



#### AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT of FLORIDA

#### Information Office

405 Central Avenue Suite 201\*St. Petersburg, FL 33701 (813) 823-3534\* FAX (813) 896-5027 EMAIL: Internet fiall@freenet fsu edu

and the state of t

PIO 41-95

\*\*\*\*\*\* SUCCURNERUL \*\*\*\*\*

July 31, 1995

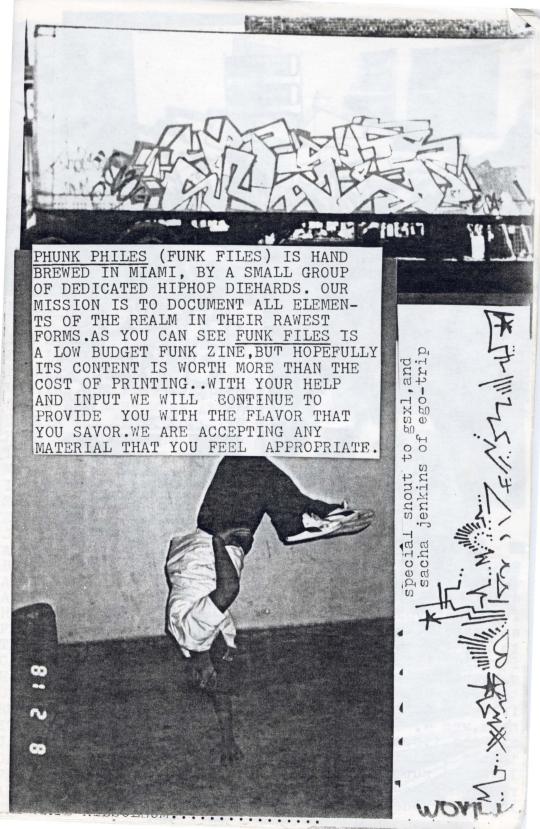
The American Indian Movement of Florida (Florida AIM) is critically concerned about the state of Pennsylvannia's efforts to execute African-American activist Mumia Abu-Jamial (Wesley Cook) on August 17th. 1995.

The dominant society, sheparded by fraternal police agencies, is outraged that Mumia allegedly killed a Philadelphia Police Officer. Apparantly the murder of a police officer is considered an especially nefarious crime. Yet police killings of African, Chicano, and Indigenous people under highly questionable circumstances are routine events that rarely warrant mention in local news reports. In fact they happen so often that we forget the names of those from a decade ago. Names like Raymond Yellow Thunder, Julian Pierce, Arthur McDuffie, Nevelle Johnson, and Melvin Hare are replaced quickly with names like Jodie Rios, Anthony Perkins ... In the past week Miami Police shot and killed Torrey Jacobs, a junior deacon at the New Birth Baptist Church, and Panama City(FL) Police shot and killed Eric Henley. None of the officers involved face charges, and rarely do officers who wantonly utilize deadly force face justice. Yet when a police officer is killed the Just Us system rush's to judgement with or without evidence. Mumia Abu-Jamial may be executed by the state of Pennsylvannia, but the state has failed to present a prima facia case that Mr. Abu-Jamial shot at, let alone killed the police officer. Witness's prohibited from giving testamony contradict the paid state witness's, and several people refute claims that prosecution witness's were even on the scene during the shooting. Mumia was blatantly denied those rights expressed in the Miranda ruling and denied a fair trial, he was given \$150 for expert testimony compared to the thousands dolled out by the state and was excluded from the courtroom for most of his own trial. Such hypocrisy exposes the racism that permeates every pore of American society. If an African, Chicano(a), or Indigenous person is within sight of the killing of a police officer they face prosecution, but if a Police officer kills an Indigenous. Chicano, or African person under questionable circumstances they probably will get a promotion.

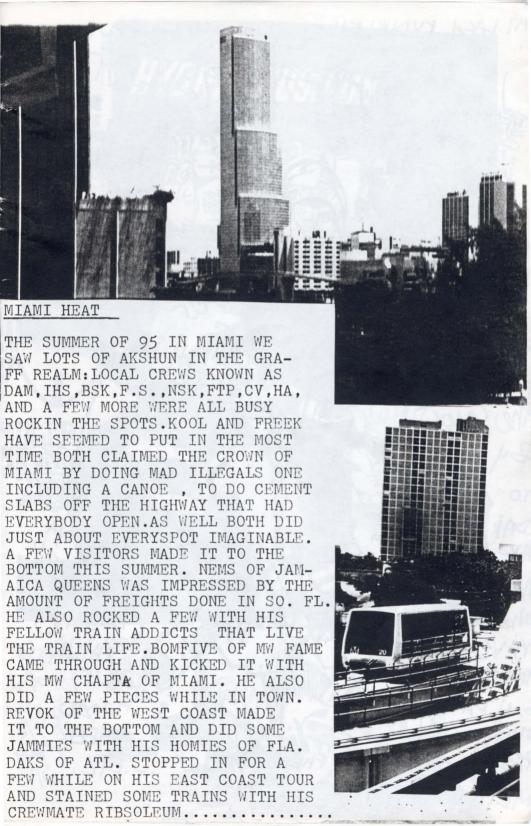
Mumia was also a target of the Federal Bureau of Intimidation (Investigations) infamous COINTELPRO program that sought to obliterate the Black Panther Party. American Indian Movement, and other rights organizations. The FBI amassed a 700 page file on Mumia between 1969 and 1982. The FBI's involvment in this case further exposes the fallicies in the case. The FBI is renowned for its ability to "frame" individuals for crimes in order to "neutralize" their political activities. Among the best known cases of this include Black Panther Party leader Geronimo Pratt and American Indian Movement activist Leonard Peltier. Despite clear evidence of both men's innocence they remain behind bars.

