

AL DIAZ



Al Díaz's career spans five decades. Born and raised Puerto Rican in New York City, by age 15 he was an influential first-generation subway graffiti artist known as "BOMB-ONE." His friendship and artistic collaboration with high school schoolmate Jean-Michel Basquiat on SAMO©, (a late 70s Avant-garde graffiti tag project) has been noted often in contemporary art history. Díaz later contributed percussion to numerous musical recordings and performances, including Basquiat's historic 1983 record, "Beat Bop," (considered to be one of the earliest hip-hop albums).

Díaz is sought-after as an expert of New York City counterculture art. He appears often in publications, as a highlighted speaker for a variety of panel discussions at universities and museums (including Smithsonian Institution, the Brooklyn Museum, The New School and Christie's Education), and has been featured in several films, including Boom for Real: The Late Teenage Years of Jean-Michel Basquiat, BBC's American Masters — Basquiat: Rage to Riches and Jean-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child.

Díaz' current creative practice in Brooklyn includes gathering the standard "WET PAINT" signage used throughout the NYC MTA, and reconstructing them to create clever, poignant anagrams in various mixed media and public art formats. His work is shown and privately collected internationally.

In 2018, Diaz authored SAMO©...SINCE 1978, an in-depth, color illustrated history of the street art legacy that he began with Basquiat in the late 70s. A notebook that Díaz made with Basquiat in his teens is currently held in the collection of the Yale University Beinecke Library.

CHRIS RWK



A child of the 70's into the 80s, ChrisRWK's world was often completely flooded with the imagery and ideas presented by his television, his comic books, and the music and movies of the time. Immersed in these various mediums, ChrisRWK began to store the images brought forward through these everyday experiences in what he refers to as a "mental journal". This journal was a haven of his thoughts that he could refer back to whenever necessary. ChrisRWK's paintings frequently cite past conceptions of popular culture embedded in his psyche's cache. This use of intertextuality also serves to offer a comfort or familiarity of sorts to the viewer. ChrisRWK's works frequently reveal everyday musings and people one would pass on the street without looking or thinking about twice. These images also aid ChrisRWK in the creation of a visual language comprised of his own iconographic imagery. Through the repetition of this imagery, ChrisRWK strives to familiarize his viewers with the language he has constructed. ChrisRWK believes that the notions within his pieces serve as a backbone to the many stories created by the onlooker when he or she is viewing the work.

In 2001 ChrisRWK set in motion RobotsWillKill.com. Robots Will Kill is an arts site dedicated to community and exposure for artists/media often disregarded by the mainstream art world. Rather than featuring his own work exclusively, he opened it up to allow the possibility for it to become whatever it evolved into being. ChrisRWK has used this interaction and collaboration with artists to help develop his artwork in new ways. Over the years ChrisRWK's imagery has become quickly identifiable and familiar to many people. He is trying to evoke more stories in people's minds everyday.

EASY



Easy is a world-renowned artist who was born in Brooklyn, Shortly after his birth his family relocated to Harlem then the Bronx New York. He has a fond interest in music, astronomy, physiology, anatomy and sports. After moving to Manhattan, Easy was initiated into graffiti by his cousin Josh 5, who had a profound influence on him. He was writing the tag "LC" before a female classmate gave him the nickname "EASY" because of his smooth demeanor. He immediately shifted his focus to the arts abandoning all the dreams of becoming a baseball player and a doctor.

Easy began engaging in chalkboard battles with Keith Haring on the MTA subway stations. While writing his legendary tags, Haring was drawing his iconic characters with them both battling to see who could cover all the MTA Chalkboards first.

EASY, Josh 5, and Joz began painting hundreds of trains on the subway lines while simultaneously painting the streets. They created a historic street movement that influenced decades of artists to come.

Easy's tag became the blueprint for what was considered an iconic hand style. Keeping the entire movement alive while there was a crackdown on painting and vandalizing of MTA trains. Easy's work has been featured in many music videos featuring artists such as Wu tang Clan, KRS One, and Grammy award winner Macklemore to name a few. Even lending his hand style to be used in the hit video game Grand Theft Auto 5.

Easy has transitioned his classic style and new techniques into galleries, a museum, and collector's homes worldwide. His work speaks for itself. Easy was featured in countless books, magazines including The New Times. He was recently asked to be a part of the reconstruction and resurrection of the Late Jean Michel Basquiat's famed studio in Manhattan. After 30 years, Easy was one of the few artists selected to be a part of the re-opening of this this legendary studio. Easy shows no signs of stopping with an arsenal of works being created and waiting to be seen by the art world. From the streets to galleries Easy does it all. Easy has started a new chapter of street-art by installing his sculptured tag and art works throughout New York and beyond. Easy is also in the process of writing a book.

