

Multilingual Poster “Solidarity”

Typography Project

Goal:

To practice typographic layout featuring multiple languages.
An exploration of diverse letterforms.

Materials:

- Sketch book
- Adobe Creative Suite
- High quality paper for printing
- White artboard
- Rubber cement or spray adhesive

Readings:

- <https://thetricontinental.org/our-history/>
- <https://www.docspopuli.org/CubaWebCat/gallery-01.html>
- *Revolucion Cuban Poster Art* by Lincoln Cushing

Process:

- Review the [digital collection of OSPAAAL prints](#) (can include class discussion on points of inspiration).
- Individual journaling on the prompt: “what does international solidarity mean to me?”
- Sketch your own poster concept featuring the word “Solidarity” in 4 different languages with at least one of those languages being in a non-Roman script such as Arabic, Mandarin, Khmer, Tamil, etc. (in class critiques).
- Complete your composition (11x17 inch format). You can select relevant fonts or hand letter the words. (in class critiques).

Final submission

- Print your final composition on high quality paper and trim to 11x17 inches.
- Mount on artboard with a 2 inch border.
- Artist statement: write 1 paragraph describing your piece. Include your full name and date.



“Solidarity” by Olivio Martinez, 1972, OSPAAAL 54x33cm offset. Note: a large collection of OSPAAAL posters can be seen on the [Docs Populi](#) website created by archivist Lincoln Cushing. Consider reviewing additional pieces with your class and analyzing the content of the posters. For additional historical context, reference [Revolucion!: Cuban Poster Art](#) by Lincoln Cushing.

Note to instructors:

Depending on the experience of your students, and the amount of time available, you can scale the scope of work up or down. A simpler approach to this assignment can still include the readings about OSPAAAL and the journaling activity, while focusing simply on the form of the letters and words.