

BLOODWARS

THE MAGAZINE FOR GRAFFITI WRITERS & STREET LOVERS
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SEPTEMBER 2006 ISSUE TWENTY TWO





Forward

Bloodwars is a Pdf Magazine.
Print it out pass it along.
Bloodwars intention is to expose
the various forms and styles of
Street Bombing and what ever else
I find stimulating out in the world.

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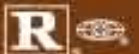
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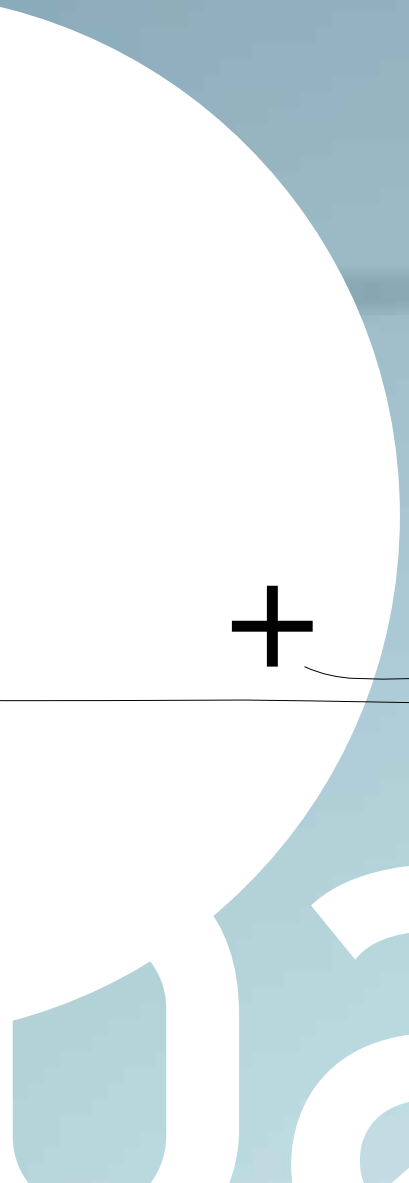




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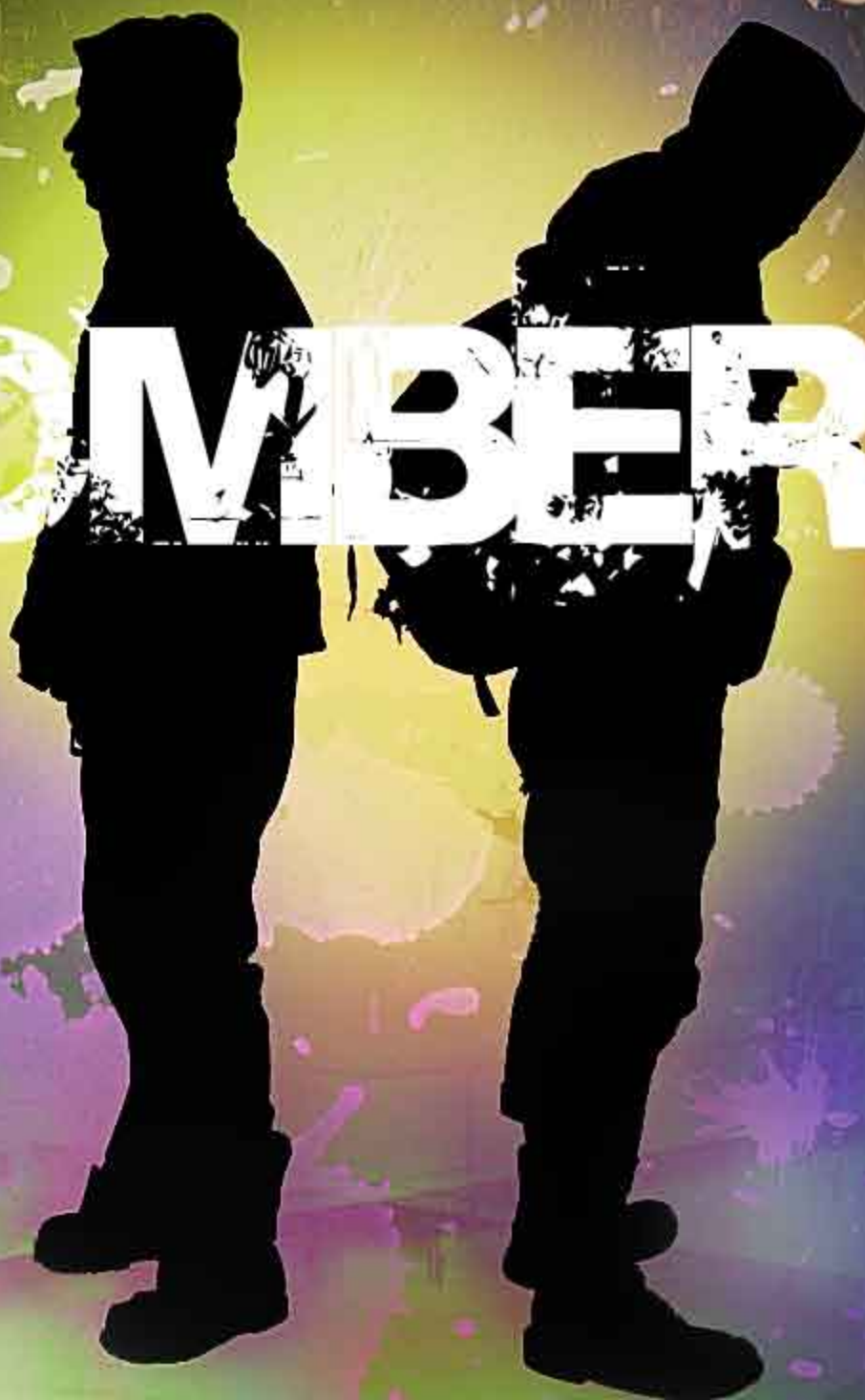


