

TORONTO GRAFFITI

The Human Behind the Wall

by Yvette Farkas

“The voices. The stories. The truth behind the walls.”

PRESS PARAGRAPH

Toronto Graffiti: The Human Behind the Wall is a documentary oral history capturing the voices and stories of graffiti writers from the Toronto scene. Many of the writers featured are among the first graffiti artists in Canadian history — pioneers who brought graffiti to Canada and developed it, sharing their stories in depth for the first time. Built from extensive interviews with artists, the book preserves firsthand perspectives from inside the culture and documents the evolution of one of the city’s most influential underground art movements.

QUICK FACTS

- 500 pages of interviews and documentation
- 20 graffiti writer interviews
- More than 1,000 photographs
- Timelines and historical context
- Covers Toronto graffiti from the early 1980s onward
- Documentary oral history project
- Author: Yvette Farkas

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Toronto Graffiti: The Human Behind the Wall documents the Toronto graffiti movement through extensive interviews with writers, creating a rare oral history of the scene.

Combining documentary photography, firsthand testimony, and historical context, the book captures the voices and experiences of writers who shaped the city’s urban landscape.

Rather than presenting graffiti solely as visual art, the project focuses on the human stories behind the work — preserving perspectives from inside the culture.

INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

City of Toronto	Used as reference material
National Library of Canada	Archived in the permanent national collection
Toronto Public Library	Multiple copies purchased for the collection
Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)	Sold through the AGO
York University Bookstore & Chapters	Carried and sold
Centennial College	Featured — institutional profile published
University of Toronto	Referenced by professors
Toronto Metropolitan University	Referenced by professors

KEY THEMES

- Graffiti culture and identity
- Urban art and public space
- Voices from inside the movement
- The evolution of graffiti in Toronto
- Cultural documentation of an underground art form

REVIEW COPIES & PRESS INQUIRIES

Review copies available upon request.

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WHY THIS PROJECT MATTERS

Graffiti culture is often documented visually but rarely through the voices of the writers themselves.

Toronto Graffiti preserves firsthand stories from inside the movement, offering a rare opportunity to understand the culture from the perspective of the artists who created it.

By documenting these voices, the project serves as both a cultural record and an archival resource for future research into urban art and graffiti culture.

AUTHOR NOTE

Yvette Farkas spent more than a decade inside the Toronto graffiti scene before this book existed. She lets the work speak for itself.

The story behind the project → [HERE](#). The author's perspective on graffiti culture → [HERE](#)

TORONTO GRAFFITI • MEDIA COVERAGE

The book has been featured in CBC Radio, The Globe and Mail (twice), and a wide range of local, national, and international media outlets.

National & Prominent

- CBC Radio — Big City, Small World (Garvia Bailey)
- The Globe and Mail (two articles)
- Rogers TV Channel 10
- BlogTO
- Eye Weekly
- Inside Toronto
- The Torontoist

International

- iLoveGraffiti (Germany)
- Prefuse (Netherlands)
- Twelve Ounce Prophet
- Street Art and Graffiti

Online References & Mentions

- Wikipedia — referenced
- Imagining Toronto
- Zouch Magazine
- Senses Lost
- SCOPE
- The Art Market
- Nouspique
- The Labyrinth
- Edible Tulip
- Dope Art



Toronto Graffiti: The Human Behind the Wall • Yvette Farkas

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Toronto Graffiti preserves voices from inside the graffiti movement and serves as a documentary archive of the Toronto graffiti scene.