



STREET ART



ORIGINS

- Street art is an art movement in which the creativity of the artist is expressed using an urban area as the space of creativity and diffusion.
- The first examples of street art in modern times come from New York and were made during the '50s and the '60s.
- During the '80s this form of art acquired a new meaning described by the concept of "art pour l'art" and art was made for its own sake
- Drawings and paintings made on walls an buildings without an official consent have always existed.

- It was born to make social or political commentary, often with anti-establishment messaging and is mostly created on or in a public area without or against the permission of the owner and is therefore illegal.

- Street art can become a distinctive feature of the area as a piece of art and the artists, who often live in anonymity, choose to raise awareness on social issues



WHERE CAN WE DRAW THE LINE BETWEEN STREET ART AND VANDALISM?

Montagnola, Rome
Street art to commemorate those who fought against the Nazis during World War Two

- Vandalism damages public and private properties and conveys hateful messages.



Graffiti and unintelligible writings on a wall

Despite its original rebel nature, street art is nowadays used also to decorate public buildings.



❖ Facade of Liceo Caravaggio, Rome

The Italian government itself has recognised its value and has in fact promised that in 2021 and 2022

- ❖ 500 thousand euros will be provided to finance the realization of street art in Rome
- ❖ free walls will be located for the artists to decorate

Street art, una nuova legge nel Lazio: fondi per il 2021 e 2022 e un elenco di "muri liberi" in ogni Comune

Approvata in Consiglio regionale, la normativa prevede 500mila euro per i prossimi due anni da destinare a nuovi murali

RT Redazione
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I più letti di oggi

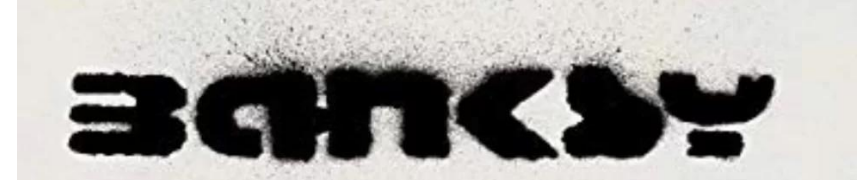
- 1 Zona arancione, cosa si può fare e cosa no a Roma e nel Lazio dal 17 gennaio
- 2 Da oggi 14 nuove linee autobus a Roma. Ecco i percorsi delle linee S
- 3 Coronavirus, a Roma 628 nuovi casi. Sono 1282 i contagi nelle ultime 24 ore nel Lazio



- Geco is a street artist known for tagging buildings and structures in Rome. He has adorned Rome's subway stations, bridges, buildings, and parks. His identity was unknown until November 2020, when the Police have discovered who he was.
- He fueled his fame by tagging a perilously tall railway tower and by climbing to the roof of a municipal food market to leave an unusually verbose message: "Geco ti mette le ali," that means "Geco gives you wings".
- Geco has operated in many European countries, above all Portugal, where he had caused thousands of euros in damages in Lisbon.
- Some might argue that Rome had expanded its urban art scene thanks to his tags.
- Paulo von Vacano, a publisher and expert in contemporary urban art, said tagging is "something brutal, archaic", adding also that Geco had tagged his name to show that he's the "king of the street".

BANSKY

- Banksy is the world's most famous graffiti master, painter, activist, filmmaker, and all-purpose provocateur, although his real identity still remains a secret.
- He came to be noticed as a freehand graffiti artist in 1993.
- He developed a distinctive iconography of highly recognizable images, such as rats and policemen, that communicated his anti-authoritarian message.
- He has moved from graffiti to painting on canvas, conceptual sculpture, and even film, with the documentary «Exit Through the Gift Shop».
- In late 2018 «Girl with Balloon» (2002), a canvas version of one of Banksy's most popular murals, self destructed after the selling of a copy, by shredding. Banksy admitted that he made the prank himself.
- He remains committed to street art, declaring that life in a city in which graffiti was legal would be “like a party where everyone was invited.”



❖ GIRL WITH BALLOON, originally at Waterloo Bridge in South Bank London

Street art in ROME



❖ BABY HULK, via Quadraro

- ❖ A great artist who left his trace in Rome is Ron English. It's a figure that combines strength and immaturity, he represents the contrast between a very powerful country, with a strong army, but with immature leadership. The meaning behind Mickey Mouse wearing a gas mask is not still sure. It is, however, known that English likes to target big multinationals.

- ❖ This mural was made after the depart of one of the greatest roman actor Gigi Proietti. Different artists wanted to honour him by painting one of his portraits on large scale. This particular location was chosen because the actor was fond of this neighbourhood. This is one of the many murals made in his honour and it measures 11 x 15 meters, being one of the biggest. It's a love dedication for an actor who brought Italians a lot of laught and food for thought.



