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# Flip The Script



## Synopsis

Distinctive hand style lettering is an essential skill for artists and designers. Deftly executed hand crafted letter forms are a nearly forgotten art in an age of endless free fonts. Graffiti is one of the last reservoirs of highly refined, well practiced penmanship. The most reviled and persecuted form of Graffiti, the Tag, is seldom appreciated for the raw beauty of its skeletal letter forms. Most tags are removed immediately, and thus the casual viewer seldom has a chance to discern the difference between entry level and advanced hand styles. Within the pages of *Flip the Script*, author Christian Acker has systematically analyzed the best graffiti hand styles, contextualizing the work of graffiti writers from around the United States. Acker presents the various lettering samples in a clean organized format, giving the material a proper, formal treatment evoking classic typography books.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Gingko Press Inc. (March 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1584234601

ISBN-13: 978-1584234609

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 8.4 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #514,987 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #97 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Graffiti & Street Art](#) #228 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Typography](#) #1184 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > Art](#)

## Customer Reviews

When I first heard this book was being produced I knew I was going to buy it. I didn't have to know who was going to be included, I just knew I was going to get it and love it. Now that I have it, I am in no way disappointed. The book is very well produced. The hardcover is chunky and looks like it will stand up well to repeated readings. The recessed electric blue lettering on the stark black background presents a clean, stylish look. I would have liked a bookcover of some sort because I can see myself getting all sorts of finger prints on this but that's just a personal thing. This book is definitely one you can leave on the table without it looking to "graffiti-ish" if that's a concern. As for the artists included in the book, there seems to be representation from most major regions of the country. Of course there will be gripes that certain folks are missing. As a DC area guy I would have

liked to see the Mid-Atlantic area a little more fleshed out. I can imagine that there are a whole lot of writers that Mr. Acker wanted to get in the book but wasn't able to for any number of reasons. I think this book will appeal to a broad spectrum of people from graffiti writers interested in their history to typography fans to graphic designers looking for fresh inspiration. Buy this book! You won't be disappointed.

Features a lot of dope writers with dope styles and breaks them down pretty well. The PNW kinda smushed in together with Frisco, and even though I know why that is, I feel like PNW could have gotten more love. There are a number of names that specialize in hardcore handstyles that less skilled writers could benefit from. Either way, don't listen to the haters, this book can fast track you on technique for beginners or help enhance your current technique for journeymen, just make sure you put your own twist on it stylewise.

I cannot praise Flip The Script enough. The dedicated author has compiled decades worth of underground history and skill, content that might have otherwise be impossible to access without this book. The commentary, tips/tricks, and cross-referencing thoroughly gives the reader access to an art form many disregard, partially out of misunderstanding and its own very nature of being illegal. My only quip is the felt material the cover is lined with, as it picks up dust and lint like nobody's business. I almost didn't include this comment because I honestly could not praise Christian P Acker's efforts any more and I do not want the cover to distract from the extraordinary material contained within. Don't judge a book by it's cover blah blah blah Overall, this book is built well and provides a comprehensive look into the handstyle movement of graffiti. If you are interested in learning about or practicing graffiti, this is a must buy, especially considering the cost.

This book is not your usual graffiti coffee table book. There are no colorful murals or burners! No, Christian Acker gets to the bottom of it all, connecting the geographical and aesthetic dots of graffiti styles for the first time. This is the most in-depth books on the subject on graffiti style! It might be a bit boring to the uneducated eye, but what Mr. Acker has done has never been done before. The book is missing a couple of the big kings of style, which I suspect is only due to arrogance and ignorance, but there are some really cool heavy hitters along with some no-names. Yet, every writer has his well deserved place and becomes part of the bigger picture. Christian Acker's endless collecting of style samples has left us with a book that will withstand any trend. It is a true cultural record that should be on the bookshelf of anybody who is interested in street art or graffiti.

This is the second time I've purchased this book. The first was a gift - but, then I had to snag a copy for myself. This is the absolute coolest instructional book I've ever purchased! I love hand lettering / graffiti / script, but have never had a chance to be exposed to so many different styles in one place. The historical context that Christian Acker provides also makes for a much more personalized, inspiring experience.

After placing this beautiful book on the family coffee table, my kids have suggested that I give up software-development for a career in tagging. This is a great read. Filled with pictures, interviews, detailed historical information, and how-to's. I once thought tagging was the modern equivalent of dog-pissing. I was wrong. Tagging is an intricate study of hand lettering with a rich history and proud traditions.

Vandals, take note: to do it right, take lessons from this wonderful book. 'Flip the Script' reinforces and illuminates every explosive alphabet Mr. Acker's obsessive ten-year journey revealed, from old-school guys like Cornbread to the young'uns of today, A rich tribute to the writer's hand, to the writers themselves, and to the marks we humans make as we pass through history.

Without saying this book 'is this', 'or that', or even "good/bad"... I'll say this book really satisfies a personal thirst for knowledge that rarely is given the 'textbook treatment'. The effort to share a compendium of street knowledge, in printed word, about, hand-printed words -

MMM-MMM-'DELISHOUS!

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