

# Nathan Squire

## Design Portfolio



# Contents



about me	1
inspirations	5
just the facts	9
infographic	19

# about me

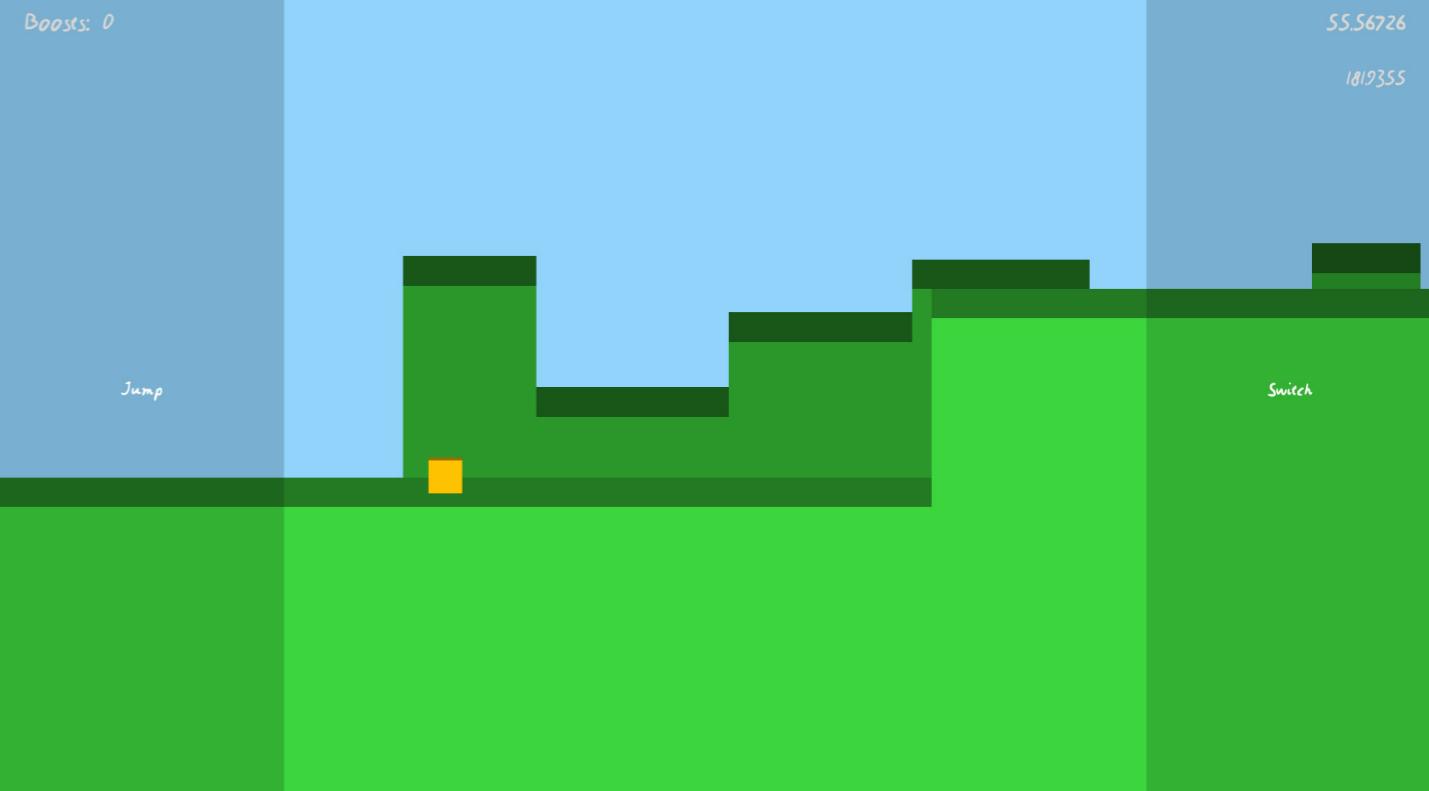


My name is Nathan Squire, I'm studying **Information Technology** at the University of Queensland, and living on campus at Cromwell College.

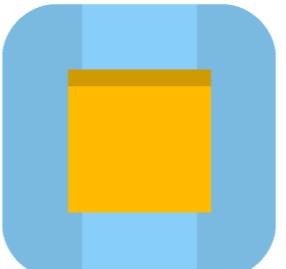
**My interests** include skating, surfing, growing bonsais, listening to music, travelling, playing the mandolin, and **designing** – whether it be graphics, web design, mobile applications, 3D modelling, or anything that involves a bit of creativity.

Many of these skills I have practiced through University, while some I learnt while completing my **Cert III in multimedia**, or by my own personal projects. Above all, I learnt many useful skills during my **game design work experience** at Bifrost Studios, and my **part time web design job** at Airtec Australia.

Some of the projects I am most proud of are detailed on the next few pages.



**Indie cube**  
A retro arcade style mobile game.  
Built in Unity and coded in C#.



App icon  
created in  
photoshop

Designing a game, even a simple platform runner, is a big task. This project was slowly completed while I wasn't working on actual assignments during my last year of high school.

The game is much like any platform runner, but with the twist of being able to invert the platforms with the sky, and continue onwards upside-down.



## Arda

An in progress piece depicting a fox watching over his home town from a shabby rooftop.

Drawn in photoshop.

Digital painting, for me, is a great way to relax. I'll find a quiet, comfy place, put on a good album, and draw away for hours.

The piece above is one I'm currently working on, and it shows the various stages of digital painting; planning, sketching, colouring, shadowing and highlighting, and detailing.



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**Explore** gardens in your nearby area, or gardens with similar aspects to your own. Chat with fellow gardeners, and help make the world a greener and more beautiful place. Build your own profile, and share pictures of your own gardening efforts.



**Work** to gain experience and earn some money by helping out on gardens in your neighbourhood. Build your profile and get ratings and reviews from past jobs.

**Foliage**  
A prototype website for a plant based social media platform and online store.  
Coded in HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

Web design has always come natural to me, it was one of the first IT related skills I learnt, and I immediately preferred it to more back-end skills, as it was more visual.

