

Walls of Freedom: Street Art of the Egyptian Revolution

By Don STONE Karl, Basma Hamdy

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“Walls of Freedom” is a powerful portrayal of the first three years of the Egyptian revolution that began on January 25, 2011.The story is told through striking images of art that transformed Egypt's walls into a visual testimony of bravery and resistance. Created in close collaboration with artists on the frontlines of the battle, the book documents how they converted the streets into a dynamic newspaper of the people, providing a much needed alternative to the propaganda-fueled media.

This comprehensive survey of iconic street art of the Egyptian revolution includes a chronicle of the day-to-day volatile political situation as it rapidly unfolded. “Walls of Freedom” traces the revolutionary journey, from the early pinnacle of extraordinary hope and inspiration, to its decline into today's violent Orwellian nightmare. Haunting images of key events captured by acclaimed photographers and activists set the stage for this political drama. Enriched with essays by artists and experts across many fields, Walls of Freedom contextualizes the graffiti in the historical, socio-political, and cultural backgrounds that have shaped this art of the revolution.

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Editorial Review

Review
“This book, is an act within our revolution – our continuing revolution.” -- Ahdaf Soueif, Egyptian Novelist and Booker prize finalist, & Cultural commentator

"The real voice of the Egyptian revolution graffiti scene." -- Bahia Shehab-Ted Fellow, Islamic Art Historian and Artist

About the Author
Basma Hamdy is a professor, artist and designer from Cairo. She studied at the American University in Cairo, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and obtained her MFA from Maryland Institute College of Art. She is passionate about Arabic calligraphy, typography, street art and photography. She currently teaches Graphic Design at the College of fine Arts, University of Sharjah, UAE.

Don "Stone" Karl is a cultural activist, graffiti writer and art book publisher. He started to write graffiti in1983 and wrote his first book on train writing in 1986. Many books and articles have followed since. He has participated in and curated various international urban art exhibitions and projects, such as Cubabrasil or Arabic Graffiti. Don Karl runs the publishing house From Here To Fame and the Common Ground Gallery in Berlin.

Ahdaf Soueif is an Egyptian novelist and political and cultural commentator.

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