



## **DENVER WALLS Festival Announces First Wave of Headlining Artists and Events Schedule for Inaugural International Mural Festival**

*10-day festival in RiNo Art District will host paint battle, street fair, and more activations alongside new murals painted by global and local roster of muralists*

**DENVER** – (Aug. 22, 2023) [RiNo Art District](#), a 501(c)(6) nonprofit arts organization dedicated to fostering a welcoming, creative community where a diversity of artists, residents and businesses thrive, and [DENVER WALLS](#), a new international mural festival part of the globally renowned WORLD WIDE WALLS (FKA POW! WOW!), have announced the schedule for the inaugural festival featuring more than a dozen street art-centric events hosted throughout the District, with featured artists [James Bullough](#), [Kimchi Juice](#), and [George F. Baker III](#) announced as the first headliners for the mural festival.

Known for his distinct combination of delicately handled realistic portraiture with harsh graphic distortion and abstraction, Bullough’s artwork is found globally in places like Berlin, London and Los Angeles. Bullough is also the co-host of [VantagePoint Radio](#), the world’s largest street art podcast. As part of DENVER WALLS, VantagePoint Radio will curate a gallery show featuring artwork from some of the most well-known graffiti and street artists in the world.

Julia Chon (aka Kimchi Juice) is a Korean-American artist creating vibrant artwork that features prominent Korean aesthetics and often portrays images of strong, powerful Asian women. In addition to mural commissions in cities stretching from L.A. to D.C., Chon’s artwork can be found in major institutions and art collections, including the Korean Cultural Center and the [Smithsonian](#)’s permanent collection.

Nebraska-born, Detroit-grown, and Atlanta-raised, George F. Baker III (aka GFB3) is a multidisciplinary creator who’s collaborated with brands like [Adidas](#) and [Patagonia](#) to create art that engages the inner-child inside all of us, often featuring bright, inviting colors, messages of kindness, and diverse representation.

“We are thrilled to begin unveiling the artists we will be showcasing, along with the exciting events happening throughout the Art District during DENVER WALLS,” said Ally Grimm (aka A.L. Grime), a local Denver-based artist spearheading the festival. “We’ve curated an incredible range of programming and activities to immerse you in the culture and community of street art and allow you to explore its intersection with emerging technologies. Be sure to follow [@denverwallsfestival](#) on social. We’ll be unveiling the remaining local, national and international muralists over the next few weeks—but mark your calendars in the meantime!”



Kicking off Sept. 22 and running through Oct. 3, DENVER WALLS will showcase world-class global and local muralists alongside a slate of robust event programming celebrating all forms of street art, including a “secret” paint battle at Yardbird, DENVER WALLS Street Fair, artist panels and workshops, pop-up gallery shows, and more. A list of event programming is available on the [DENVER WALLS website](#).

DENVER WALLS is presented by RiNo Art District and sponsored by FoundryLine, Barcelona Wine Bar, Westfield, COZ, Hines, AEG, Colorado State University, Canvas Credit Union, The Source Hotel, GreenSpaces, Sunstate Rentals, Monster Energy, Denver Graffiti Tours, TOPO Designs, NightQuill and Fully Liberated Youth. Denver will be the 25<sup>th</sup> city to host a WORLD WIDE WALLS event, joining international cities like Honolulu, Seoul and Tokyo.

“Denver’s inclusion in the WORLD WIDE WALLS series speaks volumes about our city’s growing prominence in the artistic landscape,” said Charity Von Guinness, executive director of RiNo Art District, which is also a creative partner for the event. “Working with the DENVER WALLS team to bring this world-renowned event series to RiNo has been a fantastic experience that we hope will further showcase the Art District as a diverse and thriving creative hub where artists, residents, and businesses flourish together.”

For all the latest details and artists at DENVER WALLS, head to [www.denverwalls.com](http://www.denverwalls.com) and follow us on social media @DenverWallsFestival.

### **About WORLD WIDE WALLS**

Founded as a homegrown and independent art festival, WORLD WIDE WALLS (FKA POW! WOW!) is recognized as one of the most premier and well curated mural festivals in the world. With a core mission to beautify, educate and bring people together, each multi-day festival brings international and local artists together to create murals and celebrate all forms of art, culture and music. While the murals are a centerpiece of WORLD WIDE WALLS, the festival is so much more than paint, markers and aerosol cans. Festivities are populated by museum exhibitions, schools of art and music, workshops, block parties and concerts, with past musical performances from The Green, Steve Aoki, Eminem, and Logic. In addition to being an internationally relevant art festival, WORLD WIDE WALLS wonderfully showcases each city that it is in. Whether it be Hawaii, Long Beach, Washington D.C., Worcester, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, San Jose, Guam, Rotterdam, Israel, Nepal, Antelope Valley, etc., WORLD WIDE WALLS highlights the area artists, restaurants, stores and communities that make each host city special and unique.

