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Haring Returns to Houston (Via Deitch)

By **Nick Haramis**

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In 1989, celebrated scribbler Keith Haring said, "It was pretty disgusting, rat infested, almost a garbage dump, and an eyesore in a neighborhood where an eyesore wasn't a problem. We're talking about the corner of Houston and the Bowery, which was a desolate area to begin with, so we decided that we didn't have to ask permission because the wall was covered with garbage and we thought that if we cleaned up the garbage then no one was going to ask us whether we had permission to paint it." Even though his mural lasted only through the summer of 1982, Haring came to represent everything the Manhattan art scene stood for at the time: unpolished DIY rebellion, spirited urban uprising, and neon.

On May 4th, **Deitch Projects** in association with **The Keith Haring Foundation** and Goldman Properties is taking back Bowery by re-creating Haring's large-scale wall painting. Graffiti gimmick or genuine homage? We'll find out next week.