

Quikack column by Quik

Photos, Negatives and other Gripes

Among many collectors/admirers is the common concern of the condition of photographs and negatives with classical graffiti imagery and the deterioration of these visual records over the course of time. Truly, color slides (or dias) retain their quality longer and are easily stored, althought this medium is more expensive. However, one may see other dilemmas aside from this aspect of preserving historical graffiti oriented images.

Photographes of graffiti works have documented the development and maturing process of this art form over the past 20 years. The accuracy of photos and film are a most vital format for such phenomenon. The nature of the work is that of a temporary medium, since the earosol pieces have been easily buffed away, defaced, "backgrounded", or erased by fresh layers of paint over the years. Thus, photos are the truest means of recording this type of imagery quickly, rather than relying on "tall tale" stories and boastfull sagas about masterpieces and other accomplishments.

Much of the concern over the deterioration of photos and negatives manifest itself primarily outside of New York City. Is it odd that most New Yorkers do not have the same worry? Does the whole world crave photographs from the Pakistan graff scene? Does someone have the first whole-car-top-to-bottom from Mogadishu, Somalia? Does anyone care? Maybe, maybe not... Nevertheless, we members of the graffiti culture always get a thrill when the discovery of a "never before seen" N.Y.C. old school subway train photo makes the collecting circuit.

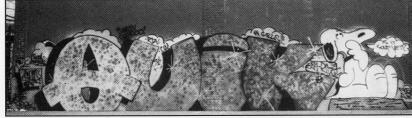
Photo life: First of all, most graffiti photos taken by the N.Y.C. artists in the early 1970's were done with a 110mm camera. Graffiti writers were mainly poor, or to young to posses quality equipment. So don't sweat it any longer...most of the negatives arefading and crumbling at this very moment! Another fate common in New York was the theft of one's photos by fellow writers. And usually, the thief was not taking such property to the museum of Modern Art for preservation! Photos were traded and sold like bubblegum cards of drugs, therefor only serious collectors would ever hang on to such a treasure.

Another aspect of the N.Y.C. photo dilemma is that most old school writers would rather have sex with King Kong before they have their pictures drooled over and reprinted time after time in the graff fanzines of the 90's. It's a similar reaction many current European artists maintain, refusing any of their train or wall murals to be printed in magazines. It's an Underground thing by the people for the people, not for wanna-bees, copycats and toys. New Yorkers and other train artists did not bomb for years; go to jail; steal paint; and risk life and limb so a crew of new jacks from Arizona or Tasmania can rehype and repackage the movement for their own taste and marketability. No fuckin' Way!

Occasionally we do see photographs circulated out of some fine American collection of the N.Y.C. scene. Many of the best photos are in the archives of Henry Chalfant, Martha Cooper, Jack Stewart and James Prigoff. However, some of the bightest treasures can be found in the hands of many old school writers.

P.S. Photo *Gripe*: I was reading in a U.K. hip hop publication an interview with an alleged N.Y. old school writer in it's sketch book pages. This writer told the story of his involvement in the graff scene as early as 1972, althought he wasn't known until afters a "long break" tuntil 1980 according to his word. Well, excuuuuse me!! But I will be hard pressed to find anyone to verify that homeboy was on the scene. However, I would be respectful and satisfied if PHOTOS of such early pieces were printed with the interview. Facts are photos, photos are facts!

I want to make shouts out to SAR, SACH, IZ, CAV, HAZE, REVOLT, BIL 161, SABE, FEAR, RENS, BATES, CAVE, SHOE, TBH, DELTA, GASP, SURE, PIKE, Kees, CAN 2, Cora E, SULA, Advanced Chemistry, RTW, TIME, KANE, BLADE, COMET, and the Zombi Squad? **QUIK ONE** RTW



Quik 1980 (N.Y.C.)





Saldi Kilar (Sweden) 2

Saldi

▼ Swef (Denmark)

Mess and Shoe (England '93) ▲

TRUE COLORZ MEGAZINE

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(write in German or English)





with the devil and smile....

