

The background image shows a black hole's event horizon, depicted as a dark, curved boundary against a bright, swirling accretion disk. The disk is composed of numerous thin, light-colored streaks that curve inward toward the center, creating a sense of depth and motion.

SPACE BLOG DOCUMENTATION

By David Ballesteros Ortiz

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1.- Project description

The client is interested in a website related to outer space and astronomy. His goal is having a blog-type website to reach the maximum audience possible, where he can put interesting information such as news, articles, reviews, between others. Therefore, the goal of this project is making said website with the best possible design while also achieving client's expectations.

2.- Project requirements

Following the client suggestions and first requests we can conclude a few must-have characteristics of the site:

1. The web design has to be heavily based in space, with dark and inspiring colors. The client wants something to catch the user's eye right after he enters the site. He shows a big interest in the visual aspect so we will have to make something stunning.
2. The blog will also need a menu to navigate between the different sections of its own: the main page, the news page, the gallery page and the contact page. It is preferred an horizontal top menu which will remain unchanged throughout the various pages.
3. Another matter of interest for the client is a newspaper service for the users of the blog: We will have to implement a section for it, but he does not want something too intrusive for the user's experience. The client thinks that a user who subscribes to a newsletter because of interest is way more valuable than someone who does it just because a pop-up window is shown on his face.

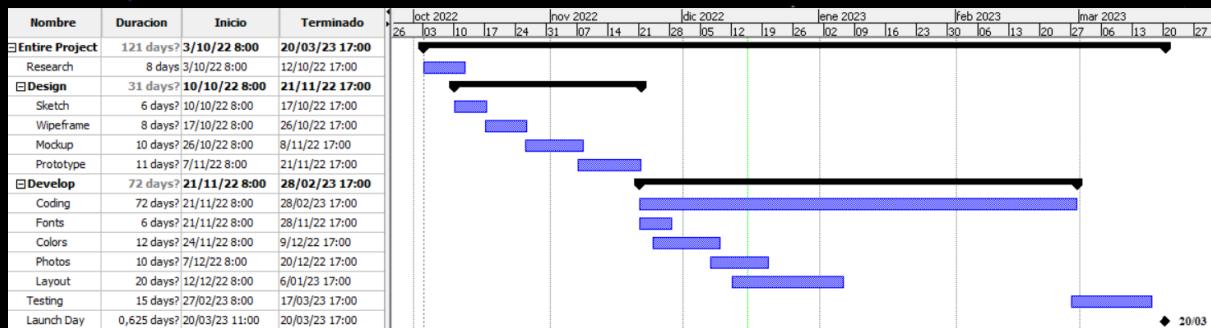
Having said the main requests from the client, let's talk a bit about the user stories. Quoting the client: "I want the blog to be inspiring for the people visiting it. Something so cool that takes a woah from the user's mouth. One goal of the site is to encourage young people into studying about space or astronomy. But they don't have to be young people, I want everyone who visits my blog to truly enjoy doing it. Maybe even making someone look fascinated at the sky and the stars next time they go outside during night time."

I think we all can agree this client is a true astronomy fan, and I will enjoy working for him. That's why I want to make some stunning visuals for the site and make it one of a kind.

3.- Timeline

The estimated time to complete the project will be around 5-6 months, starting the 1st of October and finishing throughout March.

To visualize the planning of the project, we have built a Gantt diagram. Here we can see every step in the project's development. From the initial research to the launch day. Every stage of the project has been given an estimated time to be completed, as well as a start and finish date.



4.- Budget

The client's budget is \$900. Taking this into account and given the estimated time to complete the project, we have come to the conclusion of making a mainly static website.

If time and resources allow it, some dynamism could be implemented with the use of some basic JavaScript.

5.- Competitors & research

The first step in the development process of the project is the research. We have browsed through a few websites collecting some ideas and taking notes of things we can implement into our own site. After a few days of research, the following aspects have caught our attention.

1. The idea of having an images gallery, taken from [Photo Gallery - Space Adventures](#)
2. The vast majority of sites visited had a white background with very basic color palettes and I didn't like them at all. Therefore we will be building around a dark theme, with a palette that contrasts the darker colors with brighter ones.
3. Other sites checked:
 - Nasa's blog: [NASA Blogs](#)
 - Space and beyond: [The Space & Beyond Blog](#)
 - Space: [Space.com](#)

6.- Design principles applied

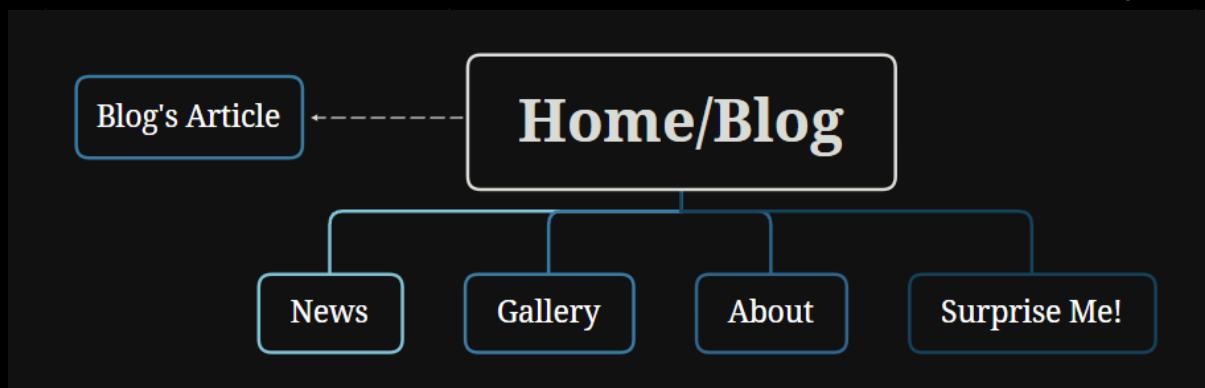
During the design process we have decided to use some design principles to make the page more visually appealing. Here are a few examples:

1. **The use of negative space.** We don't want a lot of information that may overwhelm the user. Instead, we will be going for a minimalistic style with only the important information. (See wireframe home page)
2. **Simple navigation.** The page will be very easy to use and user-friendly, with little interactions and a compact menu.
3. **Call to action.** Using an accent color, we will take advantage of this resource making the user spend more time on the site, browsing between different pages thanks to a surprise me button. (See Navigation map)
4. **Symmetry and asymmetry in balance.** The use of symmetry will be present in some parts of the site, although asymmetry will also be present to break the monotony. (See wireframe gallery)

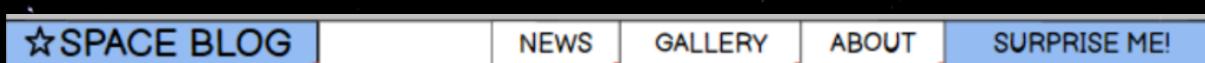
7.- Navigation map

Given the said specifications, we have concluded that the navigation map will be simple and concise, to make it easy to use for everyone.

We have designed the following scheme to picture it out:



This will translate into a top horizontal menu, with the possibility to navigate throughout the different pages.



Here you can appreciate the use of the call to action principle in the surprise me button. This button will send the user to a random page of the site, for example an article or an image from the gallery.

Also from the Home (or Blog) page we will have the possibility to navigate to an article's page, which will contain the entire article.



3, 2, 1... Lift off!

01/11/2022

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You will learn amazing facts about Space. From the smallest asteroids to the biggest galaxies. Get to know the unknown by reaching the limits of human comprehension about what is up there.

[Read the full article](#)



Total solar eclipse in Proxima Centauri

02/11/2022

Recent research has found that in November 6th a total solar eclipse will occur in Proxima Centauri.

You will learn amazing facts about Space. From the smallest asteroids to the biggest galaxies. Get to know the unknown by reaching the limits of human comprehension about what is up there.

[Read the full article](#)

In addition to this, the final version implemented two extra navigation options, used for being redirected to the article's entries part of the main page:

Welcome to Space

Here you will discover what Space actually is like. Search for information, read news and embrace yourself into the beauty of the unknown.

[Visit our blog](#)



SPACE BLOG

[BLOG](#)

[NEWS](#)

