



Juxtaposition Arts, a nonprofit, youth-focused visual arts organization that provokes and pushes aerosol art into new hands through instruction.

1992 marked the second phase of the Minneapolis scene. AKB and MAS crews formed in the early part of this era. Writers started communicating among themselves, and they organized an all-city graffiti writer's meeting, at which TCM (Twin Cities' Massive) was born under the leadership of TRUE 54 and SELF of AKB. TCM was to be an allegiance of writers throughout the Twin Cities who continued a relationship with their own crews but also pushed TCM. This attempt to unify the local graffiti art movement lasted a little over a year.

Writers continued to absorb influences from abroad yet evolved a unique, very clean lettering style noteworthy of the Twin Cities. Around the same time, local artists began to excel at aerosol painting. At first they encountered minimal persecution, and the first legal wall to exhibit aerosol art was founded by MESH of the MAS crew, called by many the "Wall of Fame." Many historical pieces were showcased on the Wall of Fame, from EWOK's *Sumthang Under Kover* and MOPE's *Jeannie out of a bottle* to a SCENE piece by EROS celebrating the Minneapolis style.

Due to local antigraffiti agendas, such as the "Don't Deface My Space" campaign and an aerosol rehabilitation program to deter youths from using spray paint, all types of graffiti, illegal as well as permissioned, were attacked. By the end of summer 1994, the Wall of Fame and many other canvases went white, and a piece's life span went from a few months to perhaps days. This repression didn't stop the movement but made it difficult to be seen by outsiders. In the last decade some local aerosol mural teams have prevailed and some have deteriorated. One of the latter that deserve mentions is Fluid Intelligence, made up of the best Twin Cities writers. Among the surviving groups is

The anonymity of graffiti leaves little room for assuming that *queens* are painting behind the facelessness of the spray can. Since there are fewer female aerosol artists, they are forced to look beyond the local sphere for feminine role models. Rather than inhibiting women, this has stimulated national and international coalitions, in which Twin Cities artists have figured prominently. This summer, as a part of "B-Girl Be: A Celebration of Women in Hip Hop" at Intermedia Arts, national ladies, including LADY PINK, ZOR14, SILOUETTE, PHEM9, TOOFFLY, ASIAONE, LADY K FEVER, joined Midwest women to create one of the largest aerosol murals in the history of spray paint done solely by women.

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TOP ROW (left to right): Artist SEX, tag; Artist SEX, piece; Artist EWOK, *Sumthang' Under Kover*, part of *Wall of Fame*, 1994; Artist SEX, throw-up.

BOTTOM ROW: Murals at Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis, Minn. (with detail of completed front side). Participants at the B-Girl Be celebration included the following local and national artists: LADY PINK, ASIAONE, LADY K FEVER, ZOR14, PHEM9, SILOUETTE, TOOFFLY, RUST, LUSH GIRL, PHIRA, AMP, SHELLIE, SILOUETTE, Girls with Bats, ZENA, STEF, Lady RIZE, and GLOE.

