

Artlounge Volume 2

Rage, D
Roids, UK
Shoe, NL

Three positions in writing

28 March – 31 May 2026

Opening reception: Friday, 27 March 2026, 5 p.m.

Opening speech: Robert Kaltenhäuser
Live performance: Shoe
DJ set: Toni Rocksta

Artlounge at the Radisson Blu Hotel Dortmund
An der Buschmühle 1
44139 Dortmund

The second exhibition in the Artlounge focuses on a core theme of the street art/graffiti genre: writing or the art of writing. Shoe from Amsterdam revolutionized this when he initiated the Calligraffiti movement, claiming “a word is an image and writing is painting”. As a graffiti pioneer, Shoe tagged along with New York counterparts like Dondi White, Rammellzee and Keith Haring in the 1980s.

Rage, from Hamburg, is widely regarded as one of Germany's most exceptional graffiti artists. He has been active in the scene for decades and enjoys an excellent reputation. His first exhibition, “The Art of RAGE”, further solidified his reputation as an artist. As part of this exhibition, he also published a book of the same name, which became a milestone in German graffiti art.

Roids, born in London in 1982, is one of the most innovative contemporary graffiti artists. He engages in a range of creative practices. Over the years, he has developed a unique design language for his letter constructions. Since his art world debut in 2011, earning himself a nod from Forbes magazine in an article on “The 30 Most Important Artists and Designers under 30.”

The Art Lounge at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Dortmund is curated by Dortmund artist Markus Wiese. He has been active in graffiti writing since the mid-1980s and is one of the most incisive protagonists of this art form.



Rage is a German graffiti artist and one of the most important and active train writers in Hamburg. As a member of the legendary DSF crew, he developed his own distinctive style right from the start. Since the beginning of his active career in 1998, he has been continuously perfecting it. Rage shifts and blurs the boundaries between graffiti, typography, and art. The typographic development of his lettering, right up to its abstraction, is just as central to his work as the paper itself. Countless sketches from the last 30 years, which have been torn, crushed and reused, form the foundation for his series of works. His canvases and installation-like works reflect his work in urban spaces, catching details from them and developing them forward.



Born in London in 1982, **Roids** is a British visual artist who engages in a range of creative practices informed by his graffiti background. Among them painting, analog typographic design, mural painting, and sculpture. Roids work intersects a deeply studied approach to form, and dimensionality, with an aesthetic charge emanating from the environmental exploration of his graffiti practice, mining from urban history, personal experience, and the nuances of arts connected crafts. Known for his innovation and influence within the conventions of graffiti, roids work is constantly evolving. a measure of graffiti's inherent competitiveness and his own unique investigation into the Stylisation and abstraction of Lettering.



Niels **Shoe** Meulman (born 1967) is a visual artist, known for his gestural paintings which reveal vivid traces of graffiti and calligraphy. He revolutionized the art of writing when he initiated the Calligraffiti movement, claiming “a word is an image and writing is painting”.

Being a graffiti pioneer from Amsterdam, Shoe tagged along with New York counterparts like Dondi White, Rammellzee and Keith Haring in the 1980s. Equally influenced by abstract expressionist painters and pop artists, he gradually found a unique way to translate street attitude to galleries and museums.

Experimenting within the traditional medium of paint-on-canvas, but also unafraid to venture into other domains like conceptual installations and poetry, Niels Shoe Meulman keeps pushing the limits of the global urban contemporary art movement.