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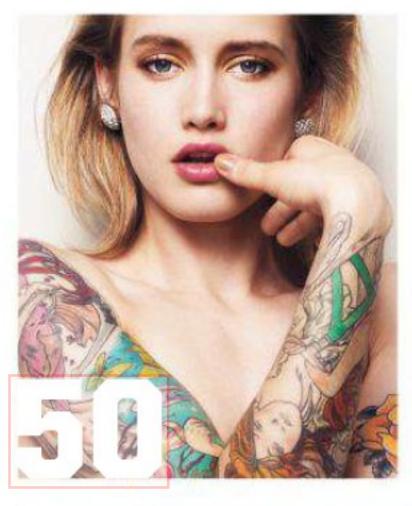
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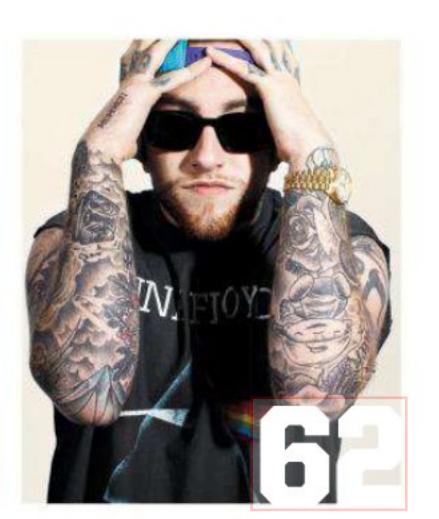




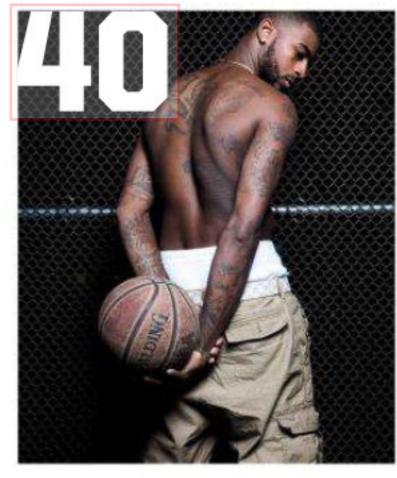
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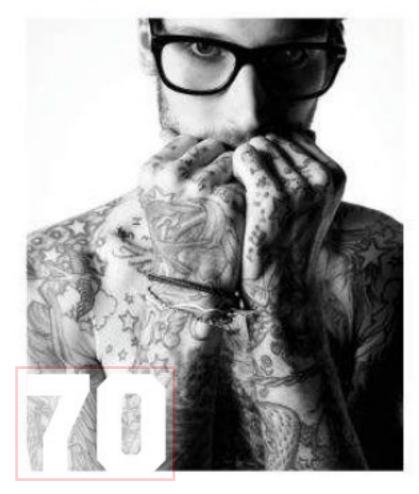


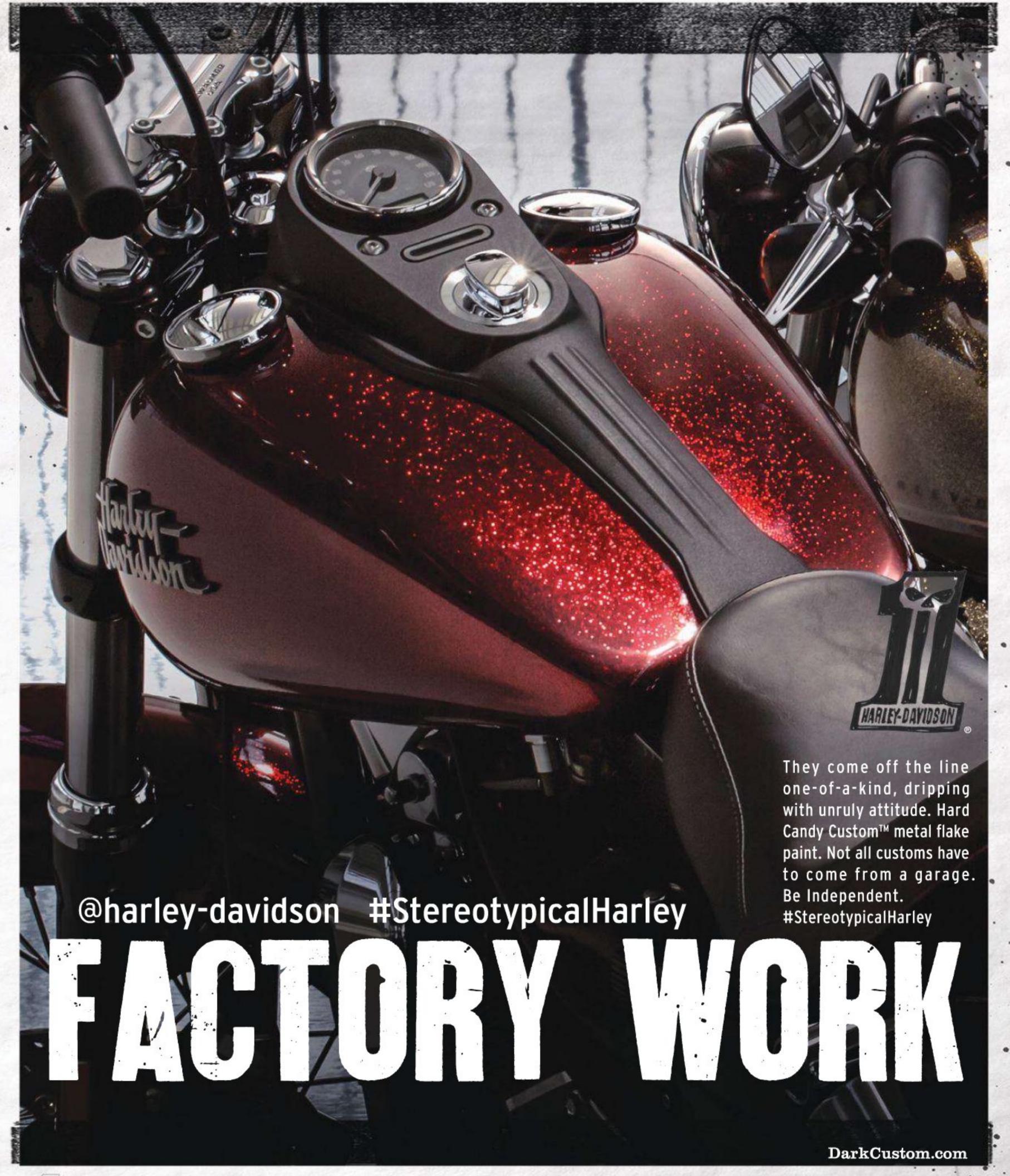






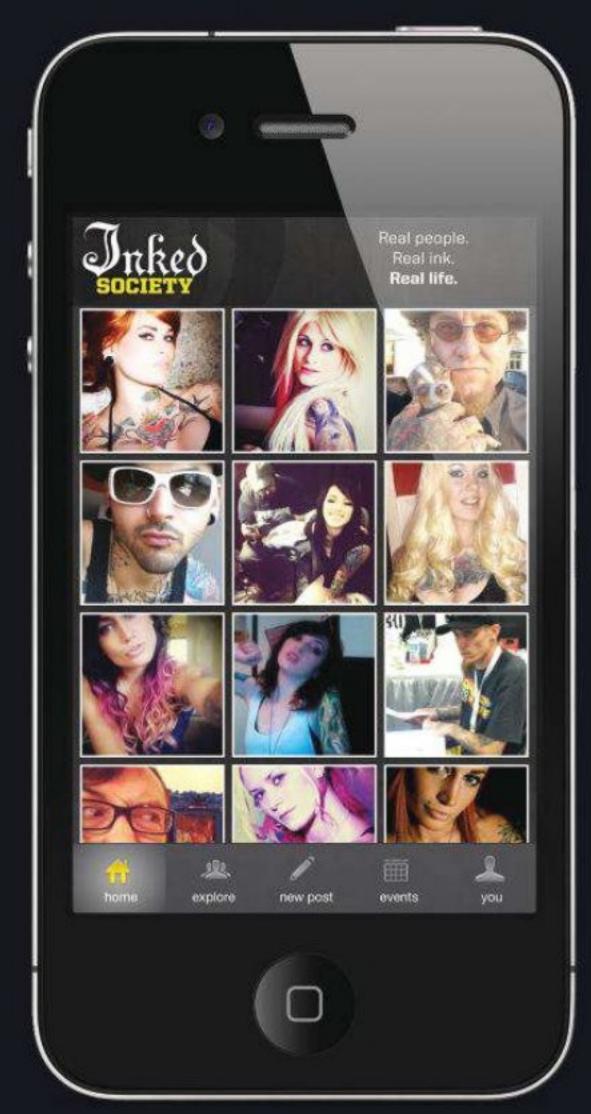












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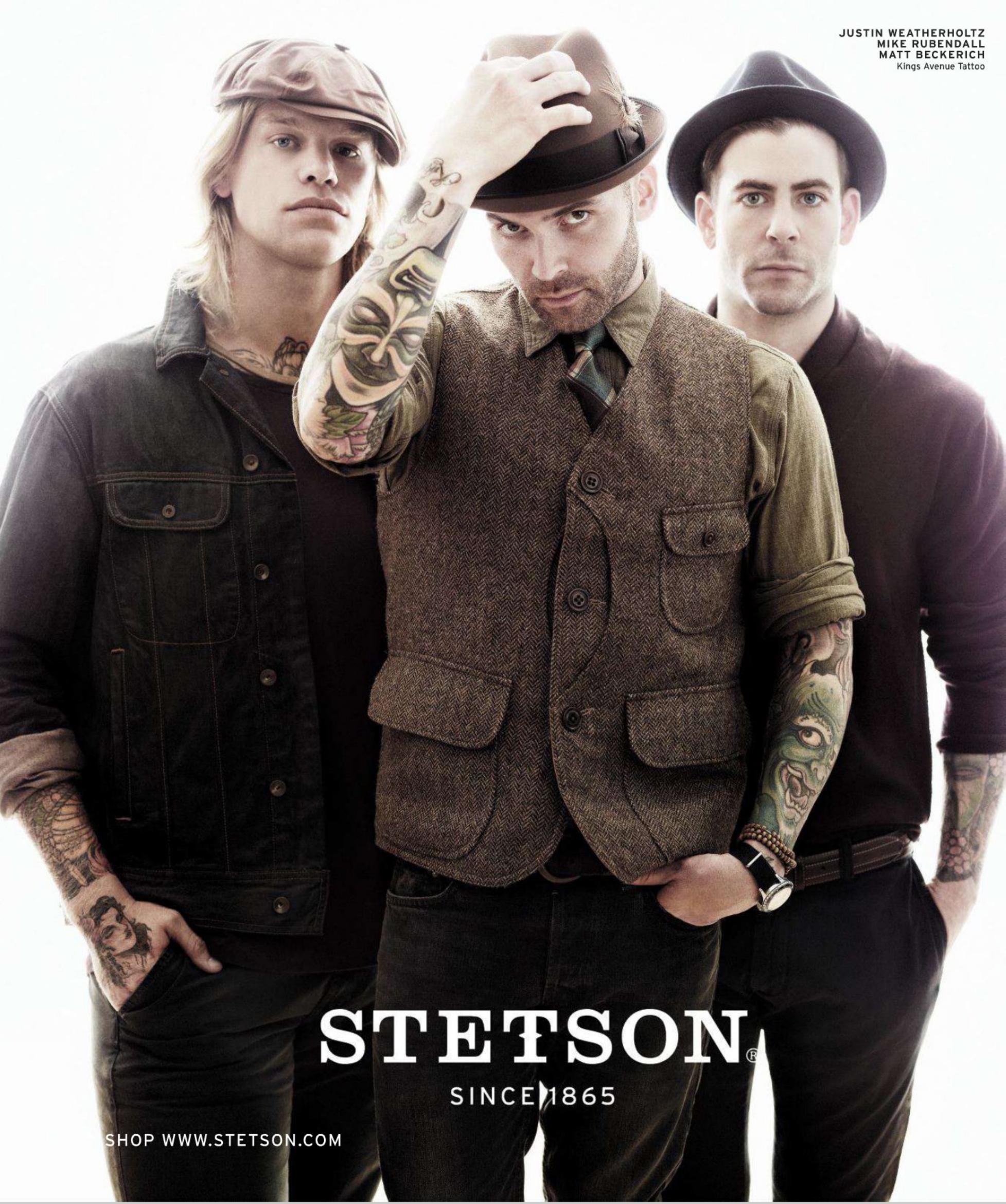
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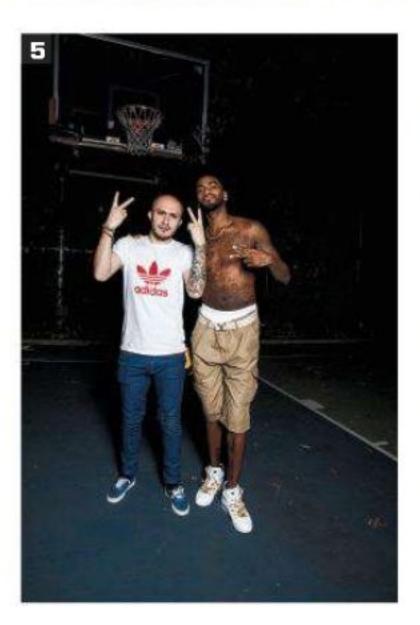


















ink well

I'm declaring 2013 the Year of the Tattoo. We are in the midst of a tattoo art renaissance. The tattooed are no longer a minority-there are more people with ink in the United States than there are natural blondes. And it's 2013. Has any community embraced the number 13 more than ours? Skyscraper architects shy away from 13th floors, but we celebrate Friday the 13ths by giving out \$13 tattoos.

In celebration, we have the inked It couple Kat Von Deadmau5, who are indeed lucky in love. They were shot for our cover by Dan Monick (1). Married tattoo team Guy Aitchison and Michele Wortman talked to Marisa Kakoulas (2) about working together and their plans to collaborate ... on a baby. That kid will have enough DNA to whip-shade before it can walk. Tania Torres and Mariah Harmony, daughters of Pit Bulls & Parolees matriarch Tia Torres, invited photographer Daymon Gardner (3) onto their compound.

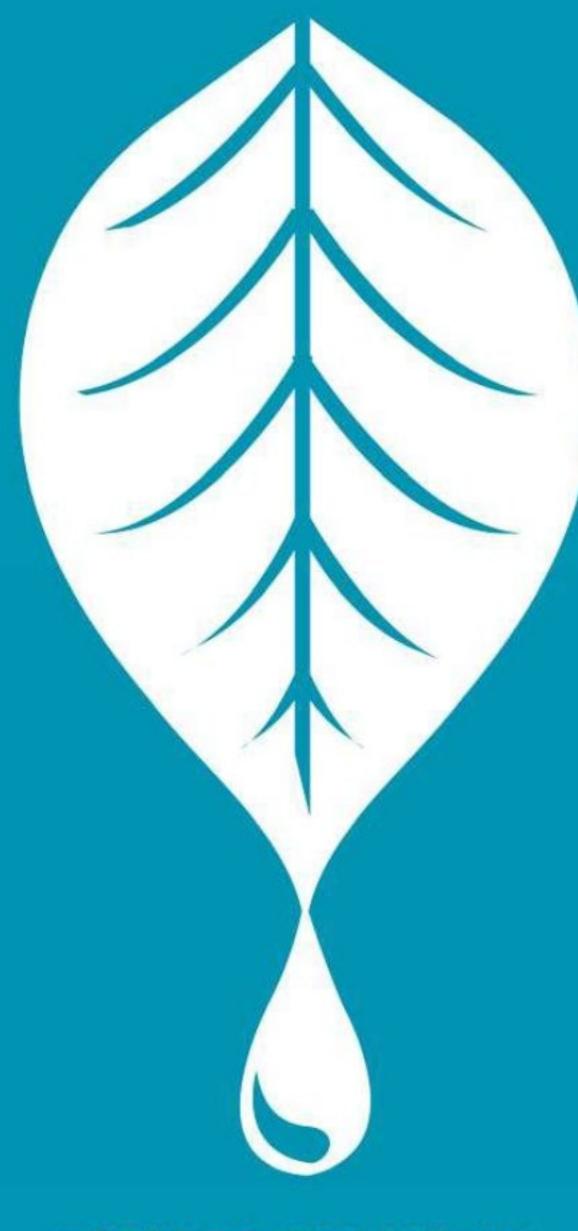
Writer Ethan Swan (4) and shooter Alejandro Garcia (5) combined their efforts to feature 76ers forward Dorell Wright. Stephanie Collazo (6) sparred with rapper Mac Miller. Photographer Tom Corbett (7) cranked up The Who and channeled mod style for our fashion feature. And Cristina Guarino (8) exchanged words with Olivia Black, the night-shift pawnbroker on Pawn Stars, a woman who could sell 2013 calendars to the Mayans.

We're still here. And it's finally our time.

Rocky Rakovic Editor

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BUCHANAN, ROBERT BENSON; JEAN, PE PHOTOGRAPHY

mail



LAYERED IMAGES

Our friend Tatiana Suarez, a Few and Far member and soon-to-be featured in View artist, stopped by to check out our wall and got mad at the turtle. [Editor's note: In October, we reported that an INKED mural by artists Amandalynn and Lady Mags had been painted over with an image of a turtle within days of its completion.] So she painted over him with one of her sexy ladies! AMANDALYNN, San Francisco

THIS MADE US SMILE (A LITTLE)

I am writing to you to express my concern and displeasure with the photo of Fip Buchanan on page 81 of your October issue. Mr. Buchanan is clearly shown with a smile on his face, and further, his genuine happiness (and teeth) are obvious to any reader. I consider this to be a serious editorial mistake on your part. I expect all tattoo artists shown in your magazine to have a surly, bored, or perhaps disinterested look when photographed. I would even go as far to accept a combination of even two or three of those demeanors. Please ensure this is remedied in future issues.

TONY

Calgary, Canada

RAISE A GLASS OF BEER

I can't thank you guys enough for picking Brooke Lola and featuring lagers [in the October Drink column]. I am a diehard craft beer fan and professional. It is nice to see people coming around to the idea of good beer. Too many people think of beer as a Neanderthal beverage, and it is so far from it.

SKYLOR ALEXANDER

Manhattan, KS

facebook

TRAVIS BARKER

JOE TURENTINE This makes me wish I was Travis Barker even more. **ROXIE MATTHEWS** People without tattoos don't look good naked probably. RANDY PADILLA Got the beats, got the ink!

KRISTINA E. WARING Love this guy he's an awesome drummer! I love his ink ... but he is looking like he needs a cupcake.

RUSSELL KELLEY SKETCHBOOK

JENI HICKS Who do I talk to to get permission to have the couple tatted on me? I absolutely love this! **HAYLEY SHOOK** I want to color it. I think they should make coloring books for adults.

DANNY WAY

PIE RAT BENNETT Best athlete in the world.