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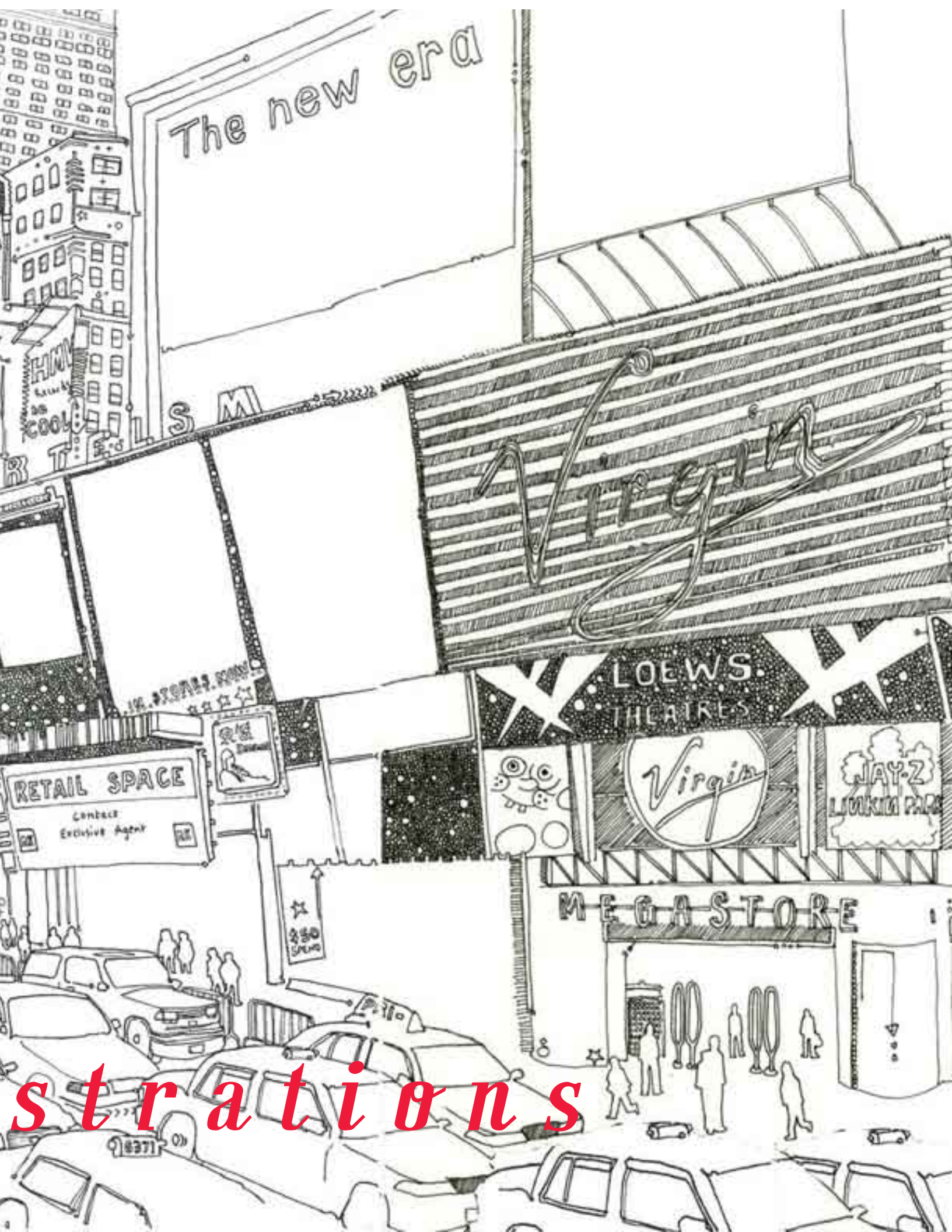
BOMBERS







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The new era

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LOOKIN' FOR

MEGASTORE

RETAIL SPACE

Contact
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Police use net to find graffiti suspects

For the second time this month, the Bensalem Police Department has announced that it will make arrests based on undercover work on the Internet. Police said yesterday they intend to arrest and charge three adults and 24 juveniles with 1,500 acts of graffiti that caused more than \$100,000 in damage throughout the township during the last year. After vandals spray-painted sites at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Bensalem on Flag Day June 14, a tip led to one of them, who then revealed an Internet connection, said Fred Harran, director of public safety.

