

Hi Nathan! What have you been up to in the last few weeks?

Hello there.

I've been incredibly busy recently and in the world of a freelance illustrator that's really good news! The projects have been extremely varied, which is great because it keeps things fresh and interesting.

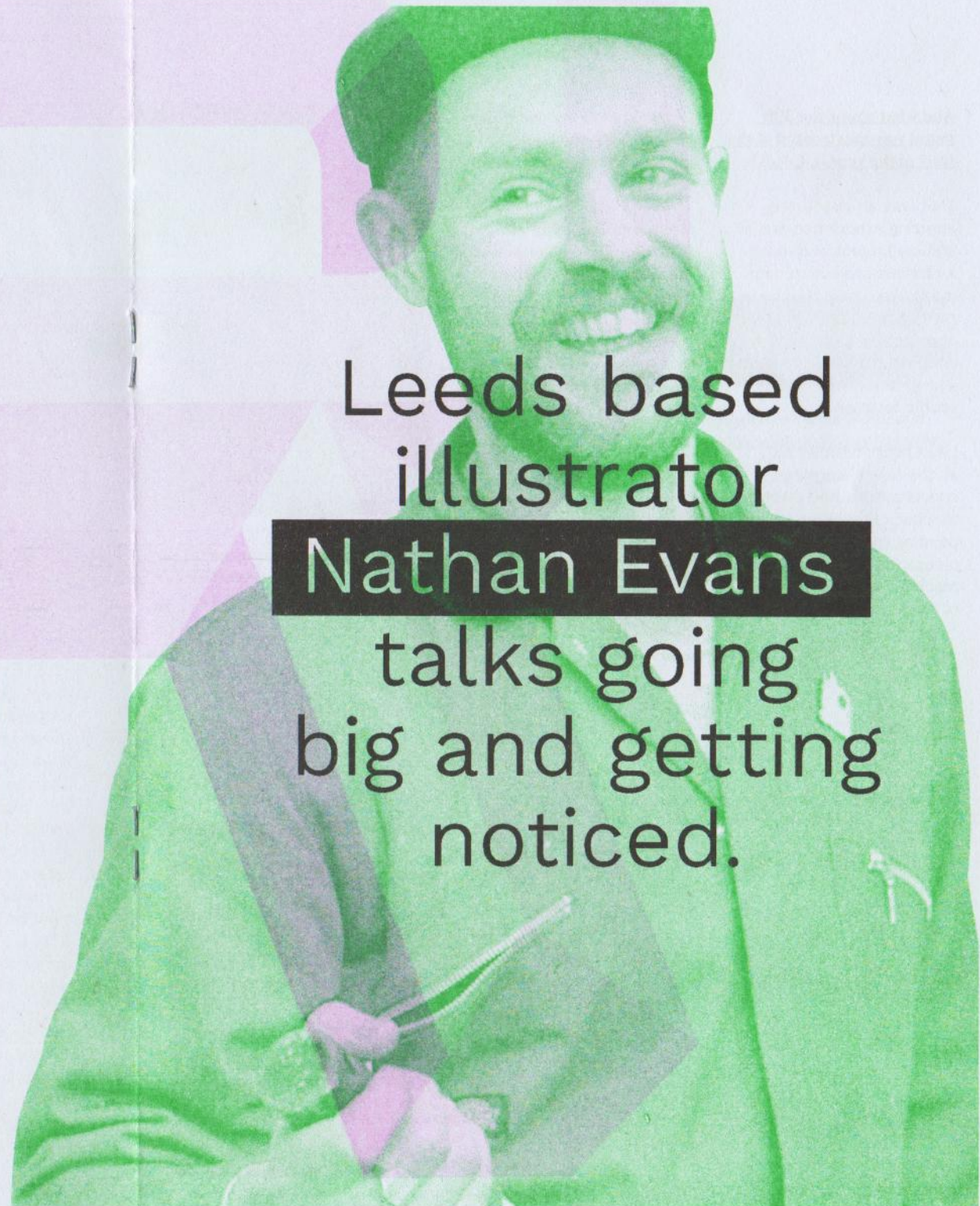
I've illustrated some products for an independent cycling clothing brand and I'm creating some album artwork for a band. I'm also currently developing some ideas for a couple of upcoming murals. There's a number of other projects in the pipeline too, but these still need to be confirmed.

