

*a universal flag
raised high in the air,
declaring surrender
and the end of resistance*

White Flag

The white flag is a universal symbol of surrender in the midst of a turbulent time of conflict. It is a sign of a desire to lay down the crusade of aggression and retaliation, in order to move towards peace and reconciliation. It is a call for harmony and the end of struggle. For some, the act of surrendering is a sign of defeat and weakness. For others, this is a declaration filled with courage, strength, and humility, to be able to let one's guard down and be open and vulnerable to what may be.

A flag itself is a sign that functions in many ways for many people, particularly when it is in the context of nations, politics, and histories. It can be a political statement and a symbol of claiming territory. Whereas a white flag is not claiming space, but rather, it is an act of surrendering that claim within any space that it is in. It is an opening of space.

Flags symbolize ideals and identities with a feeling of pride and nobility. Raising a white flag can be an act of dropping pride with the ideal to be free of conceit while identifying with humility and equanimity. When observing a flag of surrender, we are invited to embody what it represents within our own lives. It is a call to action to embrace for oneself the act of surrender and acceptance through the release of resistance and tension, so that one may dwell in a state of ease, harmony, and peace.



installation view during solo exhibition, 'SURRENDER'
at Nā Lama Kukui Lifestyle & Design Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

to view a video of 'White Flag', visit:

www.vimeo.com/andrewbinkley/surrender (can skip to 1:47)

nylon flag, custom-shaped steel rod, aluminum flagpole • 10 ft x 5 ft (3 m x 1.5 m) flag + 25 ft. (7.6 m) flagpole