

God Bless America

A music video project using found images.

[See the video \(YouTube\)](#)

The Song:

The song for God Bless America was something I wrote to make a plea for what I see as the potential of the United States, and more broadly the potential of human kind.

The song was recorded in the stockroom of an office. I used a laptop running the open source program Audacity to record and edit the audio, and a 5-gallon plastic water jug for percussion.

The Video:

I wanted the video to be created entirely from pre-existing images. By using images taken from common sources (i.e. not high-art), the video would more effectively demonstrate how we as a culture portray ourselves.

I began by creating a simple storyboard / outline so I would have a rough concept of how each section in the song should be handled.

- verse one – America as a privileged but clueless nation
- verse two – the founding of our country as a puritan and genocidal fantasy
- verse three – acknowledging the inertia of the status quo while appealing for change

I then used Google image search to locate material that fit each section. I looked for images that would be direct and clear (although metaphoric) in delivering the messages of the particular section.

The end credits feature links to the source (where I downloaded from) of each and every image in the God Bless America song.

