

wishing flags

Reflecting on the presence of 'wishing trees' and the idea of long-distance signalling, I would like to invite participants to design a small flag which contains a message that they wish to share.

In Celtic history, 'Cloutie Trees' were part of an ancient practice of tying cloth to trees near holy wells in Scotland, normally associated with making a wish, an offering, or a request for healing. This piece of cloth often contained writing or a small picture. You are invited to think about what *you* would tie to the tree. It could be: a name, a message to a friend, a reference to a place, a drawing, a line from a song, or a hope for the future.

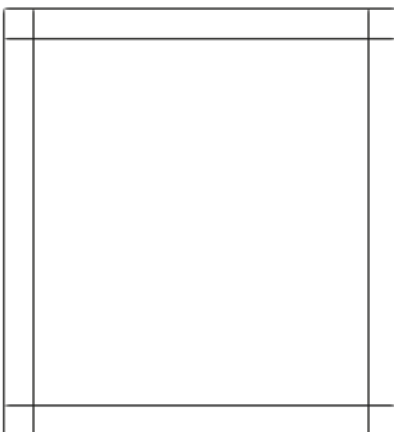
If you could speak to somebody far away, what would you say?

If you had a banner to wave at somebody, what would you put on it?

What do you wish for in the future?

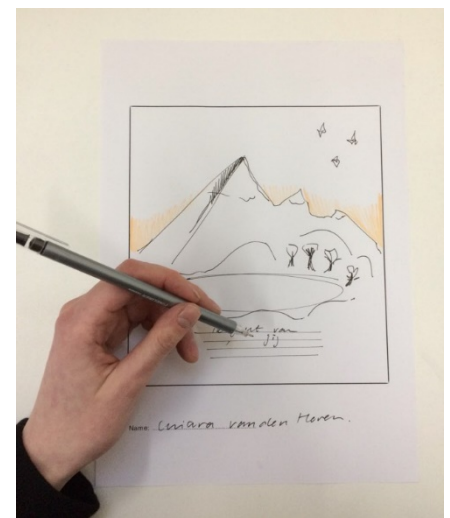
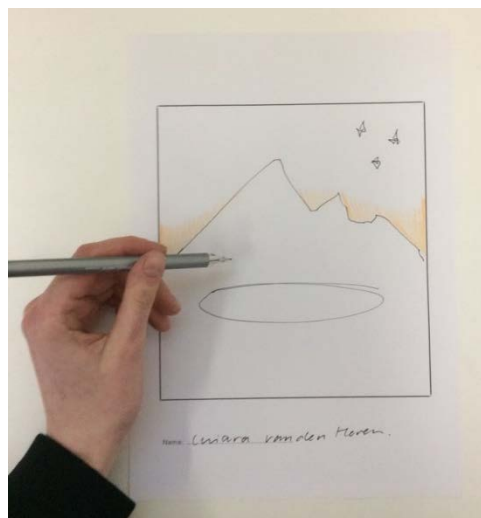
What might your wish look like?

You will receive a template of the flag's shape- this is yours to design. You could include techniques such as painting, illustration, writing, or collage to create this. These designs will be printed onto a fabric flag, and returned to the wards to be displayed.



