

↘ *Guide*
TO **STREET**
ART
STÉPHANIE
LOMBARD
IN *Paris*



LANNOO



Jana und Js – Rue Jeanne-d'Arc

THE AUTHOR

Stéphanie Lombard writes the wonderbrunette.com blog and loves meeting street artists for interviews and photos of them in action. She roams Paris and its working-class suburbs, France's big cities and the metropolises of the world in search of the big names in urban art and the street artists to follow.

www.wonderbrunette.com

A WORD OF THANKS

Thank you Pierre B., – it's because of you that I was able to complete this great shared project.

Thank you Pierre-Olivier for your hands-off support.

Thanks to my friends and my family, especially Matias, Mouné & Farid.

To the people who read my blog (wonderbrunette.com) and always give me so much energy.

Thanks to the artists for the wonderful surprises they spring on you when you turn the corner of the street: without them, life would not be so colourful (in my eyes).

Stéphanie Lombard

FOREWORD

As a major fan of graffiti, street art and photography, I have kept a blog for the past few years on urban art in Paris and beyond.

When the first edition of this guide appeared in 2017 in French, that was an enriching experience that brought contacts with enthusiastic readers and booksellers. I have equally enjoyed updating and further developing the Guide to Street Art in Paris. In this 2020/21 edition, I have added new routes, interviews and new photos that let you explore or rediscover the French capital and its suburbs via its street art.

People often see street art as something ephemeral. Which is true... up to a point. In recent years, a creative relationship has developed between the city and urban art in the form of links and exchanges, often enlightening the lives of local residents.

Urban culture has been given more space thanks to the cooperative efforts of municipalities, galleries and associations that recruit artists, so that it is finally finding sites where it can express itself. Urban art has now become a lasting phenomenon in the city.

Monumental murals, encounters between artists and locals, districts where creative expressions are constantly being renewed, dedicated walls and so on. Although certain artworks inevitably get painted over by others (which will undoubtedly be the case for some works presented in this guide), the street art scene is still here to stay in Paris.

Happy walking — and keep your eyes open!

Stéphanie Lombard

Streetart
BWender
Brunette

GUIDE HOW TO USE IT

- This guide has ten routes that let you explore Paris and its suburbs. Each route consists of:
- ↘ a **Good to know** section with practical info on events linked to street art or urban culture places
 - ↘ a map with the route drawn in, also showing the sites and recommended addresses
 - ↘ a **list of addresses** for bars, restaurants, galleries, bookshops, etc.
 - ↘ a signposted route called **Follow the guide** that takes you on a voyage of discovery of a neighbourhood through its urban art
 - ↘ a **Zoom in** section telling you more about associations, urban art expressions, the various techniques used and so on
 - ↘ sections telling you more about the artists or the places you will see on the route
 - ↘ a **wall** at the end of the route, a double-page spread of photos showing the mood of the neighbourhood.
 - ↘ boxed sections called **Don't miss!**, **In conversation** and **Artist in the spotlight** to let you take stock of the must-see artworks, places and artists

MAP LEGEND



route start



route you follow



street art you can see on the route



recommended address

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In the heart of **THE MARAIS**

A two-hour stroll through the streets of the Marais, from Rue de Rivoli to Place Igor-Stravinsky. Sound good? The neighbourhood chosen by Konny and Invader, whose mosaics pay homage to Disney's Alice in Wonderland and to Picasso, a stone's throw from the museum of the same name. The climax of this trip: the massive murals by Jef Aérosol, Choofy, Shepard Fairey and Invader.

FOLLOW THE GUIDE ↙

Starting at the Saint-Paul metro station, take Rue Pavée, then turn left onto Rue du Roi-de-Sicile ①, where you will find some collages by Culkeen, Fred le Chevalier and



others. At the end of the street, you will discover the smiling Cheshire Cat ② dreamed up and transformed by Invader.



Kai - Rue des Hospitalière-Saint-Gervais

THE OCTOPUS PAINTS THE WALL



An invasion of octopuses in Paris? It must be GZUP! Pronounced 'Jeezup' and a reference to G'z Up, Hoes Down by Snoop Doggy Dogg. Simple eight-legged cephalopods or

icons with tentacles, GZUP's creatures allude to Sega's Wonder Boy game.

- Continue your walk by turning right onto Rue Vieille-du-Temple, which takes you to Rue des Rosiers ³. You'll see the stamped collage of C+S and Missgreen_grenouille, and the work of Mosko. Take Rue des Hospitalières-Saint-Gervais ⁴ to spot the big work by Gregos, as well as Heartcraft's crow taking off and Kai's imaginary friend.