Welcome to the evil issue.

Graffiti damned cursed by (ab)normal people who hope

graffiti is just a phace of modern time, NOT!!!

ave a drink

We have never seen and heard of

travelling around, doing their thing on trains walls and subways.

New countries with loads of bombing and pieces like Italy, Belgium, Spain, Greece, crazy fresh styles all over

the place.

so many writers

But most surprising is that the **Amsterdam subway** is most hitted by

foreigners the last

few weeks, almost

close to one wholecar each week. Anyway trains are ruling again. We have got

surprising photos of

Seeeeee what's happening.....

wholecars on 1994 **New York clean trains**. A photo of the first panel on a brand new

doubble-decker train of Holland, and one on the

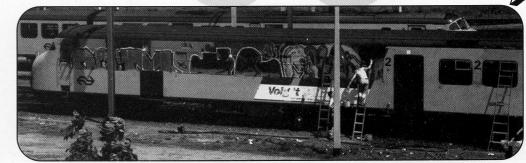
new

tunneltrain between the mainland and England!!! I could keep on mentioning crazy actions of the last few

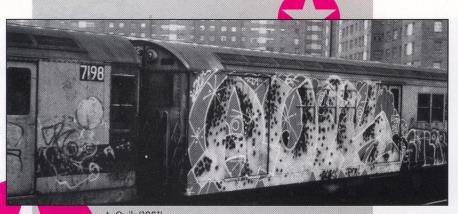
months, but as Quik says in his colomn:

Photos are Facts, Facts are Photos!!

I'm out of here, MAURICE



NOTHING MORE FUN, THEN A WHOLECAR IN THE SUN..... 3-



▲ Quik (1981)



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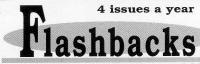












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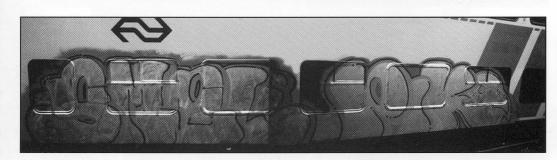


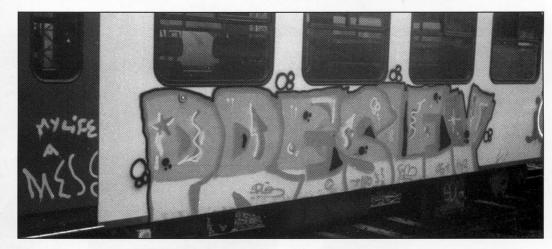




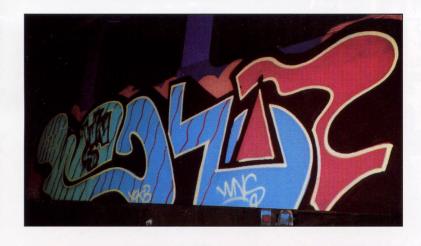
















Holland











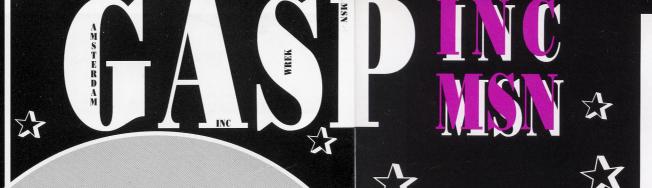














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You just came back from a graffiti / hip hop jam in Rimini, Italy. Can you tell us something about the Italian scene?

The Italians don't know graffiti for that long.

They have a scene for only a few years now.

They just got in, so everything that happened overthere the last 10 years is for them very interesting. For us the New Yorkers were a point of inspiration, for them it are writers of Holland and other European countries, which have a graffiti history.....

For them it was a big event. The funny thing, is for example, writers from the south of France after a short period of time make real nice pieces.

result of the influence of graffitimagazines?

Yes, absolutly the cool thing is that you

Yes, absolutly the cool thing is that you see pieces from southern Europe as well now!

