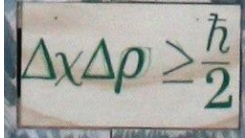


# Guide to Images and Symbols for *Erik Bakke: A Site-Specific Installation for ThirdSpace*



The laurel symbols (closed and open) are taken from photographs of a laurel tree growing in the ghost town of Wrights, CA. The symbols also reference binary code—closed or open, off or on, false or true, zero or one.



The formula for Heisenberg's uncertainty principle was introduced by Werner Heisenberg in 1927. The principle states that the more precisely the momentum of a particle is known the less precisely its position is known—that the more precisely the position is known the less precisely the momentum is known.



The Planck constant was introduced in 1900 by Max Planck. It can be found, see above, in the Heisenberg uncertainty principle formula. This constant is foundational in the understanding of quantum mechanics. Physical action, when looking at very small (quantum) things, cannot take on just any value—it must be some multiple of the Planck constant. In other words, the dial cannot be turned up just a little bit—it must be turned up step by step. The h-bar ( $\hbar$ ) is the symbol for the reduced constant:  $\hbar/2\pi$ .



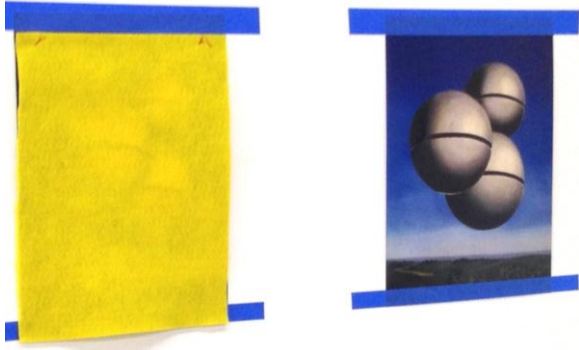
This Chinese text refers to the myth of Wu Gang and his never-ending task of chopping down a laurel tree that heals as he chops. This is a Sisyphus-like myth illustrating labor that is never finished.



Wright, CA is in the Santa Cruz Mountains at 37°08'21"N 121°56'45"W on Los Gatos Creek above the town of Los Gatos and below Summit Road. It was the location of Wrights Station, a stop on the route from Los Gatos to Santa Cruz of the narrow gauge railroad that ran from about 1880 to 1940. During the construction of the railroad tunnel at Wrights thirty-two Chinese workers were killed in a natural gas explosion. Laurel, CA was also on the route and just over the summit on the Santa Cruz side.



This banner's symbol (three dots in a circle) is after Nicholas Roerich's "Banner of Peace." For Roerich the three dots symbolized Art, Science, and Religion. The Banner is associated with the Roerich Pact—the Pact was an international agreement (signed by F. D. Roosevelt among others) to protect cultural treasures in times of war.



Ten images of René Magritte's *Voice of Space* of 1931 appear in the installation—nine are covered with yellow felt (felt length, starting with a 36" piece, is reduced following a Fibonacci sequence: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 36)



The three dot symbol has been used since ancient times. Roerich used it in his "Banner of Peace." The red, blue and yellow work in this exhibition, in part because of its costume-like coloring, is called *Superhero*.



Three dot symbol over California state flag



Blank California flag.



TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) is the operator of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Three horizontal dots over two vertical dots is the basis for the TEPCO logo. The logo was designed by Kazumasa Nagai who is also known for his "Peace: Ban the Nukes" posters.