



WOODBURY HOUSE **‘SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE’**

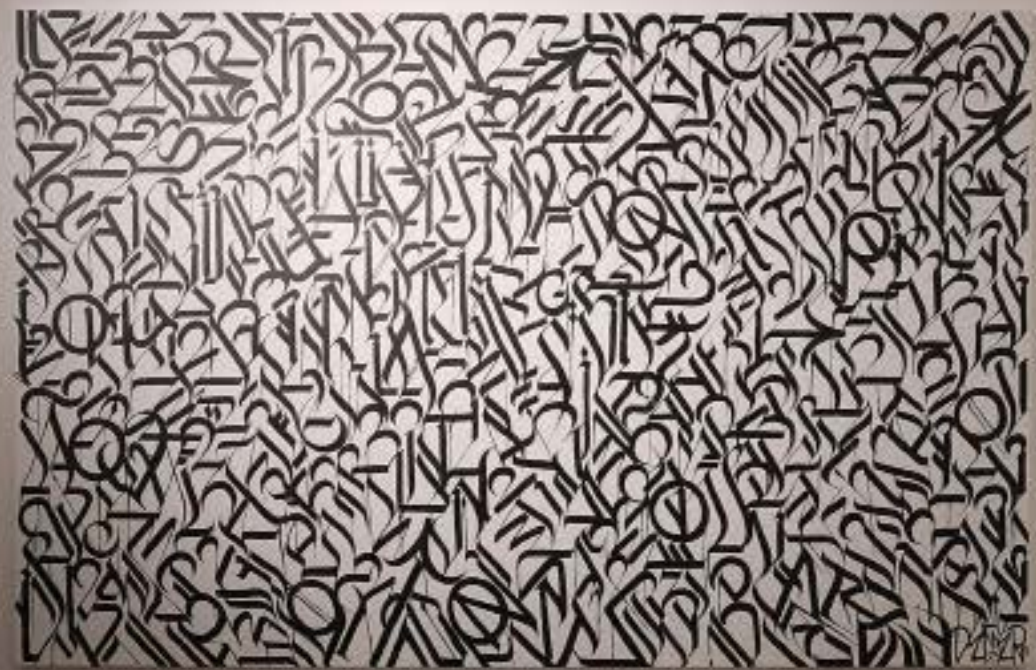
BY DEFER

PRESS FEATURES

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WHY NOW IS DEFER'S TIME

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

DEFER, a prominent name in the world of street art, has gained international recognition for his unique style of graffiti and calligraphy. Drawing inspiration from his Japanese heritage and upbringing in Los Angeles, his work has become a fixture in the city's street art scene, and his contribution to the world of street art is undeniable.

With an upcoming solo exhibition in London, DEFER's time has come to showcase his cultural and financial value and is a testament to his significant position in street art history.

DEFER's artistic journey started in the 1980s when he

began painting graffiti on the streets of LA. Back then, the city's street art scene was flourishing, and DEFER quickly became an integral part of it. His intricate lettering and bold colours caught the attention of many, and he soon developed a loyal following. Alongside his contemporaries, such as OG Slick and RISK, DEFER helped shape the style and aesthetic of LA graffiti, which went on to influence street art worldwide.

DEFER's artistic evolution continued into the 1990s when he began exploring Japanese calligraphy, significantly impacting his work. The influence of calligraphy can be seen in his signature style...

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DEFER TO TAKE ON EUROPE WITH SOLO EXHIBIT IN LONDON

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Alex Defer Kizu, known by his professional name DEFER, is a prominent name in the world of street art. His work draws inspiration from his Japanese heritage and his upbringing in Los Angeles and has become a fixture in the city's street art scene.

Now, Defer is set to take his unique style of graffiti and calligraphy to Europe with a solo exhibition in London. Defer has gained a loyal following over the years and is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after street artists in the world. His use of intricate lettering and bold colours has captured the attention of both art enthusiasts and casual observers alike. His contribution to the world of street art is

undeniable. He has not only introduced a unique style but has also helped bring street art into the mainstream. His work has inspired a new generation of street artists and has helped to elevate the status of street art in the art world.