The attempt by the state of Pennsylvannia to execute/silence Mumia Abu-Jamal is yet another example of the mendacity of the justice system in the United States. Proving yet again their is no justice, only just us.

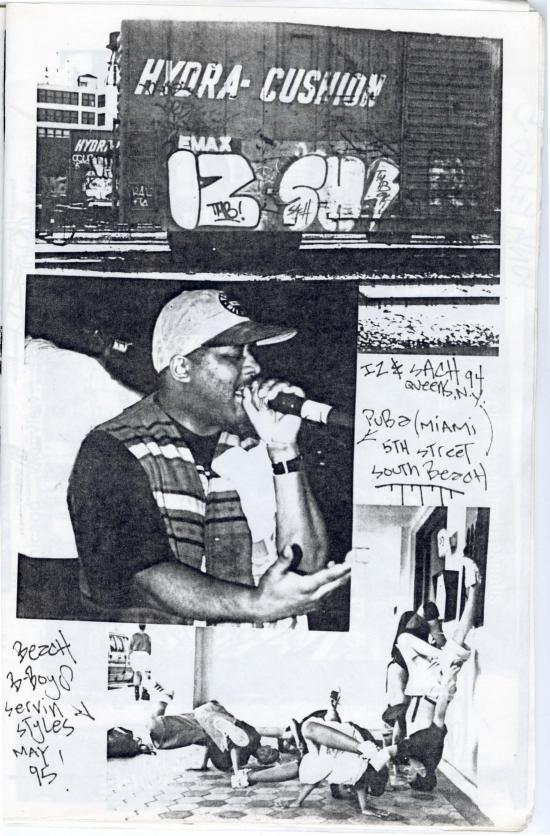






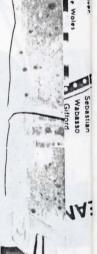


HIMD, NHERE WHEELS .ETC. META.4. WO MIGG. SO



SANTA FE









THIS FACILITY
HAS WORKED
DAYS
WITHOUT
ANY INJURIES!



HIAWATHA SERVICE Chicago to Milwaukee

Effective October 31, 1993 through April 9, 1994



Chicago...Glenview...Sturtevant...Milwaukee

#### Q: How long have you been writing?

I started messing around with it when I was about 14. That -was in 1975. I started writing the name ZEPHYR around 1977.

#### 'Q: How did you get the tag "ZEPHYR"?

Z: I took the name from a brand of skateboards and surfboards; it was the logo from the surfboard that stuck in my head. When I started writing I used shorter names, which was the trend back then - theoretically, a longer name took longer to write. Eventually I decided to go for the six-letter name anyway.

#### O: What were your previous tags?

Z: That's embarrassing. My first tag was my last name. Pretty smart, huh? Then I became "FRODO" from "The Hobbit". Then I was "TREK", like "Star Trek". Then I was "KANE" like the guy from "Kung Fu". For a while I was "SKY-I.T.A.". "I.T.A." stood for "Invincible to All". I wasn't down with any crews so I put these initials after my tag so it would look like a real tag, and I was just a little toy trying to get up with my little glass Dri-Markers. That was '75. It wasn't until '78 and '79 that I really started to kill shit. That's when I got the bug - the addiction. I started bombing the 1 line and as they say, the rest is history. That is of course if you're old enough to remember back that far!

#### Q: Who were your partners?

Thursday.

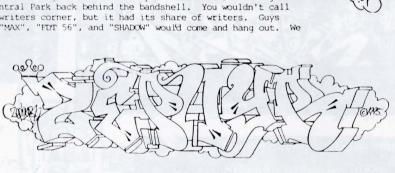
7: Over the years I've had a bunch. "DONDI", "FUTURA", "REVOLT", "NOC", "RASTA", "MACKIE", "VANDAL" and some others. I also had a reputation for bombing the yards alone.

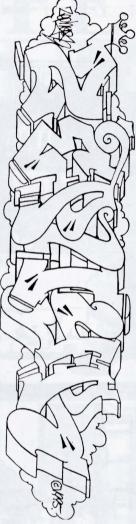
#### Q: What crews are you down with?

Z: Primarily the Rebels. That was started by "LSD-OM" in the early '70's. In the late '70's I was in charge of recruiting fresh blood. That's my main crew, but I've been associated with lots of different crews over the years. Old crews. All old school New York crews. I've been running with the D.F. boys recently, though.

#### Q: How did you get started doing graffiti?

2: We used to go after school, my friends and I, and hang out in Central Park back behind the bandshell. You wouldn't call it a writers corner, but it had its share of writers. Guys like "MAX", "FDT 56", and "SHADOW" would come and hang out. We





the young toys back then and we would cut out from school to go there and basically smoke pot, play frisbee and practice our tags. It just sort of unintentionally grew into a crew - the Rolling Thunder Writers (RTW). It was a small crew, about eight of us. Things just blew up from there.

#### Q: Who are your influences?

Z: Well, understand I started as a tagger. I got into graff through tagging, which was much more respected back then. Having a signature with style and pizazz back then was considered really important. I was inspired by very calligraphic tags of the period, like naturally "ISD-OM", because he was my mentor. Some of the other Rebels were awesome too, dudes like "REBEL 3", "PERIL" and "CURSE 5". I also loved tags by guys like "JESTER", "STAY HIGH 149", "DEAN", "MOVIN", "TEAM". I sort of took little things from these guys and made them my own. They all influenced me and through tagging I started piecing, which honestly didn't interest me too much until around 1979 or '80.

