



BROOKLYN FINEST

RICK GONZALEZ BRINGS THE 'HOOD TO HOLLYWOOD WITH COACH CARTER

THE SOURCE: You had some intense scenes with Samuel L. Jackson in *Coach Carter*. Did he pull any Jedi mind tricks on you?

Rick Gonzalez: Sam just clowned me. I [told him], "My sneakers are underneath your mom's bed." And he said, "Muthafucka, you ain't never seen my face. The only way you see me," and he turned around and shook his ass like he was fucking, "is when your



CREW

In the 1960s, a crew of smooth-talking gentlemen that wouldn't appear until decades later, known as the Rat Pack, possess the most immaculate, tailored gear and credibility that makes them even more so. P. Diddy and Snoop Dogg have a photo of them in his office. Also, the clique personified the all-American game only one way: to win. To emerge from all-nighters of hard-partying gentlemen with gangsta mentalities, and like Sinatra's signature city states, they always did it their way."

—GEORGE HAGAN

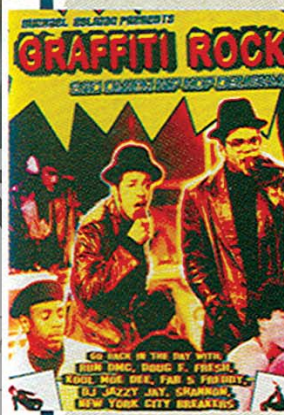
VIDEONOMICS

GRAFFITI ROCK AND OTHER HIP-HOP DELIGHTS

Ever wonder where some of that televised footage of Hip-Hop's pioneer period that you may see on MTV or other networks came from? Much of that can be attributed to filmmaker Michael Holman and his 1984 TV show *Graffiti Rock*, which set the precedent for Hip-Hop-themed TV programs years before *Yo! MTV Raps* or *Rap City* hit the air. Interspersed with local B-

boys and girls dancing to the era's hottest Hip-Hop songs against the backdrop of immense graf pieces, *Graffiti Rock* also showcased the break routines of the New York City Breakers and a little-known battle between Run DMC and the Treacherous Three's Kool Moe Dee and Special K. Though the show never made it past the pilot stage, airing only once, *Graffiti Rock* was nonetheless an early triumph for Hip-Hop. "They were saying this rap thing is a fad and it's not going to last," recalls Holman. "They didn't believe there was any market for Hip-Hop."

The DVD also includes rare bonus footage of Fab 5 Freddy, Afrika Bambaataa and the Zulu Nation. *Graffiti Rock* is an excellent visual trip to Hip-Hop's past that will make many of us laugh and reminisce about how much fun it used to be. —KHALIL HAYES



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AND HOV RESPECT HIP-HOP SO FASCINATED BY THE RAT PACK?

An inspiration for Hip-Hop cliques like the A&P and Joey Bishop, collectively they were always decked out in the style of the Rat Pack, which gave them the street

Dash is said to have a framed photo of the Rat Pack in his office. Montana and John Cotti, Sinatra's close friends, had the same attitude and a willingness to play up their peccable style. They would always be dressed. The Rat Pack were