

Inked

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MUSIC
INSIDE!

THE ROCK 'N' ROLL ISSUE

On the Inked
Music Tour with
The Damned Things

PLUS:

THE
HOTTEST
WOMEN
OF ROCK

AMI JAMES,
TIM HENDRICKS,
AND NY INK



Marshall

Marshall

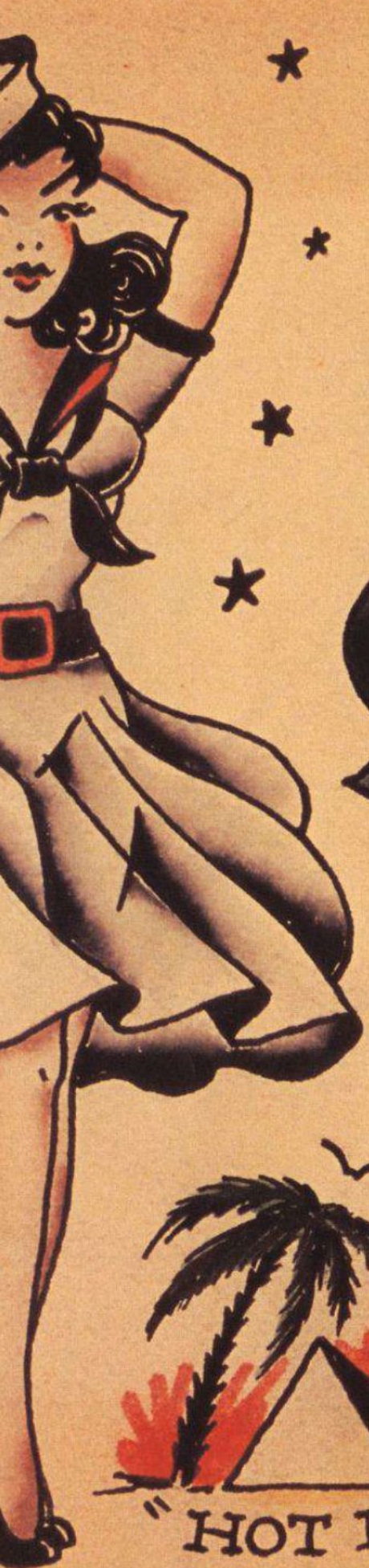
JUNE / JULY 2011
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designed by
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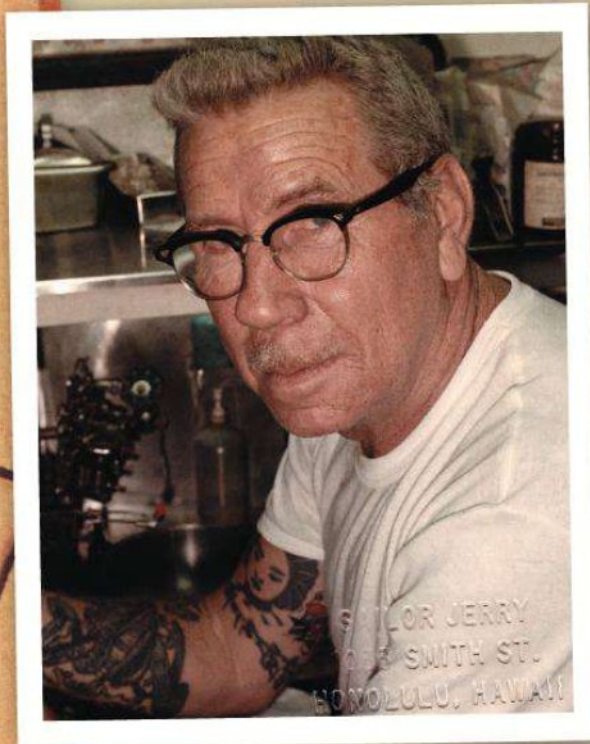


de
SAILOR



“MY WORK SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.”

— NORMAN “SAILOR JERRY” COLLINS
1911-1973



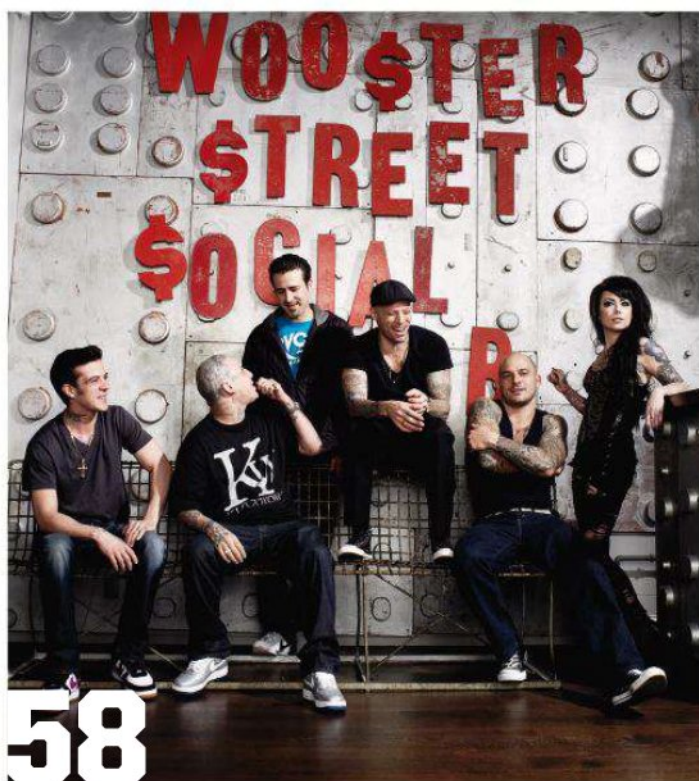
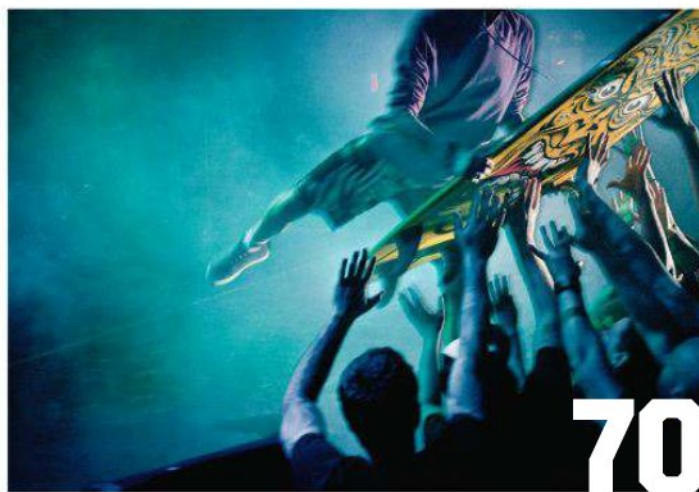
PIN-UPS

Narrowing down the female form to her most simplest “elements,” Jerry took the images usually seen on the walls of barracks or on naval aircraft and transformed them into everlasting sweetheart memories. In doing so, he created one of the most iconic tattoo images known today.



FIND OUT MORE AT SAILORJERRY.COM

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On the cover: LEAH JUNG; photo by WARWICK SAINT; hair: LACY REDWAY at seemanagement.com; makeup: HECTOR SIMANCAS for MAC Cosmetics at Factory Downtown; location: SIR New York's 25th Street Rehearsal Facilities; special thanks to Marshall Amplification USA Division. "The Damned Things" customized T-shirt; vintage shorts, belts, and rings; Noir Jewelry cuffs.

2011

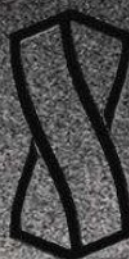
WeActivist EDDIE HOUSE of STEED LORD
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DEVON
TREAD 1

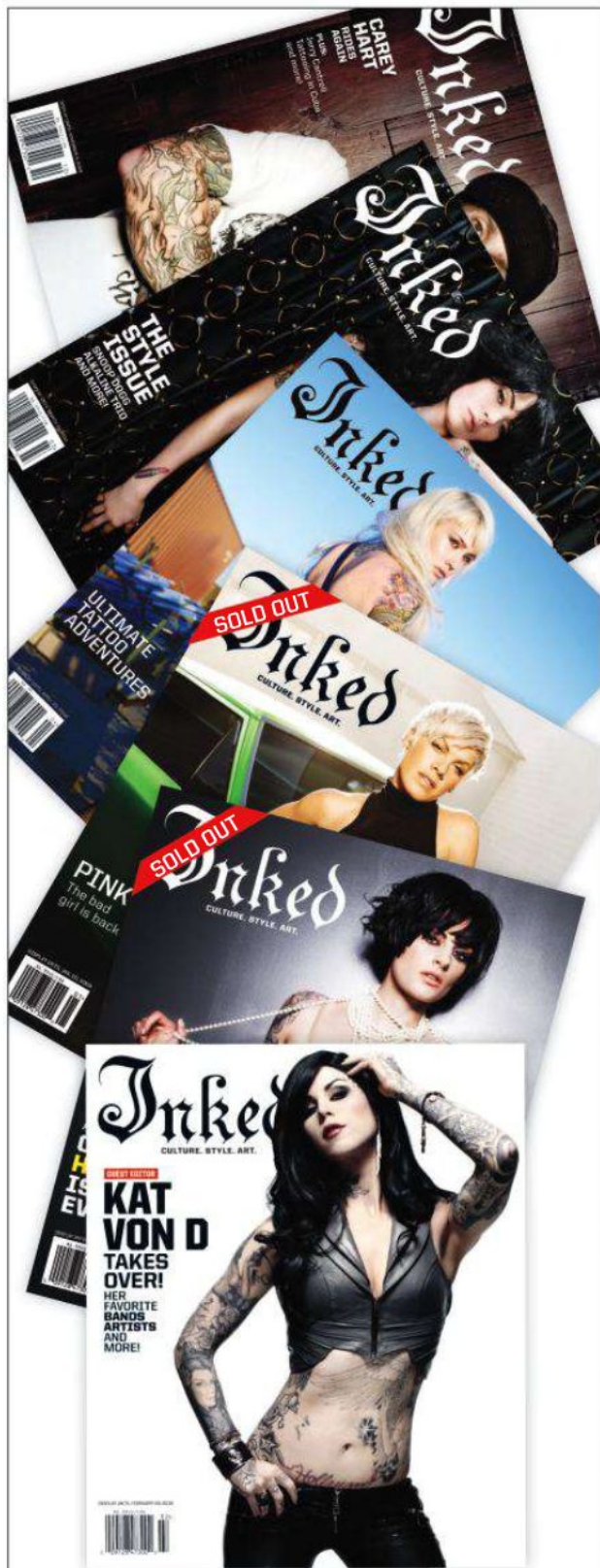


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Inked

BACK ISSUES

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Drinks & Ink

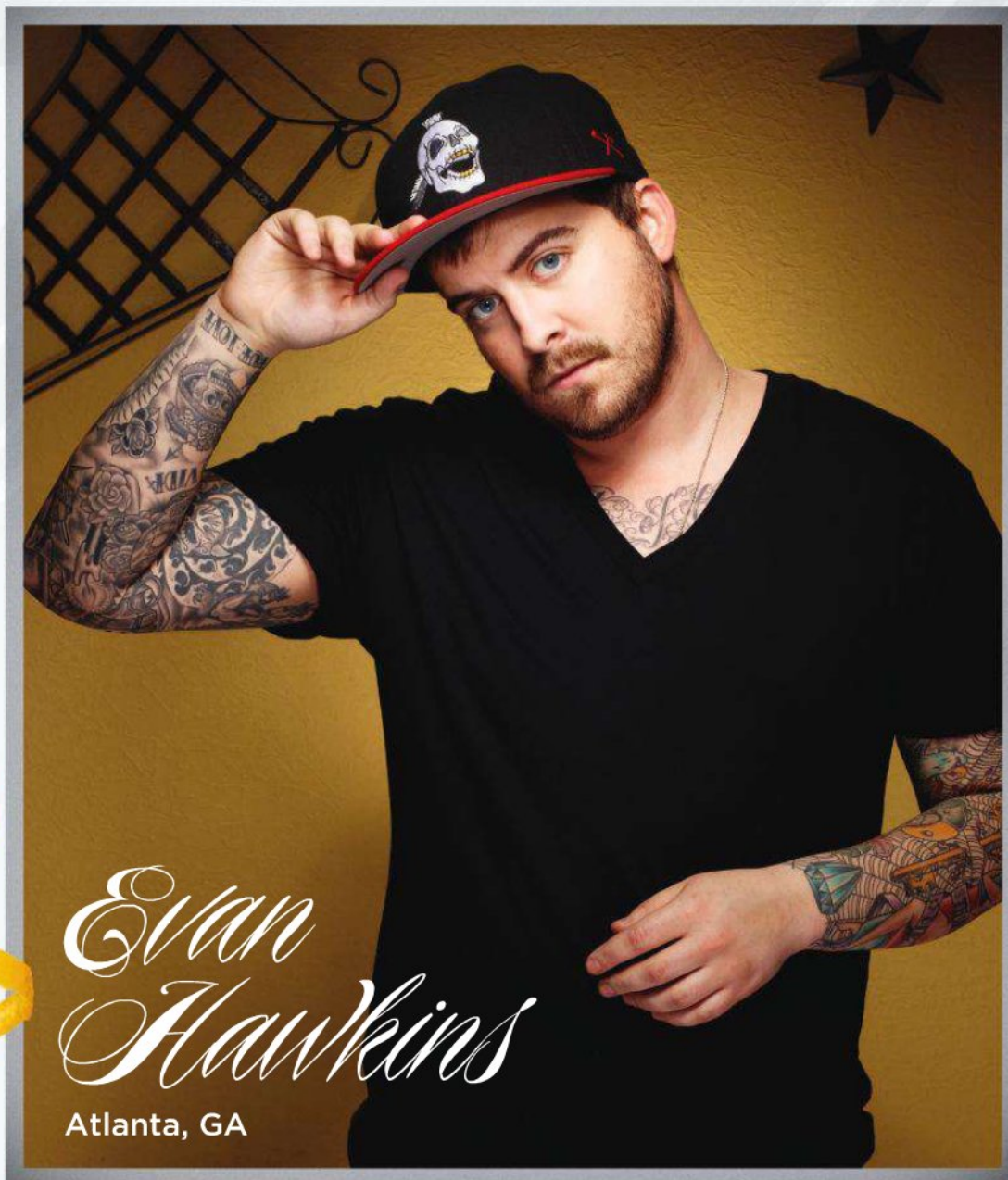
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TUACA Pura Vida

1 1/2 oz	TUACA
1/2 oz	Half & Half
1/4 oz	Lemon Juice
1	Egg White
	Lemon-Vanilla Soda*

Shake all ingredients (except soda) with ice and strain into shot or cocktail glass. Top with soda, frothed egg white and garnish with vanilla bean straw.

***Lemon-Vanilla Soda:** Zest one whole lemon and add to one cup of turbinado sugar. Warm over low heat and add two whole vanilla beans and one teaspoon of lemon extract. Heat and stir until sugar is absorbed.



*Evan
Hawkins*

Atlanta, GA

In his nine-year career as a bartender, Evan has won several regional cocktail competitions but this is his first national win. As a bar manager and instructor, Evan is passionate about his profession - "This is the one job I ever had that I am truly excited about everyday; the energy, soaking up new knowledge, the thrill of the business." Evan was inspired to go beyond the usual with the bold vanilla citrus flavor of TUACA. "I enjoy the brand's creativity and the thirst they have to approach their product from a different angle... I look forward to what they have coming up next!" The tattoo artist for his entered piece is Danielle Distefano of Atlanta's Only You Tattoo.

Congratulations, Evan!

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ink well

When you ask people what kind of music they listen to, they give one of two answers: "Metal!" or "A bunch of stuff." And most music magazines constrain themselves, either to "Metal!" hip-hop, or commercial stuff (with Bieber and Snooki on recent *Rolling Stone* covers, Rebecca Black can't be too far behind). INKED, on the other hand, presents acts as diverse as Social Distortion and Matt & Kim all year long—then we crank it up each summer with our Rock 'N' Roll Issue.



This year, we're also coming to your hometown and blowing your doors off with the Inked Magazine Music Tour, featuring The Damned Things. If you haven't heard of them, read the feature by Bryan Reesman (3) for an introduction to the metal supergroup made up of Scott Ian and Rob Caggiano of Anthrax, Joe Trohman and Andy Hurley of Fall Out Boy, and Keith Buckley and Josh Newton from Every Time I Die. The tour stops in 16 cities, including Chicago, home of Kuma's Corner, the sickest—and possibly only—heavy-metal burger joint, profiled in this issue by Charlie Connell (5). And if you need help figuring out what to wear to the show, check out our "Crowd Surfing" fashion shoot, styled by Julie Chen (8).



In anticipation of the X Games, writer Mary Toto (6) caught up with BMX legend Jamie Bestwick. And speaking of legends, New Orleans' Annette LaRue was immortalized this month by photographer Daymon Gardner (2), while we (1) dropped by Wooster Street Social Club, the newest shop in the city (and where *NY Ink* is being filmed) to check out Ami James and his crew.

Finally, what would INKED be without beautiful tattoos on gorgeous women? Chloe Aftel (4) shot belly dancer Zoe Jakes, and Gilbert Macias (7) hits you with the "Hottest Tattooed Women of Rock."



Thank you, and good night!

