

Inked

CULTURE. STYLE. ART.

MEGAN
MASSACRE
Pretty in Ink

**THE
MOTORCYCLE
ISSUE**

AMAZING
BIKES AND
BACK PIECES

AMERICAN
CHOPPER'S
PAUL SR.

MOTO GP

PLUS:

WHAT DOES
YOUR TATTOO
SAY ABOUT YOU?

THE
BRONX
ROCKS

APRIL 2013
DISPLAY UNTIL APRIL 20

\$6.99US/CAN



0 09128 47300 0



CAPTIVATING COLOR STORIES
CREATED WITH
INNOVATIVE MATERIALS.

ADDITIONAL DISCOVERIES AT
SUPRAFOOTWEAR.COM

SUPRA

IT'S A MATERIAL WORLD



@SUPRAFOOTWEAR



ERIK ELLINGTON / LIZARD KING / TERRY KENNEDY / TOM PENNY / KEVIN ROMAR
WINDSOR JAMES / SPENCER HAMILTON / BOO JOHNSON / DANE VAUGHN / CHEWY CANNON

KR3WDENIM.COM



KREW

- KEVIN ROMAR

- K-SLIM DENIM
THRASHER JACKET
KNIVES TEE

Independence

IS NOT A

3 DAY WEEKEND IN JULY





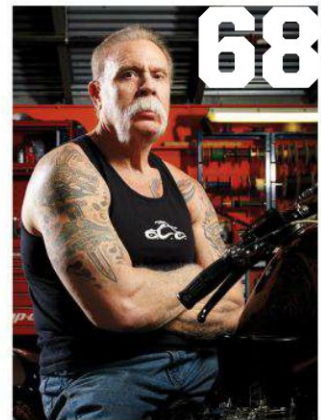
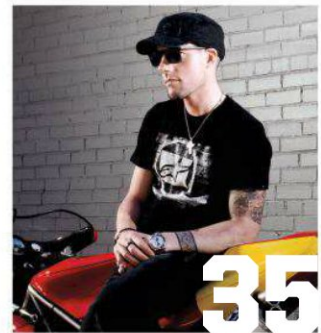
NightRider

USA ★ 925

NEVER MASS PRODUCED.
METICULOUSLY HANDCRAFTED WITH MORE
DETAIL THAN A 900-PAGE CHILTON MANUAL
AND MADE FOR RED-BLOODED AMERICANS.
BY AMERICANS WHO BLEED **THE SAME RED.**

nightriderjewelry.com

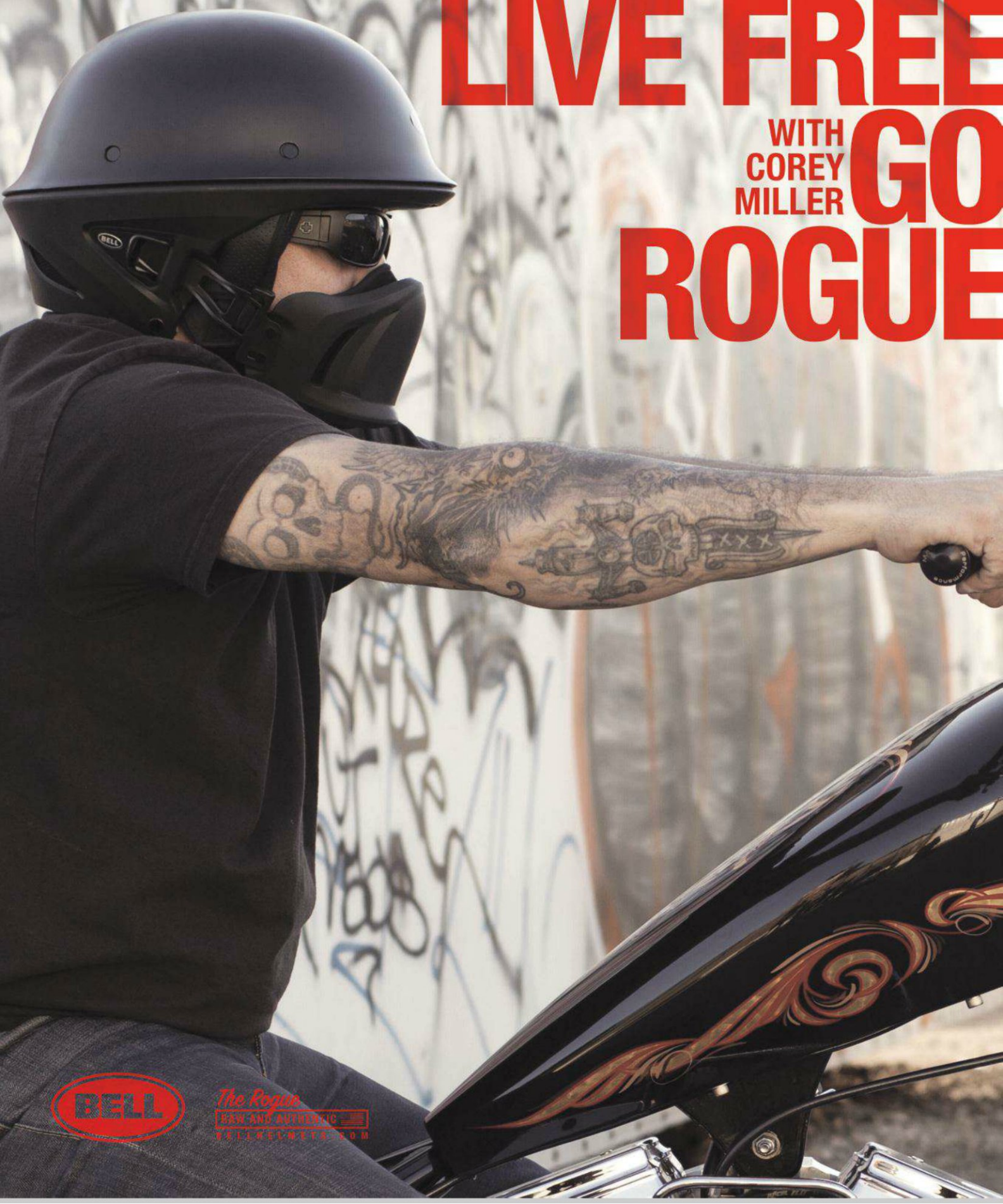
table of contents



LIVE FREE

WITH
COREY
MILLER

GO ROGUE



The Rogues
RAW AND AUTHENTIC
V.I.C.E.M.T.R.COM

COME CHAT
WITH US @

Inked

SOCIETY

Inked

@inkedmag

creative director todd weinberger (@toddweinberger)
editor rocky rakovic (@inkedluencer)
photo editor susan hennessey
digital imaging specialist ilana glickman
contributing editor jennifer goldstein
contributing market editor julie chen
contributing copy editor autumn whitefield-madrano
fashion assistant bethany wolosky
contributing designers lauren heffron, emilie delarge

contributing writers

christine avalon, jonah bayer, matt bertz, lani buess, anja cadlek, jon coen, charlie connell, temma ehrenfeld, nick fierro, willie g, jeff harder, marisa kakoulas, gil macias, robert mccormick, melissa petro, kara pound

contributing photographers

kareem black, alissa brunelli, dustin cohen, josh dehonney, daniel edward, dustin fenstermacher, malek naz freidouni, leann mueller, hyuna shin, inti st. clair, jack thompson, scott toepfer, jessica tong, david yellen

interns

liz bergesch, melody conde, ashton grieco, nicole martino, lizzie miller, joanna nazimek, robbie petroff, jennifer santanastaso, natasha van duser

publisher joely (price) syme
 joely@quadramediallc.com

business development ian sami hajar
 sami@quadramediallc.com

sales kristine cummings
 kristine@quadramediallc.com

director of digital media and events jason hellinger

social media editor brittany ineson

social media community manager marcus cooper

web content manager brian toynes

e-commerce manager rosalie troianello
 john cabell, 303-449-9194
 cabell@cueballdigital.com

international licensing

magazine office inked magazine
 12 west 27th st., 10th floor
 new york, ny 10001

corporate office quadra media llc
 174 middletown blvd., #301
 langhorne, pa 19047

website inkedmag.com

chief financial officer jami pearlman
accounts receivable chris watson
newsstand consultants ralph perricelli, irwin billman

fulfillment prestige fulfillment

subscription info 888-465-3305
 subscriptions@themagstore.com



JOIN!

INKED MAGAZINE'S MOBILE SOCIAL NETWORK

Place yourself front and center in the tattoo art industry. Grab the coveted attention of the magazine's own editorial team when you showcase your ink & personality for the chance to be featured or photographed by Inked.



INKED, ISSN (1555-8630) Issue 54, is published monthly except combined issues in June/ July & Dec/Jan by Quadra Media, LLC 12 West 27th St, 10th floor, New York, NY 10001. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices.

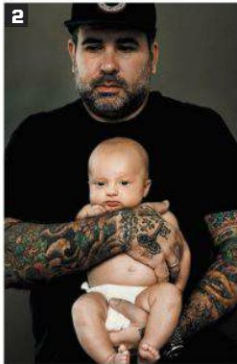
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Inked Magazine, P.O. Box 8607, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310-9965.

Official Sponsor  Developed with  Powered by 

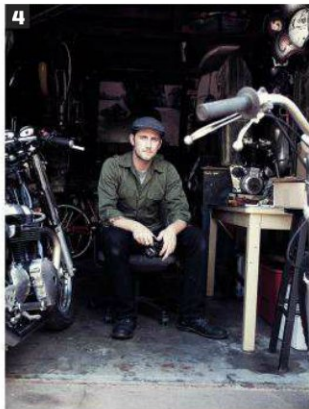


Ducati 1199 Panigale S
Ahead of the curve. And everything else.



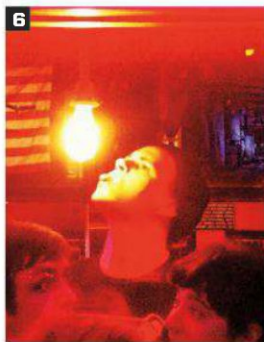
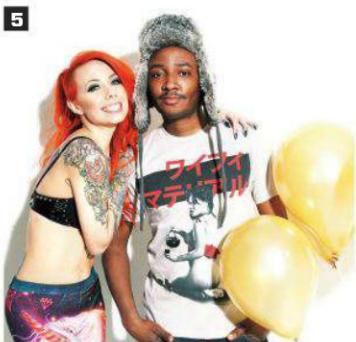


ink well



The nature of society is to have every person conform: Keep your position, stay within the lines. There's a whole lot of good in that, but there are also instances when the iconoclasts need to break away. Recently, I was stagnant in traffic, going nowhere like the rest of the hordes between the yellow lines, when a guy on a motorcycle buzzed right by, making his own path, getting ahead. This issue is for him, other bikers, and you—a person who was told that marking your body is unseemly but decided to get tattooed anyway.

Jon Coen (1) becomes one of the lucky few to visit Orange County Choppers and not get chewed out by Paul Teutul Sr. MotoGP racer Ben Spies, back from injury and the tattoo chair, sits for shooter Jack Thompson (2). Photographer Hyuna Shin (3) composes stunning shots of girls with back pieces draped over sick motorcycles. And Scott Toepfer (4) hits the highway with some badass riders in rebel fashion.



When Megan Massacre was first offered the opportunity to be on *NY Ink*, other tattooers told her not to do it—that TV was selling out the craft. She didn't let them put her in a box, and now, after introducing her skills to cable boxes across continents, she has become a sought-after artist. Her cover shot, by Kareem Black (5), captures the radiance that has enchanted millions. Writer Nick Fierro (6) profiles more rule-breakers and details his night spent hanging out in Manhattan with a rock band from Los Angeles that calls itself The Bronx and sometimes plays mariachi music.

Writer Temma Ehrenfeld (7) cuts through the academic rhetoric and synthesizes the research of psychologist Viren Swami, Ph.D., for "What Does Your Tattoo Say About You?" And the article is punched up with illustrations from Michael Miller (8). Not surprisingly, Swami's research shows that one value members of the tattoo community share is rebelliousness.

Please enjoy reading the issue—actually no one, not even me, should tell you what to do. So have at the magazine any way you desire. Look at the pictures, roll it up and make a telescope, rip out the pages and fold them into origami. Just do you.



Rocky Rakovic
Editor
editor@inkedmag.com




SULLEN

MIKE VALLELY

Mike Vallely 

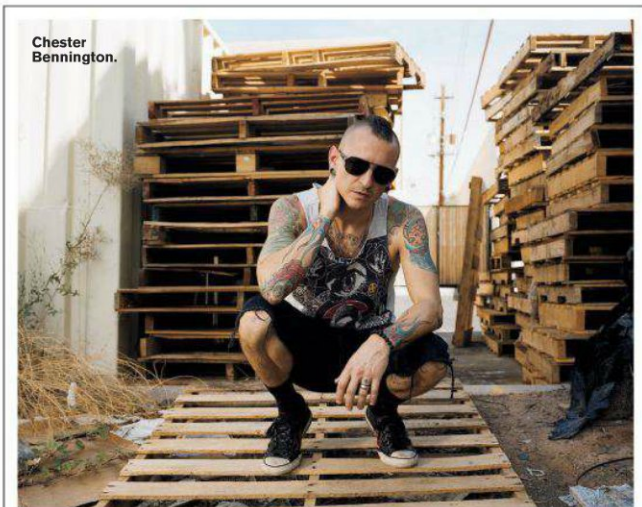
PHOTO BY NICOLE CALDWELL



 /SULLENFAMILY
 SULLENCLOTHING
 MIKEVALLELY

WWW.SULLENCLOTHING.COM

mail



Chester Bennington.

ON CHESTER'S MOLESTER I had never really thought that copying someone else's tattoo is stealing until I read "Crawling in My Skin" [the February 2013 story that referenced one of Chester Bennington's fans who copies all of his tattoos]. Sometimes I see tattoos in INKED and I think that it would be something that I would like to get down the road. Now I look at it differently. Instead of saying I want to get *this* owl, I'll tell my tattoo artist that I want an owl so he can put a different spin on it. I guess Chester's situation is like when someone at work starts dressing like you and it gets embarrassing! **JESS VALLELY**, Gainesville, FL

L IS FOR LISTEN TO YOUR HEART

In response to "L Is for Love": I know in my heart that it's not wrong to be gay. And no one can say I chose to be gay. I want to be the one who gets called names by my own parents, sure. It took my dad 20 years to talk to me again and accept it. That's what I choose, right? I don't think so. I was born this way and I am a practicing Catholic. God made me in his image, so to me God is a gay Hispanic.

MIGUEL LARACUENTE, Kenosha, WI

FAIR AND BALANCED JOURNALISM

When I saw the Sex Issue cover [February 2013] I was all ready for pages of nude girls, and then, to my

delight, I saw all the treats for the ladies. You gave us shirtless photos of Louie Vito, Travis Hatfield, Ben Saunders, and Nick Haw. Yum! **AMANDA SAMPSON**, Brooklyn, NY

IGNORAMUS

When I saw the photo of Scarlett Johansson's new tattoo and read the story [February 2013] I had to laugh, and then cry. Any person who is famous can make shit art and everyone will fawn over it. Scarlett's tattoo is another example of this being the case. I guess [Fuzi UVTPK's] "Ignorant Style" is an artsy way of saying, "This is a shit tattoo." No, Scarlett is not a lucky lady at all.

KEVIN M., San Antonio

facebook

ICON: RICHARD STELL
H.R GIGER TATTOOS Old School.

CADENCE ST. JOHN
NATE JOSICH Nothing sexier than a naked tattooed chick.
MATT SKAGGS ^ dude ur crazy she'd be hot fully dressed.

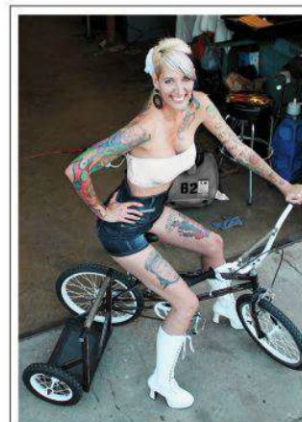
COHEED AND CAMBRIA
AMANDA WANLASS I love these guys! And the story is amazing!