Defer's upcoming solo exhibit in London is a highly anticipated event in the world of street art. The exhibit will feature some of his most iconic works as well as new pieces that have never been seen before. The event will showcase his cultural and financial value and is a testament to his significant position within the world of street art history. Woodbury House, a private gallery located in Mayfair..

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Schön!

SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE | IN CONVERSATION WITH DEFER

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Artists all around the world strive to reach perfection. A masterpiece can't be considered one unless it ticks all the boxes of the conventional rules of art. Even the simplest of actions, such as writing, becomes a matter of discussion whenever lines, shapes and dimensions differ from what is considered the 'standard'. While these statements might be true for most people, DEFER breaks this canonical mould and embraces the beauty of imperfection.

Alex 'DEFER' Kizu is a major pioneer of the Los Angeles street art scene, who extensively contributed to the emergence of the art movement since the first generation of graffiti writers. Whilst he grew up on

the West Coast, where graffiti art was just becoming popular amongst teens, DEFER's curiosity sparked once he came into contact with the surrounding hip-hop culture through music videos, cultural murals and tribal graffiti. He says that the reason behind this form of expression came from a need to empower himself through his signature (or tag) as a teenager living in poverty-stricken LA.

Unlike other street art artists, DEFER works without any sketches or stencils as he lets his mind take over entering a 'Satori' [enlightenment] phase. "I'm not thinking, [I'm] just doing automatic painting, gestural, abstract at times...

[VIEW ENTIRE ARTICLE](#)

GRAZIA

DEFER THE MAVERICK GRAFFITI ARTIST SHAKING UP THE ART WORLD...

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Prepare to be blown away by the unstoppable force of DEFER, the trailblazing graffiti artist who is revolutionizing the art scene. With his recent sell-out exhibition in London, DEFER has solidified his position among the greats of the street art genre, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with legends RETNA, Todd James, KAWS, and Futura.

DEFER's artistic journey traces back to the raw and vibrant streets of Los Angeles during the explosive hip-hop and graffiti culture of the 1980s. In the heart of this urban playground, DEFER honed his skills, transforming dull walls into breathtaking masterpieces that captured the essence of his surroundings and

spoke volumes through his art.

What sets DEFER apart is his ability to seamlessly blend elements of traditional graffiti and striking typography into a mesmerizing fusion. His compositions radiate cultural identity and urban aesthetics, captivating audiences with their visually explosive and thought-provoking nature.

However, it was DEFER's recent exhibition at Mayfair based gallery, Woodbury House, that served as the pivotal moment in his career, launching him into the stratosphere of international acclaim. The exhibition showcased an awe-inspiring collection, featuring...

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ALEX ‘DEFER’ KIZU : THE SPIRITUAL DIALECT OF GRAFFITI

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Los Angeles faced numerous incidents of civil unrest in the 1980s and 1990s, triggered by heightened racial and socio-economic tensions compounded by police brutality, racial profiling, and gang violence. Amidst this vortex of volatility, the Belmont Tunnel, a forsaken Toluca yard in downtown LA, arose as an epicentre for the city’s burgeoning graffiti culture. This fabled locale hosted graf battles and boasted a treasure trove of graffiti art, spawning a generation of visionaries who would etch their mark on the city’s graffiti history and profoundly influence the distinctive style of LA Graffiti writing.

Alex Kizu, or DEFER, as he is more widely known,

emerged from this crucible of urban creativity. Hailing from the Boyle Heights neighbourhood in Los Angeles, Kizu honed his craft on the very streets that cradled the genesis of this movement as a first-generation pioneering member of the LA graffiti scene founding respected crews such as K2S, STN & KGB.

DEFER’s work expresses the raw essence of his roots, embracing the unadulterated ambience of Graffiti and his formative years in the urban terrain of Los Angeles. Through a term he calls “Spiritual Language,” DEFER channels this deep bond between his artistic self and the urban milieu, forging...

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JOSEPH BANNAN TALKS STREET ART, COLLECTING & EXHIBITIONS

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Joseph Bannan’s journey into street art has been nothing short of epic, evolving from a collector to a passionate gallerist. Through his unrelenting passion for this dynamic art form, Bannan assumed the role of Gallery Director at London’s Woodbury House, a private gallery that exclusively showcases, collects and sells the works of some of the most celebrated names in street art.