### **About DENVER WALLS**



This international series of festivals was created by Jasper Wong in an effort to beautify cities and cultivate a build a bridge between local artists and their communities. DENVER WALLS will become a part of the globally recognized WORLD WIDE WALLS (FKA Pow! Wow!) series of street art events, which since 2010 has brought murals to public spaces in 25 international cities like Honolulu, Seoul, Washington DC, Taipei, Doha, and Tokyo. Because of its global presence, WORLD WIDE WALLS has become the top of the mural festival programs. Spaces in the festival are highly sought after by artists and tourists alike. DENVER WALLS will be woman and first-generation-owned with local artist Ally Grimm (A.L. Grime) spearheading the project. She aims to bring her passion for arts, technology, and equality to the project to reimagine the possibilities for Street Art in our city. To learn more about DENVER WALLS, follow on Instagram @denverwallsfestival, or on Twitter @Denverwallsfest.

#### **About RiNo Art District**

RiNo Art District is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit grassroots organization dedicated to fostering a welcoming, creative community where a diversity of artists, residents and businesses thrive. The district is inclusive of five historical neighborhoods: Globeville-Elyria-Swansea, Five Points and Cole. Over the last decade, RiNo Art District has helped form both a Business Improvement District (BID) and General Improvement District (GID) and a community arts educational nonprofit (Keep RiNo Wild) to support the local community. Together, the RiNo Art District family of organizations fund and support the Denver community through advocacy, infrastructure improvements, artist support, community programming, business support, and events. To learn more, please visit [rinoartdistrict.org](http://rinoartdistrict.org) and follow on Facebook and Instagram at @rinoartdistrict and Twitter at @rinoart.

#### **About James Bullough**

James Bullough is an American born artist living and working in Berlin, Germany. His studio paintings, and huge monumentally scaled site-specific murals combine delicately handled realistic portraiture with harsh graphic distortion and abstraction. Inspired by the gritty urban graffiti he saw as a youth growing up in Washington D.C., Bullough harnessed its energy and edge while teaching himself more traditional realistic oil painting techniques by studying the Old Masters. Combining the momentum of the one and the technical precision of the other, his work is about staging compelling contrasts and juxtapositions. Whether working with spray paint on massive facades or oils in his studio, Bullough's work strikes a delicate balance between realistic portraiture and stylized distortions, straddling the space between traditional and contemporary. Learn more at [jamesbullough.com](http://jamesbullough.com).

#### **About Kimchi Juice**

Julia Chon, better known by her artist name Kimchi Juice ([instagram.com/kimchi.juice](https://www.instagram.com/kimchi.juice)), is a Washington DC-based artist and muralist. Chon's work focuses on honoring her Korean heritage. Most recently, she creates Korean Earthenware sculptures representative of traditional kimchi pots. One of her first kimchi

The logo for DENVER WALLS features the words "DENVER" and "WALLS" stacked vertically in a bold, black, hand-drawn, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly irregular and slanted, giving it a graffiti-like appearance. There are some horizontal lines under the "S" in "WALLS".

pots was acquired into the Smithsonian permanent art collection at the Anacostia Museum. Chon’s work explores the relationship between cultural tradition and its effects on generational identity and the decisions Asian Americans make to form their identities. With a prominent Korean aesthetic in each piece, Chon merges her ancestry and traditions with the contemporary to convey the nuances of the Korean diaspora. As Chon’s work makes its way from canvas to large-scale murals, these intimate portraits take center stage in an urban environment. Her murals can be found internationally and her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows in Washington D.C., Los Angeles, CA and Miami, FL. Chon’s clients and collaborations include NASA, Apple, the Korean Cultural Center, and HBO, among others.

### **About George F. Baker III**

George F. Baker III, also known as GFB3, is a Nebraska-born, Detroit Grown, and Atlanta-Raised Creator. Using his instruments of design, illustration, and production, he employs a playful childlike spirit to engage the inner-child we all have. Currently, he is the Creative Director of Foster, a studio-collective striving to make people unafraid to play. Past clients and collaborations include: Adidas, Adult Swim, Atlanta United, ESPN, Georgia Power, Lululemon, Mercedes-Benz, Nike, NFL, ONE Musicfest, Patagonia, Topo Chico, and Verizon, amongst others. Learn more at [gfbthree.com](http://gfbthree.com).

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