Could this be a

What do you think about the fact that so many different magazines are coming out now?

I think this has to do with the fact that the scene is still growing rapidly, but I think after a while only a few are here to stay Can you tell something about your relation with Delta. You guys have a special bound.

Delta and me are friends from the very beginning.

Way back when we didn't know each other we were writing the same name. We were both writing FIX, we were about 12 or 13 years old then. He had seen my tags and I had seen his. We both thought; 'I'm the real FIX', so I can remember painting over his tags on purpose. A couple of years later, when we met for the first time, we were friends immediatelly and it always stayed that way. Delta has a very good vision on graffiti how everything is put together with the scene etc. I share his vision 'cause we have been discussing and think about it for years.

Where were you in the time United Street Artists were up? Did you already write back then?

Yes, I was busy, but my development with making pieces came in a later stage. From the beginning I was mostly interested in bombing, mostly THROW-UPS. I was obsessed with the idea that moving subjects would be completly covered with paint. I always thought that would be the ULTIMATE, while the others from the beginning were more focussed on doing pieces and developing their own individual style. I've always done pieces, but only the last 5 years I have been seriously working on my style and doing pieces.

You are in MSN which means Maniakken Stoppen Nooit (Maniacs never stop), what does NEVER mean if you look into your own future?

I didn't event the name myself, but it's a good one.

Like graffiti caught me, it will always be there, no matter if you're painting *more* or *less*. What I do is graffiti or I will find something which is related to graffiti.

Can you describe, what is in your eyes, the ultimate graffitiwriter!

Someone who 25 years after the beginning started, and came out with something new. Something never has been done before and who does it damn good as well. That's the highest you can reach I think. A style which goes over the world, and is invented and introduced by you. I think Delta is one of those writers who managed to do this, cause all over the world his name is connected to that 3-D-style.

I also think the CES-style made some impact on a lot of writers.

Which styles used to make impression on you?

From New York it was for sure T-Kid. Especially the older T-Kid pieces made a lot of impression on me.

When SEEN was up, I thought he was real good. His pieces have a high level of amusement, a kind of Hollywood-graffiti.

And ofcourse those old skool New Yorkers, who are still out there. I like Sento, Reas, Smith and Ghost because they have renewing styles, they don't paint according to the present rules, they don't have to because they know what the basics are.

In Europe I thought Bando his style was genious, he was ofcourse from New York, but he introduced something completly new. He was the biggest, a point of inspiration for Europe for Years!!



Can you give a short answer on the following questions?
NEW YORK? Innovation

NEW YORK? Innovation
AMSTERDAM? Lots of individual styles, lots of bombing.
A real graffitihistory,in contrary to the other cities of Holland!

Look at page 19.

We've got part of a
comic from the guys of
TBH3, which was introduced the 10th of
September in the
Vondelchurch
in A'dam.



