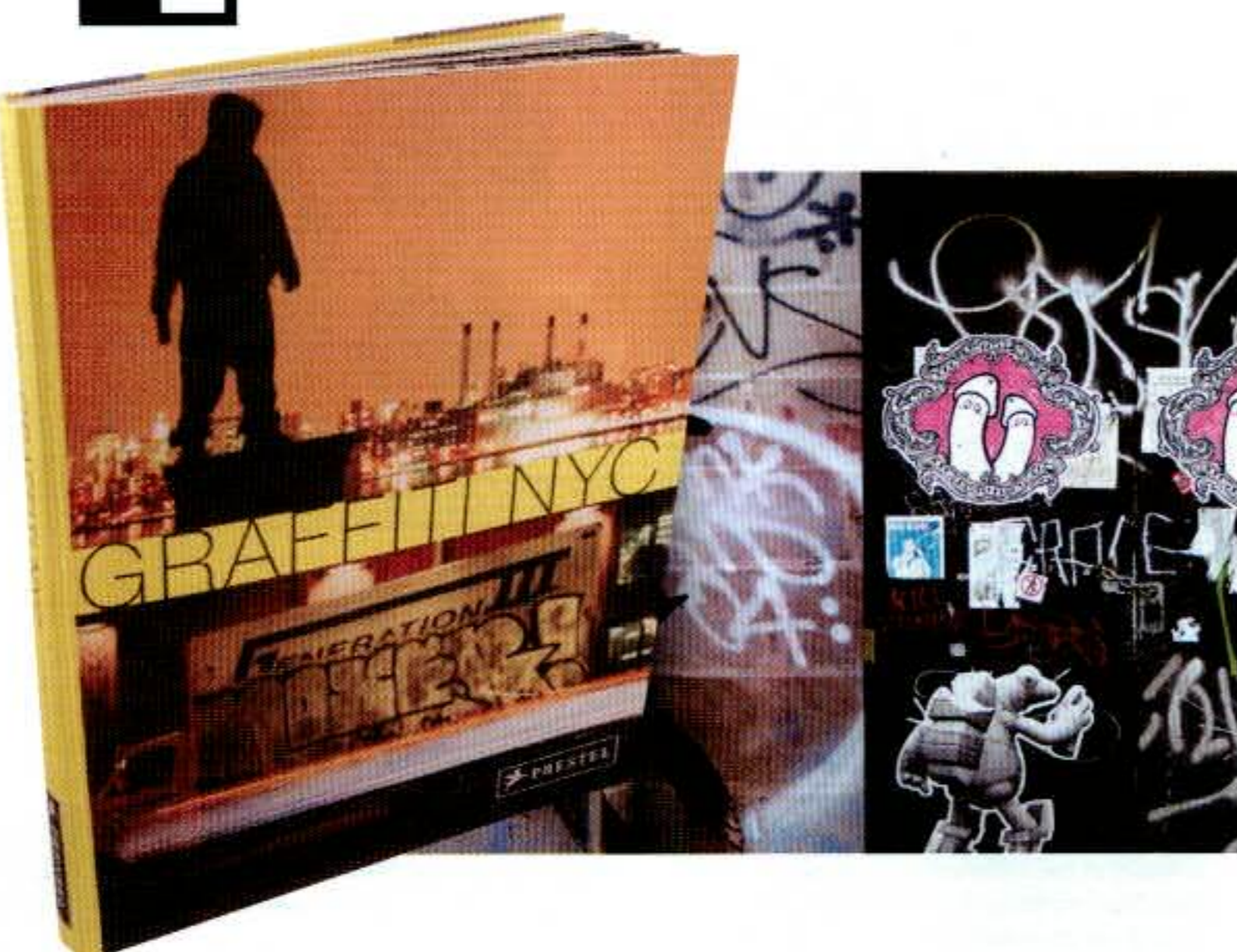




BOOKREVIEWZ

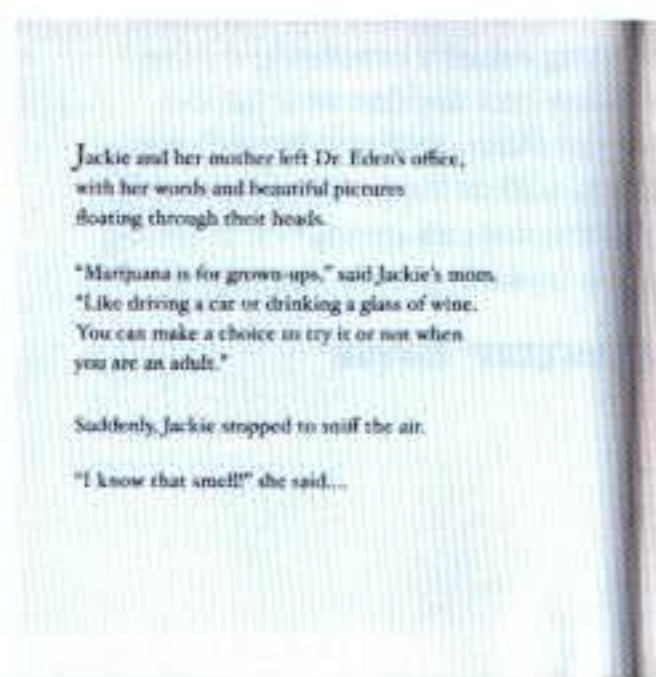


GRAFFITI NYC

by Martinez/Nato » Published by Prestel

"Graffiti NYC" is look back at the art form that was born in New York during the early '70s. Vivid photography captures the creative excitement the graffiti writers felt during those late-night missions bombing the trains, walls, transit, stairs, etc. The book also features quotes from the artist themselves.

WWW.PRESTEL.COM



IT'S JUST A PLANT

A Children's Story About Marijuana » Written and illustrated by Ricardo Cortes

What the fuck? I've never met Ricardo Cortes but I would like to personally shake his hand and invite him over for a lasagna dinner sprinkled with weed flakes and for dessert pot brownies made by my hot ass hippie neighbor. "It's Just A Plant" breaks down the debate on the benefits and unfair labeling that our favorite magical plant has been catching heat since the late '50s. The words are few and easy to read and the illustration is borderline "trippy." Actually, this is the perfect book for any stoner. While giving an unbiased and informative look into the world of drug education, this book ends with one simple message that any pair of truly Democratic, left-winged parents already know: Marijuana is for grown-ups—not for kids. Side note, the young girl, Jackie, who learns about marijuana, somehow goes to bed dreaming about a quarter pipe connected to a bowl with a nice hip and a typewriter sitting on top of the deck. I don't know where you come from but I think Jackie took a couple of bingers before bed.

MAGIC PROPAGANDA MILL / WWW.ITSJUSTAPLANT.COM



DVDREVIEWZ

UNSIGNED » Handyman Productions

A film by Ri-Karlo Handy

★★★★



It's interesting to me how people often refer to the music industry as "the game." It's not a game and if it is, most people don't know the rules; it's an industry, fueled by what makes money, not what entertains. Ri-Karlo Handy's *Unsigned* documents the struggle between entertainment and industry and how it affects unsigned artists trying to get a piece of the pie. *Unsigned* reveals the shocking truth about radio, mixtapes, record labels, label executives, and exposes the lies that deceive the public into believing that they