JOHN MOEBIUS Best vert skater ever!

AMANDALYNN AND LADY MAGS SHERYL SISSY JANSSON **CROSS** Rocked it!

IRA CHERNOVA

LYDIA MEEK She's beautiful and her ink is awesome! **CRISTINA BLACKWATER** Too beautiful it hurts my eyes.

INKED GIRL CHRISTMAS ABBOTT

BECKY SMITH CHAMBERS This is for all those women who think CrossFit makes you bulky ... gorgeous. NICOLE OCHS CAHILL Another pretty CrossFit chick! Thanks for being a good example of what beautiful is supposed to look like.





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.

DRINK. LOOK. PLAY.

MY FAVORITE INK

Name: Kate Whitedeath Occupation: nursing student Hometown: Pompton Plains, NJ

"The great white shark is most definitely my spirit animal, so my favorite tattoo is my workin-progress shark sleeve by Christian Masot at Silk City Tattoo in Hawthorne, NJ. I always loved Jaws, especially the way it was filmed. It was obvious how mechanical and fake the shark was, but when that theme song started, you knew it was coming! I love the way the director played on such a real emotion. There's not a time when I'm in the ocean and I don't hear it in the back of my head. About a year ago I visited an aquarium where they had a petting tank with leopard sharks, and I have never remembered being happier than I was in that moment, being able to be so close to them. Every year Discovery Channel's Shark Week rolls around and it's practically impossible to tear me away from the television. I consider it a religious holiday."

PHOTO BY DUSTIN COHEN

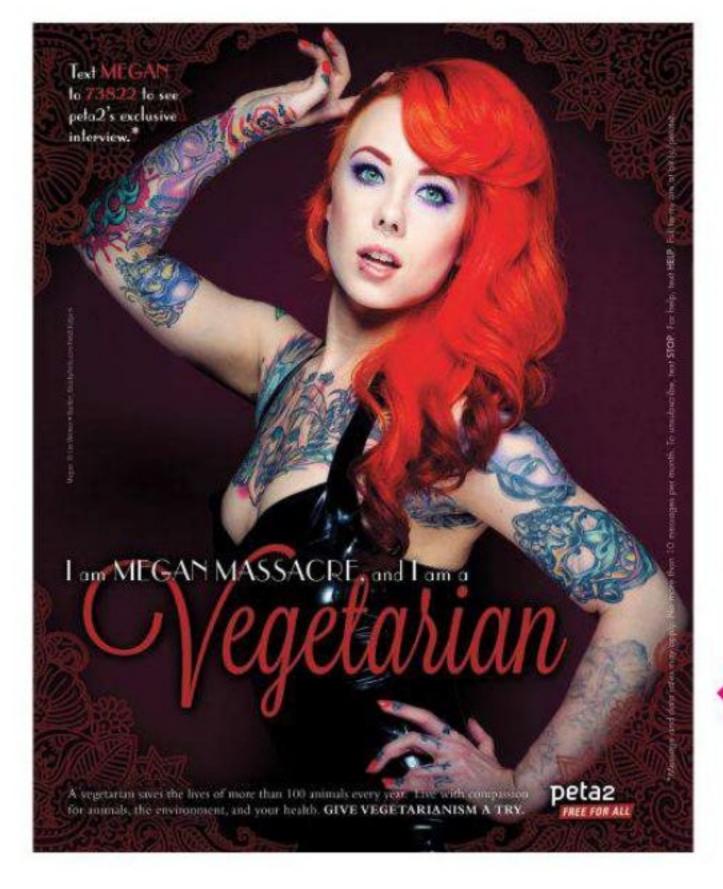


inked life | NEWS



December 18, the second Ink Master will be crowned on Spike TV during a live finale. Starting at 11 p.m., the finalists-minus the contestant who will have racked up the fewest spike.com votes on the elimination tattoos-will be tattooing for \$100,000, a feature in INKED, and the

title of Ink Master, chosen by Oliver Peck, Dave Navarro, and Chris Nunez. We've watched pretty much every hour of tattooing on television, and as far as we know there has never been live tattooing on TV, so the stakes for the artists and our community have never been higher.



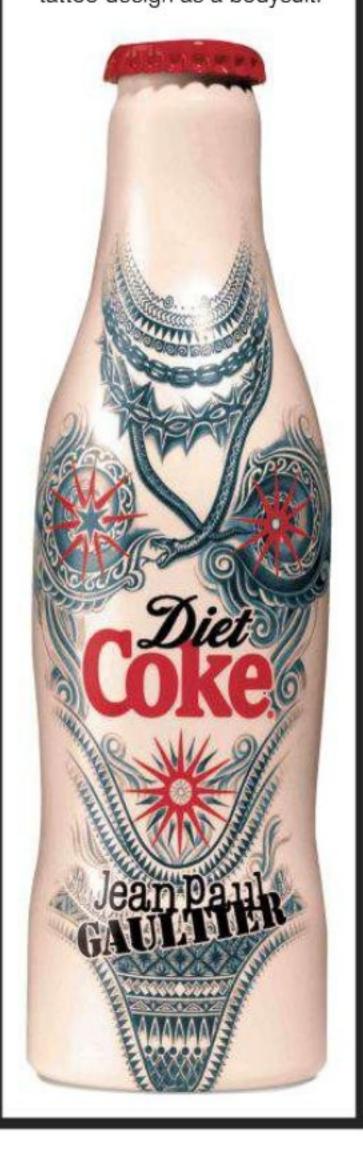
WE'LL HAVE WHAT SHE'S HAVING

Megan Massacre has become the latest tattooed celebrity to use her fame and sex appeal to spread the message of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). Her poster for peta2, a division of PETA geared toward the youngins, reads, "I am Megan Massacre, and I am a vegetarian" and shows the minx in a skintight latex number. "It makes me feel good knowing that I can enjoy food as much as the next person, but I didn't have to kill an animal to eat it." Massacre joined other tattooed girls like Lea Michele and Otep Shamaya as official nominees for peta2's 2012 Sexiest Vegetarian Celebrity Contest.

2,127 THE NUMBER OF CURRENT TATTOO LICENSES ON FILE IN NEW YORK CITY, AS OF 2011.

EASY TO SWALLOW

The high fashion designer who regularly incorporates tattoos into his work has done it again, this time on Coca-Cola bottles. Acting as creative director of the iconic soft drink, Jean Paul Gaultier envisioned the bottle as a curvy feminine body. In one of his designs, released in Europe earlier this year, he put a corset on the bottle with a tattooed sparrow sitting on her rib cage. Following up the success of that bottle, he created an allover tattoo motif (below) that was launched by Brit supermodel Daisy Lowe, who wore that tattoo design as a bodysuit.







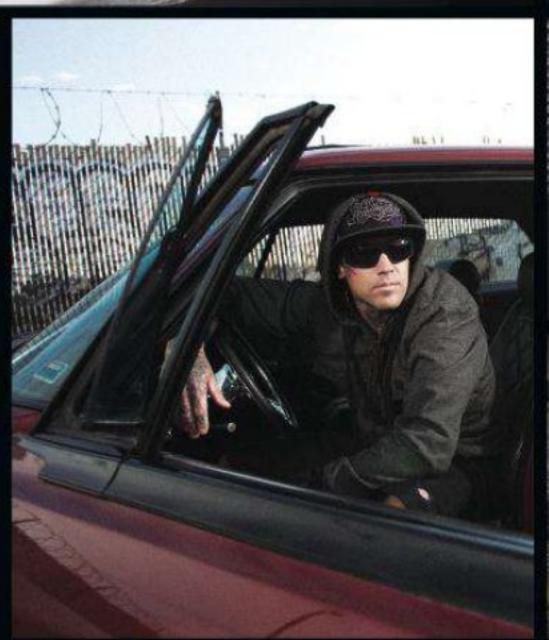
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inked life | DRINK



BODY WARMERS

When Jack Frost nips at your nose, dull the pain with a nice hot drink.

When I am running around in the cold, I picture two mirages: One is a warm bar, and the other is a Saint Bernard with a barrel of brandy around his neck. With winter breathing down our necks, our senses tend to dull a bit. Our fingers are numb, our sinuses are clogged, everything's the same drab color, and the barking dog rendition of "Jingle Bells" has been playing around the clock. Not to worry—a hot drink is a simple and surefire way to crank your inner thermostat.

The problem with making cocktails at home is finding that elusive mixer. When your fridge has nothing to offer but a few cans of soda and those last tailgate leftovers from the fall, and a trip to the corner store seems like a scene out of *The Grey*, fret not: The average American pantry is a treasure trove of coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and a surprising amount of ways to spice up a drink while you heat up your core.

The concept is simple: Grab your favorite steamy beverage, toss in a few aromatics from the spice rack, and thin it out with your favorite tipple.

With a beverage in hand, the winter months can be some of the best. People come together, there's some of the best TV, and at the beginning of the year you get all of your sick days back. Plus, if you happen to be one of those upstanding citizens who doesn't drink during the day, it's pitch black outside by midafternoon. —Nick Fierro

COCKTAIL CONVERSATION

A chat with **Sam Polkinghorne** of The Griffin, in Las Vegas.

INKED: What's it like to bartend at The Griffin?

POLKINGHORNE: The Griffin has always been known as a great bar to work and drink at. Employees are allowed to be themselves and have fun behind the bar, and customers love it!

Fill in the blank: If you are interested in _____ people, head to The Griffin for your next drink. Sexy, tattooed.

We wouldn't think a bar with such a regal name would cater to the tattooed. The Griffin is definitely tattoofriendly! All the bartenders have tattoos.

Which of yours do customers point out? My rose definitely gets a lot of attention. It's very vibrant, bold, and beautiful.

Do you prefer creating new drinks or working with the classics? I'm definitely a classic drink kind of girl. I make a really good old fashioned. I use Bulleit Rye to spice it up and a little bit of real sugar, none of that simple syrup crap. I'm a bartender, not a mixologist.



HOT BANANA SPLIT

1 oz Montelobos Mezcal ½ oz banana liqueur 2 oz heavy cream 4 oz hot chocolate Mix all ingredients in a coffee mug and top with whipped cream.



HOT APPLE JERRY

1 part Sailor Jerry 2 parts apple cider 2-3 orange slices 3-5 cinnamon sticks 3-5 cloves

Warm ingredients in a slow cooker, stirring occasionally. Serve as needed from the pot with a cinnamon stick garnish.



FIREBALL CARAMEL TODDY

1 ½ oz Fireball Whisky ½ oz caramel spice liqueur 1 oz Fulton's Harvest Pumpkin Pie Cream Liqueur Pour all ingredients into an Irish coffee mug and top with hot water. Optional:

Drizzle with caramel syrup.

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inked life | VIEW

Clockwise from right: The First Face That This Face Saw; Lunch Atop the Half-Constructed Death Star; Chester Copperpot's Goonie Clubhouse Band; Wookiee the Chew-A Most Bold Adventure.









ENHANCED

James Hance takes your favorite characters and recasts them in clever roles.

The moment one takes art too seriously is the moment you should jam one's eye with a spork. Take, for instance, the work of James Hance. From the first glance you will notice his deft hand and artistic eye that creates quality art art. But then look again. Something is terribly familiar, yet off a bit. That looks like Christopher Robin and his pals from Winnie the Pooh-but, but, holy crap, they're Star Wars-ed.

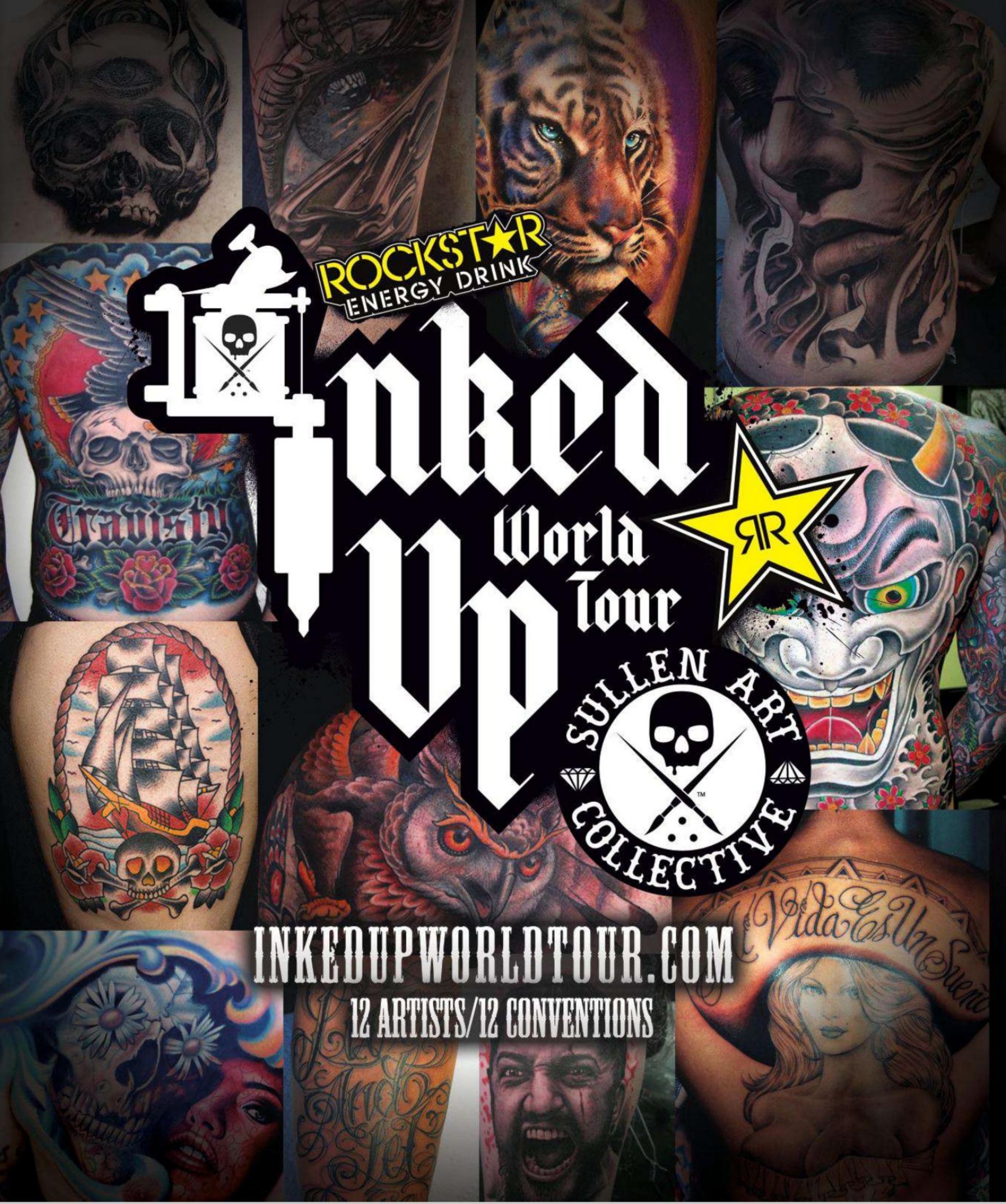
Like Peter Griffin with artistic talent, 37-year-old Hance draws on mostly '80s pop culture, blending that imagery with idyllic works and creating his own sort of "pop iconography."

"I'm heavily inspired by Jim Henson's Muppetspretty much anything from the early '80s to late '80s," the artist says. "That was the 'golden period.'"

In the famous photograph by Charles C. Ebbets,

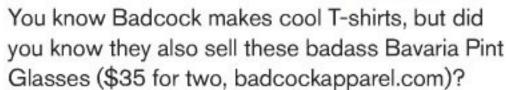
Lunch Atop a Skyscraper, 11 men are sitting on a large metal beam, hundreds of feet in the air, eating and smoking. Hance's version, Lunch Atop the Half-Constructed Death Star, features those same 11 men wearing white storm trooper helmets from Star Wars.

He sells most of his work on eBay and his website, with prints going for \$12 and original paintings priced between \$250 and \$800. "I think I've built enough of a name for myself that I'll be able to start doing complete originals," he says of his future plans. "I have a few ideas already cooking." -Kara Pound











EXCAVATION HARDWARE

Blik's wall tiles are so easy to put up that our interns could do it. Between scouring for the best tattoos on the planet and serving the staff Jägermeister shots, they covered our office walls with the Pick Your Poison design (\$45 for two 21-by-41-inch sheets, whatisblik.com).





24 | INKEDMAG.COM photo by DANIEL EDWARD

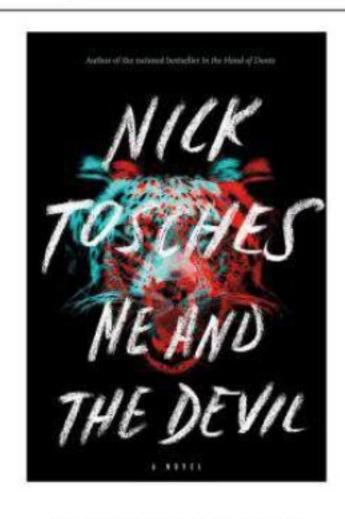


O TV SHOW



Some musicians bitch about touring, but what more do they have to do than play a two-hour set and then get some strange? The real road warriors are the crew who set up, manage, manipulate, and tear down entire cities of sound, all in less than a weekend. Fuse TV pulls back the curtain on Oz for Warped Roadies. Beginning December 7, you can ride along with the stage managers, roadies, and caterers—plus the founder of the Warped Tour, who shepherds (and often babysits) 60 bands through 41 cities in 51 days. This reality show is your backstage pass to blood, sweat, tears, ink, and rock. —Tino Cataldo

O BOOK



STRANGER THAN NONFICTION

Nick Tosches unleashes his inner Bukowski in *Me and the Devil*, which follows a man who has a taste for perfectly aged cheese and the blood of young women on a maddening descent. This one has it all: hard drugs, depression, graphically violent sex, even dead monkeys. It's a reminder of what sex-fueled fiction is supposed to read like. —*Anthony Vargas*

O MOVIES



THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

Peter Jackson finally returns to Middle Earth and brings us the long-awaited adaptation of the beloved novel that started it all. Taking place many years before the events in *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Hobbit* follows Bilbo Baggins when he's contracted by a group of dwarves to aid them in reclaiming their treasure and home from the dragon Smaug. Don't expect to see the Battle of Five Armies just yet. This has been fleshed out into another trilogy, so we have two more "precious" films to geek out about and wait for after this. —*Gil Macias*



ZERO DARK THIRTY

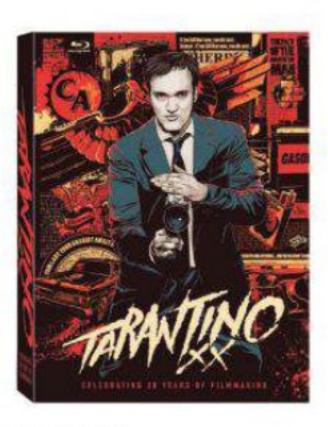
The first female ever to win the Academy Award for best director, Kathryn Bigelow (The Hurt Locker, Strange Days), returns with Zero Dark Thirty, which chronicles the decade-long hunt for America's most wanted Al-Qaeda terrorist, Osama Bin Laden, and spans from the 9/11 attacks to his May 2011 death at the hands of Navy SEAL Team 6. Bigelow has proven she has the chops to deliver intense military action, and she once again pairs with The Hurt Locker writer Mark Boal, so this is certainly a flick to check out. -G.M.