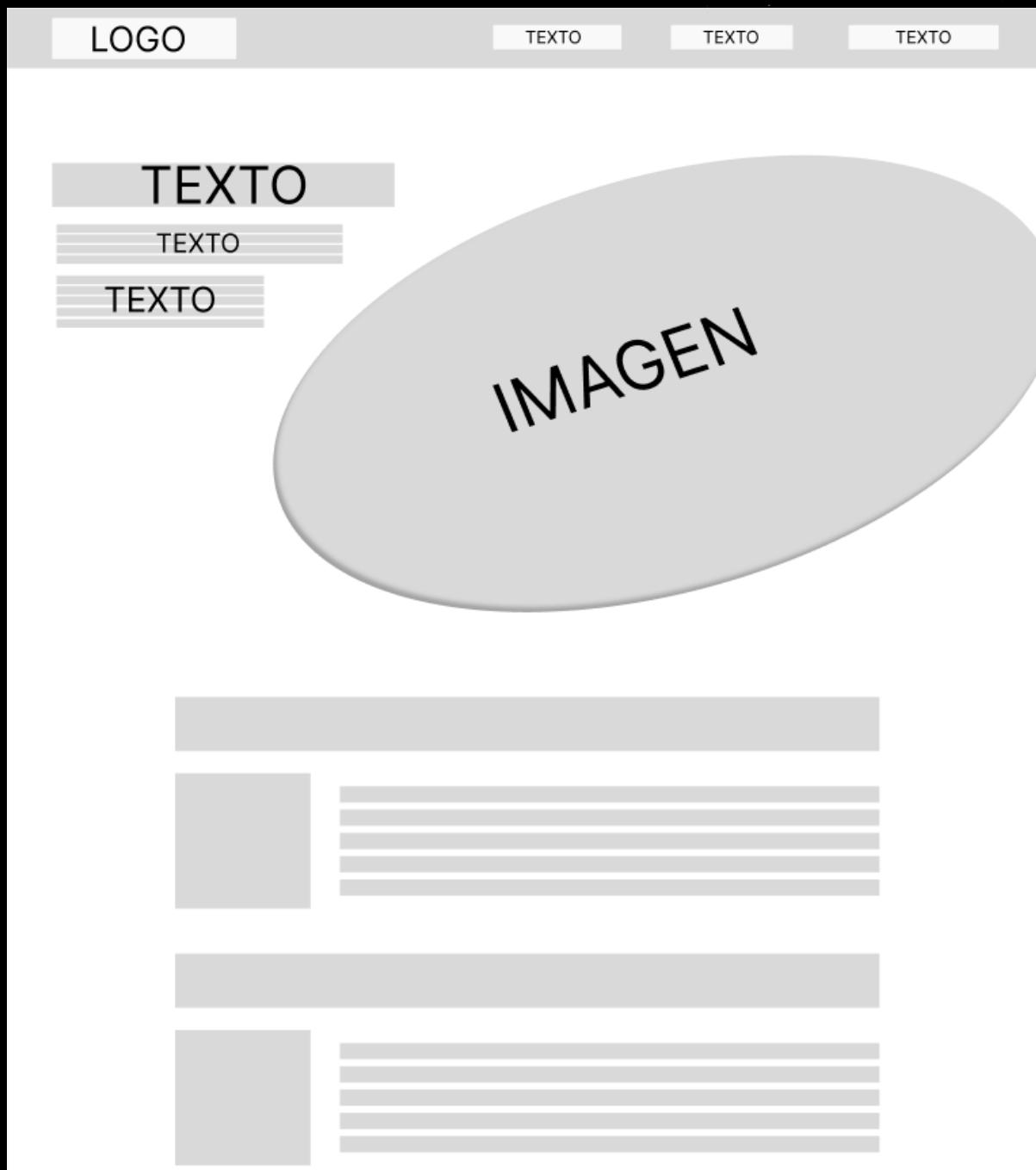
8.- Prototypes

Throughout the design process we have gone through various stages of the page, starting with a simple sketch and ending with a somewhat functional prototype.

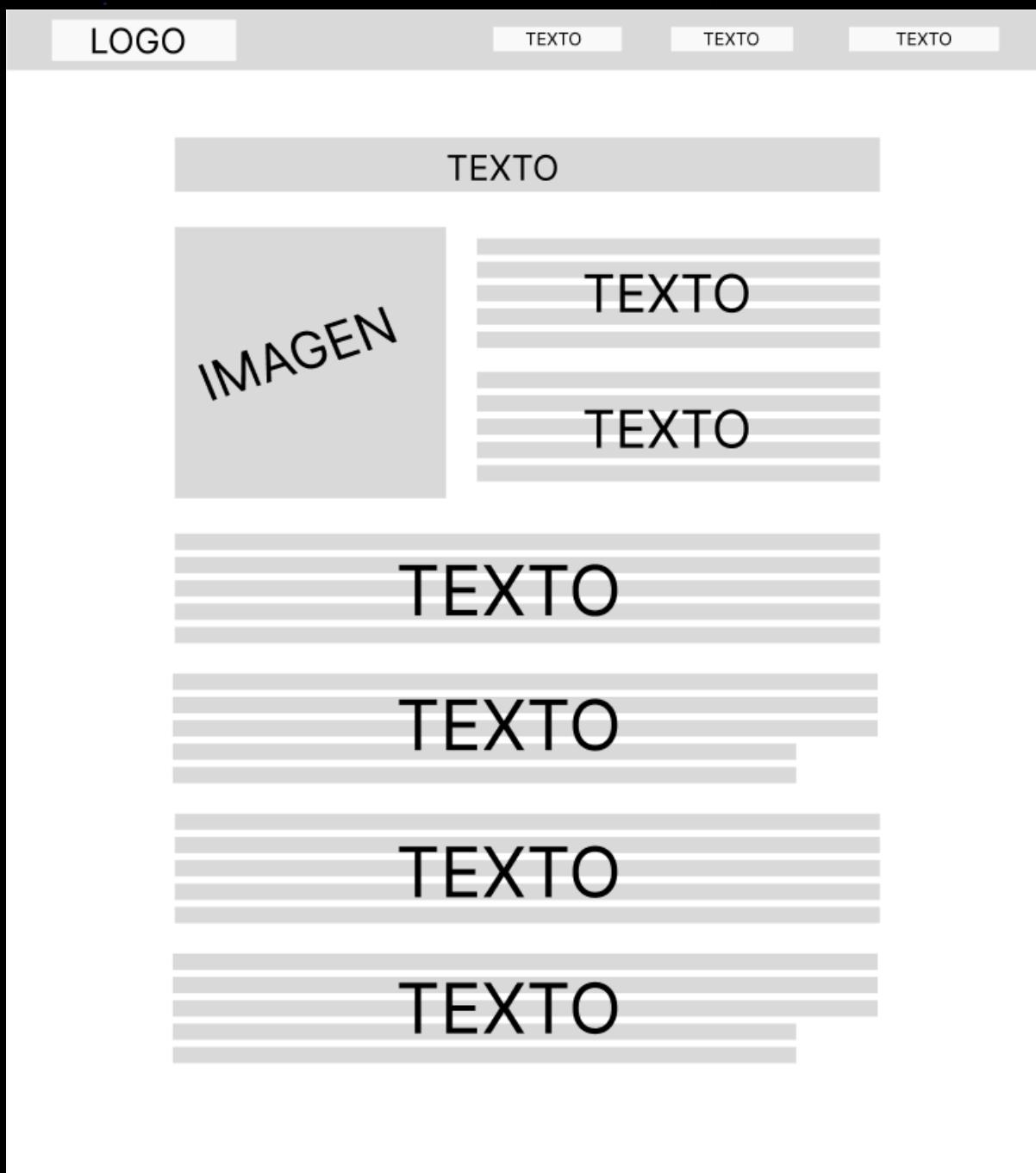
8.1.- Sketch

To start visualizing how the project will actually look, we have designed a sketch of every page the website will have, both in the desktop and mobile version:

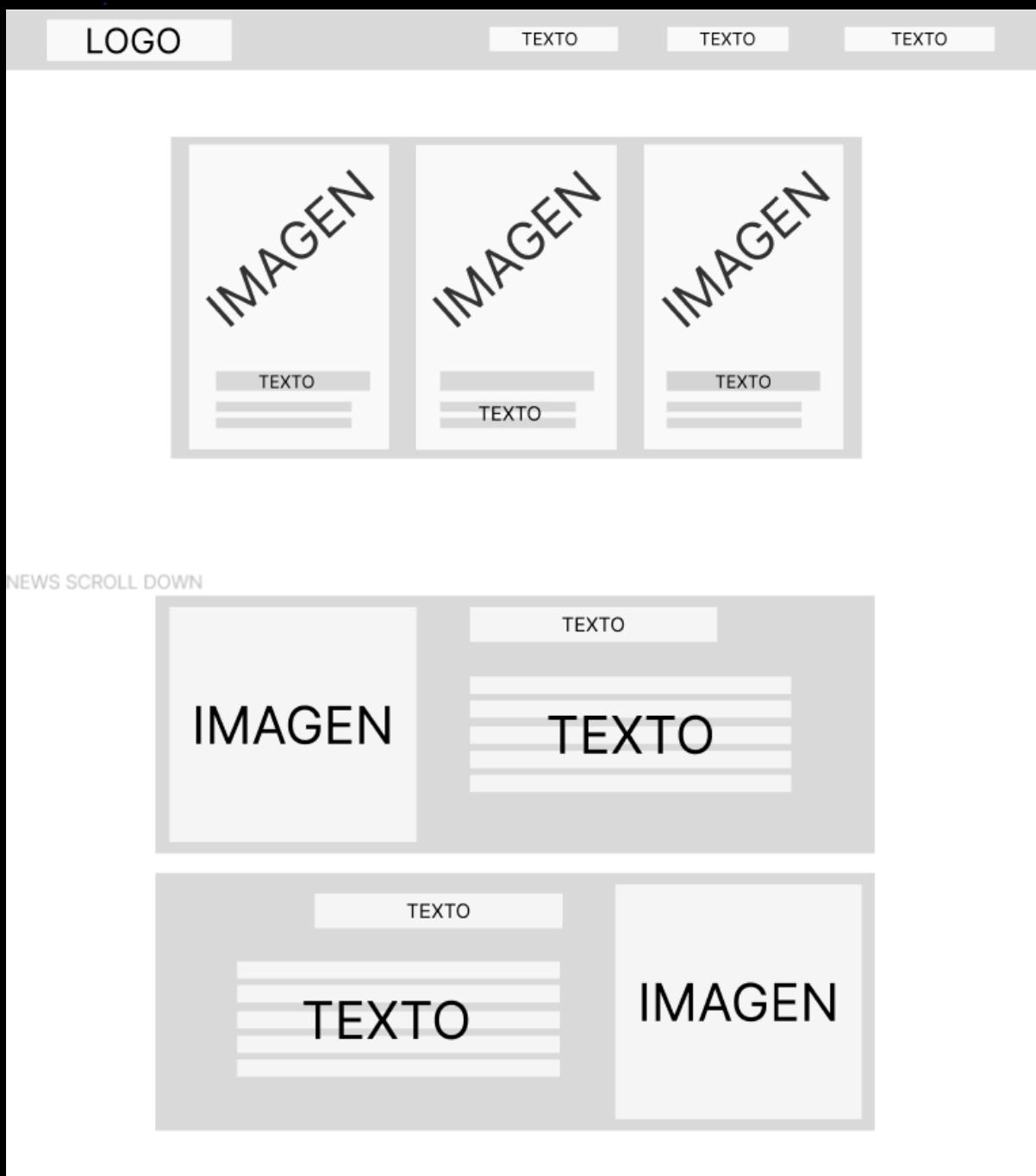
8.8.1. Main Page



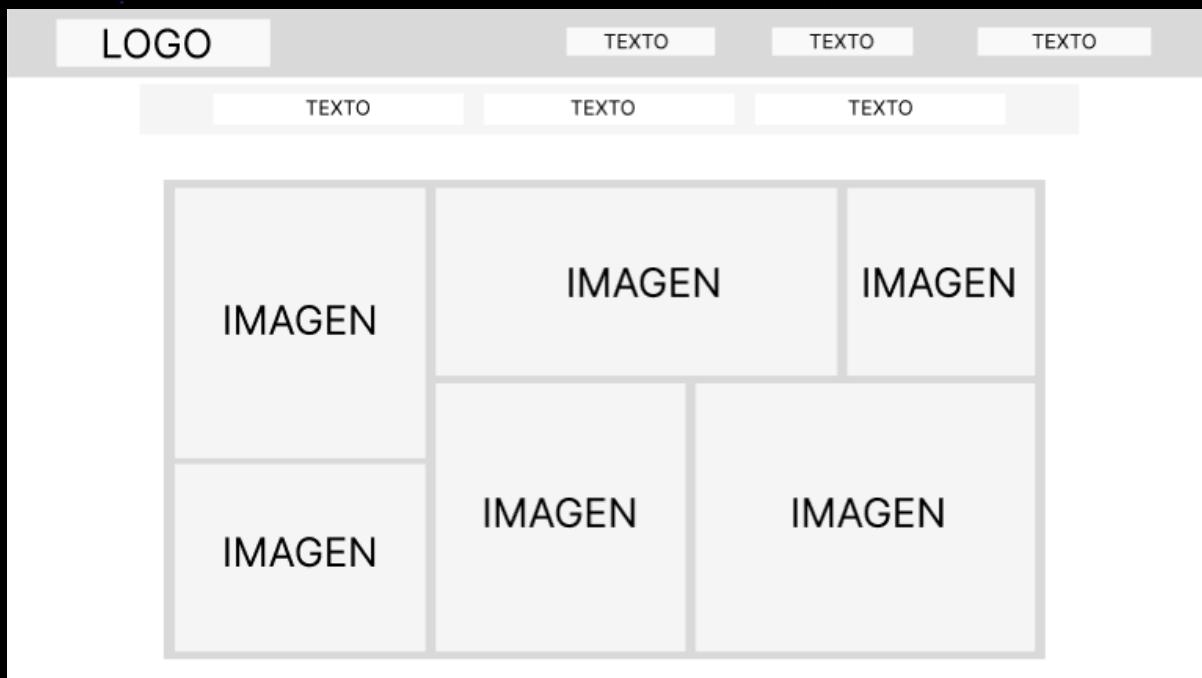
8.8.2.- Article's page



8.8.3.- News page



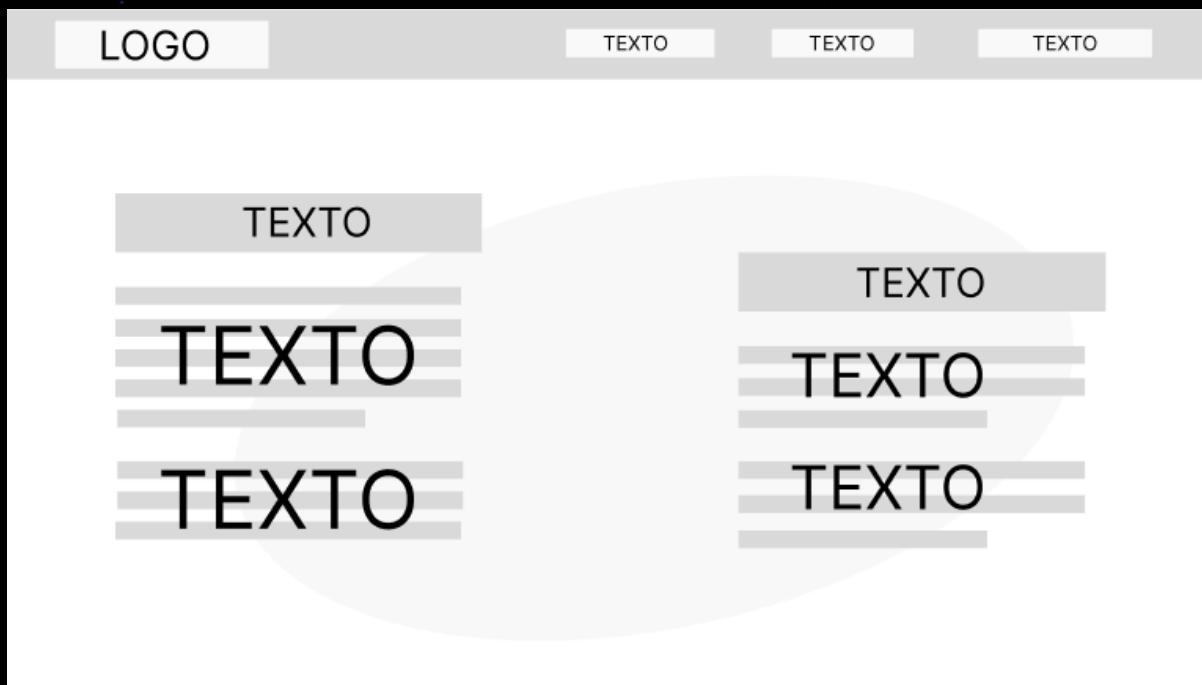
8.8.4.- Gallery page



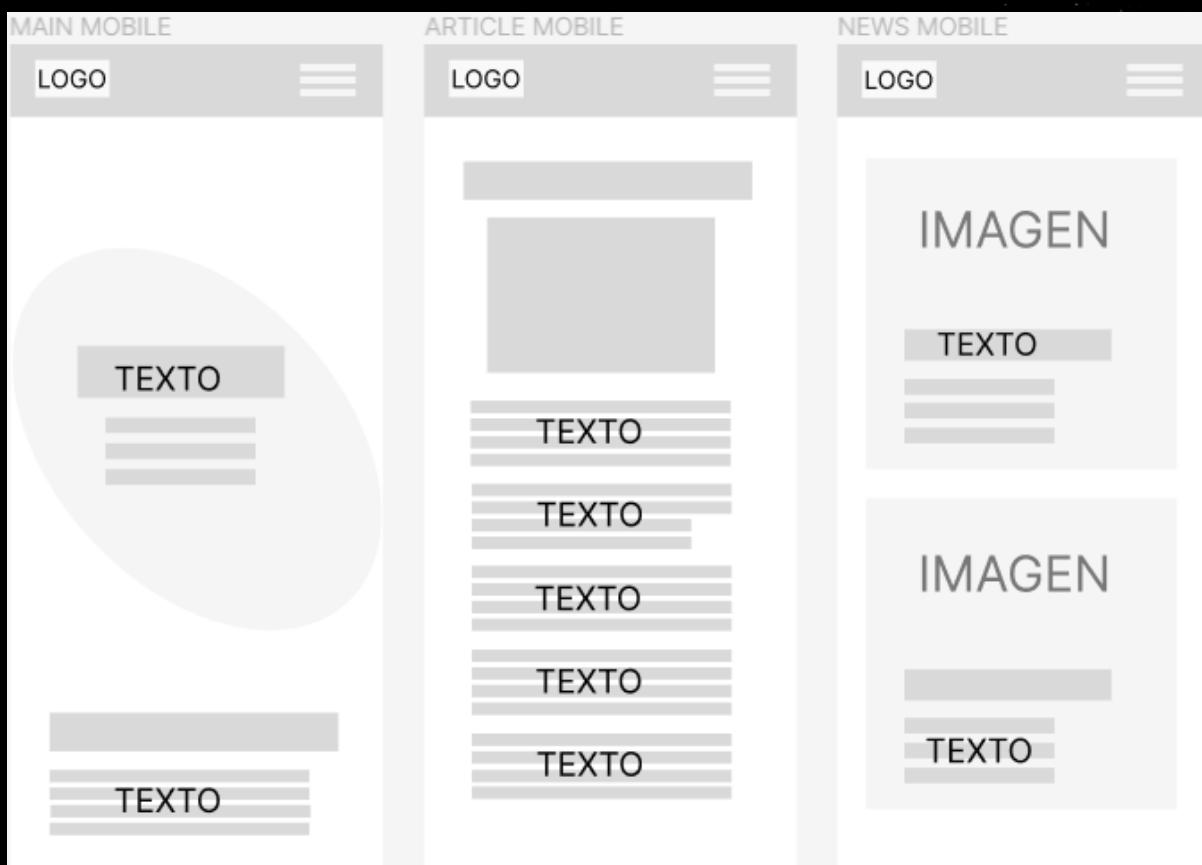
8.8.4.1.- Gallery with an open image