C+S and Missgreen_grenouille
Rue des Rosiers





Gregos - Rue des Hospitalière-Saint-Gervais

➤ Continue straight on to sneak down the cul-de-sac Impasse des Arbalétriers ⑤, with FKDL and Mimi the clown. When you come out, turn left down Rue des Francs-Bourgeois ⑥, where Line street and Backtothestreet have left their mark.

Turn left onto Rue Elzévir and continue to Place de Thorigny ⑦ to say hi to Invader's Picasso a stone's throw from his museum. Continue straight on, where you'll see an attractive brunette ⑧ in a bikini signed by the same artist.



This photographer puts up stencils and stickers across the capital. His masked figures warn us about the appalling state the environment is in and the consequences for the human race.



Invader - Rue du Roi-Doré



➤ Dive down Rue des Coutures-Saint-Gervais on your left to get to Rue Vieille-du-Temple. On your left and a little higher up on your right, have a look at the street art on the MuMa ⁹ (the Marais Wall). Retrace your steps to get to Rue de Bretagne ¹⁰, where Kai and Clet will be waiting to welcome you. Head down Rue du

Temple as far as Rue des Gravilliers, which will be on your right. When on this street, Rue des Vertus ¹¹ is worth a detour: it has various examples of street art, like this one by Wékup, recognisable from this watch that they always put on their work.



➤ Go back to Rue des Gravilliers and head down the passage of the same name ¹². At the end of the street, you will see Invader's Alice ¹³. Head towards Rue Saint-Martin via Rue Chapon ¹⁴ so you don't miss the work by 2Shy in that street. Go down Rue Quincampoix ¹⁵ to see a large work by Invader or Monsieur BMX's bicycle.

STYLE ELEMENT



This Montpellier artist would have loved to be a bike rider. After meeting the graffiti artist Krevet, he started daubing the word 'BMX' on walls and then hanging up that object, pure and simple. Monsieur BMX manages the whole process on his own, from recovering and cutting the bike to its installation.

NOT TO BE MISSED!

*Finish your walk by taking a break in **Place Igor-Stravinsky** to enjoy the comical fountain designed by Jean Tinguely and Niki de Saint-Phalle. As of 2011, the famous fountain has been sharing top spot with the massive artwork by Jef Aérosol, the pioneer of the stencil. Called Sshh!!!, this 350m² self-portrait on a building 22 metres tall took a week to complete. But an incredible amount of work went into preparing it, in particular in cutting the different layers. Incidentally, Jef Aérosol had the help of various stencil artists: Ender, Asphalt, Joseph Loughborough, David Amar, Fradelrico and Sevan Ahsan. A total of 200 spray cans were used to create this colossal work.*

In this genuine urban space, the artist's expression grabs you, inviting you to keep your eyes and ears open and (who knows?) make some surprising discovery in the midst of the surrounding cacophony.





2SHY - Rue Chapon

↘ Turn left where you will see the work of VLP ¹⁶ and go to the corner of Rue Saint-Martin and Rue du Cloître-Saint-Merri ¹⁷ to discover the latest artist's sculpture, an initiative that is part of the Embellir Paris project.



VLP - Rue Quincampoix



Hazul - Rue Quincampoix

Turn left to get to Place Igor-Stravinsky ¹⁸ where you can discover Jef Aérosol's wall (see p. 14), Shepard Fairey's last work and a massive Invader.

A REAL GEM



After experimenting with graffiti and stencils, Le Diamantaire is now focusing on mirrors as he draws on training in metalworking and boilerwork. Since 2008, he has been scattering his diamonds across Paris.



Maïc Batmane - Rue Saint-Martin

GOOD TO KNOW

The **Urban Art Fair**, the leading event of its kind, takes place each year in Le Carreau du Temple, in the 3rd arrondissement. About thirty galleries take part in this fair promoting emerging talents and big names in street art, which lets you discover the work of around a hundred artists in an amazing location. The admission fee (€8 to €12) gives you access to a day's worth of talks too.

