf		<i>Paly of six or and azure</i>	"I require a pilot ." By fishing vessels near fishing grounds: "I am hauling nets."	Longitude (The first 2 or 3 digits denote degrees; the last 2 denote minutes.)
H Hotel		<i>Per pale argent and gules</i>	"I have a pilot on board." ^[b]	
I India		<i>Or, a pellet</i>	"I am altering my course to port ." ^[b]	
J Juliett		<i>Azure, a fess argent</i>	"I am on fire and have dangerous cargo on board: keep well clear of me." or "I am leaking dangerous cargo."	
K Kilo		<i>Per pale or and azure</i>	"I wish to communicate with you."	"I wish to communicate with you by...": 1) Morse signaling by hand-flags or arms; 2) Loud hailer (megaphone); 3) Morse signaling lamp; 4) Sound signals.

Language selectors are no place for flags

Inside Design: A Language Selector is No Place for Flags

unitedlanguagegroup.com/blog/inside-design-a-language-selector-is-no-place-for-flags

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Flags representing languages on the language learning site, Duolingo.com. The Brazilian flag stands in for Portuguese.

If a designer chooses to use the Brazilian flag to represent Portuguese, like Duolingo does (shown above), how will Lusophone users from other countries react? By choosing the flag of one country to represent a globally spoken language, designers risk confusing – or even offending – a significant portion of their target audience.

Countries Are Not Language Homogenous

On the other side of the coin, a single country can't be confined to a lone official language. India is a perfect example of language diversity. Though the Indian government has selected Hindi (written in Devangari script) and English as the two languages used for official purposes, the Indian constitution does not designate a national language. Admittedly, that would be a difficult choice to make, as India is home to [448 distinct living languages](#).

An extremely generalized map of language regions in India.

How can the Indian flag accurately convey to a user which language will appear? If the site presents several Indian languages, should the designer simply insert the flag of India multiple times? Depending on how many languages are represented for a country, users could be faced with a long list of their country's flag and no idea which one applies to them.

These concepts don't apply just to India, of course. Take a look at a linguistic map of most countries and it becomes clear that a single flag cannot accurately reflect the tapestry of languages found there.

Flags Are Not Common Knowledge

What about making sure that a designer chooses the correct flag for the country? We don't all know every country's flag, and introducing this element can backfire when coupled with simple human error.

Revolve.com's language selector

On Revolve Clothing's website, the flag of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is used to represent the German language. While there's no doubt that there are German speakers living in the UAE, Arabic is the official national language and the number of German speakers does not represent a reasonably significant portion of the population. Clearly, the Emirates' flag was mistaken for Germany's.

The danger of mistaking one flag for another in a design is one issue, but there is also the user's perspective to consider. Designers can't be sure that users will even recognize the flag selected to fill in for the desired language, and could exit the site unaware that what they were looking for lay right in front of them.

The Language Selector Done Right

There are established best practices for designing language selectors, and plenty of websites that do this well. Plus, there are some great methods to employ flags as a design element without compromising their inherent meaning or the usability of a website.

- 1. Always write out the names of languages**
It can't be assumed that a country name, flag, or other icon can convey to users which language will be presented.
- 2. Always show the name of a language in its native spelling and script**
Designers should always make it easy for users to find what they're looking for, and the language selector is no exception. For users that may not know the name, spelling, or script of their desired language in the website's native tongue, this can become a serious accessibility problem.
- 3. Make the language selector easy to find**
The header and footer are typical places that users know to look for language selectors. For mobile content, it can often be found in the main menu. Designers should avoid straying too far from these established norms, as users who aren't native speakers of the site's default language may have trouble navigating to a selector that is difficult to find or in an unusual position.
- 4. Flags aren't completely useless**
If a website's content has been localized for more than one country, flags can actually be used effectively in the design. While flags should never be used to represent a language, they can be paired with their country and ultimately lead users to language selection.

Country and Language Selector from LandRover.com

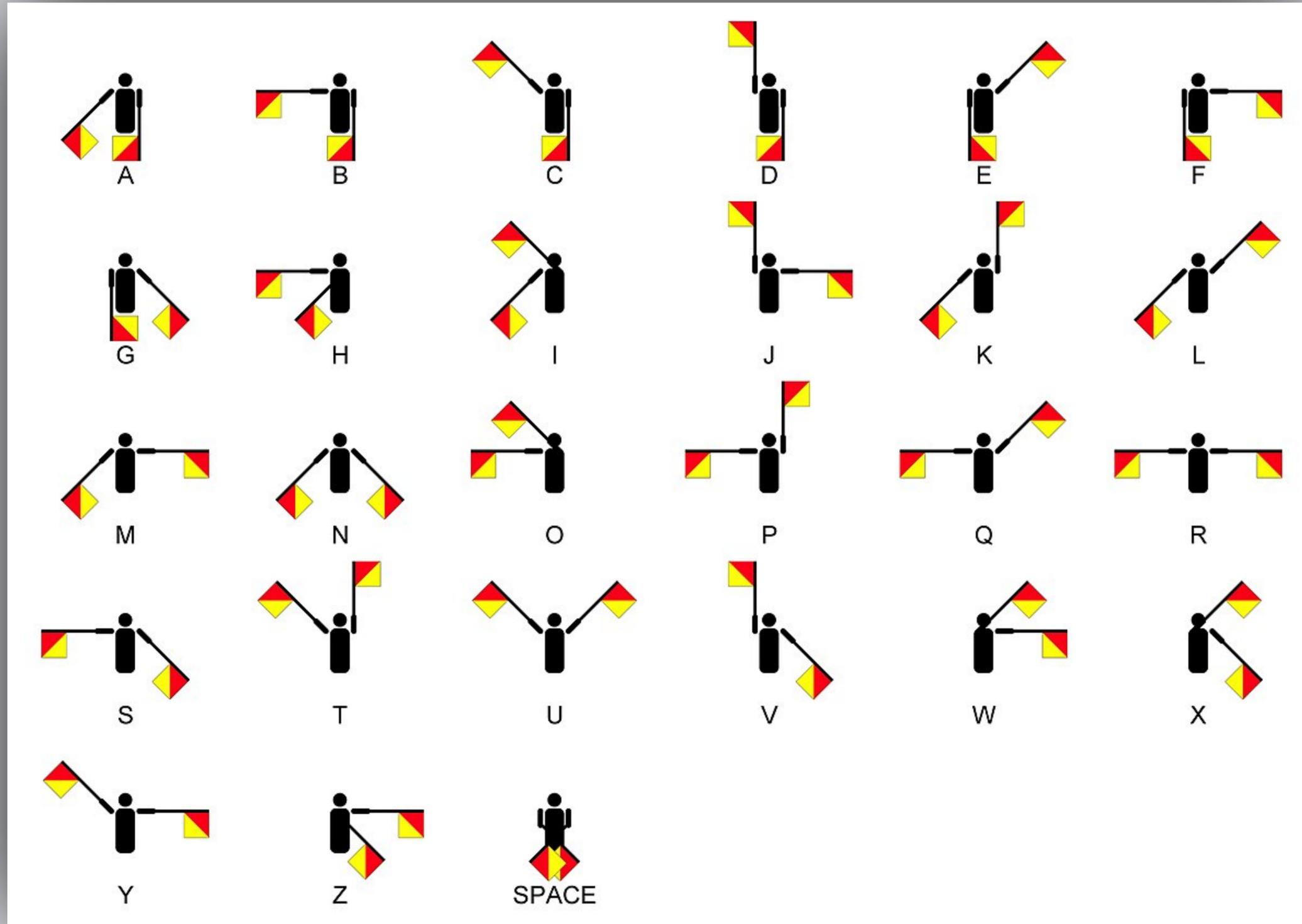
Land Rover is one company that does an excellent job presenting language selection via a country list that includes flags. First, they ask users to select their country – and each country is paired with its (appropriate) flag. From there, users are able to select from a variety of supported languages that are found in their chosen country.

