

BOMB IT 2

Produced and Directed by Jon Reiss

PRODUCTION NOTES

Running Time: 71:45 minutes

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 (full frame)

Not Rated

Country of Origin: USA

Original Languages: English, Thai, Cantonese, Malay
with English subtitles

www.bombit2movie.com

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A Hybrid Cinema production

A film by Jon Reiss

BOMB IT 2

Produced and Directed by
JON REISS

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Executive Producer for Babelgum
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AND
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MONET MALEK
ADILLA AMELIA
JIEQING HU

Main Title Animation
JOAQUIN BALDWIN

Music by
SHANE RIES
MEREDITH CHIN
MIKE GENATO
MARCUS WOODS
APPLE JUICE KID
SPUD TOO TIGHT

BOMB IT 2 Synopsis

In *Bomb It 2*, the follow-up to the explosive 2007 global graffiti documentary *Bomb It*, Reiss takes audiences to previously unexplored areas of the Middle East, Europe, Asia, the United States, and Australia on a hunt for innovative street art and artists. Using an ultra compact camera and sound package, Reiss traveled by himself to artists representing a wide range of cultures, styles, and beliefs, with Reiss functioning as producer, director, cameraman, and sound person all at once on the film. In the process of making the film, he climbed into sewers, visited red ant infested buildings, and fractured his ankle in an Estonian hall of fame.

In the Middle East, Reiss talks with **Muhnned Alazzh** in the West Bank where Alazzh emphasizes the cultural and political significance of writing on the wall in Palestinian refugee camps. In Jakarta, Indonesia, **Darbotz** paints his signature squid monsters in black and white, to distinguish them from the explosion of color on the Jakarta streets. In Singapore, Reiss connects with street artists **Zero** and **Killer Gerbil**, who explain the paradox of doing graffiti in one of the most highly policed states in the world. Many countries visited for *Bomb It 2* didn't have much of a street art scene at all when the original *Bomb It* was shot back in 2004-2005.

“I am particularly fascinated in how each culture (and each person) takes this art form and makes it their own – how the local culture affects the development of graffiti in each place that I have visited,” says Reiss, “Tel Aviv and the refugee camps of Bethlehem couldn't be more different. The former is on the verge of a street art explosion similar to Barcelona in the early '90s. In the West Bank, graffiti is much more about a political statement and 'art' is often viewed as reconciliation.”

Featuring: Ash Keating, Alex Face, Ayed, Beejoir, Bon, Darbotz, Foma, Great Bates, Husk Mit Navn, Inspire, Killer Gerbil, Klone, Know Hope, Muhnned Alazzh , Mars, MIC, Phibs, Sloke, Stormie Mills, Thor, Two One, Vexta, Victor Ash, Xeme, Zero

BOMB IT 2: ABOUT DIRECTOR JON REISS

JON REISS - Named one of “10 Digital Directors to Watch” by *Daily Variety*, Jon Reiss is a critically acclaimed filmmaker whose experience releasing his documentary feature, *Bomb It* with a hybrid strategy was the inspiration for writing *Think Outside the Box Office: The Ultimate Guide to Film Distribution in the Digital Era*, the first step-by-step guide for filmmakers to distribute and market their films. He recently co-wrote *Selling Your Film Without Selling Your Soul*.

His previous documentary feature films are *Better Living Through Circuitry*, a startling, humorous and entertaining glimpse into the exploding rave culture and *Cleopatra’s Second Husband*, a dark psychological drama. Reiss has also directed videos for Nine Inch Nails, The Black Crowes, Danzig, Slayer, and the Kottonmouth Kings. Reiss’ “Happiness in Slavery” video for Nine Inch Nails won awards at the Chicago and San Francisco film festivals and was voted Top Ten by the Village Voice Critics Poll for Best Music Video and is regularly on lists of the most notorious or most disturbing music video ever made.

Jon Reiss’ early credits also include four hour-long documentaries concerning the notorious performance group Survival Research Laboratories which were included on a compilation *10 Years of Robotic Mayhem*. Reiss got his start in filmmaking at Target Video, a San Francisco based alternative video company where he covered much of the West Coast punk explosion.

