

MURALISMO MORTE

reveals the vibrancy of a new type of muralism as it rises from the shadows of urban spaces in metropolises worldwide. From much celebrated pieces in prominent places to those hidden in anonymous, decayed ruins, it features the large-scale murals and small interventions of some of the most exciting international artists associated with this movement. Muralist and art activist Jens Besser uncovers these treasures and offers special insights into the emerging scene that is coloring our urban experience.



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The Rebirth Of Muralism In Contemporary Urban Art





La Santa De Teóipag

BEMED
2008.



CONTENTS

Foreword	10	Floros In Volos	168
The New Muralismo	13	Cavalcavia Eugenio Bussa	171
I. LEGAL WALLS	17	Ganzgestaltung Plus	176
A Picture Develops On the Wall, Not On Paper!	44	v. DIGITALIZED PAINTINGS	185
II. ABANDONED SPACES	51	Thilo Fröbel	188
Centosette	72	The Digital Fat Corner	193
Ruta 9	78	Fase	194
The Dresden Muralismo Morte Museum	92	BerlinBeamBoys	195
A Village Called Doel	102	The Facadeprinter	196
Going Underground	112		
III. COLLABORATIONS	127		
Urban Script Europe	145		
Neue Welt	146		
IV. ILLEGAL ADVENTURES	149		
Dirty Mallorca	152		
Brazil	160		

LEFT PAGE: Escif, 'TOURISTS', Valencia / Spain, 2009

PREVIOUS SPREADS:

P. 2 / 3: Remed, 'LA SANTA DE BEOGRAD' (The Saint of Belgrade), Belgrade / Serbia, 2008

P. 4 / 5: Iemza, 'EVOLUTION MUTATION DESTRUCTION #1', Reims / France, 2009

P. 6 / 7: RTM, Wake & Kain Logos, 'HERMOKTOPUSSY OF FLOROS', Volos / Greece, 2008



II. ABANDONED SPACES

Shut down factories, crumbling apartment buildings, single fragments, huge, rusting steel containers and abandoned wooden shacks. The muralism of abandoned buildings thrives in the most varied atmospheres and places. Muralists can work freely since they are not accountable to any owners. That's why their styles and subjects are particularly diverse. While the Spanish muralist Aryz creates large-scale comic characters (see pages 66 – 69), using huge walls as practice surfaces, the French artist Iemza (p. 80 – 83) integrates whole spaces. He covers the walls with drawings and incorporates the ground and ceiling in his site-specific paintings. An atmosphere of decay permeates his work.

Aryz and Iemza work with clear outlines. Their artistic interventions are clearly defined. Kim Köster's interventions (see p. 84 – 87) integrate themselves into their surroundings to the point that the boundary between art and location blurs. His poetic works are quiet additions to the abandoned idyll. They show tranquility and isolation.

The Tuscan artist Moneyless (p. 120 – 121) gives form to contrasts. His clearly defined, geometrical constructions seem like foreign objects. And yet the quietude of the location reflects the walls and they merge together.

The text 'Going Underground' (p. 112) shows how complex the search for available walls is. Abandoned factories aren't plenti-

ful everywhere. In Denmark people sometimes seek out abandoned underground rooms. In Belgium the search seems to be easier; the northern village of Doel (p. 102) is almost completely empty and has waited for decades to be torn down. It's paradise on Earth for muralists.

The muralism of abandoned buildings has been the focus of many exhibits. The Milanese project Centosette (p. 72) took place illegally at an abandoned site in the south of the Lombardic metropolis. Within hours, huge factory buildings were painted; all without a curator and outside of institutional limits. The organizers spoke of a performance in which everyone could participate. With the exhibit 'Muralismo Morte' (p. 92), the muralism of abandoned spaces entered the art world. The exhibition took place in a center for contemporary art and was split into authorized and unauthorized sections. While murals, sketches, videos and photos were displayed in the official exhibit space, art was also produced in an empty hall in Saxony's government district – the Muralismo Morte Museum of Dresden.

LEFT PAGE: Görlitz / Germany, 2009

NEXT SPREAD: Zonenkinder, 'HOME OF THE HOMELESS PART 2', Fokus Festival, Görlitz / Germany, 2009