Rocky Rakovic
Editor
editor@inkedmag.com





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SEXY MACHINE

I must admit I have never been a huge fan of tattoo magazines, finding it hard to really give a shit about tattoos on people I've never even met. However, after picking up the INKED "Motorcycle Issue" I am changed. Walking past the newsstand it was hard to ignore the trifecta of a beautiful koi fish tattoo sitting on a beautiful cheek sitting on a beautiful Harley. You guys managed to cram my three favorite things into one issue. The Indian Larry piece was the icing on the cake. My only suggestion for next time would be to go bigger: more girls, and more bikes. They are both equally sexy.

Gordon Joines
Denver, CO

CROSS CULTURE

Congrats to Jennifer Goldstein for an awesome trip to New Zealand. When you get to actually experience a culture that has deep roots to its land you'll always find respect is taken very seriously, as is the culture's rules and traditions.

Jason Jacobo
Lakewood, CO

META MAIL

I just had to drop a line to comment on the [April] "Mail" letter from Pamela Ford [regarding February's "Sex Issue"]. I was amazed at her comments on the "sexually explicit material." At first I thought I missed something so I went back to look. No, nothing explicit,

facebook

COVER WITH JESSE DENNING

Chris Wooten

She's absolutely amazing. Jesse's amazing in the Hinder video as well. So yummy!

Rob Holtsberry

These women are so much prettier than the bunnies. Hef needs to pay attention.

Lahna Epolito

I'm gonna have to buy extra copies 'cause all my male coworkers jack mine.

CHRISTINA PERRI

Michelle Yates

girl crush

Kymmy Faulhaber

Her song "Jar of Hearts" is one of the most beautiful, emotional songs I've heard in a long time.



READER OF THE MONTH

RHEA BLASKO

Valparaiso, Indiana

Want to be a Reader of the Month?
E-mail photos to inkedgirl@inkedmag.com

just comments on sex in cars. Her loss. I did love the rebuttal—we are all people and your magazine shows that.

S. Christopher Martinez
Rye, NY

I just want to start by saying INKED and *Inked Girls* are great magazines. These two mags are the only ones I buy when it comes to tattoos and culture. I was reading the April 2011 issue and saw the mail column where

a reader wrote in with regards to the "Sex Issue"—it made me irate. There wasn't anyone actually having sex in the photos. Just because they are in the adult film industry doesn't make them any less human than the guy or girl at your local burger joint with tattoos. Hopefully in the future readers can see past titles and read the editorial for what it's worth.

Ron Burgess Jr.
Seymour, CT



WRITE US. Got something to say? Send all praise, notes of complaint, story suggestions, and other comments to letters@inkedmag.com. All submissions should include the writer's name and address. Letters may be edited for clarity, length, and content. **Also join the party at facebook.com/inkedmag.**

MY FIRST INK

Name: Meg Raiano

Occupation: Retail manager and dancer

Hometown: Hicksville, NY

My first tattoo was the word "worth" in Hindi. It's now part of a huge thigh piece that's a memorial for my uncle. He died in 2007 from cancer, and the tattoo is there to remind me of what I lost. The Hindi was originally because I was obsessed with Indian movies and everything Bollywood, but as it was added to, it became more than a fun tribute to things I liked and turned into a tattoo about someone I love. All of my tattoos are on my midsection so that they're easily hidden, but my friends are all super supportive and love my tattoos as much as I do.

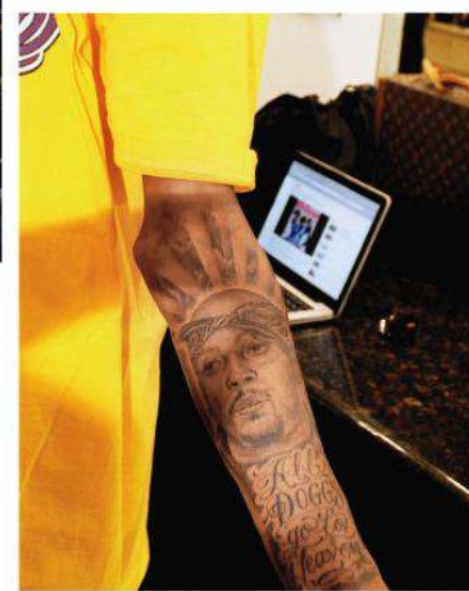
PHOTO BY GREG MANIS





BURY ME A G

G-Funk's crooner Nate Dogg died in March, and his 213 group mate Snoop Dogg immediately visited Mister Cartoon to have his friend immortalized on his forearm. Cartoon created a compelling, stoic portrait of Nate and put "All Doggs Go to Heaven" underneath. For the tenor who asked the question "How Long Will They Mourn Me?" in song, the answer is apparently forever.



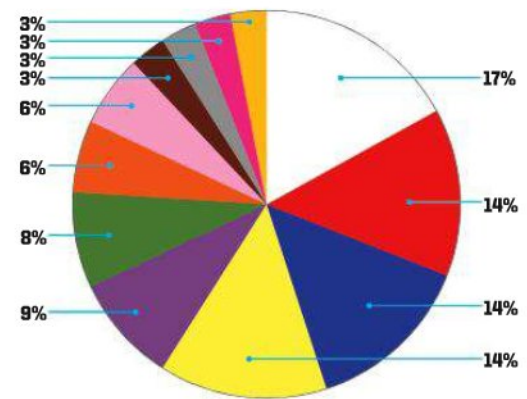
RISE OF THE MACHINES?

When photos of "Auto Ink" went viral in the online tattoo community, some thought that robots had learned to tattoo (it's a machine that randomly assigns the user a religion, then tattoos the religion's symbol on that person's arm). But creator Chris Eckert says to chill. "It's just a sculpture," he explains. "It's only intended to function as an artwork. This machine cannot replace a skilled tattoo artist."



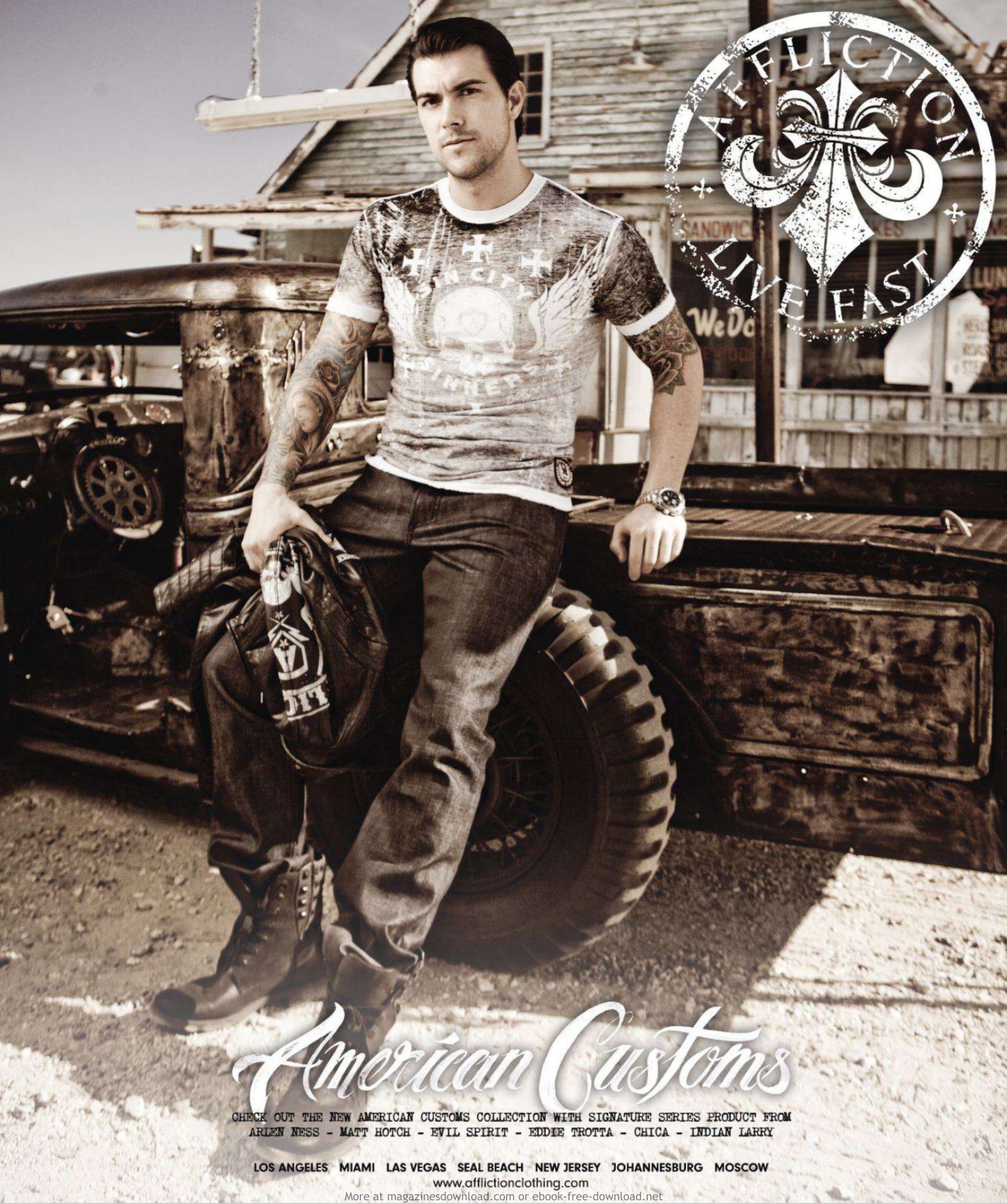
SAILOR'S DELIGHT

Mystic, CT, an old American whaling village, is celebrating the skin art of mariners with the exhibition "Skin and Bones: Tattoos in the Life of the American Sailor," which runs through September at the Mystic Seaport's Mallory Exhibit Hall. A whaler of note included in the exhibit is R.H. Macy, founder of Macy's department store. Ocean legend has it that the Macy's red star logo was actually based on a tattoo Macy got while at sea on the whaling ship.



INK BY NUMBERS

Skin Candy shares the popularity of the colors used in tattoos (excluding black) based on its single-bottle ink sales. We get white for its help in shading, but why is blue such a big piece of the pie? "You see a lot of blue because it is the primary color used for birds, flowers, and water," Mark August, founder of Skin Candy, explains.



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Hot stuff. Her drink is as well.

SOME LIKE IT HOT

Prefer spicy over sweet? There are more options than a Bloody Mary.

Sugar is a problem in this country's collective diet, and in its bars. But sweetness is a cop-out. Empty a bag of sugar on any sustenance and the masses will consume it: cereal, cocoa (M&M's and Mars would go bankrupt if they switched to unsweetened chocolate), and crappy cocktails. But sweetness doesn't belong in a highball glass. You don't want to walk into a bar and be handed something that smells like the inside of a high school girl's locker and tastes like penny candy. You want to taste the ingredients in your drinks. And if a stiff drink has any flavor profile, it should be spice. Problem is, when most cocktail shakers are asked to make something spicy they offer up either a Bloody

Mary or a Buffalo Sweat (tastes like it sounds).

So we hit the bars and asked some expert bartenders to serve up the heat. First stop was Diablo's Cantina in Las Vegas, where Katie Kozlowski (above) made us a Chupacabra, which consists of Corazon tequila, fresh jalapeños, cane sugar (just a little), lime juice, ginger soda, and a rim of chili salt. It was so delicious, it fired us up to try and find more warming drinks outside of Sin City. We went through about three bottles of tequila, a fifth of vodka, and cases of hot sauce to come up with the recipes at right. Each calls for a different brand of fire, but the red bottle of Tabasco would do just as wonderfully in all of them. —Rocky Rakovic

COCKTAIL CONVERSATION

A hella nice chat with Katie Kozlowski of Diablo's Mexican Cantina in Las Vegas.

INKED: What makes Diablo's Mexican Cantina special?

KATIE: Unlike a lot of bars on the Strip, we have an open layout so that you can see the good time from the street. The vibe is cool. During the day it's a chill Tex-Mex restaurant—we have a really awesome chef, Jose Jesus Villegas—and then at night it gets to be a wild bar. We bring in DJs or bands and rock it out.

How do we know it's truly a good time? Come in on any night and I'll probably be here. It's such a good time that I hang out even on my nights off.

What should we order? Any of the cocktails on our drinks menu can be ordered as a pitcher, so you basically get four drinks for the price of three.

Do you have any favorite tattoos? My three girls: I have my mother and grandmother's full names on my back and a '60s Barbie logo on my hand.



PEPPERITA

1 ¼ oz gold tequila
¾ oz Grand Marnier
Juice of half a lime
½ tsp Tabasco Green Pepper Sauce
Shake first three ingredients with ice and strain into a salt-rimmed glass filled with ice. Add in Tabasco sauce and stir. Garnish with a slice of lime.



SRIRACHA MARGARITA

1 ½ oz silver tequila
1 oz pureed cantaloupe
1 oz triple sec
¾ oz Sriracha hot sauce
Juice of half a lime
Shake all the ingredients with ice; strain into a glass with a salt rim.
—Courtesy LITM, Jersey City

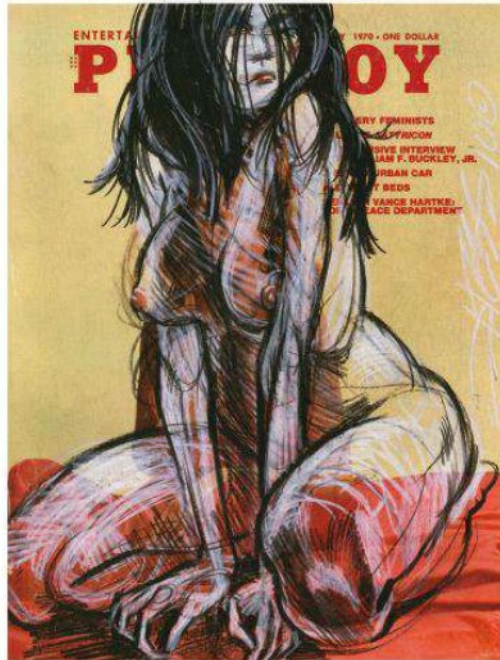
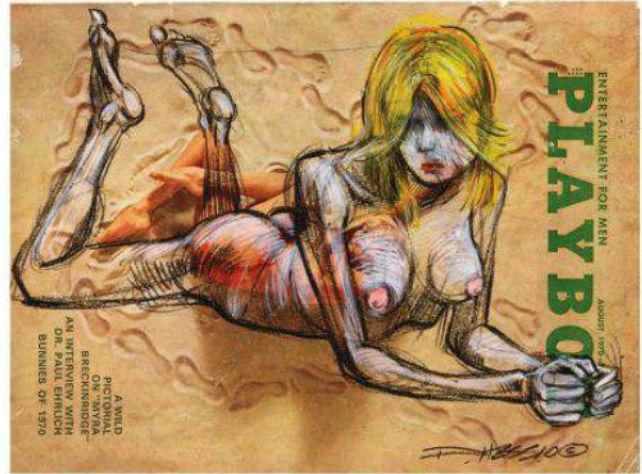


MICHELADA

1 oz fresh lime juice
3 dashes Texas Pete Hot Sauce
3 dashes soy sauce
2 dashes Worcestershire sauce
Black pepper to taste
12 oz beer
Put first five ingredients into a salt-rimmed glass, then fill with the beer.

V2V
1965
LOS ANGELES





POSTER BOY

Notorious rock-concert-flyer artist Derek Hess picks up the fine-line pen.

"Isn't that crazy?" exclaims Derek Hess. "In art school, I never would have dreamed of being in the Louvre. I was worried about getting the chicken wings cut on time for wing night." Hess, a born and proud Cleveland native, is referring to the famed museum in Paris where a portfolio of his concert art rests in the permanent poster collection.

Back in the day, Hess was wrangling acts at the Euclid Tavern in Cleveland. "To book the shows, I had to promote the shows. To promote the shows, I created flyers," he says. Over the past 20 years, Hess has created hundreds of posters for bands including Pantera, NOFX, Pearl Jam, The Reverend Horton Heat, Iggy Pop, Save Ferris, and Converge, as well as events like Vans Warped Tour, Furryfest, and the grand opening concert at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

An art school dropout with short stints at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit and the Cleveland Institute of Art, Hess says the demands of creating art and booking gigs became a priority over finishing school. Now the music poster business has "kind of run its course," and Hess is focusing more on his signa-

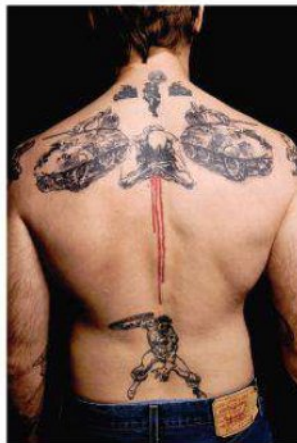
ture black, white, and red pen-and-ink pieces featuring the human form that are popular with the tattoo world.

"A lot of people have been tattooing my drawings over the years—asking for black-lined drawings to get tattooed," Hess admits. He would accommodate them the best he could, but says, "sometimes it's difficult to drop everything and dig up an obscure drawing." This summer, he's releasing a book of tattoo-friendly black-lined drawings, as well as a book of old-school concert posters.

Most of Hess's ink is either inspired by his dad's service overseas, Captain America, his dog, or Cleveland; pro-Cleveland images like Chief Wahoo, the mascot for the Cleveland Indians, and Brownie, mascot for the Cleveland Browns, line his body.

His latest endeavor, drawing nude figures in grease pencils on vintage *Playboy* covers, has garnered international attention, including a recent show in Hamburg, Germany. "My art is based on the human figure," Hess says. "I'm trying to be honest with certain aspects of the human condition—the essence of our soul, our culture, where we are, and the time and the place." —Kara Pound

Clockwise from top left: *Valentine*; *Walleye Tigers*; August 1970 *II*; Derek Hess's back tattoos; May 1970 *V*.