Harran declined at a news conference to identify any of the suspects and said they'd be arrested when the investigation had been completed. The charge will be criminal mischief, Harran said, ranging from misdemeanors for those who painted a few graffiti to a felony likely for the worst offender, who spray-painted 221

sites. On Sept. 7, police in the Bucks County township announced they had arrested 12 people suspected of offering prostitution and four others suspected of dealing or possessing the drug OxyContin. All were found through the Web site Craigslist, police said. Harran said the prostitution/drug arrests and the graffiti operation were the only times that his office had used Internet stings. Detective Joseph Scio had discovered the 27 suspects in the graffiti case, all Bensalem residents, by using a false identity to converse with them at the Web site MySpace.com. At the news conference, Bucks County District Attorney Diane Gibbons said, "MySpace can be a wonderful thing, but it's very, very dangerous. You don't know who you're talking to." Harran said, for example, that the Crips and Bloods gangs are recruiting on MySpace.com.



A message seeking comment left at the marketing department of MySpace.Com was not answered. The site offers no information about a spokesman. Harran said that, of Bucks County police forces, "we're the only ones, as far as I know, making arrests utilizing sites." Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett began using the Internet during his first term in 1995-96 and has used it since taking office again in January 2005, his spokesman, Kevin Harley, said yesterday. Corbett has used it solely to pursue predators of children, Harley said. There are some local police that do this, some county detectives that do this - using the Internet to capture child predators," Harley said. But he said they do it separately from the efforts of the attorney general. Harley said he was unaware of police forces in Pennsylvania that search the Internet for any other sorts of criminal activity. "Young people today on these MySpace accounts will put information on the

Internet," he said, "that they would never think of telling their parents or teachers or anybody else."

Excerpts from the graffiti case postings on MySpace were distributed at the news conference and suggest that an official at an unnamed school confiscated a notebook containing some graffiti sprayers' identities and gave it to police. On July 10, a comment was posted on MySpace that the police had the notebook. On July 26, another MySpace statement warned, with misspellings, "... that detective dude interviewed a whole bunch of us and the they know like evrything..." Such entries led to yesterday's announcement, Harran said, because graffiti writing "is the only crime where you sign your name before you walk away from the crime."



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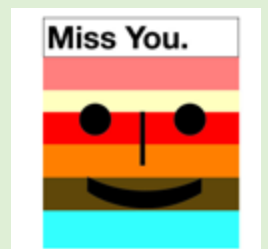
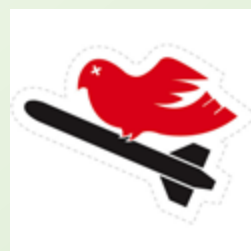


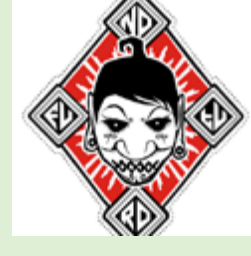
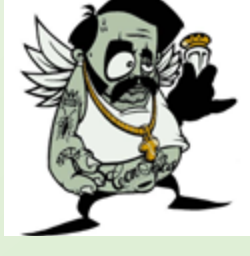
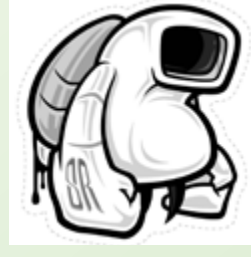
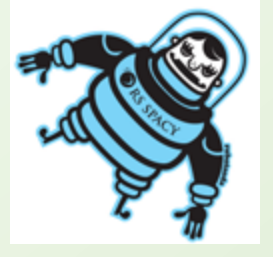
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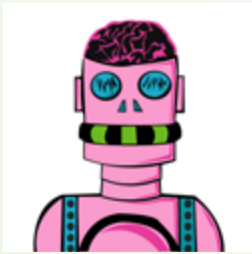


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Web Site Fuels Graffiti, Tagging Issue In Oregon

Graffiti Artists Brag About Art On Web Site

PORTLAND, Ore. — Graffiti is a growing issue in Portland, Ore., and police said a popular web site is fueling the problem. The web site is called 12 Ounce Prophet, and graffiti artists, or taggers, go there to brag about their crimes. Marcia Dennis is the graffiti abatement coordinator for Portland's graffiti removal program.

