

Digbeth Street Art Tour from High-Vis CIC

Birmingham has a long history of Graffiti Art going back to the mid eighties. The scene is more vibrant than ever, especially around Digbeth. Some of the pieces in the area are created solely by the artists, having paid for the materials themselves and spending days creating stunning artwork and self-expression. And some of the pieces have been created with the help of Street festivals, enabling artists from the West Midlands and further afield to paint without costs to themselves. Their hard work and skills are much appreciated and a joy for everyone to see. We urge you to give all these artists the recognition they deserve, whether it's by tagging them on social media, following them on Instagram or even purchasing artwork from them if they have an online shop. Here's an online Street Art tour of just some of the stand out pieces that are on the walls at the moment. The easiest way to follow this guide is to use the phone app What 3 Words (a free app available on all app stores) which is an easy way to identify precise locations. Just click or enter the 3 words into the app and it'll show you, with walking directions, exactly where the art is. There's also a bit of info about each mural and the artist, followed by their Instagram tag with a link so you can follow them.

///cities.lined.ruins

<https://w3w.co/cities.lined.ruins>



PHILTH

A highly illustrative street artist, Philth has been a big part of past High-Vis Festival's and, arguably, was responsible for one of the most iconic pieces of artwork from the past five years we have been running. His black, white, grey and gold portrait that can be found at the top of Gibb Street in the Custard Factory has become the backdrop to thousands of visitors' photos and selfies. In recent years Philth has merged his beautiful and stylised portraiture with fluid, flowing floral designs evocative of Pre-Raphaelite artist, William Morris' own floral patterns, but brought up to date for the contemporary age. A picture of classics and contemporary with the resulting art being highly distinguishable.

This piece was painted back in 2018 at High-Vis Festival.

Instagram - [@philthblake](#)

[///tilt.sheets.liner](http://tilt.sheets.liner)

<https://w3w.co/tilt.sheets.liner>

.EPOD

From a layered concrete tower in a greater London council estate, a young .EPOD soaked up 1980s TV Sci-Fi and Boom-Box Hi-Fi. The worlds of Ralph McQuarrie and Syd Mead drew his eye, while Melle Mel and Mantronix had his ear.



Studying art & design in the early 90s, he immersed himself in the London urban arts scene which at the time was going through something of a renaissance with genre defying works in graffiti and hip-hop emerging at pace. Inspired, he shook up a can and wrote .EPOD.

His professional skillset (draftsman, fashion designer and illustrator) and the inspirations of his youth manifest vividly in his paintings and murals. Sultry figures draped in elegant materials.

Mirrored vessels in otherworldly landscapes. Cigarettes hanging from kiss me lips.

His forms ooze luxury, shimmering reflections of allure that while his own wink back at traditions within urban art and visions of the future.

This piece is called ELARA, painted at High-Vis Festival in September 2021.

Instagram - [@epod3000](#)