Alongside Founder Steve Sulley, Bannan champions the works of historic street artists Richard Hambleton and Blek le Rat, whose art continues to influence and inspire. With a sharp focus on artists and collectors, Woodbury House has become a lovers and collectors

looking to build their collections. Bannan and the team take an informed yet intimate approach to art acquisition that seeks to educate and empower collectors with a philosophy that anyone interested in art or collecting art should not feel intimidated and be confidently guided towards acquiring art that speaks to them.

Beyond its impressive collection, Woodbury House is a vibrant community that celebrates the beauty and power of art. In this interview, we delve deeper into Joseph’s journey, the gallery’s program, and their unwavering efforts to support and elevate the world of street art...

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WOODBURY HOUSE UNVEILS THE LATEST ARTIST TO ITS ROSTER: DEFER

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Woodbury House unveils its latest addition to its collection; the renowned Los Angeles street art pioneer DEFER. The private art gallery, located in the heart of Mayfair, London, is committed to promoting and preserving the art form and showcasing only the finest examples of works from artists who have made significant contributions to its history.

DEFER, or Alex 'DEFER' Kizu, born in 1975, is an iconic figure of the Los Angeles street art movement since the nineteen eighties. His unique ability to create complex and mesmerising letterforms is unparalleled. DEFER's inclusion in the gallery's collection is a tribute to his exceptional contributions

to the world of street art, making him a celebrated figure in the history of LA graffiti. His highly detailed examination of line and colour, which he refers to as his 'Spiritual Language,' stems from his culture and connection to graffiti and the urban landscape. This profound artistic language distorts the lines between street art and fine art and has earned him international recognition, including features at The Getty Museum, L.A. Louver, and Beyond the Streets.

Known for his unique style and vision, DEFER has earned a dedicated following among art enthusiasts and collectors, making his works highly sought after. The gallery is thrilled to showcase DEFER's...

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DEFER'S FIRST-EVER UK EXHIBITION OPENS AT WOODBURY HOUSE

PREVIEW OF ARTICLE:

Los Angeles street art pioneer Alex 'DEFER' Kizu showcases new works in highly anticipated UK debut exhibition 'Spiritual Language' at Woodbury House.

'Spiritual Language' showcases a series of new works presenting the visual dialect of DEFER's subconscious mind, body and spirit, immersed in the process of painting. His signature graffiti aesthetic, letter form and free-flowing, gestural brush strokes convey a 'Spiritual Language' symbolic of tongues, as complex structured text and word play are intricately layered to mask hidden messages within each artwork. Born in the Boyle Heights neighbourhood of Los Angeles, DEFER's characteristic

obliterated letter form echo's the language of his birthplace as abstract frantic structures flow organically with multi-layered of typography, cultural motifs, and complex patterning.

As a first-generation pioneering member of the LA graffiti scene founding respected crews K2S, STN & KGB, DEFER's work stems from his culture connection to graffiti and the urban landscape, representing a profound artistic language distorting the lines between street art and fine art.

DEFER has an impressive track record of collaborations with brands such as Beats by Dre...

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DEFER PRESENTS FIRST EVER UK EXHIBITION AT WOODBURY HOUSE

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Los Angeles street art pioneer Alex 'DEFER' Kizu showcases new works in highly anticipated UK debut exhibition entitled 'Spiritual Language' at Woodbury House in Mayfair, London.

'Spiritual Language' showcases a series of new works presenting the visual dialect of DEFER's subconscious mind, body and spirit, immersed in the process of painting. His signature graffiti aesthetic, letter form and free flowing, gestural brush strokes convey a 'Spiritual Language' symbolic of tongues, as complex structured text and word play are intricately layered to mask hidden messages within each artwork. 'This exhibition is a representation

of my unique approach to artmaking, showcasing a diverse range of paintings that feature a multitude of letter forms and styles. Each piece embodies what I term as "Spiritual Language," which also serves as the title of the show'. – DEFER.

Born in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, DEFER's characteristic obliterated letter form echo's the language of his birthplace as abstract frantic structures flow organically with multi-layered of typography, cultural motifs, and complex patterning. As a first-generation pioneering member of the LA graffiti scene founding respected crews K2S, STN & KGB, DEFER's work stems from his cultural...

