



UXUC

Interaction Design,
User Experience &

**Urban Creativity
Scientific Journal**

How can cities become
better human habitat?

Vol. 1 / N° 2

Urbancreativity.org

Title:
User Experience & Urban Creativity
Scientific Journal

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©Authors and Editors
Lisbon, December 2019
Print Version: ISSN 2184-6189

A project of:

ap² Associação para a
Participação Pública

Urban Creativity 2019 conference with the support:

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User experience design and research

Graffiti art (also called “style writing”) and user experience (UX) intersect in a lot of interesting ways. The most obvious are how graffiti art affects the experience of people in various situations:

Graffiti on passenger trains greets people on train platforms, showing off skills and hinting of adventures that the commuters can only wonder at.

Graffiti adorns hip-hop community events, venues, and merchandise. Graffiti writing was adopted by hip-hop culture in American urban centers and is now inextricably embedded in hip hop, worldwide.

Freight trains deliver exuberant messages from far-flung places to people in rural areas, freight workers, and people in automobiles watching the slow, noisy parade on the tracks. Railfans sell model trains with reproduced graffiti pieces on them, because to do otherwise would be to provide a less authentic experience.

Skate parks, where daredevils sail the concrete terrain and reach for the sky on wood and metal, would not be the same without the glorious ambiance that graffiti imparts.

Halls of fame are points of pride in many cities and towns. Local and visiting artists mingle in these autonomous zones where time allows some of the best work to surface. People of all kinds visit and try to capture a bit of these fantastic places for themselves.

Site-specific graffiti art often graces the shelters of last resort, the abandoned spaces. The places under bridges, in tunnels, in wrecked factories and squats, the living rooms of those who wander. Many writers decorate these ad-hoc home zones specifically for the enjoyment of those who occupy forbidden territory.

As travelers come and go worldwide, many leave marks in a silent exchange, communicating that I was here, I exist. They embrace and taunt each other over time and distance, sharing in-jokes, and making rude gestures against surveillance and control. Marks about seeking community, personal bests, creating a customized, personalized experience of neighborhoods. This is ours. You are welcome. Some people and some experiences are still free.

Unsurprisingly, some graffiti and experience design professionals connect, emerge, cross over, and enhance the many disciplines in each. Artists bring graffiti writing and design skills to the digital, sculptural, and architectural worlds. Experience designers document, facilitate, and embrace graffiti culture and experience in their own lives and work, recognizing the importance of people owning, co-creating, and humanizing the artifacts and environments we share.

With this journal, we hope to illuminate some of the compelling work being done at these intersections of people, concerns, design, research, media, environments, liberty, trespass, and aesthetics.

Rest in Power, Phase2. Respect.

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