INKED GIRL: EMILY SHEPHERD
MICHAEL BUXTON This is the first time I barely notice the ink ... she's just hot.

LIZ COOK
LARRY-GLEN TAYLOR That's ridiculously great work.

SKETCHBOOK: RUSSELL KELLY
SARAH SNEDDON This would be beautiful for a newlywed tattoo saying "Til Death Do Us Part." Now I want to get married and get this!

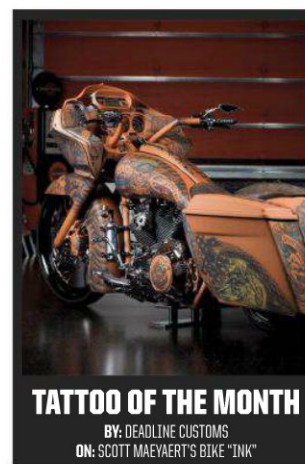
L IS FOR LOVE
HEATHER VIRAMONTEZ I'm sure a lot of gay marriages are more stable and loving than straight marriages. Love is love, and it's a shame that same-sex marriage isn't allowed everywhere. Small-minded people need to open their eyes. It's not the '50s, and you shouldn't judge. They shouldn't allow celebrities to remarry three times before they're 40 years old—that should be a crime.



READER OF THE MONTH

HEATHER ROWE
RIVERSIDE, CA

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



TATTOO OF THE MONTH

BY: DEADLINE CUSTOMS
ON: SCOTT MAEVAERT'S BIKE "INK"



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

MY FAVORITE INK

NAME: Jackie Alvo

OCCUPATION:

apparel designer at Blank NYC

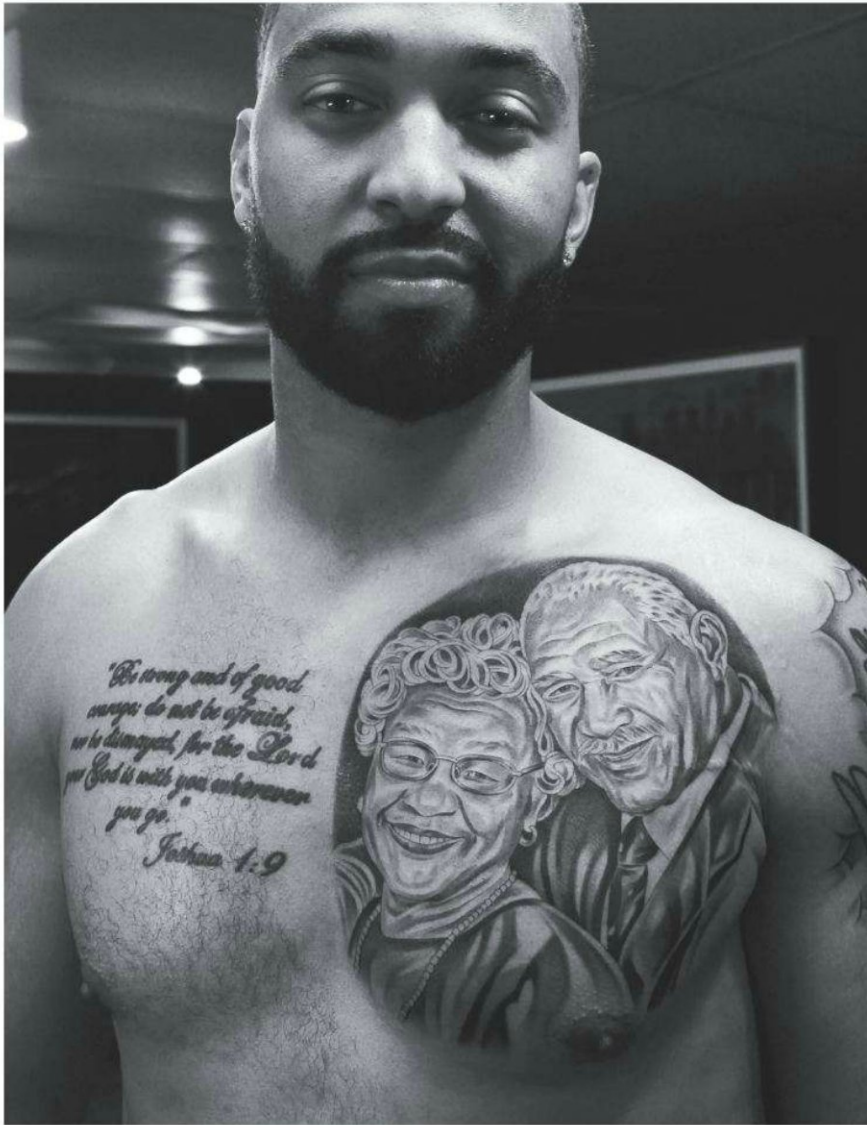
HOMETOWN:

Brooklyn, NY, via Long Island

"My favorite tattoo is the cherry blossoms and birds on my left arm that was done by Dylan Schreifels at Timmy Tattoo in Huntington, NY," says Jackie, who rides a Honda CB 125. "It is big, it's pretty, and it's also the first tattoo I got legally, after turning 18. When I was 16, I got dragonflies on my hips—it was a totally safe and well-thought-out decision. For my next piece I've been thinking of getting a pigeon fighting a rat on the bottom half of my left arm as sort of an homage to New York. But I really hate getting tattoos—they hurt like hell."

PHOTO BY DUSTIN COHEN





>>> L.A. INK

"If it wasn't for my grandparents I wouldn't be where I'm at 2day!" tweeted Los Angeles Dodger All-Star Matt Kemp after finishing up an inked tribute to the couple by artist Jun Cha. A few years ago, Kemp's grandmother remarked to *Sports Illustrated*, "I tell him, 'You've got this beautiful body, and you mar it all up.'" But even she has to admit that this is an amazing piece.

STAR: THE MOST POPULAR TATTOO DESIGN, BASED ON TOP SEARCH TERMS AT TAO-OF-TATTOOS.COM ★

YOU CAN SOLVE THE PUZZLE

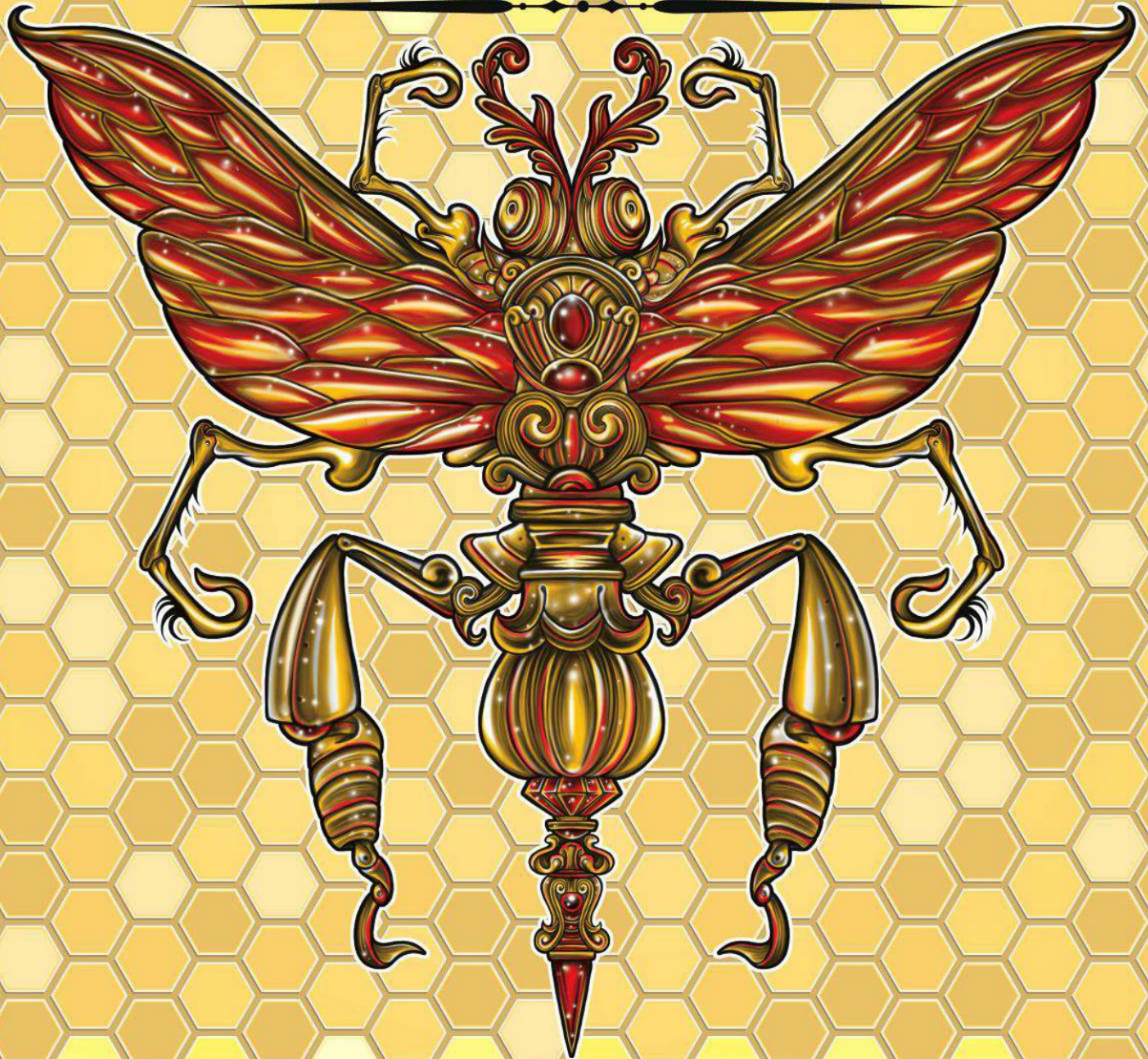


With an estimated one in 88 children now on the autism spectrum, this group of disorders has truly become a modern epidemic. You can help. Because there is no agreed-upon cause or cure for autism, and each person afflicted has a unique form of the disorder, the adopted symbol for the impairment is a puzzle piece. Throughout April, the organization Ink 4 Autism has enlisted tattoo shops across America to ink puzzle pieces in order to raise money for Autism Speaks and awareness about the disorder. Visit ink4autism.com to find participating tattooers or to sign up your shop.

HELP THE GOOD DOCTOR

New York City general practitioner David J. Ores, M.D. (better known as "Dr. Dave"), has "M.D." tattooed in an Old English-style font on his back, but he realizes that other good people aren't fortunate enough to have such positive tattoos. Through his nonprofit, Fresh Start, he has been giving gratis laser removal to those who want to be rid of prison, gang, or ownership tattoos. In the five years he has provided the service (which costs around \$3,000), Dr. Dave estimates he's helped about 100 people looking to get their identity back. Unfortunately, his laser broke last year. To help him raise money for a new laser, please donate to his Fresh Start Program at davidjoresmd.org.

STEADFAST ← BRAND →



INDUSTRY OWNED & OPERATED
WWW.STEADFASTBRAND.COM



Tall glass of Marisa.

WELCOME TO FLAVOR COUNTRY

Punch up your cocktail with a flavored vodka.

Vodka isn't supposed to be distinctive; it's a lot like bottled water in that each brand has a different taste, but the difference is terribly subtle. For that reason, we use it to punch up mixers and hardly ever drink the stuff straight. Do you like grapefruit juice? Make it alcoholic by adding vodka. Do you like soda water with a spritz of lime? Make your night more fun by adding vodka.

So the idea of adding flavored vodka has always seemed asinine—until recently.

First, we read a report by *The Journal of Environmental Health* that was the stuff of nightly news sensation gold. It reported that 70 percent of restaurants had bar fruit contaminated with microorganisms such as *E. coli*, fecal bacteria, and other disease-causing microbes. *Hold the lime.*

Then, even if we would ingest the bar's fruit, those we frequent rarely have black currant, kiwi-fruit, or coconut on hand, and we realized that we were limiting our palate by dealing with the same 10 mixers that every joint carries. And then we heard that there is a bacon-flavored vodka.

Finally, we consulted with the Russians, the patriarchs of the spirit. For centuries, they have been infusing their national alcohol with fruits or, popularly, horseradish root (imagine rappers sipping on Grey Goose Horseradish). With the blessing of the Ruskies we started mixing things up, incorporating a range of flavored vodkas—from chili pepper to chocolate and all the strange citrus in between—into our regular drinking repertoire. —Robert McCormick

COCKTAIL CONVERSATION

A chat with booze slinger **Marisa Glass**, of Skylark Bar in Brooklyn, NY.

What drew you to work at Skylark? A good friend of mine solicited me to help with a start-up. I met our owners, fell in love with the place, and poof—here I am! My regulars joke that I'm here so much, I sleep on a cot in the basement.

What is the general vibe? Skylark has this vintage-y, eclectic, grandma's basement feel to it. We have unlimited Werther's Originals.

What is your favorite vintage piece? It changes weekly. Our walls are littered with awesomeness. My go-tos are the cow scene light box—yes, it's literally two dozen cows staring at you—and an old painting entitled *Farmer's Daughter*, which is a sassy-looking blonde smoking a cigarette on a walk of shame.

Are you the only bartender with tattoos? Or are most of you inked? There are a few of us with tattoos.

Which of your tattoos gets the most attention from customers? Definitely the cartoon steak in the ditch of my arm.

What's your favorite mixer with vodka? More vodka.

Fill in the blank: If you are interested in _____, head to Skylark for your next drink. Shenanigans.



LONG ISLAND SWEET TEA

2 oz UV Sweet Green Tea Vodka
1 oz lemon juice
1 oz Cointreau
1 ½ oz golden rum
1 ½ oz tequila
1 ½ oz gin
2 ½ tsp simple syrup
Shake, pour over ice, and serve.



UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

2 oz Smirnoff Iced Cake Vodka
1 oz orange juice
1 oz pineapple juice
Club soda
Pour first three ingredients in a highball glass over ice and top off with a splash of club soda.



TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

2 oz Absolut Hibiskus
1 oz tonic
1 oz grapefruit soda
Pour in cocktail glass over ice and garnish with a lime—if you dare.



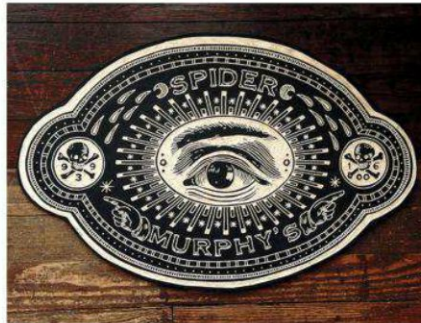
©2013 OGABEL COLLECTION • UNAUTHORIZED USE IS PROHIBITED.



shopogabel.com



Clockwise from the left: Panther; Mermaid; Pharaoh's Horse; portrait of Perrott; Spider Murphy's Tattoo Shop Sign; Unicorn.



BRANCHING OUT

Bryn Perrott has carved a place for herself in the art world.



A self-professed "counter girl" at Wild Zero Studios in Morgantown, WV, Bryn Perrott is more than just a floor sweeper and appointment taker. She's also woodcutter extraordinaire to the tattoo world, creating commissioned pieces for everyone from Doug Hardy of Tattoo City to Tim Beck of Freedom

Ink to Thomas Kenney of Classic Electric Tattoo.

Armed with a BFA in printmaking from West Virginia University, the 30-year-old has been creating relief-carved woodcuts since high school and now puts them on her Tumblr page, DeerJerk. "It's only been about three years that my work started taking on this tattoo imagery," she says of subject matter that includes an eagle sitting atop two skulls, a dog dressed as Dracula, and a cowboy skeleton smoking a cigarette.

Working mostly with high-grade birch plywood, Perrott estimates she created well over 200 pieces in 2012. "I look at flash all day," Perrott says of her day job. "When a commissioned client references something [from tattoo imagery] I've missed, it amazes me and gets me excited."

Perrott sells her carvings at a few conventions

and group shows in her area, but relies heavily on the connections she's made within the tattoo world. "I tend to really get along with people who tattoo," she says. "I have a ton of tattoos myself, but no desire to become a tattooist."