II. ABANDONED SPACES

TOP LEFT AND RIGHT: Aryz, Canovelles / Spain, 2009

BOTTOM: Aryz, Granollers / Spain, 2010

NEXT SPREAD: Aryz, Granollers / Spain, 2010





LEFT: Kim Köster, Cheb / Czech Republic, 2009

RIGHT: Irgh (Wurstbande), Berlin / Germany, 2010



TOP: Sepe, Saiko, Esze, Warsaw / Poland 2010

BOTTOM: Sepe, 'WAITING', Kluczbork / Poland, 2010

RIGHT: Sepe, 'HE(LL)AVEN', Kluczbork / Poland, 2010



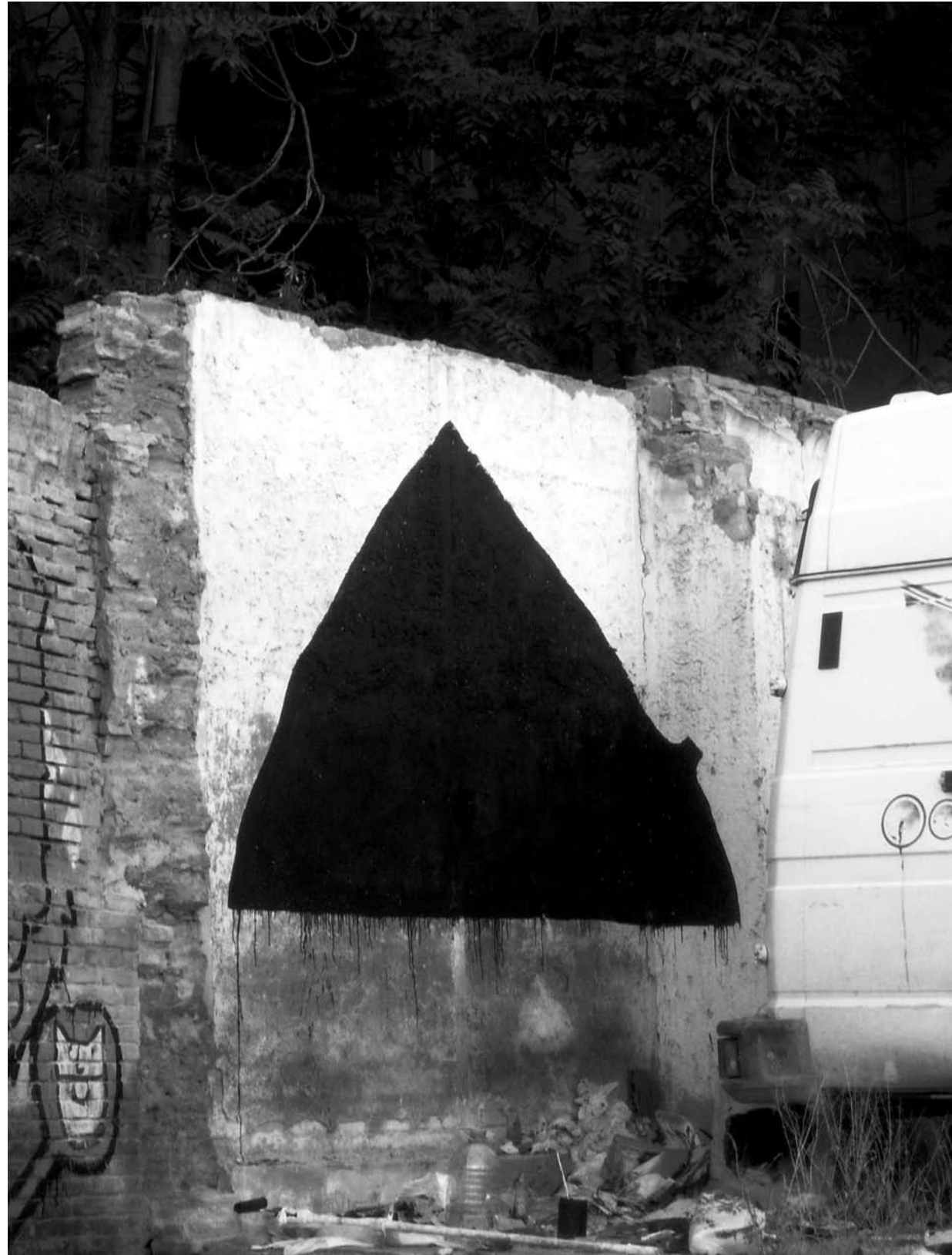


TOP LEFT: Resto, 'KEEP IT SPOR-T', Belgium, 2010

BOTTOM LEFT: Resto, 'CARTOAD', Belgium, 2010

RIGHT: Resto, 'FOOOOOD', Belgium, 2010

NEXT SPREAD: Seize Happywallmaker,
'MEMOIRE EXTRA TERRESTRE', Bayonne / France, 2009
"A coloristic alien invasion."



TOP: 108, 'BLACK TRIANGLE', Zaragoza / Spain, 2007

TOP RIGHT: 108 & Moneyless, 'BLACK & WHITE / BLACK TRIANGLE', Genova / Italy, 2009

BOTTOM RIGHT: 108, 'BLACK SHAPE', Fame Festival, Grottaglie / Italy, 2010