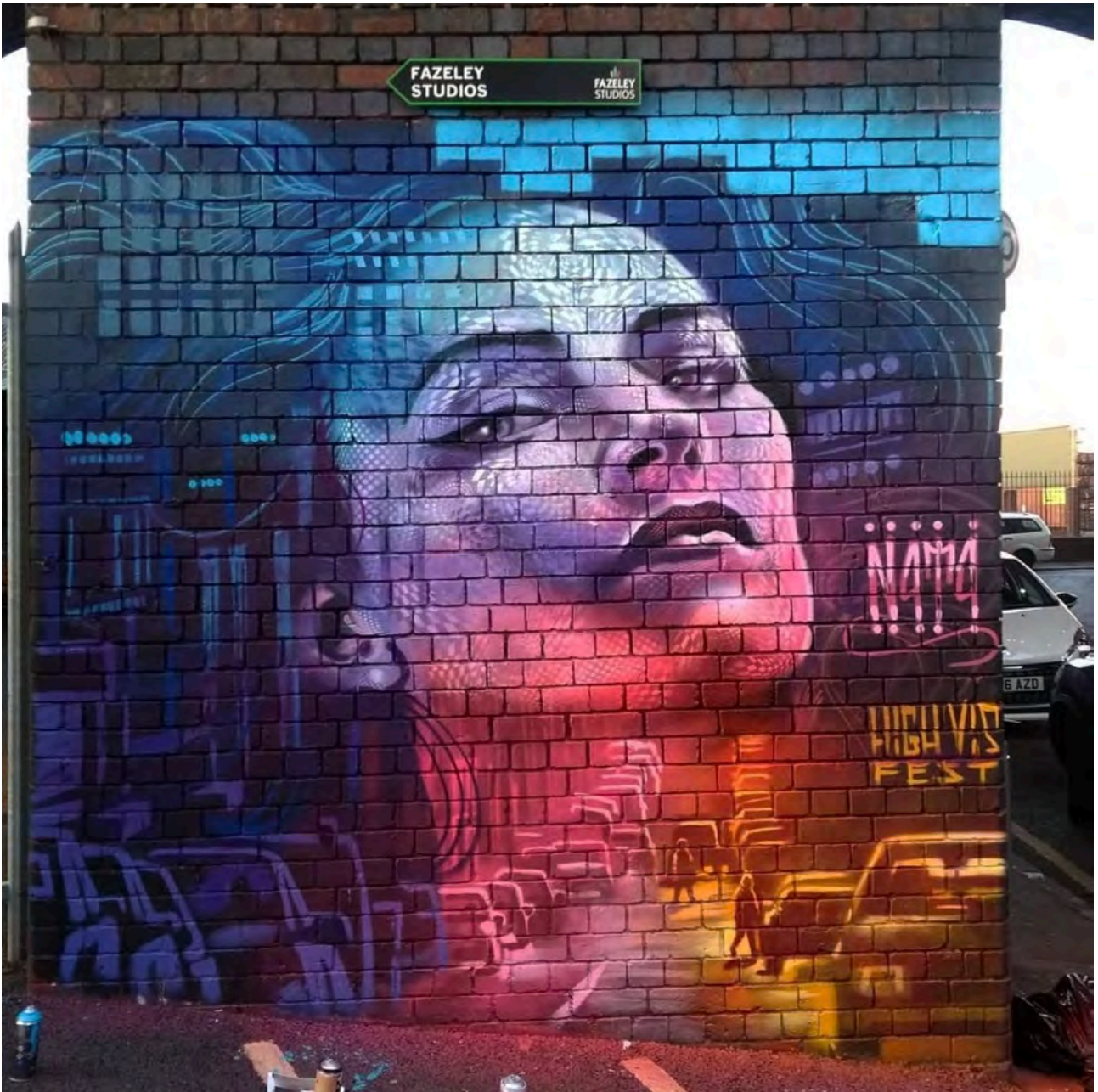
///dwell.tips.events
<https://w3w.co/dwell.tips.events>



INKIE

Inkie is a London-based painter and street artist, originally from Clifton, Bristol. He is cited as being part of Bristol's graffiti heritage, along with Banksy, 3Dee and Nick Walker. Painted in 2014 for City of Colours Festival. Instagram - [@inkiegraffiti](https://www.instagram.com/inkiegraffiti)

///shack.pipe.remit
<https://w3w.co/shack.pipe.remit>



N4T4

N4T4 is a midland based spraypaint artist who enjoys creating figurative artwork that is made up of intricate textures and double exposed images.

N4T4 aims to create artwork that has a sense of movement and narrative, finding inspiration in nature, science fact, and fiction, visionary and aboriginal art. N4T4 is also a member of the Neveryday crew alongside Philth.

Painted in one day at High-Vis Festival 2018.

Instagram - [@n_4_t_4](#)

