

DONDI

WHITE

STYLE MASTER GENERAL

The Life of Graffiti Artist Dondi White

Andrew "ZEPHYR" Witten & Michael White

Dondi 1981
Dream + Dondi

Duro:

Fuzz and Dondi and I saw this the day after it was painted. They had done five whole cars over a three night span.

Zephyr:

This piece was done with Dream, one of Fuzz's big partners. It's interesting that Dondi adopted a Fuzz style for this car.



Dondi 1979

Dondi + Sono + Welch

Dondi, Duro (Sono), Kel (Welch)

Kel:

A lot of the time when we painted on the J train, Dondi would do outlines for everyone. Not on the train, but on paper. Then we'd all compare our outlines and fight to change them if we didn't feel they were as good as the others. I wasn't trying to settle for less.

Spar:

Dondi told me he lost a black book the night he painted this. They got raided, which explains the unfinished background.





Dondi 1980
Dondi + Duro

Duro:

This was one of eight whole cars. Me, Butch, Kase, Kel, Daze, Crash. We went to Esses studio to piece. Me, Dondi, and Kel all did canvases. Butch and Kase came, and Kase wound up snatching a huge amount of paint. Then, when we got to the station, Fed TMT and his guys were across the platform. While doing this whole car, I fell from a large divider onto the tracks. Kase and Butch yelled at Dondi, "Your boy Duro is on the 3rd Rail."



Dondism 1979
Dondism + Dealt
Dondi, Kel (Dealt)

Kel:

This was a brand new silver car. We caught this in the No. 2 Yard. I wasn't really feeling the bubble style. I would have rather done something wilder, especially for a No. 2 train, which would run through the Bronx.



Dondi painting Children of the Grave 3

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Pre 1980

Pre + Duro

Dondi (Pre), Duro

Zephyr:

This PRE piece is quintessential Dondi—big, round shapes with sharp lines and hard angles. Everyone tried to bite Dondi's stuff, but they just couldn't do it.



White 1979

Sonic + Risk + White

Sonic, Rammellzee (Risk),
Dondi (White)

Daze:

This is one of the first times Rammellzee painted on a train using his iconoclast panzerism theory—his theory of armored lettering.



Bus 1984

Bus + Kado + Scrap

Dondi (Bus), Kado, Scrap

Doc:

I know how long it took him to do this—it's fast and simple. The long curvy lines that he blocked the pieces with he called "squiggums." He would always paint the light line first, and then cut into it to make it perfect. When he was done, you couldn't tell which lines had come first. He knew where to be minimal and where to be extra. It was a gift.



Bus 1980

Bus + Duro + Kid

Dondi (Bus), Duro, Kid

Kel:

This came out as soon as Dondi and I met—right after the first DURO and KID piece—maybe two months later. This was the second BUS piece Dondi ever did.

Duro:

This was the same night we did the CODE top to bottom.

Spar:

Dondi knocked out all the outlines on this car.