Mulisha Maiden - Kelli



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photos by: ted9900

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MORE PAUL

Strap yourself into Gibson's Marc Bolan Les Paul (\$7,056, guitar stores). It's a modified version of the monster that the T. Rex frontman used to shred folk music.



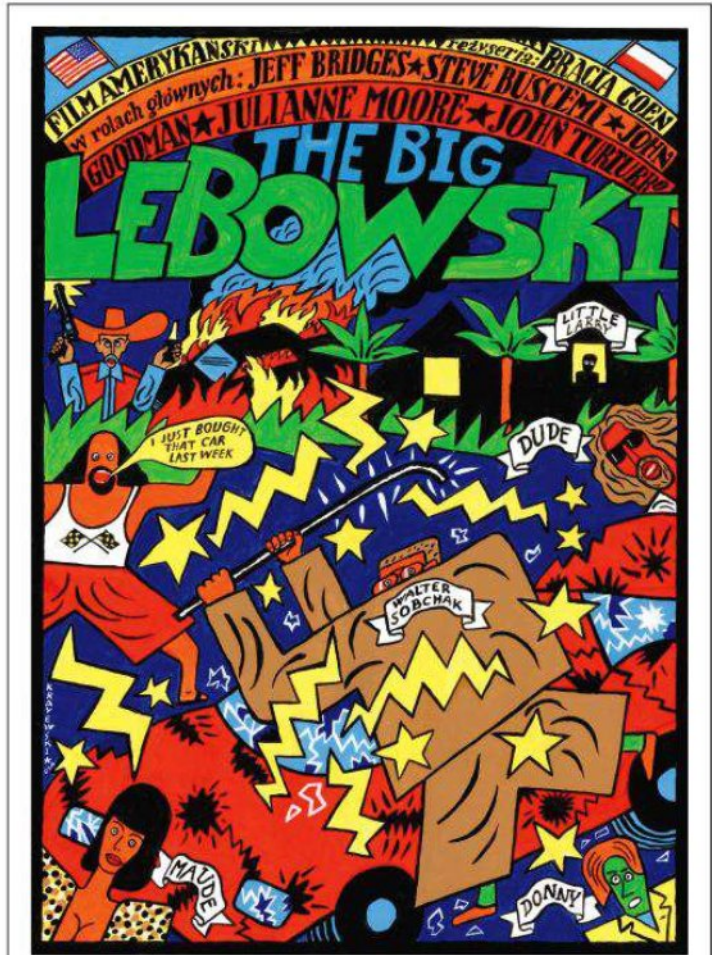
CAP SIZE

Yep, this is a sterling silver pendant (\$150, ransoun.com) modeled after a Bic pen cap on a 27-inch chain. Back in the day, before there were personal computers, people wrote with pens, and they used the caps for an entirely different purpose.



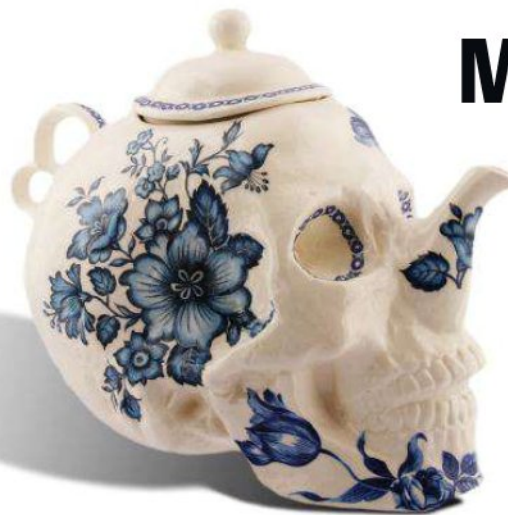
GEEK-SEEKING MISSILES

The USB Rocket Launcher (\$30, the dilbertstore.com) plugs into your computer and launches projectiles almost 20 feet.



EASTERN BLOC-BUSTERS

Marketing in Hollywood leans heavily on star power, so movie posters are routinely just photos of the top billing. But when American films hit Poland—where they don't know Jeff Bridges from Jeff Goldblum—something magical happens (\$35, polishposter.com).



MR. TEA

UK-based design whiz Trevor Jackson took a teapot and turned it on its head with his Skull Teapot in Flowers (\$1,200, far4.net). Earl Grey rues the day he ends up in this decanter.



Sullen Angels

Beauty & Family & Love

AND

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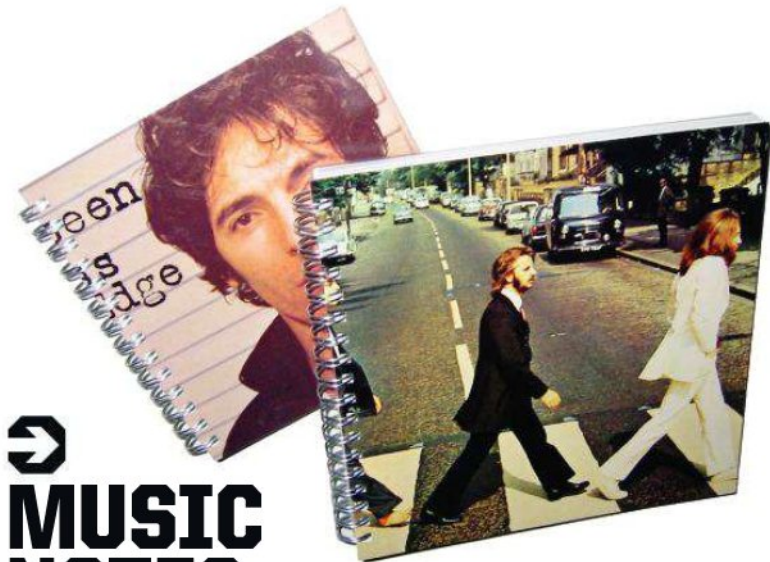
GIRLS

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MUSIC NOTES

Marble notebooks are for 12 year olds. Get a spiral sketchbook bound in an actual album cover from acts like The Beatles, the Boss, and Otis Redding (\$16, coolplanetstore.com) instead.

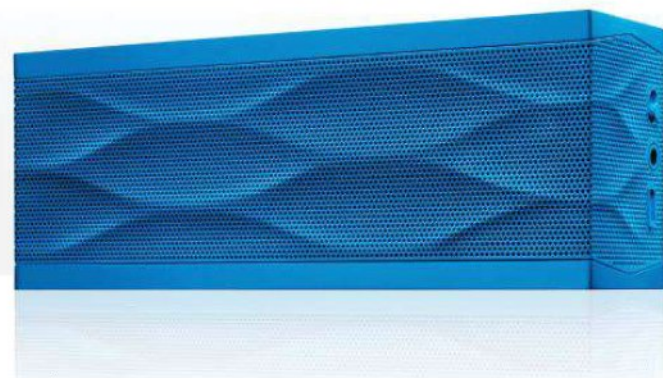


GRILLING TIME

This stylish little guy is a Fyrkat Grill (\$60, bodumusa.com). Its flame-kissable surface is more than a foot in diameter, yet it's compact enough to save space in your garage so it won't slowly turn to rust in your backyard.

MASTER BLASTER

Wireless is the new paperless. The Jambox speaker (\$200, jawbone.com) picks up Bluetooth and has a 10-hour battery life. It may be smaller than a brick, but it pumps out music louder—and much, much clearer—than those boom boxes from the '80s.



HELL BOY

With evil yellow eyes and horns poking through his hoodie, this Detroit Devil (\$66, htxbstudio.blogspot.com) by Ryon Xavier Smith could be a villain in the next *Toy Story* movie. They come in a bunch of colors (blue, yellow, purple, white, and black) but they all have a sinister grin.



BIKE PACK

From Etsy seller WalnutStudiolo: "Originally designed by and for a 'hardcourt bike polo' aficionado, we since learned that this useful item [[\\$22, etsy.com/shop/WalnutStudiolo](http://etsy.com/shop/WalnutStudiolo)] can hold all kinds of things to your bike—why not a six-pack?" Indeed.





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INK ON THE STREET

WHO: Corey Stewart

SPOTTED AT: The Ace Hotel, New York City

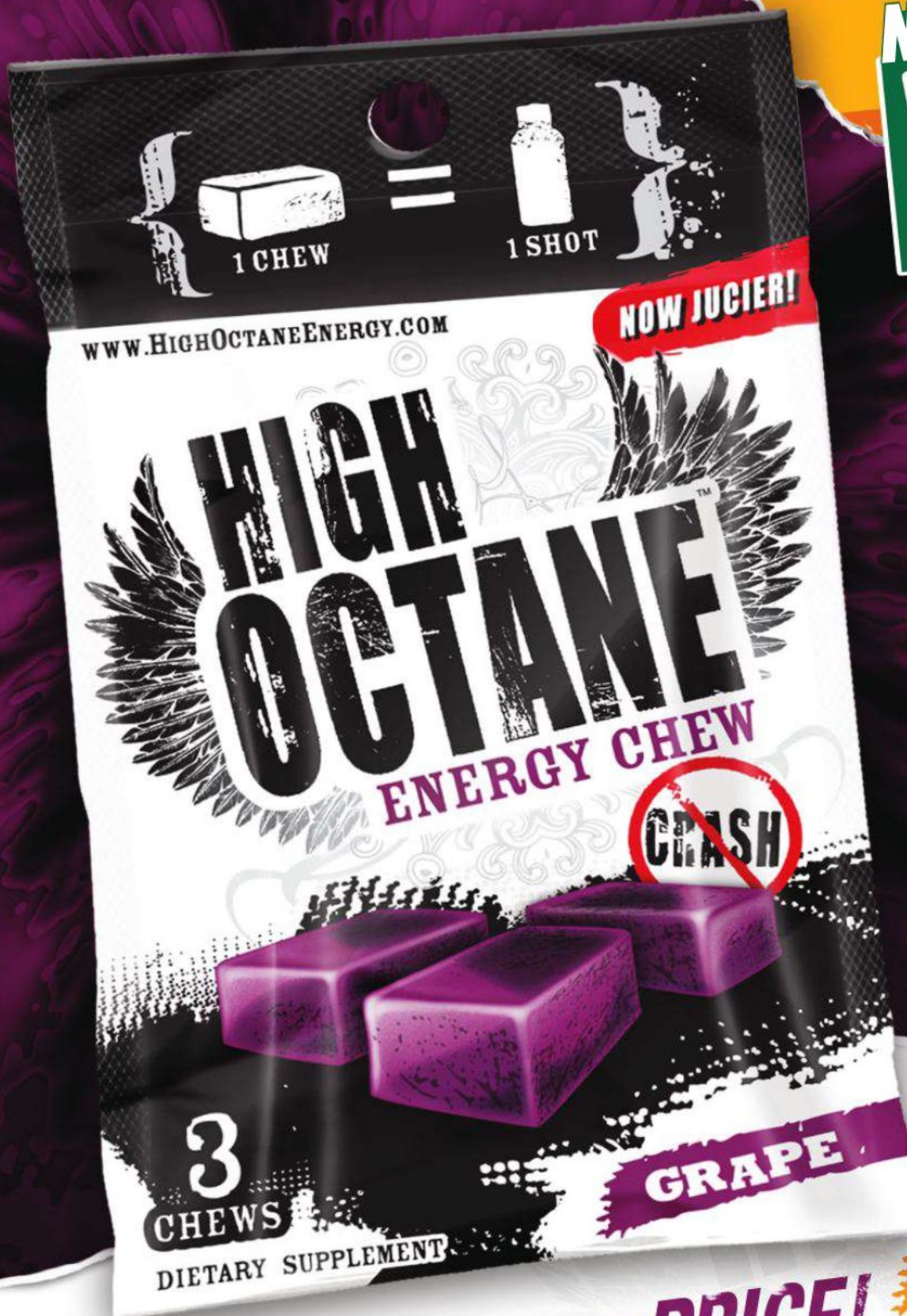
WHERE HE GETS TATTOOED: My neck piece is a sacred heart with "rise above" scrawled across the collarbone. It was done in New Orleans at Electric Ladyland Tattoo, by, I believe—it was a long weekend—Annette LaRue. I got it to remind myself to speak my heart, and rise above.

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Radii's Gilligan High Lifestyle Shoes (\$90; radiifootwear.com).

BRAND BACK STORY: SoCal company Radii (pronounced *ray-dee-eye*) takes its name from the plural of *radius*, which is fitting for a shoe company that comes at design from all different angles. Grounded on basic soles, their sharp kicks feature intriguing silhouettes, unconventional designs, and materials like wool, nylon, and chambray. And they're affordable, to boot.

WHAT ELSE HE'S WEARING: Levi's jeans and shirt; Kangol hat; Gucci watch; vintage cuff.





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EXTRA! TERRESTRIALS



HOLLYWOOD VS. ALIENS

At the end of July, Jon Favreau brings *Cowboys & Aliens* to theaters. So how are we going to defeat the extraterrestrials this time? With ticket prices the way they are, expectations are high—and Hollywood needs to reinvent the wheel. Here's how cinema has won the universe in the past (if one of these tactics is the key plot line, then I'm coming for you, Favreau!).

WATER (SIGNS)

A bunch of dumb-ass aliens land on a planet that is made almost entirely of their main weakness, water.

NOTHING (THE THING)

Sometimes you just need to blow up everything, sit back with a beer, and wait for the inevitability of death.

A COMPUTER VIRUS (INDEPENDENCE DAY)

Thanks to a computer virus, a shitload of missiles, and a drunken-idiot pilot, we finally made July 4 an international holiday.

PACIFISM

(THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL)

The aliens let us live when we promised to be nice to each other.

SURRENDER (PREDATOR)

The Predator kills for sport, so if we just put down our weapons he'll eventually get bored and leave us alone—hopefully.

SCIENCE AND CHARLIE SHEEN (THE ARRIVAL)

His character discovered that global warming was an alien plot. So if we just stopped polluting, they would move somewhere warmer.

THE NORTH POLE (THE BLOB)

The only way to save yourself from a giant alien mucus monster is to freeze the bastard at the North Pole.

EXPLOSIVES (CRITTERS)

A shitload of explosives lit by a Molotov cocktail made with whiskey kill the Critters ... but they may have lain eggs on Earth!

THE COMMON COLD (ET; WAR OF THE WORLDS)

Some aliens just aren't able to deal with the sniffles. —Charlie Connell

MOVIES



SUPER 8

In the summer of '79, a group of friends witness a horrible train crash while shooting a Super 8 movie. Soon after, strange occurrences spread throughout the town, and it's up to the local deputy to uncover the truth behind the phenomena. So what the hell is causing hell to break loose in this small town? With producer Steven Spielberg on board and the Amblin Entertainment logo attached, one can't help but feel nostalgic for that '80s sci-fi bliss. This might be the surprise hit of the summer. —Gilbert Macias



X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

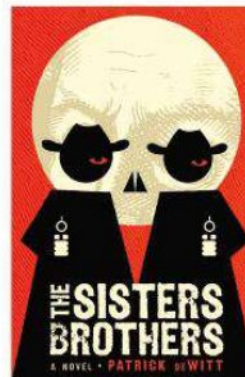
So far we've had three X-Men flicks (not counting *Wolverine*). *X2* was by far the best, and *X-Men: The Last Stand* was vastly underwhelming. Now, with *X-Men: First Class*, we get a prequel that appears to mutate back to the better. The plot follows the younger years of Charles Xavier and Magneto, exploring how they eventually become enemies. Some familiar mutants reappear in more youthful form, along with some new ones—and a new director, Matthew Vaughn (*Kick-Ass*, *Layer Cake*), behind the lens. —G.M.



TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON

Rabid fanboys of the beloved cartoon moan about everything *Transformers*, from the robot design down to why the Dinobots haven't appeared in the series yet. And we need an apology for the Jar Jar Binkses of robots, Skids and Mudflap. We hope the third time is a charm for Michael Bay and that *Transformers: Dark of the Moon* gets rid of the bullshit and focuses more on giant robots fucking each other up in 3-D. Megan Fox is out, so Rosie Huntington-Whiteley is the (human) eye candy. —G.M.

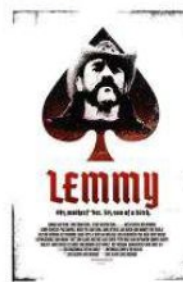
BOOK



49ERS AND 86ERS

Patrick DeWitt, author of *Ablutions: Notes for a Novel* switches gears in *The Sisters Brothers*. The thriller follows contract killers Eli and Charlie Sisters on their way to "Gold Rush" California to hunt a man who probably doesn't deserve to die. Striking a satisfyingly dark balance between the brutal work of Cormac McCarthy and the comic adventure stories of Mark Twain, this will draw you in and won't relent until you feel for its damaged heroes. —Anthony Vargas

DVD



LEMMY: 49% MOTHERFKER, 51% SON OF A BITCH**

There are few men in rock lore who have more fantastical stories than Lemmy Kilmister of Motörhead. This documentary astonishingly builds up some of those tales (supported by the likes of Kat Von D, Lars Ulrich, and Billy Bob Thornton) while simultaneously showing Kilmister's indifference to fame and its byproducts. Essentially, it makes him both a mythic creature and the realest person on the planet. Our brain hurts, and it's not from all the head-banging. —Robert McCormick



OGABEL
COLLECTION

VIDEO GAMES



INFAMOUS 2

PLATFORM: PLAYSTATION 3

When the going gets rough, sometimes it's best to skip town. After a villain named Beast knocks the spot out of courier turned superhero Cole MacGrath, our protagonist flees Empire City to take refuge in the New Orleans-inspired metropolis of New Marais. The city is the rumored home of the Ray Sphere that turned Cole into an electricity-wielding combatant. With a militia fighting to keep invading mutants out of the city, Cole needs to stay on his toes as he searches for answers. *Infamous 2* preserves the sandbox approach of the original game, giving you a Grand Theft Auto-style open world to showcase your badassery. With a mission creation system that allows users to share fan-made scenarios, you'll have more than enough training to prep you for the inevitable rematch with the Beast. **Play If You Like:** *Infamous*, *Marvel Ultimate Alliance*, *Kick Ass* —Matt Bertz



BRINK

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

Tired of the lone wolf mentality pervasive in multi-player shooters? The latest title from Splash Damage rewards tactical prowess and encourages teamwork as players wage war in a postapocalyptic skirmish between an upstart resistance group and a security force trying to keep the peace. By allowing players to switch character classes on the fly and take on new missions as they become available on the battlefield, *Brink* offers a dynamic and varied war experience unlike anything else. Completing objectives and helping squad mates earn you XP, which can be used to purchase weapon upgrades, new abilities, and customizable outfits. **Play If You Like:** *Quake Wars*, *Team Fortress 2*, *Battlefield: Bad Company 2* —M.B.