Name: _____

A template



Drawing a place I wish to return to

Flags sending signals and messages



A 'Cloutie Tree' in the Scottish Highlands

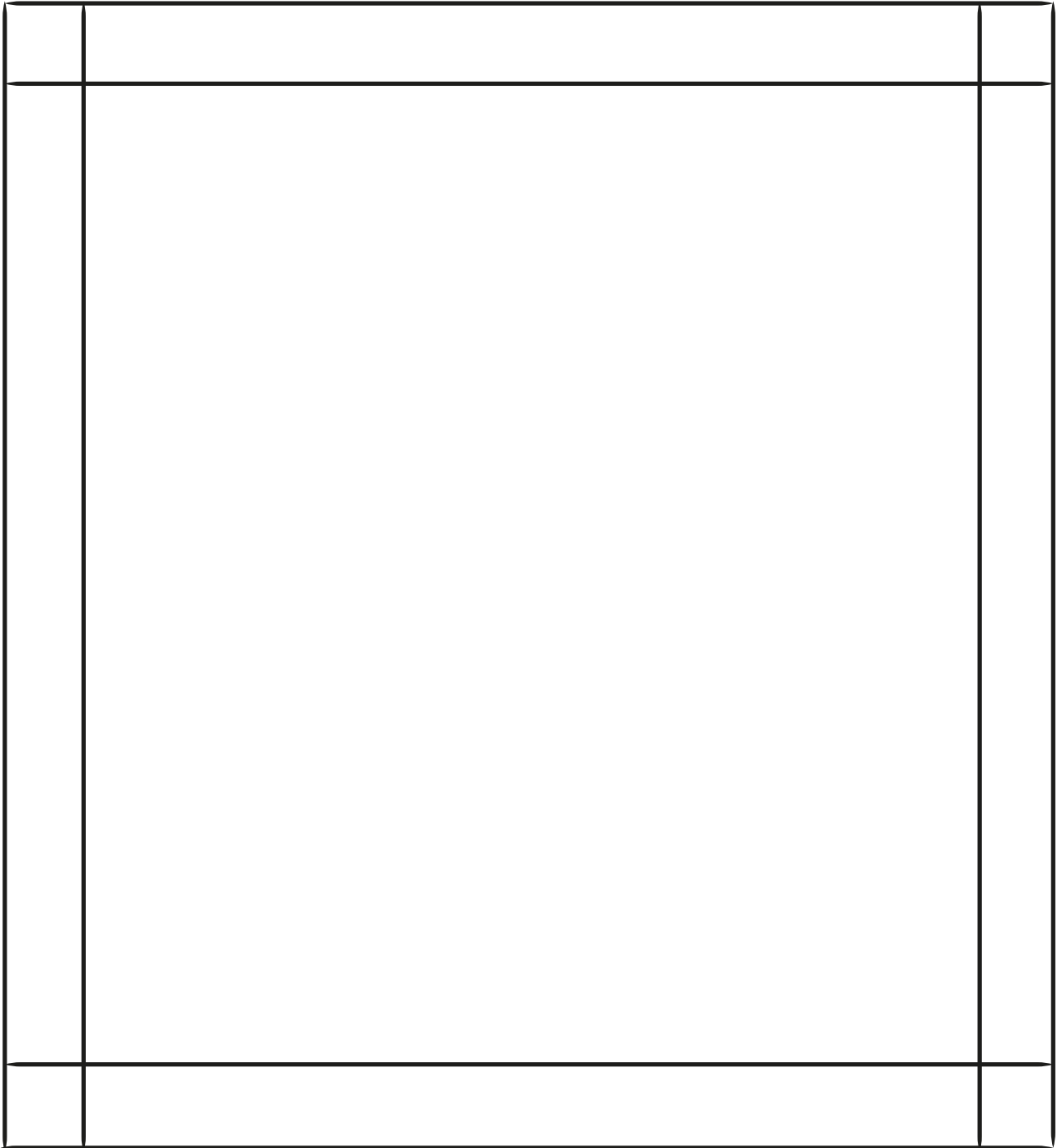


Children leaving a message

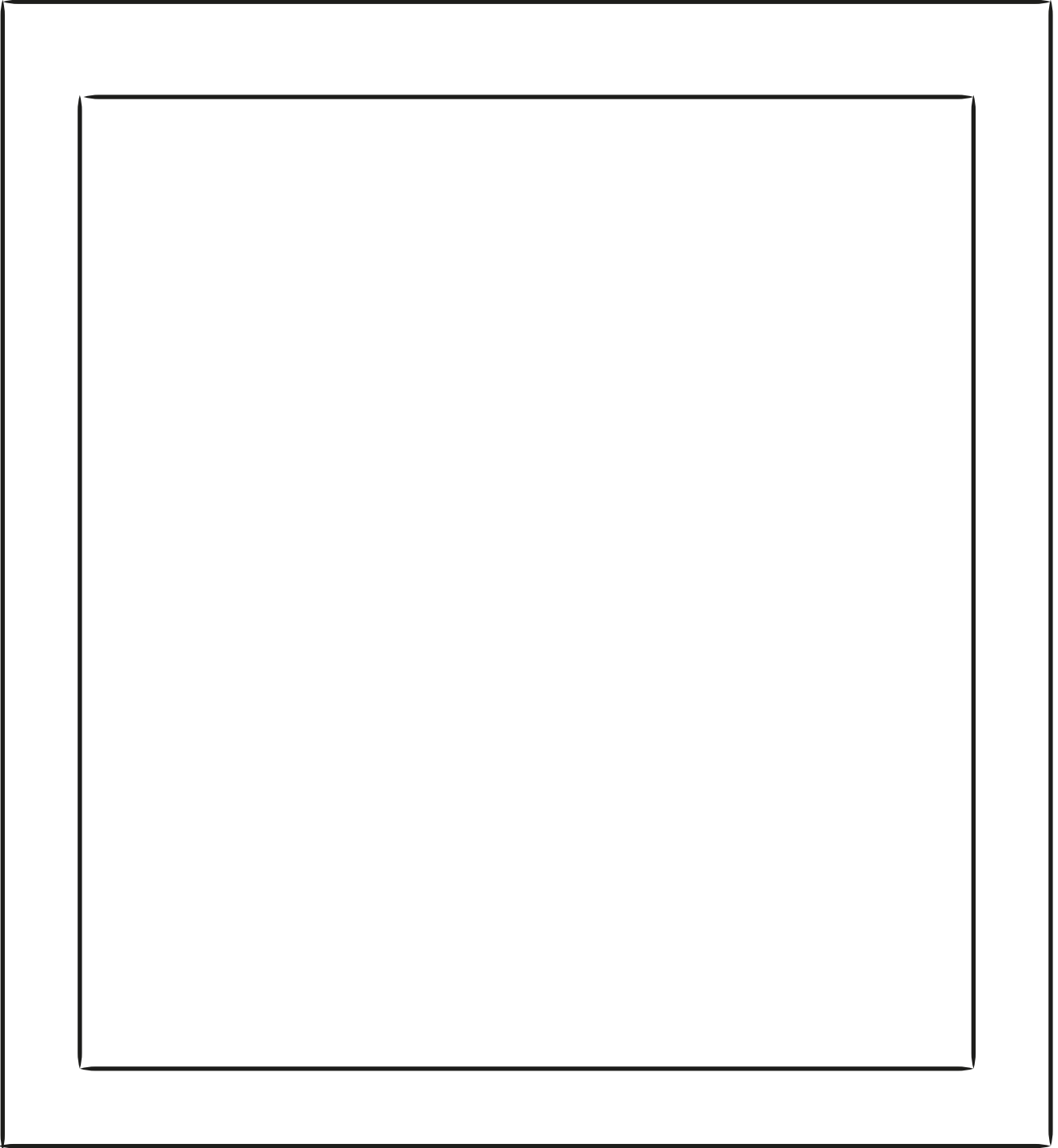
Examples of artists using textile flags:



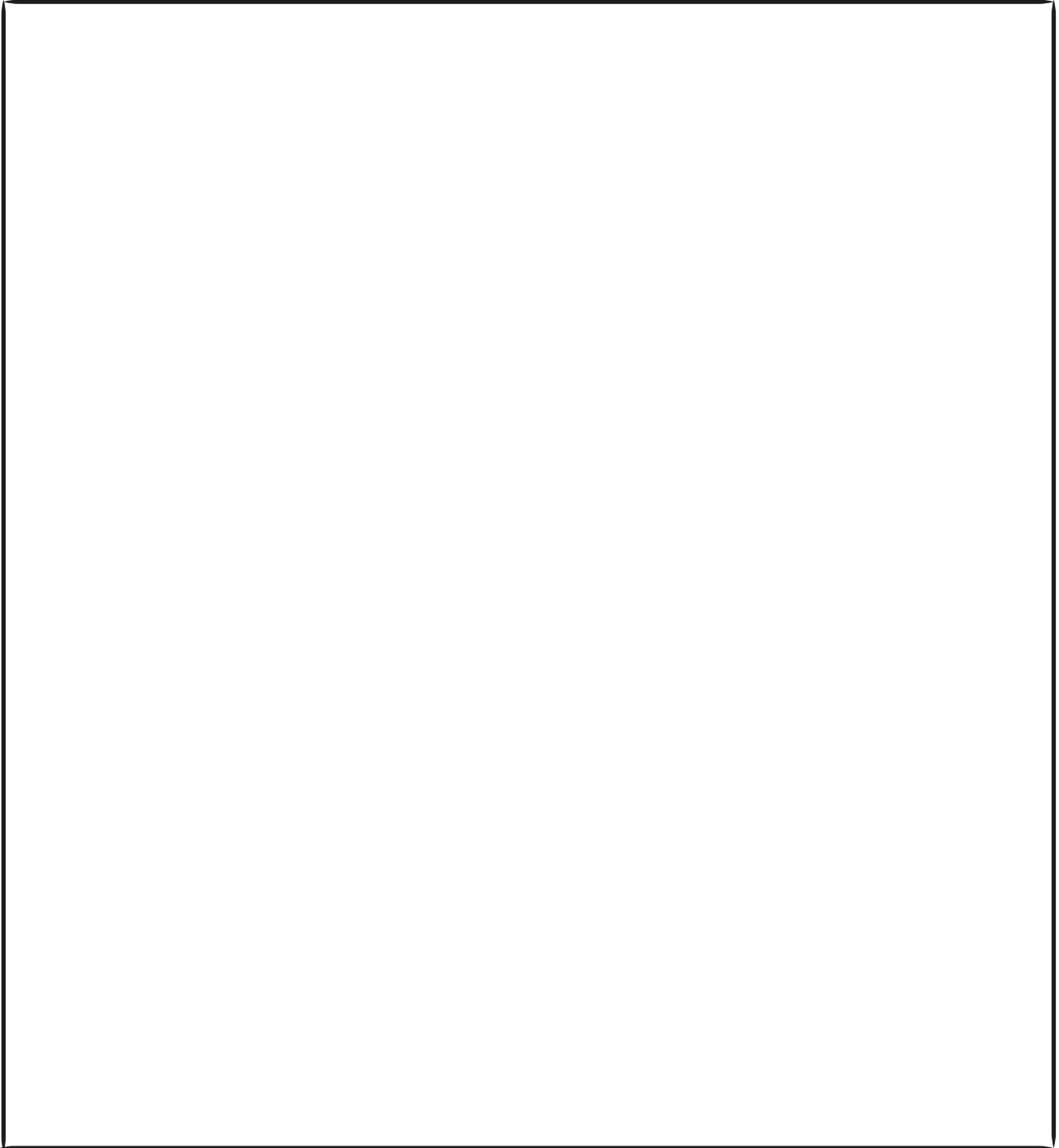
[Templates for Flag Designs]