Country and language selection page from Nest.com

Nest also uses flags accurately. Rather than splitting up the country and language selection steps, they've shown everything all together on a single page, with duplications of flags where multiple languages are provided for a single country. Key to this style is framing up the selection process as "Choose your country," rather than "Choose your language." Should Nest begin to support more than two or three languages for a given country, they might want to consider moving to a split model to present users with more digestible groups of information.

If the website does not present localized, country-specific content, it's best to avoid this particular user interaction pattern in favor of a simple text-based language selector.

Semaphore



Flag with a front and a back : Paraguay



Use National flag and [ensign](#) ↔

Proportion 11:20

Adopted July 15, 2013; 8 years ago

Design An horizontal triband of red, white and blue, defaced on the obverse with the [coat of arms of Paraguay](#).



Use Reverse flag ⇨

Proportion 11:20

Design An horizontal triband of red, white and blue, defaced on the reverse with the reversed [coat of arms of Paraguay](#).

Square flag: Switzerland & Vatican City



Use National flag  

Proportion 1:1

Adopted 1841

Design A square flag with a white cross in the centre and background in red.



Use National flag 

Proportion undefined^[1]

Adopted 7 June 1929

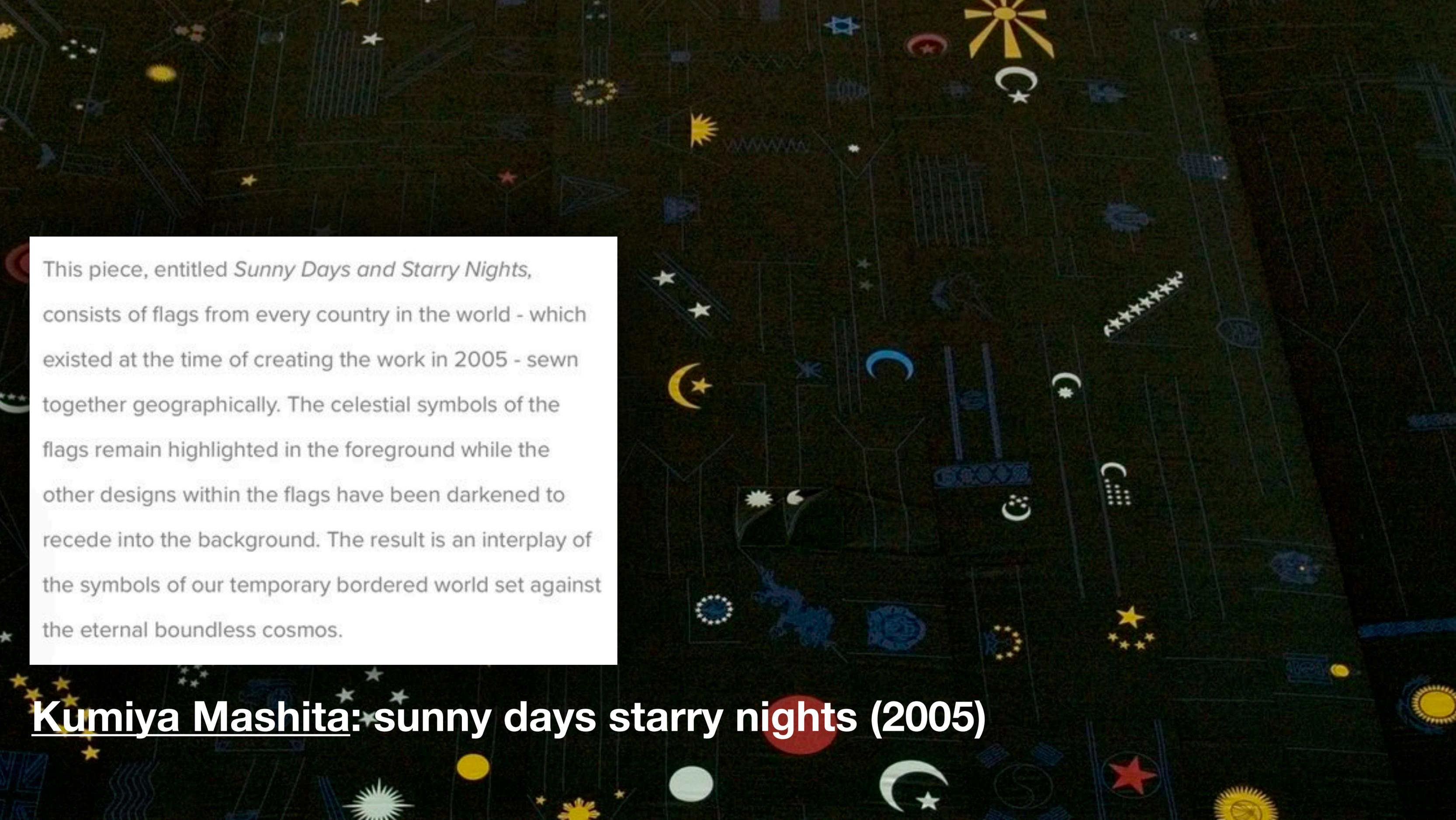
Design A vertical **bicolour** of gold and white, charged with the **coat of arms** centred on the white portion