///think.rooms.thing
<https://w3w.co/think.rooms.thing>

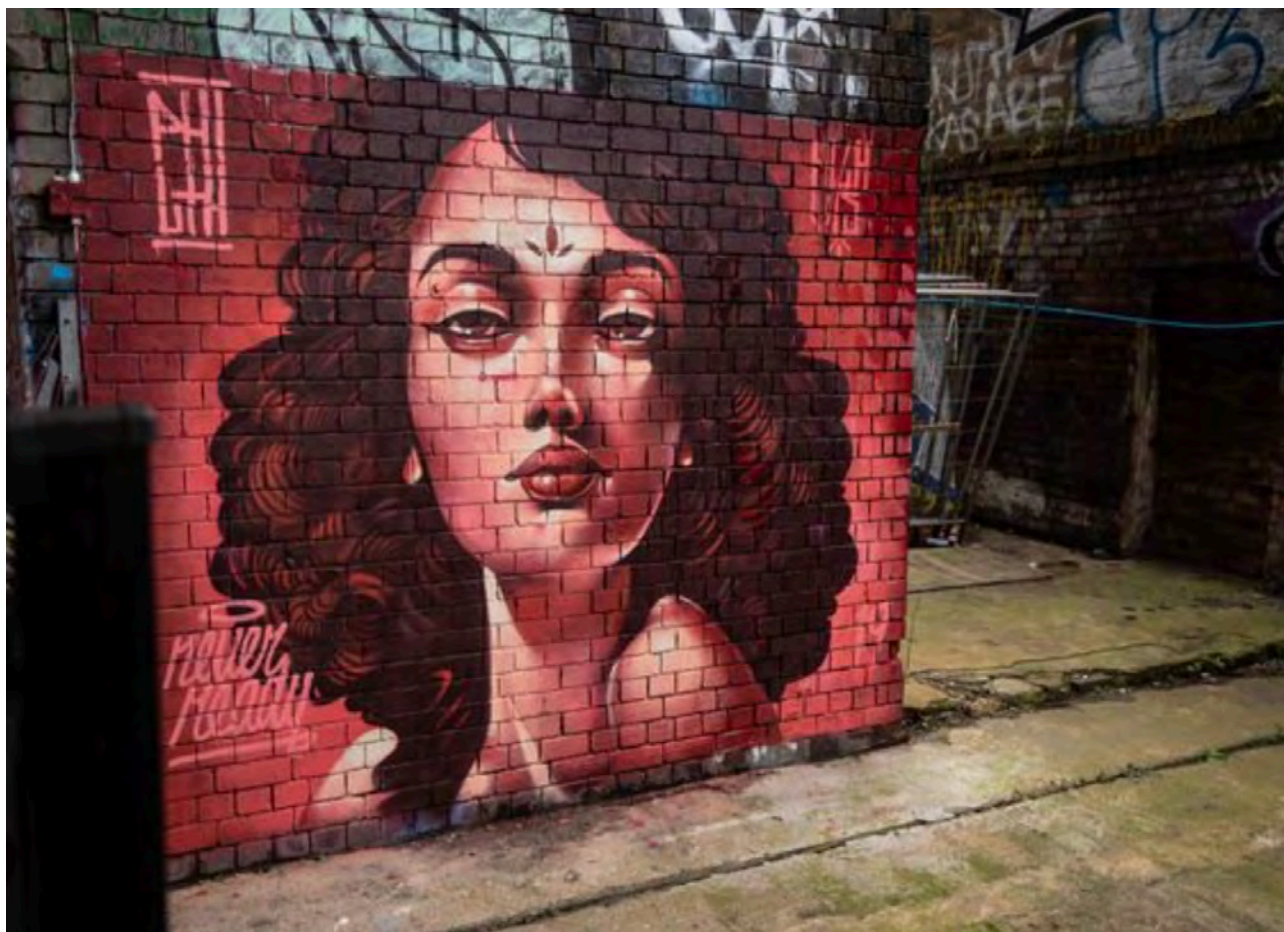


CRYOLA

This talented artist can Rock a wall, Rock skin, Rock whatever you bring... Cry has brought her photorealistic paintings to High-Vis for the past few years, at B-Side festival with HBR and solo work around Digbeth and at Birmingham Hippodrome. Hailing from down South but now living and working in B-Town we're lucky to see her pieces in the Midlands too. This beautiful piece was painted over 3 days at High-Vis, 2021.

Instagram - [@cryola1](https://www.instagram.com/cryola1)

///chops.bottle.smooth
<https://w3w.co/chops.bottle.smooth>



PHILTH

Here's another corker from Philth, painted in 2019 at High-Vis.
Instagram - [@philthblake](https://www.instagram.com/philthblake)

