

# Subtopia

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**1. & 2. Sit | Holland | 2013**

SIT has a background in advertising. Today he uses his art to create dialogue and highlight what he thinks is right or wrong with society. The inspiration for the painting at Subtopia came from SIT's experience of being part of the "rat race", his time working in advertising. The dogs represent the world we live in, where we are programmed to chase a goal that we never know if we will reach.



**3. Ver Tisoy | Sweden | 2015**

In addition to art and scenography, Ver Tisoy has worked with young people and culture since the '80s. At Subtopia he has painted a fairy influenced by tribal patterns, which for him is the child who can create something out of chaos. The work is the first part of a triptych. Ver Tisoy thinks that the Subtopia grounds stand for young creativity, and believes that the work can give the surrounding area a special feeling.



**4. Lott Alfreds | Sweden | 2014**

The seed to Lott Alfred's neon leaf was sown by a boy from local area Storvreten. The piece was created as part of a project to highlight what is allowed to be seen in the public space, where children are often underrepresented. So the artist collaborated with children and young people to pay attention to their forms of expression. With the neon art, Lott wants to make visible the symbols we all share, and show the creativity that everyone has. For her, the leaf symbolizes that a thought can be



**5. Adine | USA | 2018**

Adine is an artist from New York who often works with body parts. Her work at Subtopia is based on her own eyes, but previously she has worked with bones and the heart as forms. The style of the work here is inspired by vintage photography and a question Adine asked herself when she was studying photography in Spain: How can photography and metal meet? The eye is a motif Adine has often used on the streets of New York, and in the subway, to evoke the sensation that Big Brother is



**6. Knut Larsson | Sweden | 2014**

Knut Larsson has always drawn, and started his journey as a professional comic book artist and painter in 1996. He sees graffiti and the comic book world as relatives. The illustrations have left comic books and ended up on walls and in the streets. The idea for the piece at Subtopia came from the shape of the wall itself, it looked like a winding train, so all that was needed was to fill in the rest of the details. Knut's childhood is always a major source of inspiration to him, and as a young boy he loved trains.



**7. Jimmy Rosenholm | Sweden | 2018**

One day during paternity leave, Jimmy Rosenholm was walking with his daughter in the forest when they found wild strawberries. That memory was the inspiration for this piece. Rosenholm's motifs are often influenced by the Stockholm archipelago, where he lives, and are often idyllic, like this one. Jimmy says painting makes him happy, so he paints happily. For him, graffiti art symbolizes freedom. He has been active within the arts throughout his life and is currently studying at Nyckelvikskolan to



#### 8. Vegan Flava | Sweden | 2017

Vegan Flava describes his art as visual activism and direct action painting. He wants to question our culture's norms surrounding consumption, production and identity as well as highlight the coexistence of nature, animals, and people. His art often conveys a criticism of our way of treating animals and nature. In many cases, his motifs consist of skeletons, as they are the common point that remains after the layers of identity have been scaled away.



#### 9. Alias | Germany | 2014

Alias believes images say more than words. This was one of the reasons he went from tagging to working with stencil art. It started in the late '90s when he moved to Hamburg, where stencil techniques had begun to develop. Emotional and sad pictures of children are a recurring motif in Alias' art. But it is not always the child's story he wants to tell. His work is perhaps best viewed as social commentary. Alias has created the more pieces at Subtopia, all are in his characteristic style.



#### 10. & 17. Nipponpop | Sweden | 2015

Nipponpop's art draws influences from pop art, Japan and Asia in general. The Japanese influences come as a result of her having an old aunt who painted a lot. She lived in Japan and brought home the art and culture to the family. In Subtopia, she has created the figure Nonna, which is a tribute to her becoming a grandmother. The figure can be found in two places, one of which she chose to place on an electrical cabinet in a dead-end alley, so that whoever gets lost is met with a pleasant surprise.