Non quadrilateral flag Of Nepal



Upside down flag: Philippines

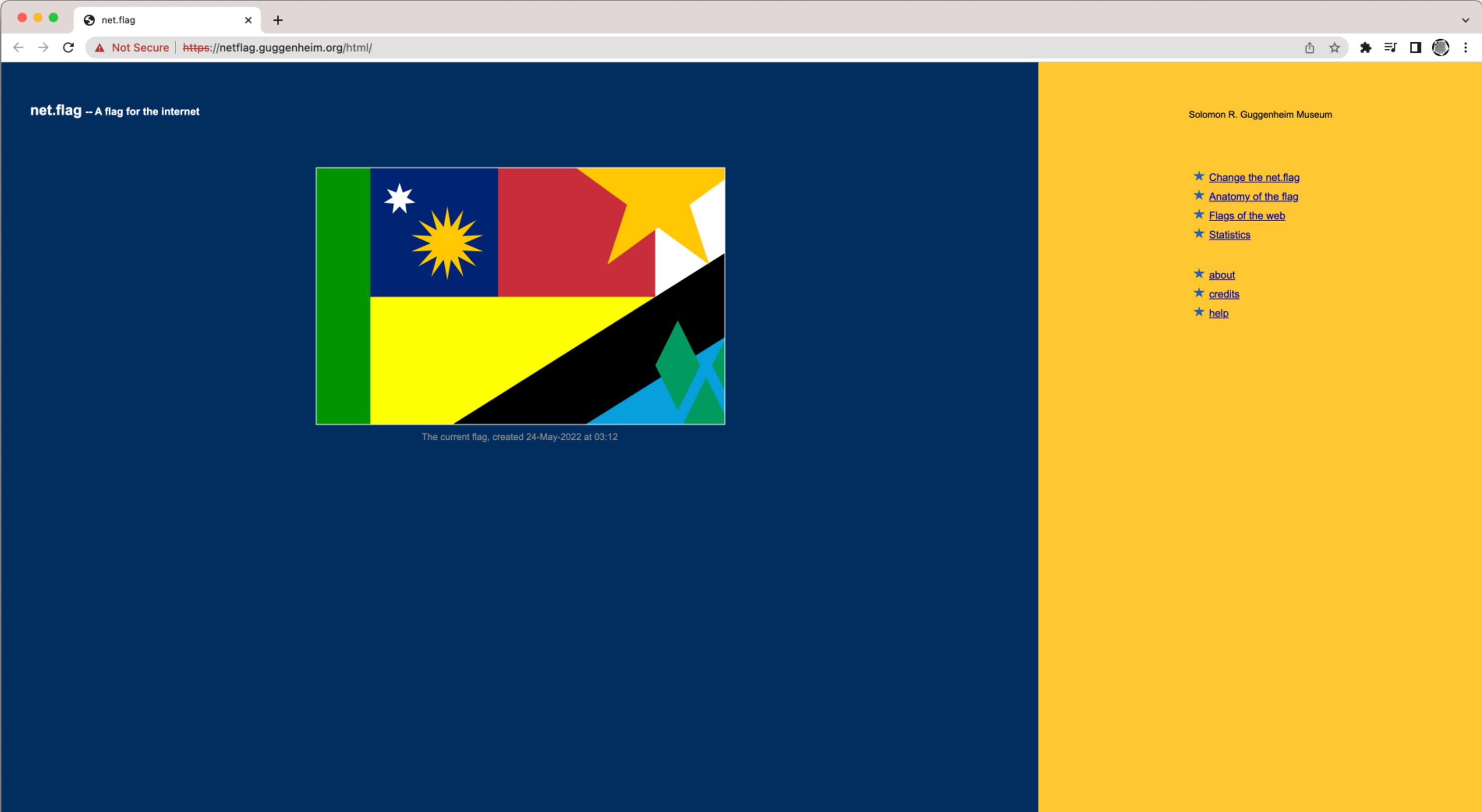




This piece, entitled *Sunny Days and Starry Nights*, consists of flags from every country in the world - which existed at the time of creating the work in 2005 - sewn together geographically. The celestial symbols of the flags remain highlighted in the foreground while the other designs within the flags have been darkened to recede into the background. The result is an interplay of the symbols of our temporary bordered world set against the eternal boundless cosmos.

Kumiya Mashita: sunny days starry nights (2005)

Mark Napier net.flag (2002)



Mark Napier net.flag (2002)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `guggenheim.org/artwork/10703`. The page title is "Collection Online". A navigation menu includes "ARTISTS", "DATES", "MEDIUMS", "MOVEMENTS", "SPECIAL COLLECTIONS", and "VENUES". On the left, a vertical sidebar contains the "GUGGENHEIM" logo and links for "Visit", "Online Resources", "Art", "Join & Give", "Research", "Tickets", "Shop", and "Search". A "Today's Schedule" button is at the bottom of the sidebar.

The main content area features a large image of the artwork "net.flag", which is a modified American flag. It has a blue canton with white stars, and the stripes are colored red, green, red, green, red, green, red, green, red, green, and red.

Mark Napier
net.flag

To view the Internet through one of Mark Napier's interfaces is to glimpse a landscape of unlimited visual possibilities.

Napier has created *net.flag*, an emblem for the Internet as a new territory, one composed of people from various geographical regions and ideologies. Its design changes constantly, manipulated by users who make selections from menus of familiar flag motifs: stars, fields of color, bold patterns, insignia, and stripes. As viewers add their contributions to the palimpsest, the cumulative identity of the flag changes as one country's insignia or symbols temporarily overlap those of another. Expanding upon the model of nongeographic nationalities such as Roma, *net.flag* permits viewers to customize and save personal flags for their own virtual domains. Since each element of a flag generally represents a symbol chosen by that country's founders, *net.flag* also includes a "browse history" feature that permits access to

Artist
[Mark Napier](#)
b. 1961, Springfield, New Jersey

Title
net.flag

Date
[2002](#)

Medium
Interactive networked code (Java applet with server database)

Credit Line
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

Patricia Reed Pan National flag (2009)

Pan-National Flag | Patricia Reed x +

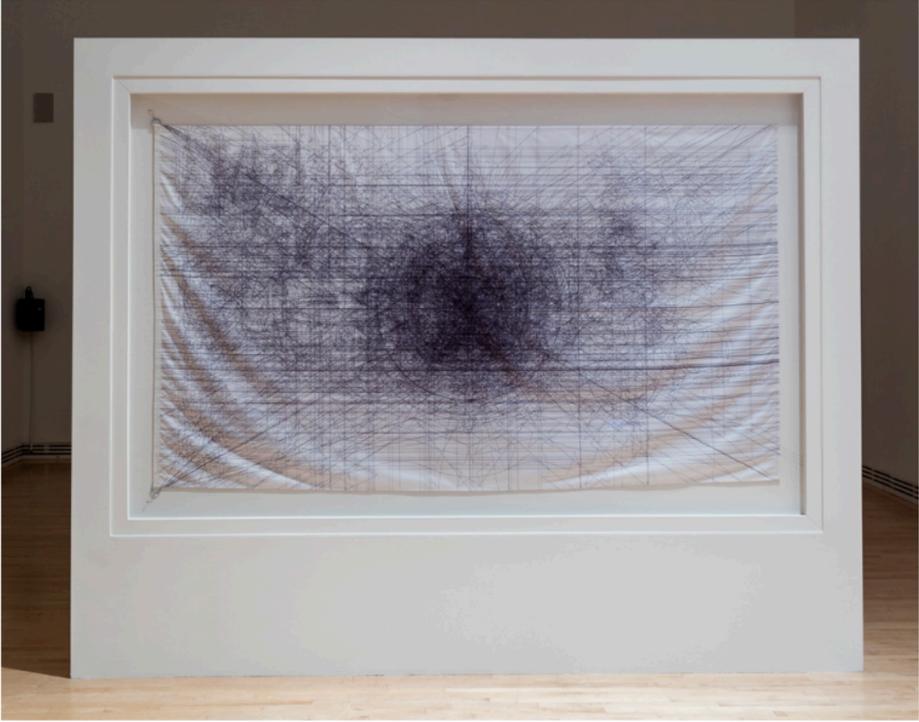
aestheticmanagement.com/works/pan-national-flag/

Patricia Reed

Pan-National Flag

2009 | Digital Print on Industrial Grade Flag Fabric | 250 cm X 150 cm | Framed: 282 cm X 180 cm X 7 cm

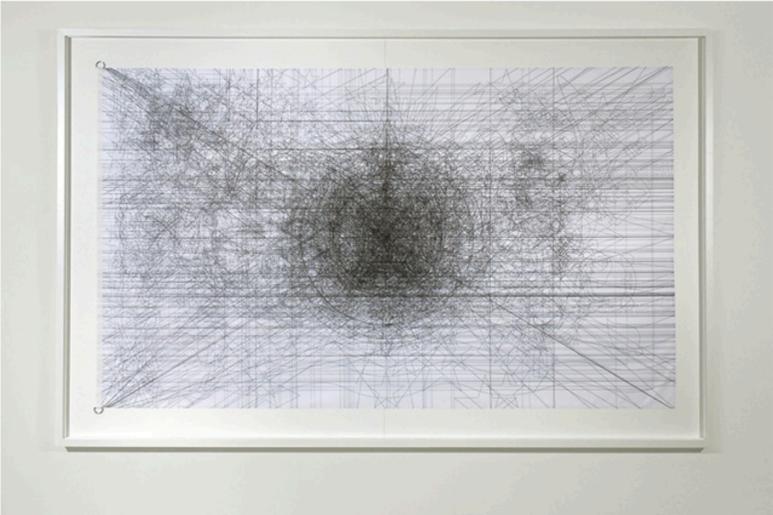
Pan-national Flag is comprised of the linear structure of all internationally recognized nation-state flags juxtaposed on top of one another. The drawing, as such, produces an imbroglio of nation-state graphic ideology, where a complex black 'whole' emerges.