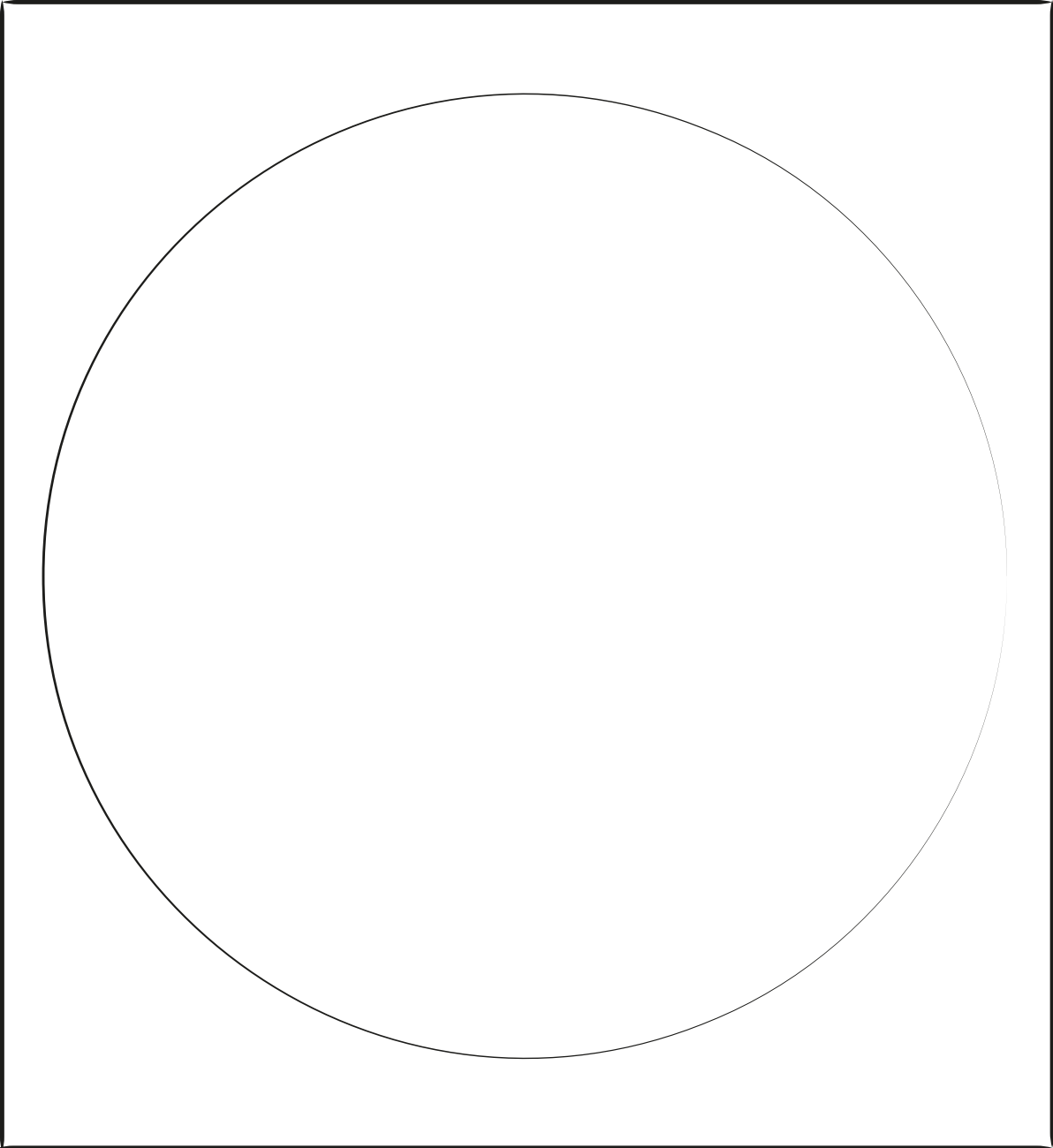
Name:



Name:



Name:



Name: