

HELLO, OUR NAME IS LASTPLAK AND WE LOVE TO PAINT!





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WELCOME



Every creative person I know is always looking for inspiration. What is creative inspiration? On Wikipedia you will find: CREATIVITY refers to the invention or origination of any new thing (a product, solution, artwork, literary work, joke, etc.) that has value. "New" may refer to the individual creator or the society or domain within which novelty occurs. "Valuable", similarly, may be defined in a variety of ways. INSPIRATION (from the Latin inspirare, meaning "to breathe into") refers to an unconscious burst of creativity in a literary, musical, or other artistic endeavour. HOW DO YOU **GET YOUR CREATIVE INSPIRATION?** A few years ago I collected the things I found very inspiring and decided to showcase all on what now is .Get Inspired! Magazine and share it with the world. In the last few years we have showcased a lot of very inspiring work and we think some of that work needs special attention. The e-Magazine was born! For this issue I choose some of my favourite artists showcased on the website. Awesome illustrators, Artists and Photographers which I find very inspiring. Thank you for downloading this very first issue of .Get Inspired! e-Magazine. I'm very pleased with this issue and I hope you will enjoy my selection of awesome creative work! .Get Inspired!

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NEXT ISSUE October 2012

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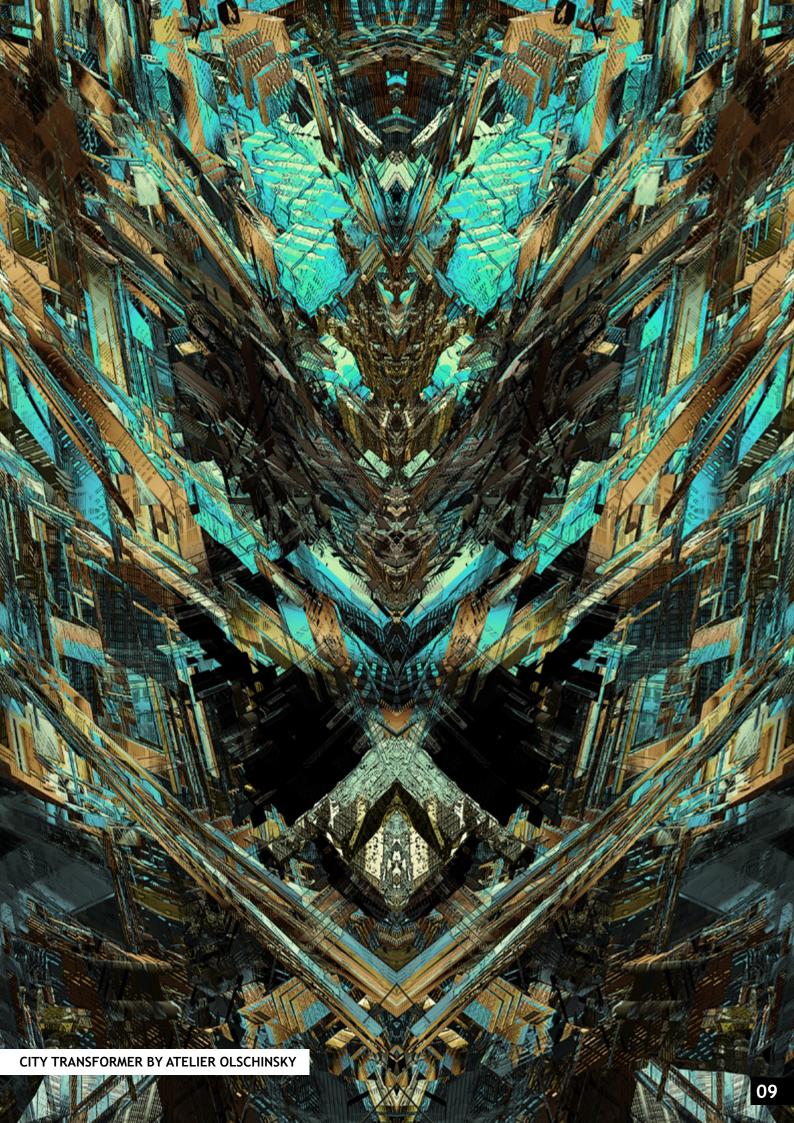
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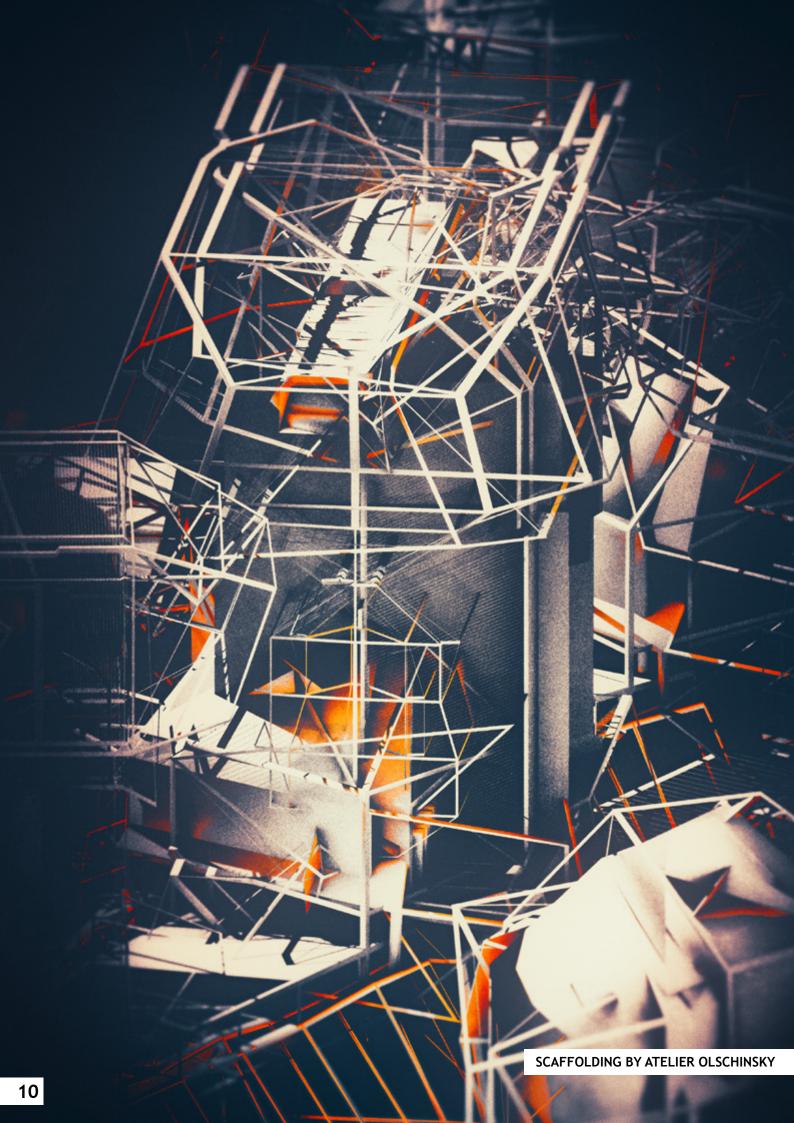


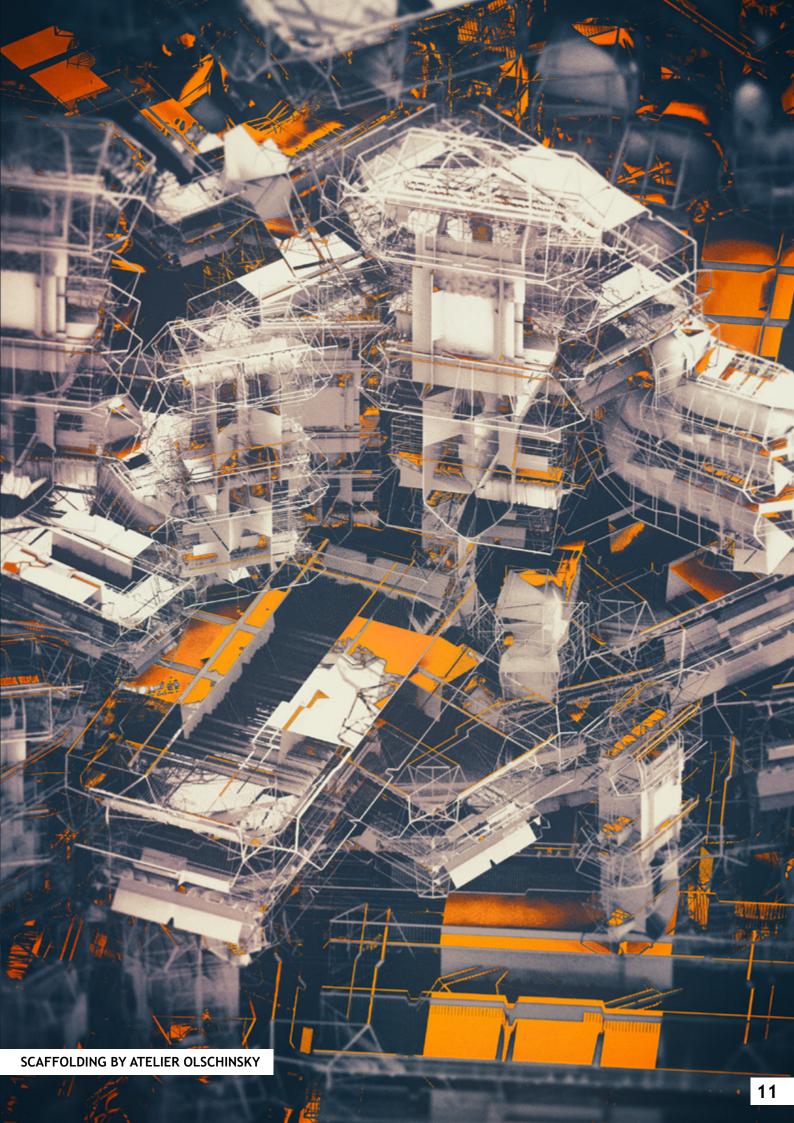






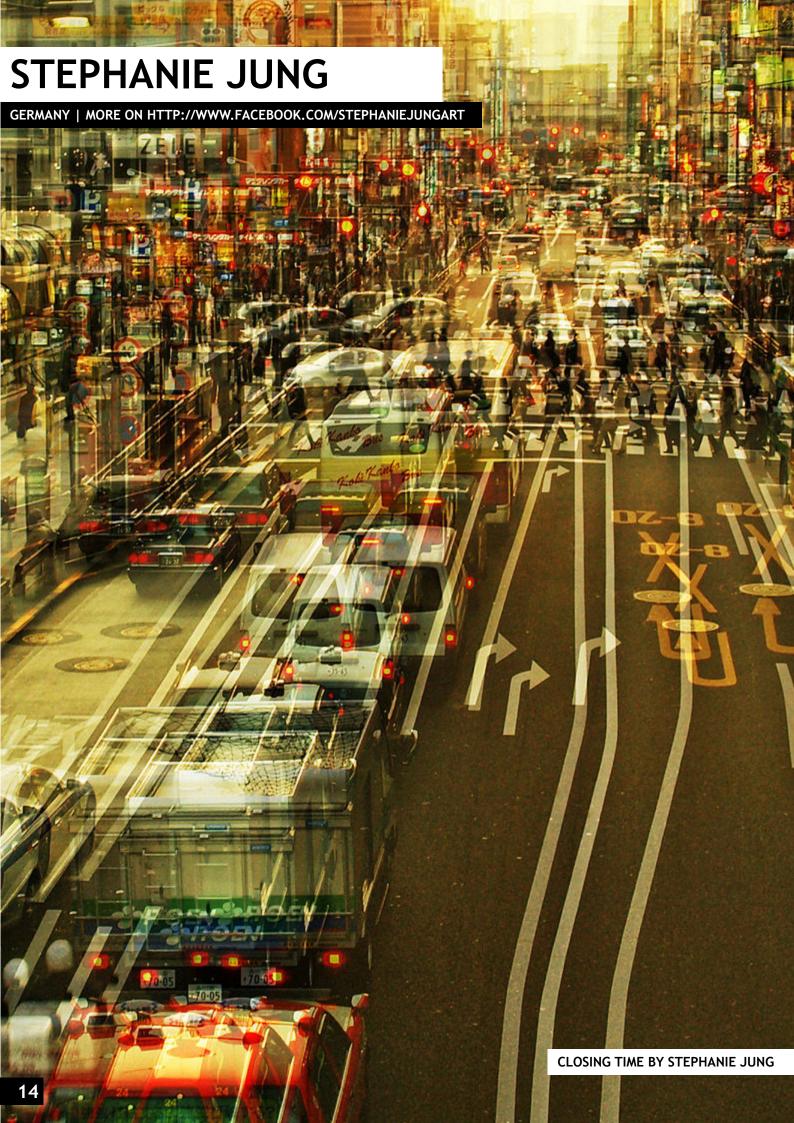


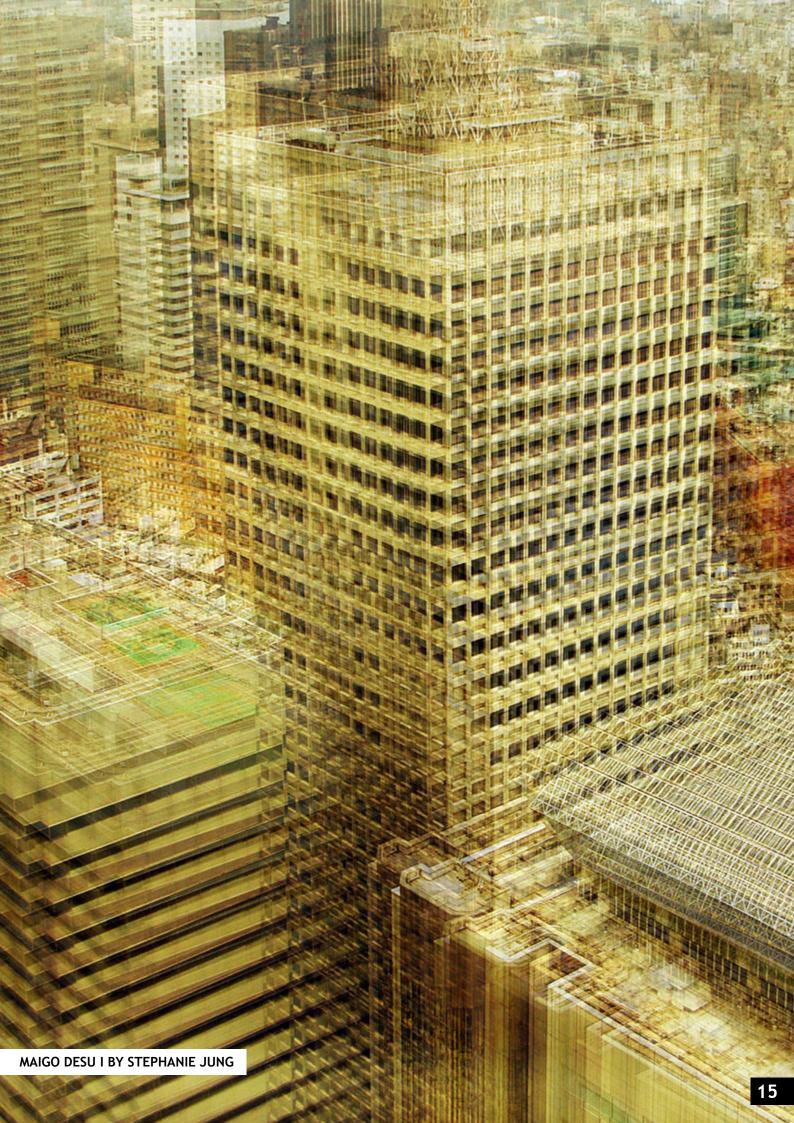


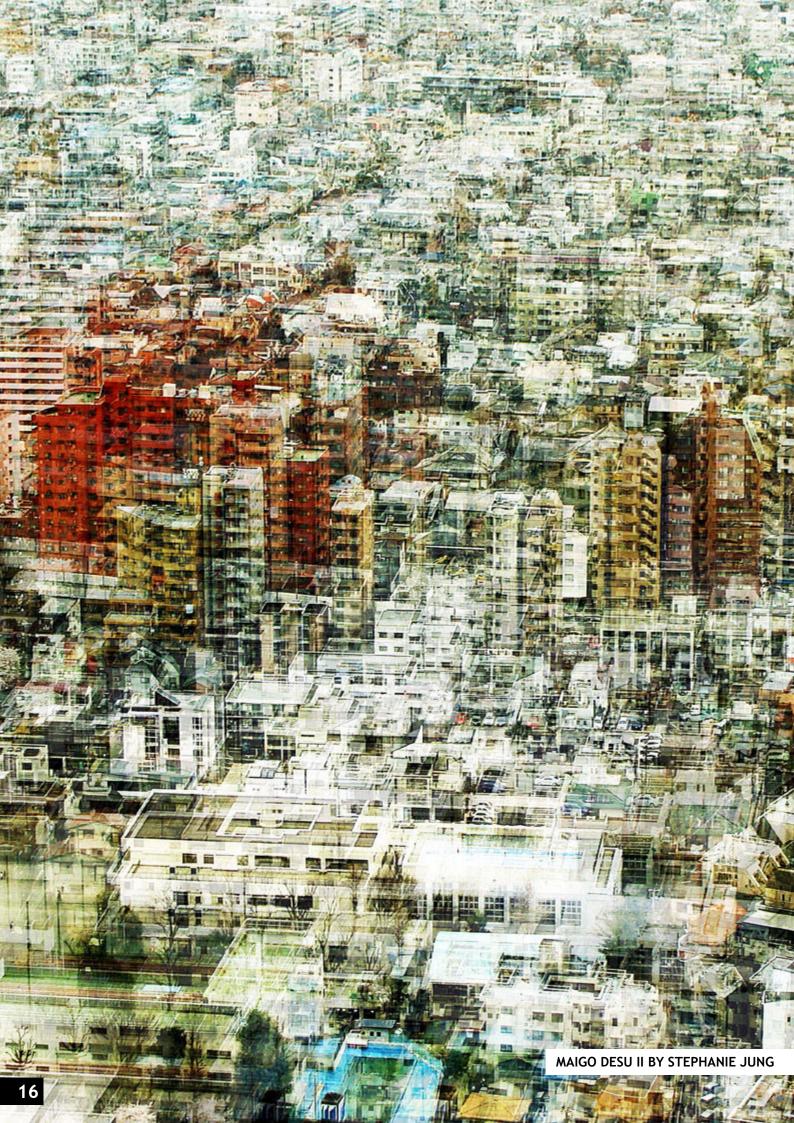


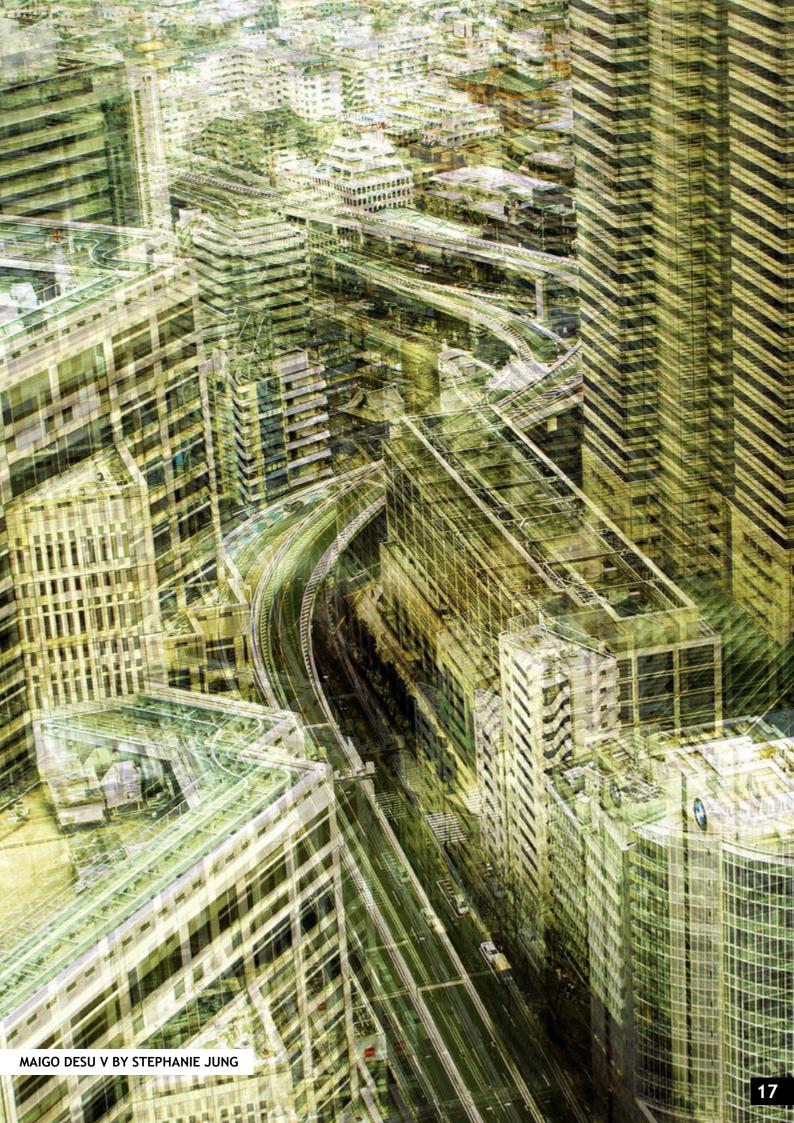




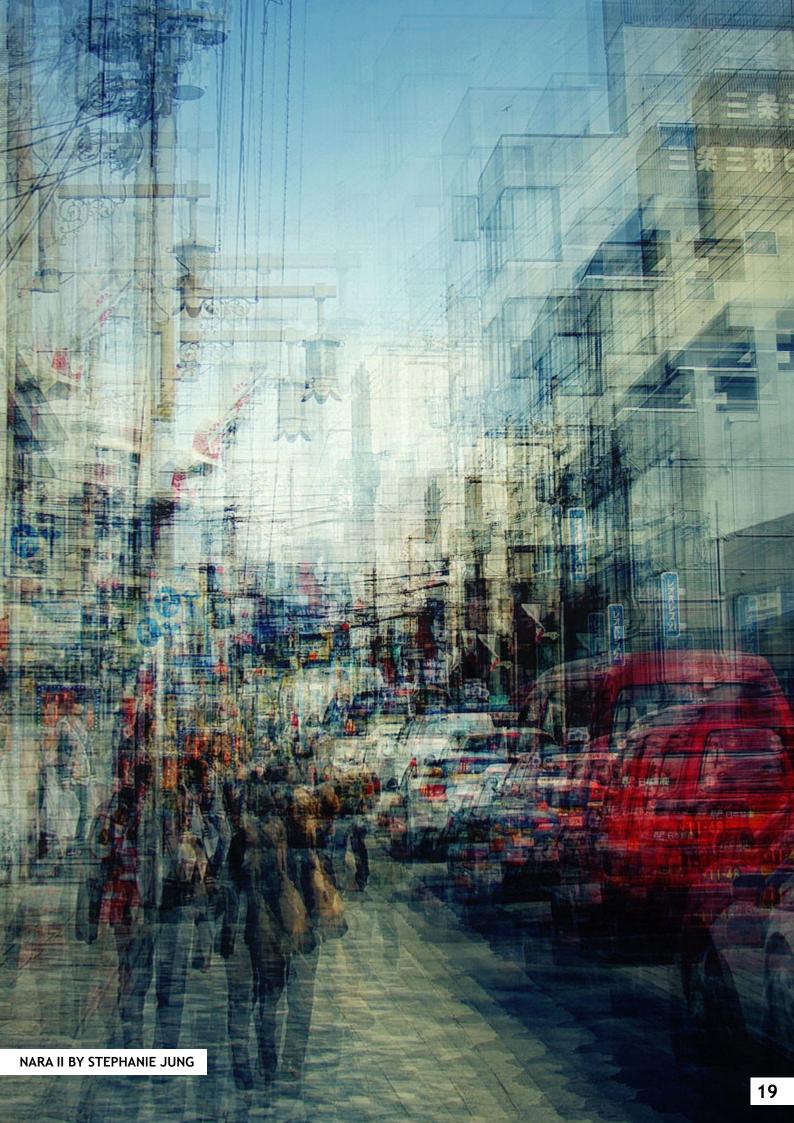




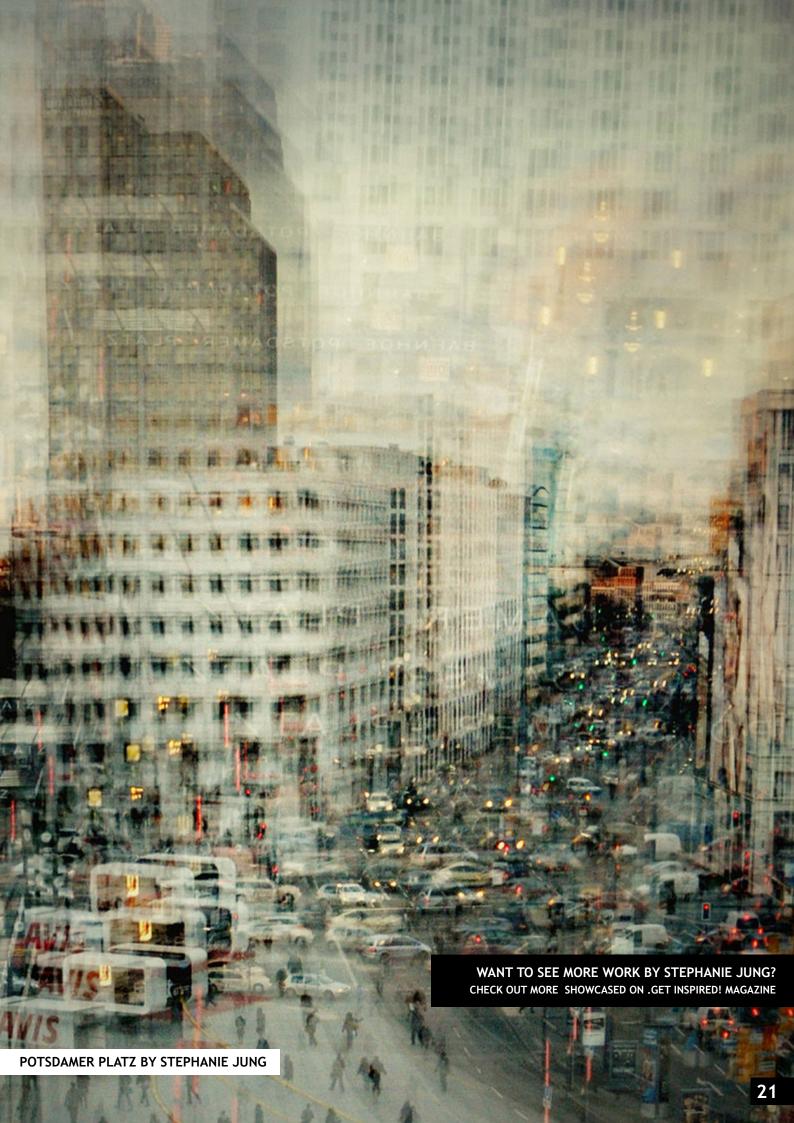




























































INTERVIEW

SEPR

FROM DESIGNING GIG FLYERS, TO PAINTING SOME OF THE MOST RECOGNISABLE STREET ART IN BRISTOL, 30-YEAR-OLD SEPR REVEALS THE UPS AND DOWNS OF BRISTOL'S 'ART REVOLUTION.'

WORDS BY LUKE POWELL

TOP: MIKEYCANVAS. LEFT: SAMOSA. RIGHT: WHALEBABY.







WHEN DID YOU FIRST BECOME INVOLVED IN BRISTOL'S STREET ART SCENE AND HOW HARD WAS IT TO GET NOTICED IN THE EARLY DAYS WHEN THE SCENE WAS STILL EMERGING?

SEPR: I would say the first pieces of artwork I produced and put 'out there' would probably be old punk gig flyers and illustrations for various zines. I didn't start painting walls out and about properly until around '99-2000! I became involved purely by trying to participate in the one way I knew I could. Friends would put on gigs, write or play in bands or DJ. I could draw and enjoyed it, so that was my contribution to whatever scene existed at the time.

WOULD YOU SAY THE MUSIC SCENE PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY'S ART MOVEMENT? HAVE THERE BEEN ANY OTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTORS?

Just from my own experiences all the music and art scenes seem to have exploded and received a lot of exposure.

Without sounding like an old man, the

Internet and social networking sites have obviously played a massive part in this.

Bristol now has a scene that a lot of people seem drawn to and its existing reputation for art and music has become even bigger.

SO THERE ARE MORE ARTISTS TO COMPETE WITH? IS THAT A GOOD THING?

There are definitely a lot of people painting in Bristol, which is good as it keeps you on your toes. If you stop painting for a short amount of time there are a whole load of other artists ready to paint over you.

I do think that sometimes quantity takes over quality though. When I was starting to paint, I learnt in places like Dean Lane, Bedmo or underneath the M32 motorway which are pretty much hidden away from the general public except for a small handful of nerdy graf types.

Now people are learning to paint in places like Stokes Croft, which is very much out in public for everyone to see. Whilst this is generally a positive thing, it can take a nose dive at times, with the standard of work being pretty poor and people who would've previously crafted their skills over time on train lines or in tunnels, are now learning outside peoples shops and houses.

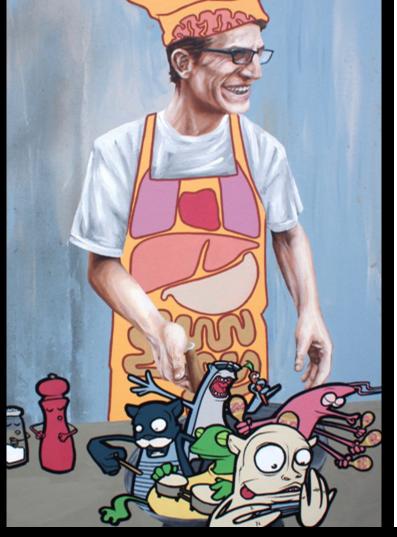
ARE YOU AWARE OF WHAT THE PUBLIC THINK? AND WHAT DO YOU PREFER, WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE NO ART THAN BAD ART OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND?

It's a difficult subject to get your head around because what is more preferable? Streets with no art on, except the vile images strewn across billboard adverts, or streets covered in art that is just lazy and not that good?

Who decides what is good anyway? Having artwork on people's doorsteps has divided people for sure.

A lot people love it, a lot of people also hate it and a lot of people seem so exposed to it that they don't even notice it anymore.

Each person has to make their own mind up and act in the way they see fit.



"IF YOU STOP PAINTING FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME, THERE ARE A WHOLE LOAD OF OTHER ARTISTS READY TO PAINT OVER YOU."

TOP: RASGLUTEN. BOTTOM: ASK WALL IN BRISTOL '11.



HOW HAVE BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL REACT-ED TO THE ART SCENE IN THE CITY? AS AN ESTABLISHED ARTIST, DO YOU HAVE MUCH TO DO WITH THEM?

I've not been involved with the council very much, but they do seem to be realising that Bristol has a lot to offer in terms of art and that this can be useful to them.

They are made up of a lot of different minded people so it's difficult to say. Over the years I've seen the council spend a fortune on removing graffiti for no real reason except to be seen as doing their job properly.

Then on the other hand they have helped to organise events like See No Evil, which was beneficial to both sides on different levels. They do seem to be coming around to the

pretty fucked up idea that they can use the same people they are handing out fines or prison sentences to, to do work for them - for free - to attract tourists to the city.

It's a bizarre and complicated situation really, but if the council are the only ones saying what is and what is not ok to paint on our city walls then I think it will become pretty boring.

DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF AS AN ARTIST OR AN ILLUSTRATOR?

Both, It depends on what I'm working on.

If I'm painting something no one will ever really see which I won't benefit from, apart from in a fun or creative way, then I would say an artist. If I'm designing something for someone for them to use for their specifications then I would say Illustrator.

DO YOU WORK FULL TIME AS AN ARTIST?

Just about. I paint and make artwork full time, but have had to make massive sacrifices in terms of what I can afford to do. I definitely couldn't live what a lot of people would consider a 'normal life' on what I earn! Who knows what will happen in the future though, I know if I don't try and be an artist full time I will definitely regret it.

To see more of Sepr's work visit: http://www.sp-sepr.co.uk/

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