#### Q: What was it about the tags that excited you so much?

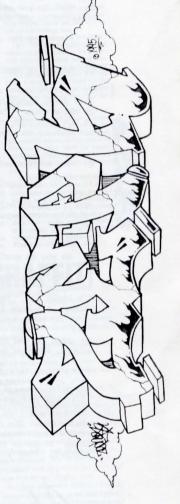
2: Back then they were so colorful; it's hard to even imagine these days. We had flourescent inks that came with "Uni's" and "Midi's". Dudes would mix rainbow markers, put one color on one edge of the marker and another on the other edge. The result was a two- or three-tone striped flourescent tag. When I was coming up there were just great tags inside the trains. Super psychedelic and lotsa style to spare. Fuckin' ornate calligraphy. What a lure that was for me as a young kid. I went home after school and tried to copy what I saw and I just evolved from there. Shit back then was so cool. Like tagging with "Midi's"; they're the coolest markers. You could do amazing tags with those things, little masterpiece tags. But I'll shut up; I'm getting sentimental.

#### Q: What lines were you up on?

Z: Mostly IRT lines, but I hit all of them.

#### Q: How many pieces have you done?

Z: That's a tough question. Over the years I did lots of throw-ups, as well as pieces, that probably ran straight into the buff. I did a lot of pieces on the BMT lines, the M's and J's. I never saw them, never saw photos either - maybe someone out there has them. But if you want to talk about basic pieces on trains, that number would be in the hundreds. I guess if you include anything with a fill-in on a train or a wall that number could be over a thousand.





#### Q: Have you ever been caught? If so, how many times?

Z: Well, once is too many, in my book. Unfortunately I've been caught a few times.

#### Q: What do you think of the new writers and their style compared to the older writers?

Z: I'm a big fan of the new school.

#### Q: Anyone in particular?

2: Well, I don't really want to say, but the new shit is dope. It's super technical - a lot of dudes out there are way ahead of their time. They're launching shit that'll still look fresh in the next century; now they just have to wait for the world to catch up to them.

#### Q: Why are you making a comeback?

Z: I got the push from my friend Adrian, "The Hip Hop Activist". He's from Berlin. He talked me into it - he's pretty persuasive. Seriously, I knew it was time; I just needed a little push. I'm having a ball with it; it's great to be back.

#### Q: Do you do graffiti shows?

Z: Sure, I do them, but the "Graffiti Artist" label is something I'd like to escape. Unfortunately, the graff is what I'm known for. Anyone reputable who wants to show my work, though, I'm more than willing to talk to.

#### Q: What do you think of graffiti merchandise? The stores, videos, clothes and magazines? It's becoming so commercial.

2: I think it's fine. Let it be commercial. I mean basically it's still a cottage industry and it's being done from the inside out. The community is feeding itself, it's not being exploited by outsiders. That's how it appears to me. In the '80's it was like "Bloomingdale's Graffiti Coffee Mugs". That shit sucks. The 'zines and all that are cool, I know a lot of people might disagree but fuck it. I do hope the editors of these 'zines do their homework and study up on graffs long history. That's important to me.

Stay Real,

\*FUNK | FILE?

K. JA, iMAIM

# ATTO ALLEGA

### Graffiti veteran Zephyr watches art evolve

20-year career spans 'subway renaissance,' 'wall-weaned' era

BY COREY TAKAHASHI

This is the final installment in a three-part series examining the origins and effects of a national trend in graffiti writing.

In his two decades of graffiti writing, Zephyr has seen styles change, skills evolve and the torch passed from one generation of graffiti artists to the next.

At 33, the New York graffiti writer is an old-school legend, an elder guru purveying and adapting to a whole new scene.

Zephyr, formally known as Andy Witten, bears the battle scars of an aerosol art legacy. He has maintained this art through police raids, several arrests and major anti-graffiti campaigns in New York. He has seen peers burn out and young taggers disrespect his work.

He also has transcended mediums, first writing on subway trains, then jumping to canvas. Now, he is

posting his highly styled lettering on freight trains and city walls.

In 1984, Zephyr quit street graffiti and began touring museums and selling graffiti-painted canvases in places as far away as Amsterdam. He returned to street graffiti in 1992.

"It's been great. Coming back has been one of the best things I've done in the last 10 years because it was really missing from my life," Zephyr said. "The art is very liberating and I still find it very real."

These days Zephyr is painting with leaders of the new graffiti movement, many of whom weren't even born when he started his career in the late 1970s. He describes this breed as wall-weaned — referring to their primary painting surface — and said, for better or for worse, they are removed from the subway tradition he helped promote.

But there is mutual inspiration between him and younger artists, such as New York's "Sub" and

"Kaws." Zephyr even sounded amused when he explained that his new graffiti crew, Diabolical Function, schooled him on technique.

He said his attitude had long been "just get your name up there and go home," but some of his contemporaries are perfectionists, who chastise his fast work

who chastise his fast work.
"If you rell a guy now — these
wall-weaned guys — that I did a
(full-length subway piece) in four
hours, they wouldn't believe it,"
Zephyr said, adding that graffiti
writing for them is an all-day
event.

Because many of the new graffiti artists spray on permission walls or in places where residents aren't bothered by the paintings, "socially, it's a different vibe, because there's no 'f\*\*k you' thing involved," Zephyr said.

That's where freight trains come in. Even with his extensive police record, Zephyr, who describes freights as "the final frontier," is not one to bend to authority. And work on a freight train can be transported all across the nation, he said.