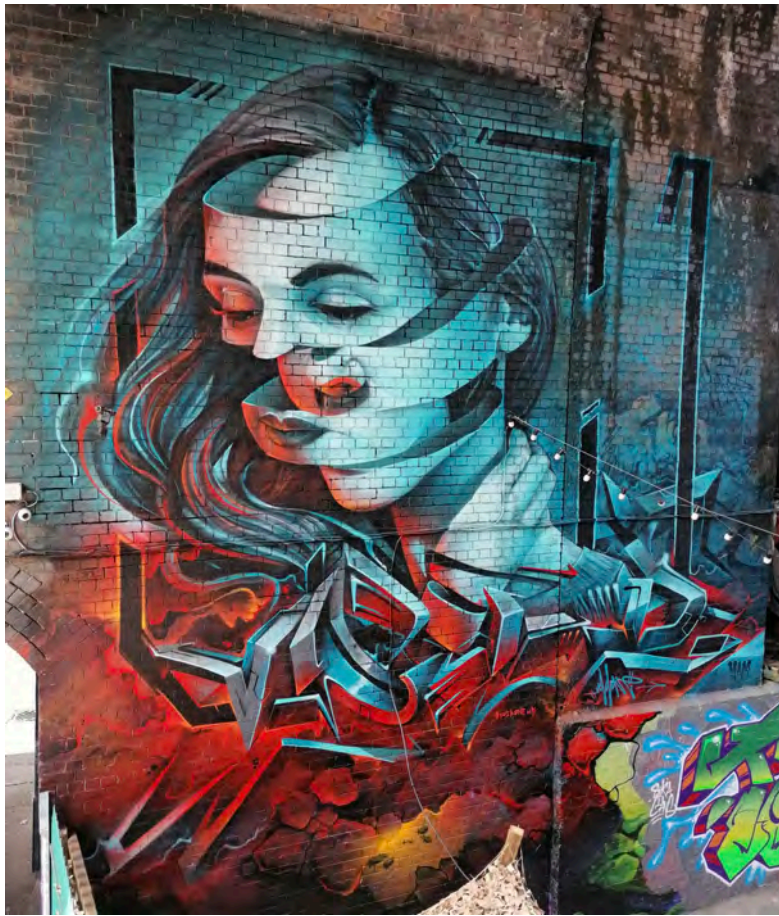
///alone.wisely.issues
<https://w3w.co/alone.wisely.issues>

VOID ONE

"I'm the product of a broken home, hostels, council estates, gang violence, drugs and poverty. An obstreperous, angry, partially deaf, dyslexic and overly hyperactive child, given sedatives from the age of two because I used to smack my head off walls, and drive people up them.

I was told I wasn't an artist by a faculty of sociopaths at school who just hadn't spotted I learned differently, so I stopped going, and spent my time racking pens, listening to punk music, getting legs off people and breaking into abandoned warehouses & mental asylums.

I started bombing for a bit in my late teens, experimenting with Photoshop from 96, but spent the next 15 years at raves abusing psychedelic drugs. I went to university so I could use the loans to pay off drug dealers and came out with a Philosophy degree, exchanging 5k debt for 30, but I did



get a nice piece of paper to show for it and my legs hadn't been broken.

I moved into a studio producing electronic music for a decade, running labels, making albums, mixing bands and engineering for some pretty epic sound systems, festivals and events, but I grew tired of working to help achieve other peoples goals, so now I make mess where I used to make noise.

In my spare time I write sarcastic statements on government buildings because they murder the disabled and illegally sell weapons to people who blow up kids in the Middle East. Somehow I make a living painting now, which was all I ever wanted to do in the f*\$king first place. So, I wake up grateful every day, and I guess that's the best "f*\$k you" to the world that I could give."

This piece is called 'Disconnect', painted for Big Fang in 2021.

Instagram - [@voidoneuk](https://www.instagram.com/voidoneuk)

///mute.drums.dark
<https://w3w.co/mute.drums.dark>



GENT

Gent 48 ranks among the most talented and prolific graffiti writers in Birmingham. Best known for his character-driven murals, he has exported his creative talents as far afield as Australia and has picked up numerous awards along the way. Gent 48's unmistakable artwork can be witnessed across Birmingham and beyond.

Instagram - [@gent48](https://www.instagram.com/gent48)

///care.prom.reader
<https://w3w.co/care.prom.reader>

ZOOKI

Graffiti is more about style than technique, and Zooki is a king of style for sure. In this era of the internet it's easy to look at other artists styles and tricks, picking out the best bits to add to your next piece, hence a lot of people getting really good really quick. Zooki is definitely not one of these, he's one of the only artists I have seen that is completely original, his letters and characters are like nothing I've seen before or since. I'm lucky enough to have known him for over 35 years, from being at school showing each other tag styles and outlines, to hitting streets, sleeping in trains and generally growing up together. The focus and work he put in in those early days was



crazy, tagging anything in his path, acquiring paint by any means... I remember him showing me 3 pieces he'd done in 1 night. To him this was serious!

