

MATHIEU ROMEO - LORENZO D'AMBRA





Cronz - Poison B Line



2006 / 2010 —



















2001 / 2005 — ROMA SUBWAY ART — 221

## NEON

Graffiti entered my life in a brutal way, giving me a tool through which on one hand, I was able to exorcise what I did not like in my life, and on the other hand, would help me regain possession of a freedom that I could not have if not in this way.

When I painted my first subway, I was 12 and I was still in secondary school. I met Puer and later Zeir, who was one of the most active writers in the mid-nineties, who told me that there was the possibility of painting the Lido Line in the afternoon that day. What better occasion could there be for a boy of that age: we went with Alma and Puer to the end station of Cristoforo Colombo at five in the afternoon and made a quick chrome panel. When we took the subway on the way home, the smell of paint was all over the station, but we still had so much adrenaline in our bodies that we were naive enough not to realise what we were committing — among other things, we had all our cans in our backpacks. We were sitting quietly in the wagon when some Cotral workers

got into our carriage and asked us, almost in a paternal way, if we thought we were going to leave as if nothing had happened. We denied the evidence, admitting however that we did not have tickets to get home. The discussion was so ridiculous and we were so young that the only punishment we received was that we missed the train we wanted to catch.

A few weeks later I went with Zeir to Magliana, entering next to the rubbish dump. It was winter and it was getting dark. The yard was full of workers, but we managed to paint anyway – it was the beginning of something that would mark my life. This is still significant in my life, as graffiti for me — in addition to writing letters and letting one's name emerge — is a violent action aimed at opening spaces of freedom. There is no better place than doing it on the subway, in different periods and with different friends: this has been fundamental in how I live in the graffiti world.

In the following 20 years, I painted intensively with NSA,

and writers such as Ver and Fone were important because for a long time, on Sunday afternoons while the others went for their long journey, we went to Colombo, where in the meantime they had started to leave trains parked behind the station without a fence. It wasn't until the year 2000 that I began to paint the A and B Lines with frequency with Des, Jon, Syla and TUW, and together with Kare, who today is no longer around, and with whom I built a fraternal relationship that will always remain in my heart.

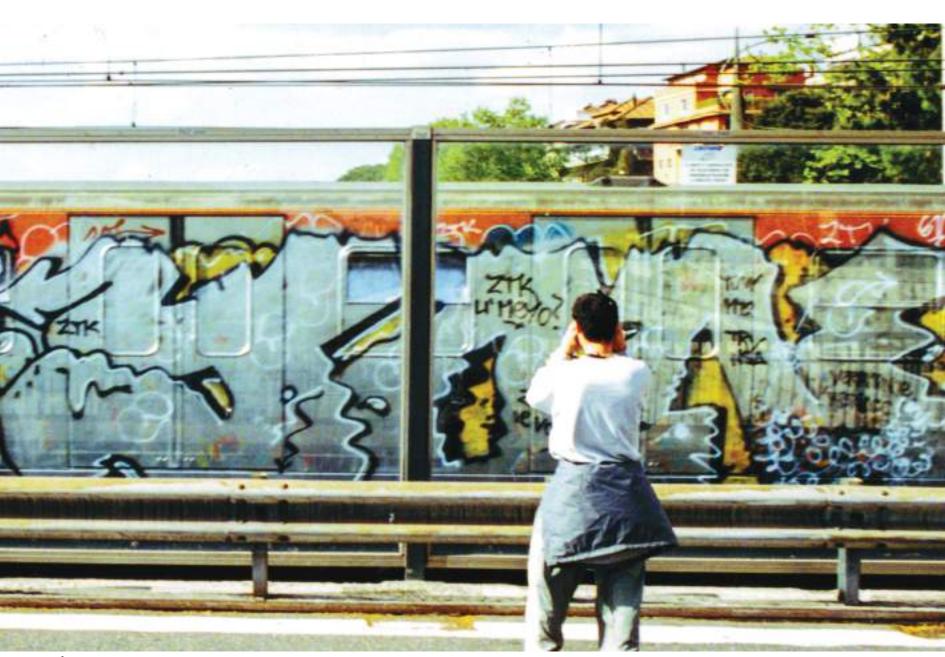
The radical way in which we lived graffiti has made our lives change, and today the marketing of graffiti, aimed at pigeonholing, codifying and therefore making it understandable to institutions, is a concept unknown to me because the way we lived aimed to subvert the system and create spaces where you can feel free.



