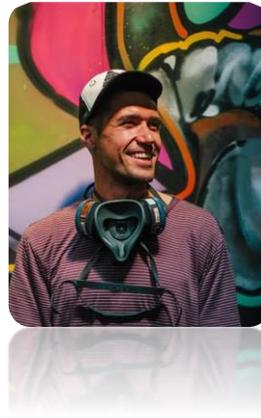


J. MUZACZ

4505-B Red River St.
Austin, TX 78751
(512)497-1492

jmuzacz@gmail.com
<https://jmuzacz.com>
IG - @jmuzacz



ARTIST STATEMENT

With 14 years of experience as a street artist and muralist, I am most comfortable painting large-scale work directly onto walls. Since my artwork most often takes the form of murals in the public sphere, I try to craft compositions that are relevant and site-specific. Whether commissioned for a public or private space, I always strive to adapt to the architecture in a way that complements the existing environment and “settles in” over time. Spray paint and various latex or acrylic house paints applied with a paint roller offer me the opportunity to craft one-of-a-kind compositions quickly and with effective spontaneity. For my personal work, I find infinite inspiration in travel and the natural world, depicting sea turtles, birds, flowers, people and cultural iconography that will hopefully be appreciated by the majority of the local community. Having lived for three years in Japan, *wabi sabi* elements and a *hanko* stamp are design motif signatures in my work.

Recently I am painting smaller works on canvas and developing a series of Chicana/o-influenced portraits of people and low rider classic cars. Finding ourselves in a tumultuous and divided political climate, I feel inspired to raise my artistic voice in revering a street style most closely associated with the disenfranchised ethnic minority, a population I grew up with in Houston, Texas, which I respect and would like to help where I can. Giving a voice to and raising awareness and recognition for a largely Hispanic, subversive artform - that of customizing low rider classic cars - speaks to my youthful rebelliousness and continuing passion for alternative and low-brow art. Bridging the gap between the street *barrio* and fine art world in a way that translates well and is understood and appreciated by both sides is the challenge which drives this work.

Painting representational imagery in a stained glass or mosaic style, at once segmented and abstracted though coalescing into an image in its entirety, I find myself invigorated at the prospect of endlessly experimenting with color and deconstructing the basic building blocks of the complex forms (namely people, cars, car parts and landscapes) I aim to depict. It also allows me the unique opportunity of revering everyday people and machines as sacred, instilling in the image a sort of contemporary classicism as though it were an actual church window or mosaic monument.

BIO

Jonathan “J” Muzacz, also known by the street art alias GIVE or GIVE1, is a muralist, public artist, painter, art educator and author of two books. Muzacz has painted murals in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Taiwan and across the United States. Both commissioned and free walls, temporary and permanent, in the public and private sectors, some impressively large-scale projects amassing thousands of square footage in surface area and up to four stories tall or spanning an entire city block. Muzacz has taught urban art for the City of Austin, painting around a dozen murals together with “at-risk” teens at or nearby recreation centers all over Austin. He also led the inaugural Caminos program interns in painting their “Legacy” mural at the Mexican American Cultural Center.

Alongside teaching English abroad in Korea and Japan, Muzacz painted numerous murals and collaborated with dozens of local artists for festivals at Olympic Park in Seoul and in Kyoto among others. In Japan, Muzacz authored and illustrated two books, [Japan 365: A Drawing-A-Day Project](#) (2012) and [Life Is Sweet: The Story of a Sugarcane Field](#) (2013). The drawing project’s progress in 2011 was written up in the Mainichi and Kyoto Newspapers, in Tokyo Metropolis Magazine, and back home in the Houston Press and 002 Magazine. While travelling in New Zealand in 2015, Muzacz

painted a series of bird murals in Nelson and received local notoriety on the front page of the Daily Mail Newspaper, and with one 3D illusion mural featured on the cover of Mudcakes and Roses Magazine.

Back in Austin, painting for clients such as Capital Metro, Austin City Limits Music Festival, Crux Climbing Center, IDEA School Rundberg and Encore Records, as well as a slew of restaurants and food trucks around town – Kreyol Korner, Lucky Belly, Saffron, East Side Pita, etc. – Muzacz's diverse works are highly visible in the public sphere. He increasingly travels for work, recently painting a farmer's market and gymnasium in Pennsylvania, as well as Los Angeles and Venice Beach.

In 2017, Muzacz's fifth piece in a series of low rider paintings titled "Impala on Fire" was selected as a regional finalist in Bombay Sapphire's nationwide Artisan Series competition and was featured at Austin's Art on 5th Gallery exhibition. He is concurrently showing low rider paintings at Art For The People Gallery and Print Press Gallery. Muzacz has his first solo show coming up in summer 2018 at the Julia C. Buttridge Gallery. He has also painted a permanent marquee feature mural on the exterior façade of the Dougherty Arts Center.

