

PHOTOGRAPHING BORING

PLACES

GRAFFITI
SPECIAL

ALEXA - GO FUCK YA SEN
JASON RUFFELL

St Anthony's Chapel, Edinburgh, 2019.

Graffiti, many associate it with dissatisfied youth spray-painting their tags on any surface. A blight. Graffiti goes back millennia, humans wanting to leave their mark, evidence of their existence. A grave marker; graffiti by proxy. If only the stones could tell their story. Who was there, what they felt, why they felt the need leave a mark. They are long gone.







Graffiti, like weeds, are just words, images, symbols, where they are not wanted. Some banal, some thought provoking, some inspirational. They convey messages when other channels are closed off to the creator.

An early form of social media. Anyone could inscribe their name, message or image on to a surface. Graffiti 1.0 had downsides. It took time too scratch marks in to stone or wood. These were messages designed to last due to the effort involved. They have survived, etched on the fabric of buildings and monuments, once contemporary, now historic.

Graffiti 2.0 employed more temporary media, paint, ink, mediums that would only mark the surface, easily eroded. The process of creating marks accelerated, allowing for more fleeting messages, designed only to last a short space of time. Political, angst, seditious, love, loss and the odd.

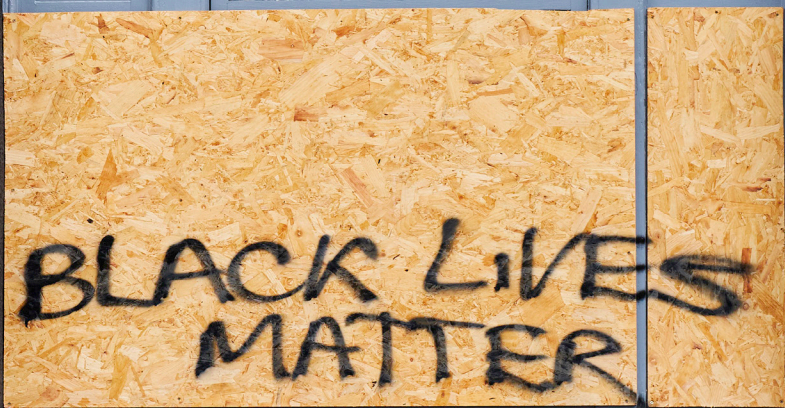
Graffiti 2.1 employs stencils to replicate messages. Thought out before the protagonist leaves the house. Spontaneity lost. A clear agenda, where subtle nuances encountered on the way to the canvas mean nothing.

Graffiti in the golden hour, Sheffield, 2020.



LIVE MUSIC
BEER GARDEN
CASK ALES
LATE LICENSE





Black Lives Matter, Sheffield, 2020.

While some were hankering to get back to normal, to get back to the pub, there were other important issues being discussed throughout the world, brought to the fore by the pandemic.



Boris Johnson is a Knob → and a bellend, Sheffield, 2020.
 Graffiti is a channel when no others are open.



What's the point, Sheffield, 2020.
 The feelings of the populace.



I'm creating a National Food Service, Sheffield 2019.
It can highlight major issues in society.



Fake News, Sheffield, 2019.
Issues that affect people's lives.



Graffiti, Sheffield, 2020.

*The interaction between paint and the environment
can create some beautiful graphics.*





NHS thank you, Sheffield, 2020.

Graffiti can express gratitude...



Alexa.. Go Fuck Ya Sen! Sheffield, 2020.


... stress



Please be careful, Sheffield, 2020.
... warnings



Brexit → 1st left, Sheffield, 2018.
... and politics.

Shopping
Working
Socialis
Eating
Drinking
Visiting
Relaxing
Living

Sometimes it just takes a small addition to make a point, Sheffield, 2019.



Graffiti can be applied to any surface, Sheffield, 2020.



40 TONNES Tox

Toxic Toff Boris, Sheffield, 2019.

Politics is a recurrent theme with those who indulge in graffiti. Quartering is a heraldic device to join different coats of arms together, uniting families. This quartering is divided.

HIGH BRIDGE



IC TOFF BORIS





Now then mardy bum who is really in charge.... Now who then is mardy really bum in charge, Sheffield, 2020.



Words can have double, even triple meanings. Sometimes the meaning is only apparent to the author, a cryptogram that can only be deciphered by the initiated.

#OUTHOUSEMCR

Fred Aldous



MCR

CURSK




MCR, Manchester, 2017.

Manchester love. The city comes together after the suicide bombing of Ariana Grande's concert.







Padlocks, Newcastle, 2018.

Graffiti has traditionally been two dimensional, but why cannot it exist in three, or in reality four dimensions? Time is an important factor. Meaning changes over time. Padlocks symbolising the love between two people, locked together, or lost keys and missing bicycles.



This edition has been an extra. I wasn't planning on another so soon, but a stay-cation and numerous photos on the same theme made me review my schedule. It's also too hot outside, so being some where dark and cool is more preferable.

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