

## Locals Outraged Over Use of Flag Imagery in Art Exhibit

Andrew Schoultz's show "Ex Uno Plura" opened at Eric Flagstone Gallery in East Hampton on Saturday.

By Taylor K. Vecsey | June 24, 2012



A new art exhibition that incorporates imagery of the American Flag opened at the Eric Firestone Gallery in East Hampton Village on Saturday, stirring up anger and outrage from some.

San Francisco artist Andrew Schoultz's new solo show "Ex Uno Plura," or "from one, many," led to angry calls to the Newtown Lane gallery and messages of objection on the gallery's Facebook page, with dissenters saying the art desecrates the American Flag.

The show, according to a statement from the gallery, "takes its title from a riff on the commonly known United States motto, e pluribus unum (from many, one)." The show focuses on the flag, and included an installation on a flag pole outside the gallery — though that appears to have been taken down already.

Jerry Ruschmeyer wrote to East Hampton Patch about the gallery's exhibit: "I think your so called flag art is the defacing of the american flag !!!!! and a slap in the face of the americans that has died for that flag !" The artist, known for his murals and cultural commentary, has exhibited internationally.

"Like an optic brainteaser, the final results of a Schoultz endeavor combine graffiti, collage, old world cartography, and medieval script while referencing techniques such as woodcut printing, BenDay dots, Arabic calligraphy and the richness of Indian mural painting," the gallery said. "Schoultz's work captures the spirit of our world, drawing on the cultural clamor and restless vitality of dissenting voices, political wrangling and galactic alignment."

The gallery declined to comment, other than to say that the response had been an interesting one so far and that further comment would be made tomorrow.

The exhibition will be on view through July 7.