He introduced me to Zed in 1987 who's been a massive inspiration to us both and these 2 started to get noticed in the scene, especially Zook as he was a bit of a rude boy back in the day, joining Def Set Rebels with Set, Fab, Incs and 3Hand and running with artists like Atiske, Chase, Choose and Desire which pushed his style even more. As the scene started to cool down in the 90's Zook, Zed and Dez hooked up with Goldie and formed a new phase of The Wild Criminalz. About this time I don't know what happened but I can only guess that God gave him some magic beans or something as piece after piece were like nothing anyone had clapped eyes on before! Ever since then Birmingham has bared witness to this originator, and it won't stop. All out King.

This piece says Zuki, painted at High-Vis in 2021

Instagram - [@zookitwc](#)

[///throw.shelf.deals](https://throw.shelf.deals)

<https://w3w.co/throw.shelf.deals>

MOSE78

British artist Mose78 is based in Birmingham. His work spans across many art forms & disciplines from Newbrow art, illustration, contemporary urban art to fine art but his roots are in graffiti.

Mose78's passion is painting large scale walls but you can also find his artwork in galleries & exhibitions.

He co-founded the Distorted Minds Crew. They have gone on to be invited to various events, self curated exhibitions, organised D.I.Y events & installations.

He also Co-founded Birmingham's street art festival - High Vis Festival (2018/19). Worked on projects for public art spaces & private/commercial commissions. Mose78 trained as a tattoo artist in Thailand.

Painted over a couple of days in 2021 at High-Vis.

Instagram - [@mose78uk](https://www.instagram.com/mose78uk)



[///closed.tricks.grow](https://closed.tricks.grow)

<https://w3w.co/closed.tricks.grow>



VOID ONE

This is great M. C. Escher inspired piece, sprayed over 3 days in 2021 at High-Vis.

Instagram - [@voidoneuk](https://www.instagram.com/voidoneuk)

///sentences.foods.ripe
<https://w3w.co/sentences.foods.ripe>



SNUB

I create what I like the way I like, it's just lucky others like it too. Drawings, huge walls, vehicles, product packaging, clothing, festivals it doesn't matter, they all have their own challenges. It's the fight that makes it fun.

My isometric pattern works have taken me to other countries and led to many new ideas, but mostly they have 'calmed the chaos'. Using simple shapes and bold colours I can transform a flat surface into a visually three dimensional surface. Resulting in a satisfying illusion, well to me anyway.

The building blocks of how we perceive forms and objects, shapes are intrinsic to how we respond to visual content. Stemming from our basic need to structure and categorize the world around us, shapes have become the visual language that informs our emotional response to imagery.'

SNUB23 is prolific and unstoppable, and ultimately synonymous with a future technology gone bad.

Mural is entitled Reality Sucks and was painted in 2021 at High-Vis.

Instagram - [@snub_23](https://www.instagram.com/snub_23)

///loaded.apple.sides
<https://w3w.co/loaded.apple.sides>



TITLE

Title started painting his name on the streets of Birmingham during the mid-1980s, he wasn't very active during the 1990s, but after this long hiatus, he returned to the scene in the mid-2000s. Now mixing old skool graffiti techniques with modern styles and elements of photorealism, he has been working as a full-time artist since 2008.

This metallic skull, a favourite theme of Titles, is from 2021 at High-Vis.

Instagram - [@titlegraffiti](https://www.instagram.com/titlegraffiti)

///tracks.frost.herds
<https://w3w.co/tracks.frost.herds>



MISCFIT

Miscfit is a Birmingham-based artist and graphic designer. Defining and refining a unique style since his late 20s, his love for street art finally led him to “pick up the cans” in 2019, after years of sticker art and paste-ups.

Now instantly recognisable, his work is characterized by bold lines, patterns and vibrant colour palettes, creating an interesting visual contrast to some of the common themes in his work; sadness, entrapment, heartache and anger.

Having exhibited in several venues and galleries in England, Miscfit’s approach to creating art is all thanks to his curious nature and multi-disciplined background. Mainly working with spray paint, paint pens and stencils, he continues to explore new mediums, processes and techniques - further developing his practice and aesthetic. Painted at High-Vis festival in 2021.

Instagram - [@miscfit0121](https://www.instagram.com/miscfit0121)

///rail.pure.translated
<https://w3w.co/rail.pure.translated>



JUICE ONE TWO SIX

Juice One Two Six proclaims: "Paint is there to be splashed, distorted, demolished, dripped and molded into new textural forms." Robert Elliott/Juice One Two Six is the pioneer of aerosol abstraction and is known for the use his of metallic paint in his compositions, one of the founding member of Ikonoklast Movement aerosol art collective that revolutionised United Kingdom Graffiti/aerosol art in 1990's and continued this exploration of painting as a member of Agents Of Change in the new millennium and beyond.