Le Carreau du temple

4 Rue Eugène-Spüller 75003 Paris
urbanartfair.com



Gzup et A2 - Rue du Temple

USEFUL ADDRESSES

BARS AND RESTAURANTS

① LE STAND PARIS

For a veggie lunch

39 Rue de Bretagne 75003 Paris •
 +33 (0)6-21870888 Tue-Sat, 12:00-15:00

② PICK CLOPS

Raise a glass in a retro setting

16 Rue Vieille-du-Temple 75004 Paris •
 +33 (0)1-402902 18 Every day 07:00-02:00

③ CAFÉ SUÉDOIS

Sit outside in a quiet courtyard

11 Rue Payenne 75003 Paris • +33 (0)1-42719979
 Tue-Sun 12:00-18:00

BOOKSHOP

④ COMME UN ROMAN

For its selection and recommendations

39 Rue de Bretagne 75003 Paris
 Tue-Sat 10:00-19:45, Sun 10:00-13:30
www.comme-un-roman.com

ART GALLERY

⑤ GALERIE MORETTI & MORETTI

For the artists on its books

6 Cours Bérand 75004 Paris • +33 (0)9-50902901
 Tue-Sun 14:00-19:00
www.moretti-moretti.com

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

⑥ POMPIDOU CENTRE

Place Georges Pompidou 75004 Paris

⑦ MUSÉE PICASSO

5 Rue de Thorigny 75003 Paris

⑧ ON LA PLACE (OFF THE MAP)

see p. 18



ZOOM IN ON...

LA PLACE... TO BE

A Parisian cultural centre dedicated to hip hop? Opened in April 2016 at the same time as the Canopée, the amazing roof covering the Halles centre, this is the Place to be!

Hip hop, which started out as an anti-establishment sociocultural movement in the US in the 1980s, now has its own centre in Paris. Housed under the Canopée in the Halles, a focal point between Paris and the banlieues, La Place covers 1,400 m² with a music theatre (capacity 450), a studio for graffiti and street artists, two creative studios (for dance and music), a friendly bar, a broadcasting studio with seating for 100, DJ and Home studios and an incubator for hip-hop entrepreneurs.

La Place is a real hub with loads of activities aimed at promoting all forms of urban creativity. In particular their Hip-Hop Kidz programme for youngsters and families includes introductions to rap, beat box, hip-hop dance, DJing and – of course – graffiti.

As regards the last item, La Place aims to introduce the craze to a wide audience and improve people's understanding of it. It achieves this goal in part by highlighting artists working in studios, partner galleries or on one of the purpose-built walls, and in part by putting on exhibitions such as Paris History X of Graffiti, which traces the history of urban art and hip-hop graphics in Paris using photos, flyers and magazines.



Finally, La Place was put in charge of the artistic direction of the murals created through the 'Paris Murs Murs' programme. In this programme, with funding from the community budget, 20 walls will be painted in Paris's 20 arrondissements by 20 graffiti artists, all from the Île-de-France region.

Artists such as dAcRuZ, 2Shy, Lazoo and Vinie have already put effort into the project.

Follow La Place on Instagram, Facebook or other social media to get all the latest information.

LA PLACE - HIP HOP CULTURAL CENTRE

10 Passage de la Canopée, 75001 Paris
laplace.paris • Tue-Sat, 14:00-19:00





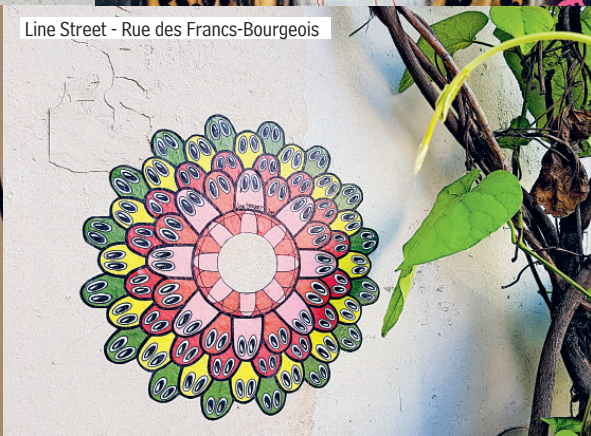
Marquise - Rue des Vertus



Bradley Théodore - Rue des Gravilliers



Fred le Chevalier - Rue du Roi-de-Sicile



Line Street - Rue des Francs-Bourgeois



Hazul - Rue Chapon



Tanc - Rue de Picardie



Shepard Fairey and Invader - Place Igor-Stravinsky



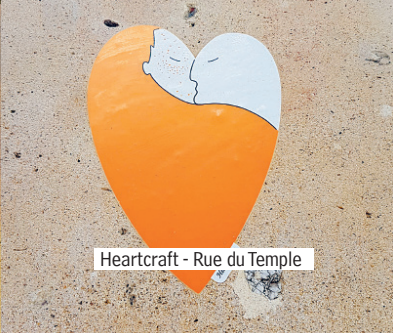
Johnny Boy - Rue des Vertus



Mosko - Rue des Rosiers



Backtothestreet - Rue des Francs-Bourgeois



Heartcraft - Rue du Temple