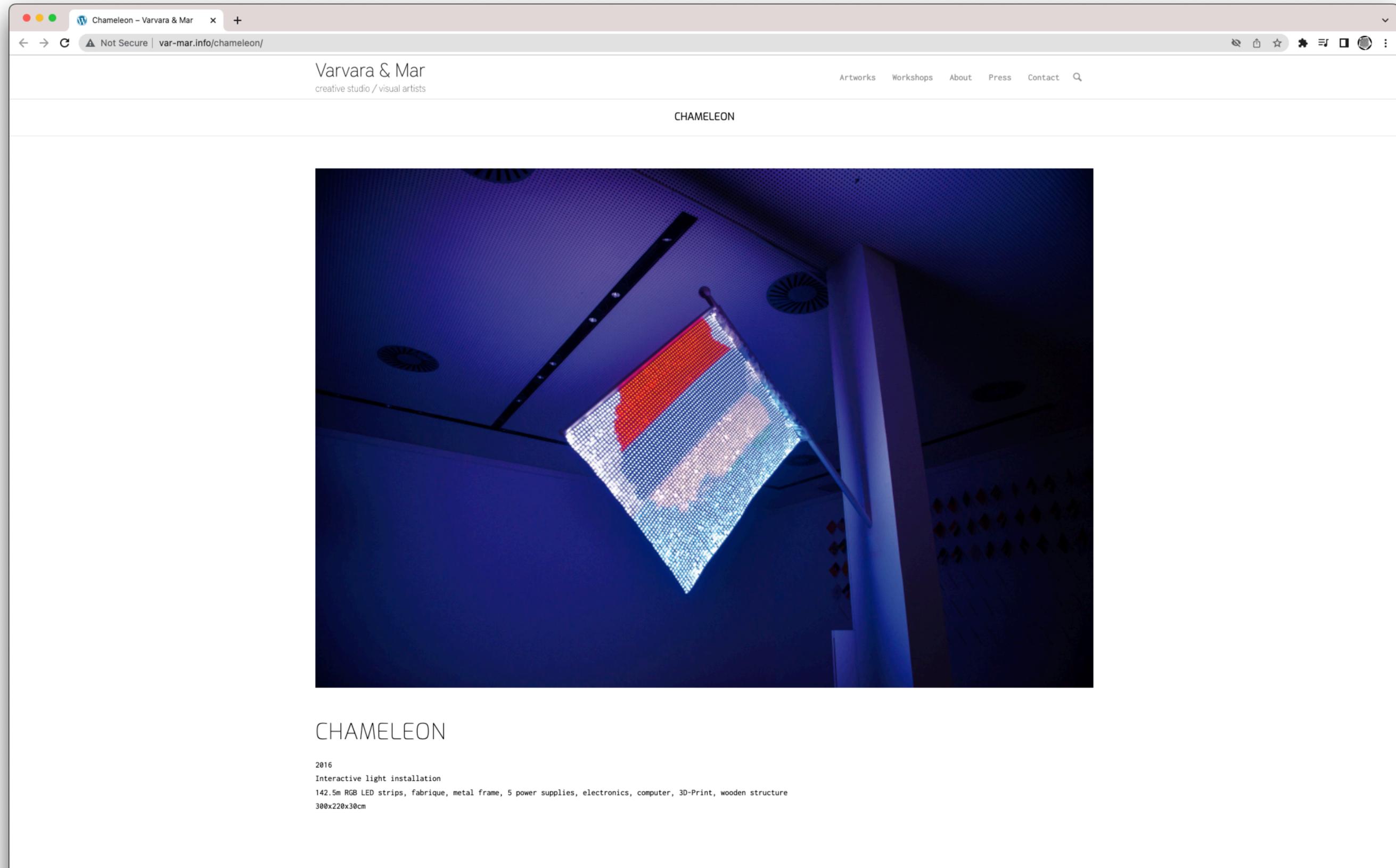
PREVIOUS

NEXT

Installation View, CUAG, Ottawa, 2016. Photo: Justin Wonnacott



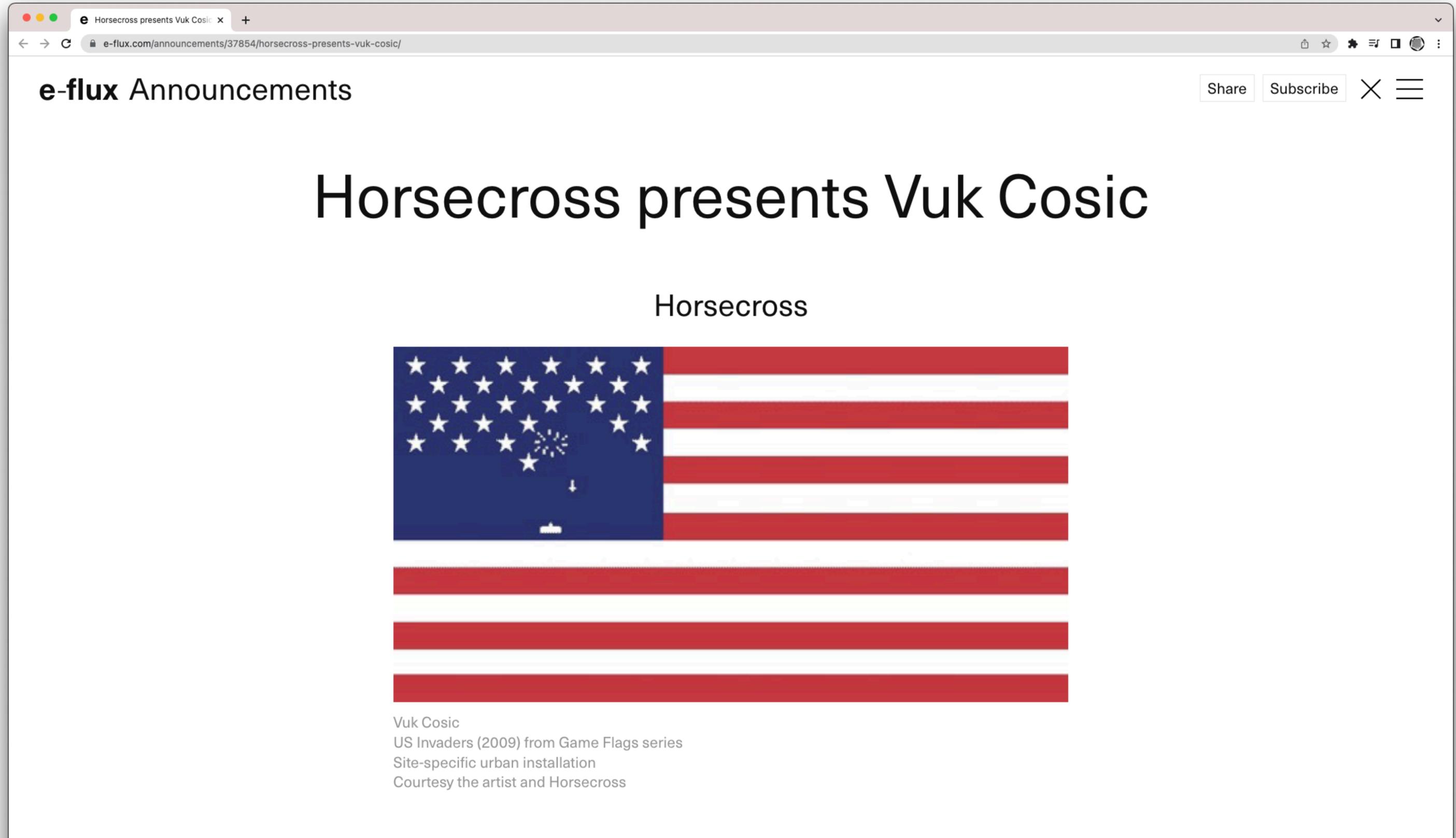
Vavara & Mar Chameleon (2016)



Jonas Bohatsch Flags of (2019 -)



Vuk Cosic Horsecross (2009)

