

Fan Flag Six

Fan Flag Six, is a collaborative and continuous project by Sean Loughrey and Raafat Ishak. The project was created in the spirit of coincidence, inspired by the Egyptian flag and the St Kilda Football Club. It developed into a collective excursion, exploring the multiple interpretations associated with non-representation. Fan Flag was conceived as an evolving collaboration involving the artists' current studio practice and discussions on art and history.

Red, black and white are inoculated as popular abstract means within which the personal and subjective come to the fore. A sculptural component is central to this project and is in continuous construction. This involves each artist, in turn, adding to and subtracting from its presence. It has no final resolution; it remains in a state of flux. Its existence is contextualised during its inception in a gallery space, occupying the central stripe of a tri-colour flag. Horizontally, it is the flag of Egypt. Vertically, it represents the StKilda Football Club. Either way it is abstract. The horizon an endless desert, the vertical humiliating. The central object attempts to amplify the unwillingness of abstract values to encompass representational aspirations. Hence, it is proposed that this becomes a site for great relief. It is a site for the expression of political wills, indifference and the privacy of self-determination. The collaborative aspect is at once, an agreement between the artists, but further, it is intended to exaggerate the capabilities of abstract means to instigate a relative discourse.

Sean Loughrey and Raafat Ishak, 2006

Fan Flag One- Stripp Gallery, Fitzroy, 1997

Fan Flag Two- First Floor, Fitzroy, 1998

Fan Flag Three- ACCA, "Blink", Melbourne, 2000

Fan Flag Four- Ocular Lab, West Brunswick, 2001

Fan Flag Five- Kaliman Gallery, Sydney, 2003