F.E.A.R. 3

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

Fright masters John Carpenter (*The Thing*) and Steve Niles (*30 Days of Night*) make a dark and twisted third installment. The psychic abomination Alma is preggers, and she wants her bastard sons to join her as she unleashes an ungodly new evil upon the world. With one player taking the role of original F.E.A.R. protagonist Point Man and the other as the apparition of his deceased brother, Paxton Fettel (who Point Man felled), this co-op game is steeped in dysfunction. Once you put the family matters to rest, it's time to fucking run. A new mode pits you and friends against a horde of enemies as an ominous Wall of Death encroaches, absorbing anyone who can't keep pace. **Play If You Like:** *The Ring*, *Left 4 Dead*, *30 Days of Night* —M.B.



THE Inked PLAYLIST

BY JONAH BAYER

HOT TUNA

"Angel of Darkness"

They feature two original members of Jefferson Airplane, but their relevance hasn't faded.

CITY AND COLOUR

"Fragile Bird"

Dallas Green embraces his inner pop tendencies and churns out a timeless rocker.

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE

"You Are a Tourist"

This is a perfect example of the melancholy indie rock anthem.

CENTRO-MATIC

"All the Talkers"

They have one foot planted in classic rock and the other one inching toward rock's future.

EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY

"Trembling Hands"

The instrumental act adds voices into the mix and makes us fall in love all over again.

FUCKED UP

"The Other Shoe"

The melodic meditation might not fuel a circle pit—but it'll still blow listeners' minds.

HIGH TENSION WIRES

"Welcome New Machine"

Members of the Marked Men and Riverboat Gamblers come together to create a garage-rock masterpiece.

JASON ISBELL

"Go It Alone"

The former Drive-By Trucker comes into his own with this heartfelt alt-country anthem.

TAKING BACK SUNDAY

"El Paso"

TBS reforms their original lineup and crafts the band's heaviest post-hardcore rager to date.

*“Four wheels move the body.
Two wheels move the soul.”*

Author Unknown



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HIGH AND DRY

No water? No worries. Here's how to stay fresh during summer concert season.

You might be sleeping in a tent to see your favorite band, road-tripping in a van, or packed in a beach house with 19 other sweaty bodies—all situations where a shower is tough to come by. So what do you do when the key component of any well-oiled grooming routine is unavailable? Well, there are two things *not* to do when you're in a position where you can't shower for a few days, according to Barrett Smith, a lead product trainer for Lush. "Lots of guys try to overcompensate for the stink by dumping on cologne," he says. If anything, sear this one piece of advice into your brain: A gallon of cologne won't cover up your rankness. But don't give up on personal hygiene completely. "Other dudes go the opposite route and do absolutely nothing. You may not be able to smell yourself, but everyone else certainly will," says Smith. The solution to keeping all of your parts clean—or at least somewhat so—is products like the ones below. They'll keep your hygiene well north of vagrant levels and, more importantly, your friends won't dump you off on skid row. —Melanie Rud



TIGI ROCKAHOLIC DIRTY SECRET DRY SHAMPOO



It's not so out of the ordinary to go days without washing your hair, but in the event that it *is*, use this aerosol powder (\$19, tigihaircare.com), which doesn't require H₂O. It'll absorb grease without leaving any weird residue

ANTHONY LOGISTICS FOR MEN ASTRINGENT TONER PADS



These portable pads (\$21, anthony.com) do wonders for an oily mug, both cleaning skin and toning down oily sheen. You can also use them to freshen up other sweaty spots, like your back, your feet—use your imagination.

LUSH DIRTY BODY SPRAY



Unless you're on *Jersey Shore*, dousing yourself with Drakkar Noir is not an option. But feel free to use this much lighter mist (\$23, Lush stores) liberally. Think of it as Febreze for your frame.

COLGATE WISPS

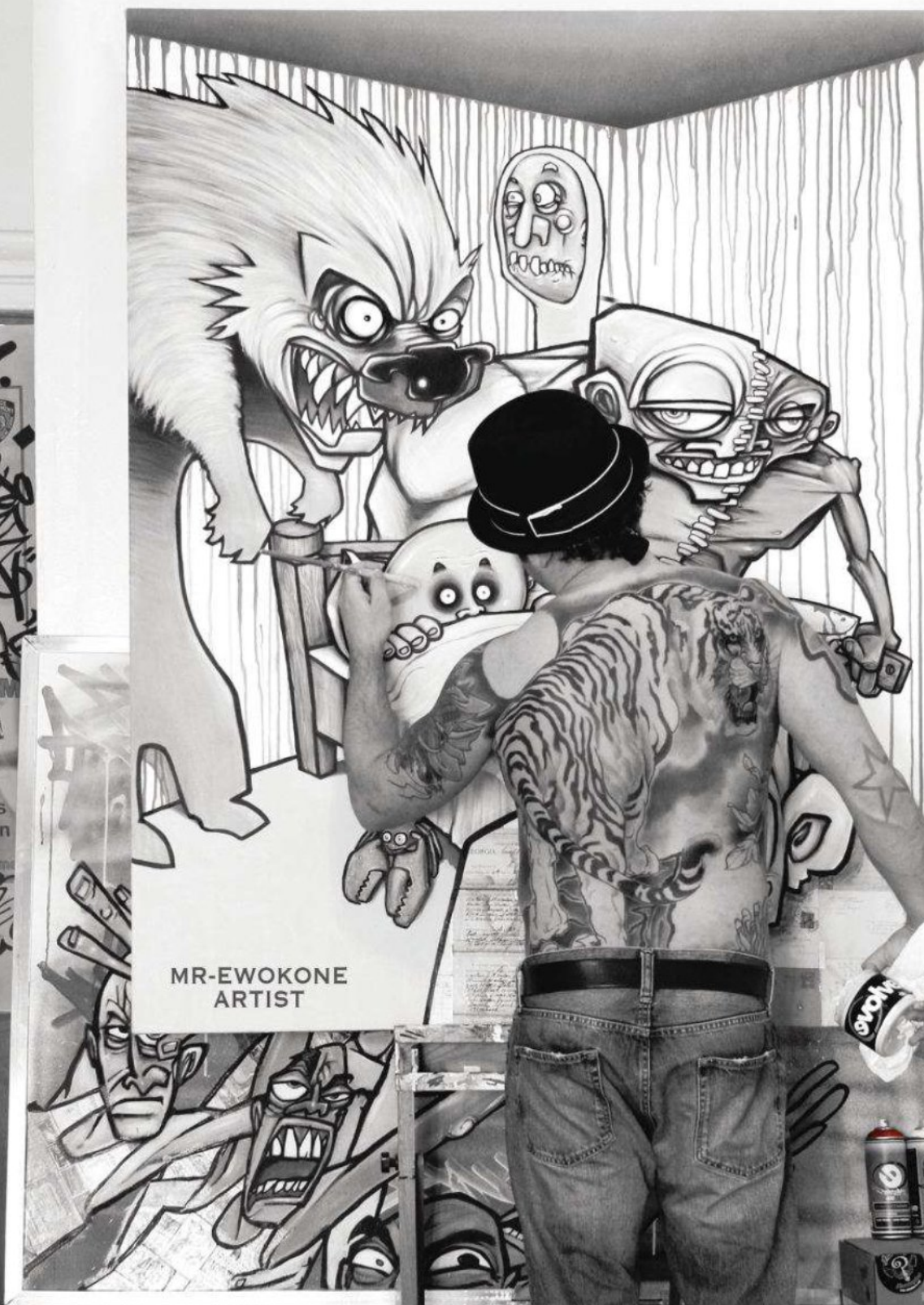


All the gum and Altoids in the world can only do so much. These single-use disposables (\$5, drugstores) have a breath-freshening bead that dissolves in straight saliva, so you can brush whenever, wherever.

She's Sure.

There is no way like the American Way

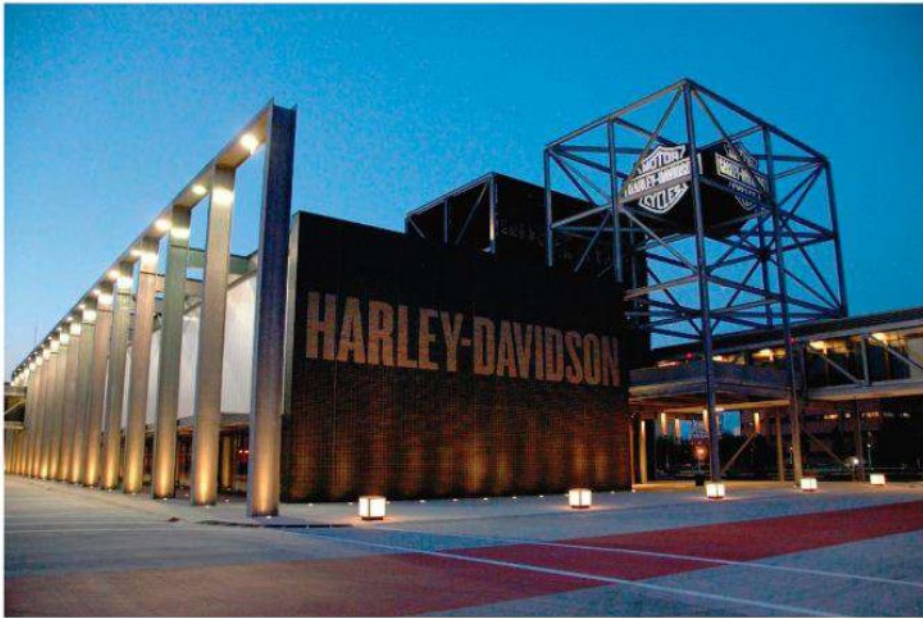
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📍 BIGGEST MUSIC FESTIVAL

"Being that Summerfest is the world's largest music festival, it's well worth checking out," says Stevens, who goes to Henry Maier Festival Park (200 N. Harbor Dr.) every year for it. "You also can't overlook the heritage festivals that go on at Festival Park every weekend throughout summer. So if you're feeling Irish, hit up Irish fest. If you're feeling German—well, you get the picture." All this happens on what used to be a missile site during the Cold War.



MILWAUKEE

Have an awesome time in "the good land."



Milwaukee is known for beer, Harley-Davidson (and its sick museum), and, most quotably, its involvement in *Wayne's World*. Tattoo artist Brock Stevens opened the doors to Rockstar Tattoo (2707 S. 108th Street, West Allis, WI) in the area a year and change ago. The shop puts quality tattoos on skin, and it all starts with Stevens's own black-and-gray work. "I like

taking realism and giving it that tattoo feel," he says. When he's not tattooing, he does what any right-thinking man in Milwaukee would: shares cold beer with good friends. —Zac Clark

📍 BEST PLACE TO STOP AND TAKE IN THE FLOWERS

The Milwaukee Art Museum (700 N. Art Museum Dr.) has four floors with more than 40 galleries boasting works that range from German Expressionism to Haitian art. "With new exhibits coming through every few months it's hard not to take a day, clear the mind, and enjoy the art," Stevens says. MAM also is home to a large collection of Georgia O'Keeffe paintings.



📍 BEST PLACE TO GET LOST

The Historic Third Ward Association (219 N. Milwaukee St.) serves as Milwaukee's premier art and fashion shopping district. "If you want to take a day and enjoy some good food, art, and entertainment in an upscale portion of the city, there is no shortage here," Stevens says.

BEST BAR TO START YOUR NIGHT

Water Street Brewery (1101 N. Water St.) gets it done. They have eight standby drafts and two rotating seasonals, so you'll have no trouble finding a pint to fit your palate. "Have a drink, check it out, and move on to the next bar if you'd like," Stevens says. "The cool thing about Water Street is the array of bars lined up, all offering something a little different from the next. It's great for bar hopping." Water Street Brewery also has a mini museum that houses more than 50,000 (empty) beer cans, 50 neon signs, and 1,400 beer taps.



📍 BEST PLACE TO BE DISCREET

Grab your cloak and dagger when you head to The Safe House (779 N. Front St.), a non-hokey spy-themed bar. "Anytime I have friends come in from out of town, this is a must-do," Stevens says. "It's not your average bar. It's definitely a landmark in Milwaukee." You can't be a slouch at espionage after 8 o'clock, when they might require a password for entry.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MUSEUM, COURTESY VISITMILWAUKEE.ORG; SUMMERFEST, COURTESY SUMMERFEST/MILWAUKEE WORLD FESTIVAL, INC.; THIRD WARD, COURTESY HISTORIC THIRD WARD ASSOCIATION; ART MUSEUM, COURTESY VISITMILWAUKEE.ORG



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Clockwise from top left: Airstream Interstate 3500 interior, Terra Wind, Terra Wind emerging from water, Airstream Interstate 3500, Avanti.



ROADIES

Feel the freedom of life on the highway.

Is the recession over? Because we missed the “Mission Accomplished” banner. Since a vacation on the Riviera still isn’t in the cards, it’s time to go native and think seriously about getting into the RV lifestyle. Yes, fuel prices are ludicrous, but airline tickets and hotel rooms are even more so—and the rent is too damn high.

This summer, take your life on the road in style with a land yacht. The newest ones have more modern amenities than a Sheraton (do any Starwoods Hotel suites have bourbon on tap?), so all you have to do is pack the things with as many cool people living it up as you want, take off, and relax, knowing you don’t have to worry about the old couple one room over who are in town for a gardenia show. Whether you decide to rent or purchase your own Mystery Van, there will be no checking of luggage, no pat downs, and no X-rays (unless you decide to get all *Jackass-y*). Here are a few options to help you get the hell out of Dodge. And if you need somewhere to go, just follow the INKED Magazine Music Tour around the country! —Robert McCormick

AVANTI The front end of this retro-cool motor home is reminiscent of a slick pre-’60s bus, and the interior décor takes its flavor from slick Italian design. Great for those who are intimidated to ride high, the Avanti sits almost a foot lower than competitive models—and also does 70 percent better on fuel mileage.

TERRA WIND For those who like the ability to stray from the beaten path and hit the high seas, there’s the Terra Wind. This vehicle has an eight-jet whirlpool tub, marble floors, a washer and dryer, and it freaking goes in the water! It’s a motor-houseboat. God bless American ingenuity.

AIRSTREAM INTERSTATE 3500 Two of the best in transportation, Airstream and Mercedes Benz, put their engineers together to create this sexy beast. While it vaguely looks like a response to the EM-50 Urban Assault Vehicle from *Stripes*, this model doesn’t have flamethrowers—though you do get your choice of three interior layouts.



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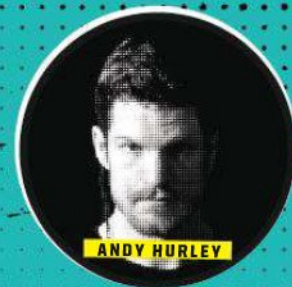
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BELLY DANCER. METAL BURGER JOINT STAFF. BMXER.



"I love adornment. I love the way it makes the body look and changes when I dance."
-Zoe Jakes

PHOTO BY CHLOE AFTEL

ZOE JAKES



When Zoe Jakes was starting out as a belly dancer, she made her living by dancing for Arabic and Persian groups—cultures that traditionally don't approve of tattoos. "I had the girl on my back, but the rest of my body stayed untattooed because I needed to be able to work at restaurants, private parties, and weddings," she says. "The minute I started getting successful in more alternative stuff, that's when I just went for broke, because I love adornment. I love the way it makes the body look and changes when I dance."

The "alternative stuff" mainly means her Oakland, CA-based world-electronic trio, Beats Antique. A few years ago Jakes was in a few highly regarded belly dancing troupes when Miles Copeland, the producer of *Bellydance Superstars* (as well as former manager of The Police), approached her about making an album he could use for the upcoming belly dance tour. "I was sitting at the bar—I believe I was in Pittsburgh at the Rex [Theater]—and I was drinking and hanging out with Miles and he said that he needed a Middle Eastern electronica album ... something fresh and new," she recalls. So, Jakes enlisted the help of friend and longtime musical collaborator Tommy "Sidecar" Cappel, as well as world musician David Satori, and they named the project

Beats Antique. You can see their success marked by how much ink Jakes has acquired now that she no longer has to work conservative parties.

Since 2007, the trio has put out five albums (including 2010's *Blind Threshold*) and played every festival from Austin City Limits to SXSW to Lollapalooza. Behind the scenes, all three produce the music, and their live format involves Cappel and Satori manning the computer and instruments while Jakes belly dances onstage.