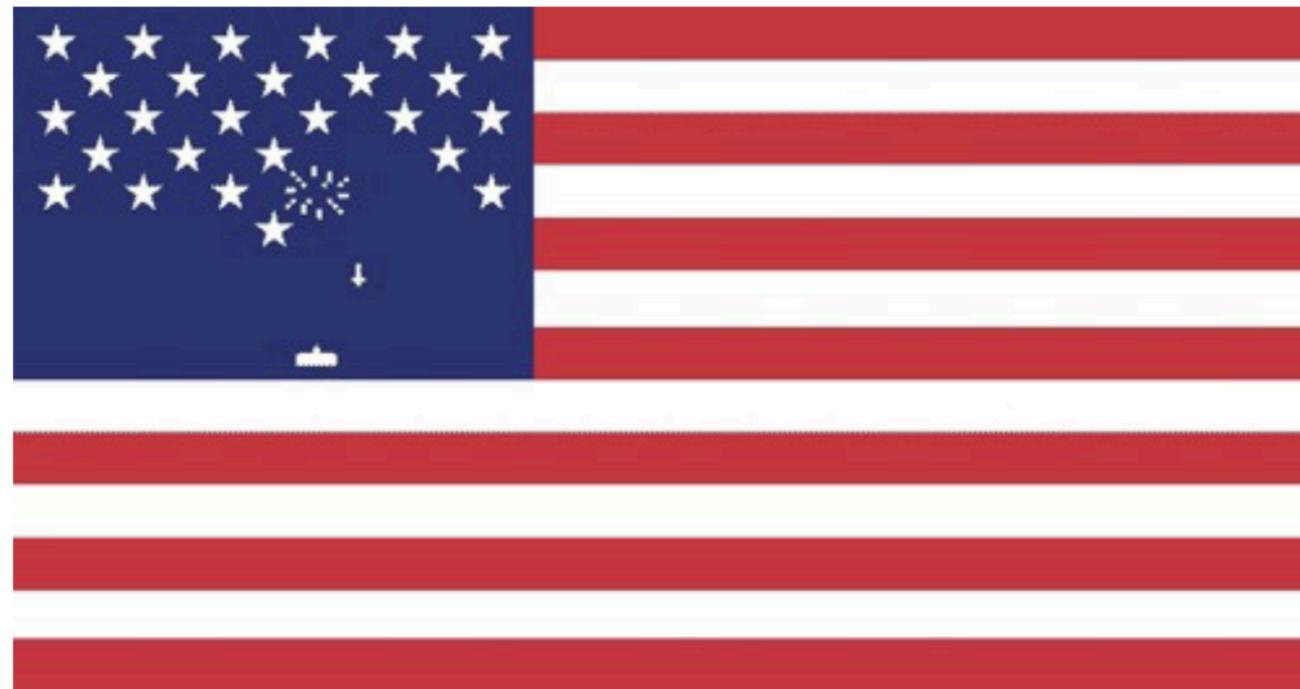


e-flux Announcements

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Horsecross presents Vuk Cosic

Horsecross



Vuk Cosic
US Invaders (2009) from Game Flags series
Site-specific urban installation
Courtesy the artist and Horsecross

/r/place Atlas



PLACE
1,672,234 views • Apr 4, 2017

70K DISLIKE SHARE DOWNLOAD THANKS CLIP SAVE LOOP ...

 **2klicksphilip**
624K subscribers

See 2022's video here - <https://youtu.be/3fdBKCDuPs>

SUBSCRIBE TO 2KLIKPSHILIP : <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEKJK...>

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Leon Bridges
2.6M views • 10 months ago
- Justice Der - Covers [Full Album]**
STEEZYASFUCK
14M views • 3 years ago
- PLACE 2022**
2klicksphilip
501K views • 1 month ago
- Khruangbin @ Villain | Pitchfork Live**
Pitchfork
20M views • 4 years ago
- Leon Bridges - River (Official Music Video)**
Leon Bridges
63M views • 6 years ago
- did you just say classical music is boring?! (playlist)**
nobody
3.7M views • 2 months ago
- Mr. Bill - Phantasmagoria**
Mr. Bill
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Underrated Albums
6.5M views • 4 years ago

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The /r/place Atlas

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The Atlas contains 1493 entries.

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GTA: Breaking Bad
A reference to Grand Theft Auto V (GTA V) and the similarities it showed to scenes in Breaking Bad

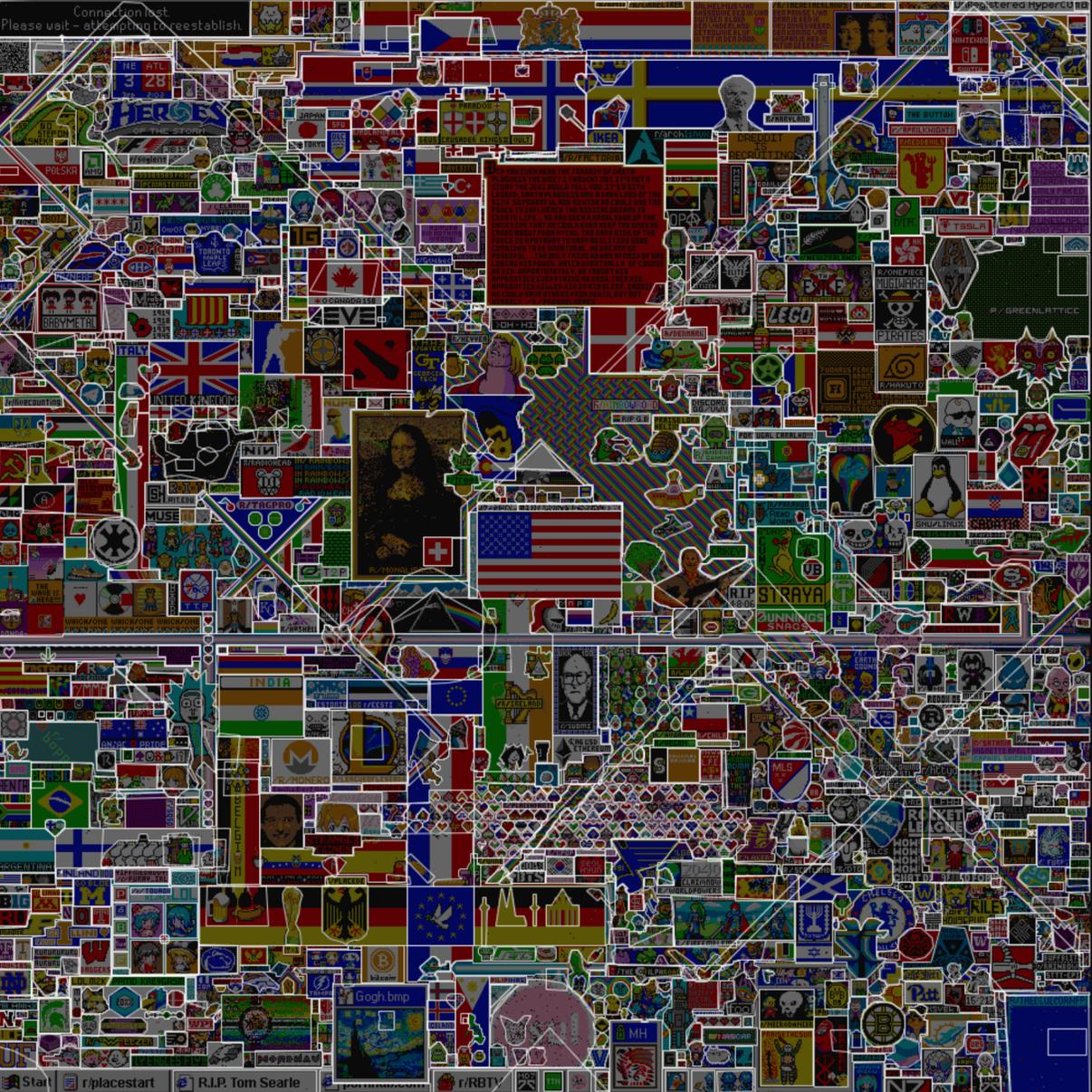
Gmail logo
The famous red letter M, depicted without the enclosing envelope.
[/r/gmail](#)

Fernsehturm Berlin
Close to Alexanderplatz in Berlin-Mitte, the Fernsehturm was constructed between 1965 and 1969 by the government of the German Democratic Republic. It was intended as both a symbol of communist power and of Berlin. It remains the latter today, as it is easily visible throughout the central and some suburban districts of Berlin.
[/r/germany](#)

