

# Shannon Novak Make Visible: Celebrate You



## About the Artist

Shannon Novak is an artist from Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand. In his work, Shannon creates colourful paintings, sculptures and installations that celebrate inclusivity and diversity. Diversity includes but is not limited to gender identity, gender expression, physical appearance, age, ability, race, ethnicity and religion.

Shannon believes that we can work together to create a world where people can be themselves, dress how they want to dress and love who they want to love without fear of judgment. Everyone deserves to be loved as they are.

Left: Shannon Novak / Photograph: Pati Solomona Tyrell / Image courtesy: The artist

Right: Shannon Novak / *Make Visible: All Welcome 2021* / Commissioned for APT10 Kids with support from the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation / © Shannon Novak / 'APT10', QAGOMA, 2021 / Photograph: Chloë Callistemon



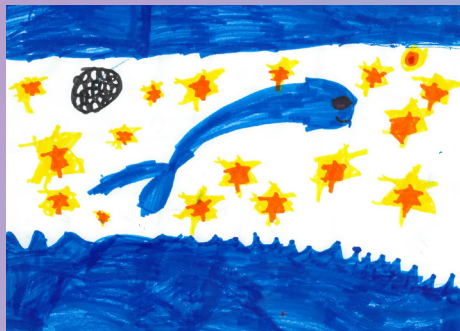
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When Shannon was a child, he knew he was different in regards to his gender identity and gender expression. One day at primary school, Shannon and his classmates were asked to design flags as a way to represent themselves. This activity allowed Shannon to express himself in a way he could not otherwise. Shannon's classmates loved his flag and this made him feel proud of his differences.

**Your turn!**

In this activity you can draw a flag design that represents you and what makes you happy.



*Did you know that flags often represent groups of people that are united by a shared history, culture or place? For example, the Rainbow flag or 'Pride' flag has become widely recognised as a symbol for the LGBTQI+ community since its creation in 1978.*