While working at Airtec, my skills in this area increased greatly, including learning to create more responsive, dynamic and mobile-friendly sites.

# inspirations

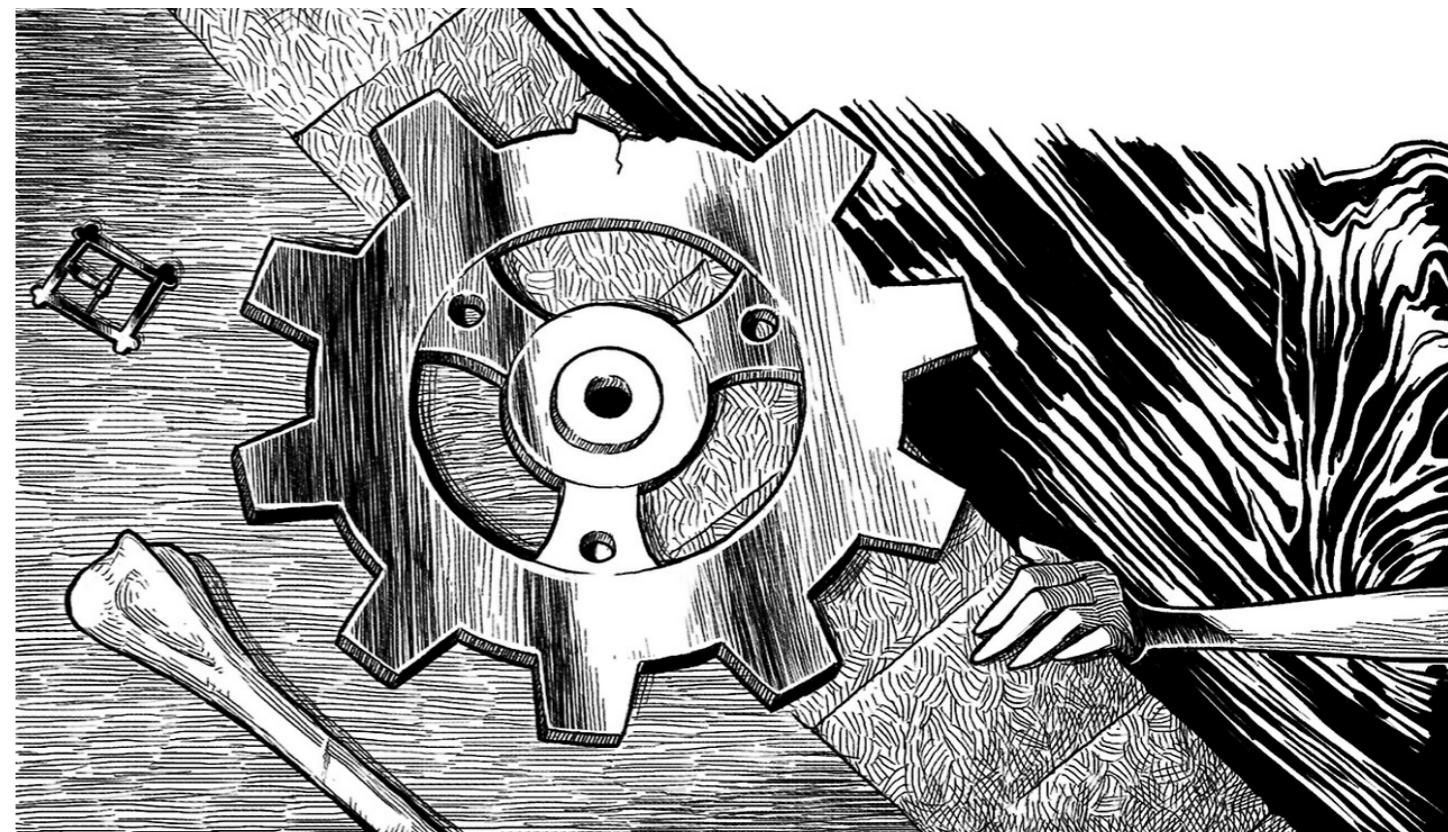
## One. Nicole Standard

Nicole began her career as an animator, and worked on shows such as 'My Little Pony', until she found her passion for design. Much of her work I find inspiring due to its simple, flat, and elegant use of dimensions and colour, as displayed in the piece below, which is part of an alternate cover for a 'Modest Mouse' album.



## Two. Nate Taylor

A freelance artist, writer, and comic book designer. Although all his work is interesting and inspiring, his illustrations for Patrick Rothfuss' 'Slow Regard of Silent Things' is the reason I consider him one of my most influential artists. His works in the novel, as seen below, are black and white, highly detailed, and focus on shadows and highlights in an interesting and powerful way.



# Three. Ben Cooper

AKA Radical Face. Despite being known predominantly for his musical talent, Ben Cooper is also a hobbyist artist and designer. He has designed many of his album covers, as on the next page, as well as many pieces unrelated to his music, as beside.

His most renown project, 'The Family Tree' is a collection of three albums and four EP's which are all interconnected, all following the same fictional storyline about a 19th century family with supernatural abilities such as being able to see the dead. It was an eight year project, with forty four songs in total, and his dedication to it is truly inspiring.

Like his music, his art has a grim, quirky and supernatural theme, and across both mediums this tone has always had a deep effect on me.

