

# INDEPENDENCE DAY US GRAFFITI SHOW

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Stateside hits East Side as the USA's biggest graffiti and street artists exhibit in London's Shoreditch

2012 has long been hailed as the year to celebrate Great Britain, but in the subversive world of street art, no one sticks to the rules. On July 4th, Independence day, the biggest names - with the most distinctive letters – in American street art are taking over Shoreditch's Black Rat Gallery.

Showcasing a variety of their prolific and wide reaching works, the notorious RISK, New-York based Ron English, guerrilla art group TrustoCorp and the legendary SABER will recast the London tunnel as a stateside, street-art mural. All four artists will be available for interview from 10:30am on Wednesday – fresh from their triumphant outdoor work at London Pleasure Gardens. Press are welcome from 9:30am – 12pm.

**All interview requests should be sent to [job@jb-pr.com](mailto:job@jb-pr.com) or [emma@jb-pr.com](mailto:emma@jb-pr.com)**

The all-American Independence Day celebration transforms the London tunnel into a bunker of America's most wanted artists. Gallerists Jan and Bruce Helford add, "Corey Helford Gallery is proud to be bringing U.S. art-ists to a UK project of this "Olympian" scale and finishing with a celebration of four of the top U.S. street and graffiti artists - RISK, Ron English, Saber and TrustoCorp - in a gallery that's been home to some of the finest street artists in the world, Black Rat Gallery."

The exhibition of paintings and sculptures will feature an original Bob's Big Boy statue customized by RISK, as well as SABER's famous flag series, which serves as a commentary about the National Healthcare System and his personal challenges with it. For the show, SABER will unveil first Union Flag piece, titled "The Flag Of The National Healthcare System." "Quite literally, I paint for my life," he says. "Every painting I touch, I try to envision my pieces on a travel into the future as a record of the great emotional value as well as artistic merit that can only be matched by someone living under such extreme conditions during these tumultuous times. I only hope that after I am gone, these pieces will be hung on the walls of a different era where we as nations care more about nurturing its citizens than perpetuating the system of profit over life."

The opening reception at Black Rat Gallery is private and by invitation only. All of the artists will be in attendance on opening night, and the show runs through July 18, 2012.

Kelly Graval / RISK

In a career spanning 29 years, RISK has impacted the evolution of graffiti as an art form in Los Angeles and worldwide. RISK gained major notoriety for his unique style and pushed the limits of graffiti further than any writer in L.A. had before being one of the first writers to paint freight trains and freeway overpasses. RISK has worked on numerous Hollywood projects including the film Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure and videos for The Red Hot Chili Peppers, Ice Cube, Bad Religion and Michael Jackson. For more information about the artist, please visit [riskrock.com](http://riskrock.com).

## Ron English

One of the most prolific and recognisable artists alive today, Ron English has bombed the global landscape with unforgettable images: on the street, in museums, in movies, books, television, and album covers. Creating illegal murals and billboards that blend stunning visuals with biting political, consumerist and surrealist statements, English has hijacked public space worldwide for the sake of art. Featured in the hit movies "Supersize Me" and "Exit Through the Gift Shop," English has also made numerous television appearances worldwide. He is the subject of the 2006 award-winning documentary, "POPaganda, the Art and Crimes of Ron English" and the 2009 documentary "Abraham Obama." His work resides in the permanent collections of Rome's Museum of Contemporary Art (MACRO), Paris' Museum of Modern Art, and others.

## TrustoCorp

TrustoCorp is a New York based guerilla art group dedicated to highlighting the hypocrisy and hilarity of human behavior. TrustoCorp targets areas in the public domain reserved for messages of trust and authority and subverts them with sarcasm and satire. With active agents all over the country, they send their messages by any means necessary; from street signs and supermarkets to shopping carts and billboards, nothing is off limits.

## SABER

Among the thousands of people who make up the graffiti community around the world, there are few names that carry the same legendary quality as SABER. SABER was already a fixture in the Los Angeles graffiti scene by 1997 when he completed the largest graffiti piece ever created. His piece on the sloping cement bank of the Los Angeles River was nearly the size of a professional football field, and took 97 gallons of paint and 35 nights to complete. SABER began exhibiting in his fine art in 2002. In October 2010, SABER released a video in which the year's heated debate about health care was spray painted over the American flag. This work led SABER to create a large group of American flag paintings called the Tarnished series. In 2011, SABER's solo show, The American Graffiti Artist opened in New York to great acclaim.

For further press information please contact Jo Brooks or Emma Gilhooly at JBPR on 01273 622555 or 07930 432508.