

## **“All the Woo in the World”**

*New work constructed in the gallery by Jason Murphy*

August 6 – August 27, 2016

**Closing Reception: 7-10pm, Saturday August 27**

preceded by an Artist's talk and gallery tour at 6pm

From August 5 to August 26, Jason Murphy will construct new work in the gallery, inspired by a letter of advice he wrote to Captain America, which is reprinted below. For more background on Jason Murphy, please read [Essay'd Installment #48](#) written by Anthony Marcellini.

Note that Jason has indicated that he plans to work in the gallery every day during the period of the show, and that you are welcome to engage him on the work-in-progress. To make an appointment, please contact him directly at [color.taxonomy@gmail.com](mailto:color.taxonomy@gmail.com)

Murphy's residency in the gallery will end with an artist's talk and closing reception on Saturday August 27.

Dear Captain America,

On the way to church last Sunday, I heard your long-distance dedication to your girlfriend Betsy Ross, on Casey Kasem, and I started thinking about your outfit and her choice of colors for the first flag. I'd like to have a moment of your time to consider a rebrand.

The America thing plays well at home, particularly in Texas and Michigan, but in foreign markets, not so much. Afghanistan, the drones, Syria, the kids, etc. In a computer simulated world where there are 255 shades per color going from white to black, we can think of that as  $255+255+255$ . That gives us 765 individual colored shades. To get the multiple shades you have to multiply  $765 \times 765 \times 765$  to get the combined shades. That makes 16,581,375 or 5,527,125 shades of each color. So there are some options out there for you.

That said, Steve. Can I call you “Steve”? Are you really stuck on red, white, and blue? As with the NFL potentially changing all the teams to black and gold (How cool would that be?!) and the threat of the NBA changing everything to Charlotte Hornets teal, I think there's a real opportunity here to think about a color switch for you. Honestly, with all due respect to Betsy, she just copied that scheme from Rebecca Young's Grand Union flag, which is essentially a warped Union Jack, which is to say pretty colonial. And how does someone in, say, a former English colony not assume that you represent Brexit when you come to save their country?

Let's just think about this for a sec. Let's say you're going to do some stuff in the Dominican Republic, like save the DR, overthrow Trujillo's ghost (or whatever) though I assume you probably have a relationship

with the CIA ergo a Trujillo supporter. Anyway, you show up all decked out in your red, white, and blue. How do they, the Dominicans, not know you're repping Haiti? I mean that could go really bad for you because even though it's the same damn island, the Dominicans f'in hate the Haitians. And, (Wikipedia spoiler alert) the DR flag is red, white, and blue, too!

Just to break it down for you, there are 37 national flags that are only red, white, and blue. I mean, does your franchise play better or worse in China because the bootleg that's floating around there has you pegged as Captain Nepal. It's just subtitles you know. Captain Samoa, Captain Cambodia, Captain Cook Islands. (Captain Cook..., hehe...) You could be any of these, so what I'm saying is just think of what you could be.

If you invert red, white, and blue you get green, orange, and black: the Cherokee Nation colors. God I hope that was a purposeful, forever joke on their part. And I'm not saying you have to invert. I'm saying there are options. The Miami Dolphins, the Vikings, the Canucks for Pete's sake, those are all valid. I mean, imagine yourself all Dolphined out. You'd look so Miami Vice. Get your Don Johnson on, baby! Diebenkorn it. You could also go black-light reactive like Lil Wayne. All the all-over-printing options. I'm just saying that color alone could make a lot of difference in how people perceive you and even how they think of America. I'd just love to begin this journey with you and make a difference in the world.