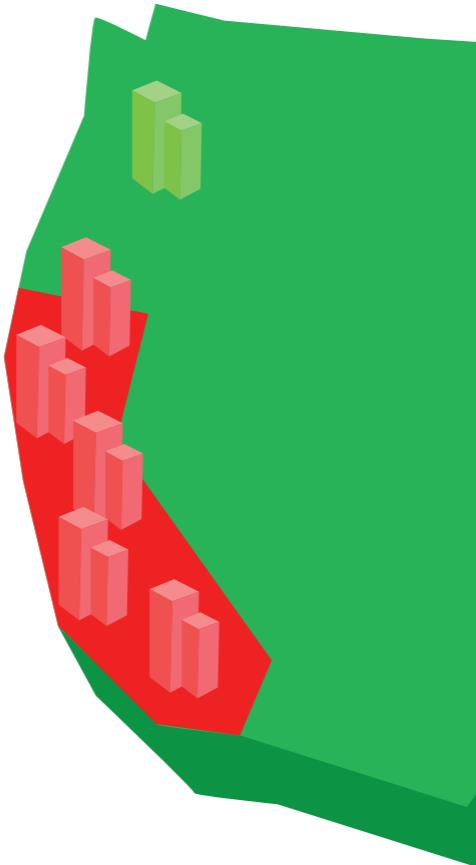


# just the facts

## One. A Polluted State

For my first infographic, I chose a fact which I thought was important, and focused on what I believed to be its most crucial aspect – the geographical proximity of the most polluted cities in the US. To do this I illustrated the entirety of the country, with the five most polluted cities packed closely in the portion representing California.

I decided on a green and red colour scheme to represent environmental health, both good and bad. I used a simple font and stretched it vertically, to reflect a tall cityscape feel. I also played around with the dimensions of the different objects and text.

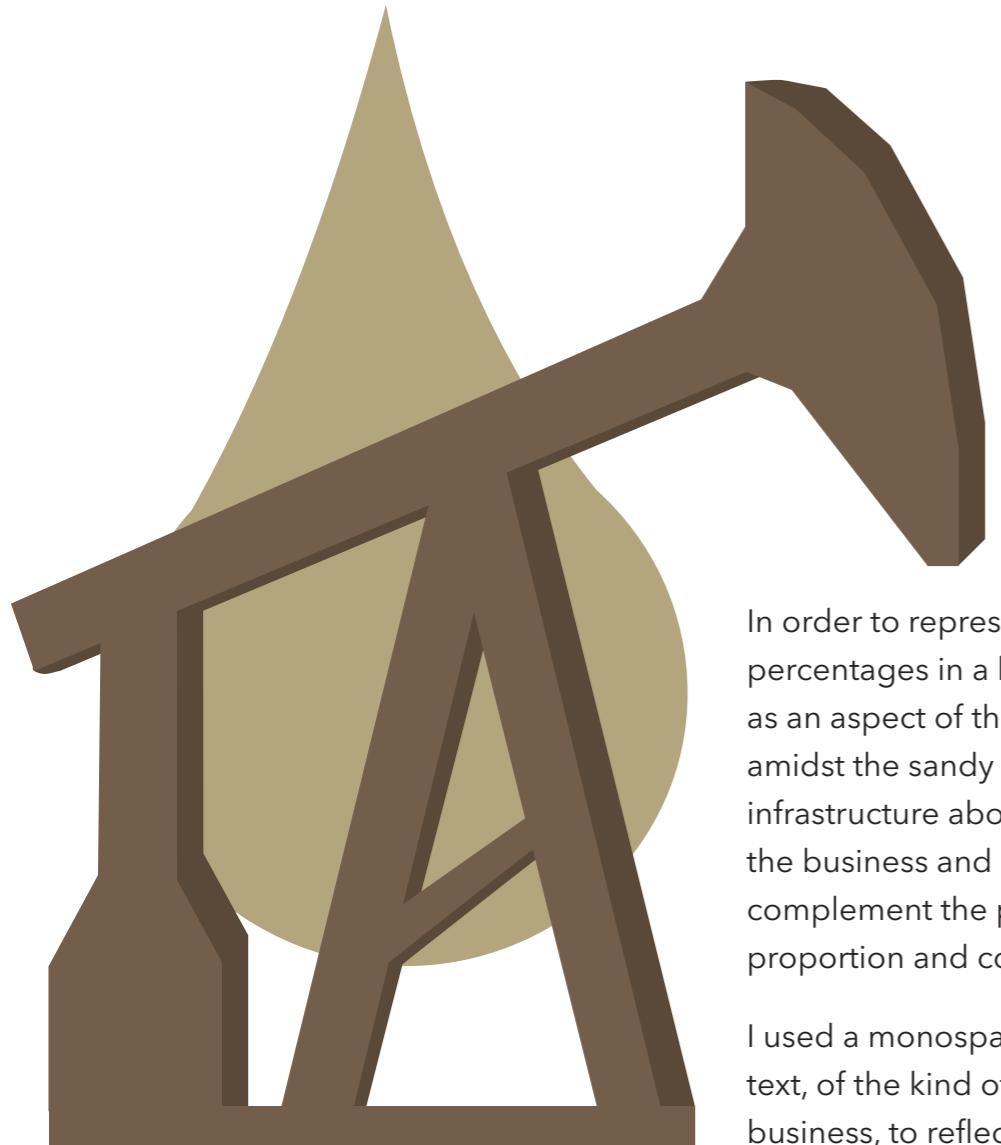


The top five of the most polluted cities in the USA are all located in California