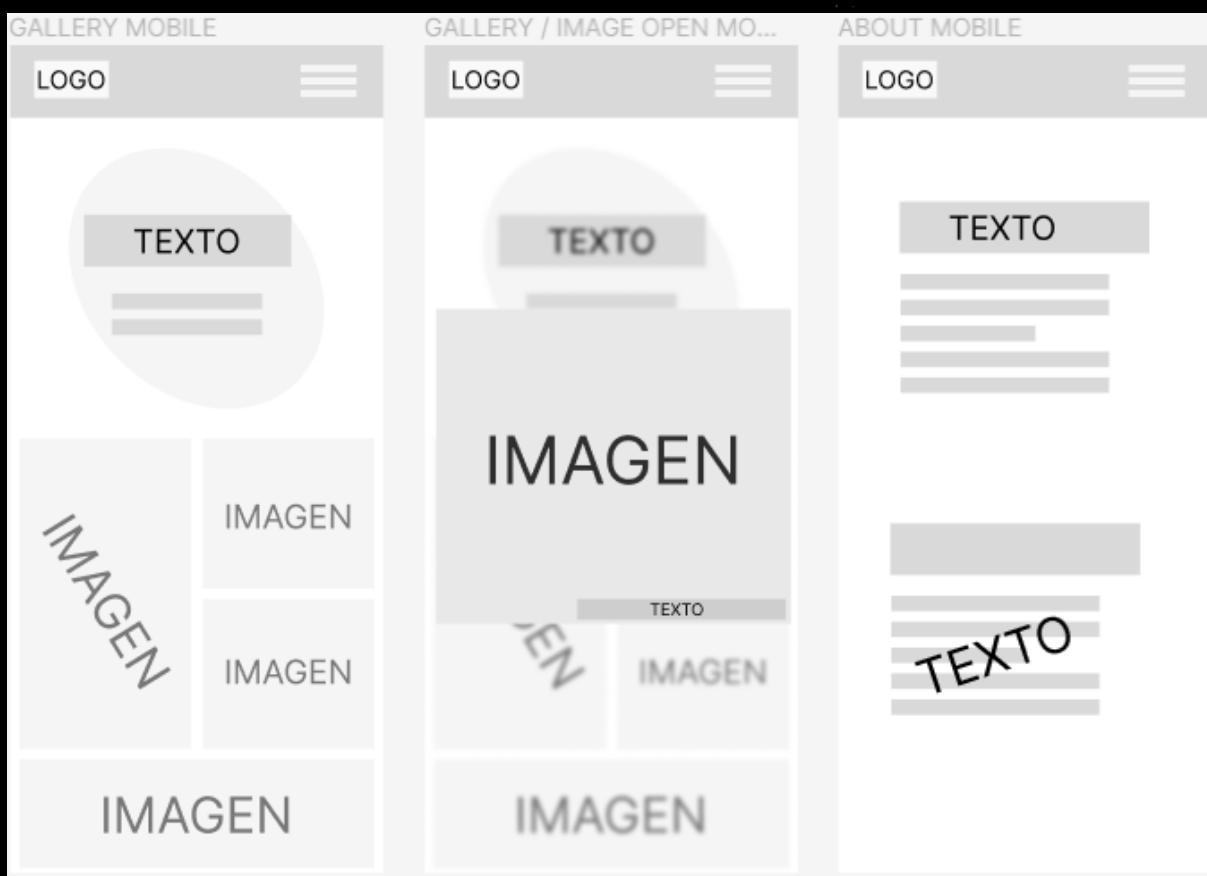
8.8.5.- About page



8.8.6.- Mobile versions: Main, article & news

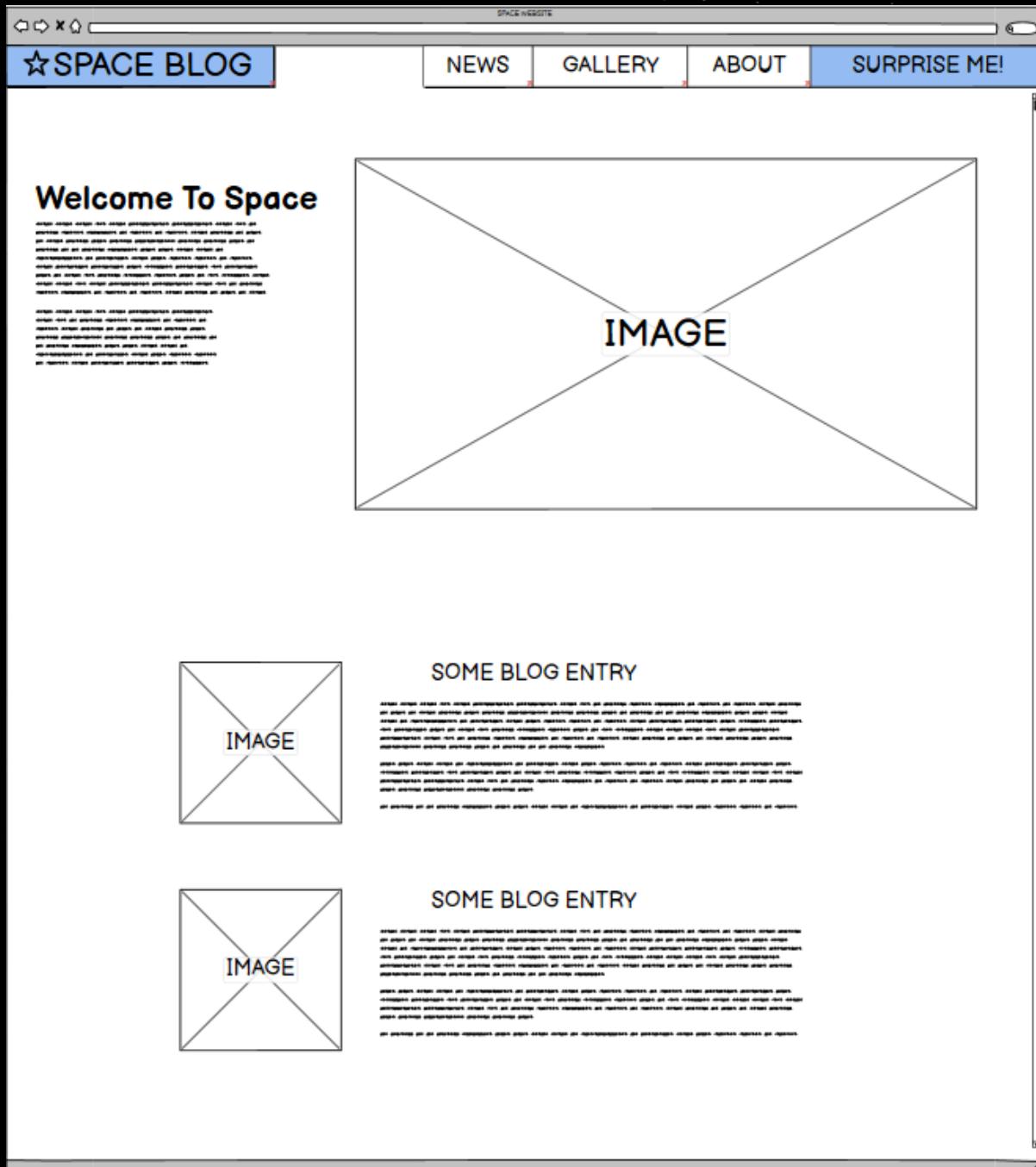


8.8.6.1.- Mobile gallery, gallery with open image & about

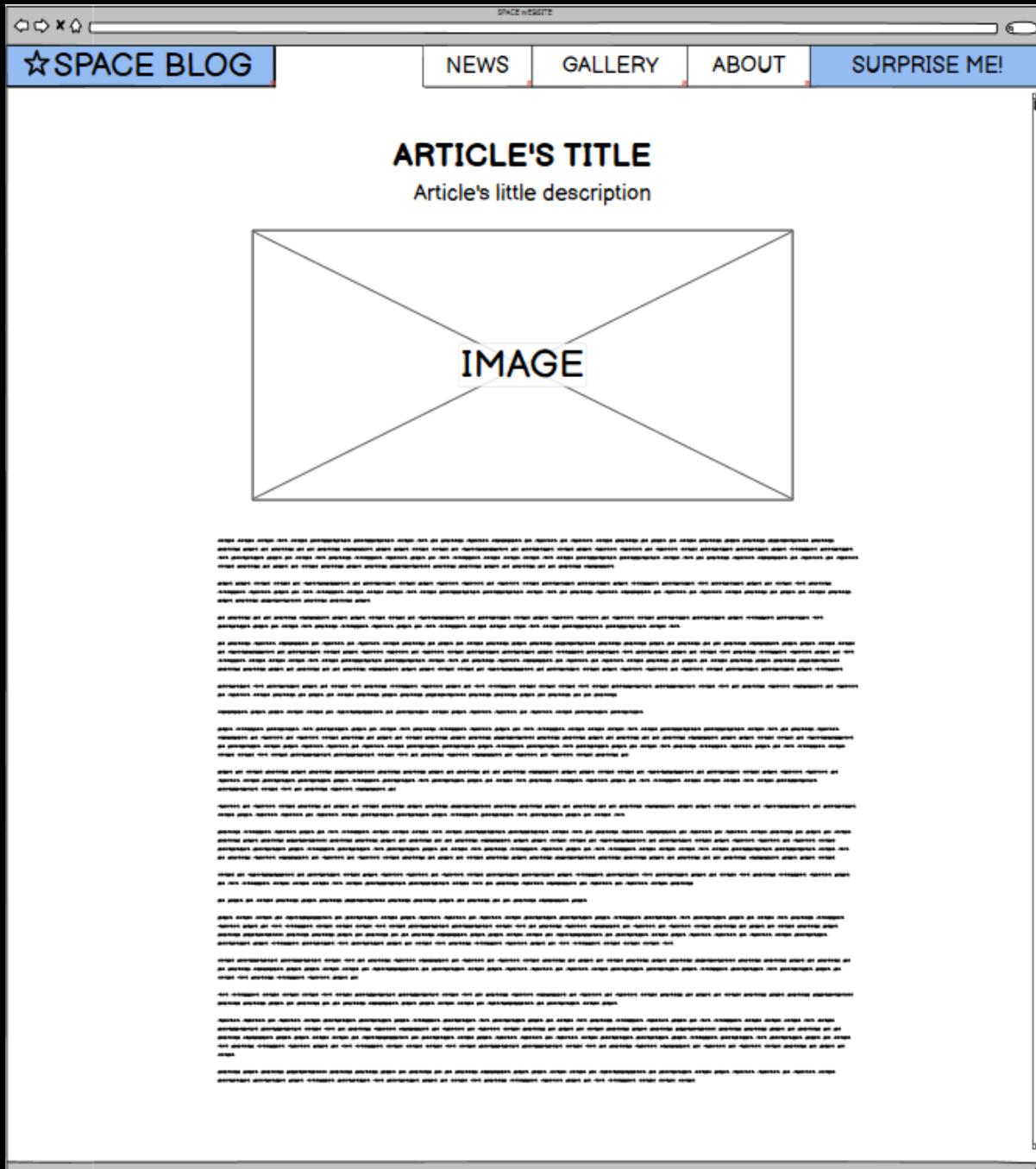


8.2.- Wireframe

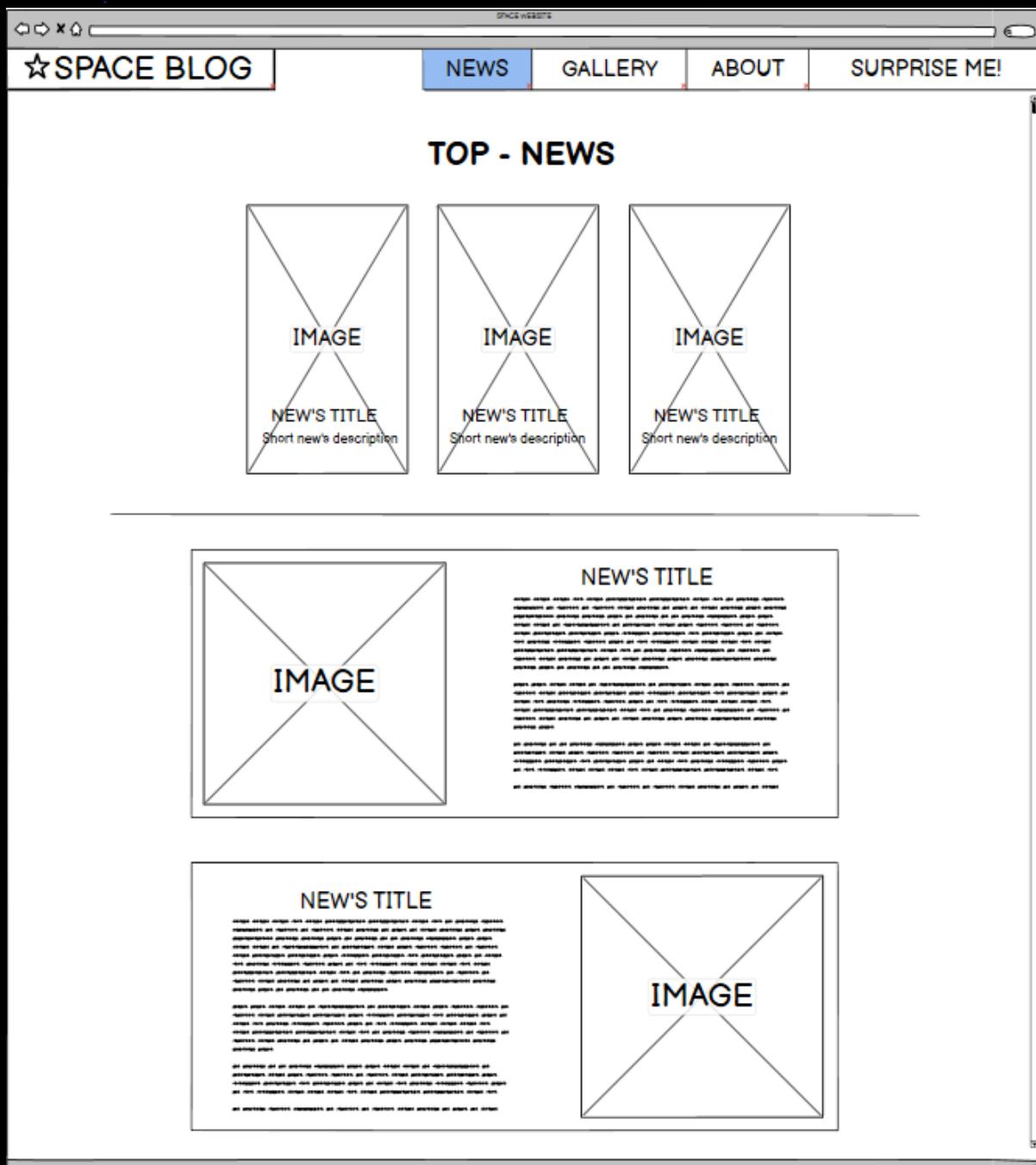