EDUCATION

2006 BA *summa cum laude*, Sociology, University of Texas – Austin, TX

GRANTS/AWARDS/INVITATIONS

2017 SXSW ReCreate at Hope Outdoor Gallery – Featured Artist (Austin, TX)
2016 HUE Mural Festival - Featured Artist (Houston, TX)
2015 Katikati Open-Air Arts and Mural Festival – Second Place (New Zealand)
2015 Miculture Foundation - Guest Artist (Taiwan)
2013 Yaeyama Organic Farm - Resident Muralist (Japan)
2010 Texas Commission on the Arts - Project Grant (Big Bend National Park)

SELECTED WORK HISTORY (EXHIBITIONS, COMMISSIONS & COLLECTIONS)

2018

"Stained Slabs" A solo exhibition at the Julia C. Buttridge Gallery – July 2018 - Austin, TX

2017

"Build Hope Not Walls" Group show at Big Medium (Austin, TX)
IDEA Rundberg College Preparatory Academy (Austin, TX)
Encore Records x SUGAR Acrylic Artists Paint promotion with SprATX (Austin, TX)
Texas Rural Water Authority - Interior mural (Austin, TX)
"The Wangers" Residential mural commission at The W Austin (Austin, TX)
"Sea Life" Exterior mural for Lustre Pearl (Austin, TX)
PRISM Group show at Print Press (Austin, TX)
Residential infill/foundation geometric/abstract murals for Cobalt Companies (Austin, TX)
"Scene Builders" Group show at Art for the People Gallery (Austin, TX)
New Wilmington Farmer's Market murals (New Wilmington, PA)
"Thunderbird in the Jungle" Mural in Koreatown (Los Angeles, CA)

2016

Nepalese Prayer Wall Mural for Saffron Restaurant (Austin, TX)
"Hops for Hope" Group show and fundraiser (Austin, TX)
"Fun Run" Interior murals for Capital Metro's new fitness rooms (Austin, TX)
"Dia de los Peacock" Mural commission for private residence (Austin, TX)
"Nautical" Interior murals for Ghiilu Japanese Restaurant (Kyoto, Japan)

2015

"Crane Calligraffiti" Mural collaboration with Taiwanese calligrapher Ebix (Taipei, Taiwan)
"Tin Pan Roadhouse" Series of Americana roadhouse murals and signage (Dulan, Taiwan)
"Eagle Vs. Shark" Mural for Last Port Tattoo (Nelson, New Zealand)
**Featured in the Daily Mail newspaper*
"Intergalactic" Large-scale mural for Nelson Roller Sports Club (Tahunanui, New Zealand)
"Stained Glass Skull & Stag" Murals for artists' studios (Wanganui, New Zealand)
**Featured on TV1*

"Greetings from Aotearoa" at the Mural and Arts Festival 2015 (Katikati, New Zealand)
**Won 2nd prize in the juried competition*

2014

"Polished Steel" Interior design for an industrial furniture studio and showroom (Melbourne, Australia)
"The Corner Store" Typeface logo for boutique apartments (Melbourne, Australia)
"Birds of a Feather" Interior mural for Thomson Street Food Store (Melbourne, Australia)
"So Fresh & So Clean" Residential interior typography feature wall (Houston, TX)

2013

"TAKO" Four-story mural for 730 Intersection on Ishigaki Island (Okinawa, Japan)
"Sakieda Organic Farm" Series of flora and fauna murals and signage (Okinawa, Japan)
\$7,200 Crowdfunded to publish Life Is Sweet: The Story of a Sugarcane Field (2013)
**Featured in Tokyo Metropolis Magazine*

2012

\$6,400 Crowdfunded to publish Japan 365: A Drawing-A-Day Project (2012)
**Donated ¥78,000 of proceeds to local NGO Japan for Sustainability (~\$800 USD)*

2011

"A Drawing-A-Day Project of Japan" for 2011 documenting Japan with A4 ball pen sketches
**Profiled in the Kyoto Shimbun and Mainichi Newspapers*

2010

"Neon Fingerlips on a Global Trek Missing a Leg" Group show at Julia C. Buttridge Gallery (Austin, TX)
"Unity Between Nature & Technology" Mural for Manor New Tech High (Manor, TX)
"Jacob Payne" Tribute mural at the former 5 Pointz open-air museum (Queens, NY)
"Reading Is Fun" Dr. Seuss and Shel Silverstein-inspired murals (Manor, TX)
"Collaborate!" Mural with Austin's first-ever Urban Art Summer Camp (Austin, TX)
Graffiti abatement murals for Texas Greenbelt Association & Keep Austin Beautiful (Austin, TX)

2009

"Sundial of the Century Plant" Texas Commission on the Arts' grant-sponsored permanent sculptural installation for Big Bend National Park and the San Vicente School
"Sprout" Sculptural installation for Eastside Memorial Green Tech High School (Austin, TX)
"Scoop the Poop" Sculptural installation as part of the Austin River Protection Initiative (Austin, TX)
Donkey Donuts storefront interior murals (Hanoi, Vietnam)
"Overstay" Interior design murals for a backpacker hostel (Bangkok, Thailand)

2008

"Dooky the Dinosaur" Sculptural installation at Namsan Korean village (Seoul, South Korea)
"Miles Davis" Mural painting for a jazz club (Daegu, South Korea)

2007

"Mount Blackmore" Mural painted with TCTA painting class participants (Austin, TX)
"Black Butterfly" Mural for a local small business beauty boutique (Austin, TX)
"Life Cycle of a Monarch" Mural for Monarch Food Store (Austin, TX)

2006

Group show and courtyard mural at Gallery 19 in the Heights (Houston, TX)

2004-2005

Live painting at the Cedar Street Market (Austin, TX)
Live painting at Union Square Park (New York, NY)

RELATED EXPERIENCE

2017- Present	Skybridge Academy – Art Teacher
2017	Mexican American Cultural Center, Caminos Program - Muralist
2006 -10, 16-17	City of Austin, Totally Cool Totally Art - Instructor (Urban Painting)
2010, 2016	Resolution Gardens - Landscape Designer, Project Manager
2010 – 2012	JET Program - Assistant English Teacher (Kyoto, Japan)
2006 – 2010	Austin Green Art - Resident Artist, Project Manager