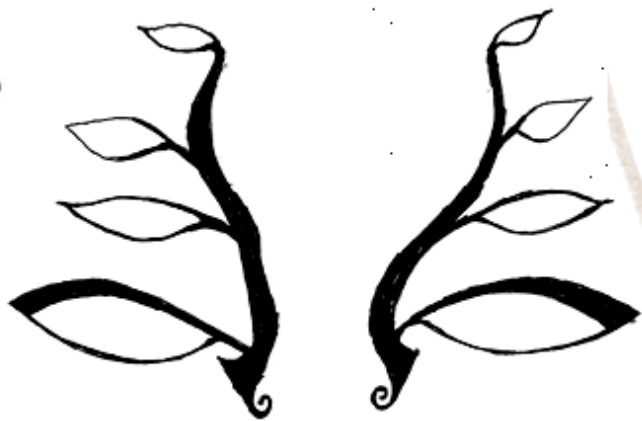
He said web sites like this one fuel a competition amongst taggers.

They put it up in the most difficult places. They want it to stay up forever, and now that there's the internet, they can post their photos there and have bragging rights on the internet," said Dennis.

Portland police are having trouble finding the taggers, because most of the postings are anonymous.

They estimated that graffiti vandalism costs people in the Portland metro area more than \$2 million dollars a year.



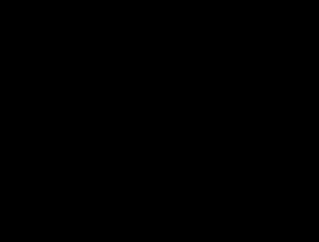
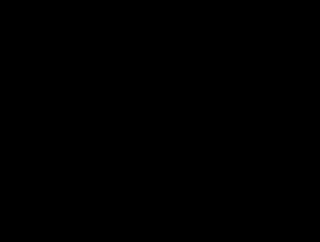
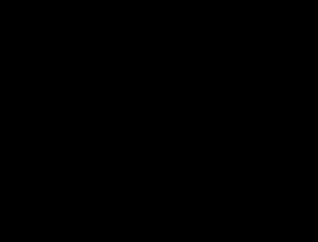
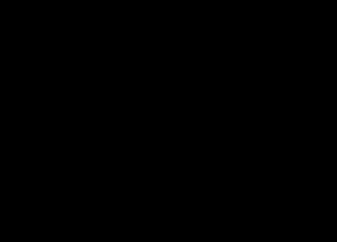
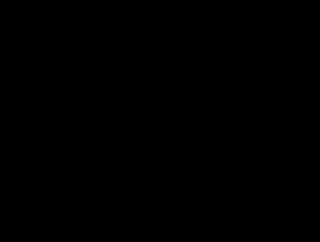
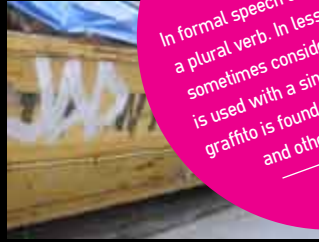


11/13



Strange familiar





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In formal speech and writing graffiti takes a plural verb. In less formal contexts it is sometimes considered a mass noun and is used with a singular verb. The singular graffiti is found mostly in archaeological and other technical writing.

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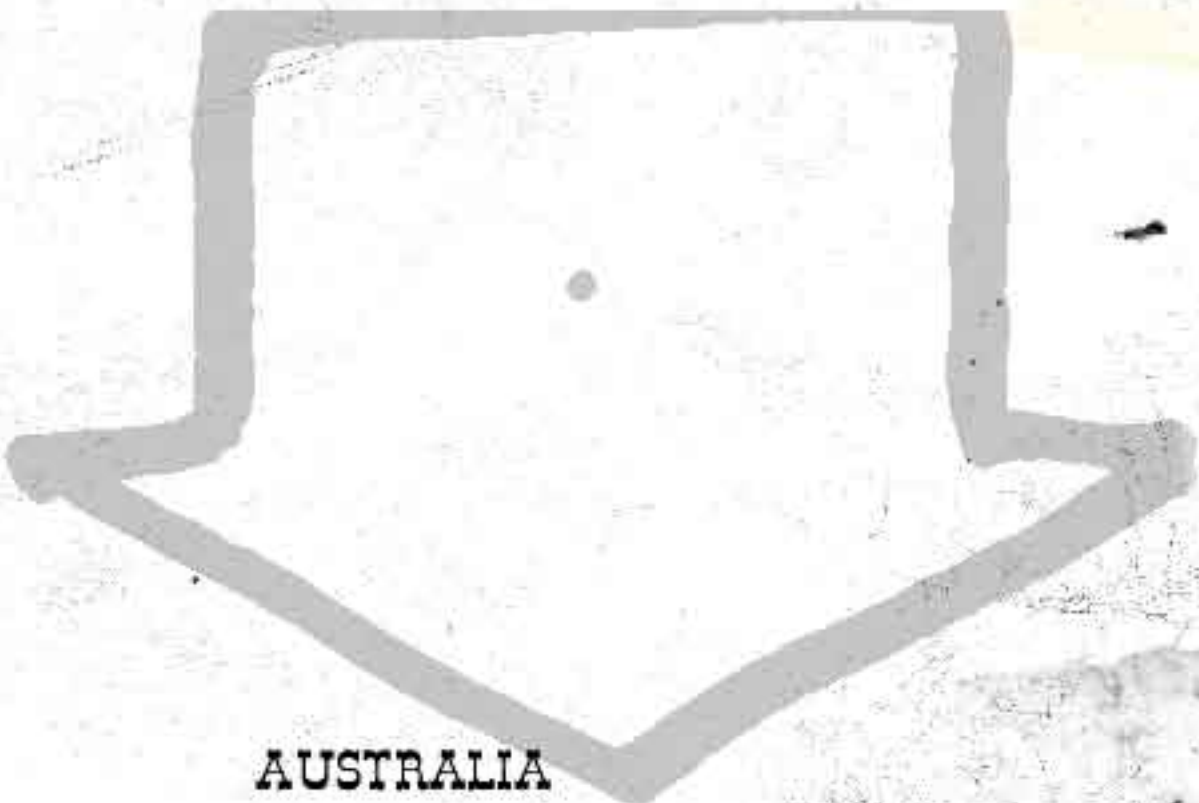


