

High Flying Art

Kites from Around the World

Part Two

Fighter Kites

- Fighter Kites
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqXJg3wsfVY> (kite museum)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sl3qWHkqfI8> (Brazil)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfeNUaKxufA> (Afghanistan)

India

Kites has a very ancient kite tradition. Most people believe that kites were brought into India by Chinese travelers F Hien and Huin Tsang. *Patang* or *guddi* as it is more commonly known, are made of tissue paper, and bamboo. And almost all Indian kites have a very similar shape and that is of a diamond tissue paper with a center spine and a single bow intersecting the spine.

- <https://en.gaonconnection.com/from-being-used-in-military-operations-in-the-169th-bc-in-china-to-being-a-stress-busters-for-the-mughals-in-india-the-humble-kite-has-come-a-long-way-literally/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/historytv18ind/videos/indias-giant-kites/342046306390390/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTSiGfmCMMs> (1:29)











Afghanistan

From the movie:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TroueqxAtM>

Real:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfeNUaKxufA>







Pakistan

- <http://best-breezes.squarespace.com/display/ShowJournal?moduleId=323705&categoryId=28637>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCXUVPyErGU>





Brazil

Kite Fight

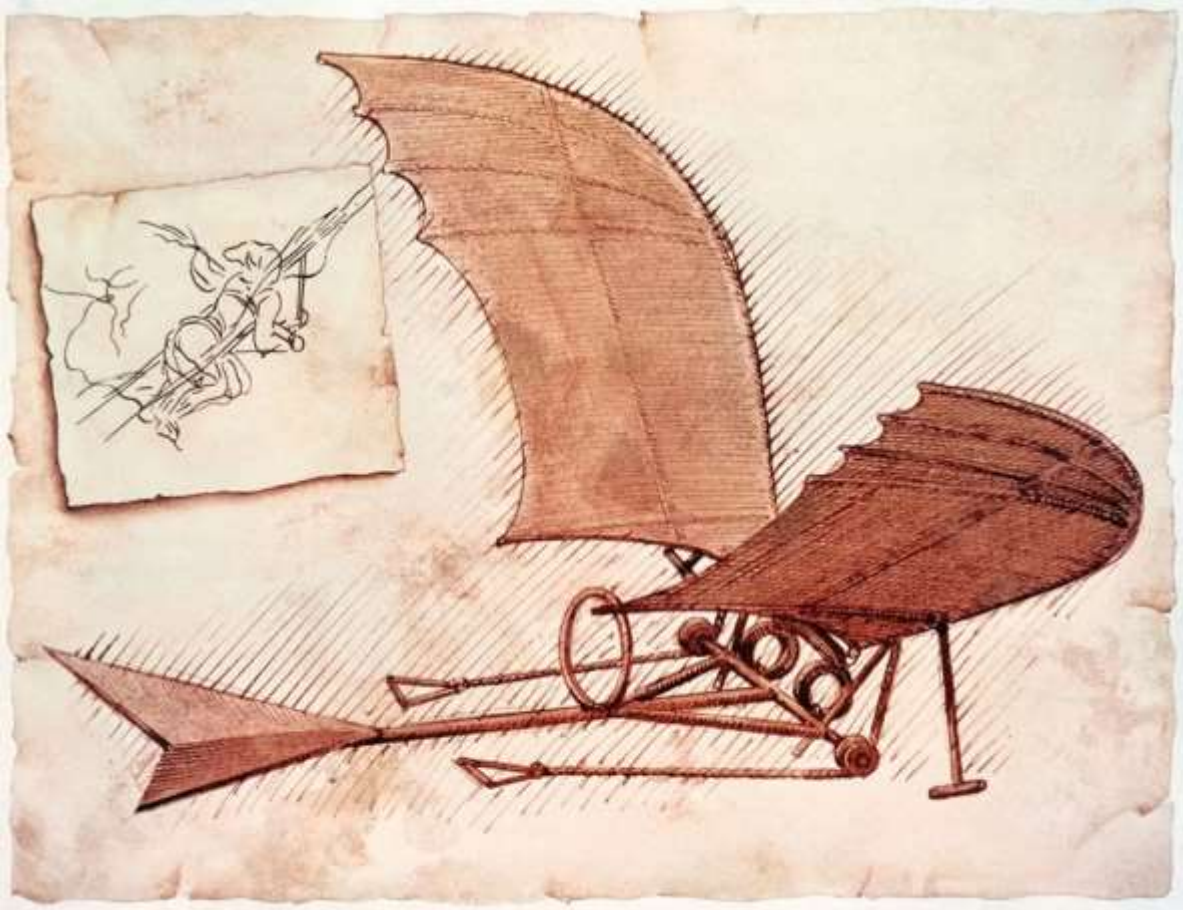
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sl3qWHkqfI8>