Tattoo artist Christos, one of Perrott's coworkers at Wild Zero Studios, has done most of her work, including a Russian cat, deer antler, Indian flower, and Orca (the boat from *Jaws*). She also has a Clint Eastwood portrait by Josh Mason at Old Soul and a piece on her left thigh by artist Jeff Zuck that features a rabbit, dagger, and butterfly.

Whether creating a woodcut for her favorite band, Lucero, or getting comfortable in the chair at one of her favorite tattoo shops, Perrott is all about the experience—etched in stone, wood, or otherwise. —Kara Pound



DEPICTED

(adj. – past participle of depict)

1. To characterize in words; describe.

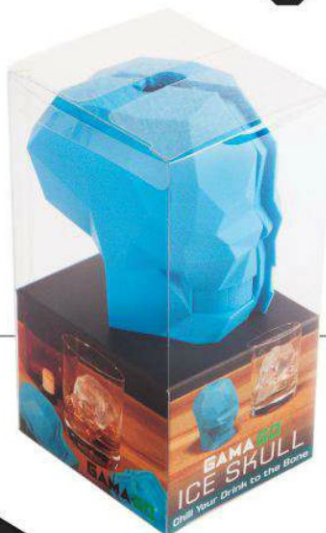
Drop the “e” – Drop the “i” – and what you’re left with is our version of a word that describes the unique demographic who are looking for a line of apparel to represent their awesome style.





HEAD CASE

To update the 60-year-old fiberglass cap designed by Bell founder Roy Richter, the company added modern tech and a funky design to their Good Times Custom 500 helmet (\$100–\$140, bellhelmets.com).



COOLER HEADS PREVAIL

Before now, novelty ice cubes came in either goofy or bachelorette-party phallic shapes. Enter the Ice Skull cube (\$12, gama-go.com).



RAIDERS ON THE STORM

Iron and Resin played off the Oakland Raiders logo with a motorcycle jockey as the pirate and surfboards in lieu of crossbones on this Riders T-shirt (\$36, ironandresin.com).



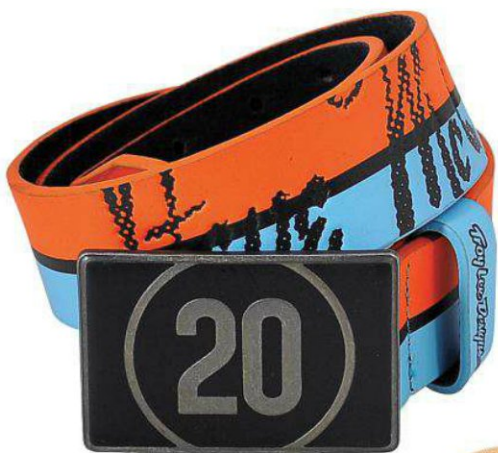
HANGERS

Here's a novel idea: When you retire your pedaler, mount the handlebars like a six-point buck (starting at \$68, bicycletaxidermy.com).



HELL TOY

Music production company Two Steps from Hell commissioned South African artist Kronk, who has worked with Kid Robot, to make this tattooed Two Steps From Hell Hot Date vinyl toy (\$70, twostepsfromhell.com).



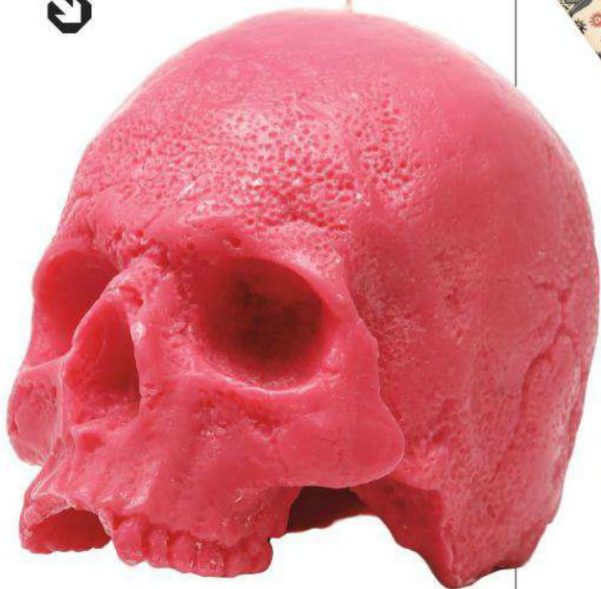
KING OF COOL BELT

The [Steve] McQueen 20 Belt (\$55, troyleedesigns.com) wraps you in the Gulf Porsche orange and blue that screamed past the checkered flag in *Le Mans*.



GLOW SKULL

This pink Insight Skull Candle (\$48, urbanoutfitters.com) is better than your honor student jack-o'-lantern.



CHIEF WAHOO

Apparel brand iLthy gave the Cleveland Indians' Chief Wahoo a third eye for their Chief Thousand snapback (\$32, ilthy.com). A new color scheme is coming this season.



GREASED LIGHTNING

Skulls, lightning bolts, and paisley deck out the Mindbender skateboard by Loser Machine Company (\$50, losermachine.com).



LIGHT 'EM UP

Gotham's Defender Bike Light (\$59, bikegotham.com) is shaped like a six-shooter, has a 100-hour battery life, and—thanks to specially designed screws—is virtually unstealable.

INK ON THE STREET

SUBJECT: Billy Braun

SPOTTED: Greenpoint, Brooklyn, NY

WHERE HE GETS INKED: Braun frequents Greene Ave. Tattoo in Brooklyn, where Akira Latanzio has been marking up his left leg. "It's just an ongoing collection of flash, but some of my favorite tattoos are in there, like this badass cobra and this moon/UFO jammer," he says. "There's a couple of wonky colors in there mixed in with black shading. It's just a bunch of killer tattoos."

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Comune Olsen jacket, \$170; Alek shirt, \$72; Braydon jeans, \$92, all thecomune.com

BRAND BACKSTORY: Comune is an L.A.-based clothing design house for the skater-snowboarder with panache. From fleeces to denim to scarves, their wares look like they belong in Neiman Marcus—if Neiman Marcus had a skate section. Although the look is luxe, the pricing is not, and a purchase gives you the feeling that you just got away with shoplifting. The spirit of adrenaline is woven into everything that's part of the Comune experience, including the fabrics and their skate and snowboard team, which features Brendan Gerard, Joseph Lopez, Jordan Sanchez, and Ben Rice. And while those names are fine, the jacket styles are even better: Alvin, Maxwell, Bernard, Mitchell, and Earl—they read like the roll call of an awesome old man's social club.

WHAT ELSE HE'S WEARING: Rugby T-shirt, Supreme hat, Red Wing boots, vintage watch and rings.



MAFIOSO



WWW.MAFIOSOCLOTHING.COM



FEATURE PRESENTATION



INSIDE SCOOP

From director Jules Stewart (Kristen Stewart's mother) comes an unsettling picture starring Goran Visnjic, D.B. Sweeney, Jason Mewes, and Craig Owens titled *K-11*. A record producer, trying to compete in the fast and loose world, wakes up from a heroin binge to find himself locked in K-11, a (real) unit of the Los Angeles prison system where gay and transgender inmates are housed separate from the rest of the inmate population. There, as Stewart explains, he must learn to navigate a strange, new environment.



INKED: This film really puts you through the gambit of emotions.

JULES STEWART: Great—as a director you want to instill a reaction. You want people to either hate it or love it, not a reaction of, “Well...”

It's certainly not for the claustrophobic. We actually shot at Sybil Brand [Institute], the closed women's jail that mirrors the men's. And some of the background extras were once in K-11. We had 46 people in this box for 22 days, so the actors really felt penned up.

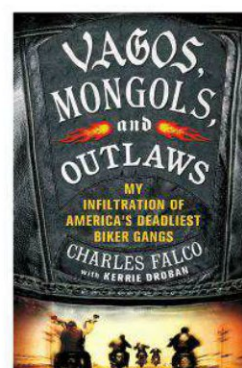
How many of the tattoos were real? A lot of the gang-related and Hispanic tattoos were real, and my tattoo artist Sean Beck of Mom's Tattoos did the rest.

Did he have to reapply the ink every day? No—he used Tinsley Transfers, which look very real, even when you are shooting in HD, where you can see every pore, every blackhead.

Did you give direction? Yes; I created the ideas for the tattoos. With Mousey, the transvestite who runs the world, I chose a portrait tattoo of her as a little boy. Tattoos are part of their wardrobe. Everything was very deliberate because the tattoos outline a person's character—at least they do of mine.

How much ink do you have? Right now my right foot is almost completely tattooed; I am wearing a thong that goes all the way around. I have a full sleeve and a shoulder piece that have come from my experience over the past 35 years. I even have a K-11 tattoo on my ankle. —Rocky Rakovic

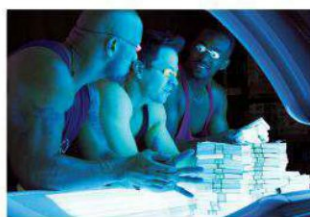
BOOK



WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Arrested for the manufacturing and smuggling of narcotics, Charles Falco had two options: tough it out for decades in the clink, or get with The Man to infiltrate Vagos, one of the most brutal and sprawling biker gangs in the country. *Vagos, Mongols, and Outlaws: My Infiltration of America's Deadliest Biker Gangs* is the road diary of Falco as he speeds across the country in a haze of violence, drugs, and deceit. It is too addictive to put down, and too unbelievable to be ignored. —Nick Fierra

MOVIES



PAIN & GAIN

After a trio of super-high-budget sci-fi epics, director Michael Bay (*Transformers*) goes back to his roots with a smaller-budget, *Bad Boys*-esque flick that's based on a true story about bodybuilders in Florida. Bored with their routine lives, they decide to pull an extortion and kidnapping scheme that doesn't exactly go as planned. There may not be massive special effects and aliens, but there's tons of traditional “Bayhem” involving fast cars, hot babes, and ear-crushing explosions. Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson, and Ed Harris star. —Gil Macias



THE EVIL DEAD

The original *Evil Dead* is one of the most-loved cult horror films of all time, with legions of rabid fans and dozens of milked-to-death editions in every format—comics, action figures, you name it. Now we're finally getting the dreaded yet promising remake, thanks to a blessing from the guys involved with the original: Sam Raimi, Rob Tapert, and Bruce Campbell, who serve as producers. The MPAA initially slapped this with an NC-17 rating before it was cut to an R. It seems director Fede Alvarez's mind is in the right place—extreme gore and terror. —G.M.



OBLIVION

Living in 2073, Commander Jack Harper (Tom Cruise) is one of the last few drone repairmen stationed on Earth, which has been devastated after war with an alien race. Patrolling the skies from above, his job is to extract vital resources from the war-ravaged surface of the planet. As his mission nears an end, everything he knows is shattered when he rescues a beautiful stranger from a wrecked spacecraft. Subterranean survivors, both alien and human, appear, and Harper becomes entangled in a conflict that puts the fate of humanity in his hands. —G.M.

DVD



STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, SEASON 3 (Blu-ray)

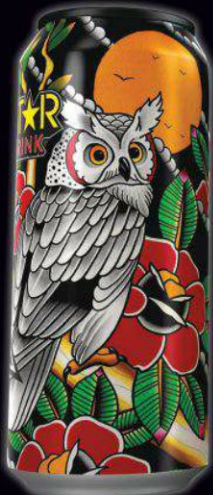
It's a good time to be a Trekkie. J.J. Abrams's *Star Trek: Into Darkness* soars into theaters next month, and seasons of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* are finding their way to Blu-ray. This time, season three makes its HD debut with a six-disc release featuring all 26 brilliantly remastered episodes. Special features include never-before-seen bonus content, behind-the-scenes documentaries, and a roundtable discussion with the show's writers led by *Star Trek* fan Seth MacFarlane (*Ted*, *Family Guy*). —G.M.

ROCKSTAR
ENERGY DRINK

#INKEDUPTOUR
@SULLEN CLOTHING & @ROCKSTARENERGY

Inked Up

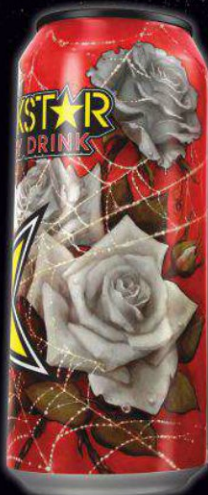
World Tour



#TEAMCHAMBERS



#TEAMTYRELL



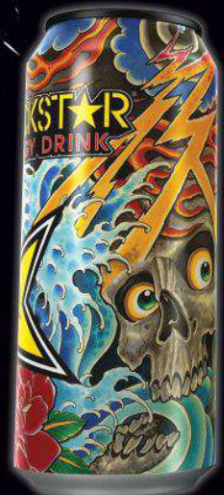
#TEAMBARBER



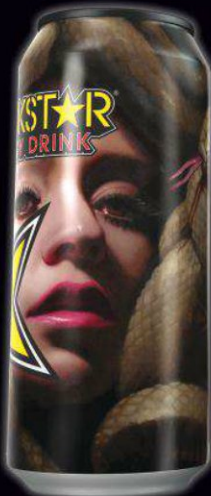
#TEAMMARINO



#TEAMROCHA



#TEAMATKINSON



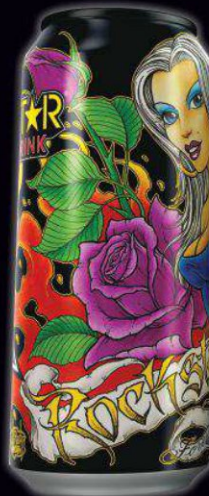
#TEAMNIKKO



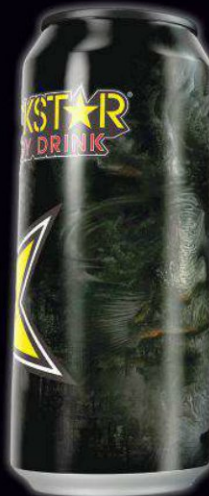
#TEAMPECK



#TEAMTORRES



#TEAMAUDY



#TEAMHERNANDEZ



#TEAMNORM



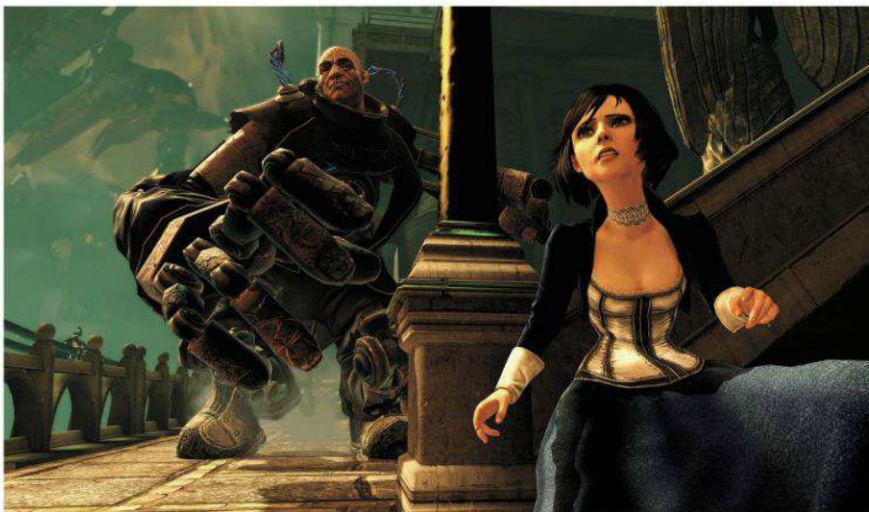
VOTE! FOR YOUR FAVORITE ROCKSTAR CAN DESIGN
TO WIN A YEAR SUPPLY OF ROCKSTAR AND SULLEN GIFT BAG!

