**Instagram conversation with Dezio, conducted by Marta R. Bisceglia**

**October 11, 2021**

**11/10/21, 1:50 PM**

**QUESTION:**

Can you send a pic with Chinese characters or your tag in Chinese? (If it is possible with year, place, materials and techniques). Why did you use Chinese elements in your piece?

**DEZIO:**  
This one should be 2018. Shanghai. My friend Xeme from hongkong was visiting shanghai so we improvised this wall quickly. We decided to both write in Chinese.

This was the first graffiti done on this part of the wall.

2008 sorry not 18

Funny thing with this wall is we were both proving to the local graffiti writers that you could use Chinese letters in graffiti as they all kept saying that it was impossible.

❤️

We proved them wrong haha Xeme is chinese but from Hong Kong

**QUESTION:**  
Graffiti made with characters are extremely difficult works to create because they do not follow a fixed rule: while Western writers develop (and practice in books for the sketches of the pieces) their own lettering which they can then repeat for any type of writing, in Chinese this is not possible because each character is written differently from the other (there is not an alphabet), so every time you have to invent a new way to portray each character and connect it to the others in a harmonious and coherent way. Do you agree? Do you have a "Chinese" book?

**DEZIO:**

I actually don’t agree

Each character western or Chinese can be conceived as a series of strokes. When you create them, you apply the same structure as you would a Chinese character or a western one.

The thing is to look at a character as an object, understand where lie the important parts that make the character identifiable and where are the parts that are not that important to define the character. Those parts can be modified and played around with all the while keeping the important parts of the letters/characters well defined. In this way we can write in any language and it’s perfectly fine. When I used to be able to travel, I would make a point to do one graffiti in each country in the local dialect or language. I did so for Thailand, Japan, Vietnam, Corea