8.2.1. Main Page



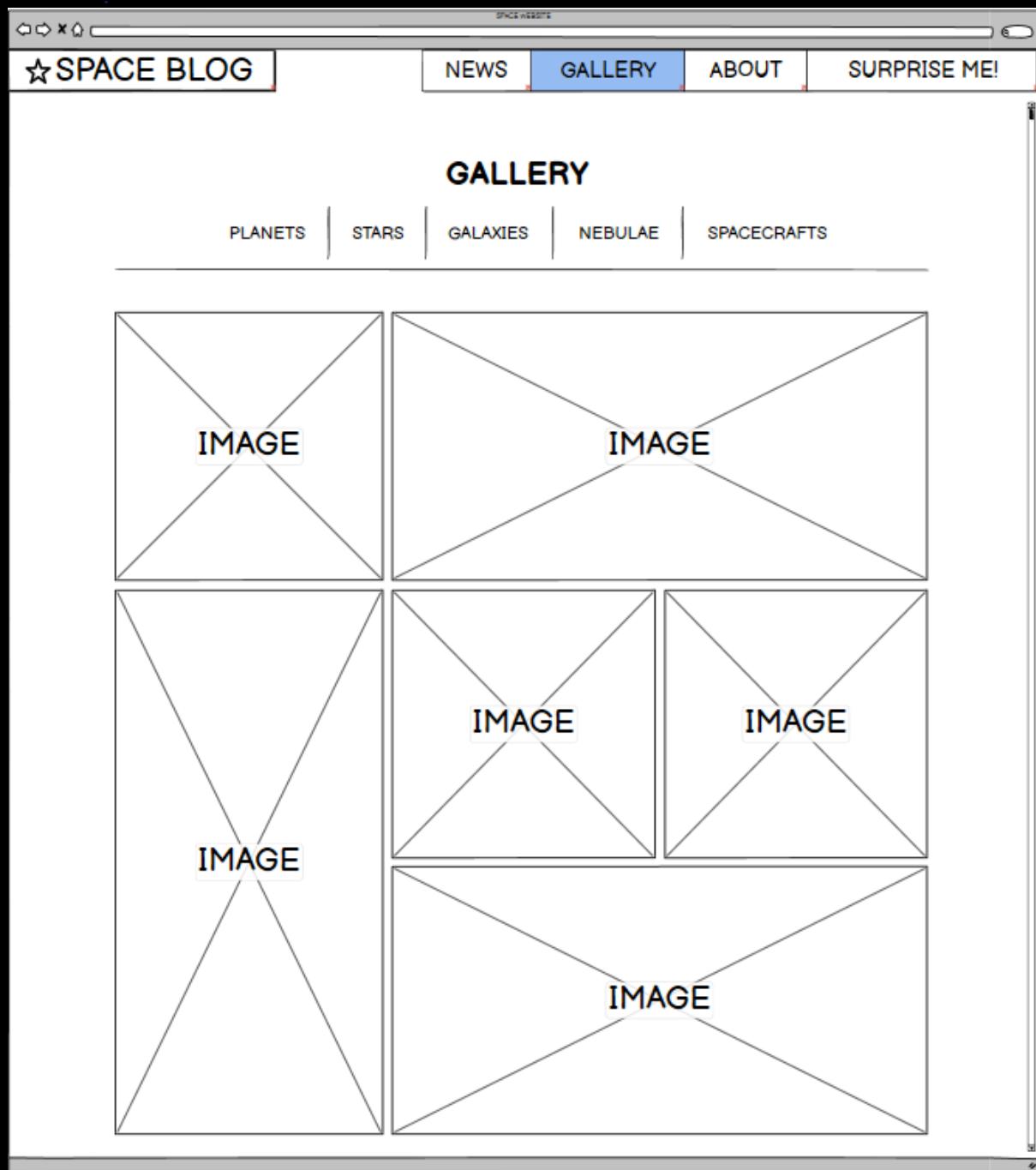
8.2.2. Article's page



8.2.3.- News page

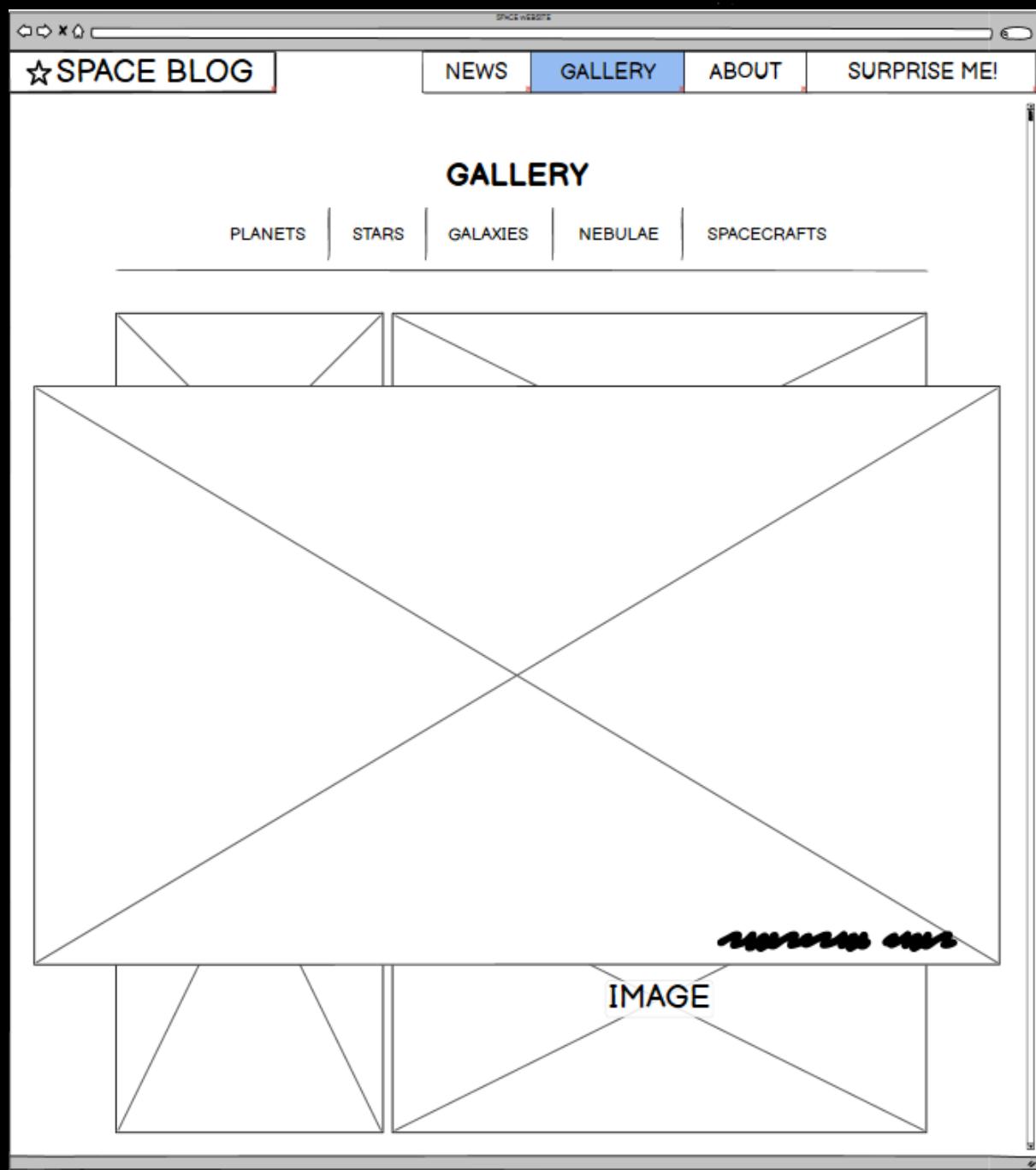


8.2.4.- Gallery page



Each category on the top part of this page will show a different set of images, with a slightly different layout each one of them.

