



RICH SIMMONS

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is a British contemporary artist known for blending the rebellious energy of street art with the bold visuals of pop art. His self-defined genre, Pop Punk Art, merges the DIY ethos of punk culture with the graphic precision of comic books, resulting in a body of work that is as visually striking as it is culturally resonant.

Entirely self-taught, Simmons rose from the underground art scene by forging his own path — painting on city walls, building a global following, and eventually exhibiting in prestigious galleries worldwide. His work fuses hand-cut stencil techniques with a vibrant, contemporary aesthetic, creating pieces that challenge, excite, and provoke thought.

Inspired by icons like Leonardo da Vinci and Stan Lee, Simmons approaches his art as both an inventor and a storyteller. His pieces often explore themes of identity, duality, and society's contradictions, offering a layered narrative beneath each bold surface.

Beyond the canvas, Simmons is also the founder of Art Is The Cure, a mental health movement he launched in 2008. Driven by his own experiences, he uses his platform to champion the transformative power of creativity, inspiring thousands to turn pain into purpose through art.

Described as a visionary, a cultural disruptor, and a dynamic communicator, Rich Simmons bridges generations with his work — resonating with collectors, communities, and anyone who believes art can be a catalyst for change.

PRESS RELEASE

British Artist Rich Simmons Continues Global Rise with Castle Fine Art, Expanding Creative Platforms and Activism Through Art

British contemporary artist Rich Simmons — based in Brighton — is entering a new phase of growth in 2026, leveraging his stencil-based, pop-punk aesthetic to reach global audiences. Now represented by Castle Fine Art, Simmons brings his bold, narrative-driven work, originally born on street walls, into galleries and private collections worldwide.

Known for a distinctive style that fuses the rebellious energy of street art with the graphic clarity and colour of pop art — a style Simmons calls “Pop Punk Art” — his work features hand-cut stencils, vibrant compositions and visual storytelling rooted in cultural critique, identity and personal history.

Raised as a self-taught artist, Simmons forged his own path — painting on city walls, building grassroots momentum and a global following, eventually earning gallery shows and major exhibitions across the world.

At the same time as expanding his studio practice, Simmons continues to build and lead two creative and socially-minded initiatives:

Art Is The Cure — a movement founded to champion mental health and creative therapy through art. Since its inception, it has offered a platform for people to channel emotion, trauma or struggle into positive creative energy.

CreateScene — a social and professional network for creatives (artists, filmmakers, designers, writers), designed to connect, collaborate and open up opportunities beyond traditional art-world constraints.

Through these parallel tracks — art, activism, community-building — Simmons aims to use his growing international presence not only to sell art but to drive conversation: about identity, society, healing, and the transformative power of creativity.

With his art now available through Castle Fine Art, an expanding body of work, a powerful personal story, and active multimedia presence, Rich Simmons is an ideal candidate for features across culture, art, lifestyle, mental-health or creative entrepreneurship media.



Rich Simmons is a British contemporary artist whose bold fusion of street art and pop art has earned him an international following. Based in Brighton, Simmons is best known for his distinctive stencil technique and the self-defined “Pop Punk Art” style that blends the rebellious energy of punk culture with the graphic clarity and colour of comic book aesthetics. His work is represented globally through Castle Fine Art, where his narrative-driven pieces connect with collectors around the world.

Entirely self-taught, Simmons discovered art as a form of self-expression and escape at an early age. His rise began on the streets, painting murals that quickly gained viral attention and brought his vibrant, storytelling-based imagery into the public eye. Over the years, he has exhibited internationally, collaborated with global brands, and continued to evolve his practice while staying rooted in the stencil craft that defined his beginnings.

Alongside his studio work, Simmons is the founder of **Art Is The Cure**, a mental health and creative-therapy movement inspired by his own journey. The initiative encourages people to use creativity as a tool for healing, resilience and connection — a message that has resonated with audiences worldwide.

Simmons is also the co-founder of **CreateScene**, a fast-growing platform designed to help artists and creatives network, collaborate and build careers in a supportive, opportunity-driven environment.

With a dynamic body of work, a commitment to mental health advocacy, and a passion for building creative community, Rich Simmons represents a new generation of artists using their voice — and their craft — to inspire, challenge and empower.

TOPICS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW / FEATURE

The Artist's Journey — From Street Walls to Castle Fine Art

How a self-taught artist carved his own path from graffiti culture and guerrilla murals to international galleries. The resilience, luck, logic, obsession, and personal evolution behind becoming a recognised contemporary artist while staying true to a punk-rooted, stencil-driven, narrative-heavy style.