#### 11. Ziggy | Sweden | 2015

Ziggy is one of the pioneers of the Swedish graffiti scene. He was one of the first graffiti artists in Sweden and Stockholm, and was featured in the famous '80s movie *Stockholmsnatt*. Ziggy has two pieces at Subtopia. The first consists of a number of his classic death's heads skulls.



#### 12. Shora Denhavi | Sweden | 2016

Shora Denhavi is an artist from Stockholm. In Subtopia, she wanted to find side-spaces, forgotten "useless" places that she could give some love to. The choice fell on the small house around which her organic designs now wind. She wanted to break the static and angular state of the house by allowing the soft and creeping forms to emerge.



**13. Alias | Germany | 2014**

Just like in work 9, this work by Alias depicts an emotional and sad child. Why is the child sitting on a bomb? Is it a regular bomb?



**14. Lola | Sweden | 2009**

Lola is a group of artists who often work with public art. The members are also active at art school Konstfack and run a gallery. In 2009, they created a landmark for Subtopia in the form of a giant arm that serves as both lighting and direction. The arm is an (enlarged) copy of the circus artist Fefe Deijfen's arm.



**15. Hoodsfredsfestivalen | 2006**

When Gringo magazine organized the Hoodsfred Festival together with Subtopia, a graffiti competition was on the program. This wall, which was painted by a dozen artists, was one of the contributions created during the festival. The wall has been left nearly untouched since the competition.



**16. Ziggy | Sweden | 2015**

Ziggy is one of the pioneers of the Swedish graffiti scene. Ziggy has two pieces at Subtopia. This Ziggy piece consists of his deepest thoughts written in a fictional alphabet. The work has been developed by putting texts layer upon layer. The bottom layer is uncensored, after which each layer becomes increasingly cryptic. Ziggy exposes his innermost feelings for the world to see, but if you want to access them, you have to work for it.



**18. Alias | Germany | 2014**

Here at the little house there are two more works by Alias, who also created works 9 and 13. The theme throughout is sad children. Here he also works directly with the shape of the place and places the children in relation to the doors of the house.



**19. Pernie Paints | Sweden | 2022**

Perinie Paints are inspired by nature and the paintings often depict plants and fungi and sometimes animals. People and our society can be sensed in the pictures but they are never the main character. Instead, we get to be spectators to the world of nature. In Subtopia's outdoor gallery she has painted The Secretaryness. A vulture with a nice burr around its neck and a bow around its beak. The name comes from secrecy - she can say nothing but is happy to listen, and - aryness as someone who is noble.



**20. Shai Dahan | USA/Sweden | 2013**

A recurring theme in Shai Dahan's art is hybrids between different phenomena, styles and techniques. He wants to create a yin and yang effect in his work. For the pieces at Subtopia, Shai Dahan has been inspired by the orderly lifestyle of the 19th and 20th centuries, and mixed it with the freer culture of street art. The result was a gentleman of two estheticians, representing a union of two different sides of street art.



**21. Shai Dahan | Usa/Sweden | 2013**

Opposite Shai Dahan's gentleman work, he has also created a bird in collaboration with children for a children's program that aired on SVT.



**22. Puppet Industries | Sweden | 2015**

One of Sweden's first graffiti artists, Puppet has been painting non-stop since 1984. He describes his process as pushing his works into reality, it's not just painting on walls. Puppet works a lot with so-called "grids", which means that he starts from a grid pattern in the creation of figures and worlds. At Subtopia, he has gridded an entire bridge. Bridges are something he has worked a lot with, as they have a strong symbolic value to him.





**23. Amara Por Dios | Sweden | 2016**

Amara Por Dios is from Stockholm, but lives in London. In her creations, she draws inspiration from her Chilean roots and South America. Her paintings are often colorful, and in many cases represent patterned faces reminiscent of the art of ancient cultures from all over the world.