GREGORY de la HABA



Gregory de la Haba is an American interdisciplinary artist whose conceptual practice resists categorization. De la Haba's work explores themes of addiction, contemporary notions of masculinity and Duende, a heightened state of emotion, expression and authenticity derived from pure artistic expression. It is from this place that the artist unlocks his true self—both in art and in life.

Since 2008, de la Haba has produced art-related ventures through his creative platform Bodega de la Haba. Notable projects include hosting literary events with Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Franz Wright, curating a survey of important work by the celebrated artist Judy Rifka at Pulpo Gallery in Murnau am Staffelsee, Germany, and producing and narrating Terrence Browne's Irish art history musical, Hazel: Made In Belfast which premiered at Carnegie Hall.

De la Haba's work has been exhibited internationally, including Salzach Biennial, Salzburg Arts Festival, Queens Museum, Kunsthaus Tacheles, Contemporary Istanbul, Design Week Milan, Mykonos Biennale, SCOPE Art Show, Art Miami, Art Southampton and Sylt Art Fair. In 2009 de la Haba was the Artist-in-Residence at Jack the Pelican Presents where he firmly cemented his notoriety with a provocative body of work.

A cum laude graduate of Harvard University, de la Haba has also written on a number of artists including Billy The Artist, Richie Culver, Marcus Jansen, Cristina BanBan, Oscar Murillo, Al Diaz, California Locos (Dave Tourjé, Chaz Bojórquez, John Van Hamersveld, Norton Wisdom and Gary Wong), Miya Ando, Andy Moses, Timothy Warren Williams, Lance De Los Reyes, Mel Bochner and many others. De la Haba's writings and artworks have been featured in a number of publications including The New York Times, Southampton Review, Rizzoli's Irish America, New York Arts Magazine, and Portray.

De la Haba is represented by Geuer & Geuer Art GmbH in Dusseldorf, Germany. A native New Yorker, the artist lives and works in Queens.

KIT 17



KIT 17 was born and still lives in the Bronx, New York and began writing his name on New York City buses. In 1974 At the age of 13 He graduated to the New York City subway trains after being introduced to the yards by Mark 198 and Hysen, founding members of Mission Graffiti crew aka MG Boys. This crew was instrumental during the mid to late 1970's, and instrumental in pushing forward the new subway train era in New York City Graffiti History. Known as a Colourist Kit 17 produced a significant amount of work painting on 100's of New York City subway trains.

His graffiti has been featured in the documentary films: *Watching my name go by* (BBC, 1976), *80 blocks from Tiffany's* (1979) and *Stations of the elevated* (1981), as well in the books: *The History of American Graffiti*(Caleb Neelon & Roger Gastman, 2011), *Fuzz one: a Bronx childhood*, 2005 (Vincent Ferdorchak), *Don 1 the King from Queens* (Louie Gasparro, 2014) *Graffiti New York*(Eric Felisbret, 2010) (*New York Subway Graffiti* Todd Lange, 2009) (*Spray Nation* Martha Cooper,2022) and *Classic Hits* (Alan Fleisher, Paul Iovino, 2012).

Still actively painting graffiti, KIT 17 also works on canvas that explores abstract art letter Styles, color palette and designs reminiscent of his days fighting his way through the subway yard to get his name up. These paintings explore memories, inspirations and document a history that evaporated before the impact of graffiti captured by the mass media in the 1980's. His work is collected privately and shows in gallery exhibitions throughout the US and globally.

ZIMAD



Luis Zimad Lamboy was born in the South Bronx in 1965. In the late 1970's he began his career as a graffiti and street artist, which has heavily influenced his style and global brand. He attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC between 1988 and 1990 where he studied textile Surface designing after being awarded a scholarship. As a self taught artist, he began to combine his skills with formal training in design to develop the unique and contemporary styles he is best known for today.

His first show was in 1984 at Fashion Moda, a gallery best known for first showcasing graffiti art in NYC. Since then, he has showed and sold his work globally including exhibitions in the United States, Russia, France, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Amsterdam, Philippines, Vietnam, Ecuador, Panama and Netherlands. His clients include many major brands such as Nike, MTV, Modelo, Corona, Red Bull, Lions Gate Films, Jacob & Co. and State Farm as well as many private clients and celebrities. He has appeared in dozens of documentaries and has been interviewed and invited to participate in shows and projects all over the world.

His influences come from Salvador Dali, Jean-Michel Basquiat and, Jeff Koons. Luis Lamboy sees art as a living timeless force. He lives and breathes art and sees it in everything from architecture, to nature. His works incorporate his experiences and histories often forgotten lessons, which he hopes will educate and inspire people all over the world for generations to come.