Reiss is also a media strategist who helps filmmakers and companies navigate the new distribution and marketing landscape. He has worked with and consulted for IFP, Paramount Studios, the Sundance Institute, Screen Australia, Film Independent, Creative Scotland, The South Australian Film Corporation and numerous film schools and festivals to devise ways to educate and help independent filmmakers in the new economic landscape. He has conducted his TOTBO Master Classes over four continents and is the year-round distribution and marketing lab leader at the IFP Filmmaker Labs and the Director of the IFP PMD Labs he co-created with the IFP. He also teaches at the Film Directing Program at Cal Arts as well as contributes to Filmmaker Magazine, Huffington Post, Indiewire, Screen Daily, Moviemaker Magazine and other publications.

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BOMB IT 2: ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Alex Face: Patcharapol Tangruen, also known as Alex Face, is a Thai street artist, who studied architecture at Bangkok's King Mongkut Institute of Technology. An interest in architecture led Alex Face to explore and wander the streets and alleys of Bangkok for abandoned buildings, buildings that he eventually used as a canvas to develop his street art. His most well known character – a quizzical smoking baby who looks wise beyond his years – was inspired by his two-year-old child.

Ash Keating: Keating is an Australian street artist who is widely known for the immense scale of his environmental work both in galleries and public spaces. Frustrated by small-scale studio painting, much of Ash's art has been influenced by his job as a waste auditor where he has witnessed the seldom seen impact and scale of post-consumer and industrial waste, a phenomenon that he calls attention to with his performance art.

Ayed: Ayed is a Palestinian street artist who is based in the West Bank. For Ayed street art is important because it enables anyone to share their views with society. He hopes that his work and the art of other street artists will influence the public at large and affect a positive change in his community.

Bon: Bon is a Bangkok-based street artist whose work reflects the unique traditions of Thailand where art was born in the Buddhist temples. Bon lives in an old school style artist squat with numerous other people and animals and has been painting non-stop for the past 15 years. Bon is a member of the Souled Out Studios artist collective in Bangkok.

Darbotz: Darbotz is an Indonesian street artist whose art reflects the chaos of life in Jakarta. With the music of Wu Tang Clan, NWA, and A Tribe Called Quest as his inspiration, Darbotz created his most well known character: the cumi (squid). The squid represents his response to the tough demands of existence in the world's twelfth largest city. Darbotz has collaborated with companies like Nike, Google Chrome and Density, among others.

Foma: Foma is a Tel Aviv-based street artist who was pursuing a career in fashion design prior to street art. Known for her brush painting work, Foma frequently collaborates with other Tel Aviv-based street artists, including Know Hope, Klone and Zero Cents, among others.

Great Bates: Great Bates is a street art team based out of Copenhagen, Denmark. Great's tags dominate walls and evoke an old school style, while Bates' individual work consists more of sharp, swooping characters. Great and Bates have been painting together since 1986 and have beautified walls around the world in Africa, England, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Turkey and the United States, among other places.

Husk Mit Navn: Husk Mit Navn is a Copenhagen-based artist who daylights as a newspaper cartoonist. On the streets Husk Mit Navn is known for his quirky colorful characters, which speak to his sense of humor and serve as a natural balance to his more serious, political newspaper illustrations.

Inspire: is a Tel Aviv-based street artist who has been living and working in Israel for over seven years. His art reflects the incredible vibration of Israel on the one hand, while also demonstrating that Tel Aviv is an “open wound on the face of this earth.” The focus of his art is to ameliorate that suffering and inequality with his signature series of sunflowers, which are designed to evoke an environment of free thought.

Killer Gerbil & Zero: Visual artist Luthfi Mustafah is a Singapore-based street artist, who often works in conjunction with fellow artist Zero. Inspired by his pet gerbils, Mustafah has been creating his infamous Killer Gerbil character since 2003. The character acts as an alter ego for the artist, who views himself as a street rat on a mission to uplift and beautify empty spaces with colors and forms.