Leonardo Da Vinci

The **Great Kite** ([Italian](#): *il Grande Nibbio*) was a wooden machine designed by [Leonardo da Vinci](#). Leonardo realized it between the end of the 15th Century and the beginning of the 16th Century. Drawings of parts and components of this machine can be found in the [Codex on the flight of birds](#), which however lacks the overall description of the machine itself. Some drawings within the same codex suggest that it was created in similarity with flapping flight. However, this was hardly possible to perform given the available technologies, thus Leonardo developed a machine for mainly a gliding flight.^[1] The machine is named after the animal from which Leonardo took inspiration to realize the flying machine, the [Kite](#).^[2]

https://www.google.com/search?q=Leonardo+Da+Vinci+flying&client=firefox-b-1-d&sxsr=AJOqlzUFpcxUlq0jSZd6NsFoQZBA6ULohg:1673491464958&source=Inms&tbm=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj4urbCgch8AhUtHUQIHeyXCI8Q_AUoAnoECAEQBA&biw=1600&bih=775&dpr=1#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:56bfd24e,vid:oPCZ6HU9XLQ



Benjamin Franklin

On June 10, 1752, [Benjamin Franklin](#) was said to have [flown a kite during a thunderstorm](#) to collect ambient electrical charge in a Leyden jar, enabling him to demonstrate the connection between lightning and electricity. Franklin became interested in electricity in the mid-1740s, a time when much was still unknown on the topic, and spent almost a decade conducting electrical experiments. He coined a number of terms used today, including battery, conductor and electrician. He also invented the lightning rod, used to protect buildings and ships.

- <https://www.sutori.com/en/story/kites-throughout-history--ygZs1D5Csk93fWN4TjTrsrkx>