@INKEDUPWORLDTOUR.COM

1 WINNER SELECTED AFTER EACH STOP



VIDEO GAMES

**BIOSHOCK INFINITE**

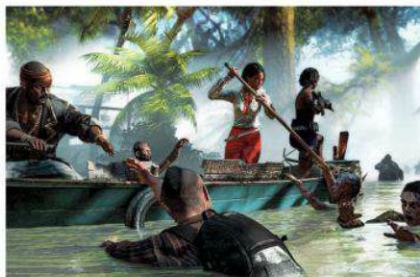
PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

How do you follow up one of the most critically acclaimed games in the history of interactive entertainment? Irrational Games went big, moving the setting into the sky, dropping some science on quantum mechanics, and honing the impeccable first-person shooter mechanics of the original. In Infinite, players assume the role of a private investigator sent to recover a woman from a floating city in the clouds. Upon rescuing this damsel in distress, you realize she's not as harmless as she looks. Her ability to rip the fabric of time is critical to surviving the onslaught of the fundamentalists who held her captive and the upstart political dissidents who believe she is the key to overthrowing the religious zealots running their utopia in the sky. **Play If You Like:** *Inception*, *BioShock*, *Half-Life* —*Matt Bertz*

**INJUSTICE: GODS AMONG US**

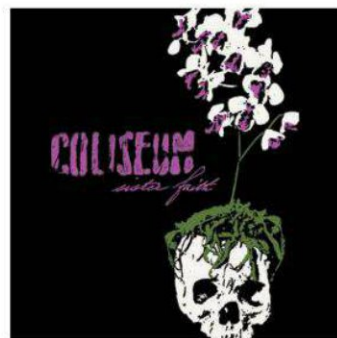
PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, WII U

Thanks to Injustice, comic book fans around the world can finally settle the debate over whether Superman or Batman would win in a straight-up brawl. After Metropolis is destroyed and Superman loses both Lois Lane and his unborn superchild (kryptonite condom?), he forms a new world order. Not every superhero supports this unilateral move, so infighting breaks out amongst DC Comics' finest, including Flash, Green Lantern, and Wonder Woman—and DC villains, like Lex Luthor and Joker, also roll up their sleeves to join the fray. With Mortal Kombat vets NetherRealm designing the combat, you can expect the appropriate amount of spectacle as these larger-than-life figures shower each other with destruction. **Play If You Like:** *The Avengers*, *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Mortal Kombat* —*M.B.*

**DEAD ISLAND: RIPTIDE**

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

Like a zombie bursting through the back door, Dead Island came out of nowhere in 2011, winning over gamers with its open-world approach to the undead apocalypse. Though the protagonists escaped the island resort at the end of last game, Riptide drops you right back into survival mode when the heroes wash up on the beach of another jungle island in the same archipelago. The zombies are vacationing there as well, and when the hordes get too big, you may need to hunker down in a tactical formation during the new hub defense sequences. The improved hit detection lets you target specific limbs, so slowing down a battalion of zombies is as easy as aiming your shotgun at their legs. When you run out of ammo, grab a melee weapon and pray. **Play If You Like:** *DayZ*, *The Walking Dead*, *World War Z* —*M.B.*

**THE Inked PLAYLIST**

BY JONAH BAYER

Coliseum**"Doing Time"**

This track is so dirty you'll need a shower.

Arbouretum**"Coming Out of the Fog"**

Arbouretum get folky and psychedelic on this meditative, slide-guitar-driven mantra.

Hatebreed**"Honor Never Dies"**

Hatebreed continue their legacy of brutal breakdowns on this inspirational anthem.

Killswitch Engage**"In Due Time"**

Melodic metal fans rejoice: Killswitch Engage are back and as epic as ever.

Milk Music**"New Lease on Love"**

Milk Music take the spirit of early Dinosaur Jr. and Hüsker Dü and make it new again.

Red Hot Chili Peppers**"In Love Dying"**

RHCP prove they still know how to groove on this eight-minute-long opus.

Shai Hulud**"Reach Beyond the Sun"**

If you like your hardcore as melodic and technical as it is aggressive, this is your jam.

Laura Stevenson & The Cans**"Runner"**

Laura Stevenson's indie rock masterpiece.

The Strokes**"One Way Trigger"**

The Strokes show off their operatic and new-wave sides on this catchy yet futuristic single.

Senses Fail**"Renacer"**

This is a pit-worthy rager.

The Betsy

by **bdck.us**

a skirt

a statement

handmade

in limited

editions

all

American

badass



badcockapparel.com

GRIME FIGHTERS

Groom on the go with portable cleansers that work for all your bodily needs.

If you've never considered incorporating wipes into your grooming routine, you may want to think about doing so, say, now. These handy towelettes aren't just made for the backsides of babies anymore. "Wipes are used by women all the time as a convenient way to get fresh on the go. Now guys have options that they can use for all those instances when a shower is hard to come by," says Stu Jolley, founder of Wingman Wipes. And many of these options also do way more than just swipe away grime.

Take a look at your product stash. We'll put good money on the fact that whatever is in a jar, tube, or bottle now comes in some type of wipe. So what's the science behind these wet naps on 'roids? The short story: Disposable cloths are pre-soaked with any given set of ingredients (from soap to moisturizers to deodorizers). Then they're either wrapped individually or sealed in an airtight package so that they stay moist and ready for your use. Stick the singles in your pocket or wallet, stash the larger packages in your gym bag or suitcase. At the end of the day, it really comes down to the C word: convenience. "On vacation, at the gym, at work, after a night out—basically any situation you can think of, wipes are useful to have," says Jolley. Start with the packaged portables we like, and swipe to your heart's content. —Christine Avalon



PLAYTEX FRESH + SEXY WIPES

As the apropos name suggests, you can use these wipes (\$8, drugstores) pre- or post-deed on all those important areas. Also nice: They're unisex, so your girl can use them too. Romantic.



CLEARASIL ULTRA ON-THE-GO RAPID ACTION WIPES

De-gunk your pores and remove that greasy sheen from your mug with this pack of towelettes (\$4, drugstores) containing salicylic acid.



WINGMAN MALE DEODORISING WIPES

The end-all, be-all of the wipe world (\$10, grooming lounge.com) can be used on face or body to keep you feeling freshly showered, thanks to a combo of aloe, peppermint oil, and ginseng.



LOTION LAB BODY MOISTURIZING WIPES WITH SHEA & COCOA BUTTER

More manly than moisturizer, with these wipes (\$6, globalbeautycare.com) there's no excuse for dry skin. Just swipe over dry spots—it's that easy.



It ain't easy being greasy.

STYLIST, BRIANNA MOON; STYLIST ASSISTANT, KELLY THOMAS; MAKEUP, KRISTEN RUGGIERO; HAIR, TAKAYOSHI TSUKISAWA; MODEL, ELIZABETH GREEN; AMERICAN APPAREL VEST; TOP SHOP; SHORTS; BRIANNA MOON DESIGNS HEADBAND.

Metal Alliance Tour 2013



3.22.13	Anaheim, CA	House of Blues
3.23.13	Las Vegas, NV	House of Blues
3.24.13	Tempe, AZ	The Marquee
3.25.13	San Diego, CA	House of Blues
3.27.13	Hollywood, CA	House of Blues
3.28.13	San Francisco, CA	Regency Ballroom
3.29.13	Portland, OR	Crystal Ballroom
3.30.13	Vancouver, BC	Commodore Ballroom
3.31.13	Seattle, WA	Showbox SODO
4.2.13	Denver, CO	Summit Music Hall
4.4.13	Minneapolis, MN	First Avenue
4.5.13	Chicago, IL	House of Blues
4.6.13	Detroit, MI	The Fillmore
4.7.13	Cincinnati, OH	Bogart's
4.9.13	Dallas, TX	House of Blues
4.10.13	Houston, TX	House of Blues
4.12.13	Orlando, FL	House of Blues
4.13.13	Charlotte, NC	Tremont Music Hall
4.14.13	Silver Spring, MD	The Fillmore
4.16.13	Cleveland, OH	House of Blues
4.18.13	Philadelphia, PA	TLA
4.19.13	Worcester, MA	Palladium
4.20.13	New York, NY	Irving Plaza
4.21.13	New York, NY	Irving Plaza



PERSEVERANCE HOLDINGS LTD. PRESENTS



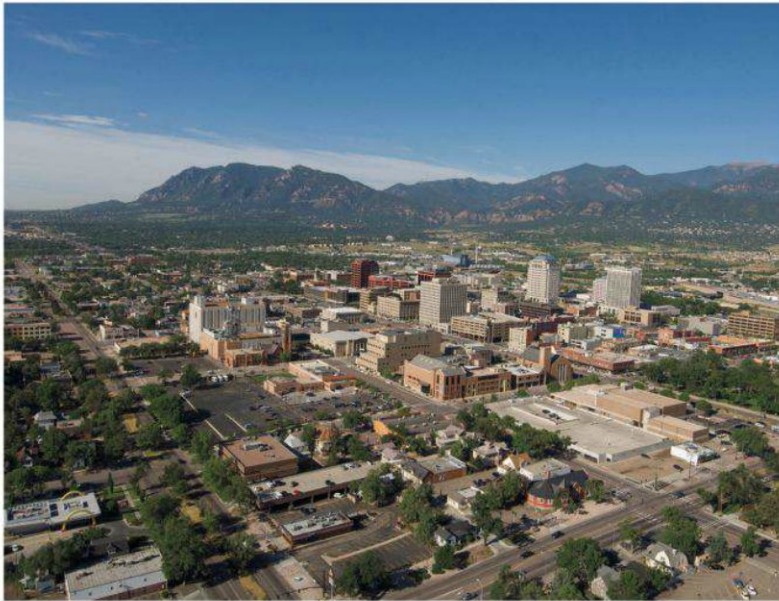
IN BENEFIT OF SWEET RELIEF CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MUSIC OF CHUCK SCHULDINER FEATURING LEGENDARY MEMBERS OF THE BAND DEATH!

- 4/13 W. HOLLYWOOD, CA @ HOUSE OF BLUES
- 4/15 DENVER, CO @ GOTHIC THEATER
- 4/18 DETROIT, MI @ ST ANDREWS HALL
- 4/19 CLEVELAND, OH @ HOUSE OF BLUES
- 4/20 CINCINNATI, OH @ BOGART'S
- 4/21 CHICAGO, IL @ HOUSE OF BLUES
- 4/23 MONTREAL, QC @ CLUB SODA
- 4/24 NEW YORK, NY @ IRVING PLAZA
- 4/25 PHILADELPHIA, PA @ THEATER OF LIVING ARTS
- 4/26 SILVER SPRING, MD @ THE FILLMORE
- 4/27 WORCESTER, MA @ PALLADIUM
- 4/28 TORONTO, ON @ PHOENIX CONCERT THEATER
- 4/29 MEXICO CITY, MX @ CIRCO VOLADOR

FACEBOOK.COM/DEATHOFFICIAL
FACEBOOK.COM/DEATHTOALLTOUR
RELAPSE.COM

PERSEVERANCE
HOLDINGS LTD

RELAPSE
RECORDS



☪ BEST BAR "Me and the homies like to grab a drink at Bristol brewery," Paes 164 says. Almost 20 years ago, the Bristol Brewing Company (1647 S. Tejon St.) started hand-brewing ales in the valley of Pikes Peak. Today they have an award-winning Laughing Lab Scottish Ale and put out damn fine seasonal beers. Whatever you do, don't expect a Coors Light.



☪ BEST FAMILY DINER

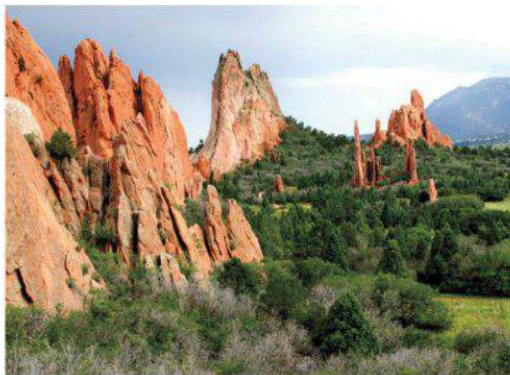
In between appointments, Paes 164 likes to eat at Milt's Coffee Shop (2314 E. Platte Ave.), which is across the street from his chair. "Milt sadly passed three years ago, and now his daughter is running the show as good as her dad did," he says. "It is one of the friendliest places in town." Order the "all you can eat" biscuits and gravy.

COLORADO SPRINGS

Grip it and rip it up at the base of the southern Rockies.



With the backdrop of Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs, CO, is a rider's dream. And local tattoo artist Paes 164 knows where to go when it's time to refuel after hours on the road. Paes 164 started in the art world by way of graffiti, and over the course of 16 years, has become an accomplished new-school tattooer. After roaming around the country, he now gets his mail in a midtown area of Colorado Springs called Knob Hill—though he does still travel regularly. Working out of Ortiz Tattoo Supplies (2307 Platte Ave.), he creates custom freehand tattoo art, graffiti, sculptures, airbrush pieces, and even toys. —Anja Cadlek



☪ BEST NATURE EXPERIENCE

If you think the mountains look majestic from afar, you should really explore them up close. "My family and I enjoy the Colorado Springs mountain scenery the most at Garden of the Gods public park," Paes 164 says. Known for its many different rock formations, such as the Kissing Camels, the park has hiking and biking trails as well as various spots for rock climbing.

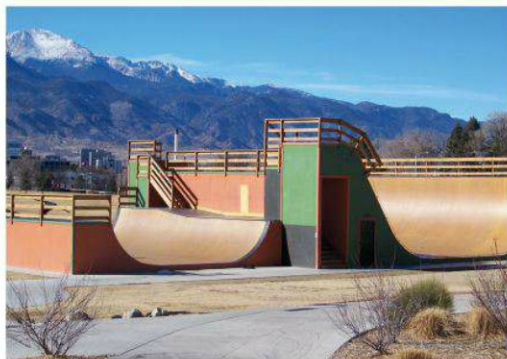
☪ BEST ART DISTRICT

"As a family we love to go window-shopping in Old Colorado City, where the ArtWalk is located," Paes 164 says. This area (between 23rd and 27th Sts. on W. Colorado Ave.) is home to galleries such as Michael Garman's. "We stop for lunch and ice cream and then just enjoy the presence of the old architectural buildings."



☪ BEST SKATE AROUND

Colorado Springs recently erected a sweet 40,000-square-foot skate park (1605 E. Pikes Peak Ave.) so the local rats would have a better place to grind than the post office. "On the weekends I take my son to the skate park at Memorial Park," Paes 164 says. "It's a great place for teens and kids to have fun." The city's website even boasts that it is "off the hook!"



COLORADO SPRINGS SCENIC, GARDEN OF THE GODS PARK, VISITCOS.COM, ARTWALK, MICHAEL GARMAN GALLERIES

La Marca Del Diablo

APPAREL



6538 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. LOS ANGELES CA 90028 USA ☎ 323 468 0029

LAMARCADELDIABLO.COM   LMDD666

♦ USA ♦ MEXICO ♦ BRAZIL ♦ ITALY ♦ SWITZERLAND ♦ FRANCE ♦ GERMANY ♦ AUSTRALIA ♦ JAPAN

Clockwise from top left: Triumph Rocket III Roadster; Ural M70 Retro; Harley-Davidson Sportster Seventy-Two; Moto Morini Rebello 1200 Giubileo.



INKED'S MOTORCYCLES OF THE YEAR

These bikes are the most fun on two (or three) wheels.



It's finally riding season. Hit the road by straddling all the muscle you can as the marble heats up. One reminder: With all the jaw-dropping awe these beasts inspire, please keep your mouth closed while ripping up asphalt lest you catch a few bugs in your grill. And wear a helmet,

2013 URAL M70 RETRO If it ain't broke, don't fix it. The Ural M70 Retro's 749-cubic-centimeter flat-twin

engine follows the design of the Russian pre-WWII bike it emulates—with modifications, of course. The forks, shocks, and rims have been updated for riders who haven't seen too much time in the trenches, but the iconic Iron Curtain facade remains true to the original 71-year-old design. The sidecar adds stability and cargo space, with enough room for your dog, your kids, groceries, or a Kournikova.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON SPORTSTER SEVENTY-TWO This bike (shown above in Hard Candy Lucky Green Flake) is cherry. With modern engineering but the soul of a '70s chopper, the Seventy-Two is joy incarnate. Killer looks aside, it boasts an HD Evolution engine—the offspring of the Shovelhead and Ironhead, named in some clubs the Blockhead—that displaces 73.3 cubic inches. True to the nature of Harley and the spirit of the tattooed, this baby is fully customizable, so you can take it home for \$10,699 and make it your own.

