

WALLWORKS NEW YORK
IKONOCLASTS – A-One, Dondi, Rammellzee

“A Few Words”

I am incredibly happy to have the opportunity of launching our project, **WALLWORKS NEW YORK**, with an exhibition of 3 artists who, in my mind, set levels of excellence as well as bringing originality to the forefront of Post-Graffiti.

I use that term, because there are so many other terms and titles to what we do, that I just didn't want to make any suggestions by going one way or another...

With Post-Graffiti, the term encompasses so much, that it covers it all.

I met Dondi, Rammellzee and A-One in 3 straight years, 1978, '79 and 1980.

Dondi and "Ramm", were active on the subways while I was as well, and I knew them thru that platform, while A-One, I was fortunate to meet thru Fashion MODA.

...but the art world was what brought us together.

In 1980, following on the heels of the G.A.S. Graffiti exhibition of Fashion MODA and the Times Square Show put together by Colab, things started to happen, change, blossom, explode, mushroom...

We all started to become involved in the downtown art and music scenes, with ABC NO RIO, 51X, Fun Gallery, Franklin Furnace, Mudd Club, Peppermint Lounge, Danceteria and so many other places....and about the same time Europe and Asia started to become aware and gently came calling...

A-One's abstractions and Wild Style and breaking it down and becoming involved with Rammellzee, (along with Toxic and The Arbitrator Koor), started to break grounds and became a force in such a short amount of time...while as Dondi's beautiful reconstruction and delicate/sophistication of style was way above much of what was happening at that time. Then Rammellzee started to explore his musical prowess, while breaking ground with his "Ionic Treatise" and Gothic Futurism that made him a giant within and outside of the Graff spectrum and his sculptures solidified him within the art scene...

..and all these happenings occurred at the same time. To put it into perspective, Keith Haring and Jean Michel Basquiat were just evolving as well, and none of the "3" got lost in the mix.

There is so much that I can write about, bring back memories and and just bore everyone. Although they did so much, I just wanted to show a small sampling of each artist's work, and I'd rather just let you examine and explore, what I think will make you see, what 3 "ikonoclasts" did during their brief times, here on this Earth...

– John **CRASH** Matos