

**PORTOBESENO FESTIVAL 2nd Edition 2006**  
**between historical sources and web fluxes**  
**web history media theatre music art**  
Castel Beseno  
Calliano – Trento – Italy  
[www.portobeseno.it](http://www.portobeseno.it)

**Press release: Public Art installation by Stefano Cagol**

## **WHITE FLAG**

**Public Art installation composed by a 12 meters /  
40-feet aluminum flagstaff and one White Flag, 4  
x 6 meters / 157 x 236 inches**

**by Stefano Cagol**

**June 16 – September 30 2006**

**Finonchio Mountain (Calliano – Trento)**  
**On view from the valley from Trento to Rovereto,  
from the highway and the train from Verona to  
Brenner Pass.**

**OPENING @ Castello Beseno**  
**Trentino, Italy – h 9 pm, June 16 2006**

**A white flag, white in which all colors of the  
flags of the different nations are at the  
same time united and cancelled.**

The installation by Stefano Cagol is part of Portobeseno Festival that moves between territorial / historical dimension and new media / new consciousness. The festival realizes media events, theatre performances, music nights, exhibitions, open surveys.

The project by Cagol becomes the most symbolical intervention of the Festival thanks to the wide fruition. The big white flag and its idea of pureness against the contradictions of nowadays will be seen in fact by the extended travelers passing by the valley between Trento and Rovereto, moving through the Alps from Verona to Brenner Pass and Europe: million of travelers in the Summer, everyone spectator of the project.

**PORTOBESENO FESTIVAL** **2nd Edition 2006**  
**between historical sources and web fluxes**  
**web history media theatre music art**  
Castel Beseno  
Calliano – Trento – Italy  
[www.portobeseno.it](http://www.portobeseno.it)

**ABOUT THE PROJECT:**

The project WHITE FLAG by Stefano Cagol was born from the video *Stars & Stripes* projected at the Civic Gallery for Contemporary Art of Trento, Italy, within the show *New Italian Space* in 2002. The video is an elaboration of the American flag waving in the wind: the flag, shot in New York in '99, is doubled and from a military banner becomes a flying butterfly, until you cannot recognize it any more. A re-editing of the same video is a one-man project in February and March 2005 at the Platform Gallery of London curated by Mami Kataoka, senior curator of the Mori Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan. It is a wall-projection titled *lies* to underline the contradictions we are living, our unsafe cultural and social values. Contradictions which are symbolized by the extreme and continuous esthetic mutability of a flag in the new version of the video.

The extreme development, conceptually "THE END" of the project, is **White Flag**, the hoisting of a flag in various "strategic" points on the earth, in a totalizing act.

The choice of the flag, which one and where... has brought somewhat of a conscious dilemma. The solution resides in the addition of all the colors: i.e. white, the mourning!

The white flag, white in which all colors of the flags of the different nations are at the same time united and cancelled.

It is the sign against an absurdly conflicting society. It is a symbolic act, but at the same time totalizing in its essential purity.

The white flag is the center of the performance/action realized at the 51 Venice Biennale opening, Gardens, June 10, 2005 and of the first Public Art installation of three white flags (2005) on the flagstuffs of the Italian, European and Austrian flags by a military fortress.

**DETAILS:**

More info about the festival (Italian only) <http://www.portobeseno.it>

More info about the project: <http://www.white-flags.com>

More info about the artist: <http://www.stefanocagol.com>

Image caption:

Stefano Cagol, *White Flag*, 2006, Public Art project, site-specific installation, a 12 meters /40-foot aluminum flagstaff and one White Flag, 4x 6 meters / 157 x 236 inches.

Finonchio Moutain, Trento, Italy

**For further info and high resolution images: Leila Mai mob +39.339.7054512 [info@white-flags.com](mailto:info@white-flags.com)**