Jakes estimates that 90 percent of her live belly dancing is improvised and the other 10 percent is rehearsed. She explains: "I feel like that style works for me because I've had a huge hand in making the music. I know it so well that I don't have to think about it in a choreography kind of way. It's more that I'm so connected to the music that my body instinctively knows how to move to it."

Her ink includes a burlesque girl on her left side and a belly dancer on her right, as well as a key on the inside of her right forearm, a design on the inside of her elbow inspired by art deco circus posters, and a massive floral design on her midsection. "When it's done well, it's just so beautiful," Jakes says of tattoos. "I feel like it's an expression of my arts as much as dancing is." —*Kara Pound*





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**Kuma's Corner
Yob Burger**

10 oz. hamburger patty
slice of smoked gouda
bacon strips
roasted red peppers
roasted garlic mayonnaise
pretzel roll
Assemble and eat.

KUMA'S CORNER

The problem with Kuma's Corner is that the burgers are too damn good. What used to be a Chicago spot for tattooed metalheads to eat meat has now been discovered by foodies and mainstream television (Guy Fieri remarked that they made one of the best burgers he's eaten). It's not ours exclusively anymore, and now there is often a long wait to get a table. But it's fun to see an outsider come into the metal burger mecca and have their senses dry-humped.

As *Time Out Chicago* put it: "The servers here sport more ink than a Bic factory, and the metal is cranked up so loud you can't hear yourself talking, but therein lies the charm." Charm? Put yourself in your grandmother's pumps. She shuffles into a packed corner restaurant, Iron Maiden is cranked to 11 on the stereo, paintings of dominatrices cover one wall, and a waitress smothered in tattoos drops off a massive burger punctuated by one of the following: pancetta, brie, poached pear, roasted garlic mayo, shallot rings, or a fried egg. But the burger is so good Grandma will bring her cribbage partners next time.

"Everything we do, from our food to our beer, is local," says chef Luke Tobias. "We don't buy from huge companies; they have plenty of money." The burgers are all named for metal bands like Pantera, Metallica, and Clutch. "Ninety-seven percent of the time there is a connection between the band and the burger," Tobias says. For example, the Megadeth features hash made from chorizo and red potato, pico de gallo, tortilla strips, and cayenne-avocado cream in a nod to the band's Southwestern roots. "I guess we could have figured out some Mexican metal band, but we didn't have a Megadeth, and they're from Arizona—close enough." Another aptly named burger is the Slayer, which isn't so much a burger as it is a brutal attack on your arteries. It includes a burger, chili, cherry peppers, andouille, onions, jack cheese, and "anger" served over a bed of fries. When Slayer was in town last summer they decided to check out their burger, Tobias recalls. "We don't do carry-out in the summer, but it's fucking Slayer, so we needed to do it. What we didn't imagine was that they would order 16 Slayers on top of everything else. I heard Kerry King was super excited about it."

He'll probably be back. They all come back. One customer even carries Kuma's around on him permanently. "There's this dude that got one of the burgers tattooed on his foot, a Mastodon with an egg on it," Tobias recalls. As the restaurant's reputation grows, Tobias promises things will never change. "I think everybody appreciates that we don't give a fuck. We're going to continue to do what we want, all the time." —Charlie Connell



JAMIE BESTWICK

For BMX vert rider Jamie Bestwick, an eight-time X Games gold medalist, ink runs in the family. The 39-year-old says after seeing tattoos on older members of his family, he always thought images came out better on skin than on canvas. "They just take to life when they're on somebody's body," he explains. His first tattoo was of a family member—his bulldog, Archie.

Once he began riding BMX professionally, Bestwick, who was born in England and now lives in Pennsylvania, was connected with other tattooed friends, and his interest in ink kept pace with the speed of his career. After a rough accident that required extensive surgery, he decided the best way to cover up the scar was to get another tattoo. He chose a huge Chinese dragon because "historically, they've always been guardians and very powerful figures." Of course, when he ended up on the operating table again, his surgeon was faced with a new challenge: sew-

ing Bestwick's arm back together so the tattoo would still look right. Luckily, there was little scarring, and Bestwick went back to his artist for a pain-free touch-up over the scar. He says the tattoo is now in great shape and calls the entire thing "a neat experience," but not something he would like to go through again.

Bestwick, who has sat for up to eight hours of tattooing at a time (including one session in his own kitchen), says there's a similarity between getting tattooed and riding BMX, explaining that they can both be exhausting—but they're both about the end result. "When you pull a trick, you're just enjoying what you worked hard to accomplish—and that is something that carries along with tattooing. You're enjoying somebody's work with a passion, and when it is completed you fully appreciate what's been done. There's a sense of fulfillment and when you get to that point, it's a huge rush." —*Mary Toto*

THE HOTTEST TATTOOED WOMEN OF ROCK

page 44

THESE WOMEN ROCK OUT WITH THEIR TATTOOS OUT! BY GILBERT MACIAS

MAJA IVARSSON
The Sounds
PHOTO BY CHRIS SHONTING





MAJA IVARSSON *The Sounds*

The queen of air kicks, a professional crowd surfer, and a natural charmer, blond bombshell Maja Ivarsson has stage presence (and tattoos) in spades. "I never work out," says Ivarsson. "I think doing 200 shows per year, and all the energy I have onstage, I guess that's an hour workout every night. But I still smoke cigarettes and drink beer while I do it." Now that's rock—and, believe it or not, Ivarsson and the Sounds have been going 13 years strong. "Fans come up and show [me] pictures from eight years ago and I think, Oh, God, I look so different—but at the same time, I'm still wearing the same jacket," she says.

And when the Swede whips off that jacket onstage, we are treated to some great ink. "My favorite tattoo must be the Modesty Blaise I have on my forearm," she says. "I did it in Los Angeles at Shamrock Tattoo on my birthday when I turned 24. I've always been a big fan of that comic book figure. She's not really well-known here in America."

As for future tattoos, Ivarsson is thinking about inking a female music icon on her own body. "I was talking to Kat Von D ... she came to one of our shows in Santa Barbara," Ivarsson says. "We were talking about maybe doing a tattoo sometime when I get back to L.A. I found this really good picture of Stevie Nicks, and I think she's so rad and so cool, and you know how good Kat is at portraits. So we were just talking about that and she wants to do it, so maybe I will have that done sometime in the near future." Two more beautiful women wrapped up on one.

CHIBI *The Birthday Massacre*



Don't let her looks fool you. Chibi and her bandmates from The Birthday Massacre are no disposable, cookie-cutter Hot Topic-esque goth band. Underneath the surface, there's a truly talented group of musicians with shockingly good writing skills, haunting vocals, and an amazing sense of melody that gives their layered songs a catchy, almost pop-like melody. And on the surface, there's smoking-hot Chibi. With a slight playfulness and happiness to her vocals, lyrics, and stage persona, she's refreshing and unique. "I think having tattoos defines how I'll be perceived by some people, rightly or wrongly," she says. "Honestly, I don't even think about my tattoos most of the time. It's almost

like I forget that I have them. I'll go out and be polite to an older or straight-faced person or something, and they'll give me a dirty look, and I'll think, Oh, right, I have tattoos. That must mean I'm crazy!"

When asked if she has a favorite tattoo, Chibi confesses: "All of them do have a significance ... they are all of something I find interesting or inspiring. I like thinking about tattoo ideas. I have a lot more I'd like to get done. But these images, as important as they are to me, don't intrinsically define who I am." Her choices in adornment are mostly fictional female characters who have personality traits she admires. "I've been planning one of Mileena from *Mortal Kombat* for a long time,"

Chibi declares. "I like the character because she's pretty insane and vicious and seems like she'd be very attractive, but then has this mouth full of heinous sharp teeth."

Then there are the heavy and real subjects she wants to document. "There was also a racehorse that died a few years ago after a race," Chibi explains. "Her name was Eight Belles, and she was the only female horse in that particular race. ... That story got to me for some reason, and I've often thought about getting a tattoo relating to her. It's sort of weird explaining tattoo ideas—I guess there's a pretty high chance that they'll sound kind of silly to anyone other than the person who wants the tattoo."

For someone who grew up a little bit country, with the DNA of her father, well-known rock 'n' blues singer Gregg Allman, Brooklyn Allman has soul—and her own shoes to fill. “I only feel blessed and fortunate to carry his genes ... I feel no pressure at all in the music industry,” she says.

The youthful frontwoman of the hard-rock band Picture Me Broken grew up fast in the limelight, and was lucky to have such a cool dad. “I was 16 years old the first time I got a tattoo,” she says. “In California it [was] illegal to get one even with parental consent, so I flew to Georgia to visit my dad and persuaded him to take me to his artist. It didn’t take much, as he sees tattoos as a family tradition,” she says. “I remember the split second before the needle touched the skin on my forearm as one of the most tense and anxious moments of my life. Fortunately, the nerves melted away when the needle made contact and I realized it wasn’t at all painful—enjoyable, if anything. I had my trademark Brooklyn stamped on my forearm in a large, flowing font; I haven’t regretted it once to this day.”

Allman, whose first name is actually Layla on her birth certificate, prefers to go by her middle name, Brooklyn. And she’s content making a name for herself in other ways, too, with statement-making music. “My career and passion for music are the only things in my life that hold as much permanence as a tattoo,” she says.



BROOKLYN ALLMAN
Picture Me Broken



OTEP SHAMAYA
Otep

Aggressive, poetic, fearless, and intense—those are just some words that describe Otep Shamaya, lead singer of the hardcore metal band Otep. When playing live, the band

is just as no-holds-barred as its lead woman. Ear-crushing guitars, head-pounding percussion, and pure intensity radiate from the stage, complete with Otep’s

chilling wails and guttural growls. Being a tattooed lead singer for a genre of music that tends not to be taken seriously—and is often frowned upon by the mainstream—Otep is no stranger to preconceived, and often wrong, judgments about her character. “Though the rise in popularity of tattoos has

made it somewhat easier to dispose of those who prejudge, it still happens,” she says. “I think it’s part of our nature as a species to do so, as I find myself judging those same

people on the silliness of their conservative costumes.”

Otep says her ink-paved body has designs that are still relevant, and she still has her favorites, but she also has some tattoos she feels have lost their meaning. “I have two favorites: the grenade on my neck and the Kali [the Hindu goddess of eternal energy] on my forearm. Both are powerful symbols for the spiritual wedding of art and emotion,” she says. But, she adds, “I have many that no longer hold the same meaning for me, like an ex-girlfriend’s name. So I am waiting to find an expert cover artist to help design a swell bit of body art for me that looks intentional, beautiful, and not cluttered.”

On the brighter side, Otep reveals something about herself that might come as a surprise to the mainstream rubes who don’t know her: “I’m not angry all the time; I actually have a pretty intense sense of humor.”



ANA MATRONIC
Scissor Sisters
PHOTO BY STEPHEN SCHUSTER

You know you've made it big when you come full circle and musicians you grew up idolizing praise you and ask you to work for them. That happened to Ana Matronic, the vibrant female vocalist of the theatrical, glam-rock spectacle known as the Scissor Sisters. Not only has she worked with New Order, but she recently lent her voice to a new Duran Duran track. "For me, it can't even be called a dream come true," Matronic says. "I never dreamed in a million years that I would be working with people that I idolized and listened to growing up. I had a real moment when I was in the studio with Simon and Nick. I had to excuse myself and go to the bathroom because the 10 year old inside me was freaking out. It's been really amazing as a performer to be validated by the people who really influenced you."

Having a name like Ana Matronic, it's a no-brainer the singer has a thing for robots—and she wears it on her sleeve. "The tattoo on my arm was inspired by my love for *The Bionic Woman* and robots in general," she says. "To me, it was a symbol of strength. It started out as just an armband, and I slowly added to it over time. The armband just didn't seem quite bionic enough." So she added more details and stretched the piece up toward her shoulder, adding little tributes to some of her other favorite robots. "There's a hydraulic-looking piston for R2-D2, some exposed wires for C-3PO, and some big screws on the top that are a nod to Maria from *Metropolis*," she explains. "I also got the golden mean in there, which is a mathematical proportion that I am very inspired by. I like geometry—I'm sort of a nerd."

CARAH FAYE
Shiny Toy Guns,
Versant



Shiny Toy Guns fans received some killer news earlier this year when it was announced that the original female vocalist, Carah Faye, would return for the band's upcoming third album, *III*. After stepping away for the band's second album, Faye moved on to work on her own side project, a band named Versant. But now the tattooed electro-rock vixen has been welcomed back with open and illustrated arms.

Damn, Shiny Toy Guns make beautiful music together, and the wickedly good tattoo sleeve on Faye's right arm complements her crisp vocals and onstage energy perfectly. When asked if she feels her tattoos represent who she is, Faye affirms: "Absolutely. In a way, the tattoos are a part of a culture I was a part of that defined a very important moment of my youth. From the music I listened to, to the crowd I hung out with, I know that no matter how much I mature and grow up my tattoos say a lot about who I am."

Though she doesn't yet have a chest piece, her work is near and dear to her heart. "I love to get meaningful tattoos—something with a story behind it," she says. "There are *tons* of ideas that I've been planning for a while now, but there are two tattoos I will probably get this year." The first is a family thing; she and her sisters have been planning to get matching tattoos to bond them through blood and ink. The other? "I've been sober since birth and claiming straight edge since early high school," she says. "Straight edge has not only been a positive influence on my life, but a huge strength for me, and I plan on getting something to represent that as well." The only thing she puts in her heavenly body is ink, and that is commendable—nay, applaudable.



It's the Mayhem Festival. In This Moment is onstage, but their gorgeous singer, Maria Brink, just jumped into the throng. She makes her way into the middle of the sea of thousands and they snap their necks as she bangs her head. Like subjects bowing before their queen, the men point their noses to the ground and start walking counterclockwise. It's a circle pit both exalting and protecting the queen of metal.

Since INKED last caught up with Brink and her band, they have been

beasts on the tour circuit. They opened up for Korn, and their single "The Gun Show" has been featured in advertising for TNA Wrestling's Against All Odds event. Yet save for a few new tattoos, including the script on Brink's arm, the band members have all stayed the same, stayed true.

Brink has always strutted to the tune of her own bassist. In the world of metal there are few natural blondes, and there are fewer still who wear "cute skirts" and have sparkling blue

eyes and perfect teeth. But watch out, because Brink still has bite. "I am completely myself," she says. "There is a mold in the metal world, but I wasn't pressed from that. I love the scene because you can't be fake—and I'm not. I'm a little bit girly, I'm a lot a bit sexy. ... I express myself through my music and the way that I look in revealing outfits. I may be more sexual than the next act, but that's me, and that's who I am. I'm true to myself, and that's more metal than anything."

MARIA BRINK
In This Moment
PHOTO BY RAY LEGO







WE'RE WITH THE BAND



**THE DAMNED THINGS HIT THE
ROAD FOR THE INKED MUSIC TOUR**

BY BRYAN REESMAN PHOTOS BY MAGDA WOSINSKA PAGE 51

THE TERM SUPERGROUP CONJURES UP ALL SORTS OF IMAGES, FROM THE DAZZLING TO THE DREARY.

The benefit of such high-profile connotations is obviously a high profile, but great expectations can also be a curse if the players are not up to par. In the case of the hard-rocking The Damned Things, whose members hail from three very different bands, you get a happy, heavy medium somewhere between the thrashing antics of Anthrax (guitarists Scott Ian and Rob Caggiano), the fierce metalcore of Every Time I Die (vocalist Keith Buckley and touring bassist Josh Newton), and the hook-laden pop-rock of Fall Out Boy (guitarist Joe Trohman and drummer Andy Hurley). But the thought of these disparate musicians tearing up stages together has raised more than a few eyebrows, which seems to have become a blessing in disguise.

When INKED caught up with guitarist Scott Ian and drummer Andy Hurley, separately, during a previous tour's stop in Seattle, they were eager to chat about the origins of their Thin Lizzy-influenced band (the name comes from Lizzy's "Black Betty": *Black Betty had a child, bam-ba-lam/The damn thing gone wild, bam-ba-lam*). As Ian tells it, a social dinner and subsequent friendship between Ian and Trohman blossomed into something more months later when Trohman played Ian some guitar ideas he had that were not right for Fall Out Boy. It only took another three or four years to assemble the right troops, then record and release an album together as The Damned Things.

But now here they are with an album (*Ironiclaster*), getting radio airplay, headlining INKED's summer music tour, and loving it: "I'm totally stoked for the Inked Magazine Music Tour," proclaims Hurley. "I think it's a great magazine, so it's cool you're behind us. I'm looking forward to playing rock shows for children who like rock music. It's fun to play a different style to a different crowd than [the one] that shows up for Fall Out Boy concerts," says Hurley. "There

thing practically writes itself and you're done in 45 minutes and it's amazing." That's not always the case with his Anthrax work. "There's a song currently on this new Anthrax record that we've been working on for almost three years called 'Down Goes the Sun,' and it's going through its third revision right now. Charlie [Benante] is going back in and re-recording the drums and starting from the ground up again because we just rearranged it and came up with some new parts, and we think we've finally got it. It's this thing we've been working on and love it so much, so that's why we've given it all this attention."

With so many cooks in The Damned Things kitchen, you're bound to find different views of the world. Ian, who's having a child, works on comics and plays professional poker in his spare time, while Hurley, also the magnate of the indie hardcore record label and Satanic-sport T-shirt purveyor Fuck City, cultivates an anarcho-primitivist view of the world.