Marlene (Game's dog) watching Neon - Gast

A Line

Lit





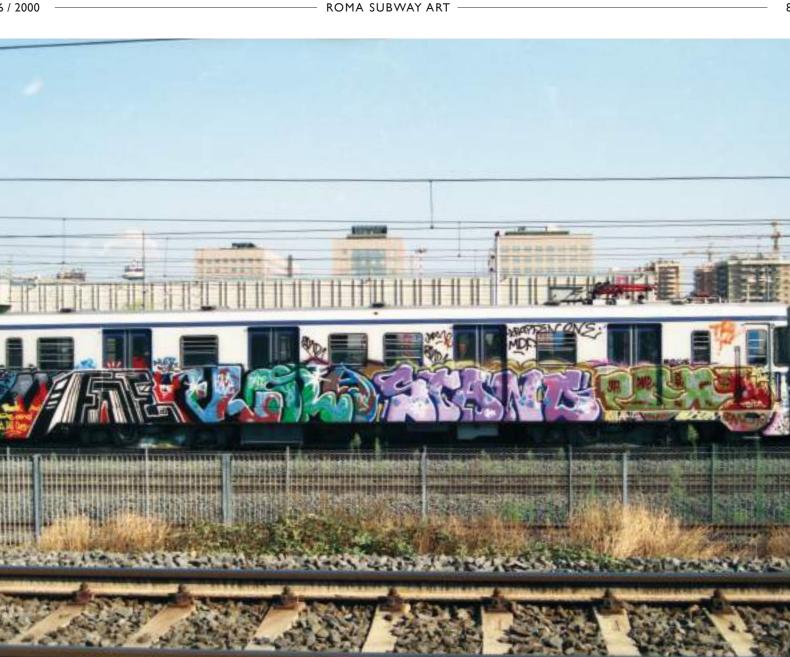




A Line

B Line





Lido Line

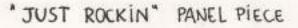
Foe from France - Lola by Pane - Stand - Oame from France





Rockin' by Gundam

B Line

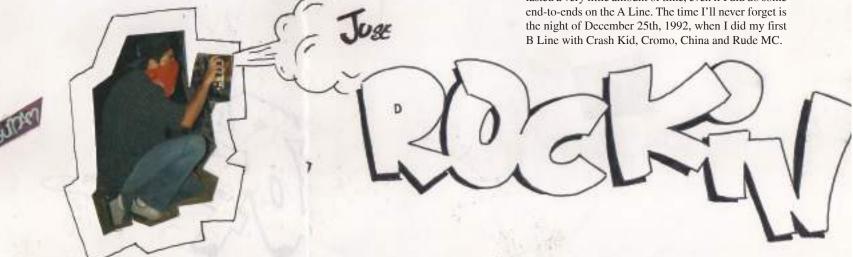


1º MAGGIO 93

METRO " B" ROMA

GUNDAM BY BUTDAYS

My short subway experience probably started one day in '83 when I saw the movie Beat Street, but I was just a kid so it probably wouldn't have been until a few years later when I met Skool, a kid from my class, who told that he'd found a gym where some kids with baggy clothes danced freestyle. One day I went with him and I met Crash Kid, Baro, Zero and a few others — that was the key that opened my mind to the subway. Shortly afterwards, Crash Kid asked me to accompany him to take a ride on the subway to figure out how to get into the Magliana yard. We took the Lido Line and met EMC, who later became Cromo. I knew pretty well that there were people who had a much clearer idea on the metro than me; people who studied it and fully organised themselves to paint the subway. My career on the metro lasted a very little amount of time, even if I did do some the night of December 25th, 1992, when I did my first B Line with Crash Kid, Cromo, China and Rude MC.



1992 / 1995 ROMA SUBWAY ART









Anek



Outrem B Line