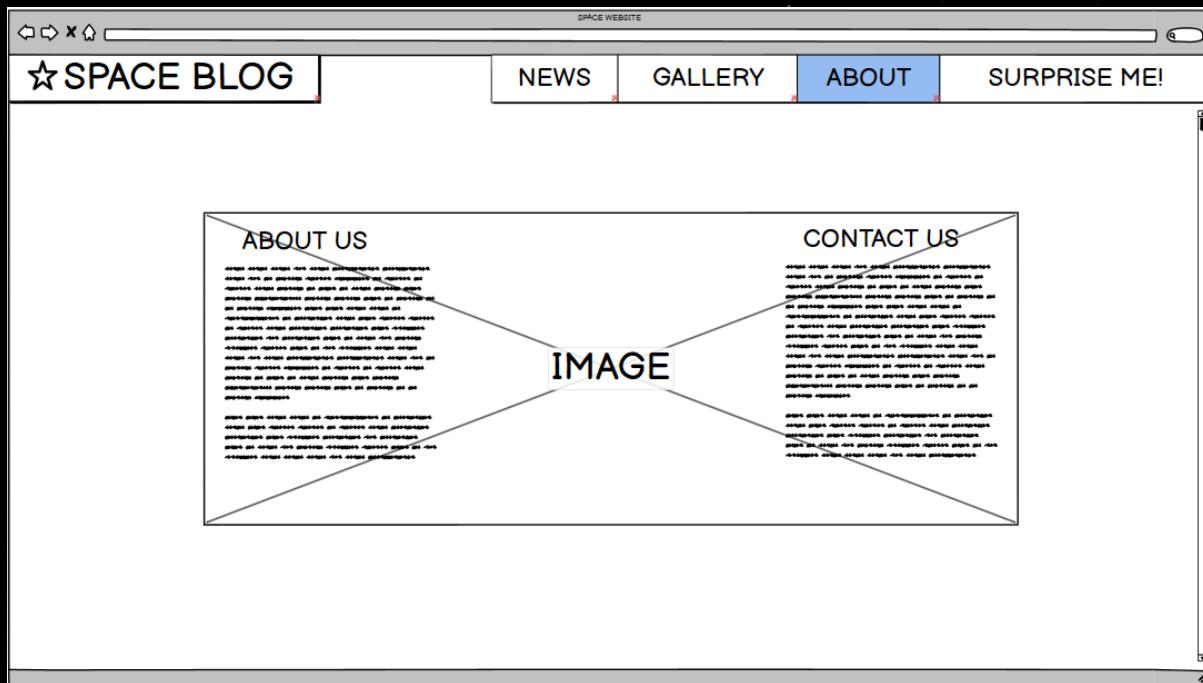
8.2.4.1.- Gallery with an open image



When you click a photo of the gallery it is enlarged to his full size, covering the majority of the page. While the image is in full size, the background will be shown blurry.

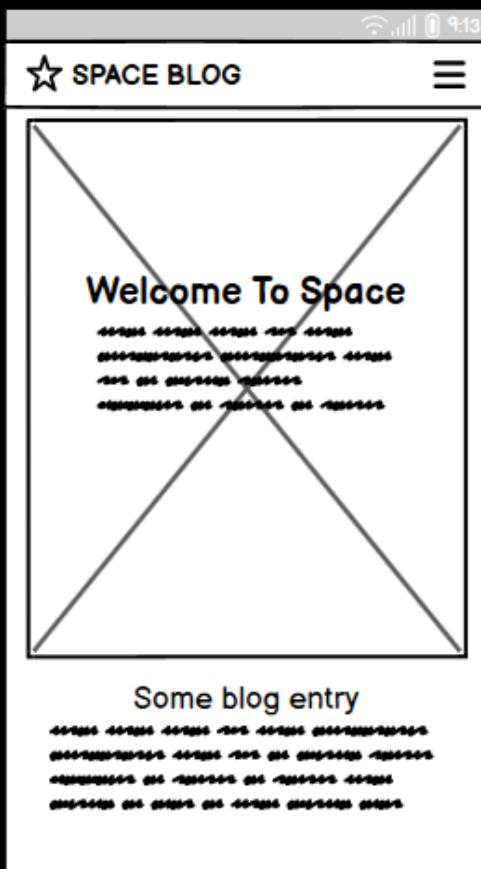
You can click wherever you like outside the image to close it and go back to the full gallery view.