"I just feel that all the big problems that we have are due to the advent of civilization, especially industrial civilization," Hurley says. "The way a lot of different humans lived for hundreds of thousands of years was in band societies that were essentially anarchist—not that they called themselves anarchists," he explains. "It's more green anarchism, it's just more anti-civilization. ... Obviously nuclear energy is one of the only viable energy alternatives to coal and fossil fuels, but with what happened with Fukushima, it's just so toxic. To keep industrial civilization going you need massive amounts of energy to fuel the electrical grid, and to do that there's no real way that's not harmful to the planet or to life on the planet. That's essentially why I am anti-civilization."

Recently, a blogger questioned the vegan and straight-edge drummer about how he justifies his sociopolitical views, considering he's also a wealthy guy who has been seen talking on an iPhone and has a nice house that's been

"I'M TOTALLY STOKED FOR THE INKED MAGAZINE MUSIC TOUR. IT'S A GREAT MAGAZINE, SO IT'S COOL YOU'RE BEHIND US. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO PLAYING ROCK SHOWS FOR CHILDREN WHO LIKE ROCK MUSIC." —ANDY HURLEY

are definitely fans of each band [on its own], but there are also new fans that none of us would have otherwise, and it's cool that it seems like it crosses over pretty well between all the fans They're all awesome."

"I just really love the music," declares Ian. "That's why I'm doing it. I really love these songs, and I think we really did something different. We certainly didn't reinvent the wheel, but for what's out there these days, I just think we made something that sounds fresh and original. We don't sound like anything else on the radio, yet we're playing extremely valid rock music that touches on many different influences that we all brought to the table. ... The bottom line is we all come from the same place musically. We all have the same loves and hates when it comes to music in this band, and that's really what unites us—even though there's obviously a huge difference in age between some of us."

Trohman is the youngest, at 26 years old, and Ian the oldest, at 47, but that's hardly something worth contemplating while cranking *Ironiclaster*. The album's blend of old- and new-school rock influences goes down some unexpected paths, from the up-tempo anthem "We've Got a Situation Here" (complete with metalcore-flavored bridge) to the snarling rocker "Little Darling" to the closing number "Blues Having the Blues," complete with soulful female backing vocals and subtle slide guitar work. There's a definite sonic stamp placed on the album that shows they spent time honing their sound, but there are no weepy ballads or tepid anthems pandering to mainstream rock radio. What you hear is what you get.

As they spent time massaging their material, The Damned Things really had to work through the half-finished "Little Darling" and "Blues Having the Blues" in the studio. But ultimately, it resulted in two of the best songs on the album. "It just is that way sometimes," muses Ian. "Some songs come together in three minutes, and some songs take until the last minute. There's no right or wrong, it's just if it's something you dig or not. Of course I prefer when some-

displayed on *Cribs*. "I live in America, in civilization, and I have friends who live in it, so I'm not just going to go off and live off the land. I grew up in this," Hurley explains. "I don't want to go [it] alone, and you can't expect any of your friends to do something like that. That's kind of a crazy idea to most people. I'm into comics and into movies and all these things—it's definitely a contradictory thing with the job I have. But the point is that I understand that the way we're living isn't sustainable and isn't great for the world."



WHEN IT COMES TO TATTOOS, BOTH IAN AND HURLEY ARE PRETTY

well inked, although the drummer has covered more of his body. Ian says his ink falls into two categories: those he simply likes and those that have a deeper meaning or influence on his life. In the case of the former, his tattoo of Edward Gorey's *The Gashlycrumb Tinies* and the word "Patience" written in kanji fit the bill, whereas his images of Gene Simmons as the Demon and head shots of Angus and Malcolm Young are apropos of the latter. His first ink, done on his right shoulder around 1990, is a sun and a Northwest Indian face inspired by ink that Henry Rollins had on his back.

"Some of my earlier ones were done by a guy named Gary Kosmala in Huntington Beach," says Ian. "He was working with Leo Zulueta at Black Wave [in Los Angeles], and I had met Gary even before that shop opened because I was living in Huntington Beach. He did my right inner forearm, my left bicep, and my right arm with the dice and the flames. ... A guy named Guf at Ace Tattoo in San Diego did my Gorey piece and my Thraxagram thing on my arm." Kat Von D did his Angus and Malcolm pieces as well as the 666 on his finger. There's also a Paul Booth piece on his leg that's a work in progress. "Most of the [finished] work is on the top of my foot, and after having the outline done, I'm really in no rush to get it finished."

Hurley's first ink, a "Mom" tattoo on his chest, was a birthday present to





From left: Joe Trohman, Andy Hurley, Scott Ian, Rob Caggiano, Keith Buckley, Josh Newton.



her and a thank-you for raising him on her own (his father died when he was younger). He also has small tattoos on both sides of his body, one that says "family" and another that says "love." He explains that the pieces meant a lot to him at the time, "probably because of the alienation of my dad dying, and my siblings leaving when I was close to a few of them." Hurley has four half-sisters and five half-brothers (he is at least 10 years younger than the youngest of the group), but after his father's death they moved on with their lives and did not stay in touch.

The family-inspired pieces were done by Mario Desa at Chicago Tattoo, while the majority of the rest of his work has been done by New York-based artist Seth Wood, who began with the sleeves. "The right side was [about] going through these bad things, and the left side was coming out stronger," says Hurley. "And then my back piece was originally inspired by *Seven*. On my back I was going to do the disgusting things about the human condition, and the front would be the good things, but then it morphed into a Tibetan god of death, a demon mask thing."

After that, he moved on to his hands, and huge pieces that cover his ribs to his ankles on both sides. "I think I have morphed from seeing tattoos as this thing that tells a story to just being able to appreciate what Seth does. He's one of my best friends. I love him and respect him as an artist a lot, so I give him a million ideas, and [see] whatever he comes up with."

➔ A LOVE OF TATTOOS CERTAINLY UNITES THE Damned Things, as does their appreciation for classic rock, comics, and a healthy sense of humor. The vibrant side project has also invigorated the band members by giving each of them a breather from their main projects—although they may be returning to their respective groups soon. Anthrax has a new album *tentatively* scheduled for a fall release ("Plans are known to go awry," says Ian); Every Time I Die reportedly have a new CD in the works; and Fall Out Boy, contrary to some reports, have not died.

"It's definitely not broken up," Hurley divulges. "I know Patrick [Stump] has been saying a lot publicly lately, [but] we never did break up. I think we had just been touring for a long time and had a couple of things percolating on the side. Patrick was writing songs that didn't fit at all and had wanted to do a solo thing for years, and The Damned Things was around for years as well, so we took a break to clear our heads, do these other things, get them out, and see how we feel. ... We've been off for two years at this point, and I definitely want to do it—I love that band still."

For now, though, he and the other members of The Damned Things are just happy to blow off the doors during the INKED Tour. They certainly don't view this as a simple side project. "This is a band that definitely has a lot to say," Ian declares. We look forward to seeing you in the pit. ■

SOFT SHELLS

From top: Grid Gradient board shorts, walmart.com; Vans Era Classic board shorts, vansapparel.com; Stüssy color-block trunks, stussy.com; Rhythm Harmonic board shorts, swell.com; Quiksilver Cipher Mutiny board shorts, quiksilver.com; O'Neill Cousteau board shorts, shoponeillusa.com.





ADULT SWIM

All you need this summer are tasty waves, a cool buzz, and new beach gear.

PHOTOS BY
TOM MEDVEDICH

JUST ADD WATER

Clockwise, from top: Fred Perry x Raf Simons polo shirt, fredperry.com; DC New Era hat, dcshoes.com; Burton Mr. Beer cooler/backpack, burton.com; AERIAL7 Tank Mondrian headphones, aerial7.com; Volcom towel, volcom.com; Etnies Modos flip-flops, etnies.com; Miansai Mooring bracelet, miansai.com; G-Shock watch, gshock.com; Native Howard shoe, nativeshoes.com.

WELCOME TO NY INK

Ami James and his A-Team
take Manhattan, the high-end
art world, and TV land.

BY ROCKY RAKOVIC

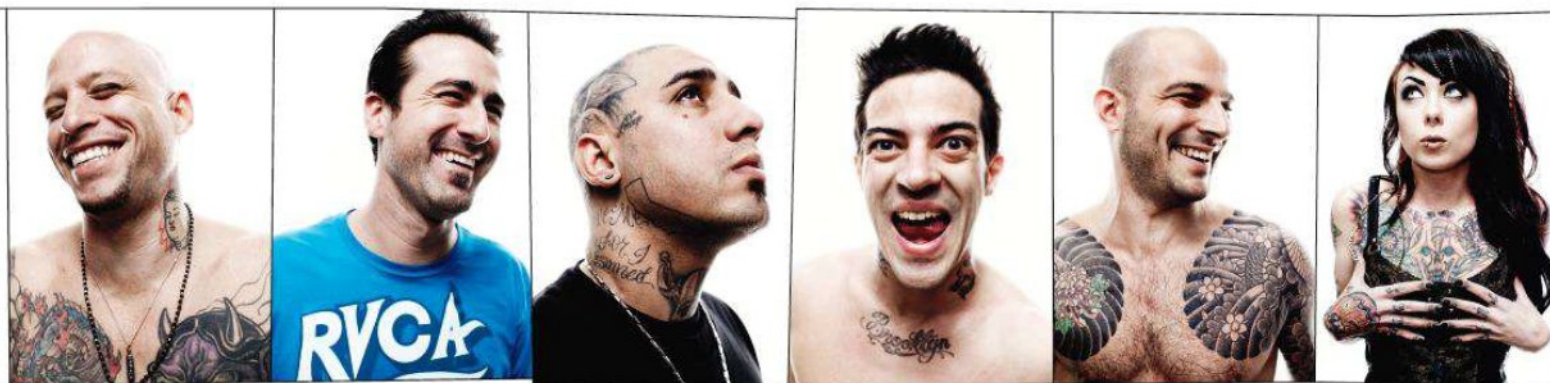
PHOTOS BY
CLAY PATRICK MCBRIDE

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WOODSTER \$TREET \$OCIAL



“I WANTED TO BE AROUND GALLERY PEOPLE THINK OF TATTOOS,” AMI JAMES SAYS. “I’M



IT’S A WARM APRIL AFTERNOON IN SOHO AND SOME GNARLY GUYS ARE HUFFING CIGARETTES ON

the steps of the not-yet-open-to-the-public Wooster Street Social Club, while the fashionable types—from the tony to the post-hipstery—shuffle between art galleries and flagship stores. One woman who looks like she could be dressed for the royal wedding pauses to ask warmly, “When are you guys opening?” It’s one of those perfect New York art-world moments Ami James has banked on. Looks like the risk he took opening up a shop in New York’s SoHo, and filming the process for *NY Ink*, might pay off; there’s the right kind of buzz before the tattoo gun has even been hooked up to a power source.

Not too many neighborhoods in the world are more hallowed than SoHo, where James has hung his shingle. “I wanted to be around gallery people who love art but wouldn’t necessarily think of tattoos,” he says. “I’m trying to get everybody into tattooing. I’m going for the high end, and hope that it will trickle down.”

James and partner in this endeavor, Charlie Corwin, have erected a place fitting for both the well heeled and the well inked. For *Miami Ink*, James made a deal with Corwin, the show’s producer, but he ended up feeling that the money he would have earned tattooing was compromised because the filming schedule took so much time away from the actual work. They didn’t talk for a few years, but now they are on the same financial page, splitting TV and tattoo-shop profits, so they both lose money if production cuts into productivity.

Wooster Street Social Club is in a space formerly inhabited by a Christian organization that has been transformed into a cathedral of aesthetics. It’s 6,200 square feet of stunning. You walk in the door and there are priceless works of art to your right, the main tattooing area is behind a wall on your left, and there are creatively placed copper-ringed window frames salvaged from New York’s old Flatiron Building that allow you to look in on the tattooing without being invasive to the artist or his subject. “They frame the artwork,” James explains. Past the reception area, there’s a Shepard Fairey print above a light table where the artists sketch—a confluence of refined street artists. In the waiting area, you have the choice of a pew or an old leather couch, which

sits around a Mac that has been steampunk’d with a clockmaker’s lathe. Inside the main tattooing area is a textured wall that holds up lettering from the 1960s spelling the shop’s name, as well as a bar and one of James’s custom motorcycles. The tattooing is done on old-school barber chairs in funky colors; stools and rolling stations are situated on tufts of tile from turn-of-last-century France. Everything’s portable so the whole floor can be cleared at night for events or parties. “I called it Wooster Street Social Club because it’s not just a tattoo shop; we don’t even have tattoo art on the wall like you’d expect,” James says. “This is a hangout for anyone who wants to be a part of this lifestyle.” Downstairs, James has even put in a spot to get a coffee and, since he practices mixed martial arts, a fight gym.

But the most important things James put into Wooster Street Social Club are the tattoo artists. His first call was to Tim Hendricks (“Tim does photo realism to a T,” James says); his next was to Tommy Montoya (“He does the baddest black and gray”). Yes, for *NY Ink* his first choices were West Coast masters. “Their styles don’t compete with anyone on the East Coast,” James says.

Hendricks claims that New York is the place, and now is the time. “Like how birds fly south for the winter, tattoo artists move around between Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York,” he says. “Right now New York is the mecca, New York is the shit. When I walk into shops like New York Adorned, Invisible NYC, Flyrite, Kings Avenue, Saved, or Da Vinci and see their tattoo artists push the boundaries and then say they want to get tattooed by me, I say ‘Are you kidding me? I want to get tattooed by you!’ They make me want to tattoo better.”

Hendricks’s favorite part of being at Wooster Street Social Club is working with Montoya again. “Besides the fact that we make each other laugh every day, we push each other for personal growth,” he says. “In many shops ego comes into play, but Tommy and I are honest with each other, and you can only grow if you are humble.”

Montoya, who is miles away from his family, including his brother, Mikey,

WHO LOVE ART BUT WOULDN'T NECESSARILY TRYING TO GET EVERYBODY INTO TATTOOING."

FAVORITE NEW YORK PIZZA:

"There are plenty of great slices in New York but the best pie is at Lil' Frankie's on First Avenue.

-Tim Hendricks

FAVORITE NEW YORK RESTAURANT:

"Village Yokochō.
Their yakitori is amazing."

-Ami James



FAVORITE THING ABOUT NEW YORKERS:

"Everybody is friendly—even to me, looking the way I do. Out in L.A. people look at me and think that I'm a criminal."

—Tommy Montoya



FAVORITE NEW YORK SPOT TO SHOP:

"St. Marks has really good shops like Trash and Vaudeville and Search and Destroy, but I would never get tattooed on St. Marks."

—Megan Massacre



another sick tattooer, says his mission is to change the New York landscape. "Art is way different out here. Everybody is into American traditional and Japanese traditional, where out in Cali we are heavily into black-and-gray portraits, gangster style, and religious style," says the artist, who has the state of California inked on his jaw line. "I'm going to fill that void in New York. All it's going to take is for me to do a couple of tattoos on people, put them in the public limelight, and it will change the game out here." That's a bold, black-and-white (and gray) statement.

"There is no modesty here, but with these artists none is needed," says Megan Massacre, another of the shop's artists. She's the greenest, though she has great green eyes for tattooing. "Megan is this little girl who has only

been tattooing for six years, but she is doing amazing work," James says. For the show, Massacre, who has been featured in *INKED* both as a model and artist, provides eye candy on skin and as the babe in boy land. When asked if she sees a tattoo artist or a model when she looks in the mirror, the Pennsylvanian replies: "A tattoo artist, and then an artist in any form. When I model I consider myself creating art, and when I customize my clothes I see that as another form of art."

Then there are the non-artists in the shop. James's apprentice is Billy DeCola. They were friends in Miami, and when the recession hit and DeCola's import business suffered James offered him a job at *Miami Ink*. He later followed James to New York to be his right-hand man, consigliere, and,

FAVORITE NEW YORK COCKTAIL:

You can find things here that you can't find anywhere else in the country, like Shochu, a Japanese spirit. ... Try it with hot tea or on the rocks with a sour plum. —*Billy DeCola*

FAVORITE NEW YORK TEAM:

"Yankees or Mets? Yankees or who? It's the Yankees, baby."
—*Chris Torres*



sometimes, verbal punching bag or sparring partner in the fight gym. "People would kill for this opportunity," he says. Jessica Gahring is the strong-woman who keeps the boys in check, and Robear is the shop manager, whose grandiosity surpasses anything television can fabricate.

No bullshit, though: The lingo character at Wooster Street Social Club is Brooklynite Chris Torres, a lettering wiz. He's the only native New Yorker, and brings his New York attitude to the drawing table. "Wooster Street is more focused on being an art gallery than a tattoo shop," he says. Though it should be noted that a few artists complain about the lack of reference material on hand. "I'm not here to make friends," says Torres, the former owner of Alphabet City Studios. "I'm a New Yorker; I have an opinion." In his purview, all the artists

at Wooster Street Social Club deserve a chair, but he questions whether the show should carry the banner of *NY Ink*. "There are better people to represent New York. I would have no business representing Houston in *Houston Ink*. Why the fuck would I want to represent anything [other] than where I'm from?"

It's a question many may ask when they see the show, but New York has always been a city the hungry descend upon to prove to themselves, and the world, that they are the best. "People might think of me as a Miami guy, but I've been traveling between Miami and New York for 17 years," James says. "New York is the place where people from different places are welcome to take a shot. It's the capital of immigration and art. I wouldn't open a shop anywhere else in the world." ■

INKED GIRL



PHOTOS BY
WARWICK SAINT

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OH, THE ILLUSTRATED LIFE OF INKED GIRL LEAH JUNG.

When we called on her for this photographic showcase, she said she'd come to us. "Please don't visit me," she pleaded. "Not because I don't like visitors, but because there's a vicious genital-eating squirrel that lives on my porch." Squirrels have their right to nuts, so the model-singer traveled from her hometown of Albany, NY, to New York City to show off her tattoos.