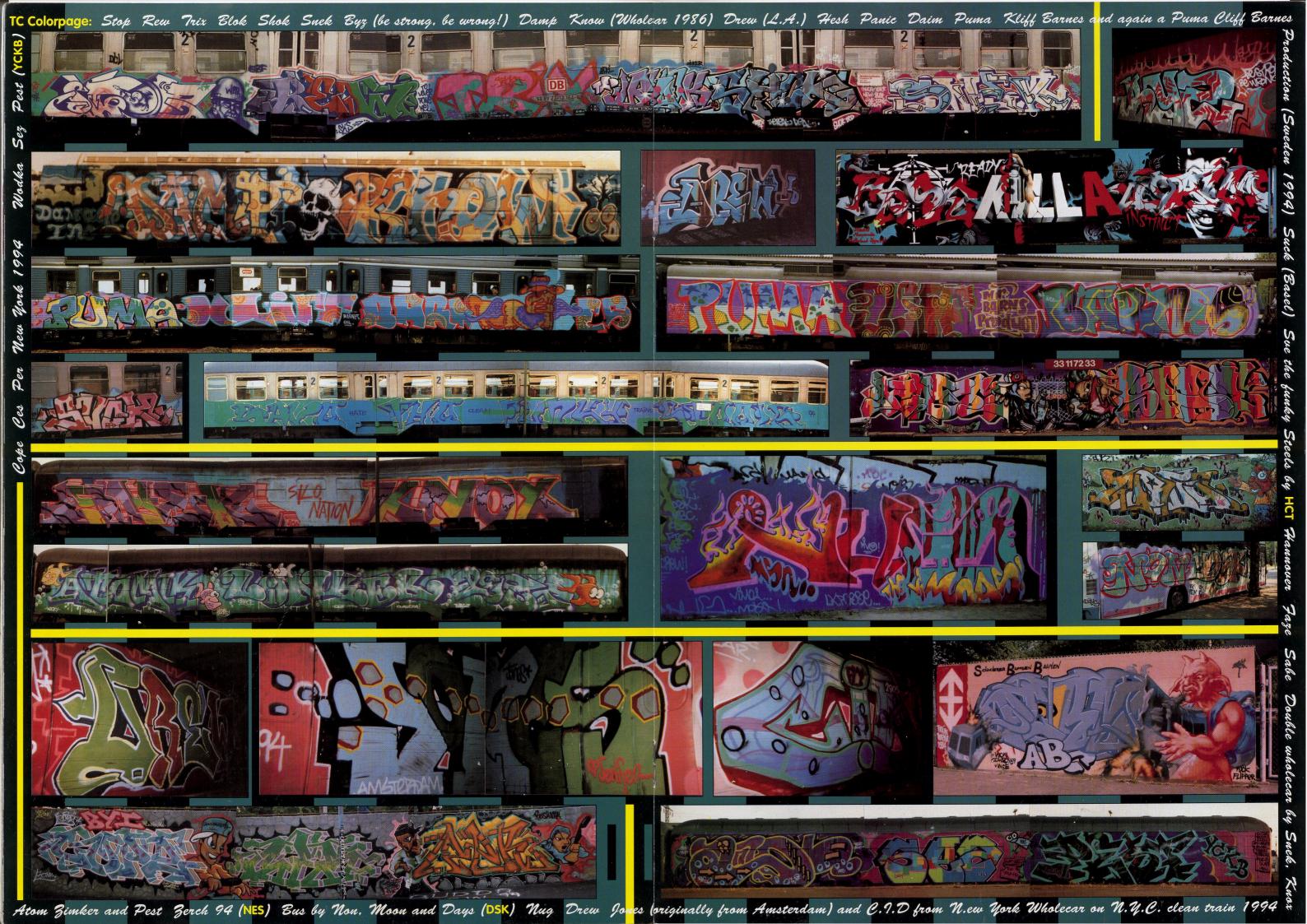


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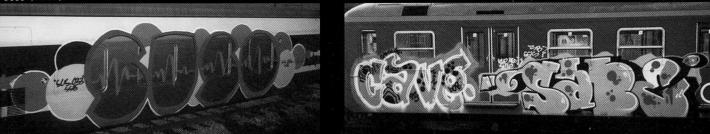


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Mowe Dueh Aske Fun Agent ▼



What crews are you in?

I'm down with my original crew SDK, the "Sex Drugs & teKno" gang together with Honet, Lady Fancie, Jiwee and Sime, and also with the IT - "Invisible Tribe" which only consists of definitely lost train-addicts like Honet, Egs from Finland, Mellie, Reaze and Eror from your cheese-country and some others.

> Is the RER A-line most favourite in Paris? Not really, but we all live near this line, so it is more natural- and easier!- to have our stuff running on our own line.... And those red-white & blue trains really look nice with paint on them! But there's also lots of pieces done on the C-line, and ofcourse the hardcore subway.



Opak and Honet (Belgium)

Can you tell us something about the trainscene in Paris? Well, it's rare to see a piece running more than a week, but trains are still getting painted by the underground scene, crews like MCS, CP5, DUC, OC, TER, ACR keep it alive! The problem is that it's getting really dangerous to do trains, because of the dog-guards in the yards, the Vandal Squad investigations and raids, and ofcourse the new law that gives you 5 years of jail if you get caught! But it's funny to see who is giving up, and who continues!