THE LAST STAND

Even though Arnie appeared in both of The Expendables flicks, this marks his first lead role since stepping down as Governator. The plot follows his Sheriff Ray Owens, who moved out of Los Angeles and relocated to the sleepy and almost crime-free town of Sommerton Junction. Owens's peaceful existence is interrupted when Gabriel Cortez (Eduardo Noriega), the most wanted drug kingpin, escapes from an FBI prisoner convoy, nabs a hostage, and races for the U.S.-Mexico border. What's in his path? Sommerton Junction. Forest Whitaker and Johnny Knoxville also costar. —G.M.

O DVD



TARANTINO XX

Quentin Tarantino is unleashing the badass-looking *Django Unchained* on us this Christmas, but this eight-film retrospective on Blu-ray arrives just in time to stuff those stockings. The chosen flicks include: *Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction*, *Jackie Brown*, *Kill Bill Vol. 1*, *Kill Bill Vol. 2*, *Death Proof*, *Inglourious Basterds*, and *True Romance* (which was directed by Tony Scott and written by Tarantino). Pussy Wagon not included. —*G.M.*



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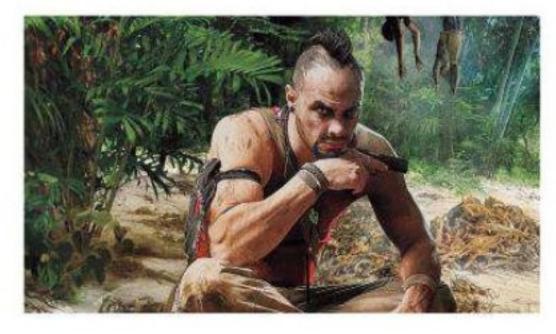
O VIDEO GAMES



DMC: DEVIL MAY CRY

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360

When you live in a city haunted by demons that could strike at any time, it helps to have supernatural combat prowess. The guns and sword don't hurt either. He may look like a graduate of the Chris Angel School of Emo Fashion, but Dante is an unrivaled composer of brutal death. When the demons come calling, the neo-gothic architecture rips apart to create gaping holes in the city. This is your signal to start the ultraviolent ballet. The fast and furious combat makes *Crouching Tiger*, *Hidden Dragon* look like patty-cake, as Dante juggles enemies in midair with blade swipes and darts fiercely from enemy to enemy. A style meter judges your performance during these skirmishes, but with so many deadly skills at your disposal it's hard to look bad. **Play If You Like:** God of War, *The Crow*, Bayonetta —*Matt Bertz*



FAR CRY 3

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

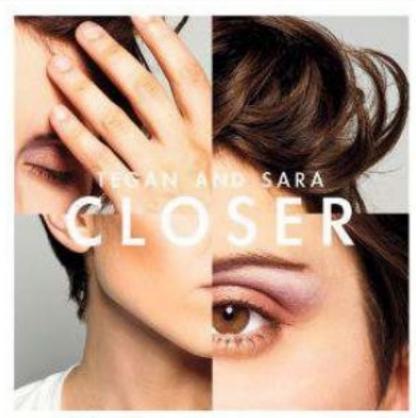
Far Cry 3 returns the series to the picturesque beaches and jungles of island life, but this trip is no vacation. When pirates kidnap everyman Jason Brody's friends, he must transform from tourist to survivalist and confront the ultraviolent inhabitants. This open world sandbox allows you to approach missions as you see fit, and the island's flora and fauna can be harvested to create new tools that help you deal with the bloodthirsty natives. As you learn new survival and combat skills and delve deeper into the madness of the island, your progress is chronicled by new tattoos on your body. If you survive the psychological trip of being the hunted during the campaign, turn into a deranged hunter in the standalone cooperative and competitive team-based multiplayer modes. Play If You Like: Crysis, The Beach, Red Dead Redemption -M.B.



THE WALKING DEAD

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360

Most zombie games indulge in giving you a variety of weapons to gleefully decapitate, disembowel, or dismember your undead foes. While you take the occasional baseball bat to the forehead of a neighbor turned flesh muncher in The Walking Dead, your real challenge is navigating through the fragile alliances formed between bands of skeptical survivors. As a convicted felon who assumes custody of an abandoned young girl named Clementine, the choices you make in dealing with other survivors carry extra weight. Whether you take in new strangers with open arms, banish a fellow survivor, or act unilaterally to prevent a zombie outbreak within the group, the game keeps track of your choices and uses them to direct the rest of the story. Play If You Like: AMC's The Walking Dead, World War Z, 28 Weeks Later -M.B.



THE Inked PLAYLIST

BY JONAH BAYER

റ TEGAN AND SARA "Closer"

Dance-pop doesn't have to be substancefree; "Closer" will make you think as much as it makes you move.

BAD BOOKS "The After Party"

The latest collaboration from Kevin Devine and Manchester Orchestra sees them stretching out into uncharted sonic depths.

BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME "Astral Body"

This instrumental metal opus shows that technical playing can also be incredibly musical.

CODE ORANGE KIDS "Flowermouth (The Leech)"

Code Orange Kids continue in the tradition of progressive hardcore acts like American Nightmare with this chaotic rager.

GODSPEED YOU! BLACK EMPEROR "Mladic"

This post-rock collective disappeared for almost a decade—and then released a 20-minute song that's on par with their best work.

JASON LYTLE "Dept. of Disappearance"

Grandaddy's longtime frontman continues his space rock odyssey with this expansive rocker.

MOGWAI "George Square Thatcher Death Party (Justin K

Broadrick Reshape)"

The dude from Godflesh remixes Mogwai and ambient excellence ensues.

THE MOUNTAIN GOATS "Lakeside View Apartments Suite"

If you're not a fan of the Mountain Goats, this dark, piano-driven ballad will convert you.

TY SEGALL "The Hill"

This garage rock anthem may not reinvent the wheel, but fuzzed-out guitars and driving drums are always a timeless combination.



BACK IN BLACK

There's more than one way to wear your favorite color.

Your cologne is one of those things that mustemphasis on the must-evolve with age. Nearly anything that comes from a drugstore (you know, in the aisle you can smell before you see) should be retired once you hit legal drinking age, as should anything that smells remotely like your crotchety uncle. Between those pheromone-laden body splashes and dank bottles of musky colognes exists a plethora of options, including black fragrances—edgy, sophisticated counterparts to traditional men's fragrances. "The black fragrances tend to be more complex, using ingredients inspired or derived from spices and woods, like clove, incense, pepper, and leather," explains global fragrance expert Roger Schmid. "When you play with layers and combos of these notes, you end up with an end product that's a bit darker than the standard men's cologne. They give you a whole new kind of sensorial experience." The concept stems from the Middle East, where people used small fires of scented woods to fumigate their clothes, but in the modern world, the impetus and inspiration stems directly from the fashion industry. "Whether it's a tuxedo or black leather jacket, black is always in and always comes back," says Schmid. So think of these fragrances as the equivalent of your go-to black T-shirt: classic, cool, timeless. Take a whiff of these four and put away that other stuff for good. -Christine Avalon



TOM FORD NOIR

The designer's latest (\$90 for 1.7 oz, department stores) starts out fresh and powdery, then hits you with black pepper, nutmeg, and amber—a good option if you like clean-smelling fragrances.



STETSON BLACK

From the brand famous for its cowboy hats, this iteration (\$12 for .75 oz, drugstores) channels a western vibe by adding notes of leather and suede to the original woodsy, spicy blend.



POLO BLACK

Make this fragrance (\$43 for 1.3 oz, ralphlauren. com) your everyday go-to. Mango and sage balance out more aggressive sandalwood and patchouli, keeping it mellow, not overpowering.

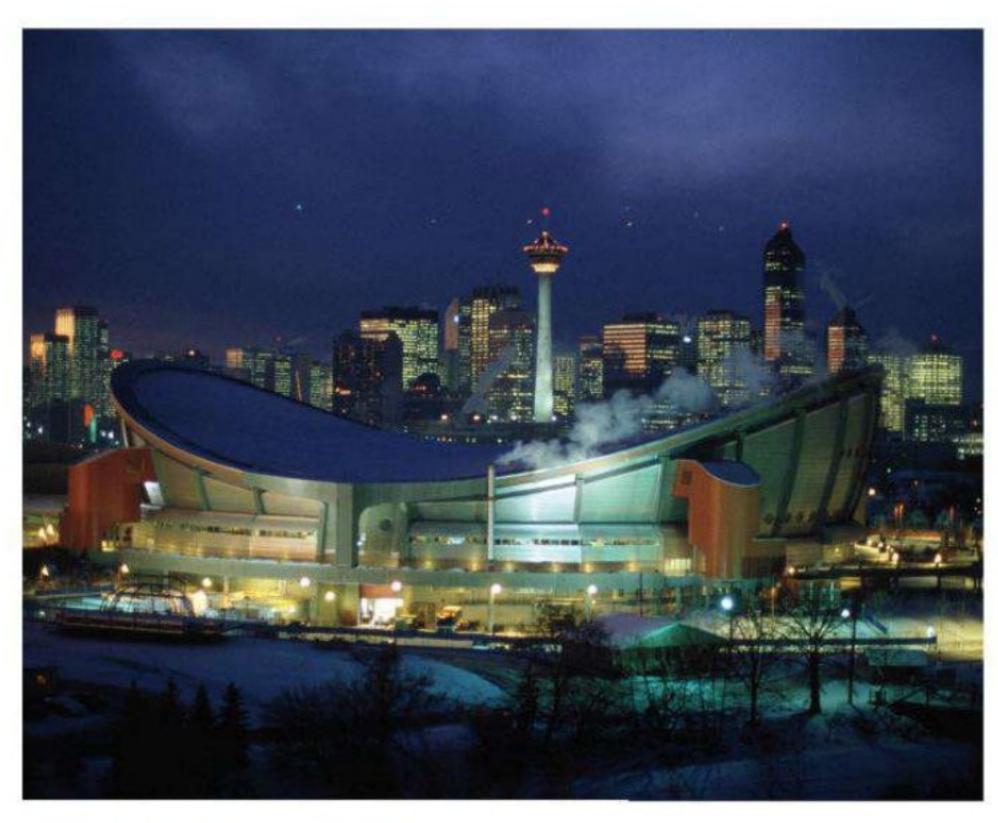


CALVIN KLEIN ENCOUNTER

Using notes of spices and woods dropped into rum and cognac, this spritz (\$58 for 1.7 oz, encountercalvinklein.com) is intoxicating to the fairer sex. See for yourself.







CALGARY

Visit Canada's veritable winter sports wonderland.



Beyond claiming some of the best mountains in the world (showcased at the 1988 Winter Olympics), Calgary is also home to the unique needle stylings of Douglas Fink, owner of Bushido Tattoo (218 17 Ave. SE). When he's not providing one-of-a-kind work, for which he is often booked up to a year in advance, Fink is usually working on his motorcycle, training in his dojo, or woodworking a new piece of furniture. After you hit the slopes, take a Finkstyle tour of the town that will light your Calgary flame. -Zac Clark



A BEST LIVE MUSIC The Palomino (109 7 Ave. SW) greets you with an iconic shot of Johnny Cash flipping the bird, a fitting introduction to this spot that is proud to blast loud music. While they showcase local and traveling rock acts, country music is their jam. How is this place so far from sweet home Alabama?



O CLASSY EATS "Sunterra is a Bushido staple," says Fink. The rooftop patio is the preferred spot for a nighttime bite for any of the Bushido clan, and the market itself offers fresh local produce and meats from select farmers. Sunterra Market (855-2 St. SW) is a choice pick for an attractive sit-down dinner while in Calgary. The understated but well-thought-out food fits in perfectly with the clean lines of Sunterra's swank bar atmosphere.

O DA VINCI CODE "Out of pencils? This is where the artists go," says Fink. If you can scribble, draw, paint, shade, or spray with it, you can find it here. Mona Lisa (1518 7 St. SW) is Calgary's one-stop art shop. If you can't find it they'll order it and get it to you. Family owned and operated for four generations, the shop has a knowledgeable staff that can help you with just about any question you have-related to art supplies,





A WHERE TO DROP ANCHOR When Doug and some of the other artists at Bushido check out from a day of labor-intensive ink working, there's no need to head too far. They're often relaxing with a cold one at Ship and Anchor (534 17 Ave. SW). "It has the largest selection of draft beer in western Canada," Fink says. If you're in the mood for a little new sound, it's easy to be enticed by Ship and Anchor's host of local musicians as well as their open Saturday jam session.



G SECRET TIPPLE If you're really into the staff at Bushido, you can follow their receptionist over to Milk Tiger (1410 4 St. SW), where she moonlights as a bartender. The small local spot is a Calgary speakeasy of sorts. If you're lucky enough to find the spot (hint: there's no clear signage, but a tiger hangs over the door to guide those who know what they're looking for), enjoy noshing the gluten-free food while the bartenders offer up craft cocktails.



DON'T SHAVE IT. MAINTAIN IT.

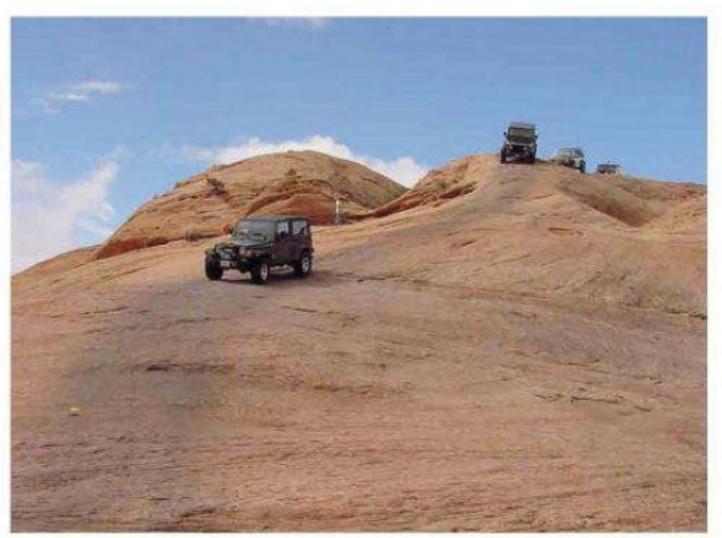
QUALITY CARE FOR A GUY'S FACIAL HAIR

bluebeardsoriginal.com now available at the inkedshop.com

inked life | DRIVE

Clockwise from right: Bridgestone Winter Driving School; Badlands Off-Road Adventures; Bobby Ore Motorsports Stunt Driving; Bondurant School of High Performance Driving.







DRIVER'S ED

For those who aren't content to keep all four to the floor and the needle at 55, it's time to go back to school.

......

Whether you do it or not, you know you're supposed to keep your hands at 10 and 2, use parking lights when backing into a space, and not send emoticons while driving. But what about off-roading, banked racing, or Vin Dieseling? You are about to get schooled.

BONDURANT SCHOOL OF HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVING

How fast do you want to go? At Bondurant, that is entirely up to you and physics. The brainchild of world champion driver Bob Bondurant, this 60-acre compound in Arizona is home to a driving-school experience that is as customizable as the Camaros and Vettes screeching across the track. You pick your make and model from their fleet

of hundreds and the program that's right for you (road racing, grand prix, formula racing—even law enforcement and executive protection), then Bondurant suits you up and straps you in.

BADLANDS OFF-ROAD ADVENTURES The name says it all. Badlands Off-Road Adventures in southern California is like a wilderness retreat for 4x4s. Badlands offers enough dirt, grit, and muscle to satisfy the mud lust of any off-roader. How serious are these guys about all-terrain navigation? One of the entry-level courses is an SUV urban survival course designed to help you flee a natural disaster. If that's too much of a quiet country drive for you, they also offer sand dune and rock crawling adventures, and field repair clinics. These guys can teach you how to drive through hell and get back in one piece.

ing on the highway with your car: scary. On a controlled parcel of tundra in somebody else's car: rad! Bridgestone has found a way to grab you through your TV screen and drop you in the middle of their winter driving ad campaign. That SUV bobbing and

weaving in six inches of snow? That could be you. Nailing a turn in every low-friction situation that the road has to offer, learning ice racing techniques—both are par for the course at Bridgestone's school in Steamboat Springs, CO. For the more apprehensive driver, courses are also available for the basics: stop, go, turn, reverse. With six different levels of skill training there's something for anyone who has accidently spun out in a parking lot going five miles an hour.

BOBBY ORE MOTORSPORTS STUNT DRIVING If you live your life one quarter mile at a time, you need to be here. Let's just run down the menu that Bobby Ore offers: sliding parallel parking, high-speed slalom, horseshoe drifting, Flying 90s, drifting intersections, a snake ("four to eight cars in the high-speed slalom at the same time, just a few feet apart"), and chase scenes. Yes, chase scenes with Mr. Ore, who has pulled off stunts for *The Dukes of Hazzard*, *Spider-Man 2*, and *Gone in Sixty Seconds*. You're sure to walk away at the end of the day with your knees shaking, and your heart racing, like a boss. —Nick Fierro





WE CAME AS RUMANS CROWN THE EMPIRE - MINDFLOW

1/11/13 Las Vegas, NV House of Blues

1/12/13 Salt Lake City, UT In the Venue

1/14/13 Denver, CO The Summit

1/16/13 Kansas City, MO The Beaumont

1/17/13 Minneapolis, MN First Avenue

1/19/13 Milwaukee, WI The Rave

1/20/13 Indianapolis, IN Egyptian Room

1/22/13 St Louis, MO The Pageant

1/23/13 Chicago, IL House of Blues

1/25/13 Pittsburgh, PA Stage AE

1/26/13 Rochester, NY Water Street Music Hall

1/28/13 Washington, DC 930 Club

1/29/13 Boston, MA House of Blues

1/30/13 Sayerville, NJ Starland Ballroom

2/1/13 Hartford, CT Webster Theatre

2/2/13 Atlantic City, NJ House of Blues

2/4/13 Atlanta, GA Tabernacle

2/5/13 Tampa, FL The Ritz Ybor

2/7/13 Ashville, NC The Orange Peel

2/8/13 Cincinnati, OH Bogart's

2/10/13 Detroit, MI The Fillmore

2/11/13 Cleveland, OH House of Blues

2/13/13 Tusla, OK Cain's Ballroom

2/14/13 Houston, TX House of Blues

2/16/13 Austin, TX Emo's East

2/17/13 Dallas, TX House of Blues

2/19/13 San Antonio, TX Backstage Live

2/20/13 El Paso TX Tricky Falls

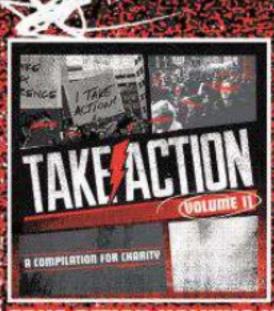
2/22/13 Albuquerque, NM Sunshine Theatre

2/24/13 Phoenix, AZ Marquee Theatre

2/26/13 San Francisco, CA The Fillmore

2/27/13 San Diego, CA House of Blues

3/1/13 Los Angeles, CA The Wiltern



TAKE ACTION VOLUME
OUT JANUARY 8TH

THE IT GETS BETTER PROJECT WAS CREATED TO SHOW YOUNG LGBT PEOPLE THE LEVELS OF HAPPINESS.