* Design Matters



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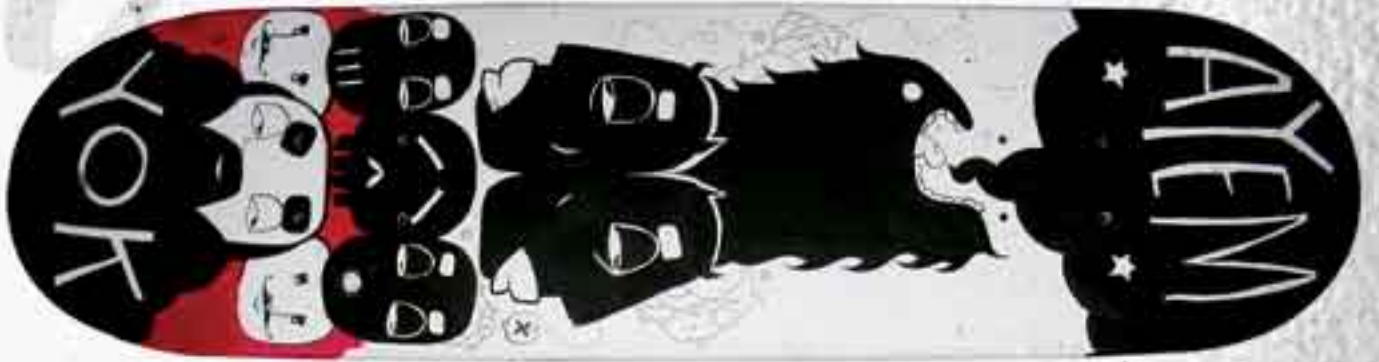
AUSTRALIA



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Prozack Turner



Interview Author: Adam Bernard

EVER SINCE MAN PUT LYRICS to music there have been songs inspired by women. From “Bette Davis Eyes” to “Roxanne” to “Come On Eileen” women have long been the muses of contemporary musicians. Then you have Prozack Turner and his contribution to this list, “The Ballad Of Adriana Sage.” Sting’s “Roxanne” may have been about a fictional prostitute, but Prozack’s ditty is about a very real adult film star.

The infatuation with Ms. Sage started while he was recording with his group, Foreign Legion. The trio of Prozack Turner, DJ Design and Marc Stretch were working on a song titled “Nasty Lady” when DJ Design mentioned her name in a rhyme. Prozack remembers “I was like, who the hell is that? Then one day I was smoking a joint and I looked her up on the web and I dunno it was just more human to me, I kinda saw the human aspect of it.” With over-thinking things being his natural reaction to being high Prozack decided to write a love song. “I don’t mention having sex with her or anything on the song, it was more a thing like you don’t have to live this life and it was really kind of hard to pen it because I didn’t want to insult her because we ended up mailing the Foreign Legion record (“Nasty Lady”) to her and she really liked it. She emailed me and we ended up talking via email and it was never like I was trying to holler at her or anything like that, but it was just like chatting with her and I was like this girl is actually like a normal cool person, so I was lookin at her website and I was like man, that’s so crazy, the dichotomy of a porn star being a real human being.”

It was the human aspect that intrigued Prozac. “I started thinking about her family and her parents. I’m like, I wonder if she’s cool with her parents. I was high. I was like, where does she go for Christmas? You sit around the dinner table and Uncle Johnny’s like ‘ehy so what are you up to?’ Is it a secret. I don’t know, I never got super personal with her, but she was always real kind when I would speak to her and it was just weird so I wrote a song. It was a fantasy like I’ll take you away from all that. It was a total high song.”

While the song may have been at least partially a result of some THC enhanced thoughts, Prozack still mailed her the song. “She’s heard it and she dug it,” he says happily. “I just didn’t want to offend her so I’m like God I hope I didn’t hurt her feelings, that’s why there’s a lyric in the song ‘I’m not judging you / but aren’t you sick of having dudes all up in you?’ I wasn’t really judging her, but I was just like man it was more of a curious situation because I’ve got a girlfriend that I’m happy with, it was never really a literal thing like hey, let’s run away, it was more of a figurative thing.” He describes the finished product as “kind of a creepy stalker song. I had to do it, and there’s humor injected into it, as well.”