Whose style do you like?

Basically, I like all kinds of original innovative styles- and you have a lot in Holland! But I'd rather like a writer for his behaviour than for his style. Today a multitude of writers do nice pieces, So I like guys who are true to the game but don't have the big head...and ofcourse it's better if they are cool and have dope styles!

We noticed you've been travelling a lot, what was it like? The been on Interrail last summer, and did stuff in Sweden and Denmark. Stockholm is a really good place to paint trains, it's so fucking easy there! Denmark was cool too, but those Copenhagen S-trains are just like the Paris subways: hard to hit!! This year I've been to closest places from France, like Brussels in Belgium, or Utrecht and Amsterdam in Holland.... And I have to admit that Holland is THE place to paint trains, A'dam subway is so fucked up!

Wholecars: Hard work for impressive result!

Mode 2: XG fan club President

we started it in 1989, after having done bullshit tags

Who founded SDK and IT? Jiwee and me are the originators of SDK,

and toy wall pieces for almost 2 years. Then Fancie and Sime joined us in 1991, plus Honet in 1992 when we did together that "Santa Claus is a Drug Dealer" wholecar on the Paris A-line. The Inzane Tribe is more recent, Honet and me founded it this year '94, we wanted to make a new crew

involving some cool Hardcore Train Hooligans we know....





Amazing how writers from the second generation develop their style in such short period. Guys like Jiwee and Opak, who freaked out people with photos of their 'SANTA CLAUS IS A DRUGDEALER' wholecar, some years ago. This can't be real... but is was... an interview with Mr. Hardcore from Paris!

Why do you prefer trains to walls?

Walls are so fucking boring! First, I paint trains because I like the atmosphere, and I love to see my pieces becoming alive, moving and running..... I respect some wall writers but real graffiti is on train, that's where it's born and where it has to stay. I think it is the only aspect of that so-called Hip Hop Culture that didn't sell out to commercial fashioned bullshit; at the beginning, Hip Hop and Rap music were about friends having fun and parties together; now it is just all about making money, having a superior attitude or wearing fashioned clothes.... and graffiti is following the same way; to me, a true graffiti writer will never be the one that only paints for commissions & exhibitions and do fucked up grafstyle T-shirts; the true writer is the one that day after day, get his paint the hard way and finds train yards by himself, and has the will and the nerves to fuck up that train with tags and pieces....while the others are sleeping!!

> Paris: Wake up! Give a short reaction of the following words

Opak: Hi to all my friends and SDK IT P2B MSN TAV VIM MOB IBS CMD TW CP5 DKC IRA TRD BTP FTC MCS CTRITAS CDC crews



▲ Feazone (Look how they buff nowadays...)



