

Barcelona

SHOWDOWN



Blood & Madness.



# Contents

Prologue	19
History	22
Introduction	28
1984 - 1992 The First Subterranean Scene	38
1994 - 1999 How the Scene Was Established	54
2000 - 2008 Subterranean Expansion	76
2009 - 2020 Global Positioning	106
Lifestyle	134
COVID-19	247
Operation 'Despertar'	251

# 2000 2008

## Subterranean Expansion



The change of century brought a great many twists to the global graffiti subculture and the local scene.

In fact, the 21st century started with a new milestone for Barcelona's scene: Sire managed to make the first single-person gigantic wholecar executed in silver at the garages in Sagrera. From that moment, wholecars became everyday occurrences for the Bandits with prominent actions by writers like Sick, Noisè, Fagor, Tate and Allone. Similarly, the rest of the scene leaders, most specifically OTP and TSK, joined the change of format movement. From then, a key space in La Pau known as 'la pasarela' (the walkway) turned into one of the most popular graffiti areas underground in



Barcelona. Namely, 'the walkway' welcomed the first colour wholetrain in the history of Barcelona at the beginning of the 21st century at the hands of the Bandits. Undoubtedly, such productive developments and the bonds created among the crews determined the course of the scene for years to come until 2005.

During those years, previous to the release of the 5000 model series, younger generations joined the game. The strategic knowledge they added to the suburban system helped them become part of the subterranean one very quickly. From 2001 onwards, those generations took outdoor and indoor bombing back with tags in the metro. For this to happen, they used the latest technology and recycled new tools for the practice of graffiti. On the one hand, they appreciated the first markers created exclusively for bombing purposes, and new solutions such as permanent torches and inks like 'tira inferno' (permanent dark purple ink). On the other hand, writers found out about solutions like hydrofluoric acid in a marker format to bomb metro windows. Similarly, they made the use of scratchers, similar to diamond drill bits, for window scratching, which became popular again. Such strategies were first introduced into Barcelona in the 90s by Inuplé. Additionally, paint brands with good pigmentation techniques like Molotow began to be stocked in some points of sale. Such twists and innovative moves made the tags more difficult to remove and so

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more long-lasting, which led the TMB forces to sweat. They started using solvents and sanders, but in any case, it took a lot more time to do the cleaning work.

Generally, the scene that got drafted during this period preserved a certain degree of territoriality - ownership - that could be appreciated through the spots and lines belonging to specific crews based on their proximity and trust. The Metal Bastards, whose most prominent members were Hue, Ogro and Mods, were especially representative during such generational replacement. Their acid tags became a classic in Line 3. In the western part of the city, in Lines 5 and 1, the most distinguished active groups were Rosa Rosario of Yovin and Chaca, TMS with new members like Kepa, Noes, Daos, Isone, Crue, Pato and Stim, as well as La K with writers like Vers, Fulone, Dym, Kerce and Fesh.

The rise of graffiti in Lines 5 and 1 was nurtured by other groups that were active in the bombing scene like ATK, whose members were Samo, Timo, Hoek, Binok, Noek, Nah and Han, LBG with Katex and Algo, the RN1 with Rayder, Dipo, Sopre and Fazo, TSP and writers like Nami. Besides, the common geographical roots of some of those writers, together with multiple shared missions both at Renfe and underground, made a good number of writers represent more than one crew at a time. A good example of this was Zoe, one of the most active members of the GRS together with Soey, Allen, Sudore and Cómico. The latter also stood out as one of the members of AMH among which Nser, Nerik, Dram and the tireless Fylap, one of the most versatile writers in Barcelona's metro, could also be found. Line 4 got covered thanks to the determination of TSK and BTS in collaboration of groups like GRS and TMS.

Strategically, the groups followed the path marked by the big formats. But additionally, groups like the Bandits made a qualitative leap in the way they perceived the changing conditions of the metro, road closures, strikes, etc. Thanks to all this, they managed to raise the bar of their actions by carrying out their first big move on a circulating unit at Mercat Nou. Their action not only helped them keep the TMB security system in check, but it also opened a new group challenge for the scene that was followed immediately in stations like Baró de Viver and Gavarrà.

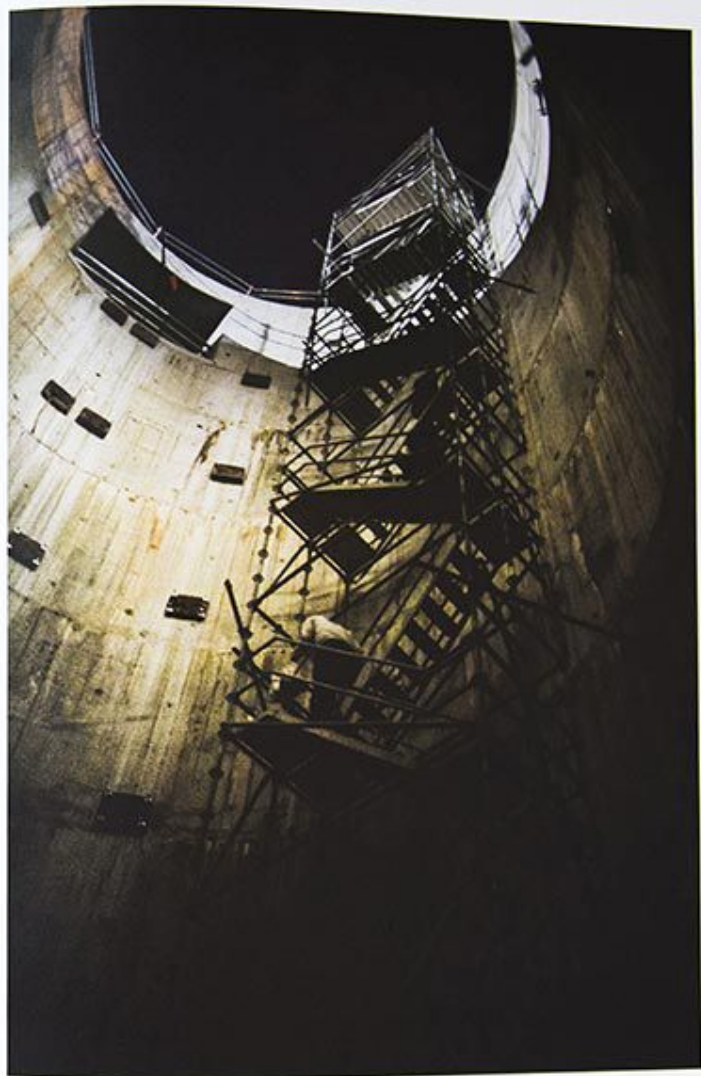
Up to 2005, Barcelona's metro system experienced decisive new changes, both for its expansion and for the seizing of a subterranean scene that was becoming more and more technical. On the one hand, TMB developed a mobile unit, known as Los Lobos (the Wolves), whose never-before-seen violence sent more than one writer to hospital, and created a substantial leap in the writers' aversion towards them. On the other hand, they eliminated every electrified third rail which were



# Estilo de vida / Lifestyle









Operación  
Despertar

/

Operation  
'Despertar'