Porn stars aren’t the sole topic matter of Prozack’s album, *Bangathon!*, nor are they his sole inspiration. Hip-Hop, however, is one of the few things that no longer inspires him, which some might find odd being that Prozack is an MC. “I don’t get inspired by Hip-Hop the way I did when I was a teenager,” he explains, “when you’re a kid and you’ve never done it and you’ve never recorded and stuff you listen to these rappers and the beats and everything and it’s the most amazing thing and ‘how do they do it?’ Then after you’ve been doing it for a while you don’t hear a lot of stuff that inspires you anymore. I don’t hear a lot of guys who I’m like oh I couldn’t do that, or I don’t hear as many great ideas as I used to as a kid so now I look for my inspiration elsewhere.”

Musically, Prozack prefers a special breed of artist. “I like people that are loose and take risks and you can actually feel what they’re feeling.” He continued, adding “I really love Stevie Wonder, he’s on of my all-time favorites. James Brown, Parliament.” The connecting feature of all the artists he likes is “it’s all about being human and expressing yourself. I think that’s your job as an artist, to get your point across. If you have something to say you should definitely say it and share your stories and your point of view and not be afraid of the criticism of your point of view and stand by it.” Prozack also notes, “I read a lot of biographies of legendary people that I really respect and that’s how I get my main inspiration.”

Others may, in fact, be inspired by Prozack’s own life story. Though he may not be an old timer he’s already been through his fair share of pitfalls and interesting situations. Starting out as one third of Foreign Legion Prozack was associated with ABB records, which released the group’s first album. He remembers, “we did a couple albums as a group and then we were gonna get signed at Grand Royal. Mike D was gonna sign Foreign Legion way back in the day.” It never happened, but Prozack marched on. “I had a really good work ethic so I just kept recording songs and I ended up recording more songs on my own than I was with the group, just a little bit more introspective type stuff, more personal things that you wouldn’t write about in a group. Grand Royal got a hold of those songs and were like ‘ehy, we want to sign you as a solo artist.’” Before they could get the contacts signed Grand Royal went under.

The Grand Royal relationship still continued, however, as Prozack explains “one of the guys there ended up getting an A&R job at Dreamworks and he called me a few months later and wanted to hear what I was up to and he ended up signing me.” Dreamworks, much like Grand Royal, would fold before Prozack could release anything. Prozack was back at square one.

Being on his own, however, provides Prozack with a freedom he enjoys. “I just kinda got tired on depending on other people to put out my music cuz it never seemed to get done right, or even get out. It was like God I have too many songs that I’m really proud of that haven’t seen the light of day, so finally I was like I’m gonna start my own label and that way nothing’s gonna stop it from going on.” The label he started was *Hunger Strike and Bangathon!* is his first release on it.

Now that he’s running the show Prozack looks back at his days at major labels and realizes how bad things were for him. “I had a radio department lady tell me she didn’t know how to sell my record and I needed to be more ignorant in what I write,” he remembers, “I’m like, I’m pretty ignorant, one of my lines is ‘I get more pussy than the cat box.’” While Prozack admits ignorance is an important thing to have in his music he also believes in moderation, he like to keep things both moderately ignorant and moderately intelligent. “I think you need to sprinkle your views a little bit in your music because you can scare people away if you’re too preachy or try to bang stuff down people’s throats because the youth doesn’t want to listen to that stuff. Hip-Hop is the music of the youth and the youth want to rebel so if you’re like don’t smoke, don’t eat meat, that’s boring man, you want to have a little bit of ignorance in there, at least I do.”

With ignorance and intelligence in tact Prozack feels that a release the major labels would have been happy with might have killed him as an artist. “As an artist you get this pressure to sell records, but your fans aren’t stupid, you can’t just switch it up. I had people like Mad Lib and Jay Dee and Pete Rock on my album because I thought they were great, but I had the budget, I could have gotten Timbaland and The Neptunes, as well. And I like that kind of music to listen to, but that’s not the kind of music I make. I’m sure when I was on a the major they would have been real happy had I gone that route, but they still would have folded and I’d be sitting here looking like a sucker because all my fans from back in the day would be like, well dude you tried to switch it up. So at least I have my dignity in tact.”

Dignity, and in *Bangathon!* Prozack Turner also has the exact album he’s always wanted to make, porn star balled included.

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est. 1842

Handwritten graffiti in white paint, including the letters 'C' and '2'.

Large, stylized blue graffiti on the wall, possibly spelling 'ZOLTRON'.

Handwritten text in black ink: "I can't do it"







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BENETO

One of the most wanted men in San Francisco — if he is a man — has no known name, no known mug shot and one very efficient sticker machine. For several months, the police say, someone has been plastering the city's walls, public phones and newspaper boxes with postcard-size stickers reading "BNE" in big black letters. Sometimes the stickers also have Japanese script that translates to "visit" or "come to."

