

When graffiti ends up in art galleries

1. Discuss questions below.

- What's your favourite type of art and art style?
- Have you ever tried drawing, painting, sculpting, or any other artistic activities?
- How often do you go to museums or art galleries?
- What artists or designers do you know? Who's your favourite one and why?
- Why do you think art is an important part of the culture of a given country?
- Do you think that nowadays anyone can become an artist?
- Is graffiti art in your opinion? Why/why not?



2. Complete the sentences below with the correct forms of the words given in brackets.

- a) For safety reasons, the businessman who bought a painting wants to remain **anonymous**. (ANONYMITY)
- b) Happy is a talented teenage **muralist** with a passion for spray paint and hip hop. (MURAL)
- c) When you talk to Graffiti Grandma, you might **soften** your opinion about street art. (SOFT)
- d) There is an **exhibition** of paintings by Pablo Picasso in New York. (EXHIBIT)
- e) The **curator** of the museum will give the reporter an interview about graffiti as an art form. (CURATE)
- f) The many cave paintings in France and Spain show the artistic **creativity** of the modern human in Europe. (CREATE)
- g) An art **installation** is a piece of modern art which can include objects, light, sound, etc. (INSTALL)
- h) Graffiti and street art have become an art **movement** which is hard to stop. (MOVE)

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3. Match underlined words and phrases from sentences a-d with their meanings 1-4.

a) Graffiti artists are getting their due now because people have started to think about them as real artists.

b) He despised himself for being such a coward and not helping that woman.

c) During the late 1950s and 1960s artists with a wide range of interests began to push the boundaries of contemporary art.

d) The economy is booming and many small businesses are flourishing.

1) to grow or develop successfully d)
2) to hate someone or something and have no respect for them b)
3) to be praised even though you are usually criticized or disliked a)
4) to discover something new, make limits go further out c)

4. Watch a video [<http://bit.ly/CBSBeyondStreets>] about street art and answer the questions below.

a) Did graffiti start in New York? No
b) What is *Beyond the Streets*? The largest graffiti and street art exhibition ever produced
c) Is the show's curator still a graffiti artist? No
d) How many artists are featured at the exhibition? Around 150
e) When did photographer Martha Cooper publish her book? 1984
f) Where does the graffiti and street art festival take place? Tahiti

5. Watch the video again and complete sentences with one word each.

- *Graffiti and street art was out of control.*
- *I was obsessed with graffiti as a kid and I still am.*
- *I want people to come here and understand the true birth of graffiti.*
- *For weeks, a team of designers, carpenters and artists worked feverishly to put together the show in a brand new building.*
- *Of course, it's vandalism and it is a crime, and that is what's so interesting about it.*
- *It's funny how we have softened our opinion.*

6. Discuss statements about graffiti. Do you agree or disagree with them? Why?

- Graffiti is just vandalism and it doesn't have any artistic value.
- Street artists should stick to painting on legal graffiti walls and not committing a crime.
- When graffiti ends up in galleries, it stops being graffiti.
- Thanks to graffiti and street art, cities are colourful, lively and look more interesting.
- Graffiti is an effective way of spreading political messages.