Los Angeles Visalia  
Bakersfield Fresno Sacramento

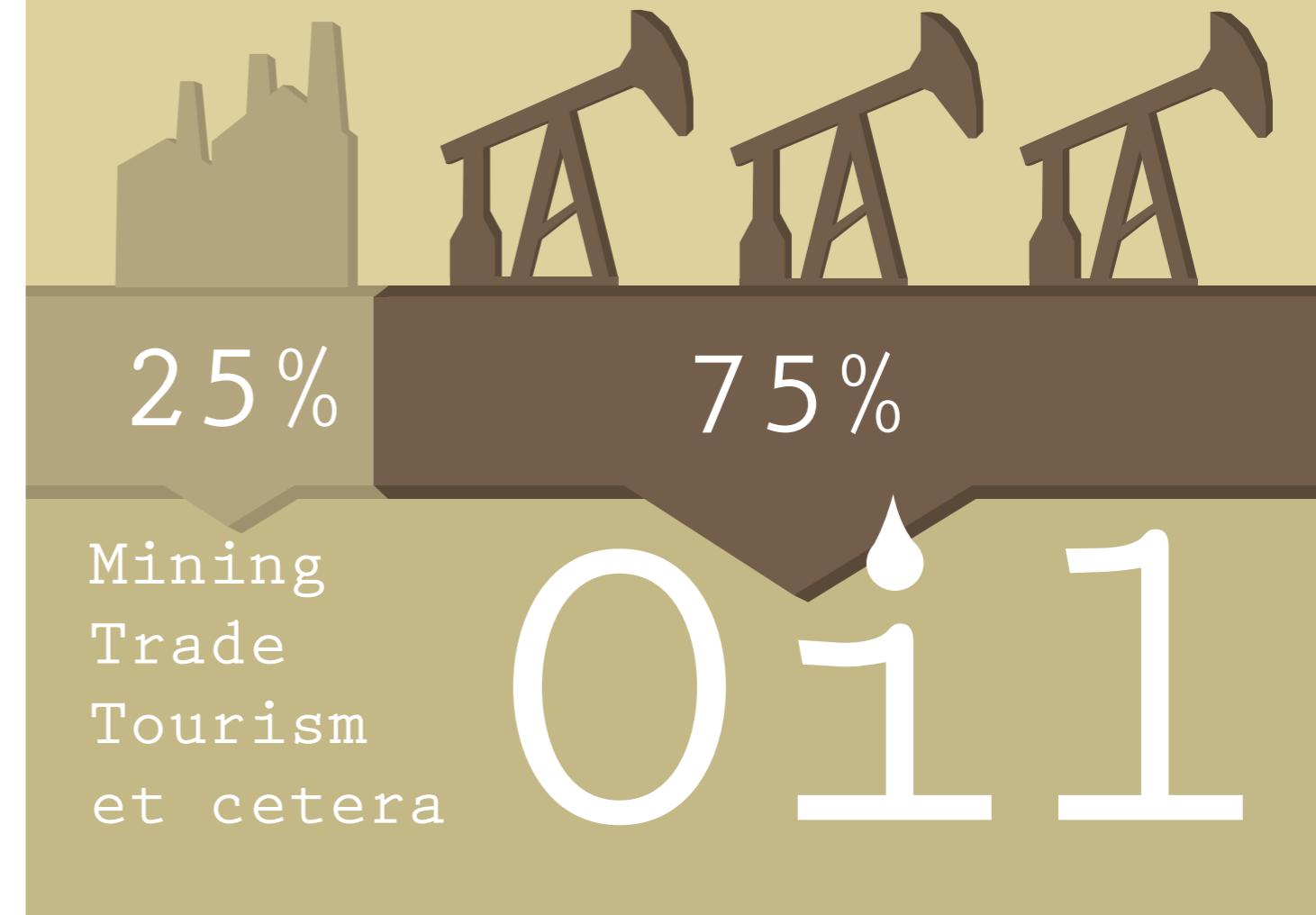
## Two. Liquid Gold



In order to represent this fact, I illustrated the percentages in a bar style graph which doubles as an aspect of the overall image – the horizon amidst the sandy desert and polluted sky. The infrastructure above the horizon, representing the business and oil industries, also complement the percentage bar, by following proportion and colour schemes.

I used a monospace font for the majority of the text, of the kind often used in commerce and business, to reflect these fields.