This piece is titled Creation Rebel, painted over 3 days at High-Vis in 2021.

Instagram - [@juiceonetwosix](https://www.instagram.com/juiceonetwosix)

///park.kinks.sings
<https://w3w.co/park.kinks.sings>



TEMPO 33

Not many people can do it all but Tempo 33 can, and does on a regular basis. Members of the public will know him without knowing his name. Just show anyone in Birmingham his Acid Face with a Brace and they'll say "I see that wotsit all over the place!" Stickers, paste ups and 42 sheet advertising hoardings, it's all over the gaff! All put up by the man himself, no sending stickers out to spread it quicker, it has to be him.

So that's that side of Tempo done, then you've got the classic graffiti writer side who goes on late night bombing sprees battering any surface. Then there's the other side of the graffiti artist who plans and produces precise and bad ass pieces and productions on a regular! Then there's the other other side who designs crisp limited edition artwork and produces clothing that Graf writers and non artists alike buy and wear. As I said not many artists put this much work in and it's definitely paying off.

Instagram - [@acid face with a brace](#)

///after.stores.bath
<https://w3w.co/after.stores.bath>



HOAKSER

Hoakser has been on the Birmingham graffiti scene since 1998. Hoakser is not afraid to experiment with new techniques and materials. His distinctive graffiti character and lettering styles are put to use on all kinds of surfaces and materials including toys, and canvases. In 2016, Hoakser worked on the set of Steven Spielberg blockbuster "Ready Player One".

Hoakser supports local community projects and regularly delivers workshops to young people creating large scale murals that have had a positive impact on local areas.

This mask man was painted back in 2014.

Instagram - [@hoakser](https://www.instagram.com/hoakser)

///admire.ranked.fits
<https://w3w.co/admire.ranked.fits>



DAN NEWSO

Newsso was key to bringing graffiti and streetart to Digbeth, along with Tempo and Gent. Their hard work and persistence has made the place what it is now.

This piece was painted back in 2016

Instagram - [@newsso48](https://www.instagram.com/newsso48)

///cars.indoor.dash
<https://w3w.co/cars.indoor.dash>



Graffiti piece **ZINER** and character/background by **GENT**. @gent48

ZINER

From hand-styles to portraits, night time missions or high end commissions, this guys got the lot. Most people in this subculture fall into either graffiti writer or graffiti artist but he's got an Air Max 95 in each one. Relatively new to the game but you'd never guess it, as the respect he's got from young and older artists speaks volumes.

At the bottom right of the mural check out the message, showing their views on third parties charging for street art tours.