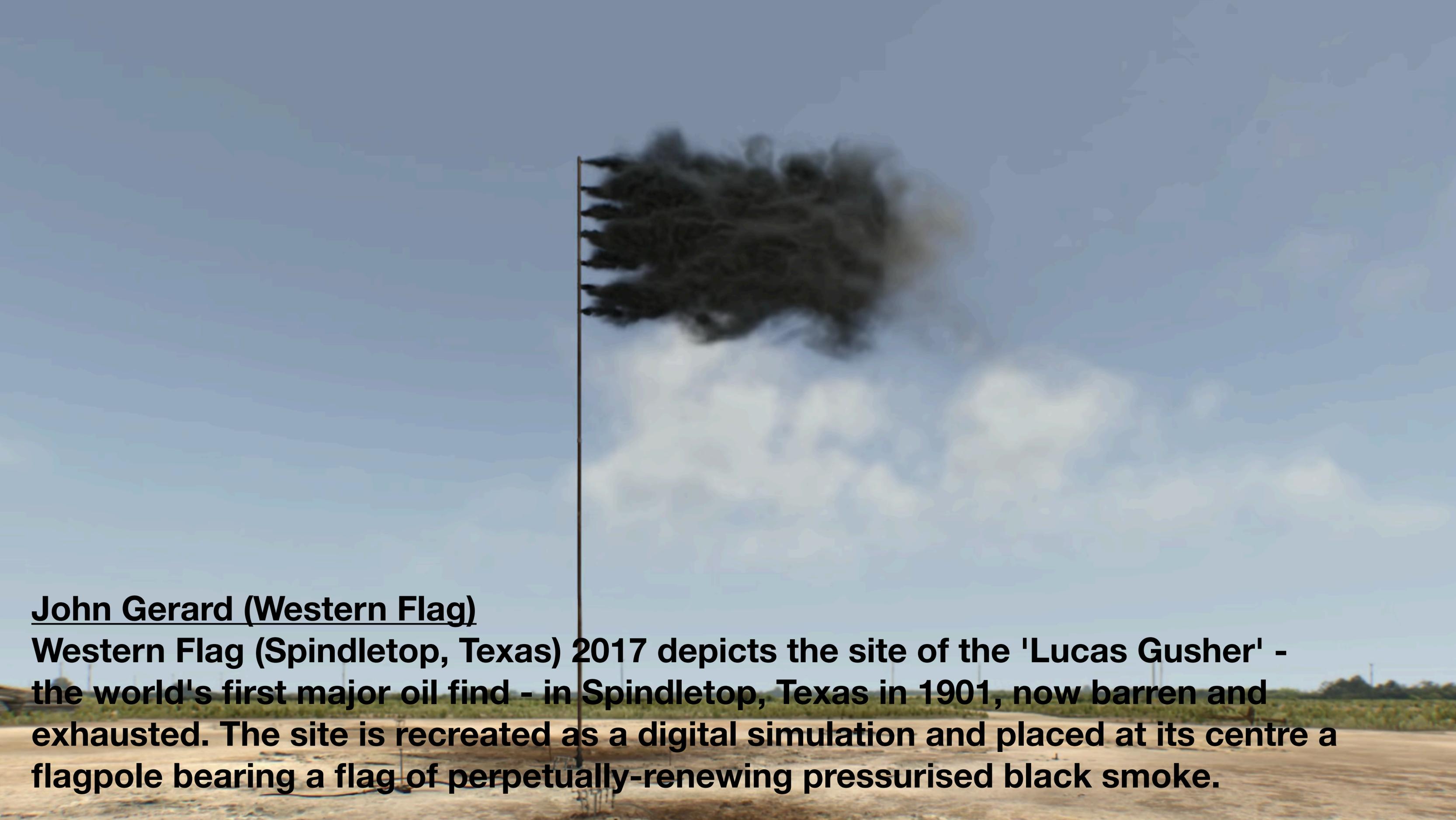
Genderqueer Heart
A heart created by /r/TransFlagPlace to represent genderqueer people, those who identify with neither, both, or a combination of male and female genders.
[/r/TransFlagPlace](#)

Cosmog
Cosmog is a character introduced in the Generation VII Pokemon games, Sun and Moon
[/r/pokemon](#)

Juke Juice power-up
Juke Juice allows you to accelerate and reach your maximum speed at faster rates, making it easier to avoid



Start r/placestart R.I.P. Tom Searle r/RBT



John Gerard (Western Flag)

Western Flag (Spindletop, Texas) 2017 depicts the site of the 'Lucas Gusher' - the world's first major oil find - in Spindletop, Texas in 1901, now barren and exhausted. The site is recreated as a digital simulation and placed at its centre a flagpole bearing a flag of perpetually-renewing pressurised black smoke.

Long Distance Gallery

@ transmediale/festival 2015 CAPTURE ALL

Every day thousands of flags are hoisted worldwide to display and celebrate territorial, political or religious affiliation. Flags were hoisted in the Arctic and on the moon, who ever wants to conquer should have a flag in his pocket.

Participating Artists

Rachael Archibald *Bea Fremderman* *Gallery Fist* *Scott Gelber*

Nik Kosmas *Kim Laughton* *Claudia Maté* *Vince McKelvie*

Jennifer Mehigan *Aoto Oouchi* *Eva Papamargariti* *Mitch Posada*

Pussykrew *Sucuk und Bratwurst* *Sebastian Thewes* *Anne de Vries*

Concept and Curation

Kim Asendorf and Ole Fach

28.01. - 01.02. Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin

Long Distance Gallery [[transmediale/festival](#) Supported by [Fahnen Herold](#) Website by [NETRO](#)]

LONG DISTANCE GALLERY

Thomas Yeomans flags (2018)



Amanda Waseliewski Lunar Landing craft (2012)

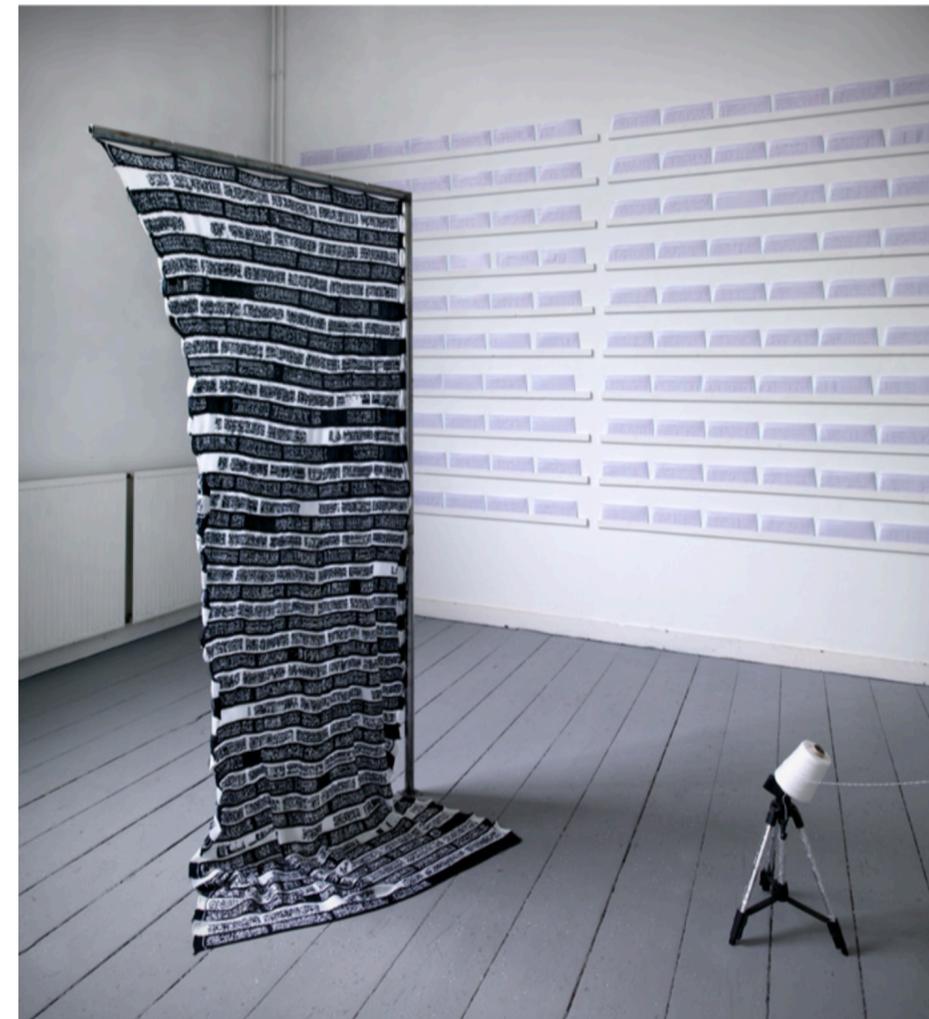


uninstallation

PE11: Lunar Landing Craft

2012, performance/installation

(photos by G.J. van Rooij)



