

# Portrait of Gordon



Happy New Year everyone and here we are again with the help of this wonderful publication to spread a bit of the creativity continually appearing all around SE20 and we thought this month we would take a look at a recent addition about town, with a beautiful tribute to the late Gordon Gibbens by Street Artist Zabou. Taking to the railway arches in Bycroft Street, just off of Penge Lane, Zabou painted a striking and touching portrait of photographer Gordon Gibbens in her distinct grey-scale style photo-realistic style accompanied by a flash of green and blue in the background. Not only is the subject fantastic but the placing below the railway line which runs above and with Gordon set appearing over the low brick wall in front of the painting, armed with his camera ready to snap away offers a great composition.

Some of you may recall the article we wrote here sokjklme two years ago about Gordon and his story that has been told in a beautifully put together book entitled *How Graffiti Saved My Dad's Life (At Least For A While)*, written by his daughter Jane Murphy which tells the story of her Dad's love of graffiti & street art.

Some of you may recall the article we wrote here sokjklme two years ago about Gordon and his story that has been told in a beautifully put together book entitled *How Graffiti Saved My Dad's Life (At Least For A While)*, written by his daughter Jane Murphy which tells the story of her Dad's love of graffiti & street art. If you bought this book you will no doubt appreciate why Zabou wished to paint Gordon in recognition of his time on and dedication to the street art and graffiti scene. If not it's available from Colossive Press and is well worth a read, especially with all proceeds for this book going to St Christopher's Hospice from where Gordon made some of his final graffiti ventures. We would as always wish to say thank you to the owners of the space, in this instance Network Rail, who gave us a superb space to work on their property for the whole community to enjoy. We also would like to offer a big thank you to Zabou for again coming down to add some more fantastic art to the area. We have some exciting things lined up for 2021 that will unfold in due course and as always if anyone wishes get involved and support the project further by donating up their public spaces we can find someone to paint it, please email us at [callinglondoninfo@gmail.com](mailto:callinglondoninfo@gmail.com) or head to [www.pengestreetart.com](http://www.pengestreetart.com) to do so. Thank you and have a great year one and all.