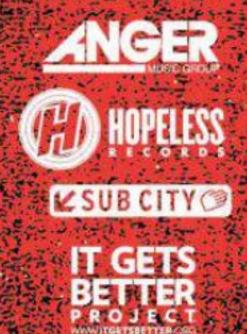
POTENTIAL, AND POSITIVITY THEIR LIVES WILL REACH – IF THEY CAN JUST GET THROUGH THEIR TEEN

YEARS. THE IT GETS BETTER PROJECT WANTS TO REMIND TEENAGERS IN THE LGBT COMMUNITY THAT

THEY ARE NOT ALONE — AND IT WILL GET BETTER.

10% OF THE COST OF EACH TICKET SOLD IS DONATED TO FURTHER THIS CAUSE MAKING EACH PERSON ATTENDING AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. LEARN MORE AT TAKEACTIONTOUR.COM AND ITGETSBETTER.ORG





NKED PEOPLE

PAWNBROKER. BASKETBALL PLAYER. SHOE DESIGNER.



inked people

OLAVIA BLACK

She's the best thing to have walked into the World Famous Gold & Silver Pawn Shop since the 2001 Super Bowl ring.

Not many girls would have the guts to answer a vague Craigslist job listing for a pawnshop employee, let alone go through with the interview when there's an unexpected camera crew at the ready. Of course, Olivia Black, the newest member of Gold & Silver Pawn Shop—and, naturally, History Channel's *Pawn Stars*—is not your average girl. In the six years Black has lived in Vegas, she's never owned a television (when asked if she was in fact an American, she chalked this up to being an avid reader). So having never heard of *Pawn Stars* when she walked into the interview, she was naturally skeptical when they started rolling. "It made me nervous that they were quiet about the details on Craigslist," she says. "And then I showed up and there were cameras, and I was definitely taken aback because I had no idea what I'd applied for. I walked in and I was like, 'Uhh, is this a real job?'" But she handled herself with grace under camera and quickly became the shop's new night shift broker. "I didn't have much experience at all, but I have a drive and a passion and I'm extremely outgoing," she says. "And my sales skills don't hurt—I can sell someone the gum off the bottom of my shoe."

The job's graveyard shift also suits Black's schedule. "I've always hoped I'd have the ability to pay to live my life but also have a decent amount of time to dedicate to volunteering," she says. "I have my days free now, and I work

at nights at the shop, so during the days it gives me the flexibility to do all the things in the city I want to accomplish." She currently works with Casa De Luz, a 24-hour community resource center, on more than a few projects to improve her community.

On her journey to working at a pawnshop and being on TV, she bounced around collecting tattoos along the way. "My skin is my yearbook," Black says. "When something is dramatically changing and I need to remember that feeling, I get a tattoo. A lot of my tattoos are already planned out, and I'll pick which one encompasses what I'm feeling or going through. And I'll add tidbits in the moment." She's steadily inking her way toward a full suit, and is well on her way, from her sleeve dedicated to traditional tattoos to her leg reserved for childhood memories. The next step is a Nightmare Before Christmas back piece that artist Ruby Croak will design to flow with the natural form of her feminine curves. "It's going to work with my back so that any position I'm sitting in flows," Black says. "I made the mistake of getting a pinup girl on my rib cage once, and if I'm ever not standing up perfectly straight, she looks horrible. That gal's gotta go." As for a Pawn Stars—inspired tattoo? "I'll definitely be getting a piece for my job soon," Black promises. "I'm so gifted to have this opportunity." —Cristina Guarino

photo by JANA CRUDER



inked people

The only person who can cover the 76ers' big man is his tattoo artist.

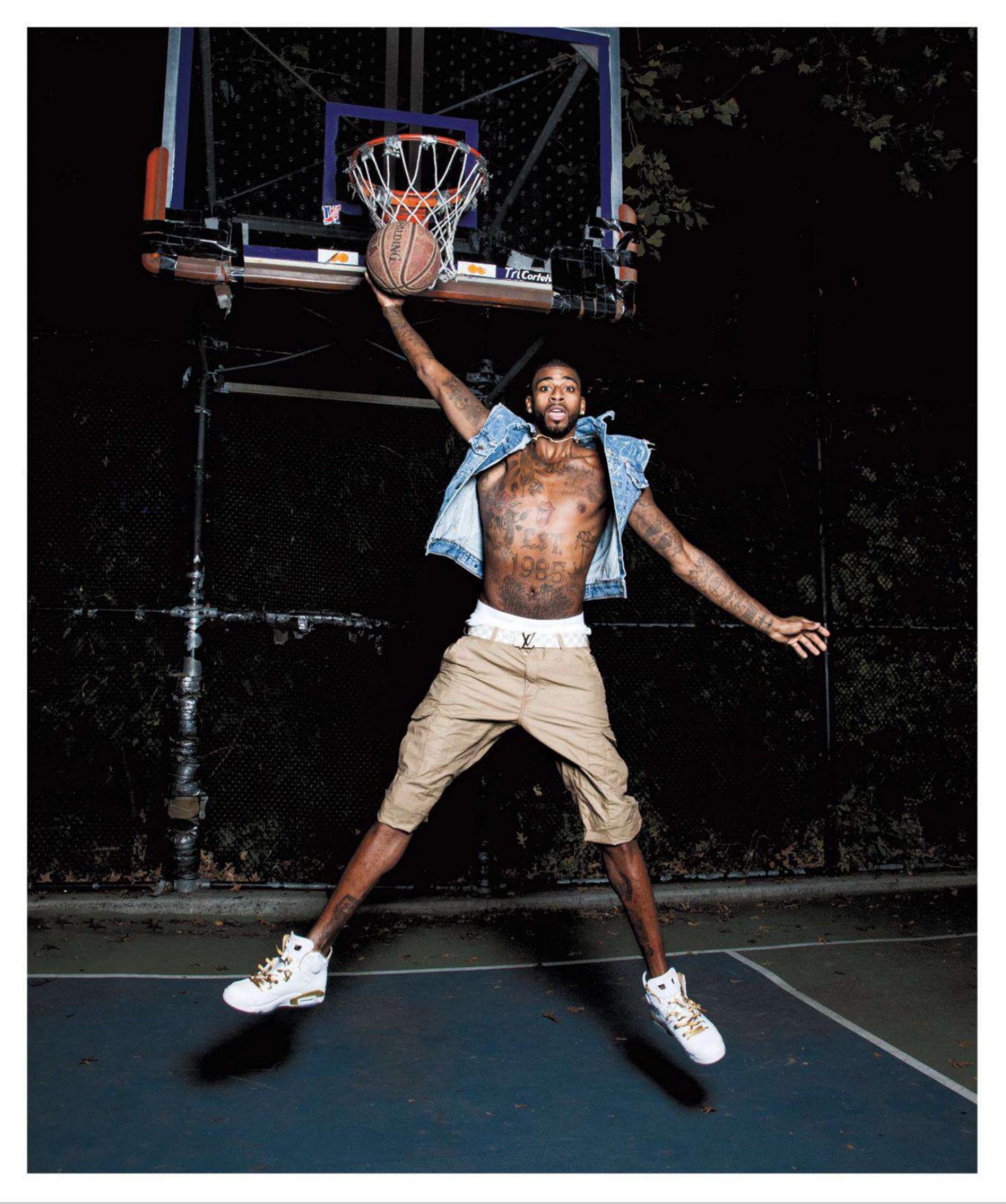
The "G.H.O.S.T." tattoo circling Dorell Wright's left shoulder is one of his most recognizable pieces. "I know that pops out because I see that one on the video games," says the 76ers forward. And "ghost" seems an appropriate emblem of Wright's game. On the offensive end, he's able to float out beyond the three-point line, quietly setting himself up to score; defensively, he is a relentless, nimble, inescapable force haunting his opponents into giving up the ball. But for Wright, the tattoo means something else: "It's something me and one of my closest friends thought of, Go Hard Or Stop Trying."

The emotional investment of "going hard" is as big a part of Wright's game as the three-ball—he's one of those guys whose face is as easy to read as the scoreboard. His repertoire of smiles and scowls has made him a favorite of fans who are happy to see a player treat the game with the same urgency they do. Wright was drafted by the Miami Heat for this exact quality, selected by Pat "whatever it takes to win" Riley, who saw in Wright the competitiveness that builds championships. One of the last prep-to-pro players, Wright entered the NBA directly from high school, part of an elite group that includes Kobe Bryant

and LeBron James. But Wright sees himself as a part of another equally critical segment of his generation: "I'm happy to be a part of a group that really express ourselves through body art."

Growing up in Los Angeles, Wright spent his life aware of the stigma attached to tattoos, both on and off the court. "A lot of people have been judged just because they have tattoos, but I think that era is fading away," he says. Reflecting on the criticisms of NBA tattoo pioneers like Dennis Rodman and Allen Iverson, Wright celebrates the fact that today's discussions about tattoos in the league are more about the quality of the work itself. He notes that even previous generations are adjusting their attitudes. "A lot more older people are getting tattoos—even my mom has a few tattoos now," he says. In fact, Wright took his mother to get her first tattoo, proudly coaching her through her first session in the chair, as a gesture of gratitude for allowing his own first session at age 16. Now almost 10 years removed from that first piece, Wright is one of the most covered players in the league, part of an expressive new wave of tattooed NBA stars. —Ethan Swan

photo by ALEJANDRO GARCIA





inked people

ALEJANDRO INGELINO

The shoe designer is well heeled and well inked.

When Alejandro Ingelmo walks into his Soho studio wearing jeans and a semitransparent white T-shirt—offering a view of the ink covering his chest, arm, and back—he looks more like a musician who rocks fashion-forward sneakers than a fourth-generation cobbler who creates them. The Miami-born designer, whose shoes are favored by celebrities like Kanye West and The Black Eyed Peas, is the youngest in a long line of Ingelmo craftsmen and has a deep respect for his family's traditions, mixed with a touch of rebellion. "I hate being told what to do," he says. "I want to do things my way."

Ingelmo's first subversive act was getting a tattoo when his Cuban family's culture believed only criminals got ink. Born in the year of the dragon, Ingelmo selected a Chinese symbol—long since covered up—that he thought meant dragon (it didn't).

Continuing his rebellion, he left home for New York, but once he arrived in the city he realized that cobbling was in his DNA. "Sometimes you need to go away from something to find out that you want it," he says. The Alejandro Ingelmo line of sexy, sculptural heels launched in 2006 (with a logo designed by Mister Cartoon), and the men's line, focused on elevating sneakers to new heights, debuted three seasons later. "I looked at all of these materials I was using for women and asked myself, Why can't this live in the men's world?" he says. "The idea was taking an athletic shoe and using richer materials, more crafted, cup

soles, hand stitching—sneakers you can wear with a suit, dress up, dress down."

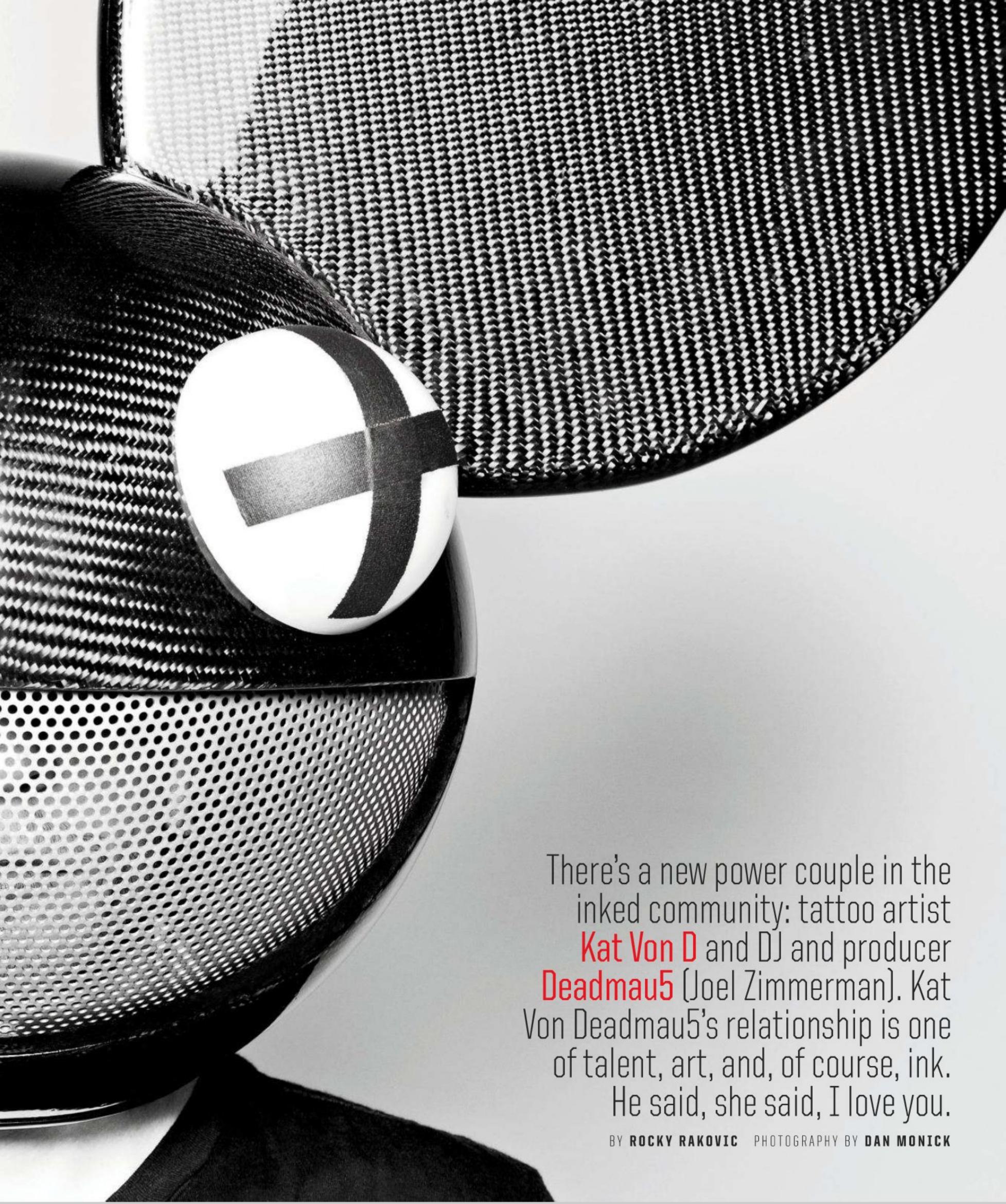
Much to his mother's dismay, he also developed a respect for the art of tattooing. For nine years, Ingelmo has been working with Yoni Zilber at New York Adorned on a graphic design across his chest and arm. Mister Cartoon is working on Ingelmo's back piece, which is inspired by his Cuban and Catholic heritage and incorporates two praying hands and a line of poetry from Cuban writer José Martí that translates to: "The heart that I live with."

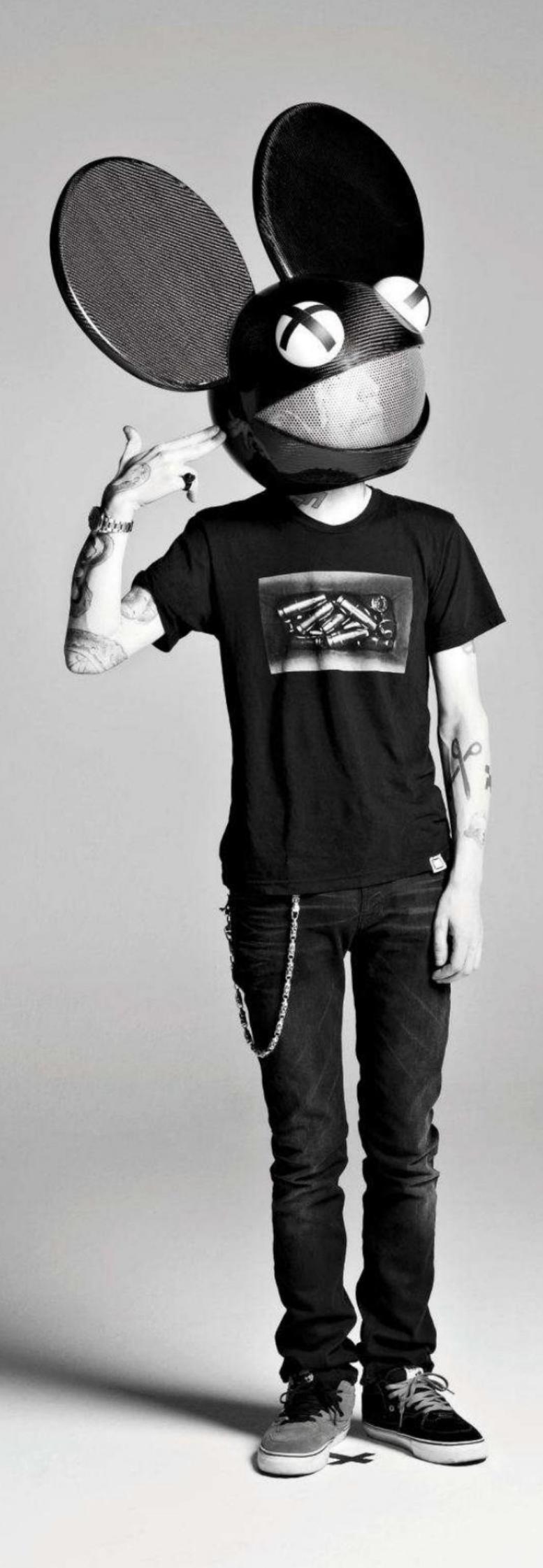
On top of rounding out his back with the addition of a Virgin Mary, finding a way to keep his company's production on American soil is another one of Ingelmo's missions. He recently began producing hand-stitched shoes in Maine, and he's searching for an American factory that can manufacture oxfords the way his grandfather once did. "My grandfather learned from his father in Spain and took that knowledge and craft to Cuba, which became his country," Ingelmo says. "I was born and raised in the U.S., so it's important to bring that knowledge and craft here. It feels good to stay connected to where I came from."