It all comes back to his roots as subway writer. Zephyr remem-

bers the fast-paced risky scene on the New York Broadway line, and said freight trains are as close as one gets to it these days

But subways were his first love. "By '80, I definitely had my name on every train on (two subway lines)," he said, lapsing into nostalgia. "It was a very strange time, because I was probably the most wanted grafifit writer by the Transit Authority, but at the same time I was doing all this work for

Madison Avenue"
What Zephyr likes to call
"Madison Avenue" is his dabbling
in the commercial art world. He
has retained this duality throughout
his graffiti career, doing much of
his non-graffiti work for major
businesses. Even now, he runs his
own Manhattan graphic design

As graffiti explodes nationally, Zephyr said, he notices the variations between the generations of writers with whom he has evolved.

writers with whom he has evolved. '
His career as a graffiti writer'
started when he was 14, but he
didn't take on the moniker Zephyr
until around 1977, when he started
to seriously spray subway lines.
Please see GRAFFITI, page 13



continued from page

In his youth, Zephyr revered those who came before him. But he recalled the first subway writers as a largely bitter bunch, who thought graffiti died when they left it.

"They were saving 'Oh, graffin Wealready did that and now we're intocars' or even 'Now we're into-dim-That's kid's stuff. We did that when we were 14."

As a high school phenomenon, the change of the guard in graftiti a graduausually comes in three-year intervals. Soon, Zephyr's old crew, Rollin-Thunder Writers, had inherited the position of their predecessors.

"We were one of the first to reallunderstand the sort of passing of the forch element. We really tried to be organized and live up to the guys that came before us," Zephyr said.

Rolling Thunder Writers had an "intention to just do good and right by a graffiti, and treat it like this sacred thine "he said.

The close circle of writers got integratfit at a low point, but by 1079 – Zephyr's senior year in high school the clan was beginning to get respect from other writers and the attention of the Transit Authority. It was a renaissance period for the art form, he suid.

Since his return to street graffit. Zephyr has painted about 100 pieces. He has done more than a thousand works throughout his career, which he began as a tagger. Now, Zephyr is one of New York's best known graffits units.







## THURSDAY APRIL 21 AT NOON 25th Anniversary Parade

THE ROUTE: From Armstrong Park, up and down Canal St. and back to Armstrong Park

The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation has chosen the indigenous tap root of jazz, the second-line jazz parade, as the celebration of the founding of the Jazz & Heritage Festival. This unprecedented event will feature six Mardi Gras Indian tribes, six marching brass

STILLS CAM

**THE NEW ORLEANS JAZZ AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL** Welcome to the 25th Year of one of the world's most important musical and cultural events.

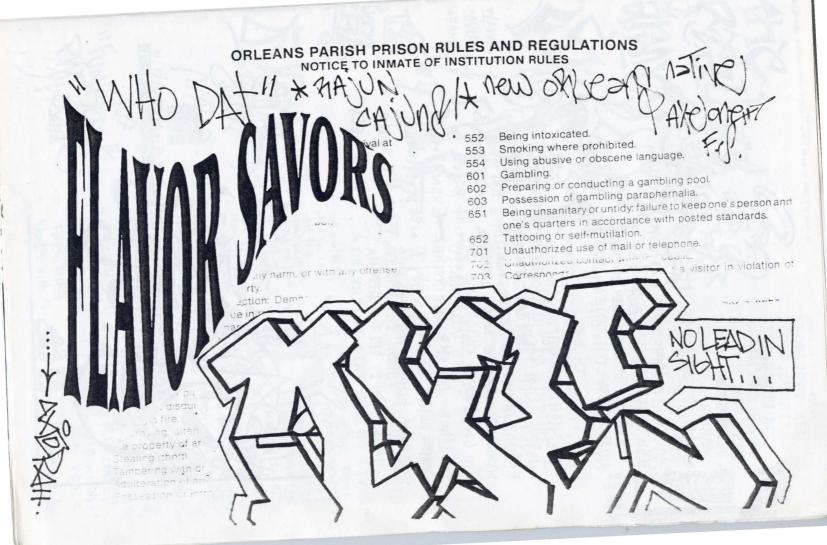
It began twenty-five years ago, when 300 musicians entertained a crowd half that number in New Orleans' historic Congo Square. Legendary talents Mahalia Jackson, Duke Ellington, Pete Fountain and Al Hirt performed, all brought together by producer George Wein — founder of the famed Newport Jazz Festival and numerous other festivals worldwide.

Today, over 4.000 musicians, cooks and craftspeople welcome nearly 400,000 people each year for a 10-day festival that could happen nowhere else in the world. The weekend, open-air Heritage Fair, together with spectacular evening concerts and educational workshops, make the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival — in the words of the Boston Globe — "America's Best Festival." It is both a rollicking, spirited celebration and a proud showcase of the authentic heritage of Louisiana and New Orleans—cradle of jazz, rhythm and blues, gospel and zydeco.





AXEONEOFTHEBIGEASY??



ESMILE, of COURSE, ITS the GREATEST DOOT.

SMIRK; ITS MINE - DONLY AST ME ANTTHING.

WHAT EVERTONE WANTS TO SEE IS A...

Smile, Because everything is Alright.

要認い。Smile, BecaUSE evekything is AlRIGHT. 要認 WELL PER FECT NO ONE OVER WAS, I WANT to 起こ

I want tou, toll boult know-SMIRK-Tou'll Never know. Perfect, thank tou, compliment for MT DECOT. PRACTICE, No choice to the Mather. SMILE MUCH easier Than Tears. Tou Can Break something, give it Back together-No one the Wiser. Even the Wiser bosen't know, I need give. Someone treat my teeth, Fix my shile I want to CRT.





