Artist Activities

Flags for bedroom nations with Raquel Ormella

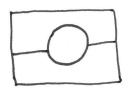


Flags are often used to represent nations, symbolising groups of people united by descent, history, culture, language or place. They are usually simple in design and recognisable from a distance.

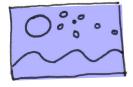
Flags can also be used to show solidarity or reflect belonging. Some flags use a central symbol to emphasise this, like football, rugby, or revolutionary flags.



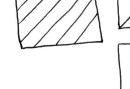








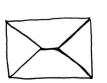




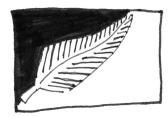












Other flags evoke landscapes, horizons and star maps. Is there a landscape near you that could feature in your custom designed flag?

Use a large sheet of paper, an old pillowcase or a t-shirt as your flag. Decorate with markers or coloured paper.

Start with small thumbnail drawings to plan what you will include and why.

How many flags can you think of that incorporate animals? (Papua New Guinea has the Bird of Paradise, Mexico has an eagle, the state flag of California has a bear)

...Don't forget to hang your flag up! Flags for Bedroom Nations can go on the wall inside, or in the window, or outside in a tree. What about making one for your neighbourhood next!



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Tracing items from around your home might be a great place to start. Forks, spoons, tennis racket, teddy bear, pet dog...



Raquel Ormella's practice spans textile, painting, installation, video and works on paper to explore the intersection of art and activism.

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