## Saudi Arabia's Total Revenue



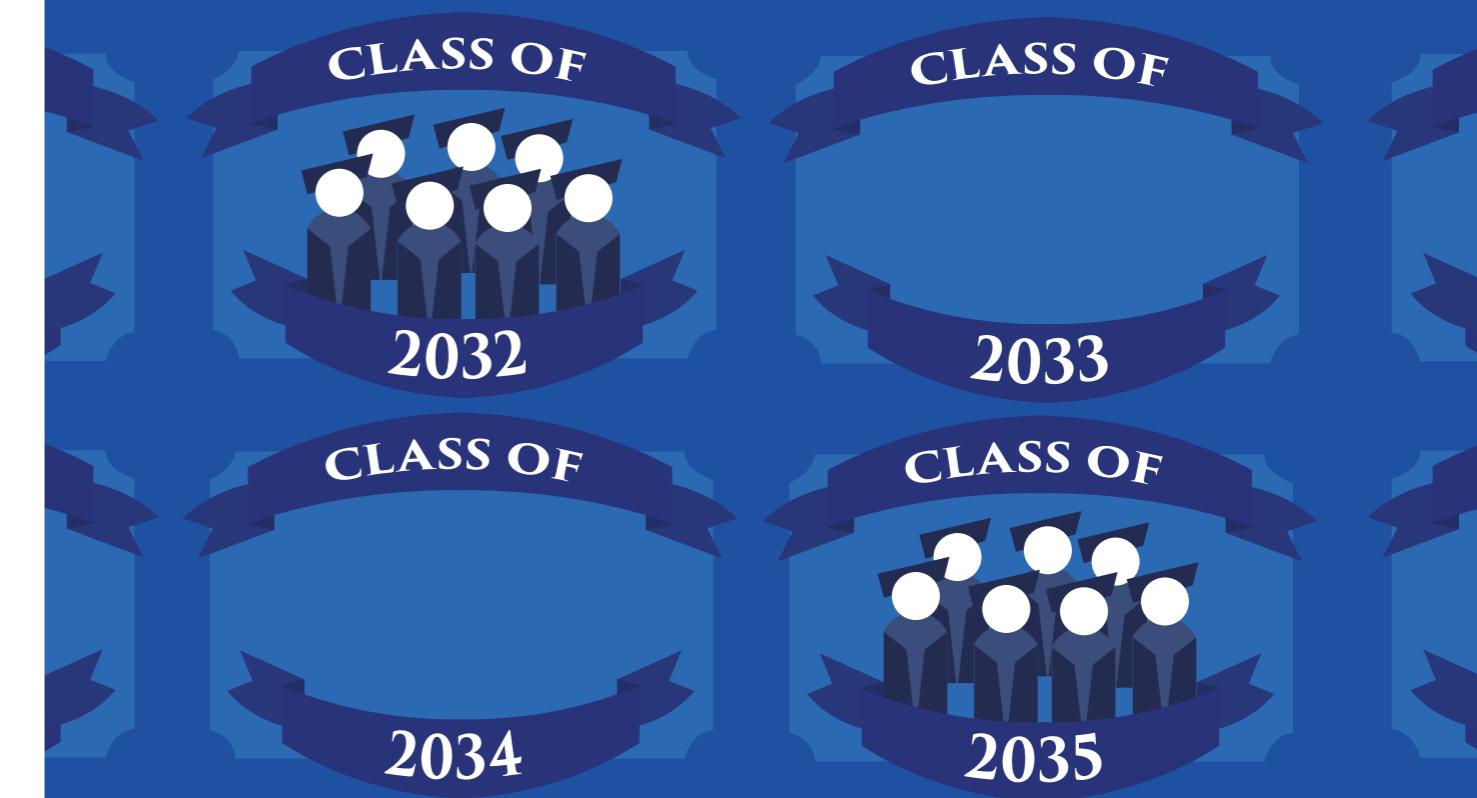
# Three. A Generation Gap

For this fact I took an unconventional approach of representation. Rather than illustrating the number of years or number of people affected, I described how the delayed pregnancies will result in a deficiency of high school graduates in future years. To achieve this I showcased a high school board of graduates, with two years of classes without pupils.

The colour scheme comes from the El Salvador flag, and the all-caps, large serif font is a take on the kind of fonts generally used in education.



## EL SALVADOR HIGH BOARD OF GRADUATES



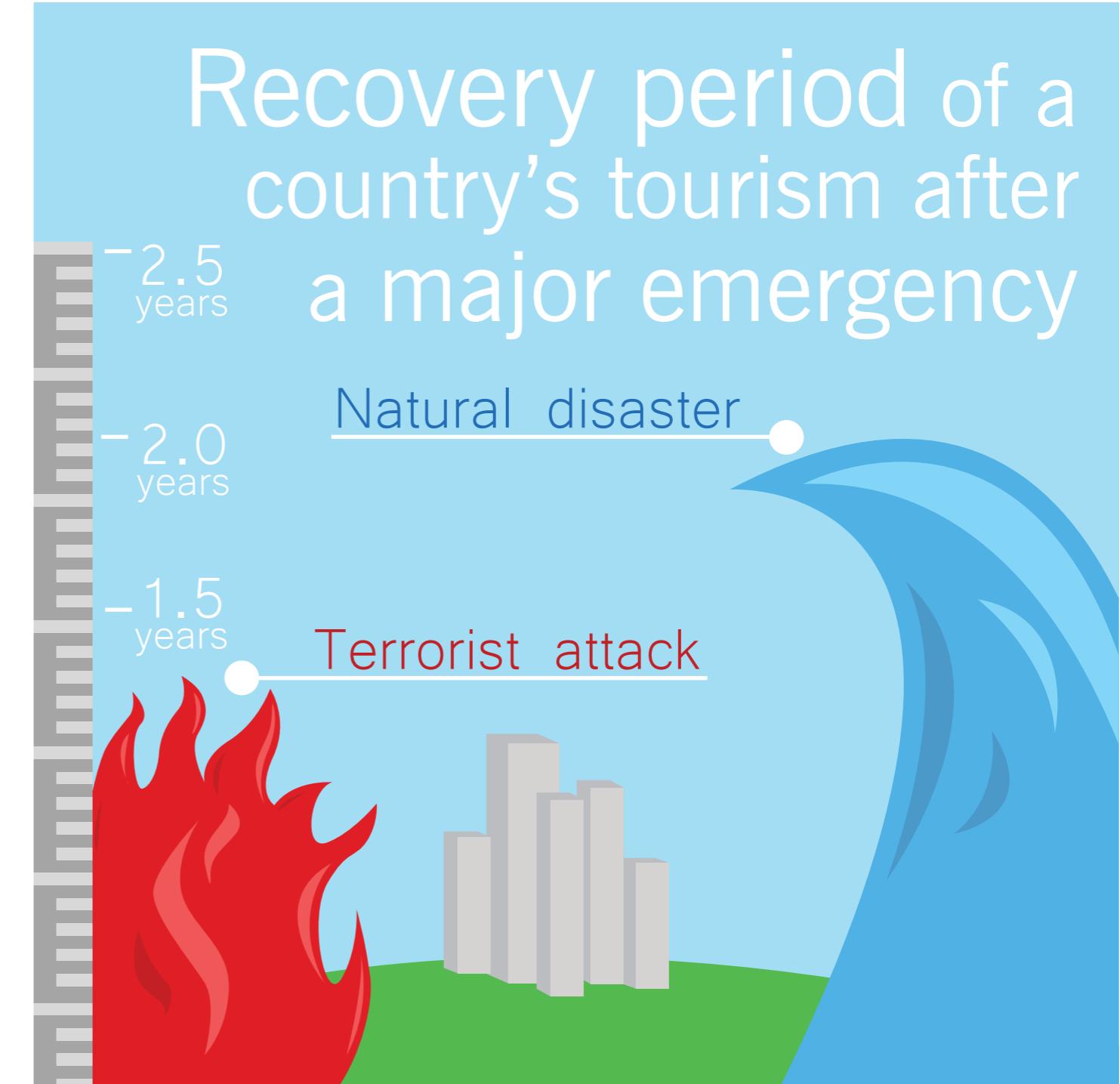
In El Salvador, Women have been advised to delay pregnancies for **two years** because of the **Zika virus**.

## Four. Recovery Periods



To represent this comparison, I created a bar graph with the conventional bars being replaced with illustrations of the actual items compared – a flame or explosion to represent a terrorist attack and a tidal wave to represent natural disasters. The axis I also modified from convention, to follow the tidal wave theme as a flood level meter.