Cool Contemporary Kites

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cddjvGuviM>

Anna Rubin

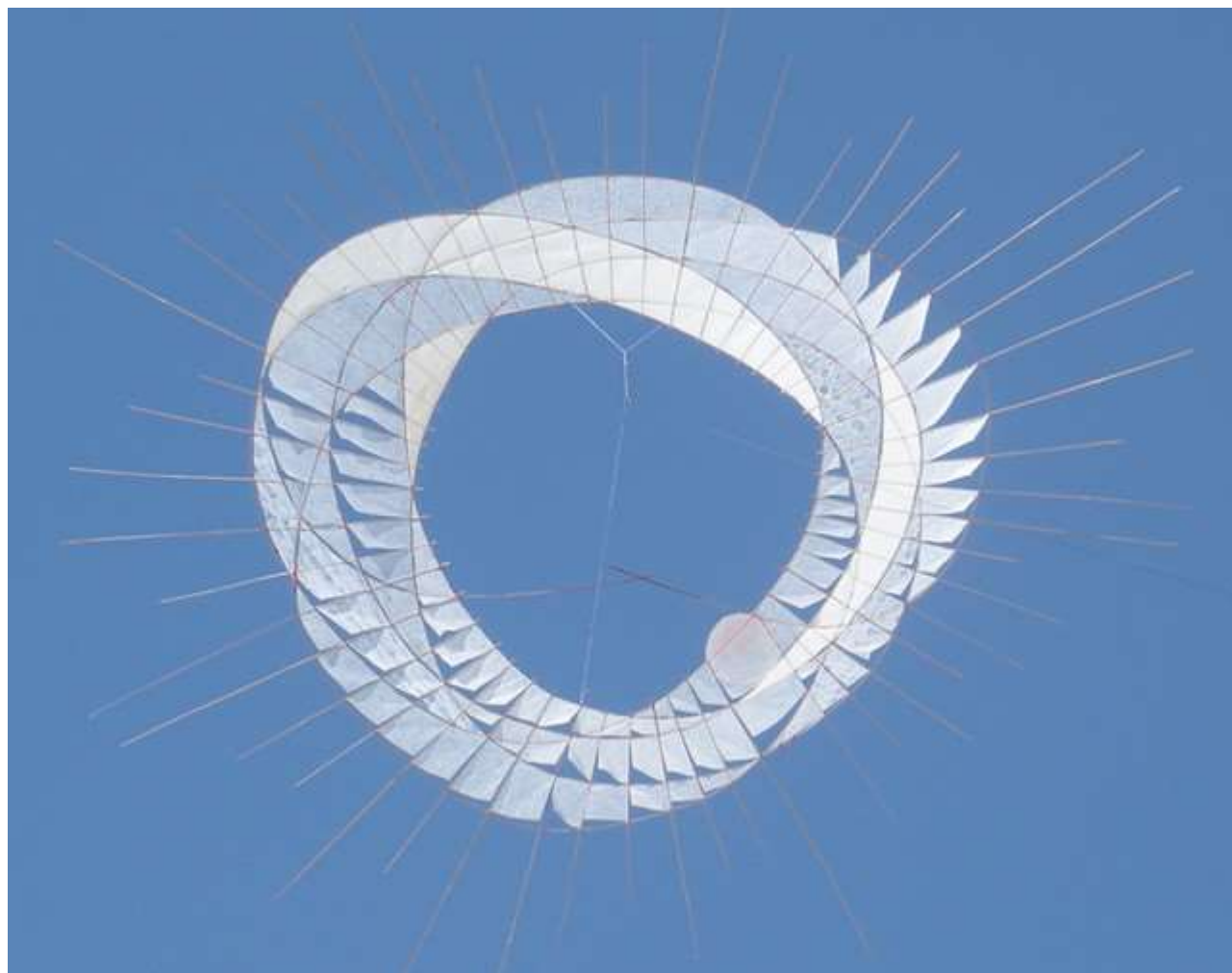


In Kärnten, Austria, [Anna Rubin](#), 48, conjures surreal bamboo-and-paper creations that are designed, she says, to resemble “things that shouldn’t be flown on a kite,” including pockmarked coal-black meteors, striped hammocks and jute carpets, whose frayed edges make them look like soaring sunbursts of grass. Rubin produces three or four of these special kites, in addition to over a hundred smaller designs that she sells and uses for art installations, each year, often employing ancient Japanese methods, including hand-splitting the bamboo for her frames and using hand-pressed natural fibers to cover them. She wants to carry on traditions that she fears will otherwise be lost by a culture fixated on the future, but she’s equally inspired by the sheer joy of the work. “Everyone should, once in their life, make a kite and fly it,” she says.

- https://www.facebook.com/festivalaquilonecervia/videos/anna-rubin-nel-suo-atelier-in-onda-su-orftv/933680480910568/?locale=ms_MY (In german)









Ron Gibian

During my childhood I was always exposed to articles of beauty, particularly in our homes. I was always near my father's tilt drawing table and never far from sketch paper and pencils.