Jake ▼

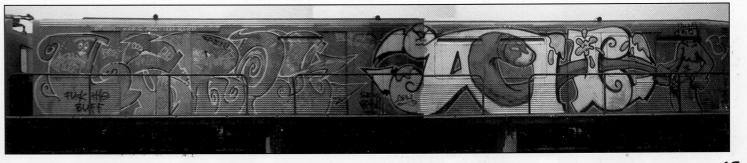


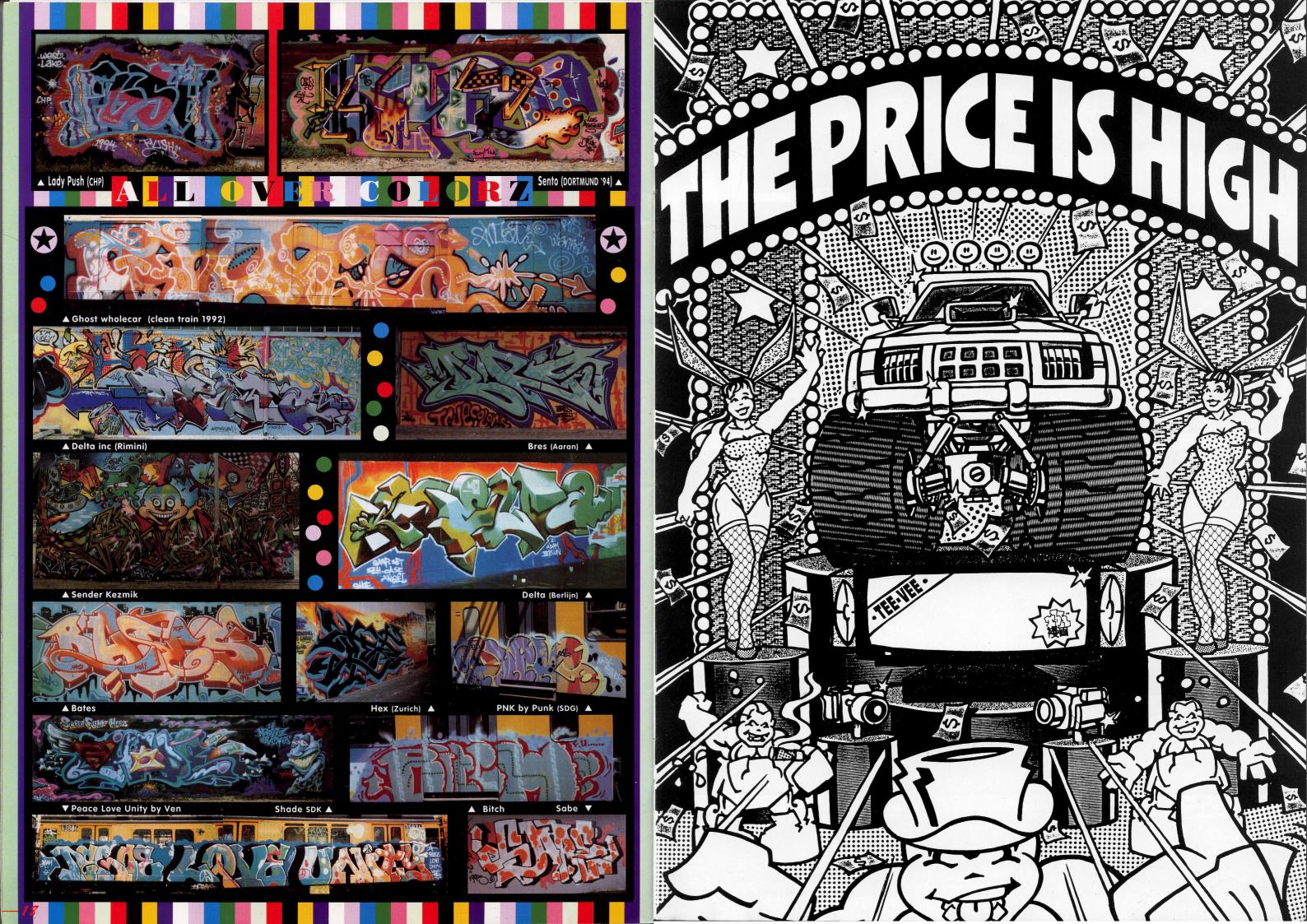
▼ Ske Atom



Leroy Ach ▼

Cece ▼





BELGIUM











Okhr ▼







▼ Cyborg



His name is Wodka, he drinks beer, he bombs trains for a living, but seriously..... One of the biggest trainwriters in Europe, who loves doing crazy actions more then talking about it.

*What's you're name and which crews are Wodka, I'm in WNS (Waffen NS), MSN

(Maniakken stonnen nooit) and in a YOUKA, I III III YY 173 (YY AHEH 173), WISH (Maniakken stoppen nooit) and in the YCKB (You can't keep it back).

*How did you get your name?

I like drinking beer, but Wodka has better
to hear it once to letters and you only have to hear it.

remember it.