Klone: Klone is a Tel Aviv-based street artist. Originally from Ukraine in the former USSR, Klone has been creating art in Israel for over a decade. Klone is perhaps best known for his Predator and Clone characters, which represent the struggle between conformity and nonconformity within society.

Mars: Mars is a Chicago-based street artist in the United States. Graffiti is an addiction for Mars, who got into the scene as a teenager because his cousin was a writer. For Mars, getting up just feels good. While his graffiti used to be about gaining fame and notoriety, recently, his work has been evolving into a more personal and introspective process for this up-and-coming street artist.

MIC: MIC is a street artist who resides in Hong Kong. In Hong Kong the commercialization of the urban landscape is overwhelming because of the population density. The public space is so saturated with ads that it can be difficult to form a free thought. This is why MIC shares what is in his heart on the streets. To MIC, street art and graffiti represent a powerful statement of poetic defiance.

Muhnned Alazzh: Muhnned Alazzh is a Palestinian street artist whose main influence is the slain Palestinian caricaturist Naji Alali. Muhnned was drawn to street art because he wanted as many people as possible to see his work. As a result, Muhnned's art is designed for the streets and is focused on the common man. Through his work, Alazzh hopes to eventually undermine the dominance of traditional art exhibitions.

Phibs: Phibs is one of the most respected and renowned names in Australian graffiti and street art. He has painted so many walls around Fitzroy, an inner suburb of Melbourne, that the neighborhood has been dubbed “Phibsroy” by the locals. Originally from Sydney, Phibs moved to Melbourne in 2001 and joined forces with the Everfresh Studio collective. His art signifies the symbiotic, engages the urban with the organic, and features a menagerie of signature characters.

Sloke: Sloke is a street artist who lives in Austin, TX. As a kid, Sloke grew up with an interest in drawing. When he saw the colorful graffiti being done on subway cars, he knew that that was what he wanted to do. For Sloke, graffiti saved his life by giving him a direction and focus.

Stormie Mills: Mills is an Australian artist based out of Perth with a career spanning over 25 years. Mills, who is best known for his iconic character based work, has seen his art showcased around the world in Tokyo, New York, London, and Miami, among other cities. Along with fellow artists Timid, Remi/Rough, System, Juice 126 and Derm, Stormie Mills was featured in the short film *Ghost Village*, which documents the crew’s journey to the west coast of Scotland to transform the abandoned village of Polphail with their art.

Thor: Thor is a Chicago-based street artist. Thor's work ruminates on the wrongheadedness of American society with its focus on materialism and consumerism in the face of worldwide poverty, hunger and disease. Thor lives in the Illinois countryside where he supports his family with his own livestock, vegetables, etc.

TwoOne: TwoOne was born in Yokohama, Japan where he gained an early interest in graffiti while photographing a stretch wall in his hometown. After moving to Melbourne, Australia, at the age of 18, TwoOne quickly integrated into the local street art scene. By 2003, he held his first show in conjunction with the No Comply skateboard exhibition. In 2008, TwoOne held his 1000 Cans show, one of his biggest events to date.

Vexta: Vexta is a prominent Melbourne street artist who is known mostly for human portraits. Vexta moved from Sydney to Melbourne where she was inspired by the stencil art of artists like Diux, Optic, Sync and Ha-Ha, among others. In 2005 Vexta was featured in the documentary *Rash*, a film that explores the cultural value of street art in Melbourne.

Victor Ash: Victor Ash is a street artist originally from Paris, France, who now resides in Copenhagen, Denmark. Ash started his artistic career as a graffiti writer in the early 80s when he went by the names Saho and Ash2 as part of the pioneering Parisian graffiti collective BBC or Badbc with JayOne and Skki. Originally inspired by New York City subway graffiti, Ash's newer pieces often explore the contrast between urban environments and nature as well as young people's quest for identity in subcultures.

Xeme: Xeme is a street artist based in Hong Kong where graffiti is seen more as a trend than an art form. Another unique complexity involved with street art in Hong Kong revolves around the construction boom. Many of the halls of fame, walls and areas where graffiti was allowed are disappearing as a result of the continual expansion of the city.