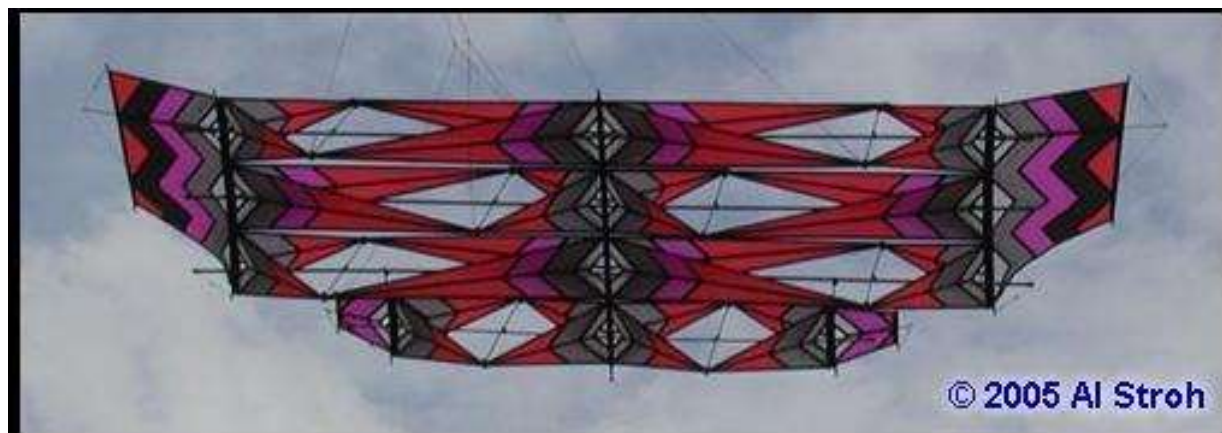
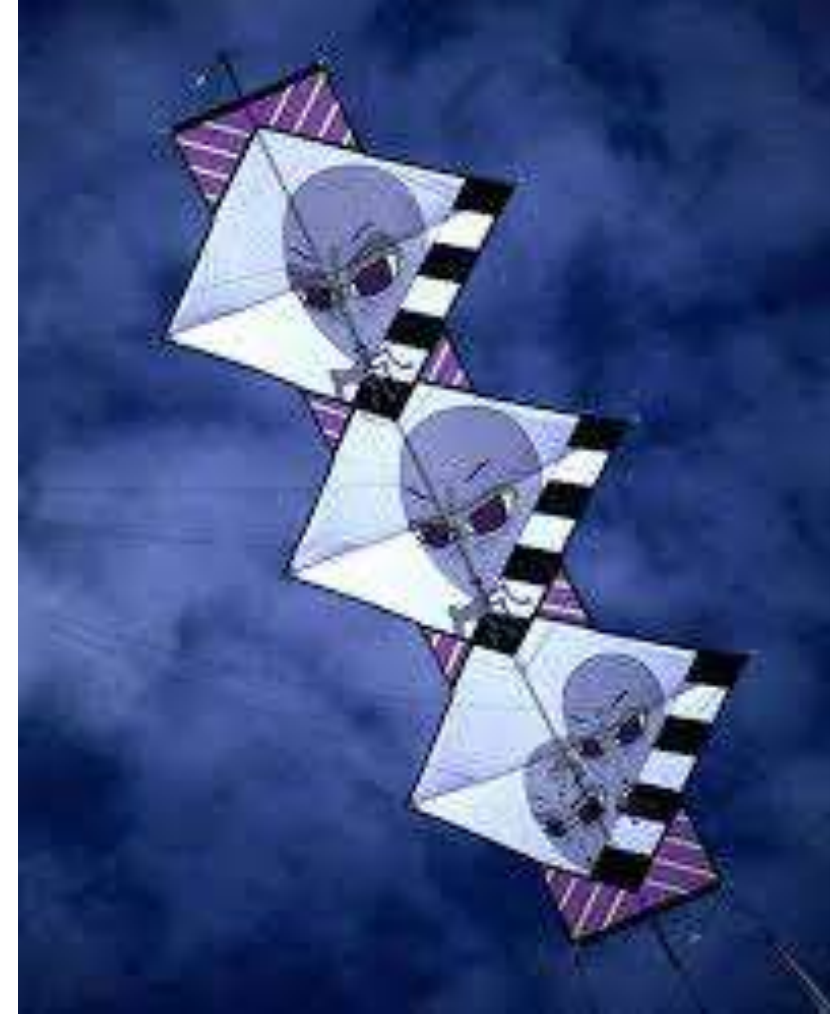
The music business and arts entered a period of my life from teenage years until 1976. However, in recent years I have directed all my energies to visual arts, mainly ripstop nylon as a medium. Kites, tethered art and sky sculptures are one in the same to me.