Instagram - @zinzinah

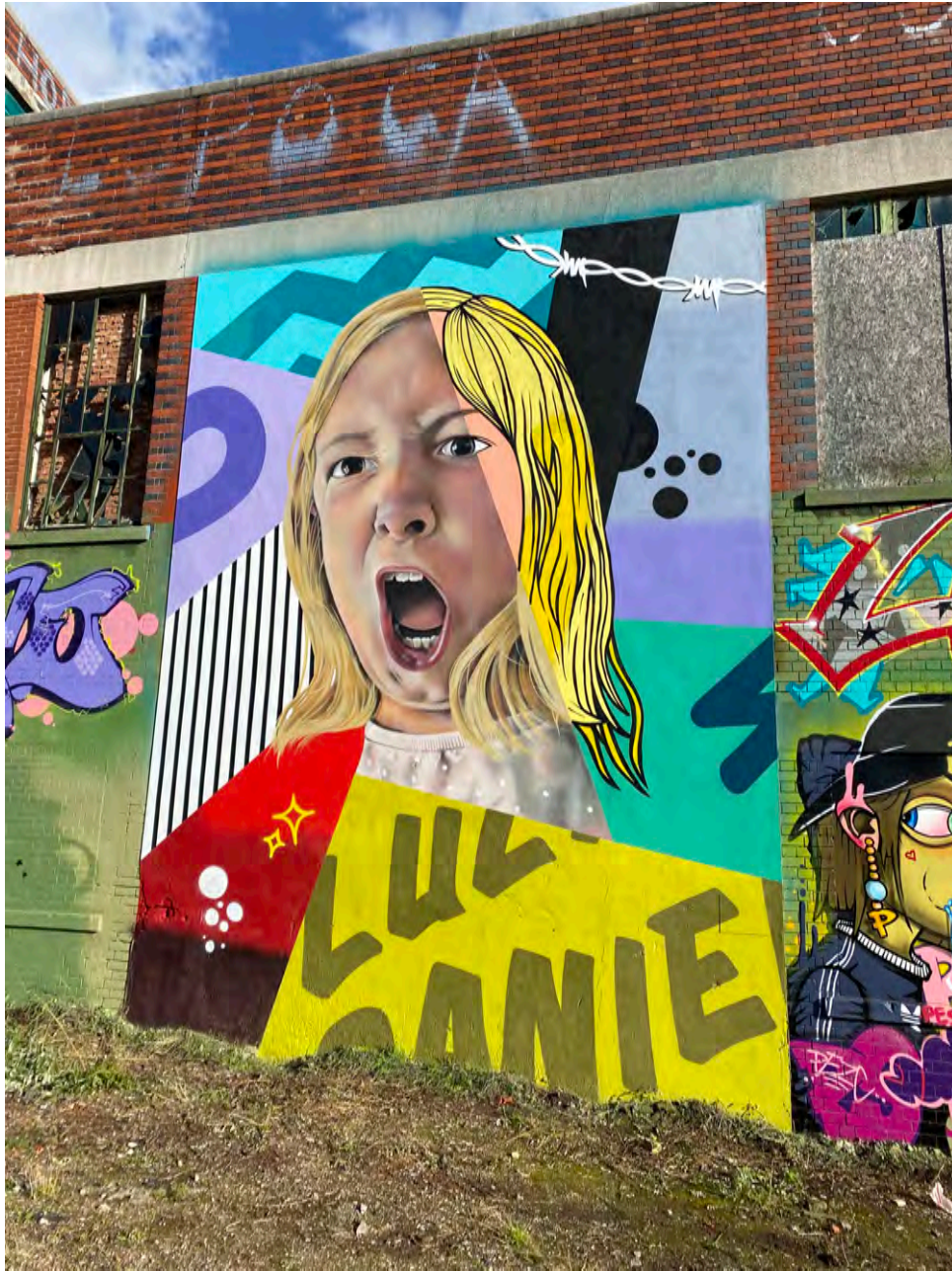
///gloves.broke.gent
<https://w3w.co/gloves.broke.gent>



HOAKSER and TEMPO 33

This memorial piece was painted by Birmingham artists Hoaxer and Tempo33 to honour the sad passing of jungle and Drumming n Bass M.C. Skibadee in 2022.
Instagram - [@therealskibagram](https://www.instagram.com/therealskibagram)

///sleep.name.losses
<https://w3w.co/sleep.name.losses>



LUCY DANIELLE

I am a midlands born Bristol based freelance illustrator, graffiti mural artist and all round creative. I have a passion for type, sneakers, trains, travelling and graffiti culture. If I'm not drawing or out painting, you can probably find me drinking WKD with the boys. If your interested in commissioning me or working with me please send a email over to lucydanielle_illustration@outlook.com, no job too big or small :-). This fantastic piece was painted over 2 days at High-Vis Festival 2022. Instagram - [@lucydanielle_illustration](https://www.instagram.com/lucydanielle_illustration)

///colleague.person.arrive
<https://w3w.co/colleague.person.arrive>



ANNATOMIX

“All this paint and still so many dull walls.

I love this city - down to its dirty concrete bones - but on a cold grey day it can feel like a gloomy place, despite the pretty #Brumset snaps on Instagram and staggered efforts towards modernisation. Better use of public art could change that in a really simple and effective way, if the local authorities / developers / big businesses could hurry up and acknowledge that modern public art / street art / graffiti is actually really popular, and effective use of it can work wonders for communities and the local economy, as well as providing jobs for local artists.

We have a wealth of well-established talent here, and new artists coming up constantly. Many of them are better known in other cities, or overseas, because they've had to leave Brum to get noticed. And while money-spending members of the public are taking time to visit Birmingham to see our beloved graffiti, and property developers are using it to sell luxury lifestyles, the council are still spending a fortune buffing it. We've gone wrong somewhere. I look at all the hoardings hiding the construction sites, all the glass and concrete walls, and I see a massive canvas just waiting to be utilised. And a creative community that's starved of support.”

Blue Scorpion painted over 2 days at High-Vis, 2022.

www.annatomix.com

Instagram - [@annatomix](https://www.instagram.com/annatomix)

Twitter - [@annatomixx](https://twitter.com/annatomix)

///post.blur.dome
<https://w3w.co/post.blur.dome>



GENT

This mural was painted by Gent and commissioned by Punch Records to celebrate musicians who are seen to be The Future of Birmingham when it comes to urban music. The building is an independent music venue called Suki10c.