CREDITS

Produced and Directed by
Jon Reiss

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Una Jackman

Executive Producer for Babelgum
Laurence Billiet

Co-Producers
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Rory Owen Delaney

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Adilla Amelia
Denise Chan
Marc Wiltshire
Jieqing Hu

Sound Mix
Kristofer Velasquez

'BOMB IT 2' Main Title Animation
Joaquin Baldwin

Featuring
(In order of appearance)
Muhnned Alazzh
Xeme
Bon
Husk Mit Navn
Darbotz
Two One
Phibs
Vexta

Know Hope
Great Bates
Killer Gerbil
Zero
Foma
Klone
Wisam Salsaa
Khaled Ajamia
Ayed
Inspire
Thor
The Three Hearts Crew
Sloke
Beejoir
Jon
Alex Face
Mic
Stormie Mills
Victor Ash
Ash Keating
Mars

With
Aysar Daward
Mekatron
Fred's One
Antck
Cens
Kato
Nicky
Bles
Stef
Jack
Egor
Dolly
Fem
Brooks Golden
Mental
Sars
John Sakowski

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Omar Cara

Shot By
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Additional Camerawork Israel
Nir Weiss

Bethlehem Unit Production Manager
Saed Abu Hmud

Copenhagen Location Coordinator
Ann-Sofie Rørsgaard

Post Production Assistant
Courtney Bassani

Production Assistant
Roberta Ballarini

Still Photography
Husk Mit Navn

Darbotz

Phibs

Vexta

Reka

Foma

Klone

Dolly Villalon

Beejoir

Ash Keating

Stock Footage

Ash Keating

Victor Ash

Music

“Smooth Cool Jazz”

“Mellow and Groovy”

“Fun and Cool Hip Hop”

“Track 053007”

By Meredith Chinn

“Green & Red Flares”

“Walk Before You Crawl”

“Dance Vibe”

“Jump Up”

“Break the Beat”

Written and Produced by RVERS:PLAY

Courtesy of Mike Genato Music

“Keys Please”
“Hard Knock”
“Mass Appeal”

Written by: Marcus Woods
Performed by: Elokwent
Published by: Marcus
Jerome Woods and Base 9 ASCAP

“Aaoul”
“Flute Bounce”

Written and Performed by: Apple Juice Kid
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

“Get Funky”
“Let Me”

Written and Performed by: Spud Too Tight
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

“Awake”
“Reck on”
“BBP”

Written by: Shane Ries
Performed by: Fhonic
Published by: Base 9 ASCAP

“Microfone”
“On and Over”
“Universal”

Written by: Shane Ries
Performed by: Dr. Onionskin
Published by: Base 9 ASCAP

“If”

Written and Performed by Damnathan
Courtesy of Humid Sounds Music

“Trailer:

Written and Performed by: David Crenshaw and Ruben Studdard
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

“Texx”

Written by: Shane Ries
Performed by: Sphere and Noum
Published by: Base 9 ASCAP

“Low”
“Paper Chaser”
Produced by: Sharkey Music (ASCAP)
Swimming with the Sharks Music (ASCAP)
Co-Produced by: Kokayi for
Pho13 Myuzik (SESAC)
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“I Can Do It”
Written by: Shane Ries
Performed by: Graf
Published by: Base 9 ASCAP

“Zylo Express”
Written by: Marcus Woods
Performed by: Elokwent
Published by: Marcus Jerome Woods
/ Base 9

“Mandown!”
Written and Performed by: Taylor Rivelli
Courtesy of: Chiron in The Stars
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

“Spanish”
Composed by: Steven Levitin
Performed by The Apple Juice Kid
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

“Yeah”
Composed and Performed by: David Crenshaw
Published by: Missing Link Music LLC

Special Thanks To
Carmichael Gallery, Los Angeles
Lael Kline
Ibda’a Institute
The Residents of the Dehaisheh
Aida and Al Azza Refugee Camps
Andy Mac
Andrew Wu
Chino
Revok
Pez
Faith 47

Dillon Michaels

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