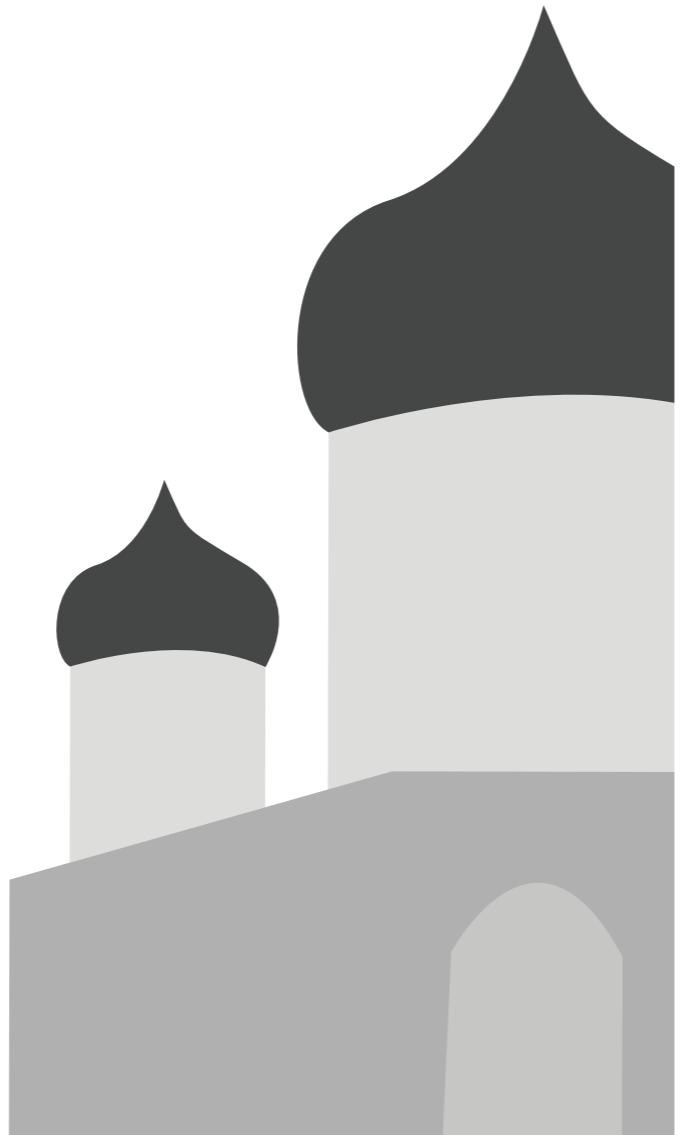
I used pure reds, greens, and blues to contrast well and distinguish between the different aspects of the graph and background.



# Five. The Grasp of Religion

For my final fact I created a pie graph, and depicted it in the form of what it was actually representing – the world. The positive section was shaded lightly, enough to be recognizable but not intrusive. Within the bounds of this section, upon the surface of the earth, is depicted various religious buildings.

My colour scheme mostly follows what is conventional in terms of graphic representations of the earth, as well as a more interesting and deep colour for that of space.