Yanagi Yukinori The World Flag Ant Farm (1989 -)

Yanagi Yukinori

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WORKS

The World Flag Ant Farm

Back



American Flag Ant Farm
1989

48.0x40.5x7.5cm

ants, colored sand, plastic box, wood frame case, plastic tube and Uncle Milton Ant Farm



The World Flag Ant Farm
1990

24.0x30.0cm(x180 pieces)

ants, colored sand, plastic boxes, plastic tubes and plastic pipes



Marco Godinho Untitled (2007)

Untitled (Transparent Flags), 2007

marcogodinho.com/projects/untitled-transparent-flags-2007

Update

Marco Godinho

Untitled (Transparent Flags)

2007
Works

Untitled (Transparent Flags), 2007–
Transparent organza flags, flagpoles, time
Each 150 × 255 cm
Number of flags, presentation and dimensions variable

Kis The transparent organza flags call into question their social, economic and political settings. Indeterminate in appearance, devoid of any recognizable symbol, they suggest a universal dimension of the present, constantly redefining the instability and precariousness of the human condition in today's world. A metaphor for non-belonging to any given territory, the project has been reactivated in several different locations and countries. The version shown at the 2017 Lyon Biennale comprised 12 flags in reference to the 12 stars of the European Union flag.

Wr



Installation view, Kirchberg-Plateau, Luxembourg, 2011



LUNA SKRABS - Free the moon! (2015)

FREE THE MOON - VisionBake x +

web.archive.org/web/20170314070350/http://www.visionbakery.com/freethemoon

INTERNET ARCHIVE Wayback Machine 13 captures 30 Mar 2015 - 10 Apr 2021

SEP MAR JUL 14 2016 2017 2019 About this capture

FREE THE MOON

Soziale Projekte Baikonur, Kasachstan

Projektdetails Blog (5) Fragen (0) Unterstützer (64)



Projekt von LUNA SKRABS kontaktieren →

Bereits abgelaufen!

€ 2.182,00 €
0 % von 9.999.999.999,99 € Ziel

64 Unterstützer

Leider nicht finanziert!
Dieses Projekt erreichte die benötigte Summe bis zum 03.07.15 MEZ nicht und konnte in 100 Tagen nicht finanziert werden.

Gegenleistungen

BE A MOON LIBERATOR ab 1,00 €
You will be mentioned as a Moon liberator on the upcoming website www.freethemoon.org
99977 von 100000 verfügbar [jetzt unterstützen](#)

RECEIVE POST FROM AN ASTRONAUT ab 10,00 €
You will receive a personal video message in return for you making an impact. You will also be mentioned as a Moon liberator on the upcoming website www.freethemoon.org
99982 von 100000 verfügbar [jetzt unterstützen](#)

FREE THE MOON CONDOMS ab 20,00 €
Free the moon in the name of love and feel free to make love in the moonlight. Get the FREE THE MOON special edition of Ritex Condoms and be mentioned as a Moon liberator on the upcoming website www.freethemoon.org
99986 von 100000 verfügbar [jetzt unterstützen](#)

RECEIVE A UNIQUE POSTCARD FROM SPACE ab 50,00 €

< Widgets >

Tweet

*I am going to be the first woman on the Moon to bring all flags planted up there back home and hand them over to their rightful owner, which is represented by the president of the United States of America.
All I need is € 10 billion.*

Is it really that expensive to fly to the Moon?
I am not exaggerating. Spaceflight is expensive and consists to a large extent of development costs. Manned missions to celestial bodies go with enormous costs in comparison to robotic missions and are very uncommon today. The last man touched the Moon's surface in 1972. Since I won't simply fly to the Moon but have the mission to free it from the five flags left there, some things are needed which did not exist in the Apollo era yet.
Here is an overview of the arising costs, which might help you to understand the composition of the sum better. It is really difficult to be more precise as the space flight sector is quite secretive and the costs are on a negotiated basis. There are



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Free Speech Flag

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Free Speech Flag** is a symbol of [personal liberty](#) used to promote [freedom of speech](#). Designed by artist John Marcotte, the flag and its colors correspond to a [cryptographic key](#) which enabled users to copy [HD DVDs](#) and [Blu-ray Discs](#). It was created on May 1, 2007, during the [AACs encryption key controversy](#).

Marcotte was motivated to create the flag after the [Motion Picture Association of America](#) (MPAA) and the [Advanced Access Content System Licensing Administrator](#) (AACs LA) began issuing [cease and desist](#) letters to websites publishing the key `09 F9 11 02 9D 74 E3 5B D8 41 56 C5 63 56 88 C0` (commonly referred to as [09-F9](#)).

In response to attempts to remove the key from the Internet, [netizens](#) publicized the cryptographic key on the news aggregator website [Digg](#) (an example of the [Streisand effect](#)).

Contents [hide]
1 History
2 Design and message
3 Impact
4 See also
5 References
6 Further reading
7 External links

Free Speech Flag

Use	Other
Proportion	2:3 or 3:5
Adopted	May 1, 2007
Design	Shades of green, pink, blue and purple stripes, with byte "C0" appended in bottom right corner
Designed by	John Marcotte

History [edit]