Most importantly, I've been painting some hand lettering for my brother's wedding signs! I used it as an opportunity to produce a short stop-motion video to showcase my creative process.

Can you tell us a little more about your work with East Street Arts and their Art Hostel?

I've had a great relationship with East Street Arts for the past five years or so. They've really helped with my professional development as a creative. Artistic Directors, Jon Wakeman and Karen Watson have done so much for so many artists and I feel they deserve a huge pat on the back.

I was approached to be involved in their crowd funding campaign for their Art Hostel. I created some hand lettering graphic elements and some hand painted props for the campaign video. I even did a spot of acting for the project! The crowd funding video was incredibly well received by the creative community and successfully reached the £5,000 goal in no time, which was an amazing achievement for such a great cause.



Leeds based
illustrator
Nathan Evans
talks going
big and getting
noticed.

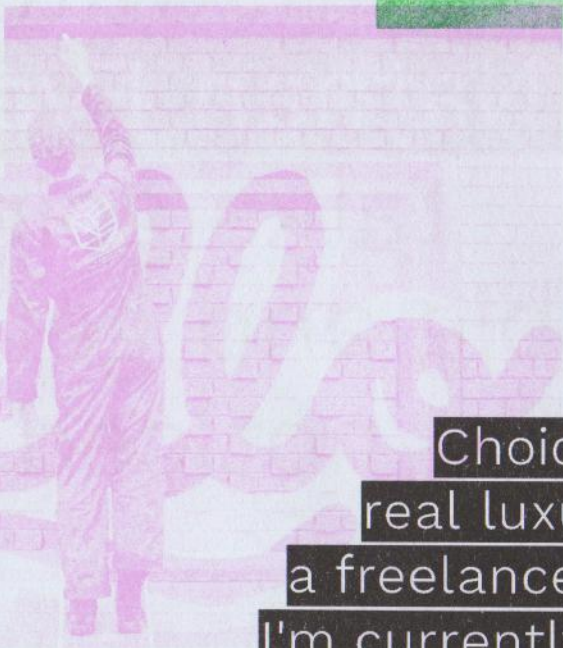
And what about the 30ft mural you constructed at the start of the year in Leeds?

That was an absolutely amazing experience and is still my largest and most ambitious project to date. It felt like a real step up in my career and was a great opportunity to showcase what I can achieve on such a large scale, in a high profile location.

I was overwhelmed by all the heart-warming conversations and positive feedback I received whilst painting the mural. I was pleasantly surprised how much it meant to some of the local people.

I even invited my dad down to help with the background for a couple of days, which really meant a lot to us both.

Most importantly of all, the commission has provided me with a great sense of freedom. Choice is a real luxury as a freelancer and I'm currently able to really enjoy that luxury and be selective, devoting my time to projects that really interest me.



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I've noticed music often influences your work; how does this feed into what you do?

I would go as far to say that music is the beating heart which pumps rhythm through my illustration. When I'm in the studio developing illustration ideas, it's a ritual for me to be playing hip-hop beats as my soundtrack. On occasion I even share a video of me thoroughly enjoying my music in the studio. I sometimes worry about this having a negative effect on my image of professionalism, but I think sometimes everyone gets a bit too serious and forgets that this is a creative industry that should be fun.



I've been buying vinyl for a while now too. I really love the format of the artwork and how nice a record and its sleeve can be as an object. However, it does sometimes annoy me when I have to break off from inking an illustration to turn the record over!

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Read more from Nathan at intermarketing.com/thoughts

A dream project for me would be to fully design and illustrate the vinyl record artwork for a recording artist. So if there's any musicians reading this who like my work and want to collaborate on producing an amazing vinyl, let me know.