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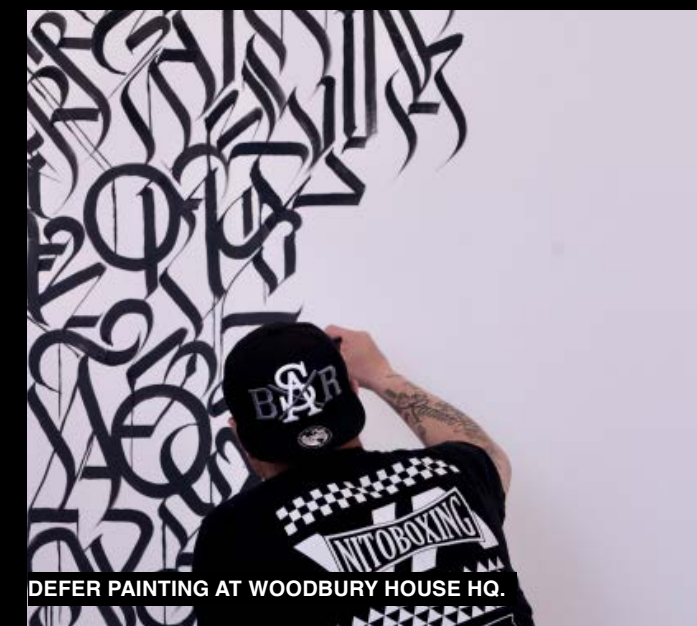
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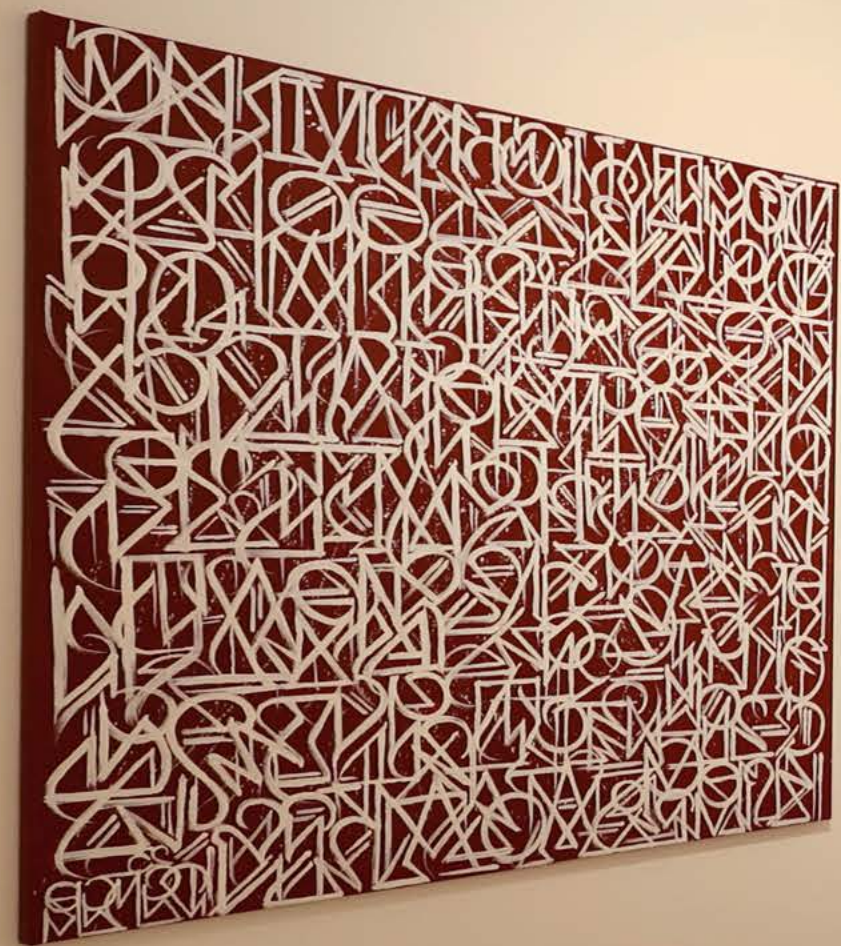
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