Despite the fact that his shoes are a far cry from the traditional shoes his family produced, Ingelmo is deeply influenced by his heritage. "Shoes are technical, and you can't always see the difference in quality because it's within the construction," he says. "I've put my name on [the shoes to] respect the craft that is embedded in me. I need to know those values are always there." —Suzanne Weinstock Klein

photo by DUSTIN COHEN 43 | INKEDMAG.COM









DEADMAU5 "It is kind of corny, but we met online," says Joel Zimmerman (better known as Deadmau5) of his girlfriend, Kat Von D. He knew about the artist's work, and after seeing one of her tweets, he inquired about getting a tattoo. It wasn't online dating per se, but the couple certainly made an internet connection before meeting.

Now they are an inked version of Brangelina—Kat Von Deadmau5, if you will—and like other high-profile couples, they're the subject of TMZ footage, US Weekly pages, and Perez Hilton's Microsoft Paint doodling.

"We just let them get their shots and get on with our day," Deadmau5 says of the paparazzi. "I don't give a fuck about them. We don't go out in public naked. We don't really have any fucked up shit, and we are not assholes, so it isn't crippling." But he doesn't suffer fools gladly. He recalls a recent question from the paps, who asked, "'If you guys have a baby will it have tattoos?' Is that the best you can fucking do? This is your life and that's the best you can come up with? Troll me properly."

Underneath the mau5head (the musician's trademark mouse-shaped helmet) is someone who has been called a musical genius—one who doesn't compromise his standards and whose work has been widely hailed. While this genius also has a reputation as a hothead, during his second photo shoot with INKED, Deadmau5's tenor was notably lightened thanks to his sweeter half.

Sharing control of a relationship—and the spotlight in general—is new to the DJ. "I used to run the show and abide by one alpha schedule, but we make both schedules work," he says of Von D. As creative people, the duo seem to feed off of each other's art. "We create and play the music," he says. "We both have workstations in her house, so we can take a break from each other, but it is refreshing."

While he's kept his renowned cat, Professor Meowingtons (who put out the first headphones designed specifically for cats with Sol Republic), and his residence in Toronto, Deadmau5 is making himself comfortable at Von D's castle in Los Angeles. "I have deer heads and skeletons in my place, but you get to hers and it's like a 16th-century castle, with candles, way more taxidermy, and this hairless cat," he says.

Another area where the couple's tastes may differ slightly is music. Von D has dated Nikki Sixx of Mötley Crüe and has tattoos from bands HIM, The Misfits, and Slayer, while Deadmau5 is king of the electronic food chain. "I was pleasantly surprised to see she has MSTRKRFT on her iPod," Deadmau5 says. "I don't impose on her too too much of my music, because she is working on her own album and I don't want to put electro in her head. But she knows of electronic music. ... I was worried she was going to ask, 'What's this womp, womp, womp shit?'"

Trying to break away from the genre that has become more one-note in the past year, Deadmau5 featured numbers with Cypress Hill and Imogen Heap on his latest release, Album Title Goes Here. "The Cypress Hill track was done overnight, but I was sitting on it for over two years because I wasn't sure how to put it out—it would be like Slayer doing a fucking ballad," he says. "I got into dance music when it was stagnating to hell, and I think that a lot [of] my involvement—and a few others, of course—turned around the styling, the production, and the sound. But now it is stuck on that turnaround and we have to turn it around again. I am sick of making all my songs sound like my one mainstream fucking hit."

Contemplating electronic music's audience, Deadmau5 channels his inner David Wooderson from *Dazed and Confused:* "We get older, they get younger." He's not complaining or lauding, he's just speaking honestly—something he's well known for on Twitter. "It is really cool to break out of the shell once in a while, but not too much to alienate the people who put you where you are today." He saw an opportunity in the ever-replenishing fan base, and he seized it. "[My prior albums] were continual fucking techno mixed. This one was with cool fuckers who aren't in electronic music."

His collaborations are injecting diverse talent into electronic music. And while he hasn't worked with Von D on her sound, he has collaborated with her on matching tattoos. In addition to placing a star on his cheekbone, Von D inked the sequence 289m3d22h on her beau's skin. "She did it in her styling on my arm, and I designed hers for her collarbone," he says. As for what the meaning of Kat Von Deadmau5's shared tattoo is? This high-profile couple wants to keep at least one thing between just the two of them.

KAT VON D "I guess like a majority of the most important people in my life that I've encountered, art has, without fail, been the initial connection," Kat Von D says of her boyfriend, Deadmau5, whose real name is Joel Zimmerman. "Joel had responded to a tweet I had posted, and we began chatting about the possibility of him getting tattooed. So I guess you could say it was via Twitter, but for some reason that sounds kind of silly."

The word choice *silly* is perfect. Cool people in love do things that seem to oppose their hipness, and *silly* is an admission that Kat Von Deadmau5 has broken character. But they are only slightly apologizing for it, because, fuck it, they are in love. "Joel makes me feel connected," she says. "He makes me feel like I'm not alone—and not in the physical sense, because I appreciate my solitude at times—but he makes me feel not alone in a world that oftentimes I feel alien in. He makes me feel love."

This isn't Von D's first time dating under the watchful eye of the paparazzi, and while it hasn't always been all sugar skulls and unicorns in the celebrity press for America's tattooed sweetheart, she's unaffected. "When you think about the dynamics of a relationship, you will always have outside voices that, for whatever reason, feel entitled to an opinion—your family, your friends, your peers at work—and for me it's just on an amplified level," she says.

A tireless romantic who had almost given up hope on finding a real connection, Von D seemed smitten as she stole kisses with her equally amorous boyfriend during INKED's photo shoot. It's Von D's fifth cover in the magazine's five years (the most of any subject), and she's never seemed so radiant. "I think I had been living in a state of longing and didn't even realize it," she says. "One thing is to dream and wish for a love—a true and noble one—but it is a very different thing to actually live it, without feeling like you're trying to make something happen that really isn't there. I've always believed in this kind of real love, but now I don't see it as an imaginary idea."

Other than the metaphysical, the arrangement has been blissful for Von D, who hasn't had a live-in love for some time. And the womp, womp, womp of her house-mate's work hasn't deterred her creativity. "I find it much more fulfilling now to channel my creativity and inspiration from a higher frequency, such as love. There are times when I get home to a house filled with music and all I can do is turn my attention to what I want to do, whether it's my own music or art or whatever."

In addition to their shared interest in art and tattoos, both Kat Von D and Deadmau5 are well-documented "crazy cat people." Although Von D says a love of cats is not a requirement she looks for in others, she admits it does help. Unfortunately, her cat Piaf "seems to have become more fond of Joel than myself, and I'm jealous." One night while the two were relaxing in their living room, Piaf crawled onto Deadmau5's chest and smiled at him. "Joel's profile and the way his face looked at Piaf was so gentle and sweet," she recounts. "It's going to sound cheesy as hell, but all I could think about was drawing him, large scale, graphite on paper. Sparks of inspiration like this happen 100 times a day. So, yes, the man inspires me."

For those who haven't been following Von D since her *LA Ink* days, she has been cranking out artistic endeavors. She continues to update her clothing and makeup lines. She's recording an album with the help of Linda Perry, of 4 Non Blondes, and Danny Lohner, who has worked with Nine Inch Nails, Puscifer, and A Perfect Circle. She's hoping for a possible summer release. Von D's Wonderland Gallery has also become one of the most important West Coast outlets for outsider art, and recently hosted a sick show called "Skulls" that included skulls by Audrey Kawasaki, Mister Cartoon, and Ryan Adams. Of course, she also continues to tattoo regularly, and some of her newer pieces will be featured in her next book, *Go Big or Go Home*, which is due out this year.

While Von D still carries tattoos commemorating former flames (some of which she is considering getting lasered off), she is unabashed about the matching 289m3d22h tattoos she and Deadmau5 got. When asked about the meaning of the sequence, she deferred to Deadmau5's desire to keep one facet of their relationship private. "I would totally spill the beans, but Joel's keeping his lips sealed on that one!" she says. "I will tell you this: It's not his PIN code, and it's not related to any specific time or date. It's a representation of how we met, and how much this connection between us is meant to be."





PHOTOS BY WARWICK SAINT







IN PICTURES EMILY SHEPHARD LOOKS TO BE A BUBBLY

blonde, but she describes herself more like the dark-haired, jaded character Emily the Strange. "I'm a strange person," she says. "I wasn't a rocker chick. I was kind of a nerd. I didn't have porn under my bed-I had tattoo magazines. Tattoos just fit me."

Shephard has always been drawn to art, adopting Salvador Dalí as her favorite artist when she was just eight. For her, tattoos seemed a natural fit. Curious to feel the sensation of the needle, she was first marked on her 18th birthday with a peace sign the size of a nickel. She's been collecting ever since. Her work now includes a poker flush for her heartthrob, "Cool Hand Luke" Paul Newman; a Buddha representing her philosophical solace; and a Quintus Ennius quote, "They hate whom they fear," in response to 9/11. Although her taste in art has developed over the years, her feelings for her tattoos remain the same. "I love them," she says. "They're mine."

Shephard is an artist herself, onstage as an actress and a burlesque performer. While it was tough for her to break into theater, her tattoos were a saving grace for her career. "They forced me to be private, to use my mind as opposed to my body, to be mysterious," Shephard says. While preparing for the play Cowboy Mouth, she took on Method acting and became her substance-crazed character. She started smoking sugar from a crack pipe, covering her walls with pornographic images and holocaust photographs, and playing a never-ending loop of the Natural Born Killers soundtrack. As Shephard's nightmarish transformation peaked, her roommates steered clear. "I'd die for art," she says. "It's something to fight for. It's a right that can easily be taken away. I hope that if you see me act that I inspire you in some way and you'll create art." -Paige Etheridge









CIRCA SURVIVE'S MUSIC IS NOT INTENDED FOR THE RADIO.

THEIR IDEA IS THAT IF THEY BUILD AN ARTFUL SOUND, THE FANS WILL COME.

BY JONAH BAYER
PHOTOS BY KRISTIINA WILSON

SCAEAN





SINCE THE ADVENT OF ROCK MUSIC MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY AGO,

there's always been a divide between "artists" and "musicians." And while there have been plenty of people who embody both of these titles, today's increasingly commodified music world often seems to put more emphasis on branding than on breakthroughs. But there's no debate about which side Circa Survive come down on.

For their fourth album, Violent Waves, released in August, the band decided to toss the life vest of a traditional label overboard to see if they would sink or swim in uncharted territory. It's a risk most acts would be scared to take, but Circa Survive has never been like most bands. "If we wanted to make a lot of money we could have done a lot of different things with this record, but we really wanted to be in control of every aspect of Violent Waves," frontman Anthony Green says. "Ultimately we would rather have a small number of fans who are devoted enough to the message of creative freedom and who understand what we're trying to do and support us than try to put a net out to the masses and see how many dollars we can pull in." It's that spirit that inspired these progressive post-punk prodigies to eschew the major-label world after 2010's Blue Sky Noise and get back to their DIY roots.

In order to succeed on their own, the band-Green, guitarists Colin Frangicetto and Brendan Ekstrom, bassist Nick Beard, and drummer Steve Clifford—decided to produce the album themselves, with longtime friends Will Yip and Vincent Ratti providing additional production and "an incredible rate" that allowed them to record at Studio 4, near Philadelphia. Green knew that the band would have to create their best record to date in order for the self-release strategy to be a success.

"This album is 100 percent us, and there's not one song on here that's good for radio," Green says. "When you're working with outside people, sometimes a little bit of the energy or excitement gets chiseled out of the songs in order to make something that's not too weird. And we're a weird band, you know?" Case in point: Violent Waves is bookended by two seven-minute-long songs. "We didn't intend for those two songs to be so long, but they both have all of these patient moments where there's building and repetition that's very called for and necessary, and we didn't want to neglect that aspect of the band,"

Green says. From the psychedelic sing-along "Phantasmagoria" to the moody meditation "Suitcase," Violent Waves is an ambitious album. And judging by the fact that all of the deluxe packages-including 11 that cost \$750 and contained handwritten lyrics and sketches from the band members-sold out, it seems as if they will be able to sustain themselves for a long time to come.

It certainly doesn't hurt that Green-who suffered a highly publicized breakdown and stayed at a mental institution during the writing of Blue Sky Noisewas in a much better emotional state this time around. Still, he has a constant reminder of that period of his life in the form of a head tattoo of the band's logo. "Right when our last record came out, I was losing my mind and trying out all these different medications and antidepressants," he says. "I shaved the sides of my head and while we were in Austin, TX, I got the idea that I was going to get the Circa logo on the side of my head. I remember telling someone about it and they were like, 'Dude, that would be fucking brutal, don't do that.' And then the next morning I woke up and it was there."

Wait, so does he not remember getting his head inked?

"I definitely remember getting it. You never forget a head tattoo," he clarifies with a laugh. "Keith Underwood did it, and I remember his elbow or something on my head holding it in place. It was probably one of the worst experiences of my life." Underwood and Dan Smith, of The Dear and Departed, are responsible for the majority of Green's work. His pieces are mostly traditional, and he likes to personalize them, as in the case of the anchor he has on his arm that includes the birth date of his 2-year-old son, James. "Right now, I'm trying to figure out what I'm going to do for Luke," says Green about his second son, born this summer.

It's true Circa Survive aren't the first band to self-release their music, but if they are able to succeed by selling Violent Waves digitally for \$5, it could set an inspiring precedent for the music industry during an uncertain era. "We figured that if we made the price reasonable enough—where it cost the same as a pack of cigarettes, and when you buy it you know you've supported us and our families-then this could actually work," Green says. "It's a total Field of Dreams moment between us and our fans, and we're just waiting for Ray Liotta to come out of the cornfield and tell us everything's going to be okay." M





MAC MILLER

The hottest rapper on the block talks about collaborating with his heroes on rhymes and with legendary tattoo artists on designs.

BY STEPHANIE COLLAZO PHOTOS BY CHAD GRIFFITH

Not many artists can say they've had a number one album, let alone a number one debut album, without the support of a major label. But Mac Miller can. Last year, Miller, who looks more like the pot smoker next door than a chart-topping MC, destroyed all the competition with Blue Side Park. While the world awaits a follow-up—due in the first quarter of 2013—Miller is also working on Pink Slime, a collaborative EP with the Neptunes super-producer Pharrell Williams, and planning to get more tattoos on his compact frame. Since his first big splash, with mix tape K.I.D.S., the Steel City boy has been promoting what has now become known as the "Most Dope" movement—everybody living their lives to the fullest—and recently had artist Norman "Norm" Stien permanently stamp "Most Dope" across his knuckles.

INKED: Did you expect your career to take off as fast as it has?

MAC MILLER: Yes and no. I mean, this is what I planned for; this is what I worked for. It's not incredibly surprising—but at the same time, when you step back and look at it, it's still a blessing and it's still incredible. But, you know, this is what I worked for, so you have to realize that this is where I wanted to be.

What do your parents have to say about your career? They love it. My dad watches MTV Jams all day. I'll come back home and [he'll say], "Malcolm, did you watch the new Jeezy video? What do you think of that?"

I'll be like, "I don't know, Dad, Jeezy's hard." He'll say, "I know I like Jeezy." My dad is the biggest Kendrick Lamar fan. My dad also tells me that I'm not as good as anybody else. I love A Tribe Called Quest and my dad was like, "I finally listened to A Tribe Called Quest—hopefully one day you'll be almost as good as them." My mom is a mom—she'll say, "Lil Wayne is great, but you're better."

Who influences you? Murphy Lee, The Beatles, Pink Floyd, A Tribe Called Quest, Outkast, Big L, Nas, Biggie, Pac, Mobb Deep, The Infamous ... I can go on. People always dig into

the past for their influences, but I'm influenced by shit that goes on right now too. I listen to music that comes out now that's dope and I want to do exactly what they're doing. That's really how you elevate yourself, not just conforming but working off of whatever other people are doing.

What's the music scene like in Pittsburgh?

It's everything, man. What people don't know about the Pittsburgh music scene is Pittsburgh was actually one of the biggest hubs of jazz music; every legendary jazz musician has played clubs in Pittsburgh. The scene's cool, it's very easy to get into, it's nothing too serious. But now with the success of some people recently it's motivating people to get on their grind.

Was it hard to get yourself out there? Once I did that porno, once my sex tape came out, it was a lot easier. [Laughs.] People were more willing to

let go after they saw my penis.

What's the pressure like after putting out a number one album? It depends. That shit's tight, but I don't really give a fuck about having to top that or anything. I did that—you can never take that away from me. I'll forever have a number one album, so if my career goes downhill from there, whatever. Bitch, I had a number one album, you can't say shit to me. Now I'm in a cool place. I think it's actually less pressure now because I've shown that I can produce statistics, so now it's just working on my craft and making better music.

How has your music changed from K.I.D.S. to Macadelic? I think I've just grown as a person, and my music is reflective of who I am as a person. I can't make the same music I did when I [was] 18 because I see the world differently now. At 18, I saw the world as exciting. Everything was so "best day ever," to quote myself. But now it's like I've done a lot, so it's a lot of reassessing the situation and seeing what's real and what's not and just exploring different kinds of music and different conceptual theories and things like that. I'm more interested in digging deeper inside myself and finding out what I really want to say. I think it's a little darker than it was before. I was a lot younger and free-spirited, and now I'm more grown-up.

How are college tours different from regular tours, and have they had any effect on your music? Yeah, I did the college





"I REALLY WANT TO GET A GRAMMY. NOT THAT THE NOTORIETY MEANS THAT MUCH TO ME, BUT I REALLY JUST WANT PEOPLE TO ADDRESS ME AS 'GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING ARTIST MAC MILLER.'"

tour. I didn't really enjoy it, to be honest. Just to keep it 100 percent funky, [there are] too many limitations. Too many cans and can'ts. I didn't go to college. I want my shows to be for everyone, whether you're 12 or 52. Whether you're in school or just do drugs. Whatever your life is, I want you to be able to come. So that was the only problem with college tours, that it was, like, too much catering. I would rather say, "What's up, California?" than, "What's up, UCLA?"

So you were happier on the Macadelic Tour? We got the turnout. We had Travis Porter and YG on the Macadelic Tour. It's really [about] creating an experience. I think that when I was younger, I wanted to go to a show because I wanted to escape whatever world I was in. So I tried to create that for people and let them kind of get away and let them have a night that, no matter what, was going to be different than any other night in their life.

So when is your sophomore album dropping? Early next year—I'm so excited. The first album was zero collaborations, the second album has hella collaborations. The first single's probably going to be this joint with Diplo. Can't wait-I'm just excited to put out another album.

Rap has come a long way from beefs. Now there are a lot of collaborations coming out. Why do you think that is? It's fun to work with people!

What's that process like for you? We just build it like it's an art project. Or, like, if you were working with someone on building one of those cabins out of tongue depressors or Popsicle sticks, you have to work together and both put in some effort. Sometimes you work with someone and they want to do the whole thing, or they want you to do the other things. The best collaborations are with your friends, [where] you guys just kind of hang out, and the song makes itself.

When is the Pharrell collaboration going

to come out? Soon. We got it pretty much done already. I just have to go to Miami and finish the last chapter with him. We did a lot together, we did a lot over e-mail and shit, but we have to finish it off together.