**24. Rein | Sweden | 2018**

Rein has been working since he was 12 in the Stockholm region. Today he is in his thirties. Rein strives for clear messages in his art. What is meant must be easy to understand. And art in itself, he says, is about joy. The style he used in this work is about recognizing yourself in characters. In this case in the little hedgehogs. The theme is of course love.



**25. Julia Rio | Sweden | 2018**

Julia Rio has been involved in arts and crafts since she was a child, but her career began on Brick Lane in London when she created her first public work in the form of knitted graffiti. She has since included muralism, installations and textiles in her artistic expression. Julia sees the public space as our common living room and carries out her work mainly there. Geometry, patterns, and color make her happy, and that is why she chose to create an abstract work for Subtopia where these elements are prominent.



**26. Kollektivet livet | Sweden | 2014 (inomdoors)**

According to Kollektivet Livet (The Life Collective), art allows us to get lost in thoughts and feelings in an otherwise very structured world. The mural at Subtopia consists of a multicolored abstract pattern, a pattern that member Andreas Blom has worked with for many years. The four-leaf clover of hearts, common in street art, is a recurring symbol in the collective's creations. For Andreas, it symbolizes love as well as the hopeless hunt for four-leaf clovers – they can never be found once you try.



**27. Roa | Belgium | 2011**

Internationally renowned artist ROA was the one who started Subtopia's outdoor gallery when a commission in Stockholm was canceled last minute. Someone told ROA about Subtopia, and the rest is history. His paintings can be found all over the world, in New York, Zaragoza, London, and New Zealand, to name a few places. The motifs are always black and white, sometimes with colorful elements. ROA often paints animals belonging to the local fauna. Here at Subtopia it is a badger, integrated into the surroundings in an impressive way.



**28. Saadia Hussain | Sweden | 2014**

Saadia Hussain sees art as a language she uses to convey her message. She wants to touch, provoke reactions and contribute to some form of change with the stories that her work embodies. She sees her piece at Subtopia as claiming a spot in the public space and screaming out her story on a large surface. It is a symbolic image where she asserts her multiple identities as a woman, a Swede, and a Muslim. It reflects her view of the world, and the world's view of her.



### 29. Caro Pepe | Argentina | 2017

The girl on the wall represents Caro Pepe's alter ego. She personifies her feelings and values, but is a braver and yet more fragile version. The one-eyedness, she explains, represents people's limited perspective. This particular work expresses the traveling that the artist has done all over the world in her profession, with her hair fluttering freely.



### 30. Crossie | Great Brittan | 2014 (inomdoors)

For Crossie, graffiti is about freedom, as well as being a political act. She wants to challenge what she sees as a masculine and male-dominated art form in graffiti, and contribute with feminine, soft, and beautiful work. Her motifs often consist of butterflies in strong colors – she is fascinated by the metamorphosis of butterflies and their beautiful patterns. Crossie believes that butterflies are nature's way of showing off, making them a great object to experiment with as an artist.



### 31. Pablo Delgado | Mexico | 2013 (inomdoors)

Pablo Delgado har målat sedan år 2008. I strävan efter att hitta ett enkelt uttryckssätt började han utgå från riktiga bilder som han sedan minimerade. Med sina små figurer kan han belysa världens problematiska frågor utan att göra någon illa till mods. Inspirationen till figurerna kommer från hans första intryck av Sverige som "a clean place". När Delgado väljer motiv googlar han ord som leder till olika bilder. För verket på Subtopia utgick han från orden "cleaning", "clearing" och "swiping".



### 32. Kenny och Brain | Sweden | 2020

Kenny Bergander and Lee Spångberg both grew up in Norsborg but only started painting and creating creative projects together in 2019. The work on Subtopia is called Pojkstreck [boy prank] and is inspired by play and drawing boundaries. What was originally supposed to be just a painting on the door became the entire loading dock. Inspired by their upbringing with graffiti in the 80s and by Botkyrka municipality's slogan "Far from enough".