Natural life ... animals, insects, birds and creatures of the reef have all been subject matter and sources of inspiration for most of our pictorial kites. Articles and objects that I cross paths with will trigger thoughts and ideas for interesting graphics. I try not to analyze things too much. I simply do them because they feel right. All this has brought a tremendous sense of balance, peace and harmony to our lives.

- <http://www.gibiankites.com/products/index.htm>
- <https://www.facebook.com/FortunaFound/videos/some-of-the-kites-made-and-flown-by-ron-gibian-have-you-seen-his-kites-in-person/755945532407600/> (54 secs)

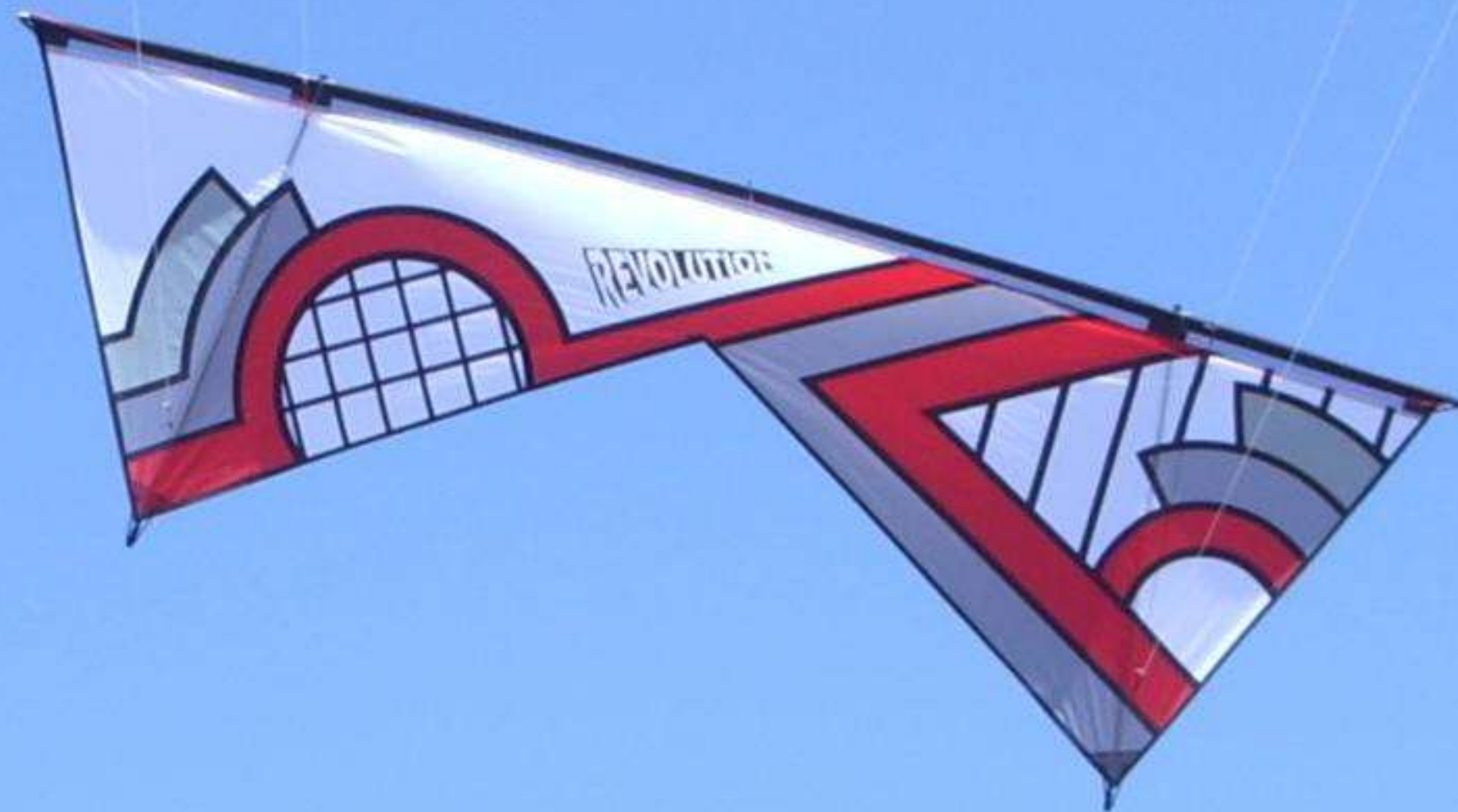






© 2005 Al Stroh





Alicja Szalska