Are you ever going to sign to a major label? If they come with \$50 mil. I need \$20 mil for my mom. I'm definitely not at that stage right now. It's all about being smart and making the right moves. If a major label is the right move, then it'll be the right move. But for now, definitely not the right move.

You're pretty covered for a 20-year-old. When did you start getting tattoos? Eighteen I got my first one.

What was it? The first time I ever went to L.A., my homie Norm did this joint [on my right biceps], "Imagine."

Does Norm Stien do all of your tattoos? Norm has done most of them. I've had a couple done by Stretch in Pittsburgh at Sinner and Saints. But Norm does all my tattoos now. We just started my leg, which is going to be fucking awesome. The bottom of my leg is going to be stuff that's happening on the ground. Then as you get up the leg, it's going to be angels in the sky and stuff like that. I really love angels and the whole idea of angels. When you have a tattoo of an angel, but the angel looks like a bad bitch, that's tight.

Do you prefer a particular style of tattoo? I'm all over the place, a little bit of everything. I got the old sailor style, as well as some more realistic-type shit. I really like Asian artwork-that's really dope to me. I like anything that has to do with kings and mythological-type beings. All that stuff is really cool to me.

What's your next tattoo going to be? I have to finish my leg and my chest. Then finish my neck and my whole body. I'm going to do a full bodysuit, probably. I have nothing on my back; I'm really scared to do my back and my stomach-my stomach's going to feel really weird.

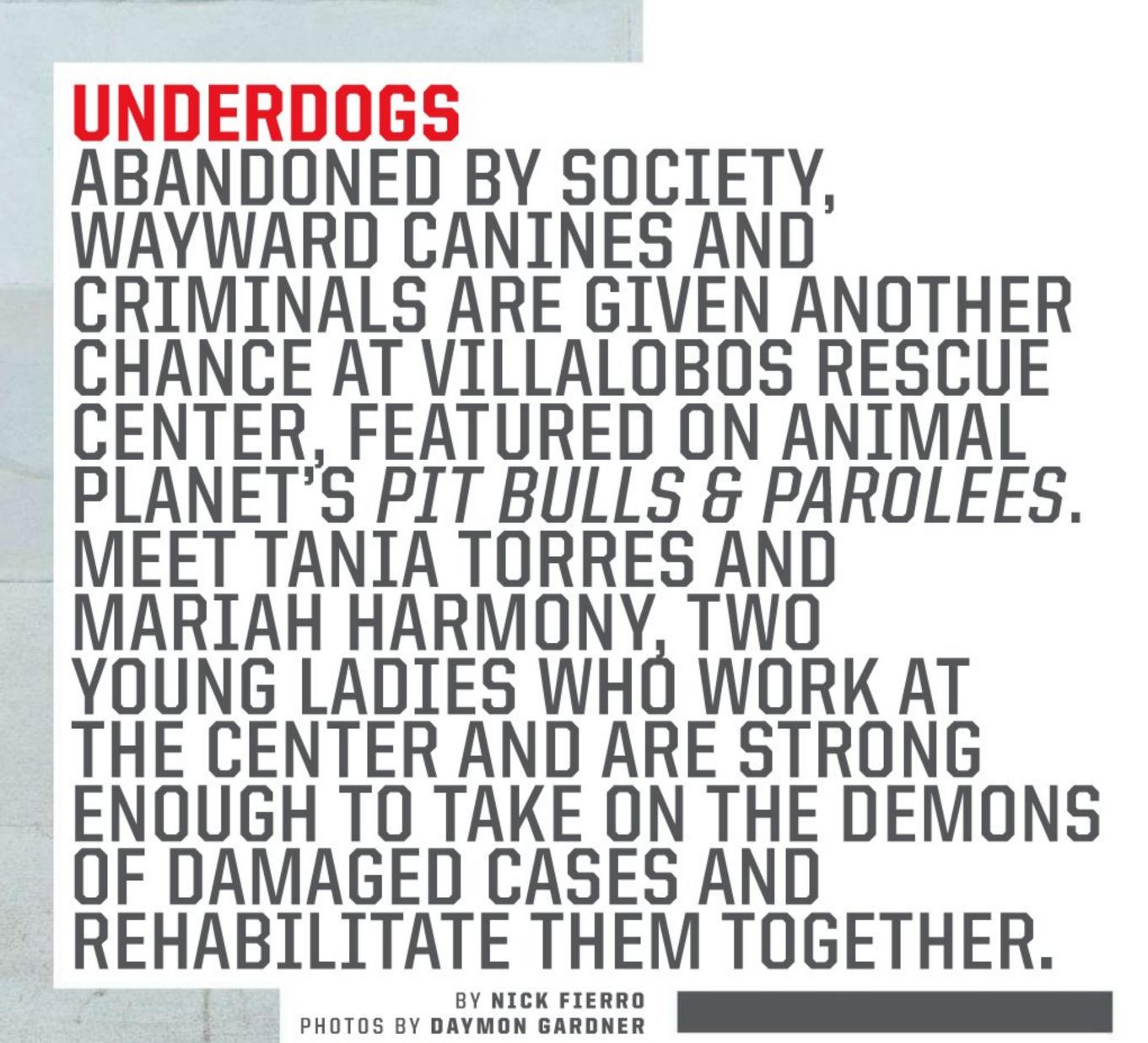


What are the three most meaningful tattoos you have? The ID Labs, my production team's logo. The "Most Dope" on my knuckles is obviously very significant. And I got all my family's initials.

You have "No Woman, No Cry" tattooed on your chest-do you have a girlfriend? And is she inked? Yes and yes. "No Woman, No Cry" actually has nothing to do with the whole girl thing. I've actually never told anybody what it means. I don't even think my friends know. Everyone just always thought it was because of Bob Marley. The reason why I actually got "No Woman, No Cry" is because when my grandpa died, I was driving home, and it hadn't really hit me that he died. I was leaving the hospital when he died, and I was listening to that song, and I started crying. I thought it was kind of ironic. So now the song has meaning to me.

You're only 20, and you've already had the opportunity to work with a ton of your idols. You've had a number one record on the charts without major-label support. What are you looking to accomplish with your career in the future? I really want to get a Grammy. Not that the notoriety means that much to me, but I really just want people to address me as "Grammy Award-winning artist Mac Miller." That'd be tight. I just want to go down as one of the fucking greatest to ever do it. My plan is to do as much work is necessary and make as much improvement as necessary. I want to go down as one of the best.

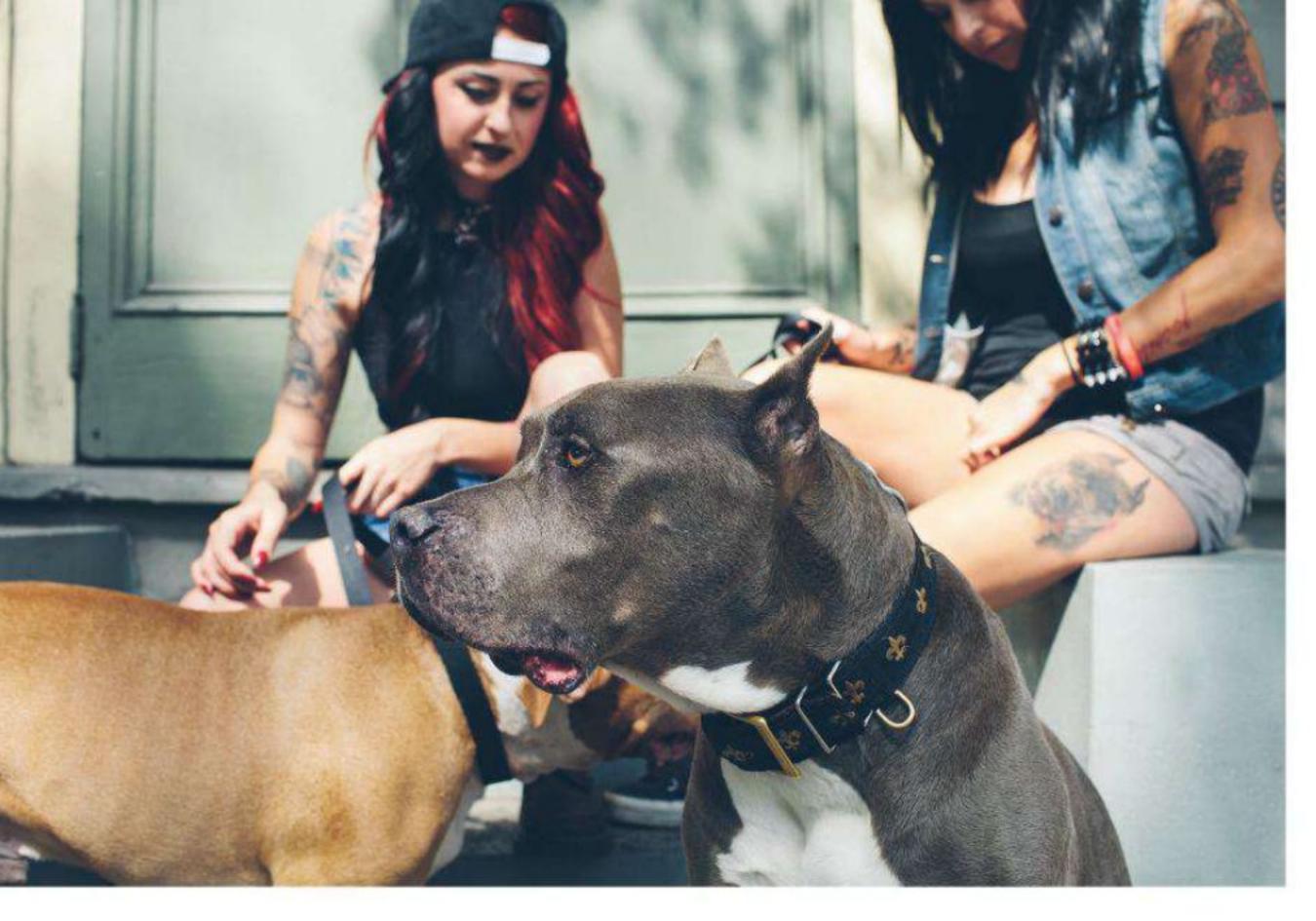




People look at you and sneer, they avert their eyes, they cross the street-being a pit bull or a tattooed person on a public sidewalk is not all that different. The incarcerated are stigmatized in much the same way as those who are inked and the dog breed America fears most. Although the penal system is designed to rehabilitate, society often views convicts who have been given their freedom not as human beings but as, well, vicious dogs.

It takes a big heart to recognize that the negative actions of either group of "beasts" are often the result of having been mistreated or misunderstood. To make it your life's work to help these lost souls is heart-meltingly commendable.

And that's just what Tania Torres and Mariah Harmony do at Villalobos, their mother's pit bull rescue facility that also welcomes parolees so that the two damaged groups can heal together. The Torres sisters are changing lives, one dog, one person, and one Pit Bulls & Parolees viewer at a time.



INKED: How did Villalobos begin?

Tania: We started out as a wolf-

Tania: We started out as a wolfhybrid rescue.

Mariah: One day when we were little, our mom took us to an animal shelter. One of the pit bulls managed to get loose and came running toward us.

Were you okay?

Mariah: Yeah, [she] pretty much knocked us down and licked us to death.

Tania: Her name was Tatanka. Our mom fell in love with her on the spot.

Mariah: That pretty much started the whole rescue.

So you two have been a part of it since the beginning?

Tania: Yeah, we were raised into it.

Mariah: I was pretty much born into a dog kennel.

Pit bulls aren't that popular. How was the reaction of your community?

Tania: Nobody really accepted us.
They thought that everybody we worked with were monsters and the dogs we were saving were monsters. Where we lived at the time, we were being treated like criminals. We were not hurting anybody, and we were just trying to make the world a better place.

Mariah: It's always been the same.

People that love us are going to stand by us, and the people that don't like what we do absolutely hate us. There's almost no gray area.

Do you see that changing anytime soon?

Tania: Over the years it's been getting better. I think that as time goes by, people are starting to understand the breed and not believe everything that they hear.

Mariah: Because of the show, we get letters all the time from people saying that we've changed their opinion or their parents' opinion, and it's opened their eyes.

Tania: Things will change. There are a lot more positive stories coming out of the media. More and more people are starting to own pit bulls. If you're out and you see the dogs with kids and with families, you can't help but think about it, and it changes people's minds.

Do you feel that your work can change the negative image of the breed?

Mariah: People get bit by other breeds all the time but that doesn't make good news. Pit bulls are what the media wants to show.

So it's your family against the mainstream media. That's no small feat.

Mariah: No matter what we do, there's always going to be a bully breed. That's never going to go away. It's how the news works, it's how people's brains work—it's more exciting to them.

Tania: Everybody wants to hear about the pit bull attack. Nobody wants to hear about the cocker spaniel that bit a kid. We've come to terms with it.

But in all fairness, these negative stories aren't fabricated.

Mariah: Yes, owners need to be responsible. For instance, I have a dog that needs to be medicated. He's chemically imbalanced, he has a lot of issues, and I know that, so I don't yet take him around people. You need to be aware. All you can do is be a responsible owner and make sure that your dog is taken care of properly so that you are not the one having an incident.

Tania: There are people that hate what we do and hate the breed and they'll shove that down our throats about whoever got bit in what state. We're not claiming perfection at all. We just love this breed of dog.

Your family also helps the recently paroled adapt to life on the outside. By watching them work with the dogs, do you find that they are both going through similar crises?

Mariah: We really don't have to do much—they fix each other. It's rewarding, but people are going to try to put us down even more than they would if we just had regular employees.

So the dogs make it easier for the parolees, and vice versa.

Tania: I can't speak for all of the guys, but if I'm having a bad day the animals change me. They make me happy, and they make me trust. For these guys that are getting out of prison, or a dog who's just been abused, they're both distrusting of most people. So when you put the two together they just sort of learn from one another. They learn how to trust and how to forgive. You see a completely different person at the end of the day and a completely different animal. It's kind of surreal. Mariah: Especially the guys that have done a long stretch-they come out and it's like they've got shell shock. You see them slowly start to come out of their shell, and it's always with the dogs. You'll sneak in on them and hear them using baby talk or singing to the dogs. It's comforting for the guys to be around them.

Do you search for employees, or do they find you?

Mariah: My mom has gone to parole hearings and said that she was looking for guys to hire. Now that they know where we are, people have come to the house and filled out an application, and my mom will set up an interview.

Tania: The only thing we don't do is hire sex offenders. It's our only rule. I would rather help someone that killed somebody than someone that molested a child. I know that sounds mean and people are going to hate me for saying that. I don't care about getting hate mail over that.

Clearly you've gotten this far by sticking to your guns.

Tania: We're very opinionated. Working with the type of dogs that we do, and the people that we do, we kind of have to be. If we weren't, then people would just chew us up and spit us out.

Your mother comes across as a very strong woman on the show.

Mariah: That's always been how my mom is. That's how my sister and I were raised to act. My mom is the epitome of a pit bull: She's extremely strong, she's nice when she needs to be, she's mean when she needs to be. She just has this strength that a pit bull has, and she won't apologize for who she is or what we are.

At the same time, she wouldn't have started this organization without being a forgiving, nurturing person.

Tania: My mom is absolutely a forgiving person—sometimes too forgiving.

Is she as patient with the two of you as she is with the dogs?

Tania: It's always different when you're the child, way different.

How did she react to your tattoos?

Tania: There were a few that she wasn't happy about. She wasn't too pleased with the ankh next to my eye, but she got over it. Right now I'm working on a sleeve at Great American Tattoo Company, and I think my mom is more on board with that one.

Mariah: I got my first one when I was, like, 14 or 15. It was the ankh on my ankle. The next one I got when I has 16—it's the one across my stomach that says, "Pirate's life for me."

I assume your mom didn't know about that one beforehand.

Mariah: She knew about the first one and said that I wasn't allowed to get any more until I was 18. But one day I was stretching and heard her scream. I was busted. I'm surprised she didn't come flying across the kitchen at me. She flipped out, but she still loves some of them.

Mariah, you have a back piece of your sister where she's portrayed as Snow White eating the world like an apple. What's the story?

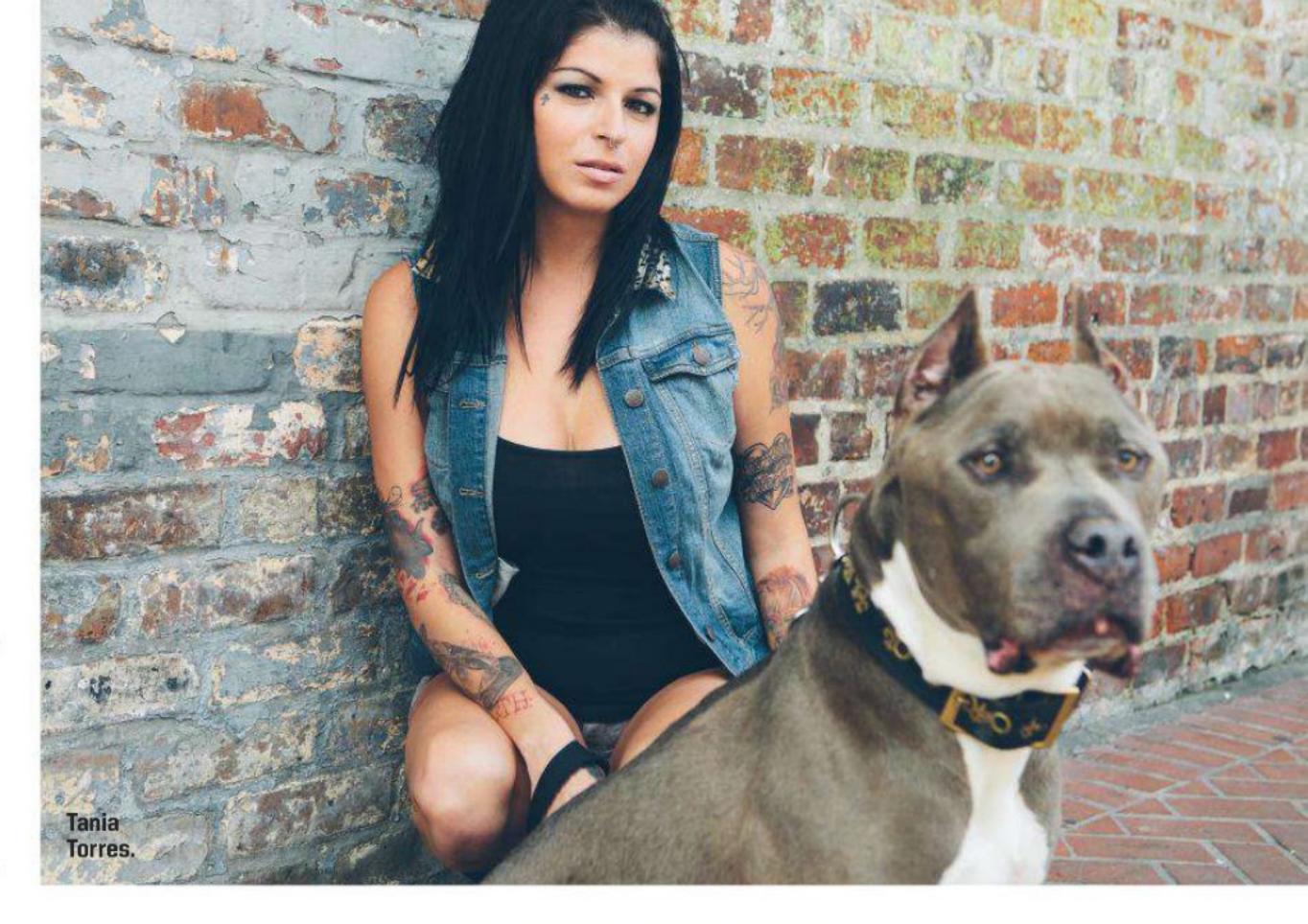
Mariah: Everyone says my sister looks like Snow White. She and I have always depended on each other. Besides our mom, we're all that we have. We used to say that it was the two of us against the world. That's why I had John Miller tattoo her as Snow White eating the world.