Being musically inclined, she felt right at home photographed in front of a wall of sound—the Marshall amps you see on the cover. "I abso-

lutely love to sing," she says. "In a scrapbook, I have a picture I drew when I was 6. In crayon it says, 'When I grow up I want to be a singer,' and there's a blond stick figure on a stage with a microphone and an amplifier. I didn't even know what an amplifier was, I just knew there were box-things on stages. It just feels good to sing. That's what has always felt good to me."

She also feels good when being tattooed, just another outlet and release for her energy. But like many artists who got better with age—Johnny Cash, John Lennon, Tom Waits (we await your

angry letters of disagreement)—she's decided that some of her youthful proclamations aren't as poignant now that she's matured. For this reason Jung is lasering off some of her back tattoos to update her catalogue. "I would have been content leaving them as I originally wanted them. However, I would prefer a nice, big, beautiful back piece."

And when we start to protest: "Well, painter Paul Cézanne said, 'A work of art which did not begin in emotion is not art,' and I agree. My body is an expression of myself. If I'm not expressing myself, I get painfully bored." —Brittany Ineson

LaRok fringe vest; H&M underwear, Topshop black leather pumps. Opposite: Kiki De Montparnasse underwear; Falke thigh-highs; LaCrasia gloves; Yves Saint Laurent heels. Page 65: Agent Provocateur underwear; vintage leather jacket. Page 66: Topshop black lace vest; H&M bra and thong; Noir Jewelry cuffs; vintage heels. Page 67: Kiki de Montparnasse thong; Noir Jewelry bracelets; vintage bustier.





Hair: Lacy Redway
at seemanagement.com
Makeup: Hector Simancas
for MAC Cosmetics
at Factory Downtown
Location: SIR New York's 25th
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com; Marc by Marc Jacobs
sunglasses, asos.com.



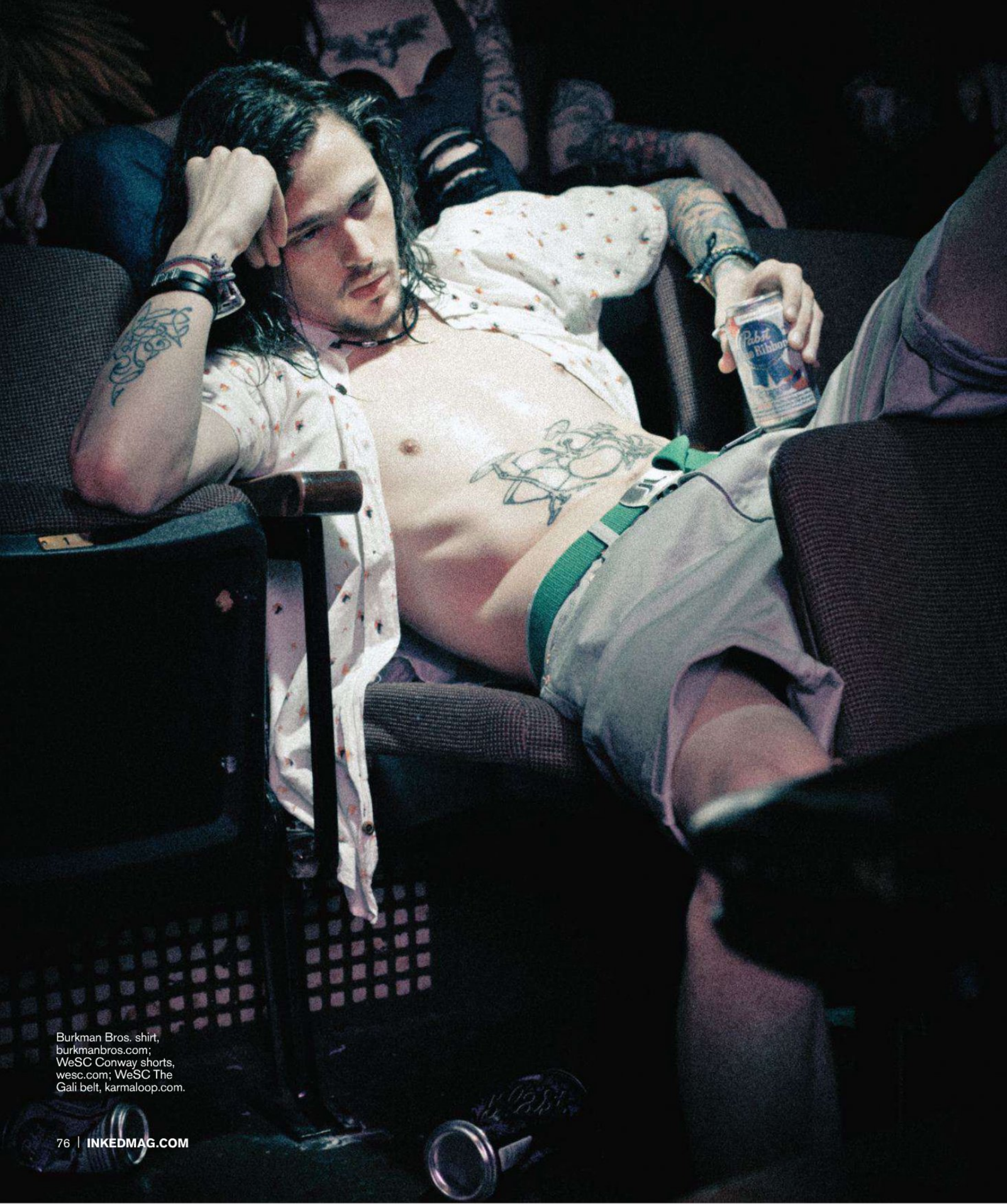
American Apparel
hooded sweatshirt,
americanapparel.com;
KR3W shorts, kr3wdenim.com;
Supra sneakers,
suprafootwear.com;
Santa Cruz Pumpkin
Seed surfboard,
santacruzsurfboards.com.



Diwon orange tank top, diwonman.com; Shades of Grey by Micah Cohen tank top, oaknyc.com; Penfield Grafton shorts, penfieldusa.com; Clae McQueen shoes, davidz.com; Spragwerks silver pendant on leather cord, spragwerks.com.

Shades of Grey by
Micah Cohen shirt,
oaknyc.com; John
Hardy necklace,
us.johnhardy.com.





Burkman Bros. shirt,
burkmanbros.com;
WeSC Conway shorts,
wesc.com; WeSC The
Gali belt, karmaloop.com.



O'Neill board shorts, shoponeillusa.com; American Apparel socks, americanapparel.com; Spragwerks necklace, spragwerks.com; Vans sneakers, vans.com/classics.

Grooming: Daniella using Burt's Bees at workgroup-ltd.com

Model: Randy Lebeau with Fusion Model Management

Location: Gramercy Theatre, a Live Nation Venue

Special thanks to: Christopher Tucker, Chris Beierschmitt, Mike Bambino, Halle Lagatta, Jordan Hurt



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"I don't care what people think of me. They have this notion of who I am, and they don't know nothing about me—nobody does." —Annette LaRue

PHOTO BY DAYMON GARDNER





Annette LaRue started hand-poking neighborhood kids when she was 13. At 15, she got her own biker-branded work, the first of an extensive tattoo collection. Then, in 1989, she picked up a tattoo machine and hasn't stopped since. With a gritty past, flaming red hair, and a sharp tongue, LaRue is often mistaken for a tattoo industry wild child. And she doesn't care. A serious artist and savvy businessperson, LaRue's focus is on keeping her iconic Electric Ladyland studio one of the top shops in New Orleans, welcoming everyone "from dregs to divas." In this interview she talks about handling French Quarter drunks, why tattoos should look like tattoos, and her upcoming retirement.

ANNETTE LARUE

Electric Ladyland
610 Frenchmen St.
New Orleans, LA
504-947-8286
electricladyland.net

BY MARISA KAKOULAS
PORTRAITS BY DAYMON GARDNER

INKED: So let's just get this out of the way: Did you tattoo the infamous Angelina and Billy Bob tattoos?

ANNETTE LARUE: [Laughs.] No, one of the guys at my shop tattooed "Angelina" on Billy Bob. It was toward the end of their relationship. He just strolled in off the street like a regular guy wearing cowboy boots, old jeans, and a \$500 silk cowboy shirt. I was talking to him the whole time he was getting tattooed and actually got his pants off to see all his tattoos. He had really old California-style tattoos, which I thought were pretty cool.

You're in New Orleans. Isn't there a voodoo curse against name tattoos? You know, there should be. We were thinking about doing a package deal where you get the name for \$200 and it includes the cover-up. We have gotten very good at covering names over the years.



“I LIKE THE WEIRDOS AND THE WEIRDNESS. IN NEW ORLEANS, EVERYONE IS A CHARACTER, SO YOU CAN JUST LOOK OUT THE WINDOW AND SEE SOMETHING CRAZY.”



Do you get a lot of walk-ins or is it mostly custom work? On any given day, it's about half and half. A couple of my guys are always booked, and I usually do walk-ins. I enjoy doing smaller walk-in tattoos. I kind of get bored with bigger pieces. Our shop is really versatile and everybody has a specialty here. I've worked with some of these guys for 15, 20 years. It's awesome.

Tell me about Electric Ladyland's history. I bought Electric Ladyland from Ernie Gosnell in 1996. He and his wife had called and said that they wanted to move to Seattle, her hometown. They offered me such a good deal on the shop that I couldn't pass it up. So they went back to Seattle and opened up successful shops there, and I took over the shop on Earhart and Claiborne. If you know the area, it's a bad fucking neighborhood. Cars got shot up there. Everyone who worked there carried a gun. It was ghetto tattooing at its finest. We had "Tupac Tuesdays" where you could get a two-for-one deal. But I really learned a lot there. It was fun. I commuted for two years back and forth and got a lot of speeding tickets. I got tired of it, so I sold it to a good guy. I wanted to make sure someone cool got it and kept it going.

Then you brought your current shop, Electric Ladyland II, to the French Quarter. The French Quarter shop used to be Orleans Ink. There was this bass player for the metal band Exodus; he had this money and his friend was a tattooer, so they opened this shop and didn't know what they were doing. They were floundering. The guy hated every tattooer in town but for some reason he liked me. I had to sneak over to his shop on a Sunday at 6 a.m. because he didn't want anyone to see us talking. He let me look at the shop, asked if I wanted to take it over, and I said, "Hell yeah." I mortgaged my house to get the money to buy it. It was kind of scary but I was able to pay the mortgage back within just a few years. I remodeled the whole thing, set it up to be a street shop, and it has been crazy ever since. But I like it.

What makes it crazy for you? The business end of it, trying to run a business and do tattoos. We have 11 employees and it's a lot. Running the business will run you down.

What do you like about it? I like the fast pace of it. I like the weirdos and the weirdness of it. In

New Orleans, everyone is a character, so you can just look out the window and see something crazy. Like, a guy was driving by in a pickup, and in the back of the truck was a baby grand piano and some guy playing it. You just don't see that every day. You see men in drag, men naked, women naked. People like to drink in New Orleans. They lose their inhibitions, come out, and seem to flock to us for some reason.

How do you deal with the drunks that stumble in? We just tell them we're booked and we can't get them in, so they have to leave. Sometimes they try to fight us. At the old shop we had two guys pull up on Harleys in kilts and try to pick a fight with us because we wouldn't tattoo them. They were super drunk and rude, and we were trying to get them out. One of my tattooers, who is an ex-NOPD, luckily knows how to persuade people. He kicked them out and then went right back to tattooing. At Electric Ladyland, though, we haven't had any real serious problems.

You must tattoo a lot of characters. Any favorites? Well, we had this one guy we called the Sheriff of Frenchmen Street. He sat outside



on the bench all day long and drank draft beer. I had an apprentice and told him, "You got to go out there and tattoo that guy. He's out there every day, he's got tattoos and you can do better than what he's got." So he went over and got the guy to come in. He became one of our favorite customers. All our apprentices tattooed him. For every five apprentice tattoos, I'd do one good tattoo on him. He was awesome. After Katrina, he moved away and couldn't get back. We found out a couple of years later that he drank himself to death. There are a lot of characters like him who we don't see anymore.

The people of the Gulf are experiencing a lot of heartache, between Katrina and the oil spill. How does this translate in the tattoo business? Do you see a lot of people getting memorial tattoos, for example? Oh yes. People here like to wear their strong emotions. And they do it through tattoos.

That's got to be heavy. It was horrible the first year or two after Katrina. Everyone who came in had a tragic story. Three guys who worked for me lost everything they owned. So, yeah, it changed everything. But it made business great. We never had an appointment book before that; we were a walk-in shop. A couple of guys would have appointments a couple of times a week, but now over half of our tattoos are by appointment. It shocks me every day just how many people come in. I'm not trying to brag, and I'm sorry for other people not doing well, but we've been blessed and really lucky. It's also been a lot of hard work. I'd like to give my crew the credit. These guys are really the life of the shop.

Still, a lot of shops all across the U.S. are really hurting. A lot are hurting really bad, but I hope it just weeds out the bad ones. If you don't have busi-

"TATTOOS SHOULD LOOK LIKE TATTOOS. IF YOU WANT A PAINTING, GO BUY A FUCKING PAINTING."

ness, you need to look at your work. Do you think you're good, or do other people think you're good? And you have to ask people who aren't your buddies who you tattoo for free. If you don't have customers, maybe you're not working hard enough.

How did you get good? Well, I don't consider myself a really great tattooer. I can do a good, solid tattoo. I can do a pretty tattoo. I worked hard and I tried to follow the people I admired. The lady who taught me, Cindy Lael, well, she taught me a lot about tattoos but she didn't really teach me how to put it in. She taught me art tricks and how to run a tattoo machine, but when I went to Lou's [Sciberras], that's when I learned how to use good machines and good tools. I started using magnums and flat shaders, and copying the styles of Uncle Mike Harpool and Troy Lane, who worked there. When Mike Wilson came to the shop, he helped me a lot with machines and the technical stuff. He would also bust my ass when I didn't put enough black in something. And that's what makes a tattoo strong: the black, a solid foundation. It took me a while to get that drilled into my head, and that's when my tattoos started getting good. Also, going to art school in New Orleans helped me a lot with color and composition and things like that.

There are many tattooers these days with art school degrees who bring a more painterly style to tattooing. Some of their approaches don't have strong outlines. What do you think about this? If that's their style and that's what the customer wants, it's fine. But in 20 years, it's going to look like shit, with just big blobs of color. I know people who have stunning examples of that. When you notice tattoos on old guys, they don't have any color anymore, but that black is still there; you can see that shit on their arm and tell if it's an anchor or "hot stuff." Tattoos should look like tattoos. If you want a painting, go buy a fucking painting.

That's not a popular opinion these days. I don't care what people think of me. They have this notion of who I am, and they don't know nothing about me—nobody does.

What do you think is the biggest misconception of who you are? I think that people think I'm wild, and I'm really not. I like to garden and ride horses. I'm really pretty normal and conservative. I had a wild streak. I was going good in my 20s and 30s. I'd come up kind of like a biker chick. I always rode my own bike and rebuilt my own motors. But I'm pretty mellow these days.

I read about you doing your first tattoo as a kid, and then getting your own first tattoo at 15. That's pretty badass. I got my first professional tattoo in Mobile, Alabama. ... I'll never forget it. My girlfriend and I went in there, and as long as we had our tops off, he didn't care. Actually, that guy still tattoos. He's kind of an icon, but back then, he was just some biker.

And you hand-poked tattoos on other kids when you were young. I did. I was probably 13 or 14. I got all the kids around. Some were afraid to do it, and I said: "Gimme that needle. I know how to wrap the thread around, c'mon!" Oh, I messed up a few friends. I hope they're not too mad at me.

What drew you to tattoos at such a young age? They were defiant. Today tattoos are a fashion statement, like a hat or tight pants. When I got them in 1978, my first professional ones, I got them to scare people. I didn't want people talking to me. I don't know why I felt that way. I bet my counselor could tell you.

So overall, what do you think about tattooing today? Oh my God, it's horrible. I blame the Internet and rap music. [Laughs.] I think it's awesome that an art school student wants to tattoo, but learn how to do a fucking tattoo. I think it should be mandatory that you learn from somebody who has been doing it at least 10 years. Not these guys who have been doing it a year and open up their own shop and have three apprentices.

Well, what do you love about tattooing today? I love how it's different every day. I love the people I work with because they are funny and make me laugh. I love setting my own schedule. I love traveling, going to conventions, and meeting new people. That being said, I am kind of semi-retiring. I got a partner now at the shop, Jason Cline. I've known him for 18 years. He's an awesome tattooer. He runs the shop when I'm not there. He wants to keep the Electric Ladyland name that I got from Ernie, so I'll pass it on to him, and he'll pass it to someone else. We'll keep the honor of Electric Ladyland and Ernie.

What will you do in your retirement? I'm going to get a farm and have goats and chickens. I also went to school to be an outdoor adventure guide, and I'd like to take people on hunting expeditions. So I'd like to do that and still tattoo when I want, and go to conventions. I'm 47 now and I think retiring at 50 will be awesome. But I'll always be connected with tattooing. 🐐



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Model: Yeonji Williams / Photo: Edwin Villanueva - Evolve Photography



From left: Jesse Bink, Baz, Vinnie Stigma, Lars Frederiksen.