Artist - [@gent48](#)

Commissioned by - [@punchrecords](#)

Venue - [@suki10c](#)

///baking.folds.scrap
<https://w3w.co/baking.folds.scrap>



PHLEGM

Phlegm is a world-known cartoonist and illustrator from Wales. He is also well known for his self-published comics and highly creative street art. Phlegm's work is distinctively detailed composed of odd figures and a narrative structure. His work inspires greatness and is even often inspired by graffiti where Phlegm transforms run down urban spaces and factories.

The name Phlegm came from one of the four bodily humours in ancient Greek medicine: blood, yellow bile, black bile, and phlegm. Phlegm was believed to be responsible for an apathetic and unemotional temperament.

This piece was painted in 2016 for City of Colours Festival.

Instagram - [@phlegm_art](https://www.instagram.com/phlegm_art)

///torch.branch.toxic
<https://w3w.co/torch.branch.toxic>



GENT

Key workers and frontline staff are being celebrated in this eye-catching street mural created by Visual Communication alumnus and renowned graffiti artist Gent 48.

The artwork, entitled *Forward in Unity*, pays tribute to Birmingham's collective spirit in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The artwork is the brainchild of Visiting Professor of Entrepreneurship Paul Cadman and Landscape Architecture alumnus and co-founder of Melting Pot Nathaniel Hanna. The pair came together to create charitable collective Art for Charity and have worked with Gent 48 to produce the impressive artwork.

Forward in Unity depicts the city's professionals and key workers coming together to battle the virus, and pays homage to those working on the city's frontline to keep Birmingham residents safe and ensure that life goes on as usual.

One of the nurses depicted displays the BCU logo (pictured above) as she enters the fray. The city's iconic skyline can also be seen, featuring the Rotunda and St Martin's-in-the-Bullring as well as the iconic Birmingham bull and the flag of Birmingham.

The original design and print copies were auctioned off to raise money for the Lord Mayor's Charity. The piece is intended as the first of many that will continue to bring Brummies together and raise vital funds.

Professor Paul Cadman said: "Our ambition was to celebrate the fantastic response of those on the front line and in key positions across Birmingham and we achieved this thanks to the world-renowned skills of Gent 48. The project has since evolved into a key fundraising initiative for the city, ensuring that we're fully prepared for the 'new normal'.

Instagram - [@gent48](https://www.instagram.com/gent48)

[///rush.analogy.dare](http://rush.analogy.dare)
<https://w3w.co/rush.analogy.dare>



PAUL MONSTERS

Paul is a multi disciplinary artist working with tessellating geometric patterns. Constructing abstract shapes inspired by nature, architecture and spirituality, you can see Paul's work adorning walls, canvas' and even sculptures. Paul has been painting and sculpting for over 15 years and putting on exhibitions for over 10. Instagram - [@paulmonsters](https://www.instagram.com/paulmonsters)

///sting.green.react
<https://w3w.co/sting.green.react>



N4T4

This stunning Black Sabbath mural was painted by N4T4 with help from [@wingy.uk](#) and supported by National Express as part of High-Vis Festival 2019 to coincide with the band's 50th anniversary.

Instagram - [@n 4 t 4](#)

///frames.square.punch
<https://w3w.co/frames.square.punch>



WILL BARRAS

Will Barras is an illustrator living and working in London.

Born in 1973, he grew up in Birmingham and then moved to Bristol to study graphic design.

Will became one of a new crop of artists working within Bristol's world renowned street art scene.

London based for the last 17 years Will now divides his time between illustration and painting.

This mural was painted over 2 days in 2022 at High-Vis with kind permission of Zellig.

Instagram - [@will_barras](https://www.instagram.com/will_barras)

///healthier.pinch.shares
<https://w3w.co/healthier.pinch.shares>



ANNATOMIX

Cat and Mouse mural painted at High-Vis back in 2019 by the super talented Annatomix.
Instagram - [@annatomix](https://www.instagram.com/annatomix)

Thank you for downloading and using this guide. Hopefully you've enjoyed the fantastic artwork and have a new invite into the talented artists we've introduced you to. Hope to see you at the next High-Vis event!

Instagram - [@highvisfestival](https://www.instagram.com/highvisfestival)
Cheers!