



GISMO
SAA | GBF
ALPHABET
1WAY VS FANTA
FBS
MANNHEIM
HCCB
CREW SPECIAL
DR.NO
UIR
FRESH
JNR

STREET CROFF

MAG









"GISMO" MANNHEIM OLDSCHOOL



Not too long ago I was incidentally witness to this interview all about my man, Gizmo... and because me and him go way back...and have a few things more in common than most writers I know, I ended up doing this here intro.

See, my man Giz... is something like my older cousin to me. He's a latin brother from another mother... somehow we all ended up growing up on the other side of the earth in Germany. It gotta be in the blood, I thought back then....because at that time in 1983.... street graffiti DID exist, you know. I mean, there was stuff out there...only it was either political slogans or just ugly-UGLY... and it wasn't fit to be called an ARTFORM. But this is about Giz - and I'll tell you why: He was ripping shit, years earlier than me. And I been around for ages...doin this shit...to be precise:

since 1983. Maybe he was one of the first Prototype-Bombers in Germany at all, you know... the stealth type, lurking in the dark all by himself..on some undetected spy mission type shit.

Gizmo is also never been the bragging type., neither. He simply gets his shit done and steps to the next, he always been that way since I known him. Never sending 300 copies of his shit twice around the world to every little crappy graff mag or later BIG HipHop Magazine with an ALIBI-Graffiti section for credibility issues. To prove it, I'll let you know what he doesn't often admit to, but way before the typical N.Y.C. type of graffiti was made public by the media and arrived to Europe- he was already doing his own thing spray painting cartoon figures all over the city...bombing in his own style....a bit like that dude RAY in Munich in 1983....scaling buildings and hangin' off ropes off a bridge and stuff... but with his own type of cha-

acters.... Comic characters were always a big plus to Graffiti....it connected big time to the public. ...this must have been round 82 at least... I shit you not. I even remember seeing flics at his place later on about 1987 and wondering what type a person he is...even back then... he was ahead of his time. I don't care what anybody has to say...or think he knows or says, back then there was no books about it yet. No mags, No public interest. No „FAME“ in the game yet. No internet sites. No Hip Hop Scene -if at all. You had to earn your stripes the hard way. No help... ..and if you need some help anyway, you can call the SAA service number and Mannheim can visit you.

KANE ONE of the THE PHUNK MASTERS.



Stell Dich bitte vor. Wann hast du mit Graffiti angefangen und wie bist du dazu gekommen?

Als ich angefangen habe, gab es „dieses“ Graffiti wie man es heute in Deutschland kennt noch gar nicht. Das war mehr aus einem Streich heraus, ohne die bekannten Einflüsse wie Stylewars, Wildstyle usw. Mein erstes Bild habe ich 1982 gemacht und anschließend erstmal nur alle paar Monate gesprüht. Da war teilweise aber schon mein Name dabei und irgendwelche Characters, wie z.B. Snoopy. Das hat damals schon Aufsehen erregt, weil es das vorher noch nirgends in Mannheim gab. Wir haben zum Beispiel richtige Hardcore-Stellen mitten in der Stadt oder vor einem Polizeirevier gemacht und dort einen Snoopy hingemalt, wie er auf einer Hundehütte pennt oder mit der Taschenlampe umher läuft - lustige Sachen eben. Aber wie gesagt noch ohne Einflüsse. Erst 1984/1985 kamen die Buchstaben dazu und ich habe dann angefangen „richtige“

Pieces zu machen. Das Erste was ich in dieser Richtung gesehen habe war „Break Out“, wobei es da eigentlich weniger um Graffiti als vielmehr um Tänzer und Breakdance ging. Danach kam Wildstyle, wobei ich hier nur die letzte halbe Stunde gesehen habe, als der im Fernsehen lief. Wir hatten insgesamt zu Beginn also sehr wenig Einflüsse. Das erste Mal, dass wir andere Writer gesehen und kennengelernt haben, war wohl ca. 1987 in München. Zufällig waren bei diesem ersten Besuch in München an dem gleichen Wochenende auch das allererste Mal Zebster und Can Two da, die wir dann auch direkt kennengelernt haben. Das blieb dann unsere ersten Kontakte, weil es von Mannheim nach Mainz näher war, als von Mannheim nach München. Münchner, die wir dort damals getroffen hatten, waren Sonic, Katmando, Neon, Mitch – die ganzen Old Schooler halt, die damals dort am Writers Corner am Marienplatz rumgehungen sind.



DR.NO
UIR







