

WHEN NO ONE'S LISTENING, IT TAKES MORE THAN SHOUTING LOUDER TO BE HEARD ...

'When a totalitarian society faces creative protests, it is like ice meeting fire ... *Street Spirit* is a relevant and powerful book for our times.'

From the foreword by Ai Weiwei

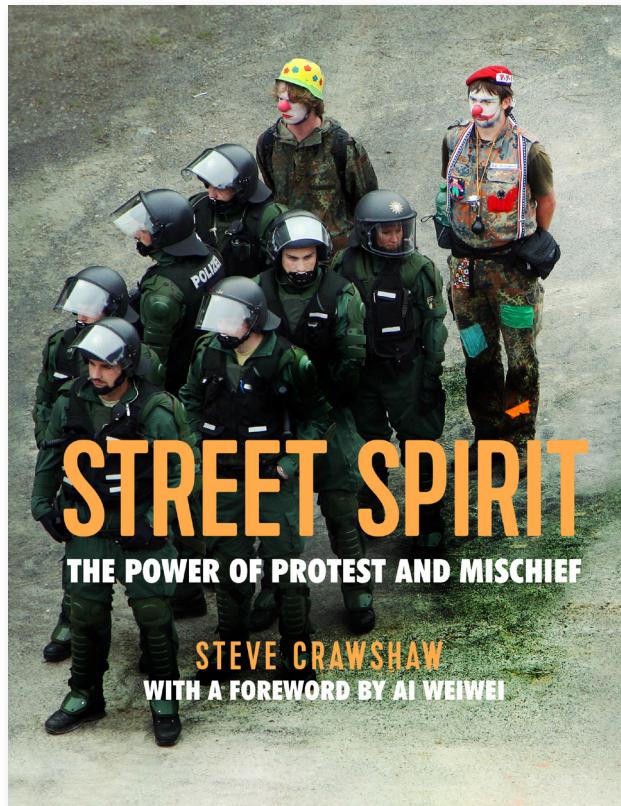
'Full of wonderful and entertaining stories of the power to create change.'

Bianca Jagger, human rights campaigner

STREET SPIRIT

THE POWER OF PROTEST AND MISCHIEF

STEVE CRAWSHAW
WITH A FOREWORD BY AI WEIWEI



Published on 2nd February, £16.99, hardback
by Michael O'Mara Books

- *Street Spirit* is an inspiring collection of creative examples of street protest and demonstrations of defiance that have effected changes around the world.
- When a totalitarian society faces creative protests, it is like ice meeting fire ... *Street Spirit* is a relevant and powerful book for our times.
- *Street Spirit* is a celebration of some of the most remarkable protests from around the world that have used humour, courage and creativity to bring about change.
- Among the many instances of imaginative defiance within, you'll discover the surprising impact of Lego figures in Siberia, red-hatted dwarves in Poland and a donkey holding a press conference in Azerbaijan - not to mention the story of how Darth Vader helped to effect a global arms treaty.
- With over 100 photographs and accompanying commentary on the power of non-violent protest from human rights campaigner Steve Crawshaw, who has been an eye-witness to some of the most dramatic demonstrations of recent years, *Street Spirit* is a unique visual guide that will inspire, enlighten and entertain.



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Author **Steve Crawshaw** is an experienced journalist, author and human rights advocate, who has witnessed many instances of street protest, worked at Human Rights Watch and is Director of the Office of the Secretary General at Amnesty International.



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Mockery For Change

**'Irreverence is the champion of liberty,
and its only sure defence.'**
MARK TWAIN

Rostock,
Germany, 2007:
Riot police (and
hedgehogs) stand
of a global
summit of G-8
governments

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**'Freedom is always the freedom of
those who think differently.'**
ROSA LUXEMBURG

less threatening. But the authorities reckoned they represented an 'unauthorized public event'. They noted that the toys were 'not citizens of Russia' (especially the imported toys). The toy protest was very popular on the web, the authorities responded, and the official action was duly shared on social media so that Russians could laugh at their rulers' paranoia. For protest organizer Lyudmila Alexeyeva, it was simple: 'We wanted to show the absurdity and face of officials' struggles with their own people.'

RIGHT Police
carefully noted
down the slogans,
for possible
action against
the toys.



MOCKERY FOR CHANGE 111

PUPPETS AGAINST ASSAD

**'You can deal with everything that
is scary with laughter.'**
'JAMEEL', DIRECTOR OF TOP GOON:
DIARIES OF A LITTLE DICTATOR

At a time when Syria was already descending into a spiral of violence, a group of Syrian puppets Syrians responded not by picking up guns but by creating a puppet show.

Top Goon: Diaries of a Little Dictator included a pastiche of the TV game show Who Wants to be a Millionaire? The excitable presenter of To Kill a Million referenced the springs and death tolls of juntas... and the show's host, Gaddafi, was so impressed he closed... Gaddafi reached twenty thousand dead... And today... our new contestant, Bashar al-Assad! [cheerful fanfare] Our expectation is: he will kill a million!!



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'If you care about something deeply, your mind and your body will take you to the streets and force you to organize, to be political, to protest and to fight. This is a condition as basic and natural for a human being as love — and that's why Steve Crawshaw's book matters.'

Nadya Tolokonnikova, founding member of Pussy Riot

'A lovely book, wonderful stories, fascinating ... In a world worried about too many isms, a bright antidote.'

Lyse Doucet, Chief International Correspondent, BBC

'A fantastic book.'

Srdja Popovic, Serb activist and author of *Blueprint for Revolution*

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