All of which makes for an amusing curiosity for pedestrians, but it has left city officials quite unhappy. In mid-July, Mayor Gavin Newsom offered a \$2,500 reward for the capture of "BNE," calling the stickers "large, unsightly, confusing and utterly inappropriate." It is the first time the city has offered a cash reward in a graffiti case, a move that Mr. Newsom said was necessary to stop the "repetitive malicious mischief."

The city attorney, Dennis J. Herrera, said San Francisco was suffering from a "growing epidemic of graffiti tagging" and other vandalism that dirties city streets. "The fact of the matter is that it exacts a toll from neighborhoods in a variety of ways," Mr. Herrera said. "It's not just in monetary values, for cleanup, but it also degrades the quality of life for people that live there." Just days after Mr. Newsom established the reward, Mr. Herrera announced a \$20,000 civil judgment against Carlos Romero, 20, who had been "tagging" with abandon in the western part of the city using a variety of aliases, including "Lafer," "Coma," "Queso" and "Cream." As part of the judgment, Mr. Romero was ordered to stay away from spray paint and indelible markers and received a curfew of 11 p.m. He was also instructed to record a public service announcement for radio. "This is a message that if you're going out to tag, if we catch you, there's going to be a stiff price to pay," Mr. Herrera said. But while Mr. Romero prepares to head to the studio, "BNE" remains at large, a fact that no doubt wears on Officer Christopher Putz, who oversees the San Francisco Police Department's two-person graffiti abatement unit. Officer Putz, who has been on the graffiti beat since 2001, takes his work seriously; he will not allow his photograph to be taken and he gives his age merely as "in my 30's," for fear of tipping his hand. "It's a chess game," he said.

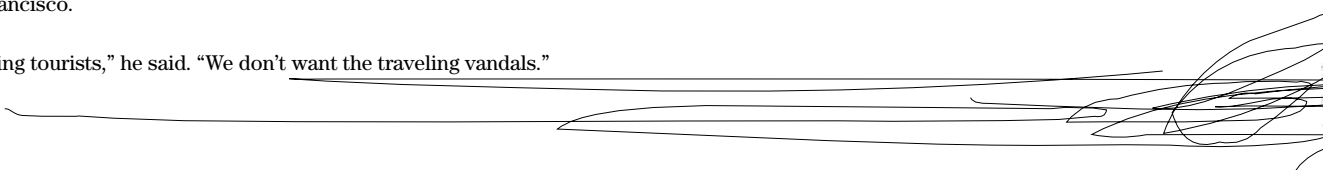
The battle between graffiti supporters (who call it art) and detractors (who call it vandalism) dates back decades and spans the globe. The authorities in New York — where artists like Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat worked the same streets as those painting walls with sobriquets like Taki, Revs/Cost and MQ — have long struggled with graffiti, and continue to. A 2005 antigraffiti law is being held up in court while a federal judge considers whether the ban on the sale of paint and indelible markers to anyone under 21. Officer Putz says San Francisco has also always had a place in the graffiti underworld, in part because landmarks like the Golden Gate Bridge tempt graffiti glory-seekers. "Who wants to tag some Podunk town no one has ever heard of?" he said. Experts say the city's enforcement efforts and economic success has dimmed graffiti's appeal in recent years. "In the mid-1990's, San Francisco was one of the best cities in the world," said Shepard Fairey, who became known in the 1990's for his "Obey, Giant" stickers, which depicted the face of the wrestler Andre the Giant. "They weren't cleaning things very quickly, so things would stay up a long time. A lot of writers from New York and L.A. were doing things there. But then the dot-com thing came, and the rich people came, and it got really clean." But "BNE" and the reward have drawn attention back to San Francisco, said Hugo Martinez, an art dealer in New York who represents a stable of veteran and up-and-coming graffiti practitioners. "Whenever the mayor starts to get involved in a swingfest, the masses are going to come out," Mr. Martinez said. "And he couldn't do anything better for the graffiti writer's career than to do this." Officer Putz will not say whether he knows who "BNE" is or what the initials stand for, but the mystery is a source of avid speculation on the Internet, where some have said it means "Be Nowhere Else," "Breaking 'N' Entering" or even "Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement." Variations on President Bush's name are also popular: "Bush Not Elected," for example. One blogger said "BNE" was the code for the airport in Brisbane, Australia, and posited that the stickers, along with the Japanese script, were a campaign announcing flights from there to Japan.

Most, however, doubt that "BNE" is an advertisement, and instead think it might be the work of a graffiti artist who goes by the name of Benet and whose graffiti spelling out his name in large block letters have been seen in San Francisco. Officer Putz would not confirm that Benet — whose real name is not known — was a suspect, but did say, "There's only a handful of people who have any real skill." In recent years, other California cities, including San Jose and Los Angeles, have increased efforts against graffiti, which some authorities say has ties to gangs and can be a gateway to more serious crime. "There is absolutely no doubt there's a link between graffiti activity and more serious criminal activity," Mr. Herrera said. Mr. Fairey says politicians have long used the cleanup of graffiti as a way to score quality-of-life points with voters. "It's cosmetic and superficial," he said. "It's a perfect metaphor for politics in general." But he agrees that enforcement efforts have gotten tougher. "I used to put posters up in L.A., and they'd stay up for six months," said Mr. Fairey, 36, who runs a successful design firm in Los Angeles. "Now they stay up for three days." Mr. Martinez says he believes he knows who "BNE" is and thinks he is currently in Tokyo planning his next move. The "BNE" stickers have also been seen in New York and Tokyo.

