Graffiti Alphabets: Street Fonts From Around The World
An international survey of graffiti and street art, and a unique typographical sourcebook as well. Classic graffiti lettering and experimental typographical forms lie at the heart of street culture and have long inspired designers in many different fields. But graffiti artists, who tend to paint the same letters of their tag again and again, rarely design complete alphabets. Claudia Walde spent over two years collecting alphabets by 154 artists from thirty countries to show the many different styles and approaches to lettering within the graffiti and street art cultures. All of the artists have roots in graffiti. Some are world renowned such as 123 Klan (Canada), Faith47 (South Africa), and Hera (Germany); others are lesser known or only now starting to emerge. Each artist received the same instructions: design all twenty-six letters of the Latin alphabet within the limits of a single page of the book. How they approached this task and selected the media with which to express their ideas was entirely up to them, and the results encompass not just street art but sketches, sculpture, digital art, and photography. 500 color illustrations

Synopsis

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a great resource for anyone who has an interest in various graffiti styles/fonts. There are handwritten styles (tags), bubble letters (throw ups), simple letters, 3D letters, letters w/ characters, letters made with the human form, semi-wild style, and wild style pieces just to name a few. As mentioned in the product description, taking part in this project are some familiar faces to the graffiti scene: Askew, Persue, Wane, 123 Klan, Ces, and Rime. Regarding artists I was not familiar
with, this book helped me realize what I've been missing, and with the help of web sites provided throughout the book, I was able to pull up more art from those artists that were new to me. Along with a web site listed for each artist, there is information about the crews they are a part of, mention of their favorite letter, and a paragraph of info. The paragraph might contain info about the artist, what graffiti means to them or what they love most about graffiti, and how they went about creating their alphabet. I loved how it mentioned that one writer woke up at 5 AM and went to painting his alphabet around the city before clocking in for work that day. My only dislikes were that a couple corners of my cover were a tad bent. Also, I felt that with what was shown in regards to some artists' work, a lot was left to be desired when it came to the execution of their alphabets (eg Akor, Beet, and Loomit to name a few). Then again, that could be a matter of taste. With 154 different executions, there is something for everybody! One reviewer mentioned their displeasure with the lack of colored executions. I went back and counted about 75 monotone letters.

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