CSX

bar Start The Take

CSX



FREIGHT SQUAD ROCKIN DA SOUTH

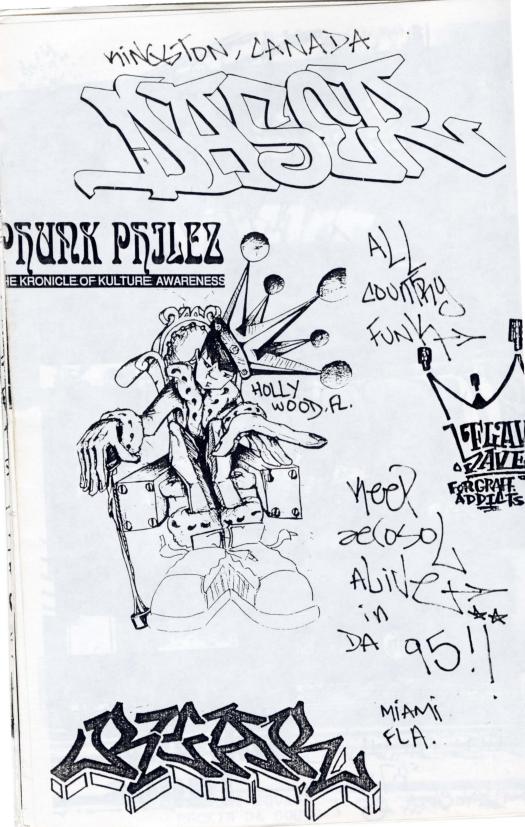




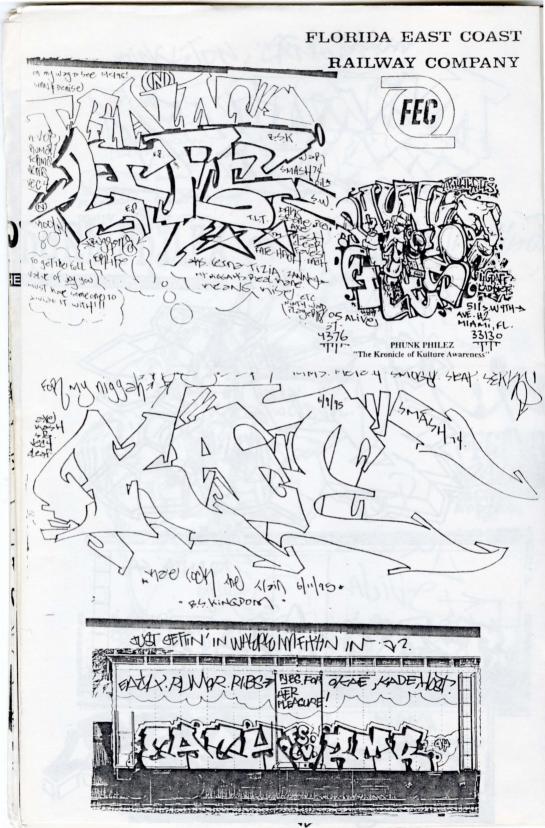
MTA New York Cit

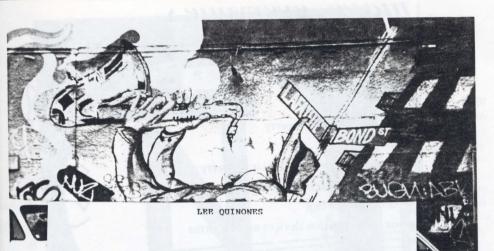
168 168418/86" SOFTONA: VINLOUS. 87" FUNKFILES# 6

OBSERVING Subway Rules



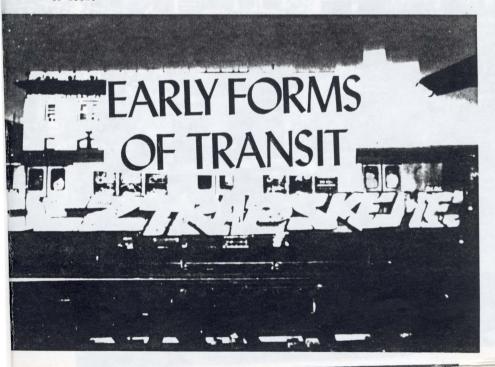
AKTTA N St. ATLANTA, GA. imaim





At the tender age of five, Lee began creating works which won the admiration of his teachers and schoolmates. In his early years, he participated in community projects, these included group murals, banners and stage backdrops for local concerts and film making workshops through such agencies as The Henry Street Settlement, The Twyla/Tharp Dance Company, The Hamilton Madison House and The City Arts Workshops.

Enter the early to mid '70's: Naving worked with the usual paint media he began to surface consciously as an avant-garde painter in the New York City subway Graffiti movement of that era, where he will always be remembered as LEE -- the prodigious creator of innumerable, rolling whole cars painted ond-to-end. The monumental scale, the use of spray paint, the color sense and high speed techniques all derive from that period of intense creativity in the artist's life, and continue undiluted in his work. His paintings and sculptures rest in a number of important private and museum collections in the United States and Europe. Lee continues to paint and live in the Lower East Side where he believes the ingredients for the social content of his work will continue to brew.



ride better.

#### Please

- destroy subway property
- litter

I

- smoke anywhere on transit property
- drink alcoholic beverages
- panhandle or beg
- use amplification devices on platforms

Thorse wings

FUNKY FILEZ





FORMER YEA. 475%. E.S.