"Word is," Mr. Martinez wrote in an e-mail message, "this guy may be the first writer to go 'all world' vs. 'all city.'"

For his part, Officer Putz, who says he actually enjoys looking at the graffiti, says he just wants "BNE" and other graffitiists to stay away from San Francisco.

"We want the law-abiding tourists," he said. "We don't want the traveling vandals."





MENTO



five

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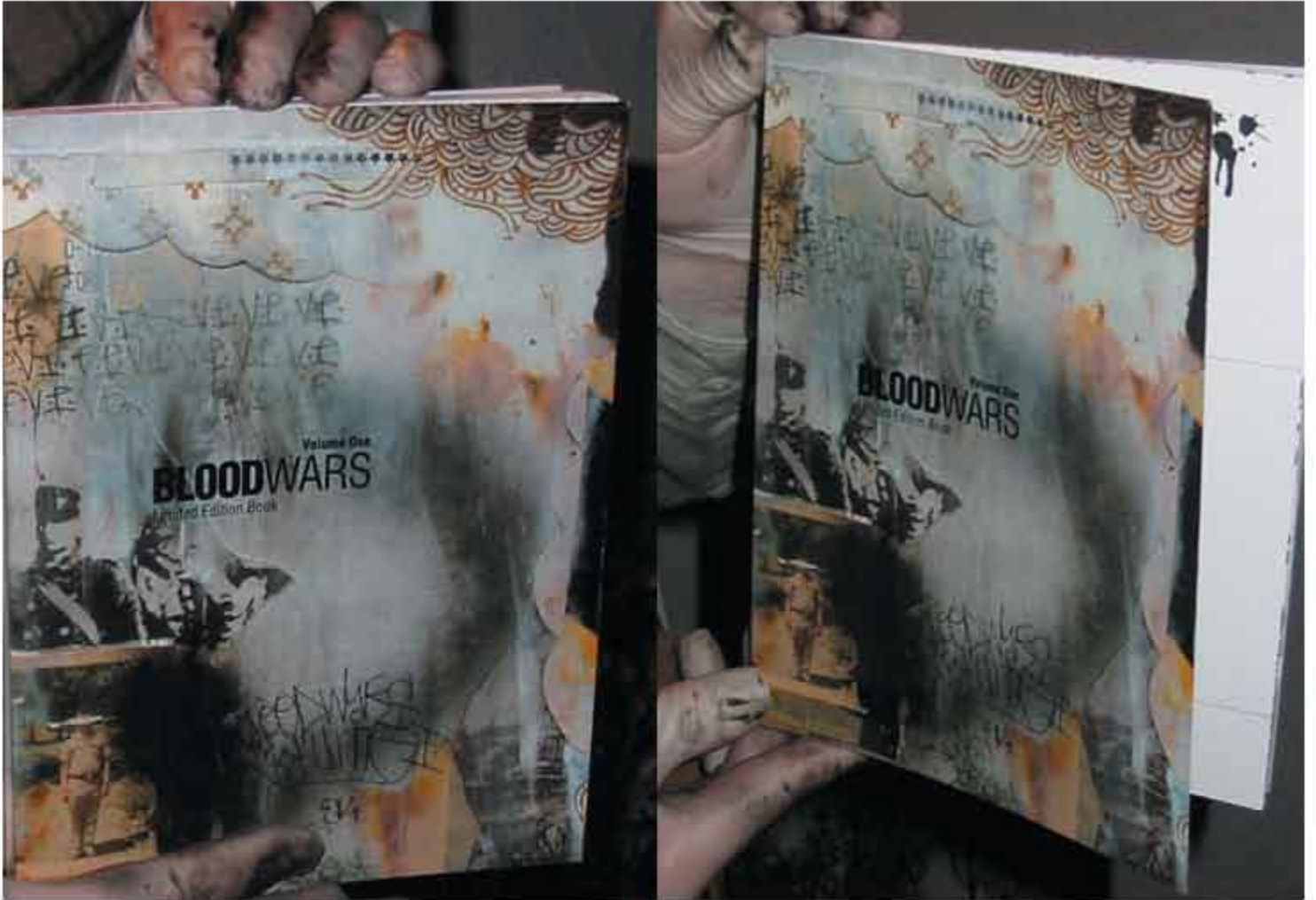
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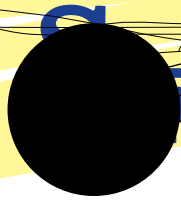


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