- <https://www.szalsky.eu/about-1>



Jacob Hashimoto

Using sculpture, painting, and installation, Jacob Hashimoto creates complex worlds from a range of modular components: bamboo-and-paper kites, model boats, even astroturf-covered blocks. His accretive, layered compositions reference video games, virtual environments, and cosmology, while also remaining deeply rooted in art-historical traditions notably, landscape-based abstraction, modernism, and handcraft.

<https://www.fortunafound.com/single-post/4-kite-artists-you-want-to-watch-part-1>

Jacob Hashimoto

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJ_W8rCSi5A&t=23s (use this)

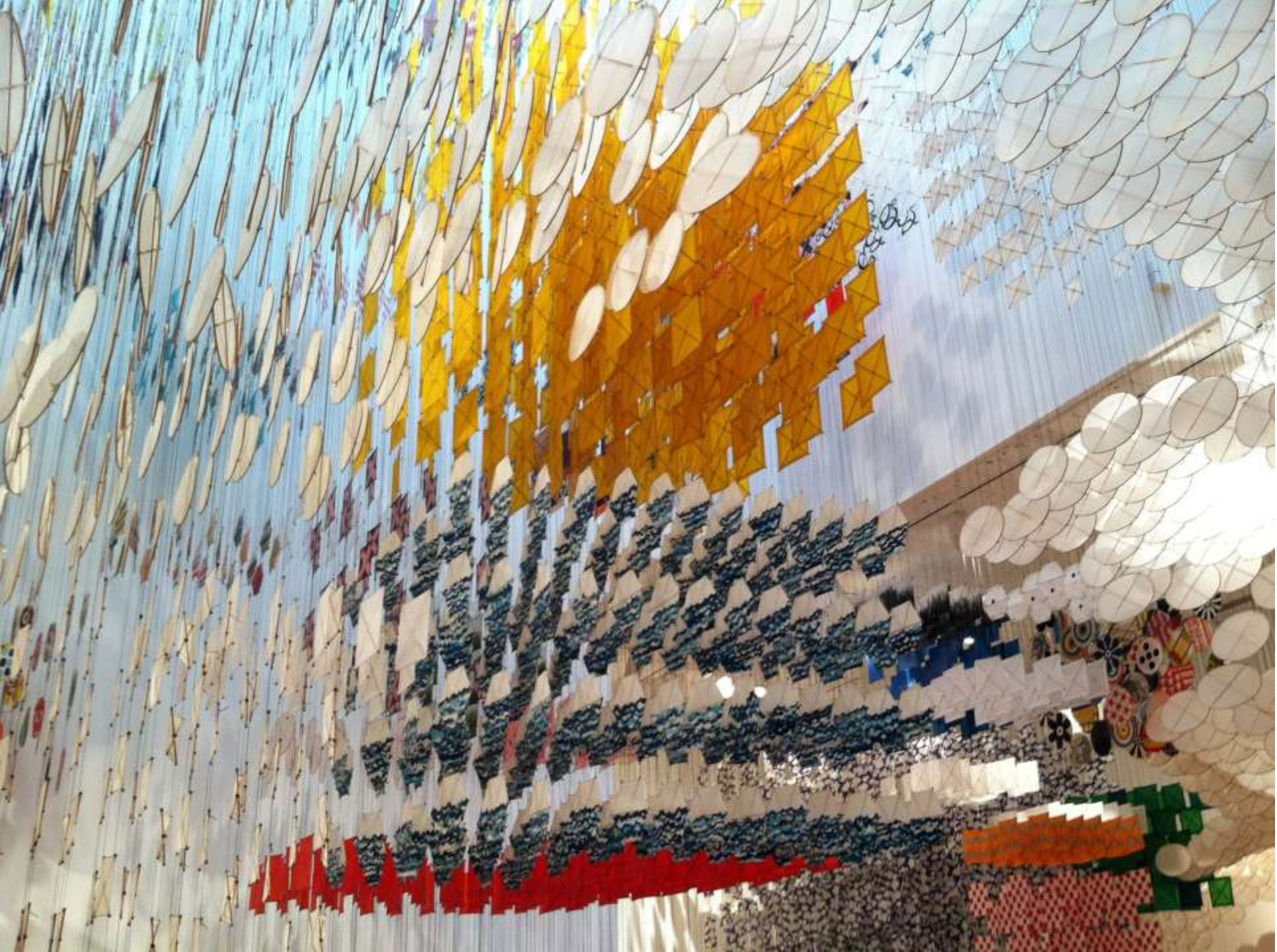
<https://www.thisiscolossal.com/interviews/jacob-hashimoto/>

