Simon Griffee Design & Photography Portfolio

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I photographed piano virtuoso Magdalena Baczewska and leaves in Inwood Hill Park two days later. The idea to combine the two came while listening to Magdalena's performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations on harpsichord.

More posters designed for Columbia University's Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America.

1-Minute Arguments For A Basic Income For All Human Beings

Fairness $ Property is a social construct legally enforced by the government. For all people to be considered equal, each person should have an equal amount of property. Material equality should be the default. In a free-market economy with a basic income at or below the highest sustainable rate, those who choose to live off basic income would not be living off of the work of others. Rather, they would be living off less than their "fair share" of property and allowing the extra to be used by those who choose to work.

Market Utility $ The free market is the greatest generator of wealth ever devised. Money is the most effective means of socially producing utility, as it allows each individual to purchase whatever they need and want. One dollar in the hands of an impoverished person produces greater utility than a dollar in the hands of a rich one: with a dollar a rich person cannot purchase what he needs and wants as a poor person can. The transfer of money from rich to poor would increase overall utility. The government regulates the economy incompetently, but the one thing it can do well is mail out checks. A basic income is the most effective means of transferring money from rich to poor with the least government interference and the least work disincentive. The natural limit on the amount of basic income is the point where the work disincentive from the required taxes reduces wealth to where basic income would have to be reduced.

Keynesian $ Keynesian economics works when implemented correctly. But properly implementing Keynesian economics is politically difficult. It requires politicians who are willing to spend a lot of money on stimulus when the government appears broke, and then become deficit hawks when the government is rolling in cash and everyone wants a piece of the pie. A basic income funded primarily by income tax would become an institutionalized entitlement expected by the population, and its cost would automatically increase or decrease directly in opposition to the economy. As unemployment rises, the amount of net receivers would go up, and as unemployment falls, so would net receivers. Keynes once said that the government should pay people to dig holes and fill them back up again. But anyone who sits on the couch and watches TV while living off basic income would contribute the same to society as those digging holes. And anyone who works more productively will create a net good for society.

Human Rights $ Poverty is not a natural tragedy like cancer or earthquakes. Poverty is a human caused tragedy more comparable to slavery or government oppression. Slavery is the societal recognition of humans as property. Government oppression is when governments punish people for their beliefs or characteristics without due process of law. Poverty is when property laws deny people access to necessities. Human caused tragedies can be ended by recognizing that humans have the right not to be subjected by others. Humans have a right not to live in slavery and be free of government oppression. And humans have a right not to live in poverty. A basic income is not a strategy for dealing with poverty; it is the elimination of poverty. The campaign for a basic income is a campaign for the abolition of poverty—the abolitionist movement of the 21st century.

Georgist $ Property is a product of creation, not of use. "I made this," confers property rights. "It's mine!" does not. Products of your labor are yours, and when someone appropriates them you become his slave. Land and natural resources, however, are not made but are of nature or God. They are gifts to humanity. Individual property of land and natural resources may be practical or useful, but it is still theft. Utility might justify this theft, but compensation is still required. Compensation should be in the form that offers the greatest choice of use to the victims as appropriation happened without consent. That form is cash. The most efficient arrangement would be that land takers pay the full rental or use value to a single entity that would divide the proceeds equally among the population. Taxes are the tribute paid for displacing you from land; basic income is your dividend.

Transhumanist $ 200,000 years ago humans lived in hunter-gather societies. About 10,000 years ago, humans began to live in agricultural societies, and about 300 years ago, human society became industrial. Starting 30 to 50 years ago, we have lived in a service society. Theoretically, the last economic stage of society is a leisure society, where most people either work in the artistic or scientific fields, or do not work at all. So far, each phase has lasted only a small fraction of the time of the previous phase. If that pattern holds, service societies should last less than two generations, a time period nearing its end. Right now, worker productivity is advancing faster than the need for workers, and robots are inhabiting labs in research hospitals. We should prepare for a society where everyone would not work. A basic income can provide a living for people and customers for businesses.