TRIUMPH ROCKET III ROADSTER From across the

pond comes the Rocket III Roadster, a machine that lives up to its name. The mammoth engine boasts an impressive 163 lb-ft of torque, and its triple exhaust not only looks like something that could blast a hole in the pavement, but could more than likely drown out the sound of a shuttle launch. So if it's true what they say about loud pipes saving lives, slap a Nobel Peace Prize on this tank the next time you see it barreling down the road.

MOTO MORINI REBELLO 1200 GIUBILEO With a name that translates to *jubilee*, the 1200 Giubileo might as well be called the 1200 Understatement. With a staggering 1187-cubic-centimeter, 130-horsepower V-twin engine, this Italian speed demon can hold its own against anything that's street legal. In addition to the power plant housed in the chassis, the 1200 also features a multi-function LCD screen and a saddle that goes from a single to a double with the push of a button—you know, for when your riding partner flies off after you break the sound barrier. —Nick Fierro

Rosie's DINER



The All-New SUZUKI BOULEVARD C90T B.O.S.S. (Blacked Out Special Suzuki) cruiser delivers a new level of performance – while also providing long-range comfort. A liquid-cooled 90 cu in (1462cc) V-twin fuel-injected engine rumbles with class-leading Suzuki technology and delivers outstanding power and torque, especially in the low to mid range. More power and torque down low provides smooth acceleration and enables effortless riding through city streets and during highway cruising. Long-range comfort is enhanced by fully integrated hard saddlebags and windscreen, as well as multi-function instrumentation. The C90T B.O.S.S. – it's ready to roll on any boulevard.

suzukicycles.com




 /SuzukiCycles

White Headphones Not Included

You just bought a motorcycle.

You've made the bold choice to completely re-invent your commute. There are some things we should probably mention.

You're going to be saving lots and lots of money on gas—your bike gets around 45 miles per gallon.

You'll be able to find parking. Almost anywhere, really. In fact, you can fit five motorcycles in a single standard parking spot. We do not suggest trying.

Let's see... Your motorcycle does not believe in traffic or overcrowded buses. Or in bad moods.

What else?

Oh, right—you'll no longer have to pretend like a tiny, tiny music player with lots and lots of songs makes your mornings bearable anymore.

That's all for now. Enjoy, and do wear this helmet.

Sincerely,

Motorcycles.org



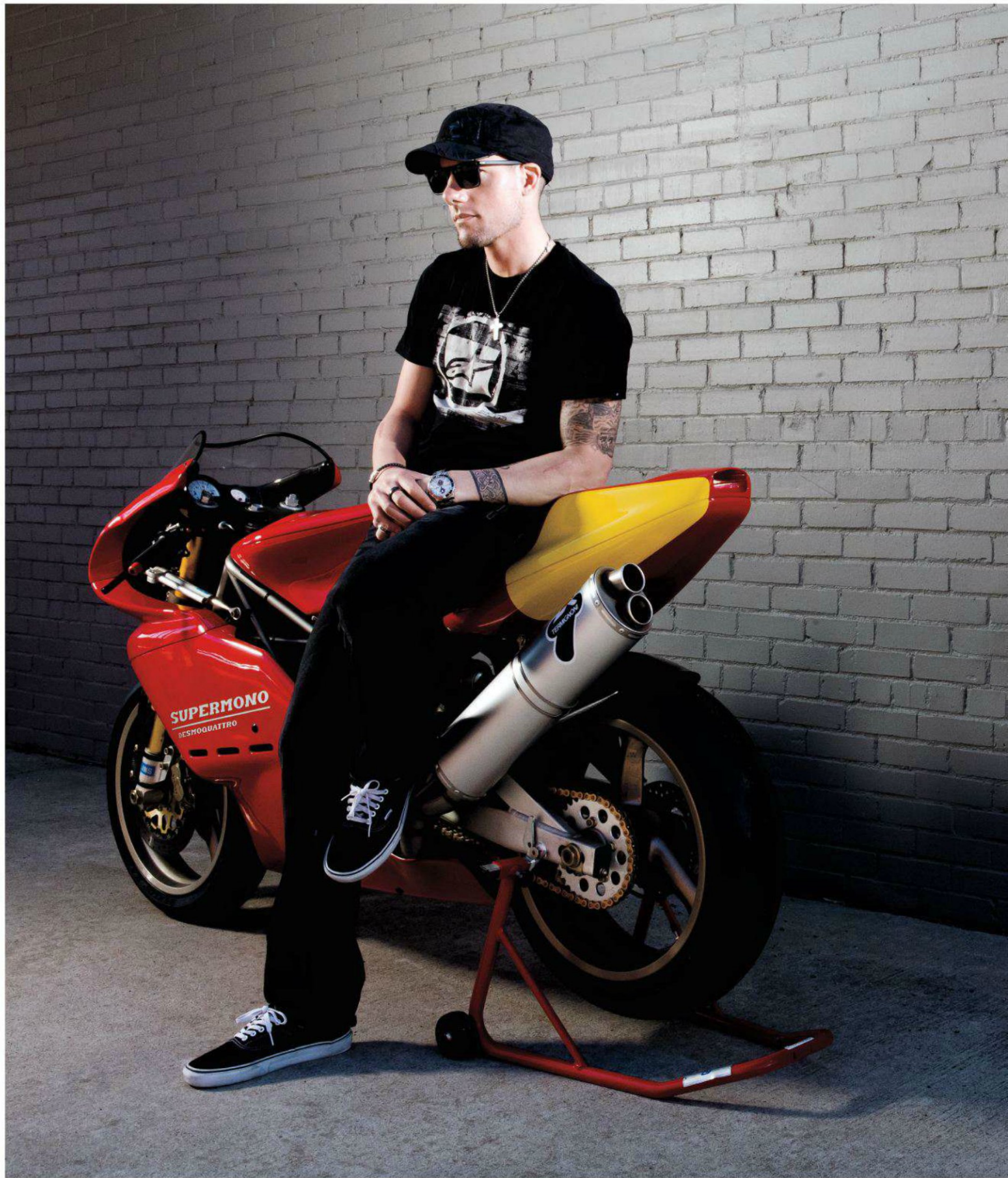
INKED PEOPLE

MOTO RACER. SINGER. BIKE BUILDER.

"THE REASON FOR SOME OF MY SUCCESS IS SEEING AND KNOWING SO MANY PEOPLE THAT HAVE QUIT."

—MOTORCYCLE ROAD RACER BEN SPIES





BEN SPIES

The MotoGP rider, with a tattoo on his skin graft, rides again.

April is a month of rebirth, of renewal, of fresh starts. And after the way last year went for professional motorcycle racer Ben Spies, a fresh start can't come soon enough. His fourth season competing in the MotoGP World Championship, the most prestigious tour in the sport, was basically a sequence of setbacks. Eighteen mechanical failures contributed to a dismal 10th-place overall finish. He acrimoniously split with Yamaha, and in October, during a tour stop in Malaysia, a crash on the eighth lap caused a season-ending shoulder injury that required surgery. "I've been racing street bikes for more than 20 years now ... and honestly, no matter what competition I've been in, I've never had a year that bad results-wise or in terms of crashes and mechanical failures," says the 28-year-old Texan.

This was the same Ben Spies underneath the #11 jersey, the guy who rides fiercely and with flared elbows. But it wasn't the same rider who became World Superbike Champion in 2009—who, two years after that, became the first American to win a MotoGP race since 2006. When the 2013 MotoGP kicks off in Qatar on April 7, Spies will have his back up against a wall.

Still, that doesn't compare to the time the wall pushed back.

In 2003, Spies blew a tire while going 186 miles per hour at Daytona International Speedway. The bike spit him against the barrier, and by the time he landed on his feet, friction burns had ground his skin down to nothing in some places: He lost an inch off his left butt cheek, the white of his scapula was exposed, and he spent five months dressing his wounds. "I've broken plenty of bones, but had never experienced friction burns or skin loss, and there's nothing that comes close [to that pain]," he says.

And it doesn't compare to losing Ryan Smith, a friend who was killed during a race when Spies was 14. He briefly considered giving up the sport back then, but in the years since, watching peers fall by the wayside has only strengthened his resolve. "The reason for some of my success is seeing and knowing so many people that have quit," Spies says. "I see them 10 years later saying, 'I coulda done this, I coulda done that, if only I would've been more serious and I approached it differently.' I don't want that. I want to race. And when I hang it up, whatever I did was the most I could, and I won't have any regrets."

In memory of his fallen friend, Spies had Adrian Evans from Dallas's Death or Glory Tattoo inscribe a shield and Roman numerals for 19, Smith's race number, as part of a half sleeve. Tattoos pepper the rest of Spies's body, and he estimates Evans has done 90 percent of them. He has a crest with his family members' initials on his wrist. The Hindi characters on his left forearm—an appendage that required two skin grafts after the 2003 crash—translate to *grateful*.

Now signed to Ducati's Pramac Racing Team and with a shoulder that's nearing full mobility, Spies is eager to get on his new bike, the Ducati Desmosedici GP13, and get back to his winning ways. He's not so eager for another season of transcontinental flights, lingering injuries, and missed family milestones. But just as the MotoGP is the same six-month grind, it also has the same moments that are worth the sacrifice. "It all pays off on Sundays for that 45 minutes, whether it be fifth place, third place, or first place, and you have a knock-down, drag-out battle with somebody, and you edge 'em out, pass 'em in the last lap to beat 'em," Spies says. "Your adrenaline goes through the roof, and everything that was bad is good again." —Jeff Harder

ELLE KING

The introspective singer-songwriter finds her happy place in New York City, music, and tattoos.

"I'm not a very girly girl," says Elle King. "I'm sweet, but tough. I speak my mind. I tell people what I want, and I get it."

Born in L.A. and the daughter of *Saturday Night Live* cast member Rob Schneider, King is in no way your typical privileged Hollywood offspring. Authentic and unfiltered, driven but unassuming, the down-to-earth King was raised in southern Ohio by her mother and stepfather and came of age on her own in New York City, an experience she describes as both "awesome" and "weird" for a preteen girl.

Signed with RCA, King has been putting together her first full-length album, taking her time to create a cohesive product that represents her multiple sounds and personalities. In the meantime, she has gained instant recognition as the sultry voice behind the *Mob Wives* theme song, "Playing for Keeps," and has toured with such acts as Of Monsters and Men, Train, and the British soul singer Michael Kiwanuka.

It is an odd juxtaposition of sudden success and patient hard work for the angel-faced 23-year-old who confesses to having been "chubby and weird-looking" growing up.

"Girls were so mean to me," says King. "Girls can be so mean. I hated

school. I didn't like Ohio at all. I had so much more fun when I came to New York. My mom was like, 'Hey, figure things out. Find yourself.' I was a bad kid. I found tattoos and leather jackets."

"I had a grown-up confidence, even as a little kid," King says. "I always wanted to play music, so I got a fake ID and I started playing bars."

It was in these bars that King developed her eclectic sound, a signature combination of country, soul, rock, and blues that results from diverse influences, including AC/DC, Elvis Presley, and Dolly Parton—three musical mentors that King pays tribute to in ink.

Her autobiographical lyrics underscore familiar themes: "extremely unhealthy relationships with family, friends, and boyfriends—but also with myself."

"I think that I'm a confident person, but I'm still a girl and I've got problems," King says. "Sometimes I don't like the way I look. Sometimes I don't like the way I sound. A healthy outlet is to write it in songs."

Another healthy outlet, King says, has been turning her body into art. "I always felt really strange-looking. When I started getting tattoos, I enjoyed looking at them in the mirror, and that made me feel good." —*Melissa Petro*



RUSSELL MITCHELL

It's been one heck of a ride for the Exile Cycles bike builder.

Russell Mitchell's life reads like the saga of a comic book hero. Adorned with permanent artwork and his signature bleach-blond hair, the founder and president of North Hollywood's Exile Cycles can attribute his status as top bike builder to the winding story line of rebellion, dumb luck, and a touch of wishful thinking that seems too fantastic to be true. Born in the West England farm village of Frampton on Severn, Young Russell's childhood interests transitioned from skateboarding to modifying mopeds to an eventual pursuit of veterinary medicine. "I never had any particular passion for helping animals," says Mitchell. "I just knew that girls were into veterinarians. But when my principal told me it would be a terrible career path for me, I went for it strictly out of defiance."

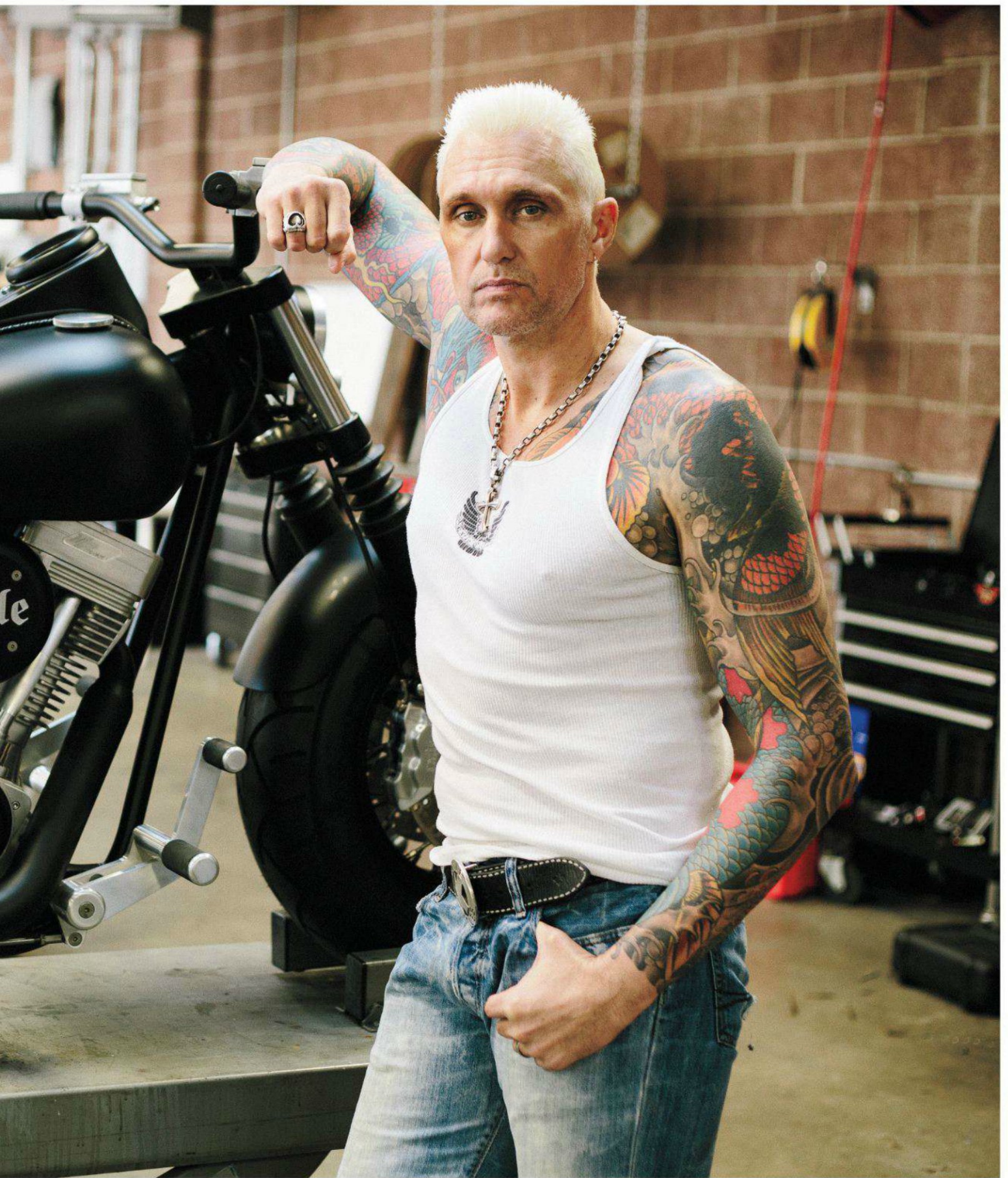
Proving his principal wrong, Mitchell pushed through university and graduated to a life in the big city of London. Diving headfirst into The Big Smoke's glam-punk scene, the circumstantial surgeon found his nights increasingly chock-full with music, debauchery, and, of course, those vet-loving women, one of whom—a model—would enter her new beau into "Mr. Wonderful," a lighthearted beauty pageant that Mitchell would, of course, win. "The whole thing was the biggest joke," laughs Mitchell. "Yet the next day this bloke comes up to me at the market saying, 'I know you, you're Mr. Wonderful!' It wasn't until he ran off that I realized it was Boy George."

