



# CRASH (John Matos) b.1961 New York

## Summary

CRASH was born John Matos on October 11, 1961 in the Bronx, NY. CRASH is considered a pioneer in graffiti art and began spray painting subway cars by age 13.

CRASH's energetic, colorful designs allude to celebrity and comic book culture in an attempt to make his work more accessible to a mass audience.

He first gained critical attention after curating "Graffiti Art Success for America" at the Fashion Moda in 1980, a historic exhibition which elevated graffiti to the realm of high art. In 1984, the artist collaborated with Keith Haring on a series of murals commissioned by Figuration Libre and British American Tobacco. Today, his works are held in the permanent collections of the Brooklyn Museum, the Boca Raton Museum of Art, the New Orleans Museum of Art, and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, among others. The artist lives and works in the Bronx, NY.

## Group Exhibitions

2019 *We Were Here: East Coast x West Coast*, Chase Contemporary, New York, NY