Conservative $ The welfare state may not be the society we would have created, but it has been around for four generations. People expect and rely on it, and it would be extremely disruptive to get rid of it. But while we may not be able to get rid of the welfare state, we can reform it. The current welfare state necessitates an immense and expensive bureaucracy, is prohibitively complicated for some intended beneficiaries, puts bureaucrats in charge of the lives of the poor, creates perverse incentives for people to avoid work and remain poor, and arbitrarily allows some people to fall through the cracks. Basic income would correct these problems. It would be simpler to administer, treat all people equally, retain rewards for hard work, savings, and entrepreneurship, and trust the poor to make decisions about how to use their money by taking them out of the hands of politicians.

Feminist $ Patriarchy has put the world's wealth into the hands of men. It has prevented women from being professionals and entrepreneurs, forced poor women into dead-end second-class labor jobs, and forced all women to become unpaid domestic workers and caretakers of the young, elderly, and disabled. Throughout history women have been forced to be financially dependent on fathers or husbands. Basic income would change this. Women would be free of financial dependence, and the young, elderly, and disabled would be fully supported. Women could afford to leave abusive husbands. Those who chose to be caretakers would be compensated, and no woman would be forced into a dead-end job, instead pursuing her own financial goals as she saw fit.

Libertarian $ While it may have been theoretically possible to acquire property in a just manner, that is not what happened. Almost every tract of inhabited land can trace its title back to someone who acquired it by force. And not just land titles. Thanks to past government spending, targeted tax breaks, intellectual property, corporate charters, slavery, and meddling regulations, no property or wealth has been justly acquired. If we assume that those who have the least are the greatest victims, a basic income would provide the best possible rectification with the least government control, while producing the most just system of property distribution possible.

Liberal $ A basic income would correct or ameliorate many inequities and inefficiencies inherent in market capitalism. The wages of unskilled and semi-skilled workers would rise as those who enjoy and are good at such work would not have to compete with those who are forced into it by financial necessity. The wages of highly skilled workers would fall as more people are able to take time to gain skills to compete for those jobs, lowering the cost of legal, financial, and health care services. A guaranteed income would soften the blow to workers displaced by advancing technology and the creative destruction of the market. Job seekers would be able to take time to find work that is the best fit for them, increasing efficiency in the distribution of labor. And entrepreneurship would flourish as those wanting to start their own businesses would have an income to survive on while starting a new enterprise.

Independetarian $ Property rights are not natural but are a social convention. They give individuals freedom in that the essence of property is the right to exclude others, to have a place where no one else has dominion over you. Each individual should have inalienable ownership over her own body and mind. But carving up nature leaves some people without the means to obtain the necessities to maintain their body and mind. Each person must have an inalienable property right to these necessities. Society owes you a living because society is preventing you from foraging the land to obtain the necessities of life on your own. Society could rectify this problem by letting individuals forage for necessities wherever they wish, by giving them the land they need to survive on their own, or by providing these necessities directly. But in modern societies, the most efficient way to provide for these necessities is with direct cash payments, a basic income.

www.basicincome.org

I came across Timothy Roscoe Carter's article The One Minute Case for a Basic Income and made this flyer using a lightly copy-edited — thanks to Amber — version.

Author and submitter: Simon Griffee - simon@hypertexthero.com
Subject: International symbol for an observer
Suggested codepoint: U+23FF OBSERVER EYE SYMBOL
URL for more info: http://hypertexthero.com/logbook/2015/01/international-symbol-observer/
Date of initial submission: 28 January 2015
Date of this updated submission: 26 February 2015

Rationale

While there are many symbols for astronomical bodies and atmospheric phenomena in the Unicode Standard, there is none for an observer of these. A symbol for an observer can be useful in illustrating scientific discussions.

An international symbol for an observer was mentioned and drawn (see above) by Professor Charles Bailyn in Yale University course *ASTR-160: Frontiers and Controversies in Astrophysics Lecture 2 - Planetary Orbits*[1]. I went looking for it on codepoints.net, a site dedicated to all the characters defined in the Unicode Standard, and in Unicode's own Miscellaneous Symbols and Pictographs chart at http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U1F300.pdf
My search has been unsuccessful as it seems there is currently no unicode symbol for an observer.