What was it like seeing yourself tattooed on your sister's back?

Tania: It's funny. I'd bought a shirt a while ago with Snow White eating the poisoned apple. One day it went missing, and for months I couldn't find it. I was throwing a fit. Then, randomly, my sister comes home with my shirt in her hand. I was like, Seriously, you took my shirt? You heard me crying about it. And then she shows me her back, and it's basically the same exact picture except that instead of the apple she's eating the world.

It's seems kind of hard to be mad at that.

Tania: I'm a sap. I wanted to cry. I
threw my arms around her and gave
her a big hug, of course.



Your family recently packed up and moved Villalobos to New Orleans. It seems a lot different from the California desert.

Mariah: Back in California, we weren't far from L.A., but we still lived in a teeny, tiny, little part of the country where there's more churches than there are trees. It was very judgmental. I think that my family and I were the only ones in the area with tattoos.

And Louisiana is different?

Mariah: Here, it's not as eclectic as California, but there are so many travelers that come through, and they're all covered in tattoos.

Tania: The biggest difference between Louisiana and California is the people. It seems like in New Orleans they genuinely appreciate us and what we're doing.

You've set up shop in a place that's become an icon for redemption. Do you feel more at home?

Tania: We've gotten a lot closer. We were all so miserable in California. The town we lived in, everyone hated us, the cops wouldn't leave us alone, we weren't happy living in the desert. Once we moved we had a chance to be happy and start over. This place got destroyed and had to be rebuilt—it's their second chance—and I think that the location has a lot to do with our acceptance. The people here have been through more pain than most.





The kids are alright-50 years later a new dapper generation is suiting up in mod style.

PHOTOS BY TOM CORBETT STYLED BY DON SUMADA

ASOS suit; Richard Chai shirt; Jack Spade tie; Warby Parker glasses (throughout); Dr. Martens shoes (throughout).



Billy Reid pants; The Sock Man suspenders; model's own bracelets (throughout).







Fred Perry coat; A.P.C. turtleneck and jeans; N.I.C.E. Collective cardigan.

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WESC shirt; Trash and Vaudeville suspenders.



Boglioli coat; Levi's pants; AllSaints shirt; Topman scarf.



Topman leather jacket; Shades of Grey by Micah Cohen plaid shirt; Trash and Vaudeville tie.

Grooming: Miok for Wella Professionals/Judy Casey, Inc Model: Jonathan Kroppmann at Red Model Management Location: Bathhouse Studios

TRUTH & TRIUMPH TATTOO OWNER FRONTS NEW POWER ROCK TRIO

The owner of Truth & Triumph Tattoo keeps himself busy these days by not only tattooing, painting, and organizing a busy travel schedule allowing him to tattoo at all of the conventions and invitationals their tattoo team attends every year, he now fronts an extremely furious alternative rock trio called The Bearer of Bad News. You'd wonder where such a busy guy can find the time to take on the demands of a frontman. This guy seems to do it. Brenner has actually put a lot of other projects on hold to focus completely on his band, and see it to fruition. Though Brenner has played both bass and drums in many rock outfits over the years, he has assumed the role of the band's leader. He is not only the band's guitar player but vocalist as well.

Brenner writes and arranges all of the band's material with the help of fellow tattooer Josh Cook on bass, and longtime friend, client, and Dayton drum legend Joe Presutti on the skins. The band's heavy and hard as nails approach to their music is suiting to their downtown urban roots. It supports their personalities, not to mention the amount of attitude that follows the band like a shadow in both their sound and stage presence. The Bearer of Bad News have released two EP's and followed them up with a handful of super high end music videos, (available for view on their site). Their first EP received an impressive 5/5 star review from INDIEMUSICREVIEWER.COM! They are currently in the middle of recording their first full length record, and will be continuing to film music videos in support of their latest material. This band is off and rolling with a fury, and have every intention on delivering in a big way!



TRUTH & TRIUMPH TATTOU PRESENTS TRUTH & TRIUMPH TATTOU PRESENTS

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GIVETHE GIFT OF AFIELD CARE



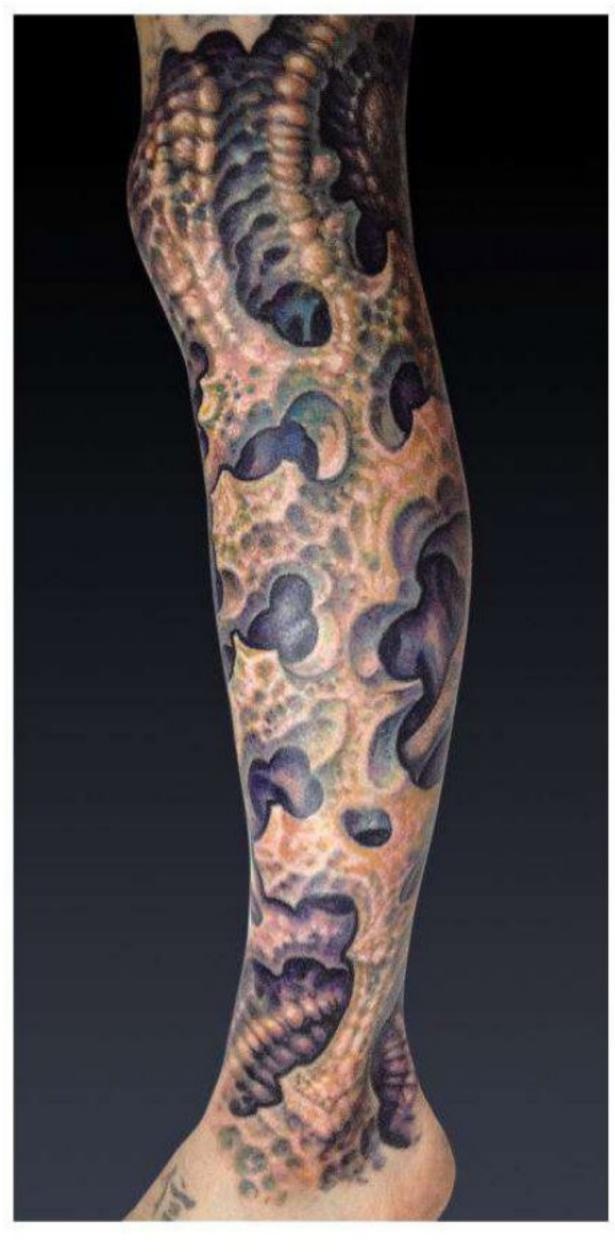
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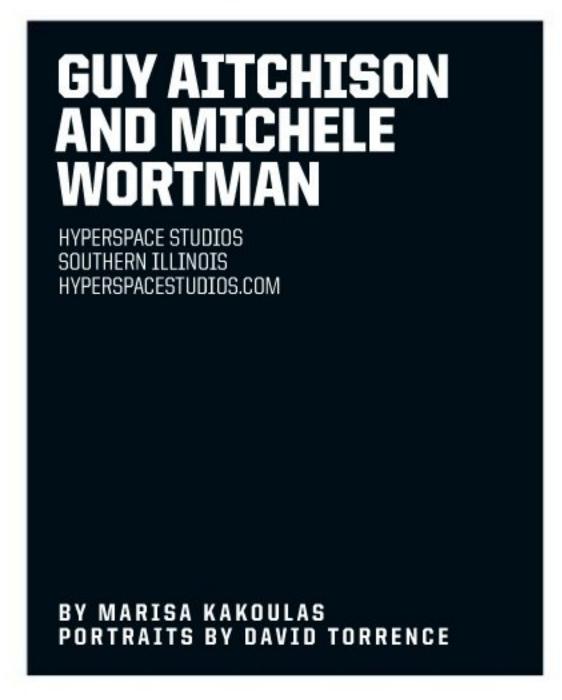
ICON. SPOT. SKETCHBOOK.



inked scene | ICON







At Hyperspace Studios, a private atelier in southern Illinois, Guy Aitchison and Michele Wortman receive collectors from around the world who want to be tattooed by two of the industry's pioneers of contemporary tattoo styles. After more than two decades of work, Aitchison continues to innovate and expand the artistic vocabulary of the biomechanical and bioorganic tattoo genre, while Wortman takes a feminine approach with painterly floral-form body sets. The husband and wife team are also renowned for promoting fine art and education in the tattoo community. In this interview, they share how their distinctive artist styles developed, some of the controversy behind their approaches, and how one can be a better artist through attitude adjustment.

INKED: You're both renowned for your distinctive styles. How would you describe them? GUY AITCHISON: I work in abstract style—a lot of different abstract styles-but generally it's earned the definition of biomechanical. This can take many forms as long as it's a nonrepresentational kind of tattooing that flows with the human form. It could be something that is either kind of robotic-imagine a Transformers style-or it could be something

a bit more organic, like an alien exoskeleton with all kinds of crazy textures. Or sometimes you get a mix. People who get tattoos from me generally just want to get tattooed. A lot of people feel like they need to have a pretext for their tattoo that symbolizes something, but people who have collected enough often will arrive at a place where they are getting tattooed because they're getting tattooed. They like tattoos. They are looking to be





decorated. That's the number one rule of this style. Make it attractive, make it flow well with the body, make it sort of exaggerate the musculature a bit. It's meant to be flattering but also meant to instill a sense of, "Wow, I've never seen anything like that before." When people come across it, they should be stopped in their tracks a bit.

When you first started tattooing and developing this style in 1988, it was really new and innovative.

AITCHISON: Well, I wasn't the first person to do this stuff. I was attracted to H.R. Giger's paintings. That was part of what got me interested in tattooing initially. I wanted to tattoo stuff like that. For those not familiar, Giger designed the sets and monsters for Ridley Scott's Alien movie. It has this look that just has a natural flow, great depth, and a sense of realism to it. I thought it would look great on skin. In my first year of tattooing, I came across a few people who were actually doing Giger paintings as tattoos, and a few had done a really nice job of it. It

definitely proved the point that it was a viable style. I then started hanging around a few of these tattooers: Eddie Deutsche, Greg Kulz, Aaron Cain, and Marcus Pacheco. These are the ones who were really exploring the abstract style at the time. We started working on each other and collaborating in various different mediums, and then diverged away from being Giger clones, and each of us looked to redefine what we were seeing. In particular, I was looking for ways to make it look stronger as a tattoo. I was working with bigger shapes that flowed with the body as the structure for the whole thing. And then you have basically this infinite variety of textures and effects, lighting, things that you can apply to it. So it was definitely influenced by H.R. Giger and by these other tattooers I worked with, but at this particular juncture, 23 years later, it's certainly taken on its own look.

Michele, how did your style develop?

MICHELE WORTMAN: My style originated from being a collector and not necessarily resonating

with the early work I collected. I started to assess it more and realized that I wanted something that was more unified, that had less weight to it, and that reflected more of how I was feeling rather than the styles that were available at the time.

Around when was that?

WORTMAN: It was around 1995 when I first got a half sleeve. I know that's not very much coverage, but at the time it seemed it, because you didn't really see women with the coverage you see now, and it felt like a big step. Then I got a chest piece a year later. My work had a fair amount of black in it, and I wanted something that felt lighter and a little freer. So I started getting lasered, getting rid of all the black in my ink so that I could reconstruct it, and during that period of time, I became a tattoo artist.

Would you say your style is more feminine?

WORTMAN: It's interesting you should say that because originally I had wanted a half sleeve of flowers, and this girl looked at me, rolled her eyes,

"THE LOOK OF TATTOOS IS CHANGING. THERE ARE A LOT MORE STYLES THAT ARE BEING PUT OUT THERE THAT ARE AMAZING. ALSO, A LOT OF THE WOMEN I TATTOO FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE BEING HEAVILY TATTOOED. I FEEL WE ARE A PART OF THIS EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. IT'S EXCITING TO BE A PART OF IT AND SEE WHERE WE CAN GO NEXT."

-MICHELE WORTMAN

and said, "You would get that. How typical of you." That bothered me, so I decided I would rebel against my feminine nature and get architecture, which is very masculine in my opinion, very manmade. The fact that I rebelled against my feminine nature in the beginning only to come back to it later was an interesting lesson for me—to be comfortable and enjoy things that might be associated with having feminine qualities and not try to fight it and be someone I'm not. That had a lot to do with the energy I was putting into my tattoo work, and that became my defining style.

Black is really part of the old-school tattoo tradition, black and bold. Have you ever been criticized for not following these tattoo tenets?

WORTMAN: Absolutely. I've been heavily criticized for my style. I've had people come up to me at tattoo conventions, slam my portfolio down, and tell me that what I was doing wasn't tattooing. So I had a steep hill to climb, and I still feel like I'm climbing it. But if you believe in what you do, you need to stick with it.

Do you have a response to the technical critiques?

WORTMAN: I do have a response. Early on there was some validity to their assessment because I was just learning to tattoo and my work wasn't as developed as it is now. It was definitely very experimental, not using black outlines. The black has a boldness to it, and it does seem that it stays in the skin better, so I can see their point. The thing is, work that is soft in contrast with a limited use of black needs multiple passes. If someone has a piece that doesn't look so hot, it's not necessarily because it won't work. You really need to get that saturation and develop contrast over multiple sessions, since you don't have a strong, bold line holding your design in place. It's a different approach to tattooing, so it has its own flavor of rebellion in there, even though it may be

viewed as a stereotypical feminine aesthetic. **AITCHISON:** It's a rebellion within a rebellion.

You often hear artists lament over the "good ol' days of tattooing" and that some of the magic today has been lost. What are your thoughts on this?

AITCHISON: You know how when you're really into a band but no one's really heard of them yet, just you and a couple of your friends, then suddenly they blow up and everyone in the world has heard of them? The original fans are like, "I liked them better before they were famous." That's what's happening now. I don't think there's any room to grumble. Anyone who has been in this business long enough, and is doing a good job of it, is doing better now because of the tattoo renaissance. And if they're not, that means they are not doing very good tattoos.

WORTMAN: I don't think it has lost anything. It is gaining something. There's a huge diversity within tattooing itself. The look of tattoos is changing. There are a lot more styles that are being put out there that are amazing. Also, a lot of the women I tattoo feel more comfortable being heavily tattooed. They are going for an overall look that's cohesive, not fragmented. I feel we are a part of this evolutionary process. It's exciting to be a part of it and see where we can go next.

You've both worked hard to promote tattoo education and help others improve their work. Has there ever been a backlash with other tattooers questioning why you're putting all that out there?

AITCHISON: There hasn't been a backlash per se, and part of the reason is that education in our industry has become a standard. It's not just a couple of us doing this. Go to any major convention and there are seminars happening. The thing we all kind of agree on amongst ourselves is that we are not showing this stuff to the general public. For example, in our store on tattooeducation.com, we have a lot of items that have a red flag on them. That means we only ship them to established tattoo shops. That's the way any of the aboveground tattoo suppliers work as well. It's the way it has been set it up and the way we police ourselves to make it hard for people to get in without going through the proper channels. Of course, there are always ways around it. But your average jerk who isn't willing to put in the time, effort, and struggle to do well is not going to make it through.

Part of this education has been promoting fine art within the tattoo community, like you do with your live painting events. Why is that fine art component so important to tattooing?

WDRTMAN: When you're collecting from an artist, you're collecting a piece of art. I think when you work in a second medium like painting, you can create a resonance from your other types of art [that goes] into your tattooing. So the more that we encourage others to explore a second medium, the more they

can bring their own individual style into tattooing and hopefully diversify it even further—not to mention that the more fluid you are with a second medium, the more you bring that fluidity into tattooing.

AITCHISON: Definitely an experience in multiple mediums can make it much easier to learn how to draw. Really, when you think about it, tattooing is a very difficult art form, one of the most difficult. So how can being a better artist in general possibly not make you a better tattoo artist? As far as what kind of medium, I don't think it really matters. Color pencil, watercolor, sculpture-you don't have the same limitations as on skin. You don't have a client telling you what they want, you can make mistakes, and you can figure out what your thing is. In the course of it, you can learn more about yourself and bring it back to your tattooing. There are people who have come up to me and said, "Show me how to do a better tattoo." If you want to be a better tattoo artist, become a more sensitive person, become smarter, turn off your darn TV. But what they are hoping for is a bag of tricks. It isn't a bag of tricks. It's a whole outlook. It's a whole lifestyle.

What projects are you working on now?

WORTMAN: I am working on a long-term project: It's a book about the work that I do. I'm documenting the women I tattoo and their collection, starting from the very beginning to the end results—their journey. All the pieces I'm taking on right now are pieces that will be a part of the book. When the book is done, it will be a 20-year project. I'd like the book to be out in 2020. I like the number.

AITCHISON: Over the past three years, myself and a group of other artists who specialize in biomech have created somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 finished full-color sleeve designs for a book project—The Biomech Encyclopedia—which I'm hoping to release by the end of 2012. It's going to be a massive book on abstract tattoos, and it will touch on every part of the bandwidth that it can. It's an online collaborative process in which we kind of mix and match each other's work, and it's all amazingly good stuff.

You've done a lot of collaborations.

AITCHISON: I've collaborated a lot in the course of my career, with dozens and dozens of people. If you want to open your doors and get out of your normal habit—because, as artists, we are deeply habitual—try working with another artist. It can be a great experience.

I assume the two of you collaborate on a lot of things as well.

AITCHISON: We've done many collaborations on skin and canvas. We're collaborating on a child right now. [Laughs.] Sometimes when one of us is working on a design for a client and we're trying to decide something, we'll sit down and tinker with each other's computer simulations; we'll talk over ideas with each other. So there's a lot of collaboration, as in any partnership, on every level.