Oddly enough (or maybe not at all), his foray in sophomore modeling put him in the proper company for a shot at the real deal. Off to America, he found the work lucrative at times, yet anything but steady. After a Marlboro commercial spot made his pockets a bit fatter than he'd been accustomed to, he reignited his early love of bike building. Mitchell, who had almost driven himself broke on an '87 Softail, took another risk and crafted twin custom choppers, one of which caught the eye of *Easyriders* editor Keith "Bandit" Ball. Agreeing to a feature, Mitchell listed his contact information at the fictitious Exile Cycles, and a business was born. "The calls just started rolling in," he chuckles. "I thought, Well, I better do something with this!"

Now the entrepreneurial head of a thriving business and self-proclaimed father of the raw, simplistic, matte-sprayed aesthetic that has taken the motorcycle world by storm, Mitchell's main focus is pushing the limits of design and innovation. An alumni of the "chopper build-off" TV era, he doesn't seem to miss the spotlight. "Things became so oversaturated," he says. "Every network needed a bike show, and you'd have guys doing real, solid programming, and then you'd flip the channel and see the OCC clowns [*American Chopper*] and their soap opera."

As for the artwork, that's one aspect of Mitchell's life not left to chance. Aside from a covered-up eagle he had defiantly etched during university, his dragon turned bodysuit was put on hold until just the right artist came along. When he discovered tattooist Greg James—now owner of Tattoos Deluxe in Sherman Oaks, CA—Mitchell finally knew it was time to pursue another vision. "The first time I spoke to Greg, I told him about this dragon I had seen done by an artist in London. He told me, 'Well, why don't you fucking go there to have it done?' I guess I caught him on his period that day, but things have been super ever since," says the veterinarian turned model turned bike builder turned entrepreneur turned human canvas. Super, indeed. —Willie G







MEGAN

MASSACRE'S

APPEAL

WITH TWO SHOWS
ON-AIR, *NY INK* AND
*AMERICA'S WORST
TATTOOS*, MEGAN
MASSACRE IS
LEAVING HER MARK
ON THIS PLANET.

PHOTOS BY **KAREEM BLACK**
BY **ROCKY RAKOVIC**

“I’M NOT ONLY



Jovani dress; Cosabella underwear; Lie Sang Bong shoes.

Previous page: Zana Bayne bra and peplum belt; Uranium jewelry (worn throughout); stylist's own skirt.

PUTTING MYSELF OUT THERE,

I AM HANGING MY ART, MY LIVELIHOOD OUT THERE.”





EGAN MASSACRE IS A TATTOOER without borders. Thanks to her skills and the exposure she's gotten from the television shows *NY Ink* and *America's Worst Tattoos*, she is recognized in Japan, Australia, South America, and other spots around the globe where TLC is broadcast. In fact, it was her international fans that got her and *NY Ink* back on the air. "The show wasn't going to come back, but the international affiliates loved it so we shot a mini season of five episodes for overseas," Massacre says. "And when TLC saw a cut they were so stoked on it that they are going to put it back on American television."

TV executives have been wrong before. Shows such as *Family Guy*, *Arrested Development*, and *Star Trek* were all resuscitated thanks to fans. The network's original doubts about the show might have been a blessing in disguise, as it led the producers to cut the drama and shuffle the stools. "If you saw the first two seasons [of *NY Ink*] you saw how bad we got along, so we did away with the negative influences," Massacre says. "There are some people I am sad to see go, but they left of their own accord, either because they were homesick or they were following their paths in life."

In this new season, Tim Hendricks, Chris Torres, Robear, and Jessica Gahring are no longer at Wooster Street Social Club, but Massacre, owner Ami James, Tommy Montoya, and Billy DeCola remain. And they're joined by Rodrigo "Hot Rod" Canteras, Lee Rodriguez, Mike Diamond, Steven Huie, Jes Leppard, and Diego Miranda. "I think this new, positive environment definitely breeds more creativity, and whenever you bring new, good artists into any tattoo shop they inspire the other tattooers," Massacre says. Critics from within the tattoo community (yes, including some of you, as well as some of INKED's Facebook commenters) have long thought the problem with these "Ink" series is too much drama and not enough craft. Certainly tattoo shops are crucibles of ego and attitude, but the shops shown on TV have fostered a feeling of contrived conflict that distracted not only the artists, but also viewers.

The new season of *NY Ink* promises to offer viewers a moving image of a good piece rather than inject *Killer Karaoke*-like gimmicks while an artist is trying to finish a sleeve. "I think that this time, I had so much more fun shooting because it was so stress-free," Massacre says. "We have the negative drama that any work environment has, but this time around it feels way more real."

Don't get Massacre wrong: Tattooing while being filmed is hard work. "It is not glamorous," Massacre says. "You have really long days of cameras following you around and watching every drop of ink you put into someone. You have to be tough, and you need to deal with the rest of the world judging every piece. People who will never see your tattoo in real life will tell you that you suck. I am not only putting myself out there, I am hanging my art and my livelihood out there."

Luckily, Massacre has been killing it. Last year she showed her talent on a vaunted special about cover-up tattoos that was so successful, TLC decided to turn it into a series. On *America's Worst Tattoos* there is no shop—and in turn, no shop drama—just three tattoo artists working to cover up a tattoo mistake. Massacre, Tim Pangburn, and Jeremy Swan will inherit gnarly work, former flame's names, and

blown-out lines and attempt to make it the wearer's little secret.

In one episode, Massacre meets a couple who need cover-ups for their upcoming wedding. The man wants to get rid of a big straight edge back piece he got on someone's couch, and his fiancée needs help with french fries in a cowboy boot on one breast and a hot dog wearing an Indian headdress on the other. Massacre says she overlaid the woman's chest with a space motif that incorporated stars, planets, and blacks and blues so the bride would have something new and something blue.

In addition to people with straight edge ink who have acquired a taste for alcohol, there were other surprisingly frequent client types, says Massacre. For example, she now realizes how many penis tattoos there are walking around. And the number one cover-up is not the straight edge X but that of an ex. "I've worked in seven tattoo shops and there has always been this curse we talk about: getting the name of someone on you," Massacre says. "People tend to get their lover's name on them as a last-ditch effort to save a relationship, as in, 'Now we have to stay together because we have this permanent tattoo.' Within six months they are always back for a cover-up." Her suggestion? If you want a couple's tattoo, get a symbol, not a name. That way, if you ever break up you might not have to explain to your next paramour what the symbol means.

Massacre herself has had three tattoos lasered off and one covered up. "People will come up to me and say that they would do anything to have their tattoo covered up," she says. "Sometimes you just can't cover up the tattoo because it is too fresh or too dark and I tell them that they should get it lasered. They then look at me like I have 10 heads. But they said they'd do anything! You don't have to do all of the sessions, but if you have it broken up a little, the ink lightens and you can do a good cover-up."

Of her own cover-up: "Oh—," she says, and pauses. "It was one of my first tattoos. I was really green, and the opportunity to tattoo was presented to me and I jumped into it headfirst. I thought this guy had the best intentions, but it turns out that


he didn't want to teach me how to tattoo. He wanted to date. But back then I was so impressed because I was 18 and he was sooo coool. He gave me some of my first tattoos, and I think it was a something-month anniversary and I wanted my first visible tattoo on my forearm. He was going to do a pretty koi fish ... but he couldn't have cared less about it. He left me with just an outline, and within a week I could see that he hacked it. It sucked because he was a good tattooer, but a bad person. Needless to say, our relationship ended shortly after that, and I was stuck with a couple of tattoos from him. I would look down and I would think, This guy really screwed me over. I got it lasered off over two years, in four sessions that hurt like hell." David Tevenal recently put a vibrant hand with flames coming out of a rose over some of the real estate. "Now I don't even think about it anymore."

It's widely known that tattoo artists have some of the best and worst ink, and Massacre is proof. "We get into tattoos really young and are excited to just be a part of the community," she says. "We let other apprentices practice on us, and if somebody in a shop feels like doing a particular tattoo you get it, because it is free. We warn people against bad tattoos because through our learning process we are covered in crappy ink."

After nine years with a tattoo machine in her hand, Massacre knows what she is doing but keeps improving her art. "I felt accomplished before the shows—but I also feel like my apprenticeship will never end, in that I'm always going to try new things creatively," she says.

When she's not filming, she keeps regular hours at Wooster Street, where her waiting list is filled with a different type of clientele than she had before stepping in front of the cameras. "I used to just work on big custom pieces on collectors, but now I also have a new wave of international clients who can only fly in for a weekend, so they have to get one-session pieces."

Those clients have kept her waiting list long, but is there any chance we might see one of them on *America's Worst Tattoos*? "I hope not," Massacre says. "At least not because of the art." ■



Zana Bayne harness and
peplum belt; Cosabella
underwear; Lie Sang Bong
shoes; stylist's own bra.

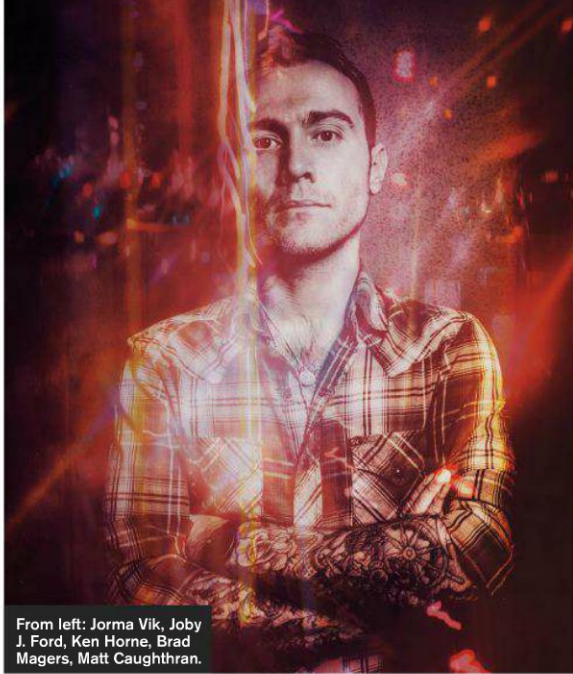
Stylist: Harold Jay Melvin for
Ken Barboza Associates
Stylist assistant: Stephanie Dolder
Hair: Andrew Fitzsimons at
Artists by Timothy Priano
Makeup: Valissa Yoe using
Face Stockholm makeup
Makeup assistant: Colby Bartrug
Location: Go Studios

A LONG STRANGE TRIP

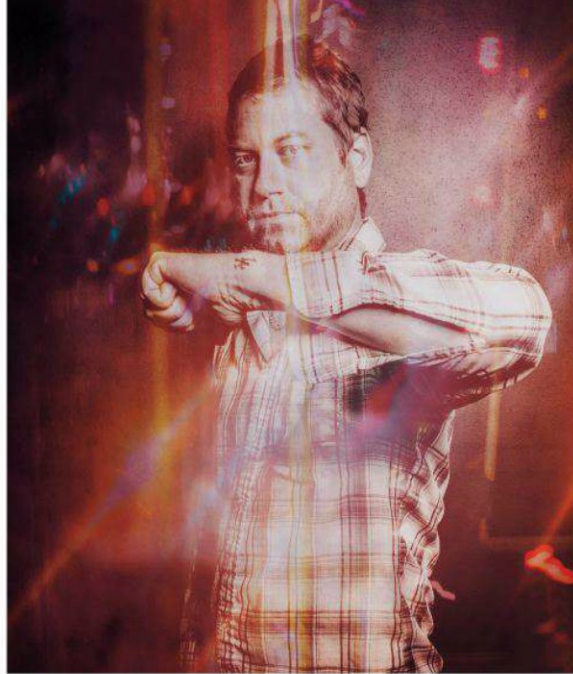
WITH OVER
11 YEARS TOGETHER,
MORE TOURS THAN LANCE
ARMSTRONG, AND A MARIACHI
ALTER EGO, THE BRONX
ARE STILL GRATEFUL TO
ROCK THE STAGE.

BY NICK FIERRO · PHOTOS BY LEANN MUELLER





From left: Jorma Vik, Joby J. Ford, Ken Horne, Brad Magers, Matt Caughthran.



The Bronx have little to prove to anyone, including themselves. On the eve of their East Coast record debut, an event five years in the making, they appear as cool as if they were playing to a small crowd of friends—which, in many ways, they are. The Bowery Electric is an intimate, underground venue packed to the gills on a frigid February night, a situation terrifically familiar for a band as comfortable in front of a crowd of 20 as in front of a horde of thousands. Minutes before taking the stage and exploding into a frenzy of guttural punk rock hooks and blood-pumping breakdowns, the band's lead vocalist, Matt Caughthran, is reclined on a pock-marked vinyl couch with his hat pulled low and an anticipatory grin on his face, ready to preach the good word to the growing masses only a few feet away. While his bandmates—guitarists Joby J. Ford and Ken Horne, bass guitarist Brad Magers, and drummer Jorma Vik—give him some time in this calm before the storm, Caughthran recalls the ups and downs of an American punk rock band that's still as visceral as they are prolific—and as crude and painfully honest as ever.

INKED: What's the biggest difference you've noticed between now and the last record release tour?

MATT CAUGHTHRAN: I think music is in a cool place right now—people are super relaxed and they want to go crazy, and they want to go off. They want the artists and musicians they like to take chances. There's a lot of up-and-coming bands, garage bands, punk bands, hardcore bands, and music is just in a really cool spot. There's a very strong underground right now, which is just awesome. I think people understand pretty well by now that we just want to do our own thing and have fun. What I always loved about punk rock is that you didn't have to pretend; you didn't have to be someone else. You didn't have to wear KISS makeup or be some superstar—it was everyone's thing. If you had something to be pissed off about, it was like, "Come on in." This band comes from an honest place. I think people get that about us, and that's why the shows are the way they are. Posers get sniffed out pretty quick.

Do you prefer performing in a club or a larger venue? We feel more comfortable in clubs, always have. I think, in a lot of ways, that's the way that it should be. The riverboat shows we did on the Hudson are the same way. They're so much fun, and that's the point: We're all in this together. We're not a huge band, we don't take for granted the fact that we get to travel around and play music for a living. It's something that we're very fortunate to be able to do, and it's something that we share with everybody.

As a touring band, is it difficult to keep up the same level of energy night after night? I was just talking about this with our guitar player Joby. When you tour with so many different bands, you come across so many different people who are miserable and jaded and just seem like they want to quit. I'm proud of the fact that we're not jaded, we love what we do, there's a fire that still burns strong in The Bronx.

So you don't see yourselves slowing down anytime soon? I could easily see

this band going another 10 years; it's something we want to spend the rest of our lives doing. Every time we write or record or play a show, it's the best feeling in the world.

If there is an underlying message to The Bronx, as a band, what would it be? Don't confuse yourself; confuse everyone else. We approach music at a very honest level, but once an idea gets past our filter, we try to scramble it in ways that make people scratch their heads and go, "What the fuck is this band all about?"

What's the process like for putting together a Bronx song? Usually Joby will send me a guitar lick or something and I'll sit down and put lyrics and melody to it, and we'll come up with a bare-bones track. Some bands can sit in a room with a blank canvas and come up with something, but for us it took a while to figure out that it helps to have a foundation. Some people can write aggressive music on the road; I can't. Most of it gets written when we're on a break somewhere.