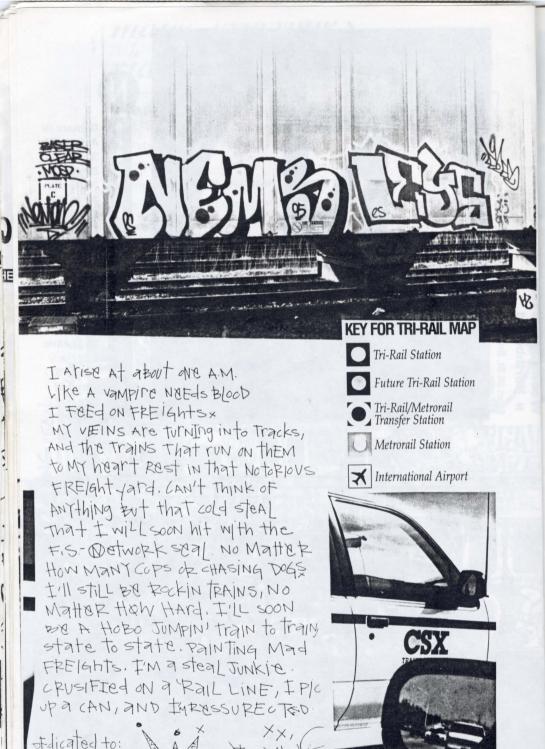
From 86 St, Brooklyn, to Ditmars Blvd, Queens A customer timetable for New York City subway