Existing Eye Symbol

While a symbol for an eye, also known as sight, does exist (U+1F441 EYE — I do not have a font in my system that displays it), I believe it is still worthwhile to have a specific symbol for an observer because the existing eye depicted in a frontal view is more representative of the organ's anatomy rather than the *act of observation*, which is better represented by a profile view of an eye indicating a direction.

Examples of Existing Glyphs an Observer Symbol Would Complement

Sun ☼ First Quarter Moon ☽ Comet ☄ White Four Pointed Star ✧

Proposed Observer Symbol & File Downloads

Observer

Above is a symbol for an observer I made and dedicated to the Public Domain with the following license:
https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/
Files in AI, EPS, PDF, PNG, PSD, SVG and TrueType formats in a ZIP archive are available for download at:
http://hypertexthero.com/static/img/observer-symbol/observer-symbol-latest.zip

Observer Symbol in Use

Type a lowercase 'o' for version looking to right, and an uppercase 'O' for version looking to the left.
An observer and a star, an observer and a cat:

---------- ✧

Suggested Character Properties

Property	Suggested Value
Code Point	U+23FF
Name	OBSERVER EYE SYMBOL
General Category	So
Canonical Combining Class	L
Bidi Mirrored	Y

Please consider my submission so the community at large can have a representation of an observer to use in publications worldwide. I am happy to make changes necessary for final approval should this proposal be accepted.

Simon Griffee

1. The lecture is available for viewing at http://oyc.yale.edu/astronomy/astr-160/lecture-2 with PDF class notes at http://oyc.yale.edu/sites/default/files/astr160_lec2.pdf and transcript at http://oyc.yale.edu/transcript/36/astr-160.

I couldn't find an international symbol for an observer that was mentioned in an astronomy lecture, so I made one, dedicated it to the public domain and submitted it to the Unicode Consortium, which accepted U+23FF Observer Eye Symbol at UTC-142 — yay!

Calligraphy is a peaceful and noble art, done by well educated human beings who do their work with full commitment, with intense concentration. For we want to put into our letters a little of our own feelings, of our personality and mood. Letters should have grace and beauty in themselves. No calligrapher pollutes rivers with his ink, or poisons the air we breathe. Calligraphy makes no noise. We don't fight with arms nor with our pens, but we want to convince sometimes with a hand-lettered message of special importance in which we believed.

Hermann Zapf

For typography and calligraphy legend Hermann Zapf,
who died in 2015.

A wall calendar and poster for the IPPC of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. The calendar features drawings made and provided by a staff member's daughter while the poster uses an elegant botanical drawing found in a book from the early 1800s.

International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people & commodities move around the world, organisms that present risks to plants travel with them.

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests.

The Convention came into being in 1951 at the 6th Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Since then, the IPPC has grown into a body that encompasses a worldwide membership of 177 countries as of 01 January 2011.

How Can I Participate?

Help the IPPCs mission of protecting the world's plant resources from pests by:

- Adhere to the convention if not yet a member country.
- Report and share information through www.ippc.int.
- Join standard-setting activities and aid implementation.
- Help build phytosanitary capacity.
- Liaise with regional and national plant protection organizations.
- Participate in CPM and regional meetings.
- Support the IPPC Secretariat through financial or in-kind donations.
- Spread the word about the IPPC!

Where Can I Find More Information?

www.ippc.int

Contact Us

Website: www.ippc.int
Email: ippc@fao.org
Telephone: +39 06 5705 4812
Fax: +39 06 5705 4819
Address: IPPC Secretariat, FAO-AGPP, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

International Plant Protection Convention

ILLUSTRATION CREDITS: Cover plant: *Manihot esculenta* by Wilhelm Sandler, - *Plantarum Brasiliae icones et descriptiones hactenus ineditae*. Sailing Frigate by Benson John Lossing courtesy of FCIT. Insects from left to right: *Indosador lothli* by Elsie H. Froeschner courtesy of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (SNMNH), *Anastis quinquedecimpunctata* by Art Cushman (SNMNH), *Ophion macaligennis* by Frederick Du Cane Godman & Osbert Salvin - *Biologia Centrali-Americana*, *Cicindela* by Gloria Gordon Zimmer (SNMNH), *Australotingis franzeni* by Patricia J. Hogue (SNMNH).