Main article: AACs encryption key controversy

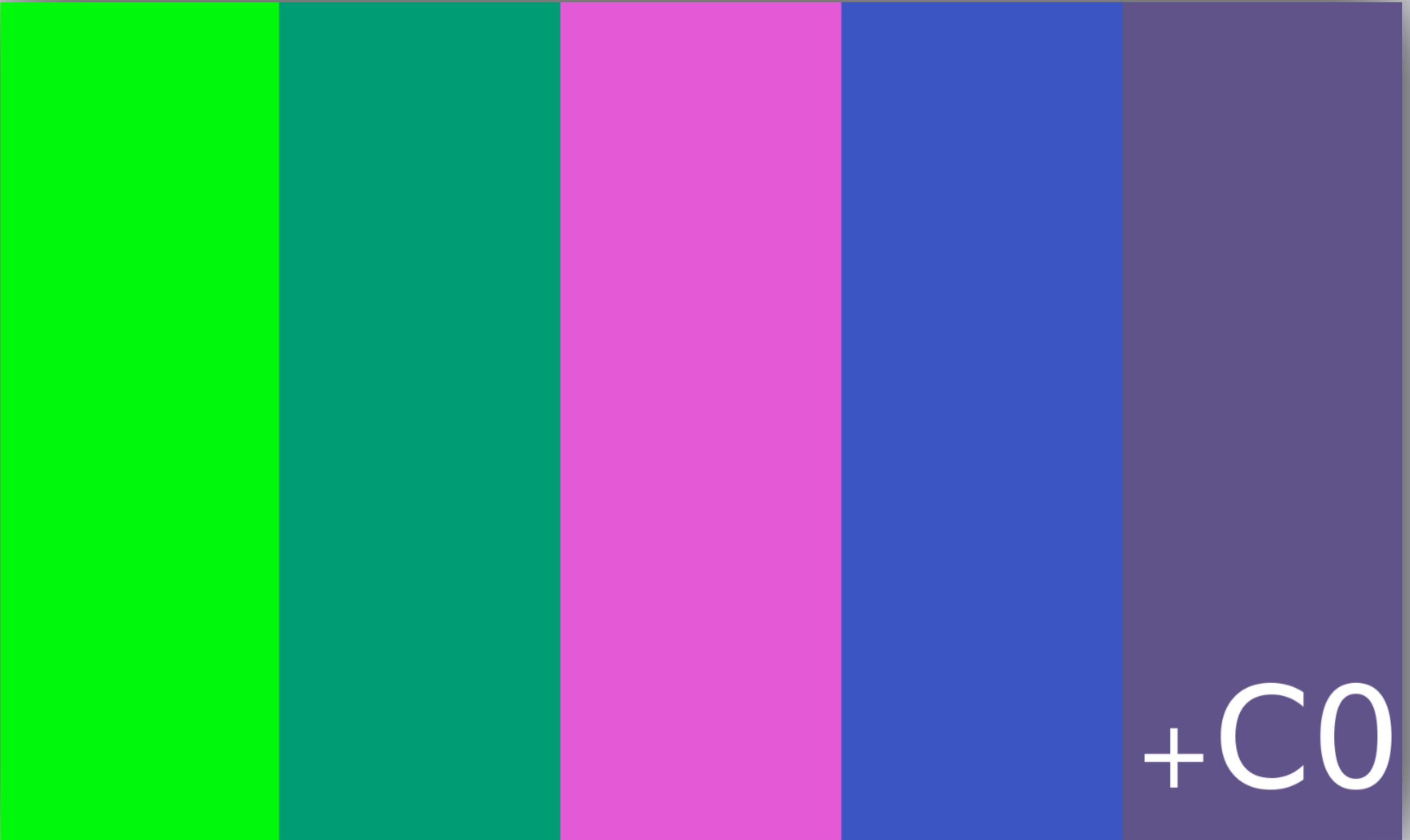
On April 30, 2007, a blogger named "Rudd-O" published the encryption key for HD DVDs and asked readers to share it widely.^[1] Knowledge of this numeric key value allowed users to bypass [digital rights management](#) (DRM) and copy HD DVDs that previously could not be duplicated.^{[1][2]} News media reported on this development and [Digg](#), a news aggregator and social media website, provided a way for users to vote on stories they felt were most newsworthy.^{[1][2][3]} Votes by 15,000 Digg users drove an article about the encryption key to the front page of the site.^{[1][3]}

The [Advanced Access Content System](#) (AACs), the organization which controlled access to the HD DVD encryption key, sent a [cease and desist](#) letter to Digg on May 1, 2007.^{[1][2][3][4]} In its letter, AACs claimed that by publishing news articles on its website that reported on the encryption key, the website itself was engaging in illegal activity.^{[1][2][4]} Articles by numerous journalists reporting on the news story were posted to Digg.^{[1][2][3]} Jay Adelson, the CEO of Digg, announced that the website would abide by the AACs' requests and [self-censor](#) articles reporting on the encryption key.^{[1][2][4]}

Adelson's decision to self-censor his website caused an unintended backlash from the Digg community in the form of the [Streisand effect](#). "In trying to make the cracked issue go away", notes Jeremy Goldman in his 2012 book *Going Social*, "the AACs's letter (and Digg's response) succeeded only in making the story bigger."^[2] Digg users made sure, by their votes and online participation, that all front-page stories on Digg were about the encryption key.^{[1][2][4]} Digg founder Kevin Rose observed: "The Digg

Wikinews has related news:
[Digg.com suffers user revolt](#)

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- Cite this page
- Wikidata item
- Print/export
- Download as PDF
- Printable version
- In other projects
- Wikimedia Commons
- Wikisource
- Languages
 - العربية
 - Français
 - Português



Joshua Citarella's e-deologies (2021)

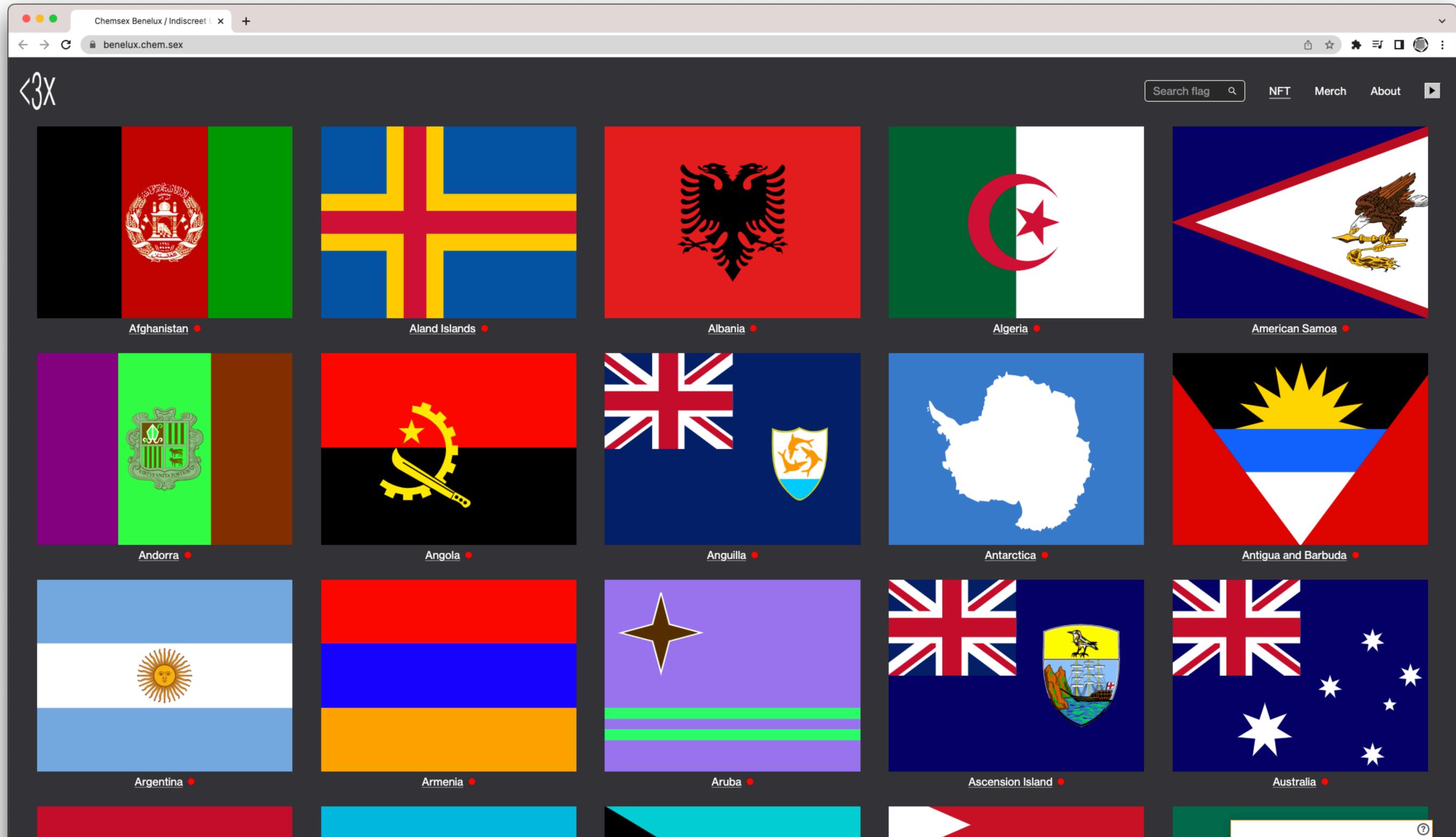


Joshua Citarella's e-deologies
installation of print-on-demand flags produced from found images gathered in young political spaces online.

Constant Dullaart Target Audience Banners (2019)



Harm van den Dorpel benelux.chem.sex (2022)



James Bridle Citizen Ex Flags (2015)