❖ GIGI PROIETTI murales, via Tonale



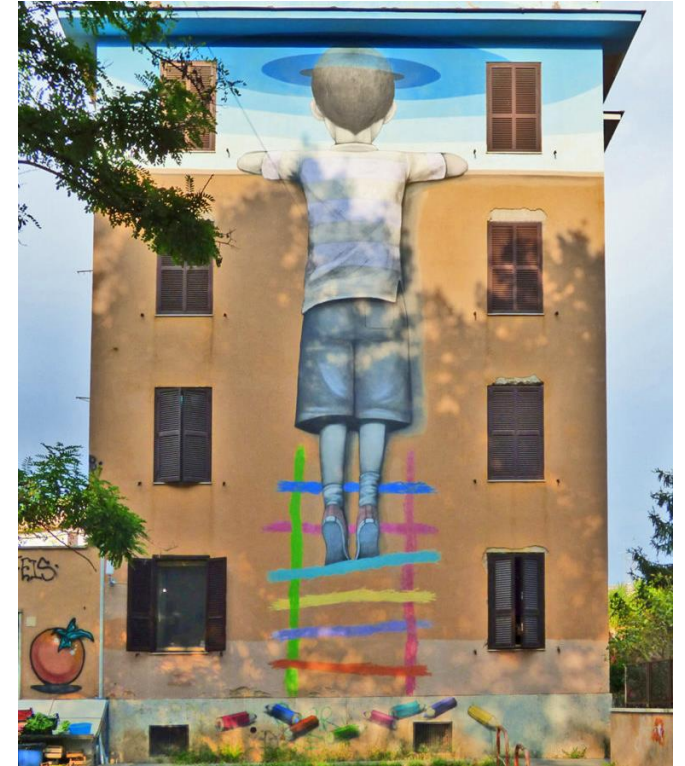
❖ HUNTING POLLUTION,
via del Porto Fluviale

This mural represents a tricolor heron a species in danger of extinction. The huge mural was made with Airlite paint, a particular technology that, with the action of light, both natural and artificial, eliminates pollutants, transforming each wall into a natural air purifier.



❖ UNTITLED, via del Porto
Fluviale

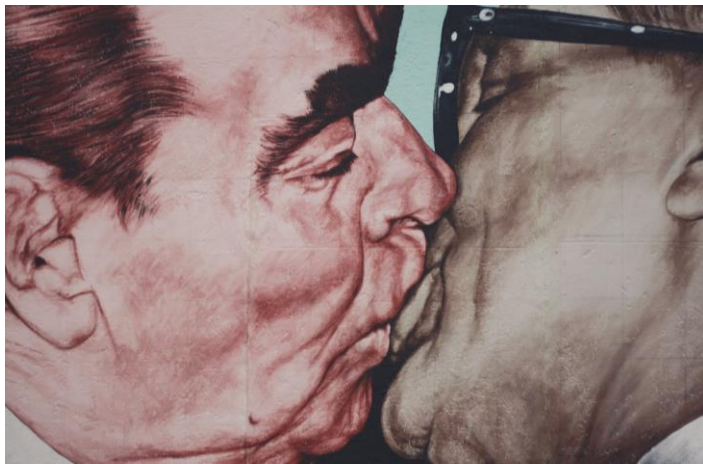
One of the most historical monumental works is located at the intersection of Via del Porto Fluviale and Via delle Conce. Here the artist «Blu» brought up the social theme of homelessness and illegal occupations, telling the story of the building.

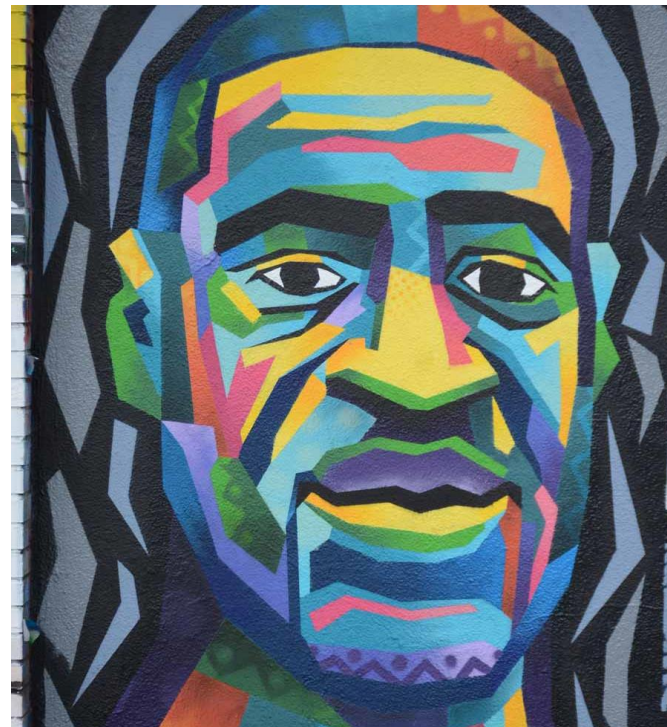


❖ THE REDEEMING CHILD, Tor
Marancia

Among the best known murals, this one tells the story of Luca, a small resident of the building and who, due to an accident passed away. At the bottom there are some colored pencils which helped him getting closer to the sky.

Street art has always been a way to bring people closer, expressing their darkest emotions without the use of words.





In 2020 there have been many protests in favor of black lives and the BLM movement inspired many art works that can be seen in the streets of America.

Thank you for watching!

Discussion point:

- Are there any murals or graffiti in your city? What are they about?
- Are murals a form of art? Why? Why not?
- If you and your school mates had the possibility to paint a wall in your school, what theme would you choose? Why?