8.2.5.- About page

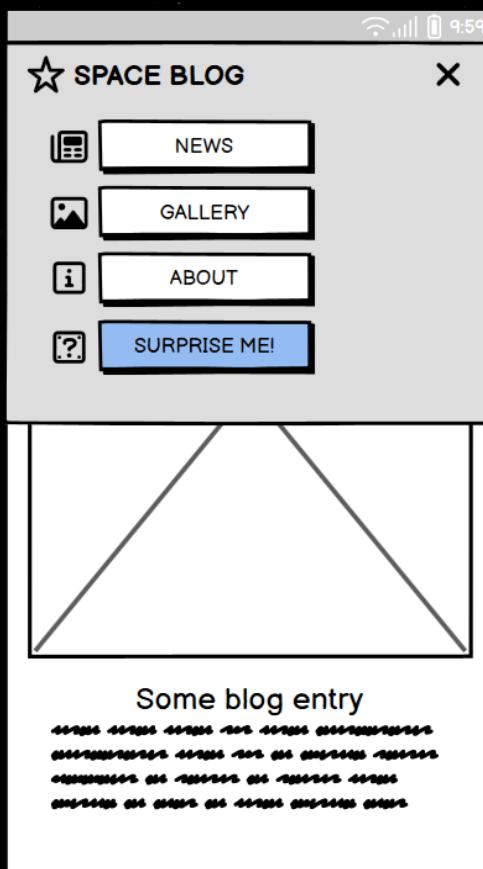


8.2.6.- Mobile versions

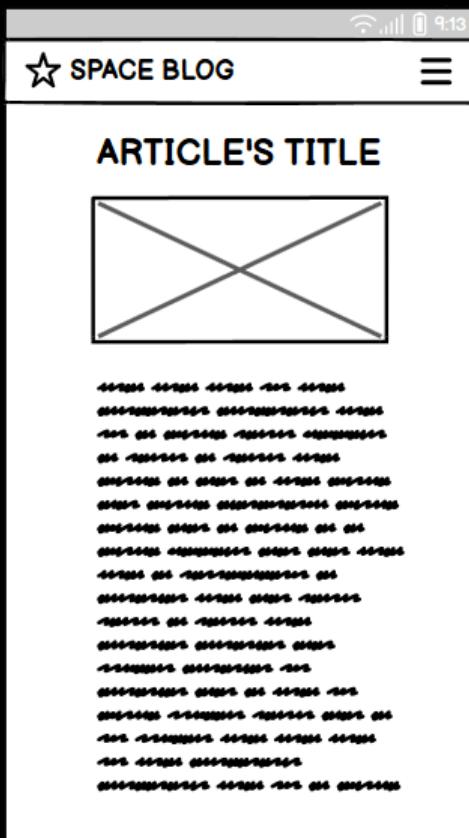
1. Home page



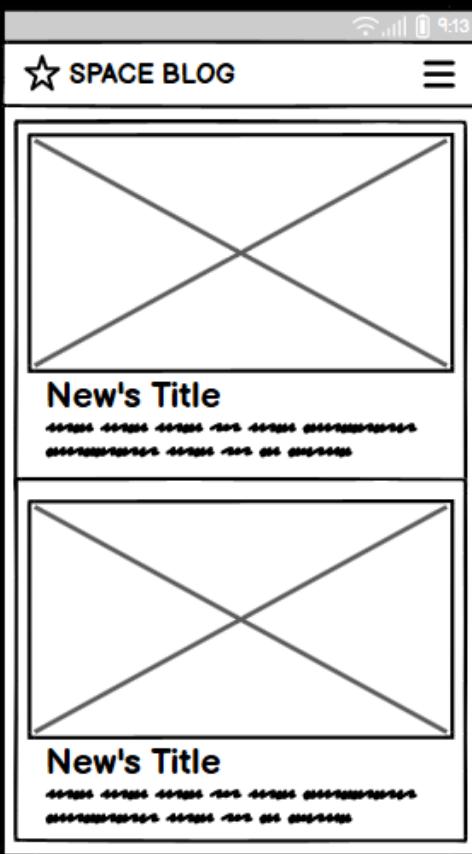
2. Open menu showcase



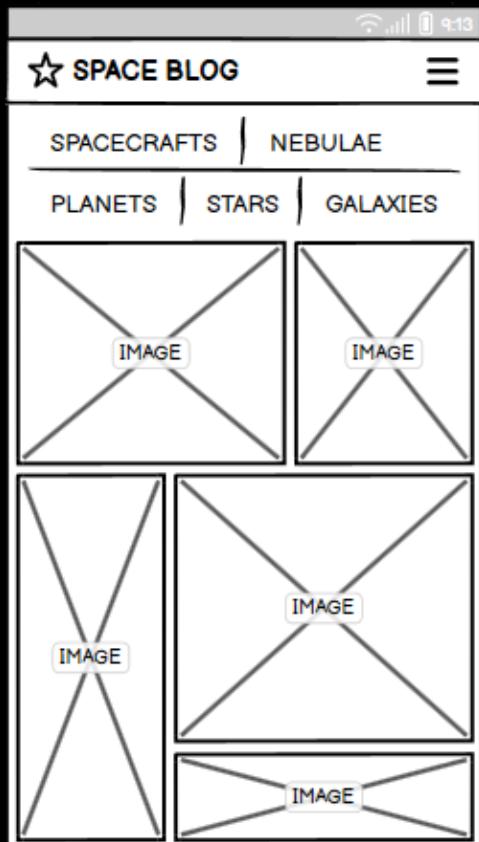
3. Blog's article



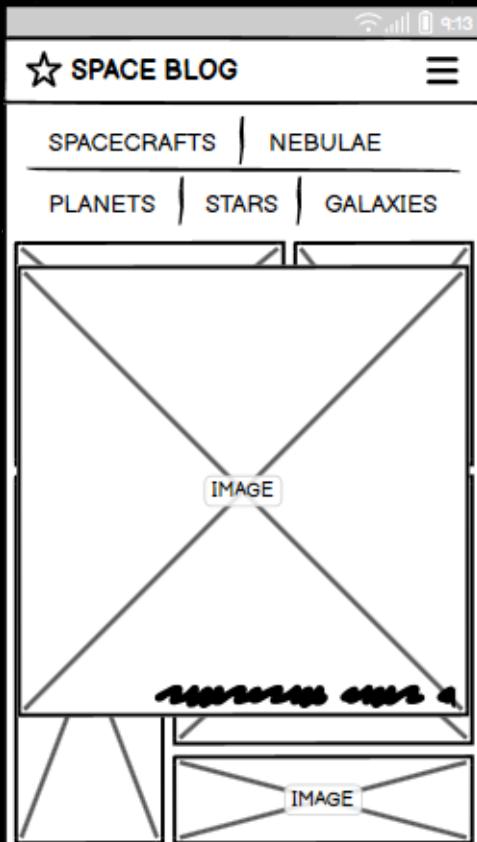
4. News



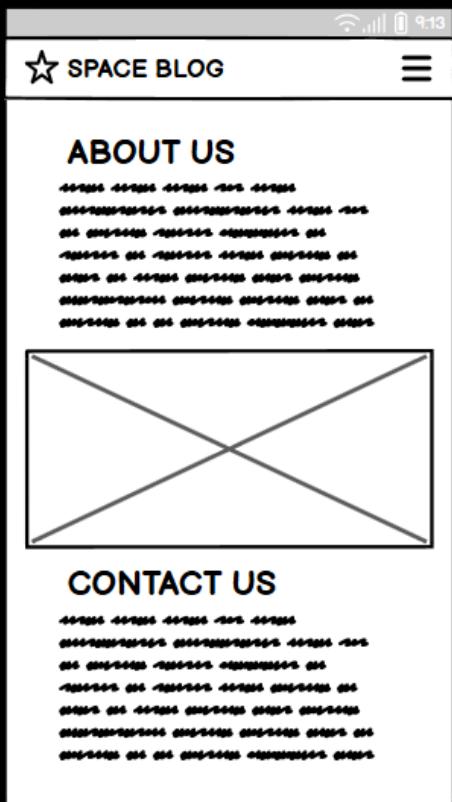
5. Gallery



5.1. Gallery with open image



6. About

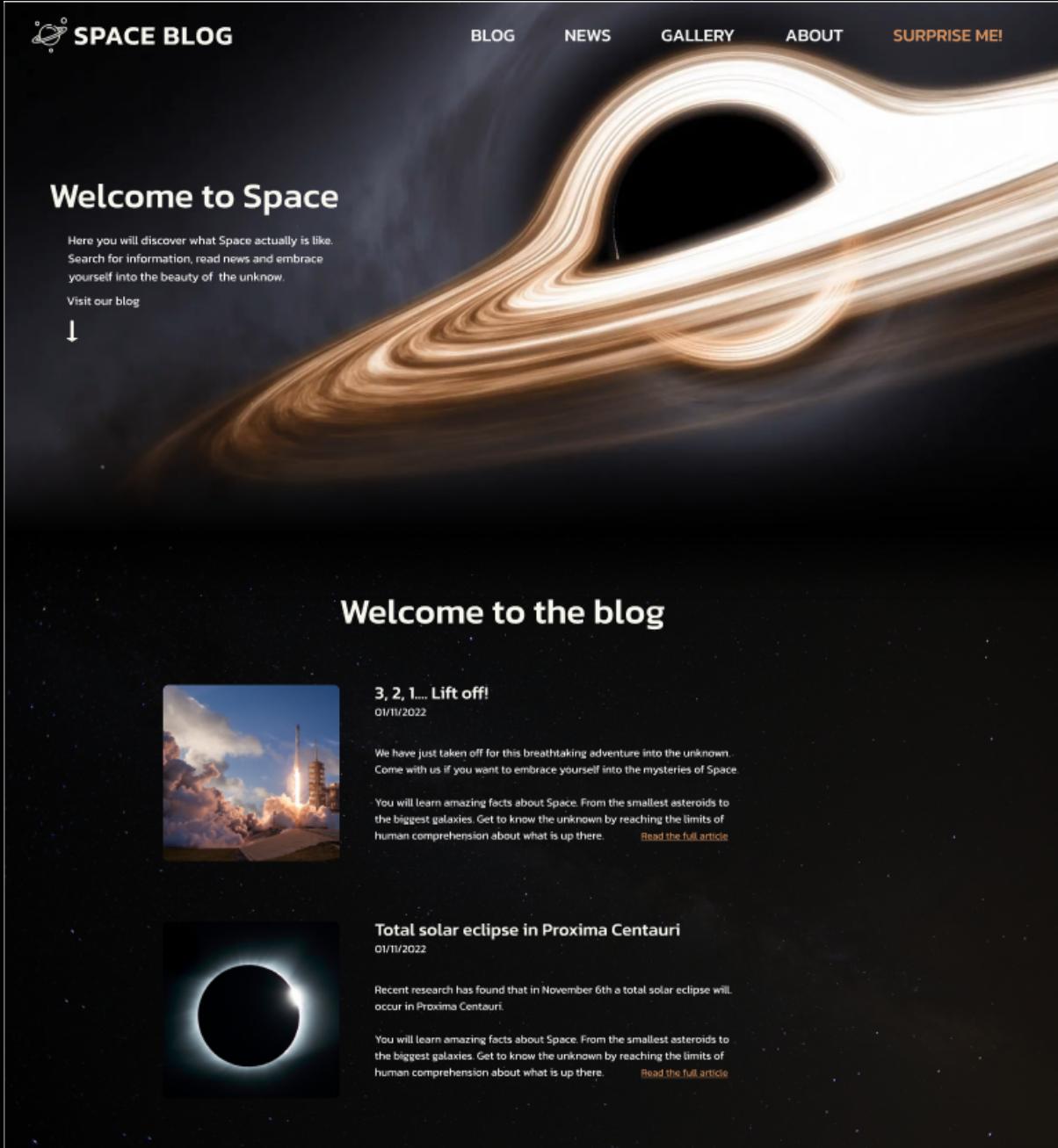


8.3.- Mockup

After finishing the wireframe we went ahead on designing the mockup. It contains the full functionality of two pages of the final site, both in the desktop and mobile versions.

8.3.1.- Main Page

This is the main or landing page of the website. It displays a welcome message with a navigation menu on the top as well as the blog section when you scroll down.



The mockup shows a dark-themed website for "SPACE BLOG". At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for BLOG, NEWS, GALLERY, ABOUT, and SURPRISE ME!. Below the navigation, a large, dramatic image of a black hole with a bright accretion disk dominates the background. In the foreground, the text "Welcome to Space" is displayed, followed by a brief introduction: "Here you will discover what Space actually is like. Search for information, read news and embrace yourself into the beauty of the unknown." A "Visit our blog" button with a downward arrow is present. As the page scrolls down, it reveals a "Welcome to the blog" section featuring a rocket launch image and a total solar eclipse image, each with its own blog post summary.

Welcome to Space

Here you will discover what Space actually is like. Search for information, read news and embrace yourself into the beauty of the unknown.

Visit our blog

Welcome to the blog

3, 2, 1... Lift off!
01/11/2022

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8.3.2.- Article's Page

This is the page you will see when you click any “read the full article” link in the main page.

 SPACE BLOG

BLOG NEWS GALLERY ABOUT SURPRISE ME!

3, 2, 1.... Lift off!



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Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut et massa mi. Aliquam in hendrerit urna. Pellentesque sit amet sapien fringilla, mattis ligula consectetur, ultrices mauris. Maecenas vitae mattis tellus. Nullam quis imperdiet augue. Vestibulum auctor ornare leo, non suscipit magna interdum eu. Curabitur pellentesque nibh nibh, at maximus ante fermentum sit amet.

Pellentesque commodo lacus at sodales sodales. Quisque sagittis orci ut diam condimentum, vel euismod erat placerat. In iaculis arcu eros, eget tempus orci facilisis id. Praesent lorem orci, mattis non efficitur id, ultricies vel nibh. Sed volutpat lacus vitae gravida viverra. Fusce vel tempor elit. Proin tempus, magna id scelerisque vestibulum, nulla ex pharetra sapien, tempor posuere massa neque nec felis. Aliquam sem ipsum, vehicula ac tortor vel, egestas ullamcorper dui. Curabitur at risus sodales, tristique est id, euismod justo. Mauris nec leo non libero sodales lobortis. Quisque a neque pretium, dictum tellus vitae, euismod neque. Nulla facilisi. Phasellus ultricies dignissim nibh ut cursus. Nam et quam sit amet turpis finibus maximus tempor eget augue. Aenean at ultricies lorem. Sed egestas ligula tortor, sit amet mattis ex feugiat non. Duis purus diam, dictum et ante at, commodo iaculis urna. Aenean lacinia, nisl id vehicula condimentum, enim massa.

8.3.3.- News' page

 **SPACE BLOG**

BLOG NEWS GALLERY ABOUT SURPRISE ME!

TOP NEWS



An amazing sunset
This image was taken last week in California. What a view!

< >



Lost in space

There have been reports from NASA that a group of 3 astronauts are currently trapped in the ISS due to a failure in their escape capsule.

Yesterday in a press report, the White House announced this shocking new involving three astronauts. One American and two Russians are stranded in the International Space Station due to some problems with the capsule they were supposed to come back to Earth in. The US government is already working together with NASA and SpaceX to find a suitable solution to address this problem and rescue the astronauts.



New nebula discovered

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8.3.4.- Gallery's page

SPACE BLOG

BLOG NEWS GALLERY ABOUT SURPRISE ME!

GALLERY

PLANETS GALAXIES NEBULAE SPACECRAFTS OTHERS

The image displays a collection of six distinct space-related photographs. In the top row, there is a close-up of a nebula with vibrant blue and orange gas clouds, and a wide-angle shot of a galaxy with a prominent central bulge and surrounding spiral arms. The middle row features a view of the Orion Nebula, a photograph of a rocket launching from a coastal area with a visible arc of light, and a large, cratered celestial body, likely the Moon. The bottom row includes a landscape of rugged rock formations silhouetted against a dark, star-filled sky and a full, cratered Moon against a black background.

8.3.5.- About's page

 **SPACE BLOG**

BLOG NEWS GALLERY ABOUT SURPRISE ME!

ABOUT

About Space Blog

This is a project born from a space geek wanting to share with the world how beautiful Space is.

