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GRAFF: The Art & Technique Of Graffiti



Synopsis

Once viewed as merely a blemish on the urban landscape, graffiti today has evolved into a legitimate art form in its own right, influencing entertainment, advertising, fashion and other creative industries worldwide. In this unprecedented book, master graffiti artist Scape Martinez shows how he does his thing, offering streetwise advice to help other "writers" create maximum-impact, legally sanctioned work. Step by step, he lays out the philosophies and realities of the genre. From picking a "tag" and developing letterforms, to the logistics of prepping a wall and working a spray can in a painterly fashion, Graff will help you find your style and leave your mark; large and loud. A breakdown of the fundamental elements of graffiti-style; letters, character, backgrounds; and how they work together and intermingle with arrows, symbols, quotes and tags. From paper to wall, a start-to-finish approach for creating graffiti in various styles. On-site step-by-step demonstrations show the creation of various types of compositions, from throw ups to full-blown pieces. Complete with a glossary and a timeline tracing graffiti history, Graff is the bible for street artists looking to elevate their work, graphic designers wanting to expand their vocabulary, and anyone interested in giving their work an edgy, urban look.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Scape Martinez creates with spray enamel, house paint, markers, acrylic and watercolor. He owns and operates two youth clothing lines, Liquidscape and Respect, Inc., and is an arts advocate for kids. He is regularly featured in exhibits; does murals and designs; lectures and teaches in the San Jose area and beyond. He's been featured in Artweek, San Jose Mercury News, Melro, San Jose

I ordered two books this one more aimed at the wall graffiti artist and Graffiti Diplomacy. Learn to draw a graffiti masterpiece (more in depth for the sketch artist super detailed with examples.) This review is for Graff. Multifaceted book. literary and visual work of art + complete tag tutorial and examples + color how to + graffiti history bits w/ respects paid to pioneers LEROY WAS HERE, RIP DONDi + basic letter how to + accents and flourishes how to + beautiful beautiful illustrations and artwork. Wow + perfect book design for artist 11x8 opposite of regular ruled paper + simple practical design. Overall it shoots you out the spray can onto a wall and takes you step by step through the process of idea inception to finished piece. Was overwhelming to see the world of graffiti explode onto paper in front of me lol. I'm humbled and grateful for eScape's careful attention to detail and his artistic ability.

Inspirational in a word. It has helped me improve my art, and given me some insights into the art I was not privilege too. My only complaint is there is not enough of a break down of how to draw different styles, or how to color. I feel that it glazes over these subjects briefly instead of breaking them down in small fractions. For example I can follow the step by step of one letter to flash it out! But what about the other 26? I'm left to my own devices. But I can't deny that the book is still helpful and very instructive! Almost worth every penny! I would buy it again. And what's more, I will buy the 2nd volume and the book on coloring. It's that good!

I saw this book initially at an art supply store next to a display for Montana spray cans. Kudos to the art supply store for pushing two products at once, excellent marketing techniques. I have been into graffiti for many years now, however I have never been able to spend the hands on time needed to refine my craft and actually work with spray cans. This book has helped me catch up on that missed time. This book is not just for beginners, advanced graffiti artists can find excellent value in this book to help them on their path to urban art greatness. Scape has done an excellent job verbally and visually with this book to allow for users to practice their craft and become better artists. It is like taking an introductory course on graffiti without a live professor. Well done, very pleased with this book!

I picked up this book because I have always been a fan of graffiti. I bought Graff and as usual it arrived before the estimated delivery date. The book covers a brief history of graffiti and shows

examples from different artists. I really enjoyed the section on lettering and common styles which I was able to apply to my own art. The other section I really enjoyed was the tools section. It covers the "tool kit" that most artists carry and explains the different cases for using them and the different effects you can make. Graff is a great intro to street art and teaches some skills you can take back to your own art work.

good stuff

Grandson loves this book.

I recently purchased a copy of this book and I love it! I am not an artist by any stretch of the imagination, but I greatly enjoyed the detailed history Mr. Martinez included in this fine instructional manual, which is also a visual feast. High quality, full color photographs of all the techniques he describes, demonstration photos of Mr. Martinez in action, and as another reviewer pointed out, suggestions to make your own graff art legal while on public display, all combine to make this a must-have book for anyone who is an artist, who enjoys looking at or making art, or who just wants to feel happy and relaxed looking at all the wonderful colors Mr. Martinez has used in this book. Put this book on your coffee table before you invite friends over, then stand back and prepare to be amazed!

Great book, however a bit over the level that I was hoping for. My son is 10, and a new, yet good artist. He finds it challenging to read, but will grow into it.

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