

# GLOBAL STREET ART

The Graffiti Artists and Trends Taking Over the World



Lee Bofkin





This is a book about public space and the cities we choose to live in. By showing beautiful international examples of street art and graffiti we ask you to imagine a more painted world. If another visual order is possible so is another way of experiencing our cities and another way of living. The writing is on the wall.

#### INTRODUCTION

A brief history of graffiti & street art

#### GLOBAL BREAKDOWN

USA  
Europe/UK  
South America  
Rest of the World

#### TECHNIQUES

Graf/letters  
Freehand spraycan  
Stencil  
Stickers & posters  
Atypical techniques

Durable techniques  
Ephemeral techniques

#### SPACES

Plants  
Integration  
Shadow & photo  
Spaces & faces

#### MOVEMENTS

Alluding to 3D  
Anamorphism  
Photorealism  
Text work  
Calligraphy  
Geometry

#### SURFACES

Vehicles  
Roads  
Passenger trains  
Freight

#### THEMES

Animals  
Hip-hop characters  
Robots

#### AD-BUSTING/ACTIVISM

#### FESTIVALS & PROJECTS

Index

#### COVER:

Front: Smates, Belgium.  
Back: iNO, Greece

#### OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE

#### FROM TOP LEFT:

Eoin, Hawaii; NeverCrew,  
Switzerland; Just Cobe,  
Germany; Mr. Thoms, Italy;  
Trans-1, UK; Lovepusher  
(detail), UK.

# MOVEMENTS: PHOTO- REALISM — EYES



We're seeing more and more street artists producing photorealistic images as graffiti artists approximate three-dimensional forms. However, with the increasing popularity of figurative street art, and graffiti artists working on ever-more realistic characters, there have been major strides in producing photorealistic artworks on the street.

A particularly popular theme in photorealistic street art is demonstrated in the powerful images opposite: the eyes have it.





CLOCKWISE FROM  
TOP LEFT:  
"Last hope" by the  
Greek artist iNO  
in Athens; "Yes"  
by Scotland-based  
Australian artist  
Smug in Bristol,  
UK; "Ascension" by  
Irish artist Eoin  
in Hawaii.



# SPACES: — PLANTS

These pictures have been chosen for the ingenious ways in which trees and plants have been incorporated into the pieces, again illustrating how features of the urban environment influence the art made there.



CLOCKWISE FROM

TOP LEFT:

Italy's Cristian Sonda makes excellent use of a single tree growing behind the center of the wall; by Italian artist Mr. Thoms; French artist Shaka works with the trees and large branches growing behind the wall; by French artist Vinie.







Although I have yet to visit Eastern Europe and Russia, I know from my experience as a bboy (breakdancer) that they have very, very strong hip-hop scenes in these countries. The same is known to be reflected in their graffiti scenes. These following pages focus more on figurative street art pieces, specifically because of the clear influence of local cultural traditions.

# **GLOBAL BREAKDOWN: — EASTERN EUROPE**













## **Global Street Art**

### **The Graffiti Artists and Trends Taking Over the World**

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304 pages

7½ x 9½

over 200 full-color photographs

978-1-77085-485-7

paperback

\$29.95

Rights: U.S. & Canada

October 2014

Canadian customers call toll-free

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Toll-free fax 1-800-450-0391

U.S. customers call toll-free

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Firefly Books Ltd.

Tel (416) 499-8412

Fax (416) 499-8313

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www.fireflybooks.com



## **A FIREFLY BOOK**

ISBN-13: 978-1-77085-485-7

ISBN-10: 1-77085-485-1

\$29.95



9 781770 854857