

[Photo: A logo reads, "Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum."]

Narrator: Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum presents the following audio interview with ATM, "Art as Activism". The interview takes place in London where he works as a muralist.]

[Photo: A landscape view of South Acton with trees, buildings, and roads surrounding the area.]

ATM: Well, it was on the South Acton Estate, I was working with Acton Arts Forum,

ATM: because we'd set, set up a first little art gallery in Acton.

[Photo: A colorful mural on the side of a building reads, I'm an artist your rules don't apply.]

ATM: It was like volunteers and little community gallery.

[Photo: A mural of a bird is shown.]

ATM: We got the chance to paint some walls on the estate,

[Photo: A mural of a bird is shown near a playground.]

ATM: whole group of different artists. And, it was a great opportunity.

[Photo: Railroad tracks are shown under Bollo Bridge.]

ATM: A big space and then because of the history of this Bollo Bridge Road,

[Photo: A construction site near a waterway.]

ATM: the fact that the river has been paved over, you know,

ATM: as has so many rivers in London are hidden. They're underground.

[Photo: Two people look at a mural of a tree.]

ATM: Looking at the history as well as, you know,

[Photo: A garden box with rows of wood.]

ATM Acton used to be outside London. It was little market gardens,

ATM: it was little, you know, allotments and orchids and what have you.

[Photo: A mural of a snipe on a light pink background.]

ATM: And so, I thought, oh a snipe, a snipe

ATM: will be an ideal bird because they live in,

[Photo: A mural of a bird on a brick wall.]

ATM: they used to be kind of common around farms and water meadows and, you know,

ATM there'd been livestock here.

[Photo: A barn owl.]

ATM Once common birds that used to live around human habitation,

ATM: which are really, you know,

ATM: disappearing like the gray partridge and the barn owl as well.

[Photo: A mural of the barn owl.]

ATM: So, I did three on the estates. So that,

[Photo: A mural of a garden.]

ATM: that really makes sense then.

ATM: to draw attention to the fact that, this was what it was once like.