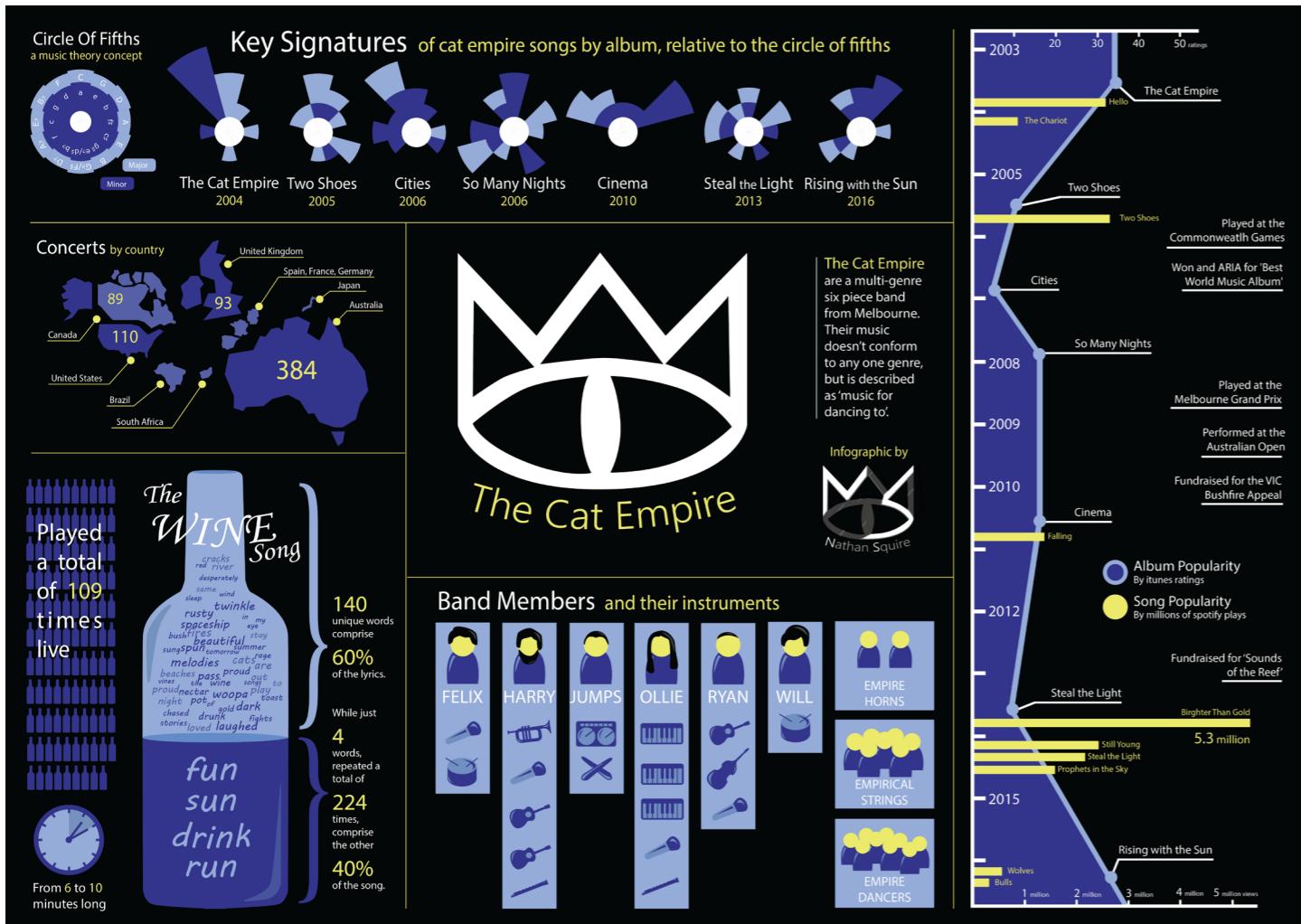


15% of countries require their leader to belong to a particular religion

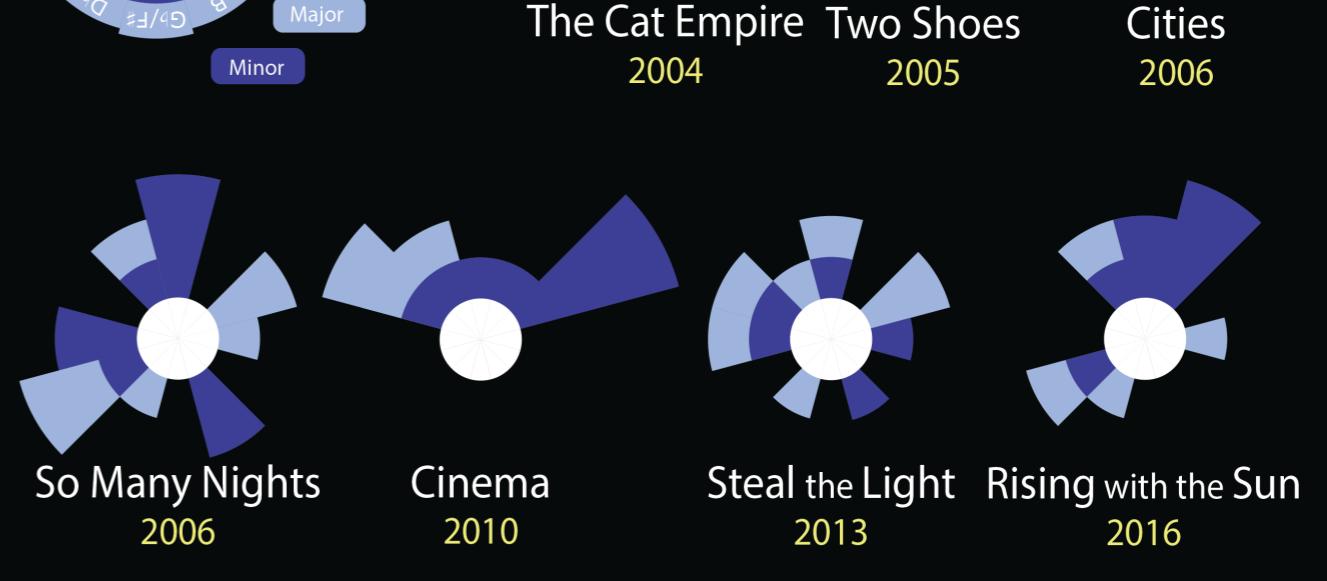
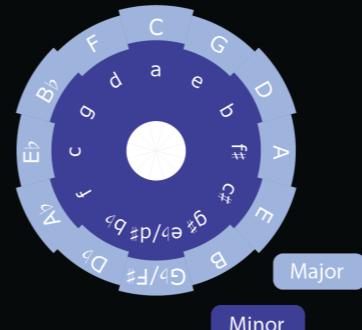


# infographic

Based on the multi-genre band from Melbourne, The Cat Empire.



## Circle Of Fifths a music theory concept



In music theory, a key signature denotes, for a particular piece of music, which notes are played as sharp, natural, or flat, and the circle of fifths is a diagram representing these signatures.

Here, the circle of fifth has been represented almost as pie graphs, to demonstrate the

number songs per album written in each key signature. This way trends can be found across the years, and albums can be compared in terms of key signature variety - 'So Many Nights' is probably the most interesting in this regard.