Weekaay Service

N Northbound

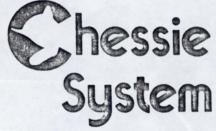






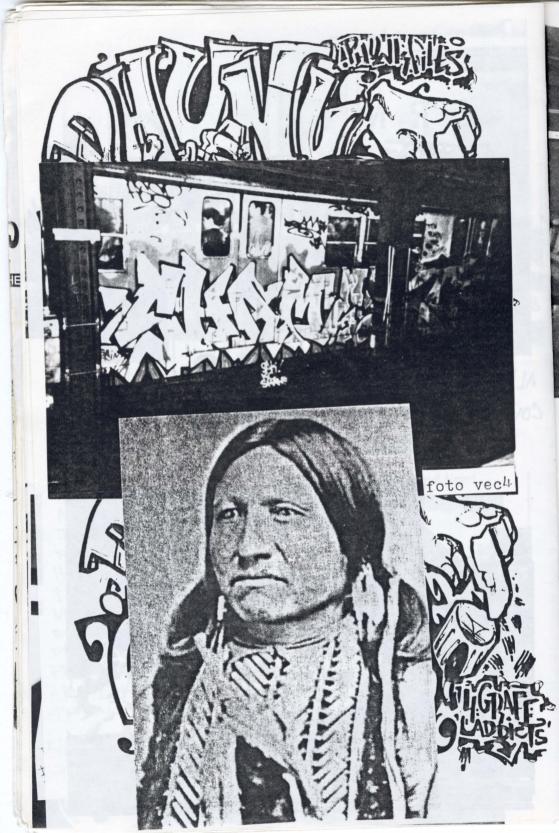


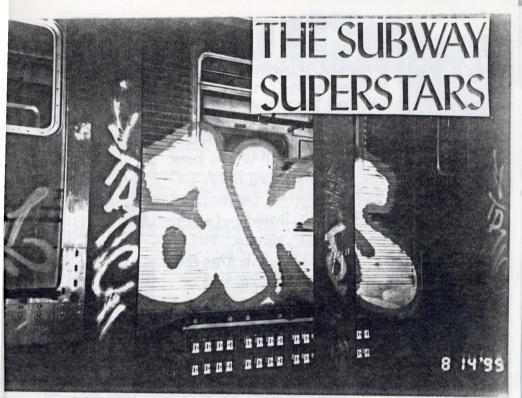
ALL O

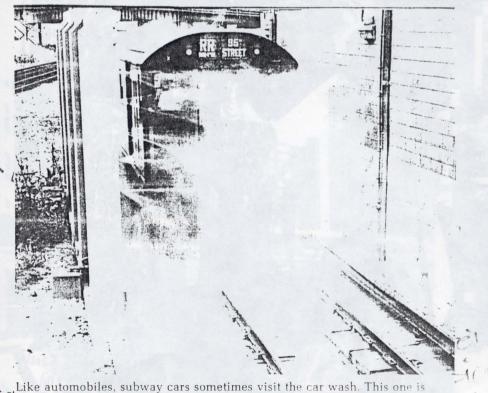


ALL STORP

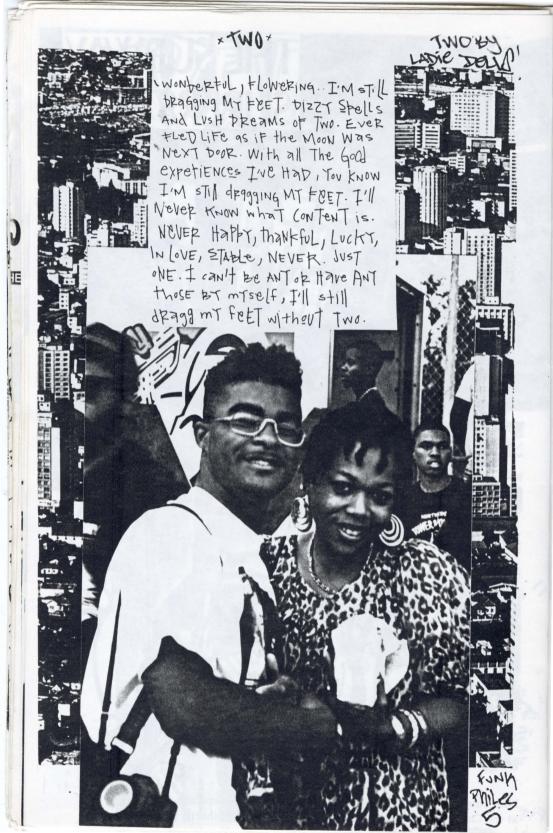


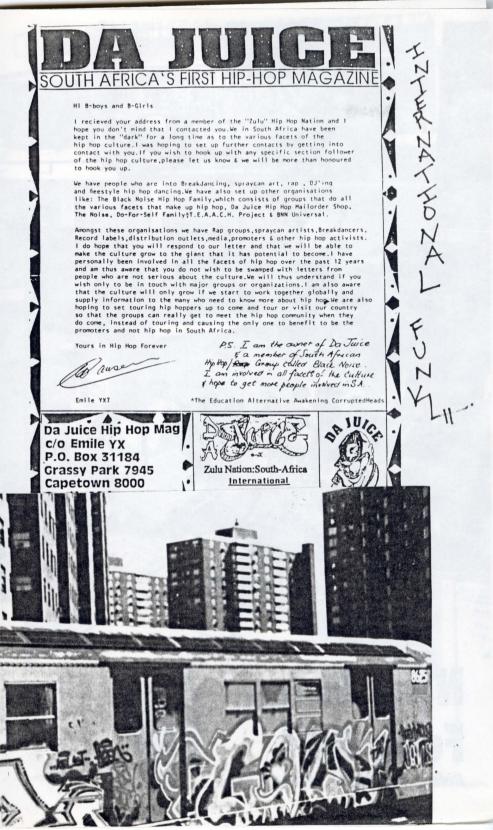


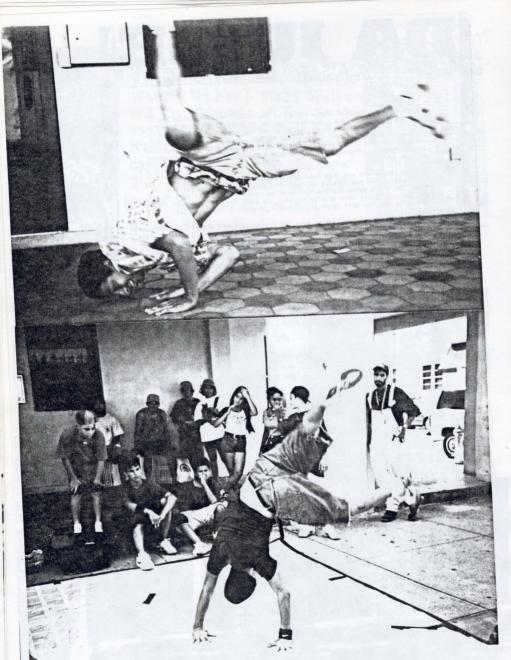




Like automobiles, subway cars sometimes visit the car wash. This one is at the Coney Island yards. New York City Transit Authority Photo File





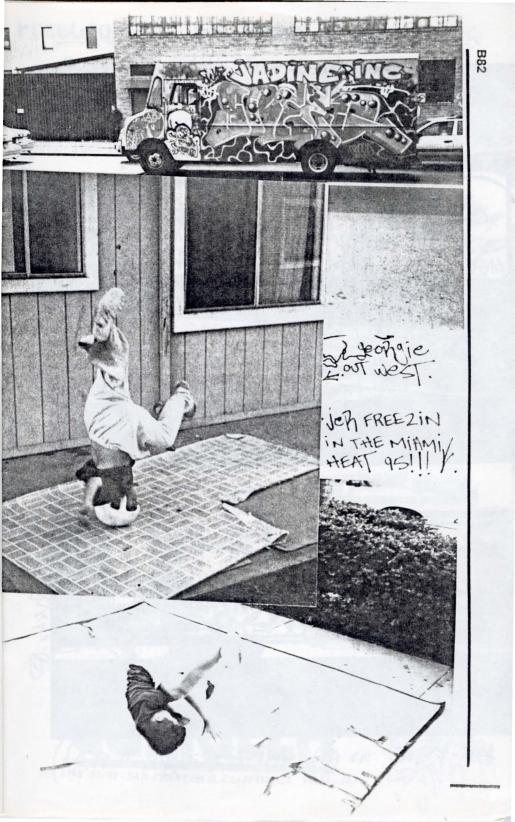


Œ

# Nazi Skins, Fuck Off!

Refuse & Resist! 215-387-5213





## SYON MORN'A GONDOLA IN NYCHO





HIGHER ON AN JP.F.E (CONGITIN FLA!)

rreeGround" magazine P.O. bOX 472556 mIAMI. fl 33247-2556 (305) 621-8255 fAX (305) 626-8255

ce hours:- Tues-Thurs 3pm -10 PM. Sun 4 PM - 7 PM

ALL FUNK 2: 5115W 9tHAVEST! MIRMI,FL. 1 33130!

e first all Train Mag. r Hardcore Writers only, eights, Old school Subways d all inbetween,,,,

ND THE FLIX (trains only)

1 inquires to : to Kingz (FKZ)

BOX 4385

lanta Ga. 30302

are here to represent e truest form of writing.

r mature audiences only...