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BY LANI BUESS
PORTRAIT AND INTERIOR BY RAY LEGO

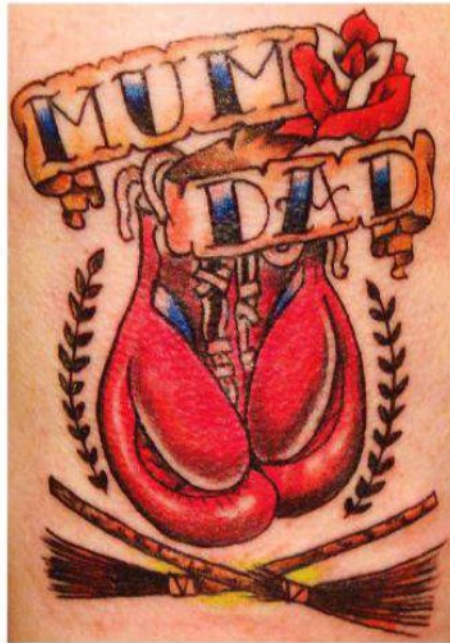
The vibrant punk and hardcore scene didn't die in the Bowery with the closing of CBGB in 2006; it just moved to New York Hardcore Tattoo. Interspersed with Sailor Jerry flash and band T-shirts, candid shots of Agnostic Front and Rancid performing onstage line the walls. You'll probably also find a charismatic Vinnie Stigma, the hardcore punk icon of Agnostic Front and a veritable encyclopedia on all things punk, reciting the résumé of various musicians to attentive customers. After all, it's Stigma's shop, which he opened with Jimmy Gestapo of Murphy's Law in 1999. Lars Frederiksen of Rancid, musician Mike Valente, and friend Tragedy helped take over the shop's reins with Stigma last year. NYHC Tattoo, which has an awning reminiscent of the one that hung at CBGB, was meant to fill a void created by the loss of the venue that initially intended to feature Country, Blue Grass, and Blues but instead helped usher in the raucous underground rock that spit in society's face.

"I wanted to keep the scene involved," says Stigma of his shop. "I wanted to make New York Hardcore like a CBGB-type place where kids can come here and connect with us." To do so, Stigma

and his crew (including Jesse Bink, who does great color work) share their favorite hardcore hangout with customers and provide flyers for local shows. He even added a skate ramp at the back of the shop, but scrapped it after receiving a summons.

For Frederiksen, NYHC Tattoo pays direct tribute to Stigma's three-decades-strong band and other punk rock predecessors. "When you say 'New York Hardcore' you say 'Agnostic Front' in the same breath," he says. "I think one of the things that's really poignant about this shop is how much history it is and what it was built on. I mean, these guys—Agnostic Front, Madball, Murphy's Law—are the roots of today's modern punk rock hardcore music, and the whole thing they brought to the table was tattoos ... that gritty, working-class kind of thing. If you're a punk rocker, a skinhead, or a hardcore kid, the shop you want to come and get tattooed at is New York Hardcore."

And one of the people you want to tattoo you is Baz. He has been serving as a tattoo artist at NYHC Tattoo for the past two years, but he was originally a paying customer. "I grew up listening to the music and worked at other places in the city, but it's just



Clockwise from top left: tattoo by Baz; tattoo by Baz; tattoo by Baz; interior of shop; tattoo by Baz; tattoo by Jesse; tattoo by Jesse; tattoo by Baz.



not the same," he says. "I think this is the whole package." Although NYHC Tattoo often becomes a tourist spot for out-of-town punk rock youth, Baz says it's equally enticing to an older demographic. "It's for people who've probably grown up listening to it, but now have a real job," he says. "When it comes around to getting tattooed, it actually means something to them to come in here ... it's more of a personal connection for them and their youth."

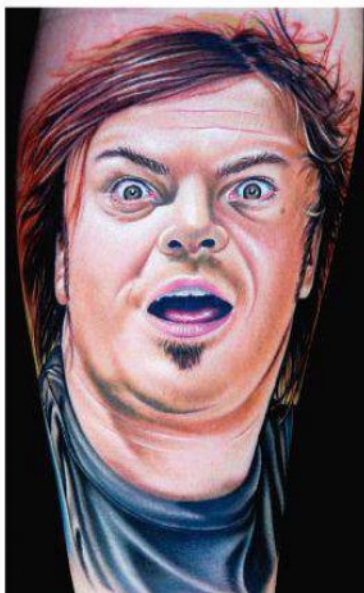
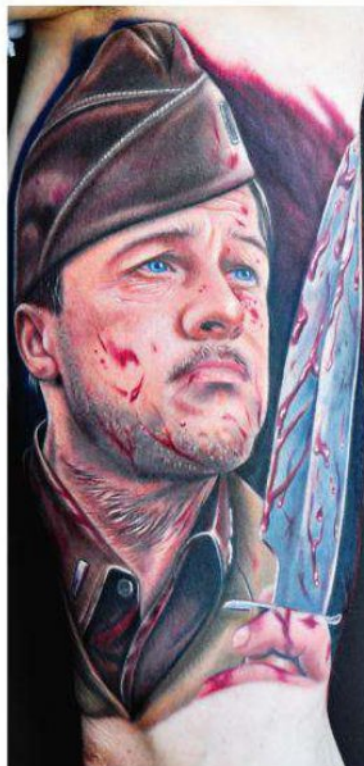
Frederiksen was 11 when he got his first tattoo, a now faded "Oii" on his ankle. He was introduced to punk rock by his older brother and to the tattoo scene by the bikers who lived in the low-income housing

complex where he grew up. When he started frequenting punk rock shows, he saw the tattoo trend. "I think anything that is kind of outlaw-based, we gravitate toward," he says. So much so that Frederiksen not only co-owns NYHC Tattoo but also Skunx Tattoo Parlour in Japan, which he opened with tattooer Tokyo Hiro in 2009. He also does guest spots at his shops tattooing his band logos. As for Stigma? "I was tattooed before there was punk rock, and then I was punk rock because I lived in New York City," he says. "I kind of lumped it all together, I guess."

A working-class guy with a 10th-grade education, Frederiksen learned to fend for himself. "It's not

like we have rich parents to fucking wipe our asses," he says. "My whole career has been independent ... and that's where Vinnie and I connect. The idea and concept behind the tattoo shop is the same idea and concept that we probably both started our bands with. We wanted something of our own."

They got it, with a DIY style that's nothing like a generic street shop. "We don't want to subscribe to the fucking Walgreens tattoo shops, or the fucking Walgreens-type punk rock," says Frederiksen. "People who work here love making tattoos, they love the music, they love the culture. Those are the type of people who you want tattooing you." ■



MIKE DEVRIES

FROM: MD Tattoo Studio
VISIT: mdtattoos.com

What's the toughest part of portraiture? Having patience and drive. It's not like a canvas painting that you could stop after 45 minutes and say, "You know what, I'll work on it tomorrow." A lot of other tattoo styles, you can run an outline around it and call it a day. The last 30 minutes is the best part for any style of art—you're almost done, it's starting to come together, and you're on to the fun final details.

When you pick up the tattoo needle, what's your goal? No matter what I'm tattooing I just try and make it the best that I possibly can! I try really hard to customize what I do, especially because a lot of it comes from reference and could be looked

at as just replication. No one wants to have the same tattoo as the guy next door, nor would I want to do a tattoo that has already been done. So that's where I try and think outside the box. I try and veer away from the reference photo the most I can and still try and capture realism while throwing in some of my own personal flair.

Are you getting out of the portrait game? I'm not going to do as many portraits as I have in the past. I'll just be a little picky when it comes down to determining which ones I do and which ones I will have the most fun doing. It's definitely time to branch out! My work will always have a realistic vibe to it, no matter which direction I head.



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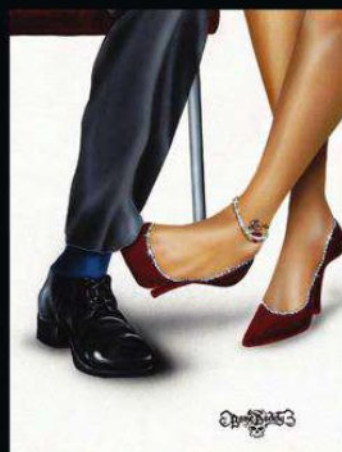
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PHOTOS: SAL HERNANDEZ, BRYAN MIRANDA, JOHN SHARP, AMANDA WESTRUP



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THE ART OF BUSINESS

THE BOSSMAN BRIAN BRENNER

"There is just as much of an art to making your business run correctly as there is to making your tattoos go down the right way!" says Brian Brenner, owner of both **TRUTH & TRIUMPH//SMARTBOMB TATTOO** studios. Pursuing the art of building a business is something Brenner is very passionate about. "I'm really attracted to principles that make organizations work. I've read countless books written by business moguls and basically any type of speaker on the subject of business. I can't get enough!" Obviously so. Not only is Brenner the leader of one of the biggest tattoo companies around but also very much involved in the extensive multimedia marketing his company does; on top of filming and producing his own tattoo web show **TATTOOED TV.COM!** Anyone who knows Brenner will tell you he's no stranger to long workdays and, when it comes to business, he's well equipped to handle it in a big way! "Busy is the only way I know how to be," says Brenner, "and I wouldn't trade it for anything!"

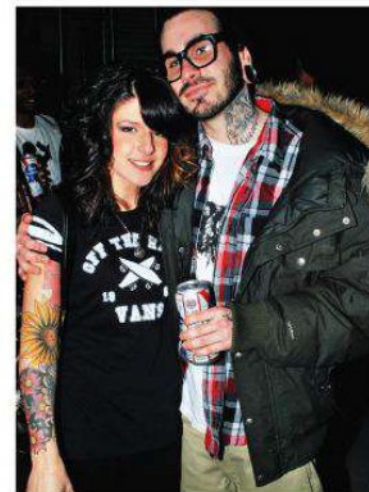
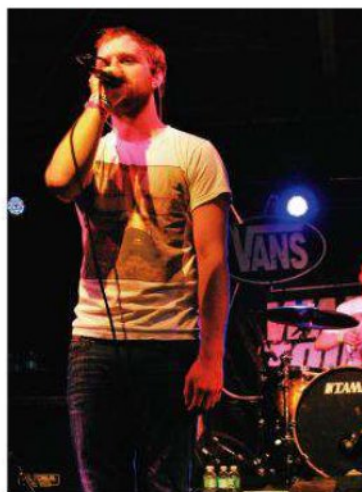
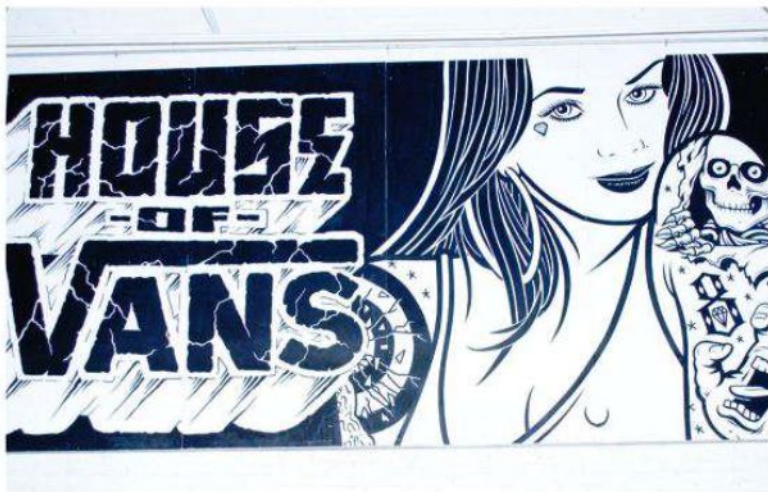


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All tattoos by Brian Brenner

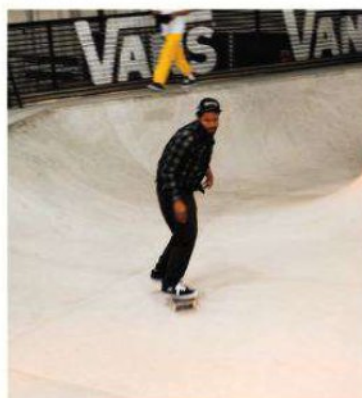
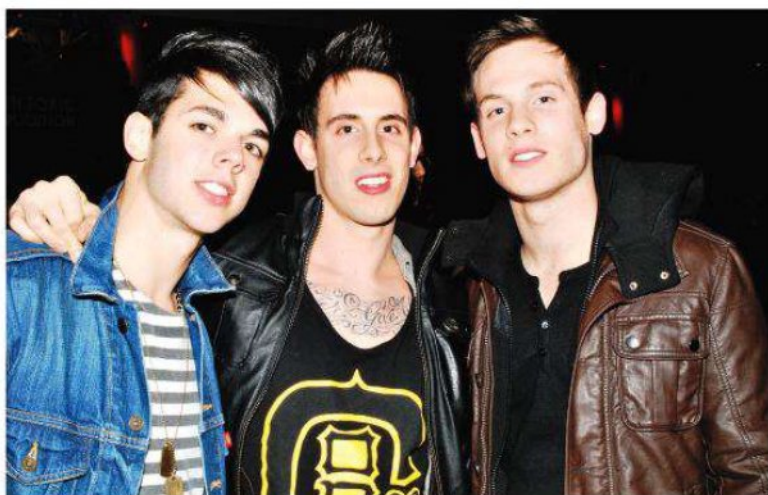




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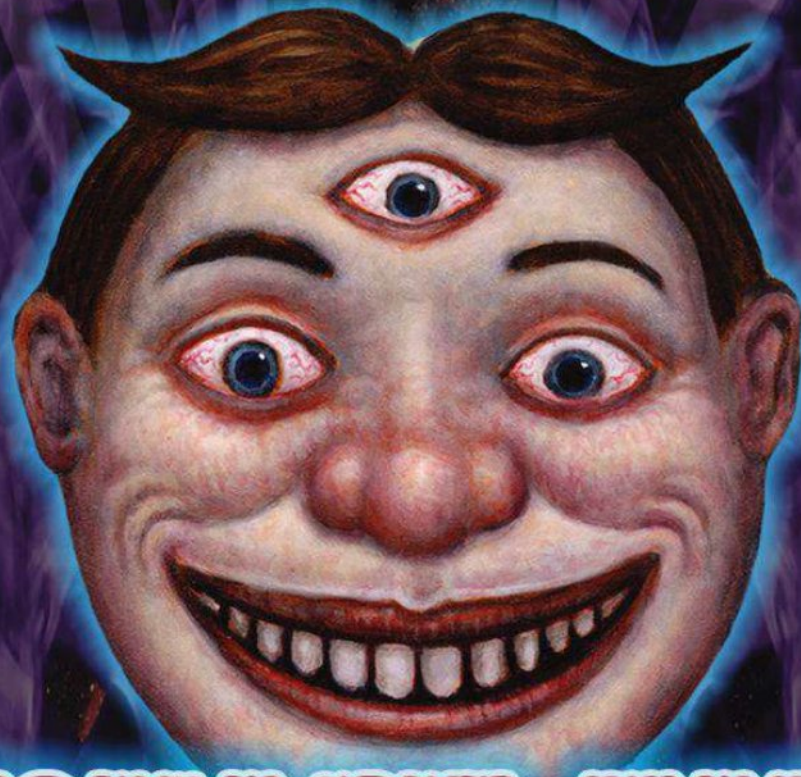
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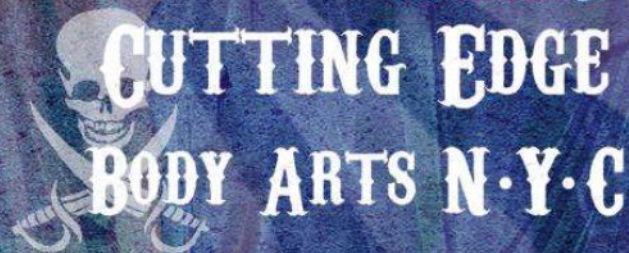
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With big-name clients like Rihanna, Eve, and Katy Perry, Bang Bang doesn't flinch when altering the appearance of public darlings. "People pay a lot of attention to what I do because of who I tattoo," he says. "I think it's cool [their] fans become fans of mine." Some even copy stars' ink. "Every tattoo artist I know has re-created some version of a tattoo I've done on a celebrity for a [client]. Whenever I'm talking to an artist they say, 'Can't you do a tattoo on a celebrity that isn't letters or stars!'" When Bang Bang's time has come and he's shining with the stars, what would he sketch for his tombstone? "Maybe myself as a child playing," he says. "I've always tried to stay a kid at heart. I still splash in puddles and play in the mud. And that's not going to change anytime soon!"

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THE IRON 883 STARTING AT \$7,999

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*FINANCING IS AVAILABLE ON MOTORCYCLES FINANCED THROUGH EAGLEMARK SAVINGS BANK (ESB), A SUBSIDIARY OF HARLEY-DAVIDSON CREDIT CORP., AND IS SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL BY ESB. FOR EXAMPLE A BLACK DENIM IRON 883 HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE WITH AN MSRP OF \$7,999, 10% DOWN PAYMENT AND AMOUNT FINANCED OF \$7,199.10, A 72 MONTH REPAYMENT TERM AND 8.99% APR, WOULD RESULT IN MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$129.73. THE APR WILL VARY BASED ON THE APPLICANT'S PAST CREDIT PERFORMANCE AND THE TERM OF THE LOAN, WHICH CAN VARY FROM 24-72 MONTHS. APR IS CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE SIMPLE INTEREST METHOD. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. OTHER TERMS, CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS MAY APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS. ©2011 H-D. HARLEY, HARLEY-DAVIDSON, DARK CUSTOM, BLACKLINE, AND THE DARK CUSTOM LOGO ARE AMONG THE TRADEMARKS OF H-D MICHIGAN, LLC.



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