

LONDON MURALS RIDE 11/01/09

Here's some notes on the murals that we will see.

Mauleverer Road Mural

This mural was painted and designed by Ruth Blench & Jane Gifford in 1983. It was inspired by the walled garden in Brockwell Park.

The Big Splash

Designed and painted by Christine Thomas in 1985. It tells the story of the hidden Effra River and also references the women who worked at the Lambeth Doulton factory which closed in 1956. Many of the people in the mural were local residents.

Bellefield Rd Mural 1

This mural was created in 1987 by London Wall Public Art Group and funded by Lambeth Council and the GLC. It features lots of references to the area such as a bell for Bellefields Road and a pile of bricks for Brixton. There is also the symbol of the recreation centre and an old theatre featured in the mural.

Brixton Academy

This mural was created by Stephen Pusey in 1981 and completed in 1982. The mural was commissioned after the Brixton riots of 1981. It shows a mixed group of young people hanging out and having fun to portray the natural racial harmony that could be found between the children in the local schools.

Brixton Academy is the largest non-arena venue for music in the country. It was formerly the Astoria cinema.

Primary school – Stockwell Park Estate

This mural was painted by Tizer One, a local graffiti artist

Stockwell Park Estate

The sunken playground is a designated graffiti area. The artwork changes all the time and many artists travel to paint their work on the walls

Slade Gardens Adventure Playground

Painted in 1983, this mural features the people who worked and played at the adventure playground. It provides a snapshot in time of the surrounding buildings, playground structures and local residents.

Stockwell War Memorial

Painted on the exterior of the entrance to a deep level shelter, this mural was executed by Brian Barnes (with the assistance of children from Stockwell Park School) in 2001. It features Stockwell's famous residents such as Violet Szabo and Vincent Van Gogh as well as commemorating locals who gave their life in the war. A painting of Jean Charles De Menezes was recently added by Barnes but removed after complaints from the council.

Leake Street

The scene of the Cans Festival in May 2008 where Banksy assembled a team of 29 top graffiti artists to paint murals and installed several art installations in now a legal graffiti area. The original murals have now been painted over, including all the Banksy stencils.

Banksy – One Nation Under CCTV

The world's most famous graffiti artist erected scaffolding inside the Royal Mail sorting depot underneath a CCTV camera to pull off this "audacious stunt" (© Daily Mail!) without being noticed. A political comment on the 'Big Brother' nature of today's society, it features a stencil of a small boy painting the slogan whilst being filmed by a security guard with a dog. Westminster council have ordered the owners of the wall to remove the 'graffiti'.

Battersea In Perspective

Another mural by Brian Barnes, painted in 1988. This time, Battersea comes under his scrutiny, from an aerial perspective. The lofty view is well chosen – the plaque on the wall reveals just how many distinguished aviators came from the area.