

When graffiti ends up in art galleries

1. Discuss the 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 a country's culture?
- 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, it 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 the underlined words and phrases in the sentences (a-d) with their meanings (1-4).

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| a) Graffiti artists are <u>getting their due</u> now because people have started to think about them as real artists. 3 | 1) grow or develop successfully |
| b) He <u>despised</u> himself for being such a coward and not helping that woman. 2 | 2) hate someone or something and have no respect for them |
| c) During the late 1950s and 1960s artists with a wide range of interests began to <u>push the boundaries</u> of contemporary art. 4 | 3) be praised even though you are usually criticized or disliked |
| d) The economy is booming and many small businesses are <u>flourishing</u> . 1 | 4) discover something new, make limits go further out |

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

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

5. Watch the [video](#) again and complete each sentence with one word.

- 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 the 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.