Played  
a total  
of 109  
times  
live



From 6 to 10  
minutes long



## Band Members and their instruments



FELIX



HARRY



JUMPS



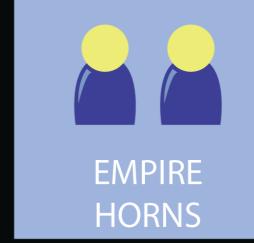
OLLIE



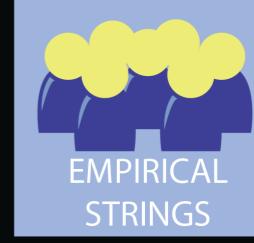
RYAN



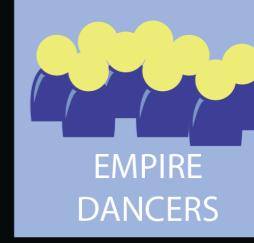
WILL



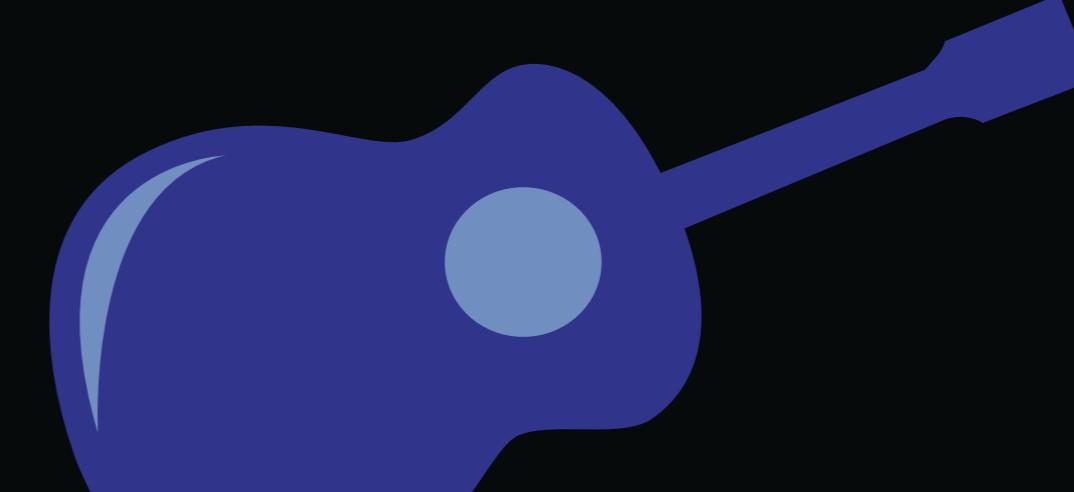
EMPIRE HORNS



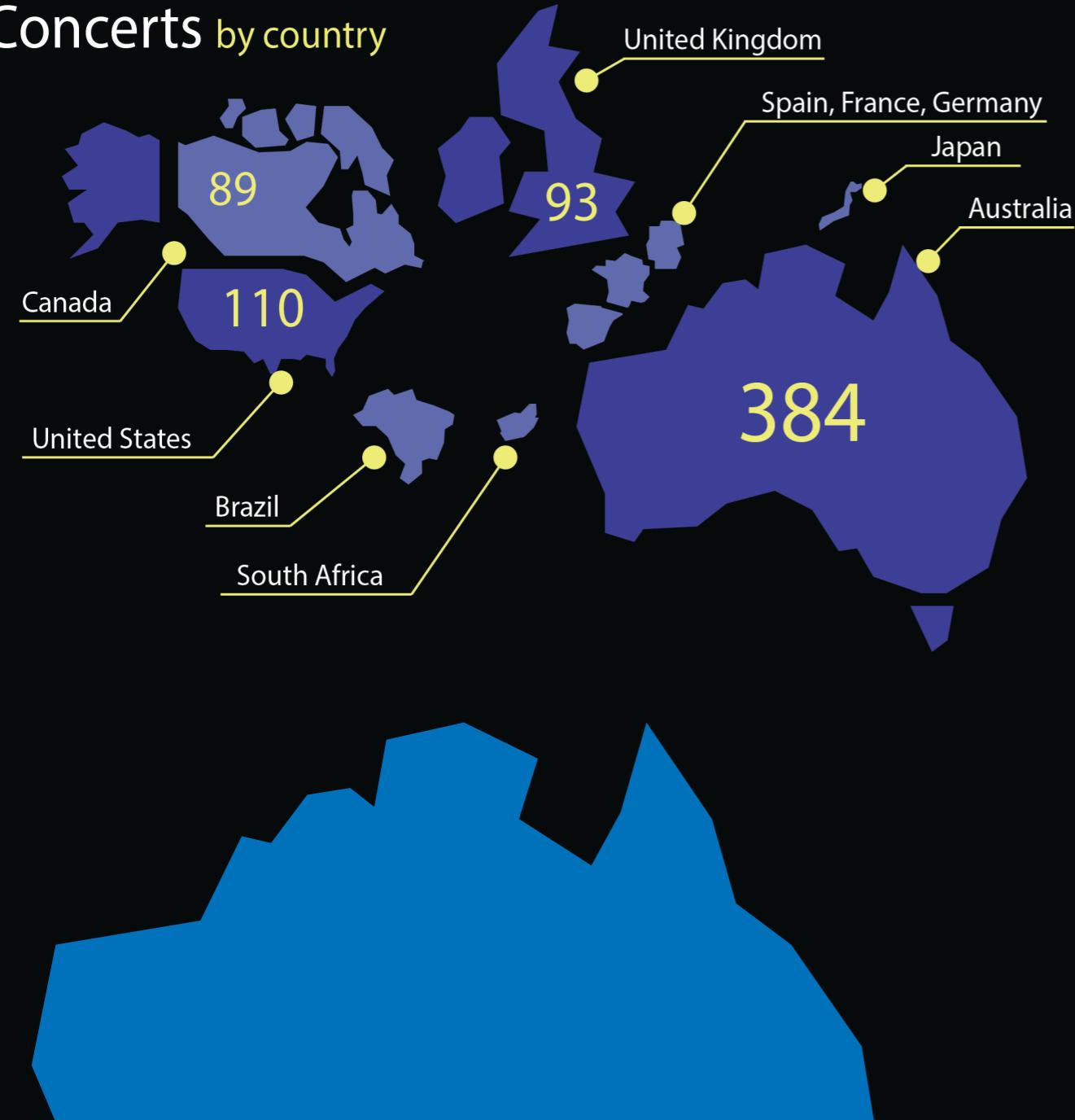
EMPIRICAL STRINGS



EMPIRE DANCERS



## Concerts by country



# thank you

Thanks for reading my portfolio.

And especially to Daniel 'Namby' Nitschke,  
for finding me the key signatures of every Cat  
Empire song in their seven major albums.  
And to all my sources, as below.

Just the Facts  
Harper's index (1996 - 2016)

Avenir Next LT Pro fonts  
<http://www.cufonfonts.com/en/font/13217/avenir-next-lt-pro>

Cat Empire Research  
<http://www.setlist.fm/setlists/the-cat-empire-73d676ad.html>  
<http://thecatempire.com/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Cat\\_Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Cat_Empire)  
<https://play.spotify.com/artist/023YMawCG3OvACmRjWxLWC>  
<https://itunes.apple.com/au/artist/the-cat-empire/id71333554>

Ben Cooper  
<http://www.thelazyeye.net>  
<http://www.radicalface.com>  
Nate Taylor  
<http://www.natentaylor.com>  
Nicole Standard  
<http://www.nicolestandard.com>

Portfolio created in 2016

