

April 2022

PRESS RELEASE

The Against at The Martinez Gallery April 14 – August 31 3332 Broadway, NYC 10031 515 West 207 Street, NYC 10034 Hours: Mon-Fri 10 AM – 6PM

Opening: April 14, 6 - 10 PM at 3332 Broadway

ARTISTS INCLUDED

Erupto327 Auto **Brite** Chue Fonse Swich Kesh Mugre Omye Kuete Type2 Papi Cheak Dip Zonek Rom89 Mae Cancer Carl Adobe Quidam

As we all know, *Against* is a preposition that used in a sentence to express opposition to or to prepare for something. As this unusual noun of our title suggests, we are referring to someone or something opposed to, hostile to, resistant to, in disagreement with, contra, versus, in defiance... That's what *The Against* puts in place at two simultaneous exhibitions that Martinez Gallery is organizing: the uncontrollable compulsion of graffiti bombing against the current.

The idea started by focusing on people who were exceptional, if not masters, of graffiti bombing from different regions of the country in the last decade. The objective was to take these artists, bring them together in one place, and see how they create as part of a shared experience in New York, arguably the mecca of graffiti bombing. The main theme, the subject of these exhibitions, is the very product of these masters working together. In the realm of graffiti, it's very hard to get the very top artists all the time, because some of them are either incarcerated, or they won't show at galleries. But the ones selected are the top bombers available.

Bringing 21 bombers together from different parts of the US, Canada and Mexico—rooming together and sharing styles and techniques— will be a singular experience for those involved in the encounter; a gathering of talents; a dream team of graffiti.

The Martinez Gallery has done several exhibitions focusing on different themes, social issues, health issues, and a variety of topics related to our daily life. It has also organized The 90s show, and we think The Against artists might just be worlds apart. As the evolution from the 90s to now has shown, you must be more well-versed in art now, even as a bomber. We can say that the world of graffiti is ever-growing in this changing context. The Against presents an ideal opportunity to discuss and assess what bombing is today in comparison.

In addition to the installations, the concurrent exhibitions include some 100 drawings. And, through the website, Martinez Gallery will offer information and visual materials, disclosing and sharing the developments of these encounters. Photographers, videographers, and writers will provide an exceptional, ongoing account of these artists and events.

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