are uninfluenced consumers. This film follows rappers Stress, Shogun, Mykill Myers and St. Laz in their shared struggle to make it as emcees. Although they are from diverse places, their hunger and hustle are mutual. *Unsigned* features insightful commentary from Renaissance man Saul Williams as well as cameos from The Game, Mya, LisaRaye and Jaz-O. This documentary is a relevant "how-to" for anyone aspiring to enter the music industry—even if you are not an emcee, this documentary will shock and entertain you. You owe it to yourself and hip-hop to see this documentary. It's definitely the documentary the music industry does not want you to see. For more info, please visit www.unsignedmovie.com or www.myspace.com/unsignedmovie.

CIRCA - IT'S TIME

A film by Circa Skateboards

★★★



Things looked a bit shaky for Circa a while ago, what with Jamie Thomas, Chad Muska and recently, Mark Appleyard all jumping ship—Circa had lost all of its heavy hitters. But as the saying goes you can't keep a good company down. *It's Time* is Circa's comeback tour, so to speak. Loyalists like the Pride of SD, Adrian Lopez, Colt Cannon, Peter Ramondetta and new big thing Tony Tave lead this new team of hammer-dropping addicts backed by a very good soundtrack. It is hard to say what parts are standouts, but Windsor James is scary good, Ramondetta is just plain nuts and Dennis Durrant will be one to watch out for. The best part of the video is that it came free in Thrasher so even if it did suck, you wouldn't have been that mad.

BAD BRAINS - LIVE AT CBGB 1982 » MVD Visuals

A film by MVD Visuals

★★★★



In 1982 on Christmas Eve, Bad Brains played the now-defunct CBGB for a blistering set complete with a mosh pit, dreads, skinheads and stage diving. This DVD is not like other "concert films" where they show a lot of filler around the concert performances. Instead, this film is a straightforward in-your-face punk show, the only way Bad Brains should be seen. The concert footage is compiled of three shows Bad Brains did during a three-day Hardcore Festival CBGB hosted during the holidays. The DVD is not without a few extras. There are audience interviews, a set list and a live audio version of "I and I Survive" from the Bad Brains *Live at CBGB 1982* CD.