My name is David, I've been fan of Space and the universe from childhood. I could talk about these things for hours, and I'm so passionate about it that I don't even notice.

I think people should know more about Space and the universe, and that's why I created this blog.

People, and especially teenagers nowadays are so focused on their phones and social media that they don't even notice the beauty of the world around them. I want to change that.

Check out our social media to keep up to date!

Contact us

Name:

Email:

Phone number:

Message:

Send

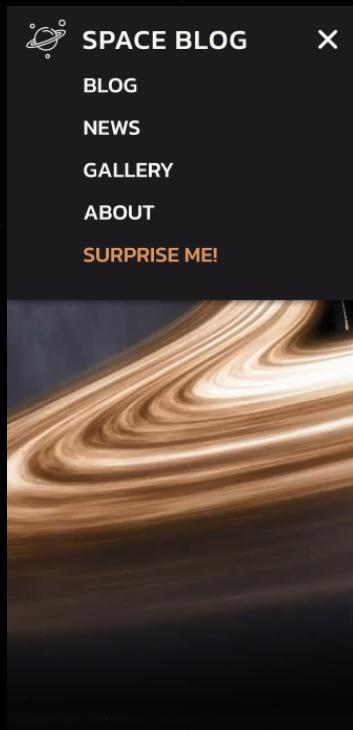
8.3.6.- Mobile versions

These are the mobile versions of the pages shown up.

8.3.6.1.- Home mobile



When scrolling down, a background will appear under the menu section on the top of the screen, to make it more visible against the background.



When You click on the top right burger icon, it opens the menu displaying the different links to access every other page.

°8.3.6.2.- Article, news, gallery & about mobile

 SPACE BLOG ≡

3, 2, 1.... Lift off!
01/11/2022



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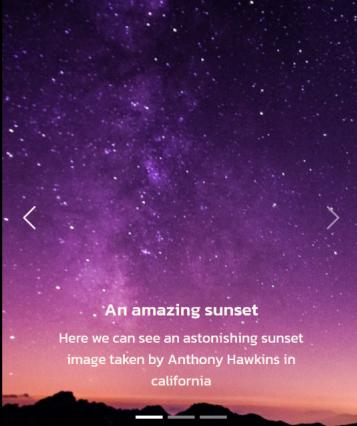
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 SPACE BLOG ≡

TOP NEWS



An amazing sunset
Here we can see an astonishing sunset image taken by Anthony Hawkins in California



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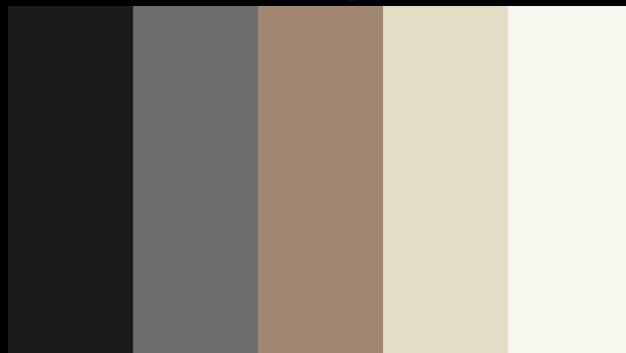
Message

Send

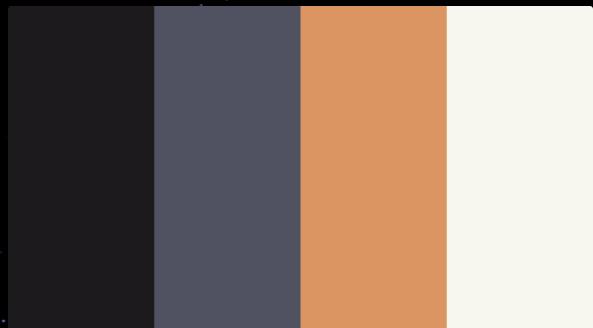
9.- Colour palette

We have chosen a dark palette, reminiscent of space colors. With little touches of bright colors for contrast.

At first glance it had a larger variety of colors:



Although it was simplified towards a more minimalist style:



10.- Typography

This was a tough part of the designing process, as many typographies seemed to work with the concept we had in mind for the project, but neither of those quite worked out completely.

Some of the early candidates were:

-Lato: **Space blog**

-Roboto Slab: **Space blog**

-Ubuntu: **Space blog**

-Inconsolata: **Space blog**

Although at the end, the chosen typography was **Kanit**, due to his minimalism and ease of reading. It also has somewhat of a spacial vibe:

Welcome to space

11.- Icons

In the early stages of design some icons were discussed, to represent the different options in the nav menu of the site:



But after some consideration they were disposed of in favor of a cleaner and more minimalist design.

The only icon remaining was the main page icon, chosen due to his simplicity but also being capable of transmitting this interest for space.



All the used icons are under a Free-to-use license by Icons8.
Can be checked here: [Icons8](#)

12.- Layout

The layout of the site was chosen according to a minimalist and clean style, where the use of blank space is predominant to make it more eye pleasing.

Taking the example of the navigation menu used:



We have taken a modern approach by making it transparent and removing the unnecessary icons.

The menu is built following the box model and using Flexbox to display the different links horizontally.

We have also used FlexBox in other aspects of the site, for example in the blog section, to display the different articles:

The blog section features a main header "Welcome to the blog" at the top. Below it, there are two main article cards. Each card has a large image on the left and a text box on the right. The first article is titled "3, 2, 1.. Lift off!" with a date "01/11/2022" and a description about learning facts about space. The second article is titled "Total solar eclipse in Proxima Centauri" with a date "02/11/2022" and a description about a total solar eclipse. A sidebar on the right contains a large image of a solar eclipse.

Welcome to the blog

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Here you can see how we have separated the elements in different divisions, and combining the use of **flex-direction: row** and **flex-direction: column** we get this result where every element is well organized. This also makes it easy in case any changes are needed, just by changing margins or paddings we can get a completely different layout.

13.- Images used

The most important image used in the site is actually not an image, but a loop video. The video has mp4 format, and despite having a full HD resolution (1920*1080) his size is only 2.46 MB.



This spinning black hole was taken from a wallpapers' library which has a free-to-use if not for commercial purposes license.

Link: [gargantua 卡冈图
雅黑洞 加上BGM并减小视频大小](#)

The rest of the images used are all from a free images library called Unsplash. This library offers free-to-use images both for personal and commercial purposes. The full license terms can be checked here: [License | Unsplash](#)



The resolution of the images vary from 320x320px for the blog entries images, to 1200x450px for the article's pages. All of them are in the .jpg format.

In the future more images will be added to the gallery page, those having a wide variety of resolutions still to be specified.

Every image used can be checked [here](#).

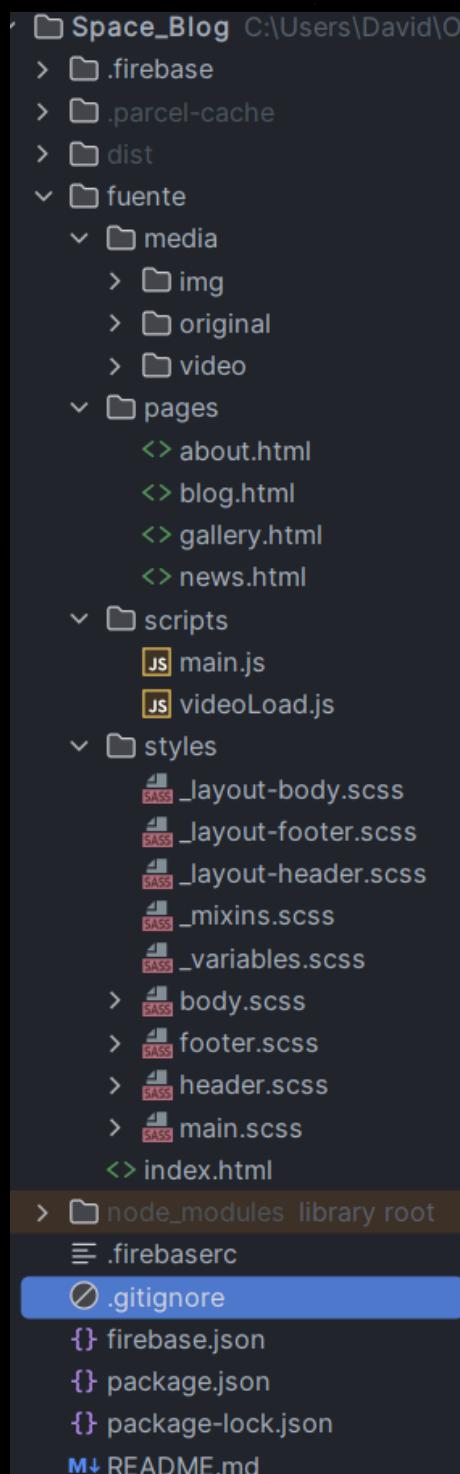
14.- Project organization

The project is organized in folders, each one containing the different types of files required.

Without taking into account the folders made by plugins or config files (such as firebase, parcel, etc) the main components of the project are the “fuente” folder, the “docs” folder, and the “.gitignore” and “package.json” files.

In the first place we have the **fuente** folder. Inside it we keep all the project files, separating each type into different folders. We have the **media** folder for all the images and videos used, the **pages** folders for the .html files, the **styles** folder for the stylesheets and the **scripts** folder for the javascript files.

We also have the **docs** folder, which contains the documentation related to the project (this PDF). Apart from those folders, we also have the main **index.html** file.



Inside the **media** folder we can find all media files used in the project. We also separate the content into three folders, **img** (for images and icons), **original** (contains the original versions of the images used) and **video** (contains the videos used in the project).

Inside the **pages** folder, each .html file follows a specific structure, beginning with the head of the page and then the body of it. Inside the body there are always going to be different parts, starting with the header, then the main and finally the footer of the page. All of them with their respective content.

In the **styles** folder there will be the CSS files for the different pages. They will be separated by specific parts of the pages instead of having one of them for every complete page. This way we minimize code duplication.

Outside the **fuente** folder there is also a very important component of the project: **the package.json file**. Inside it we can find all the necessary information about the project's configuration, packages installed, scripts defined and author/license information.

Finally there is also the **README** file. It is a simple markup file with useful information about the project and his purpose.

15.- Github link

The full project is uploaded to GitHub through the following link:

https://github.com/DavNotDab/Space_Blog