Did it take a while to get used to being on the road so often? Touring's just something we're used to, and we learned a while back to tour a bit smarter than we had been touring. We used to just go and go and go to the point where we would say yes to any tour that was thrown our way. If you're touring with a purpose and you're out on the road with friends—whether it's at your own shows

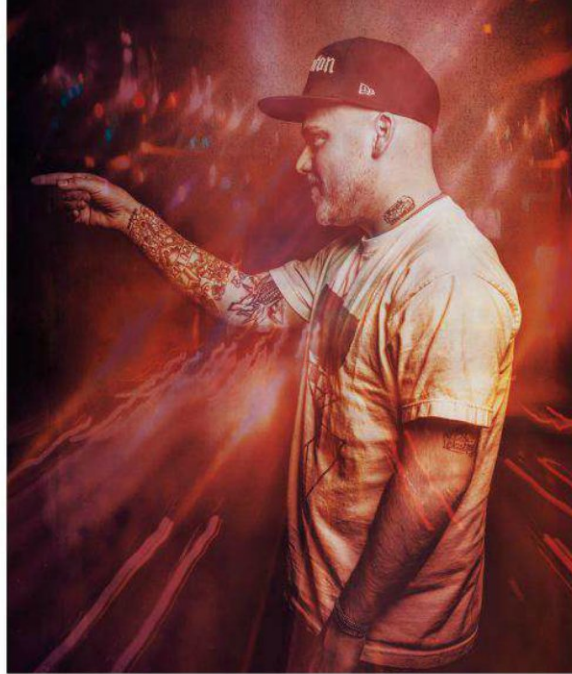
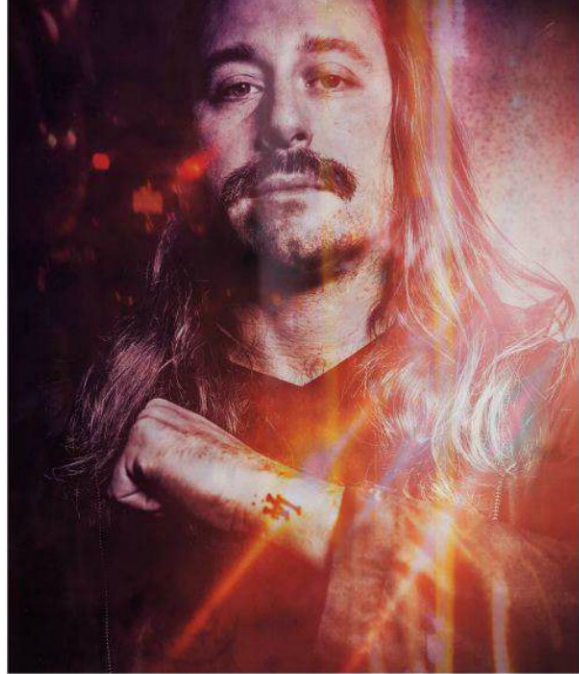
or supporting someone that you respect, someone that you match musical styles with or at least have some common ground with—it goes a lot farther than just touring with some band that's popular, because the next thing you know you're playing in front of a bunch of 14-year-olds who hate your band. We've gotten it down to a science. We run everything in our world and we've figured out what works and what doesn't.

Who were some of the earlier acts that helped you when you were coming up?

The first tour was amazing. It was Rocket From the Crypt and the Spits. That was the first tour we did, and it was eye-opening—I'll never forget it. I remember in the very beginning I had never sold merch before. I mean, I'd been in bands since high school but we never had anything. After one of our first shows I just remember all these kids, and they all wanted T-shirts and stuff and I was having a nervous breakdown. We were so green.

As you kept touring, what else stands out as a real inspiration for the band?

The Circle Jerks and GBH tour across the U.S. was one of my favorites. We became such good friends with those guys. Keith from the Circle Jerks is a great dude, and the GBH guys are so solid. That tour was awesome—I mean, it was a pretty fucking punk tour. We went through some grimy-ass places. Over the years we've gotten to tour with Mastodon, Converge, the Dill-



inger Escape Plan. We did a tour where El Bronx opened up for The Bronx; that was a really special tour for us. It was a really cool vibe.

Eventually you started playing festivals and larger venues. What was that like compared to the earlier venues you played? The Foo Fighters and El Bronx tour was wild. First of all, we go on this crazy left-field acid trip and decide to make mariachi music. And then, not only do people like it, but we wind up playing arenas with the Foo Fighters. We would just walk out on stage and think to ourselves, How the fuck did this happen?

Whether it's in an arena or a backroom club, what is it that you want to draw from the crowd? Whether it's music or turning in a history paper, validation is validation. When you see people care about your work no matter what it is, it's inspiring. That's why most people give up: no validation, no one cares. People can only go through life being rejected so many times before they just stop talking, stop painting, until, to a certain extent, the creative side of life is over. That's what's great about punk: We're there for them as much as they're there for us. It's all about the crowd's attitude and the band's attitude.

Do you get tattooed on the road, or is that something that you save for your downtime? I haven't gotten tattooed in a hot minute. I'm looking to finish up something my friend Tony Hundahl did on my chest, and Oliver Peck did

a bunch of our tattoos on the road. We would always stop by Oliver's compound in Dallas and get a tattoo on the road. He's definitely bonded the Bronx; he did our logo tattoos.

Who else has done work on you guys? Louis Perez III did the skull on my arm. I remember when I couldn't pay rent but Louis was tattooing so he'd come over and I'd be his practice pad. He did "punk music" on my neck and the "138" on the back of my neck. I think the best times I've ever had getting tattooed were the early years, just being young and like, "Fuck it, gimme a tattoo." As you get older you meet these amazing artists and you tend to plan things out a little bit more and be more strategic, but the best times are when you just want to fuck yourself up. Those are the ones that mean the most to me.

If none of you were in The Bronx, what would you be doing right now? Joby would probably be doing graphic design; he does that on the side. Jorma? I imagine he would be drumming somewhere. It's hard to say. For most of us there's really no alternative. It's safe to say that a couple of us might even be dead. I can honestly say that this band saved my life. I was super unhappy, doing a lot of drugs and just in a really bad place. I think that's the way it is with musicians—no backup plan. It's not really in our blood. My brother's that way, these guys are the same, we're tortured by the fact that we can't live a life without

meaning, so if we have to put all of our eggs in one basket to be happy, that's the way it's going to be.

What are you looking forward to the most from this tour? What do you see on the horizon? That's the most exciting part: We don't know. It's a really cool time putting out a record. It's like a clean slate, you know? This record could come out and everyone could hate it, or they could love it, or no one could hear it. There are so many things that you go through when it comes to something that you've worked so hard on. But at the end of the day it's the unknown that's the most exciting part. I know for a fact that we're gonna go out and tour, come home, and start writing another record, but aside from that so many crazy fucking things could happen. And that's where the good stuff is.

As far as music goes, is there anything else you're interested in working on? We haven't really found a way to tie Bronx and El Bronx together yet. I think it would be a really cool thing to do if we could write original music for a movie that had both bands in it.

What makes this record special to you guys? This album sets itself apart because it's the first time it finds The Bronx on somewhat stable ground, or at least as stable as our ground can be. It finds us with a purpose—we're motivated and we aren't overthinking it. The first record was sort of an uncorking of everything we'd been through in our lives. It was

an explosion that had been bottled up for a long time. With the second album, we were trying to figure out what kind of band we were. We were on a major label, everyone wanted input on songs, it took a while to actually come out—just a bunch of crazy shit was happening. But as a band you've got to go down that road. I wouldn't have changed it for the world. The third record is where we really became a band, but it was also a time when we were on our shakiest ground. Everyone was broke. We had no manager, no label, no money coming in, nothing. The negativity and self-doubt worked its way into the record. I love that record and it was frustrating because it never got out to enough people.

What do you think helped pull you into a positive state again? We hit a wall and did El Bronx just to say "fuck it," and doing that saved the Bronx and breathed life back into the band creatively and gave us confidence again. We realized we can write our own songs, put out our own records, and we've got the talent to do what we want to do. So after both mariachi records, we felt unstoppable and it was all about taking that energy and making Bronx IV.

With everything that's taken place over the last few years, has your message to the fans stayed the same? Absolutely. Punk music is something that's still important, and I'm glad people are actively searching out new bands—don't stop. ■

NORAH GURLEY

THE BIKE: Harley-Davidson Sportster Seventy-Two

THE BACK PIECE: 57 hours with Kiku at Invisible Tattoo

THE IMPETUS: "I wanted to get something to represent part of my heritage, and I wanted it to be massive! My mother is half-Japanese and I was very close with my grandmother, so I was racking my brain about what to do. I chose the Japanese deity Kannon because she's the goddess of compassion and mercy. I am quite the understanding, nurturing, and helpful person. And having her on me for life helps push me in directions of continuing to help others. Take Rockaway Renegades—a ton of my friends and I were on the ground out in Rockaway right after Hurricane Sandy, and it was an eye-opener. The group is still making runs out there and working with families who didn't get FEMA or insurance help."

THE PROCESS: "I told Kiku that I wanted him to do Kannon. I gave him some general guidelines but told him that I wanted him to make it a nice mesh of what he thought was best as well. That's how I ended up with Ryuzu Kannon [dragon riding]."

THE PAIN: "There were quite a few painful spots: kidneys, the area right where your ass and thigh meet, and right on the sacrum. You would think that having the inside of your butt cheeks tattooed would be the worst, but it wasn't."

THE PAYOFF: "I can't stop looking at my piece. It's the most expensive thing I own!"





REAR VIEW

The lone joy of traffic is
admiring craftsmanship.

PHOTOS BY
HYUNA SHIN



"MOTORCYCLES ARE
UNDENIABLY SEXY."



ALISON DIANE

THE BIKE: Triumph Rocket III Roadster

THE BACK PIECE: 15 hours with Rodrigo Melo at North Star Tattoo

THE IMPETUS: "The back is the best canvas on the body: large and flat. There are few limitations when it comes to choosing artwork. Every since I was young I've loved Asian artwork. The piece doesn't have any meaning. I just wanted to wear a beautiful work of art. I took one look at Rodrigo's portfolio and I knew I wanted him to do my tattoo."

THE PROCESS: "I brought him artwork from a few paintings I really liked, as inspiration, and gave him an outline of what I wanted and then let him do his thing. When he showed me the drawing it was not really what I had in mind, but I loved it so much I didn't care."

THE VIEW: "Sometimes I will look at it in photos. My intentions are to eventually have a photo of it blown up onto a canvas so I can put it on the wall and be able to look at it every day."

THE CONNECTION: "I see other beautiful back pieces and sometimes get jealous and wish they were mine. However, even if I could trade skin with a tattoo virgin tomorrow, I wouldn't. Tattoos make me feel sexy. I love how a well-placed tattoo can accentuate the curves of the body or highlight different body parts. I also feel a sense of pride that I get to wear so many amazing pieces of art."





ANANDA JOY

THE BIKE: Kawasaki Ninja ZX-6R

THE BACK PIECE: 50 hours with Daniel Albrigo at Three Kings Tattoo

THE IMPETUS: "My first tattoo was the fairy in the middle of my back that I got when I was 16. I always wanted to go bigger. I brought my idea to Daniel and he fine-tuned

it. I love fairy lore. Fairies are these beautiful, tiny, very mischievous creatures. The initials are for my best friend who passed away and is always with me this way, looking over my shoulder making sure that I'm okay. The script is to remind me of just what it says: Life really is simple."

THE PAIN: "All in all it has to be the ribs, but my back dimples killed as well."

THE ADVICE: "I'm glad I let Daniel design it. Make sure you take time finding an artist you love, and listen to them about the design. Certain things just don't make good tattoos."

THE VIEW: "I see bits of it pretty often, but I only get to see it full-on in photos. Most of my friends have seen it, and people tend to lift my shirt up on their own to see it. It drives me nuts!"



CHRISTINE KELLER

THE BIKE: BMW Motorrad's HP4 Limited Edition

THE BACK PIECE: 24 hours with Chris Adamek at Immortal Ink Tattoo

THE IMPETUS: "I already had the roses across my shoulders in memory of my father, who passed away when I was younger, and I decided that I wanted to get a full back piece. Because I needed to

pick a style that matched the roses, Chris suggested doing a piece by artist Silvia Ji."

THE SITTING: "My lower back by my kidney on my right side was the most painful. It was so bad that one of the guys at Immortal Ink made me a stress ball out of paper towels and masking tape."

THE ADORATION: "I would do it again—I absolutely love it. My

advice to someone wanting to get a back piece is to pick a good artist and do your entire back. Tattoos are great because you can have art on your body."

THE SHOW-OFF: "I try to look at it once in a while, and I'd say that

most people I know have seen at least bits and pieces of it. Because of my back piece I like to wear open-back shirts in the summer."



"MY OLDER BROTHER PLANS ON GETTING
A MOTORCYCLE—HOPEFULLY SOON SO HE
CAN DRIVE ME AROUND ON IT IN THE SUMMER."



"I THINK ANYONE
ON A MOTORCYCLE
IS SEXY AS HELL."




MOTO GUZZI



JACQUELYN NICOLE

THE BIKE: Moto Guzzi V7 Stone

THE BACK PIECE: 70 hours with Justin Sorrell from Chrome Gypsy Tattoo

THE IMPETUS: "I had not one tattoo on my body, but the artist wanted to do this specific back piece on a clean canvas, someone with absolutely no ink. So jokingly I said, 'Oh, I'll do it!' The next thing I knew, I was sitting in a chair, and eight hours later all my line work was complete and I was committed. Truthfully, I always knew I wanted a full back piece as my first tattoo, and when this opportunity came about I actually didn't double-think it. He brought the piece to me. Everything from color to placement to size was all him—because honestly, he is the artist, not me."

THE MEANING: "The piece holds so much history and meaning to me that there isn't a time that I look at it and don't reflect. The two koi symbolize my sister and I and how we'll always be there for each other ... as well as hope for good luck in life. The tattoo symbolizes my younger years and the ability to do things on a whim. Now when I look at the koi swimming upstream, it symbolizes how in life, no matter what, you have to keep moving forward, and keep the past as a memory."

THE LESSON: "Listen to your artist. If you trust them to do the tattoo, then trust their advice. If they say let it go further onto your ribs, listen; if it needs to drop lower, let it. The best thing you can do is let them do their job and you will be happy."

THE MOTTO: "Johnny Depp had it right when he said, 'My body is my journal and my tattoos are my story.'"