*How did you get involved in graffiti?
Seeing Stylewars when I was 12 years old.
Was living in a very small village so I did my was living in a very small village so I moved first piece when I was about 16 years. I moved was a wall actually, later on I moved was a wall actually, later on one of those towards trains, because I'm not one of ckers!

*What does graffiti mean to to Not as much as it used to, but it's playing a big part of my

*When did you see your first train an In the summer of 1991. It was a 2 an window panel and it still looks prett

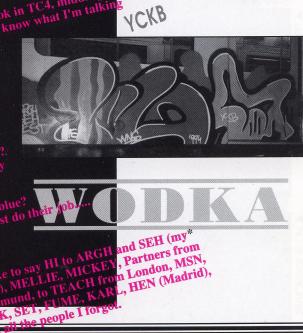
*What do you think about the trait Holland at the Pretty ruthless, and it's cool to st new kids coming up, althought th

*What part do your partners
SEH play in your writ
Drinking Missions, Paint

*Do you have a speci England it is very har

yards are so heavy, that





MSN



Big5 (I A) A



GOLDEN

reighttrains have been hitted for years, it started just like the subs in the early 70's - experimenting with graff on moving objects. Who painted the first freight is just as big a mistory as who painted the first New York subway. After some period of time, the subs became most favorite in New York - the freights were only painted on low profile.

L.A. is a different story. Subs were never painted in big amounts, because the situation was totally different from N.Y.C., writers were forced to seek other targets to paint. So it's no surprise freights were done.

The graff zines "Da Source" and "Can Control" are featuring freighttrains. Even more writers are doing panels on freights, writers who were only occupied with street bombing before. Even special freighttrain magazines are coming out from the Eastcoast.

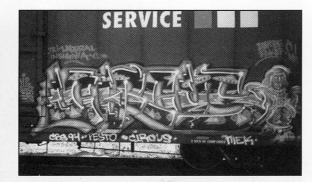
Some freights run North to South, others East to West, so New York freights seldom are seen at the Eastcoast, the system is incredible big. Painted freights could end up anywhere in the U.S.A. and sometimes even up to Canada.

The freights are owned by different companies, like COTTON BELT SOUTHERN PACIFIC UNION PACIFIC SANTA FE CONRAIL GOLDEN WEST SERVICE and more.

Sometimes freights get buffed. It depents from wich company you paint a train, some companies don't buff, but you can say it's being buffed at low profile.

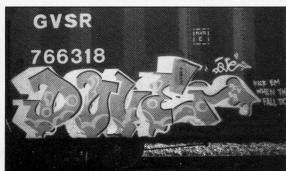




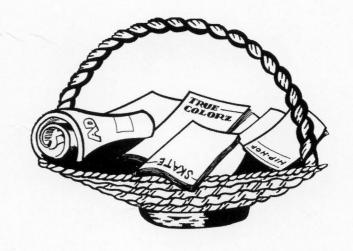


▼ Dove

Circus (CBS)



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(to swap trains with) (trains and New York stuff)

X

EUROSTAR



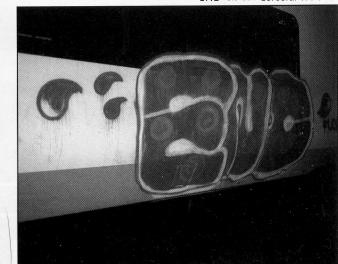
Going to England and back

The tunnel between England and France has been completed. Through this tunnel cargo and people are transported by two special trains. At the official opening, which was broadcasted live by the BBC, the Queen of England and the Prezz of France opened the tunnel officially by travelling through it!

But why did they use the cargo -train (also for cars), for that purpuse? Is it because 4 crazy guys bombed the Eurostar (also on the cover of Xplicit Grafx no. 4) a few days before?

I guess they were still cleaning it during the opening.....

END U.S LCA Eurostar 1994 ▼





▲ Sien

▲ Cece

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6. JES CHP ROTTERDAM 7. CAN2 DORTMUND JAM 1994

HAVE A DRINK WITH THE DEVIL AND SMILE ...