

## Street Art in Shoreditch with Pepe Martinez 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021



Pepe Martinez is a Blue Badge guide who has set up a website offering several different tours around London and York, using the skills of his fellow guides and we have found him to be an excellent guide. We asked him to give us his tour of graffiti and street art in East London, because he has a particular interest in this field.

He started his talk by explaining the four different techniques used by street artists, namely Spray cans, Paste Art, (using posters), stencils and stickering. The common factor was that all required speed as it is illegal to cover walls etc without permission. Many displays only last for a few days before they are painted over or removed.

Pepe gave us colourful examples of various artists work in London , such as Jimmy C whose works are inspired by Aboriginal dot paintings. He created a famous picture of David Bowie on a wall in Brixton.



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D. Face is recognisable by the inclusion of wings in his art.

Thiery Nori is known for his paintings on the Berlin Wall.



And then Pepe moved on to discuss some elements of Banksy's work.

Banksy's work sells for thousands of pounds now and it must be certified through his company Pest Control Ltd.





Banksy took over a run down entertainment park in Weston Super Mare and with the help of other artists created Dismaland..a weird and wonderful theme park of warped concepts of entertainment! It was not a great success and closed after a couple of years. Apparently when it was pulled down , the structure was converted into housing for the homeless, and the assistants who had been trained to be rude and vulgar were then recruited by Virgin for customer relations!

We saw the very clever spoof called Peckham Man which Banksy hid in the British Museum and was not spotted by staff for several days!



Underneath Waterloo station there is a tunnel which is all covered in Banksy and other artists



works, and all of this is part of our very modern art world.