How the IPPC Helps

By protecting plant resources from pests and diseases, the IPPC helps to:

1. *Protect farmers* from economically devastating pest outbreaks.
2. *Protect the environment* from loss of species diversity.
3. *Protect ecosystems* from loss of viability and function as a result of pest invasions.
4. *Protect industries and consumers* from the costs of pest control or eradication.
5. *Facilitate trade* through Standards that regulate the safe movements of plants and plant products.

The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) – the meeting of parties to the convention — guides IPPC activities, which are delivered by the IPPC Secretariat, established in 1992 within FAO, Rome, Italy.

The IPPC Secretariat facilitates information sharing between member countries, thereby supporting members' efforts to protect their plant resources and trade safely. The Secretariat:

- Facilitates the development and adoption of international standards.
- Helps contracting parties resolve disputes.
- Provides information and technical expertise to national and regional plant protection organizations by hosting and maintaining the www.ippc.int website.
- Helps contracting parties build phytosanitary capacity to protect their wild and cultivated plants, their environments and their food security.
- Organizes meetings & other CPM activities.

Phytosanitary Measures & Standards

Phytosanitary measures are any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests.

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) are internationally agreed upon phytosanitary measures that have been adopted by the consensus of the CPM.

ISPMs cover invasive pests of plants, including weeds that cause indirect damage to plants. The standards covering movement of pests apply to vehicles, ships, aircraft, containers, storage places, soil, wood packaging and other objects that could harbour plant pests. ISPMs facilitate safe trade by providing guidance on procedures, regulations and treatments that can be used to manage pest risks associated with the international movement of goods and conveyances.

ISPMs are recognised by the World Trade Organization (WTO) for managing pest risks associated with trade. WTO members are expected to base their phytosanitary measures on international standards developed by the IPPC.

Suggestions for international standards can be made by national or regional plant protection organizations, or by other groups through the IPPC Secretariat. They are developed by technical committees, reviewed by contracting parties and adopted by the CPM.

There are over 34 ISPMs as of 2010, covering issues such as plant quarantine and international trade; pest risk analysis; pest free areas; wood packaging material in international trade; and inspection protocols. All ISPMs, including those in draft and consultation stages, are freely available through the IPPC Web site (www.ippc.int) or from the IPPC Secretariat.

IPPC Partners

Convention member countries, to develop phytosanitary measures to manage plant pests.

Regional plant protection organizations, (RPPOs) to build phytosanitary capacity and address risks associated with movement within and between regions.

National plant protection organizations, (NPPOs) though governments and local authorities, to respond to plant health risks.

Technical experts in contracting party governments, to share information and expertise to strengthen phytosanitary capacity.

Exporters and importers, to reduce the movement of pests.

Producers, to put in place phytosanitary practices that protect livelihoods, food supply, societies and the environment.

Civil society, to build knowledge of phytosanitary capacity to protect biodiversity, ecosystem vitality and conservation.

Educators, to promote technical expertise in assessing and managing pest risks, taxonomy, diagnostics and treatment, and to build capacity.

Media, to build awareness of the impacts of plant pests, the risks presented by trade and passengers and of everyone's responsibility to manage plant resources for the future.

Donors, to fund the creation of programmes that reduce plant pest risks and that promote safe trade in plants and plant products.

See a video of this trifold brochure in action at
https://vimeo.com/101713599

A few websites I have worked on over the years.
I prefer fast, simple interfaces and good writing
over excessive style and animation.

An exhibition of photographs I designed, organized and participated in.

IN THE CAVE

One-night exhibition of PHOTOGRAPHS by

Simon Griffee & John Ryan Brubaker & Emelyne Cheney

& hand-crafted LEATHER WORKS by *Kimberly Trathen*

SATURDAY · 6 APRIL 2013 · FROM 6PM ONWARDS

THE ROOM GALLERY · VIA CAIROLI 74 · ROME · ITALY

Portfolio of photographs from an extended edit of
a photography book that I am working to publish.

NYPD

God damn it, you've got to be kind!

Hello, babies.
Welcome to Earth.
It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter.

It's round and wet and crowded.
At the outside, babies, you've got about a hundred years here.

There's only one rule that I know of, babies–

Text from *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater* by Kurt Vonnegut. Design by Simon Griffee, www.hypertexthero.com