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NEW YORK ADORNED

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BY LANI BUESS PORTRAIT BY BETH DIXSON

Lori Leven is not afraid to make waves for the sake of art. Though tattooing was illegal in New York City in 1996, that didn't stop Leven from opening NY Adorned. Away from prying eyes, tattooers would sling ink behind concealed partitions while a jewelry shop (which would offshoot into a boutique named Love, Adorned in 2010) resided in the front. Ironically, cops were regular customers. "It was a health department ordinance and not their jurisdiction," Leven says of the officers, whose yearning for fresh ink would allow them to look the other way.

Leven says she opened a tattoo shop out of frustration with the New York tattoo scene. In 1993, she moved to New York City from Los Angeles, where she had served as an assistant at Tattoo Mania, and was disappointed by the lack of artistic choices on the East Coast. "California was such a hotbed of tattoo talent, and although it was illegal in New York, I just felt that the time was right to show New York the possibilities in tattooing," she says. She first started a tattoo collective, the original East Side Ink, with tattooer Sean Vasquez. "By the time I opened NY Adorned, New York actually started to know tattooing as art," she says. And Leven became key talent curator.

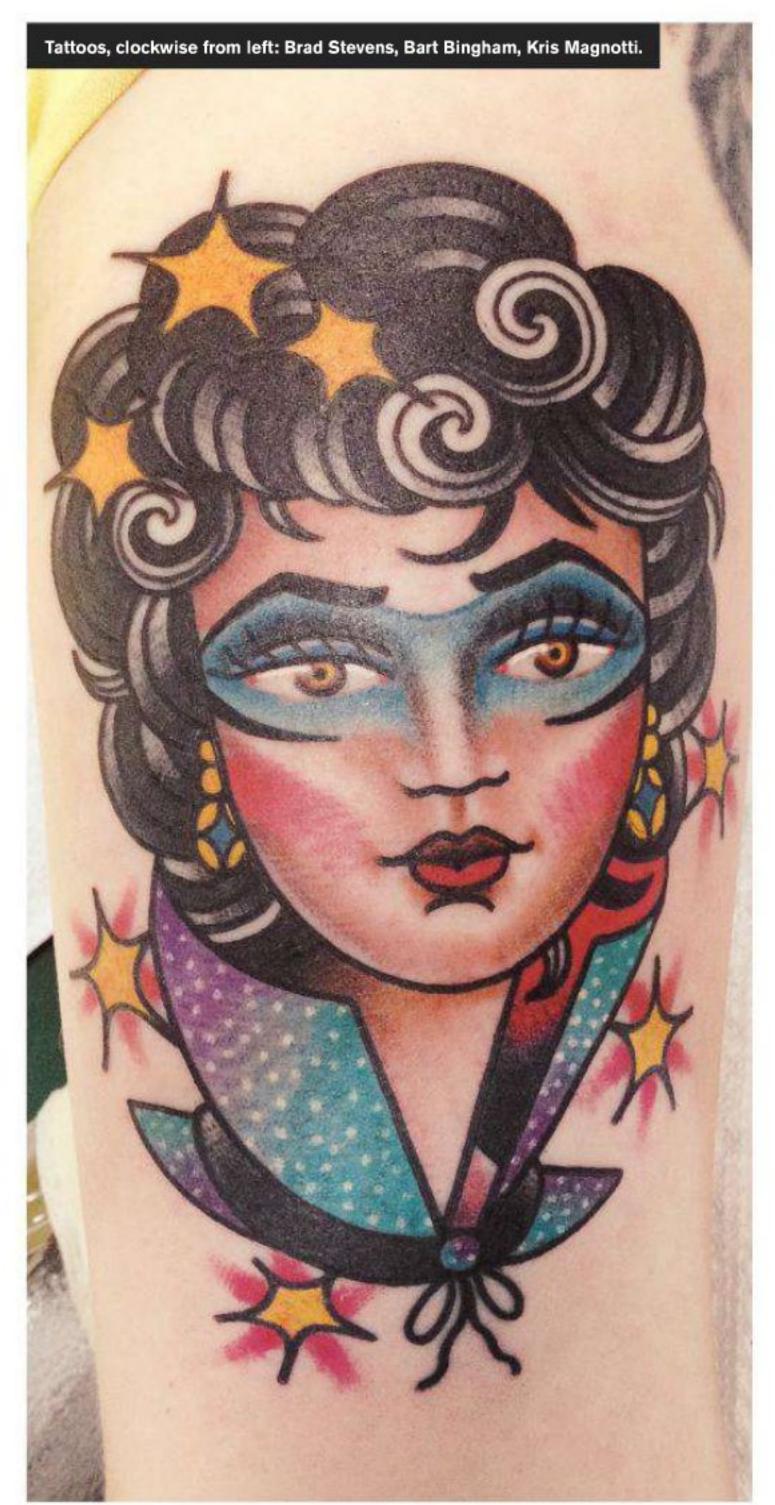
"Lori always sees what's happening before the rest and handpicks people that will make trends, not just regurgitate the same old thing," says Adorned artist Damion Ross.

"She has an uncanny ability to see what and who will be the next big thing," adds Adorned artist Virginia Elwood.

Because of Leven's insistence on picking the best artists possible, Adorned remains a forcenot just a forerunner-in the industry, even after 16 years. With seven full-time tattoo artists on staff and a rotation of guest artists recruited by general manager Simone Brochard, Adorned is about diversity.

"Christ, you ever see the roster at this place? Ridic!" says Adorned artist Kris Magnotti, who mostly specializes in Japanese work. In addition to Magnotti, Ross and artist Yoni Zilber work the Japanese style as well as bold traditional and fine-line Tibetan art. Artists Brad Stevens and Bart Bingham cater to clients looking for Americana. Elwood prefers portraits and traditional style, while Shinji Horizakura, a member of the renowned Horitoshi family, specializes in traditional tebori.

Each member of this colorful crew came to tattooing from a different upbringing. Bingham dropped his 12-hour shifts at an ER to pursue tat-







tooing. Magnotti, a self-professed half-ass graffiti brat and shitty hardcore band drummer, hung out at a shop so much he was told to pick up a broom and get to work. Zilber knew he wanted to tattoo at the age of 12, when he first pored over the pages of a tattoo magazine. An avid artist, Stevens got the itch in high school. For Ross, "It's the old story of being young and seeing real cats doing real shit," he says. "They just looked cool, strong. I wanted to be those things, I suppose."

Horizakura became interested in tattooing after being tattooed himself. And Elwood abandoned her goal of becoming a professional ballet dancer after

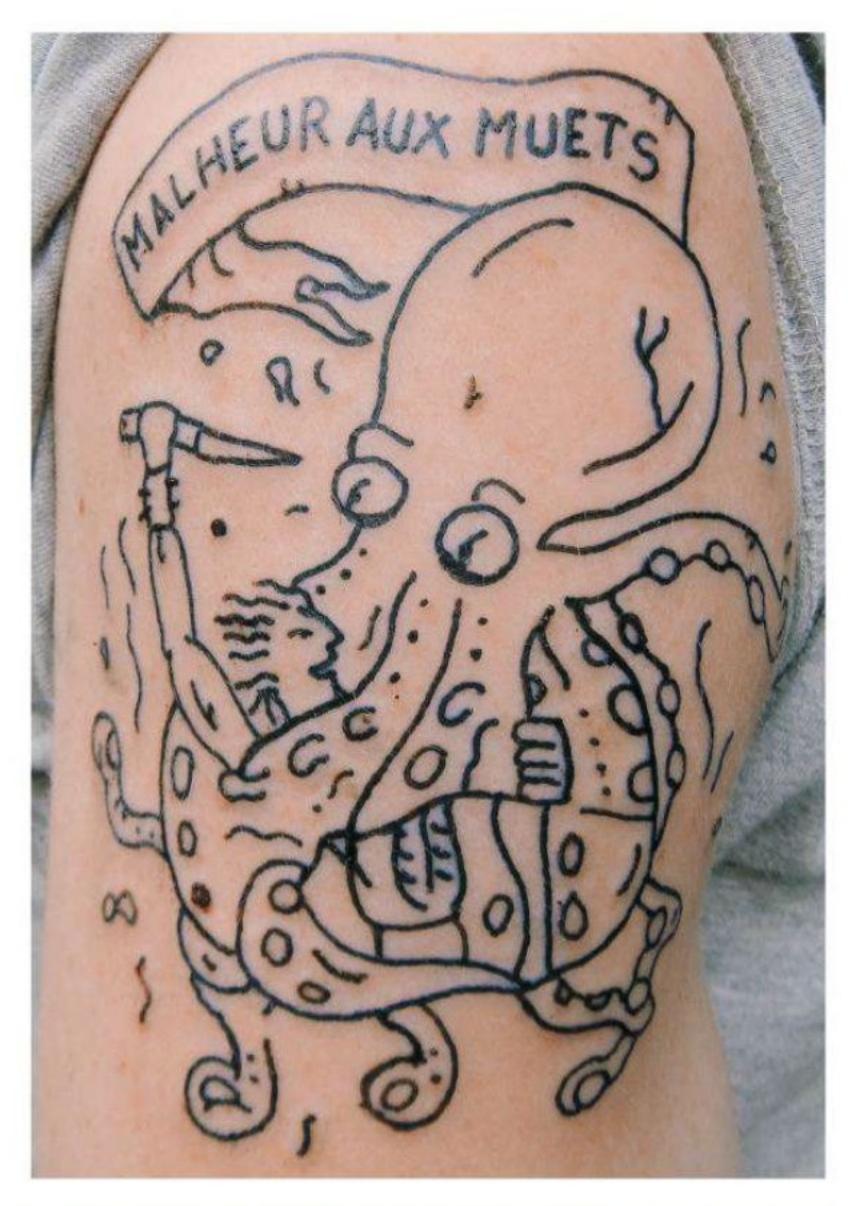
getting her first tattoo at 15. "I love the immutability of tattooing-not just the permanence on the body, but tattooing's long-term resilience against outside forces," she says. "It may continue to bend and grow with the world around it, but it will never break. There will always be unsung tattoo heroes who sit in the chair all day long and pump out amazing work regardless of what the latest trend is."

Like that unsung tattoo hero, Adorned will continue to flourish with the ever-changing times and trends. But working at the shop, with its prestigious reputation, has become synonymous with making it in the tattoo market. "Long before I was

even tattooing, NY Adorned had set the standard in the industry," says Stevens. "Most of the movers and shakers in the tattoo world have been through Adorned at some point because of its reputation as an artistic hub."

Being at the top of one's game can sometimes mean there's a long way to fall. But the staff at Adorned don't lose their footing. They've managed to retain the shop's rep and sustain their artistic sensibilities. They do it all by abiding by Leven's cardinal adage: "We take care of our artists, take care of our customers, work our asses off, and never rest on our laurels." M

inked scene | PROFILE











FUZI UVTPK

VISIT: FUZI-UVTPK.COM/EN/

You've graffitied in Paris for decades, but just took your first trip to the States. What was your impression of New York? Energetic, powerful, creative—I felt like I had met a long-lost friend.

And you were here tattooing at The Hole. Citizens of Humanity organized my tattoo event at The Hole shop. I like to tattoo in unique places—streets, subway tunnels, art galleries. When I make tattoos in unusual places, it leaves a mark on the memory, not just the skin.

You call your aesthetic "ignorant style." What does that mean? It means I don't give a fuck. I create without rules, using my instinctive feelings. In the mid-1990s, I broke the graffiti rules and created the ignorant style based on the beginning of NYC subway graffiti. It was meant to look like a child who just discovered the art form, a reaction to

the standardization of graffiti.

You try to make each tattoo unique. Does that philosophy come from you wanting to always try new things, or is that more for the client? I think when people come to me they want something new, real, and original. I consider all my pieces unique, like artworks. It's a philosophy to consider the tattoo like art, not like crafts. It would be easier for me to make the same tattoo designs, but it would also be extremely boring.

Any other maxims for your tattooing? I come in this tattoo world with my own rules. I don't want to be the king or win respect or something like that. I don't give a fuck about that. I just make tattoos like I want to, with sincerity and passion. If you like it, come on, but if you don't understand it or hate my art, I don't care. I won't stop.

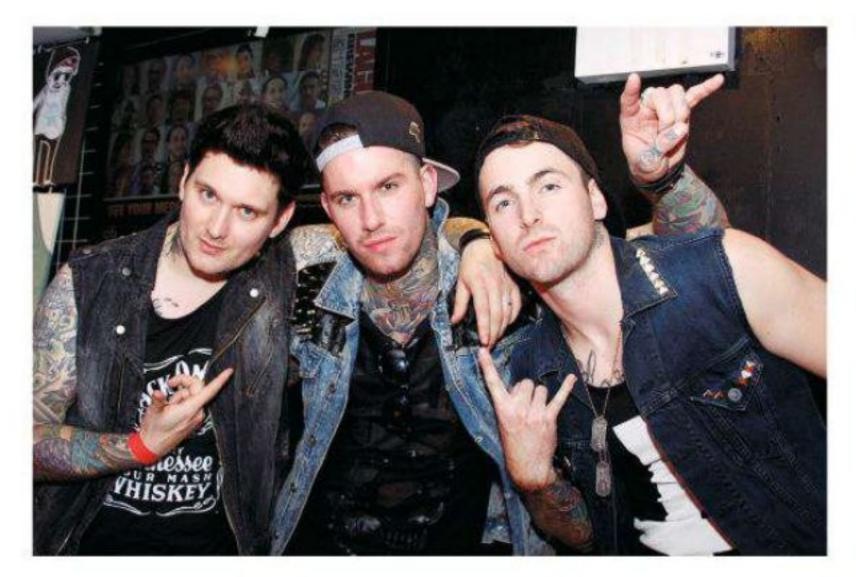


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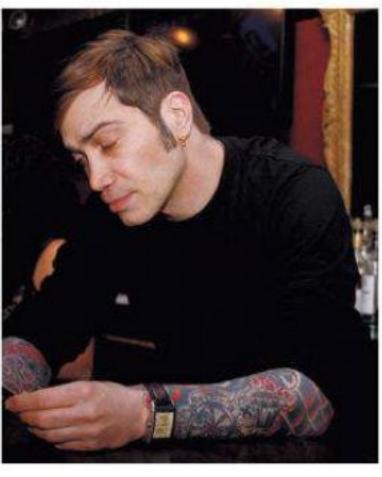


ALESANA AT IRVING PLAZA

The Inked Magazine Music Tour with Live Nation rocked off at New York City's Irving Plaza. Along with headliner Alesana, the sick sounds were provided by In Fear and Faith, Vampires Everywhere!, and Glamour of the Kill. The only better lineup in the city belonged to the New York Yankees—except we played through October.

















photos by KATE SUMPTER DECEMBER/JANUARY 2013 | 91

inked scene | EVENTS

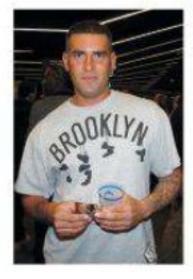










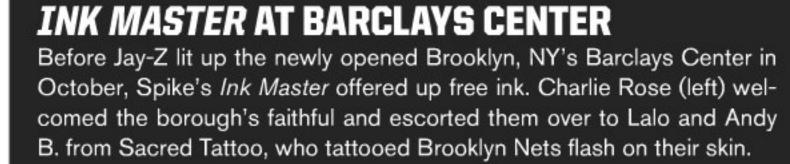






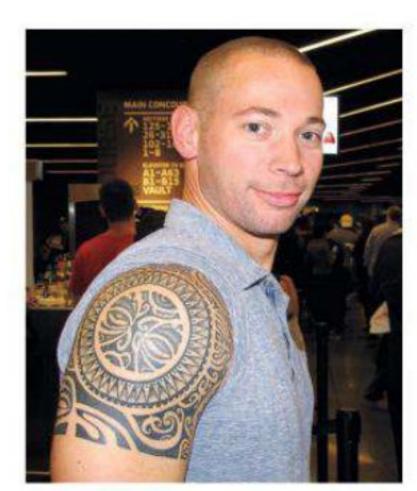


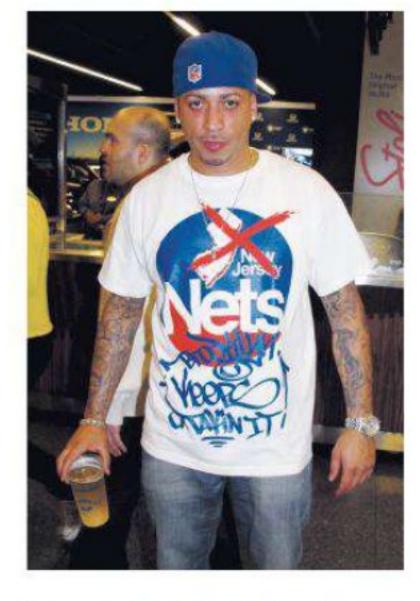


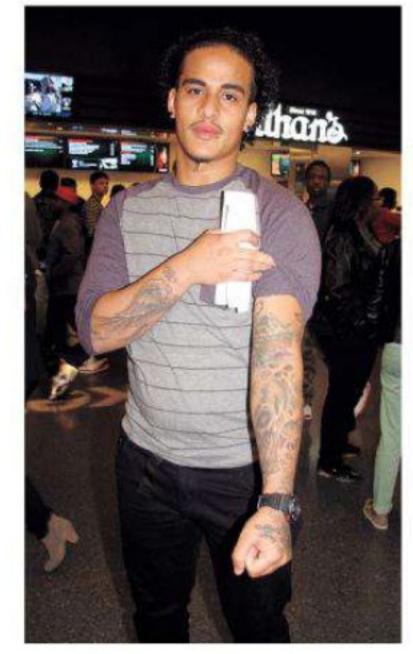




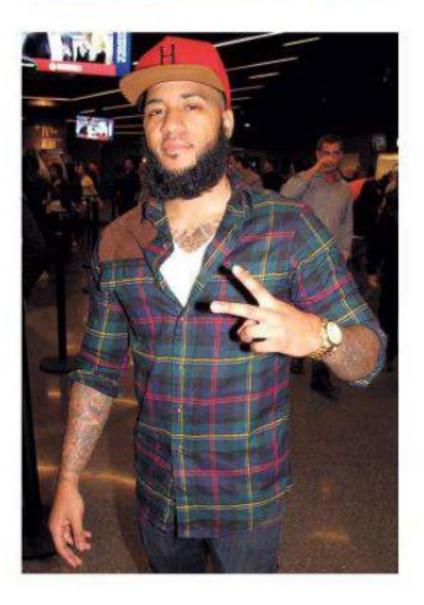






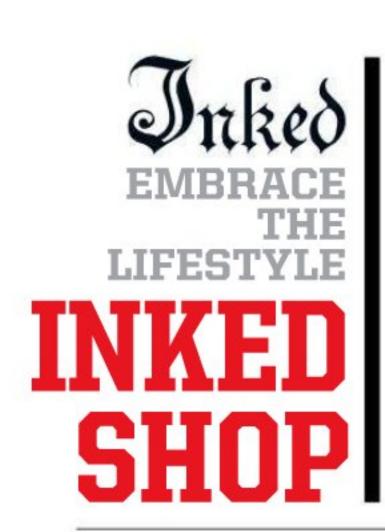














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