<https://www.moca.org/exhibition/jacob-hashimotos-gas-giant>

<https://www.nytimes.com/video/t-magazine/100000007979961/t-process-jacob-hashimoto.html>

<https://www.suzannerandolphfinearts.com/srfa-in-the-studio/2020/6/8/in-the-studio-with-jacob-hashimoto>

<https://www.rhoffmangallery.com/exhibitions/jacob-hashimoto4>



















Kisa Sauer

Kisa Sauer is from Germany but has been at the Cold Hollow Sculpture park in Enosburg for the last couple of weeks as part of a residency.

She says there's something magical about the way kites transform a landscape, even one already as beautiful as the sculpture park. "When you fly a kite in a landscape, it does something to the landscape and the other way around," Sauer said.

- <https://www.wcax.com/2022/08/12/vt-kite-artist-takes-palette-new-heights/>



© 2006 Dirsten Sauer







Audrey Chan

A single kite cuts across the sky above [Los Angeles State Historic Park](#), its hexagonal body flipping in the wind.

The park sits on the edge of Chinatown, just northeast of downtown L.A. The city pulses around it — the Gold Line tracks flank one side, industrial warehouses the other. But this stretch of land is still and calming, all unobstructed blue sky and vast green lawn cut only by a fluttering white kite line — an [Ellsworth Kelly-like](#) urban oasis.

The kite dances in the air, the embodiment of levity. But it bears a powerful message: “Protect Public Lands.”

<https://www.facebook.com/clockshopla/videos/2nd-annual-community-unity-peoples-kite-festival/330471445894119/> Stencil 37 sec



Phil Broder

Editor of Kiting Magazine from 2006-2015, a past Vice President of the American Kitefliers Association, and a guest at many international kite festivals, Phil is known for finding artwork in unusual places -- on shirts, restaurant menus, and the sides of Beijing police cars -- and making it fly.

- <https://www.ydr.com/story/life/2017/07/20/local-kite-maker-makes-art-fly/488911001/>







Making a Kite

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKK1hBtwHk&t=247s>

Kite Festival Santa Monica

- <https://www.kcet.org/shows/socal-connected/clip/santa-monicas-fluttering-kite-festival>
- Tyrus Wong

Leaf Kites

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdefwuEqQbw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoM5ciLfFgM> (War Kites)
- Gibson Girl
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwgMU2rM dg>

Assignment Suggestions...

- Make a kite out of paper or leaves or fabric.
- Create a kite shape and create an artwork within the “frame”
- Go somewhere and observe kites flying. Take photos.
- Go fly a kite!
- Create an artwork inspired by the experience of flying a kite.
- Create an artwork inspired by traditional kite designs.
- Create a pattern out of overlapping kite shapes.