Art Is The Cure — Mental Health, Creativity, and the Power of Expression

Why creativity became therapy, how art saved your life, and why you built a global movement encouraging people to create as a form of healing. Discussing stigma, survival, neurodiversity, emotional honesty, and the responsibility of artists to talk about what hurts and what heals.

CreateScene — Building Opportunities, Community and a New Creative Ecosystem

The future of the creative industries lies in connection, collaboration and community. How CreateScene was founded to give artists access to real opportunities, mentorship, and meaningful collaboration — and why the world needs a digital home for creatives now more than ever.

Art, Identity & Social Commentary — Storytelling in Modern Urban Art

Using pop culture, symbolism, punk philosophy, and juxtaposition to hold a mirror to society. Discussing what it means to be a cultural commentator, provocateur and storyteller — using humour, rebellion and contrast to challenge perception and spark conversation.

Modern-Day Polymath — Inspired by Da Vinci and the Renaissance Spirit

Leonardo da Vinci as a lifelong hero, and the mission to revive the Renaissance concept of the creative polymath. The pursuit of mastery across art, writing, design, technology, community-building and activism — and inspiring a new generation of multi-disciplinary creators.

How to Be a Self-Taught Artist and Entrepreneur in the 21st Century

The realities behind building a career without formal training: learning by doing, failing publicly, risking everything, navigating the art market, dealing with imposter syndrome, and running a business while still creating. A brutally honest look at the struggle, sacrifice and strategy needed to make art into a life.

Creativity as Cultural Activism — Why Artists Matter Now More Than Ever

Exploring the role of the modern artist as a social catalyst, storyteller, activist and educator. The responsibility to challenge norms, amplify unheard voices, and push culture forward — and how Pop Punk Art fits into this landscape.





Rich Simmons is a rare force in contemporary art — a self-made, self-taught outsider whose work crashes through the boundaries of genre with unapologetic style. With a foundation in stencil and street techniques, Simmons has coined a genre all his own: Pop Punk Art. It's a loud, luminous blend of pop art and punk rock, equally inspired by Blink-182 and Banksy, with the slick visual impact of comic books and the raw emotional undercurrent of subculture.

What sets Simmons apart isn't just his aesthetic — it's his philosophy. A storyteller at heart, he carries the narrative DNA of Stan Lee and the visionary curiosity of Leonardo da Vinci. His works are more than striking visuals; they're layered, conceptual pieces that invite deeper inspection. Beneath the punchy colours and bold compositions lie social commentary, existential curiosity, and cultural critique.

Like da Vinci — once described as a “blithe societal misfit” — Simmons operates on the fringes, thriving as an innovative disruptor in a traditionally gatekept industry. He forges his own path, refusing convention and building a career that reflects the ethos of punk itself: DIY, defiant, and deeply personal. His art isn't just something to look at — it's something to feel, think about, and talk about.

TESTIMONIALS

“His style and aesthetic are truly impressive. Stencil street art beyond the stencil and the street. Watch out for this dude...”

MARK HOPPUS, BLINK-182

“The art itself could very well be described as a successful fusion. His representations of familiar figures, both real and fictional, allow Simmons to construct narratives, sometimes in only a single frame. What Rich Simmons produces is definitely art, from the street to the gallery enthusiasts of all stripes respond to his work. Simmons is proving that passion, dedication and a wide variety of influences can create engaging cross-cultural art.”

DECOMPOZ MAGAZINE

“Rich Simmons is part of a new wave of street artists emerging from the UK. As a self-taught artist, he uses an intricately detailed stencil style to convey his irreverent sense of humour.”

1884 MAGAZINE

"By implementing modern mentality to throwback imagery, Rich Simmons makes art that will make you blush."

INKED MAGAZINE

“Simmons bold and beautiful work certainly stands out from the street art crowd despite employing many of its conventions. Somehow, in his hands, the use of montage and slogans feels fresh and new.”

HUFFINGTON POST

“Art Professionals are following Rich Simmons progress closely. It is a strong possibility that buying his work now could turn out to be a great investment.”

JEAN-DAVID MALAT, JD MALAT GALLERY

CONTACT

Thank you for your interest.

Hi res photos available upon request. Rich is available for in-person interviews, studio visits (Brighton, UK), virtual interviews, panel discussions and podcast recordings. Travel for media opportunities can be arranged upon request.

Rich Simmons

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**www.richsimmonsart.com | www.artisthecure.org | www.createscene.com
www.instagram.com/richsimmonsart | www.youtube.com/@CreateScene**