FUNY, DAFIED GRAFF 44100TO COMENDEL SIISW OTH ME #2 MIAMI, FL. 3313C

"NOTHIM' BUT GRAFFITI-FOR FREE, just include 46229-0491



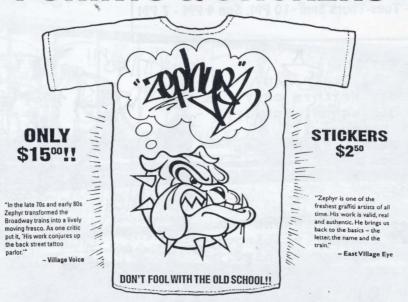
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES TODAY! (305) 797-8140 / (404) 689-5500 (BPR.)

PO. BOX 24192 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94124 - 192

while for 411 01

# ZEPHYR

**T-SHIRTS & STICKERS** 



Represent the old school in style with the official ZEPHYR T-SHIRT!! The back features the design pictured above. The front has a mini picture of the bulldog over the ZEPHYR logo. This shirt is fuckin' dope! 100% cotton, black on grey, and all of 'em are extra-large. Of course if you don't want to shell out fifteen bucks, we also have full-color decals for only 2.50! Checks or money orders only please, payable to: "ZEPHYR DESIGNS".

For international orders send



#### ZEPHYR DESIGNS

P.O. Box 250074 Columbia University Station New York, NY 10025-1531 Dealer Inquiries Welcome! Tel: 212-332-0788







IE

\*FUNY FILES SIVE \*\*
VETERAN SACH ROX A RAIL BOX!



#### CENSORED

The following ad was rejected at the last minute from the Miami weekly NEW TIMES, who after ying they would print it, changed their minds and claimed they "don't run opinion ads." This is miniscent of NPR (National Police Radio) who, shortly before Mumia Abu-Jamal's commentaries are supposed to air, cancelled them claiming they were "one-sided."

It is interesting that the New York Times was willing to run a half-page "opinion ad" supporting a w trial for Mumia (for a copy, send us a SASE). So was the weekly Chicago Reader.

We are planning to run it in the Miami Times instead. Keep an eye out for it.

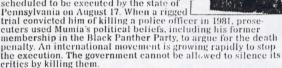
And come to think of it, what advertisement isn't an "opinion ad"?



#### S. FLORIDIANS SAY:

## STOP the EXECUTION of MUMIA ABU-JAMAL!

Mumia Abu-Jamal, a journalist widely known as the "Voice of the Voiceless," is scheduled to be executed by the state of Pennsylvania on August 17. When a rigger



WE WILL NOT BE SILENT!

We the undersigned strongly condemn Pennsylvania's decision to execute political dissident Mumia Abu-Jamal. We join voices to call on people everywhere to make every effort to save the life of this uncompromising journalist. Stop the legal lynching!

B. Adell, Miami; Ricardo Angarica, Miami; Violet M. Armstrong, Miami; Angela Austin, Miami; May Lai Baber, Miami Beach; Debbie Bennett, Miami; Paul Betty, Public Transportation activist. Miami; Robert Boone, Miami; Lisa Bosh, Delray Beach, Patrick Boutin, Miami; Nathalia Bruno, Miami; Tamara Byron, Miami; Shawn Caert, Miami; A. Carlton, Miami; Vincent Casademont, Miami Beach; Leo Casino, musiciar/producer East of Overtown, Miami; Sherry Casino, Miami; Adrian Castro, poet, Miami Beach; Emilio Castro, Miami; George Creinshaw, Miami; Julia Dawson, Astonal Organization for Women, \*N. Miami; Sabate Edmond Dopuy, Miami; Shelia Dougher, Fort Lauderdale; Colleen Dougher-Telcik, XS Magazine.\* Fort Lauderdale; Mark Dow. Miami; Beach; Ronald B. Durmond, Miami; Desiree Duncann, Miami, George Durdem, University of "Sectional Organization for Muman Biphis". \*Niami: Robers Durondo, Miami. Adee Duz, Miami.

Tap Tap Restaurant, Miami Beach; Veterans Against the War, Antisburg; Steven Forester, Haitian Refugee ami; Lavarice Gaudin, Veye Yo.\* Miami; ines: Good Planet Cale, Fort errier, Miami: Tremeka H., Miami: Ervin arity Committee, Miami; Kim Ives, Haiti on, Miami; Steve S. Jakala, Pompano rg, Fort Lauderdale, Kiesha Johnson iami Beach, Kent Knox, Coconut Grove Coretzky, Assoc. Ed., XS Magazine,\* n; Jack Lieberman, Co-Coordinator ey, Miami Beach; Myrlande and Peach: Javier Martinez, Miami i; Robyn Mayo, W. Palm Beach; Boabro nan, Miami; Armando Monteil, N layna Moss, Pembroke Pines; Sheridan m PLM, N. Miami; Albert Norman III, liami; Ken Paylo, Fort Lauderdale, Kim Florida Chapter, National Lawyers Meole Ramdhanas, Miami; Ludwick nan, Miami Beach; Jessela Rupert, di, Veye Yo.\* Miami, Clark Sampsua. an. Greensboro NC, Miles Smith Smith, Miami/Dade Chapter, Florida Daniel Stiel, DeJray, Carol, Mary, and e, Oscar Thomas, artist, Miami; Maria Donna Todd, Voice for Choice of Beach, Christine Ulloa, Miami: U.S. ie Wilansky, musician/journalist ssink, Editor and Publisher, XS (for identification only) 3; P.O. Box 370764, Miami, FL 33137.



# We w

Stop the Aug 17 Death Machine

Refuse & Resist! 215-387-5213

