

### Astoria resident efforting project to create mural with all languages spoken in Queens

Blogger Annabel Short wants to inscribe "I live here" in the 160-plus dialects from around the world spoken in the borough.

BY THOMAS M. BAKER / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

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A look at what "I live here" looks like in the myriad of languages spoken in Queens

Do they have a Rosetta Stone for Samoan?

Transplanted Briton Annabel Short, 36, wants to provide one, launching a project to inscribe on a wall the phrase "I live here" in the 160-plus languages spoken in Queens.

"The key thing to make the project happen will be participation from the community," said Short, an Astoria resident. "Participation is the key."

Short first revealed the idea for the project earlier this month on the community website, "Why Leave Astoria." Since then she's created her own blog, [www.iliveherequeens.com/languages](http://www.iliveherequeens.com/languages).

The project isn't simply about languages or typesetting, of course, but to raise awareness of the borough's stunning diversity that is reflected by all those tongues.

"I think the wall could help us to appreciate each other," she said.



Short still needs several African languages, Burmese, Mandarin, Croatian, Hungarian and Gaelic.

Collecting the phrases has been slow, but the Queens Library, that ultimate symbol of polyglot diversity, has provided key demographic information.

"This is a very interesting project," said Fred Gitner, an assistant director with the library.

A Library spokeswoman added, "Queens is incredibly rich in its diversity, and we applaud every effort to celebrate it."

Ideally, Short said she would like the wall to be outside, in a place where all who pass by could appreciate it -- and she hopes the person who actually wrote the phrase on the wall was someone who spoke the language.

"I feel it would make it more authentic," she said.

For info, visit [www.iliveherequeens.com](http://www.iliveherequeens.com).