Hair: S.H. Suh at kakaboka NYC
Makeup: Seong Hee Park for Seen Artist
Location: Bathhouse Studios

OFF THE CHAIN

GET ON YOUR BIKE AND RIDE WITH
A SPRING JACKET AND FRESH BAG

PHOTOS BY JOSH DEHONNEY

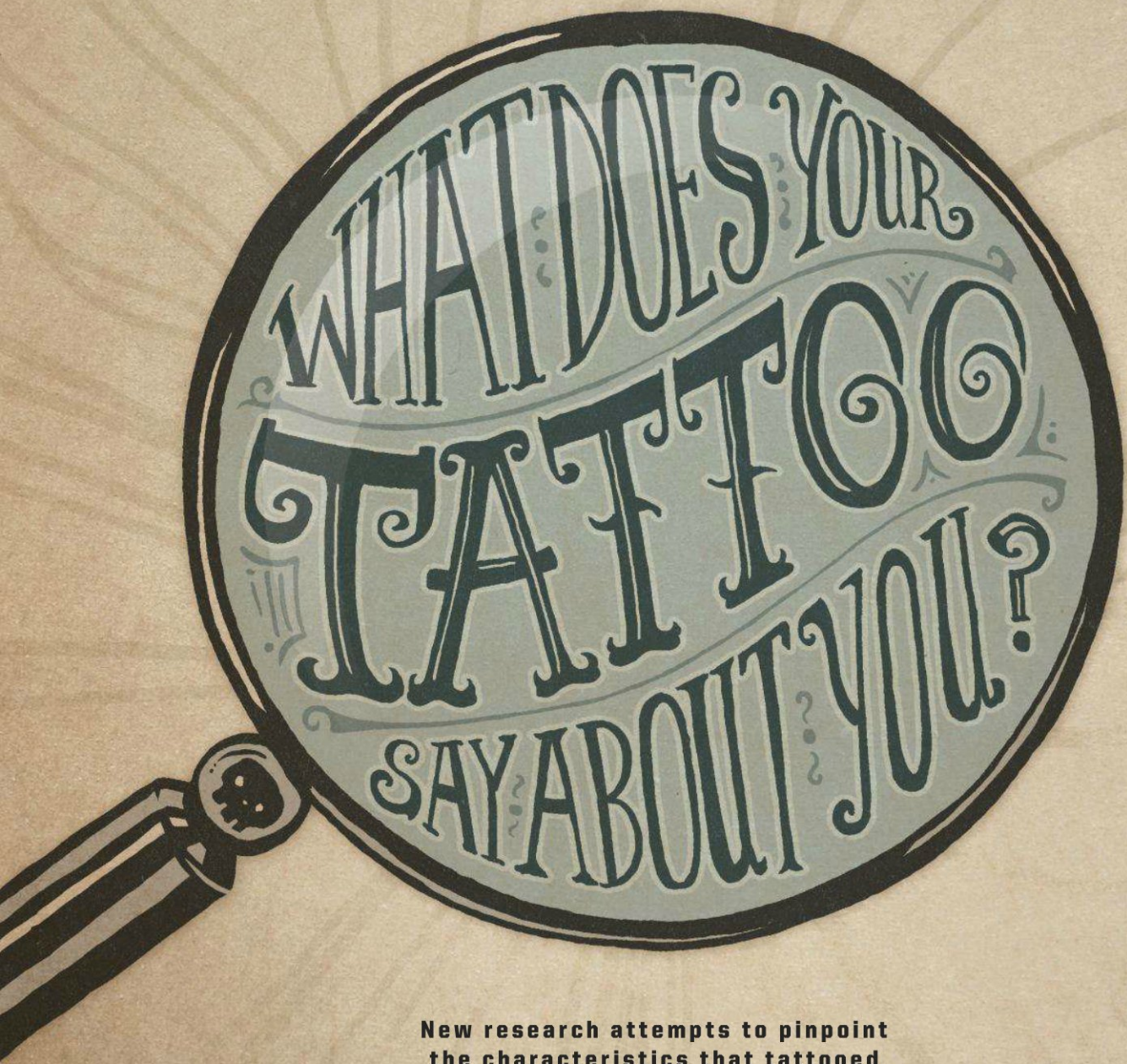


BAG IT UP

Clockwise from top left: Vans skatepack, shop.vans.com; French Connection messenger bag, amazon.com; DC Shoes backpack, store.deshoes.com; Carhartt backpack, carhartt-wip.com; Herschel Supply bag, herschelsupply.com; Church of Clucky X Mason Brown backpack, churchofclucky.com.

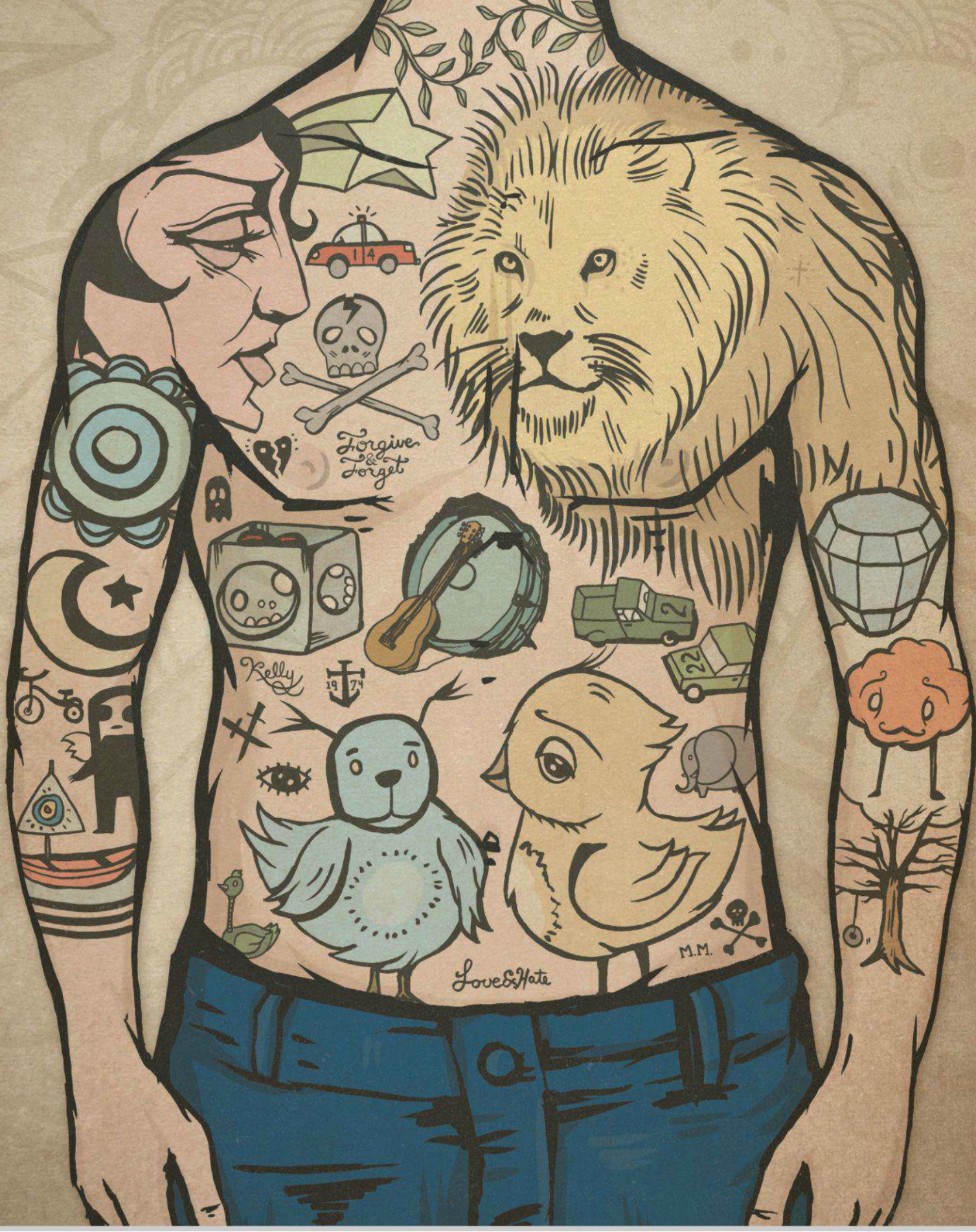
LIGHTWEIGHTS
Clockwise from top left: Shades
of Grey by Micah Cohen jacket,
shadesofgreyclothing.com;
Mackage jacket, mackage.com;
Lightning Bolt jacket, lightningbolt-
usa.com; Fred Perry X Raf Simons
jacket, fredperry.com. Center:
Diesel jacket, store.diesel.com.



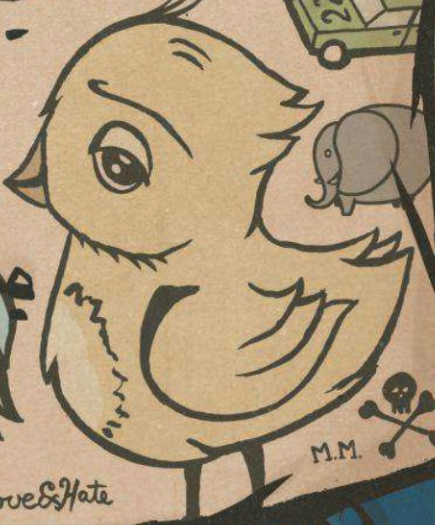
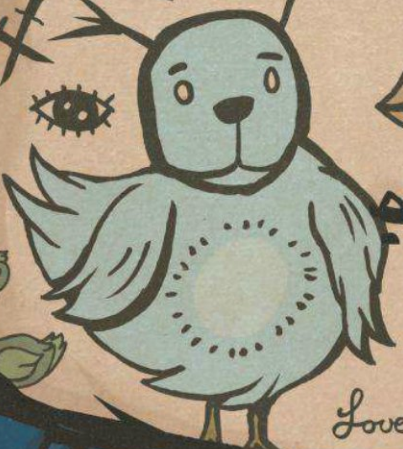


New research attempts to pinpoint the characteristics that tattooed individuals share. Read on to see if the scientists got it right.

**BY TEMMA EHRENFELD
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL MILLER**



Forgive & Forget



M.M.

Love & Hate



Kelly



"Putting on a tattoo sends a message to the outside world about the person inside you."



ook in the mirror: What you see might not be what someone else sees. People decide to get tattooed for a myriad of reasons (an appreciation of art, faith, or culture, to name a few) but there's one motive most in the tattoo community agree on: You get inked to set yourself apart.

But while you see yourself as an iconoclast, employers, neighbors, people you encounter in public, and even family members might not see you as an individualist. Putting on a tattoo sends a message

to the outside world about the person inside you, and in the modern day it can be perceived that you have negative characteristics—that you are a freak, a weirdo, an outlaw.

That wasn't always true. Tattoos go back a long way, to at least 3300 B.C., the year Ötzi the Iceman, one of the oldest mummified bodies yet discovered, died. His body shows evidence of tattoos, which may have been widespread in ancient cultures. Was Ötzi a Fonzie? The cool tattooed cat of the Cooper Age—or did everybody have tattoos in his culture back then?

What we do know of ink and culture—at least in the Caucasian, Western world—began in the 18th century, with the South Pacific voyage of British Captain James Cook and his crew. During their travels, they met the tattooed residents of Tahiti and other islands, and in July 1769, Cook wrote in his ship's log: "Both sexes paint their bodies, Tattow as it is called in their language." Many of his sailors returned home with tattoos of their own, and by the mid-1800s, professional parlors had opened up in Boston and Liverpool, catering mainly to soldiers and sailors—the working class. Throughout the late 18th and 19th centuries, criminals were sometimes branded with ink, and inmates often got tattooed by choice. The idea of body art was thought to be so outlandish that inked women during the Victorian era drew crowds at the circus.

Then something interesting happened: In the late 1880s, the fashionable elite in the United States and England adopted body art. Influenced by designs from faraway lands, including Japan, tattoos became a symbol of worldliness, declaring that you were rich enough to travel or appreciate other cultures. In

1891, an American, Samuel O'Reilly, adapted Thomas Edison's electric pen to create the first electric tattoo machine, instantly making the process faster and less painful. O'Reilly also brought Japanese artists to the States to cater to the upper classes, giving them more designs to choose from, with more detail.

But by 1910, the fad had faded, most likely because tattoos had become more accessible to the working folk. And for the next 70 years or so, a tattoo declared that you had been imprisoned (justifiably or unjustifiably, as during the Holocaust) or that you'd served in the military. In the 1980s, punks, homosexuals, and rebellious teenagers began displaying tattoos, in part as a form of social protest. As the nuclear family blew up post-Reagan, the cool kids started to look less like Alex P. Keaton and more like the tattooed rockers on MTV.

From the first *Unplugged* to today (the decade that MTV no longer features music videos), the number of tattooed folks has exploded. In America, an estimated 1 out of 4 adults—a gigantic proportion—are inked. No longer are the tattooed a minority; in fact, currently there are more Americans with ink than there are African Americans or Hispanics.

But what does that mean? Has the trade sold out? Did tattoos go pop and lose the identification with rebellion? Viren Swami, Ph.D., a London psychologist who studies body image and attraction, went looking for an answer. Swami himself sports a tribal armband, roses and swallows on his right forearm, and cherry blossoms, a bird, and a quote from the Indonesian poet Chairil Anwar on his left forearm. All his work is from Evil From the Needle in Camden Town, a shop run by Jeff Ortega that was opened by tattoo legend Bugs in the 1980s. So Swami, an associate editor for the journal *Body Image* and lecturer at the University of Westminster, is an insider in both the academic and tattooed communities.

In 2011, he conducted a study of people contemplating a tattoo. He arranged for a receptionist at a tattoo shop in Camden Town to give psychological questionnaires to people who came in without tattoos. The group ranged in age from 18 to 50, with an average of 25. About 36 men and 26 women who answered the questionnaires went on to make an appointment for their first tattoo, and 42 men and 32 women decided not to. After reviewing the questionnaires, what he found was this: "As compared to individuals who did not subsequently obtain a tattoo, individuals that did were significantly less conscientious, more extroverted, more willing to engage in sexual



relations in the absence of commitment, and had higher scores on sensation seeking, need for uniqueness, and distinctive appearance investment. The effect sizes of uncovered differences were small to moderate.”

In plain speak: Other than being less conscientious, the aforementioned characteristics were heightened but not extreme when compared to the majority of the population. That means that people wishing to join a community once thought to be audaciously antiestablishment and uncongenial don’t necessarily embody those traits. Be it from a large injection of normal folk entering the tattooed group or attitudes of the modern tattoo community shifting, empirical data shows that tattooed people are “mainstream.”

Before you become irate at the thought of being called mainstream, consider that the scientific definition of the word is slightly different from the straitlaced connotation you may have. What it means is that tattoos are “not restricted to any particular social class, gender, or ethnic group,” says Swami.

In 2012, Swami and his colleagues at the University of Vienna decided to study people who are already in the tattoo community. They surveyed 540 people, mostly Austrians, including 140 with an average of 2.7 tattoos. In the second study, the researchers identified several traits that set the inked apart. Compared with those without tattoos, the inked individuals scored higher on personality traits related to extroversion, experience-seeking, and need for uniqueness. The researchers concluded: “Tattoos may now be an important means through which individuals can develop unique identities.”

So back to the question that brought us here: “What does your tattoo say about you?” Your tattoo says that you are a part of a group that extroverted people want to join. To the scientific community, at least, you are not labeled a freak, weirdo, or troubled individual; you are an unguarded, unique, free spirit with a lust for life. In short, there is now scientific evidence that your tattoo says you are cool. ■



PAUL TEUTUL SR.

As *American Chopper* ceases filming, we ask the Orange County Chopper patriarch what's next—hopefully it's not a size 12 up our ass.

BY JON COEN PHOTOS BY DAVID YELLEN

“Come over here and stand in front of me so I can hit you in the back of the head!” Paul Teutul Sr. bellows across the workshop of Orange County Choppers.

That's Orange County in New York (not the latte-lined shores of southern California), a fact made abundantly clear by the “New York” inked on his left triceps. The workplace antics of this mustachioed, barrel-chested, biker patriarch have kept Americans entertained for eight years on Discovery Channel's *American Chopper*. Now that the series is winding up, we checked in with Teutul to learn about everything from getting tattooed in a basement 40 years ago to the changing perception of chopper and tattoo cultures, fisticuffs in the shop, and what the hell this guy has against any shirt with sleeves. The show's banter may have spiraled from endearing squabbling to family lawsuits and the kind of voyeuristic vitriol that makes for good reality TV, but one thing has never changed: Paul Sr. makes a sweet custom bike.

INKED: Did motorcycles get you into tattoos or did you have ink when you were young?

PAUL TEUTUL SR.: I think you can say motorcycles got me into tattoos. My first tattoo was a Harley-Davidson tattoo with wings and a ribbon. That was at least 40 years ago. Maybe more. I was drunk at a bar at like 10 o'clock in the morning and just decided to get a tattoo. It was up here in Orange County, actually Newburgh. It was kind of in a basement. The guy—his name was Danny, down in Rockland County—he did a lot of tattoos and he had a really good reputation. A little strung out on stuff, if you know what I mean. I remember he had his girlfriend there and she was done up with a tiger. She had every square inch of her body fucking tattooed, every bit of it. Actually, you didn't see too many women tattooed at all then.

Tell us about your early history with bikes. You know, I didn't get into bikes real early. The first time I rode

a bike was a 250 Honda with ape hangers on it. A friend of mine had us out on it. I was on the back. He just pulled over on the side of the road and said, “You wanna drive it?” I just got on the front there and drove it. I kinda dig that. Then in 1971 I bought a Triumph, a 650 Bonneville that I really liked a lot. Then in '74 I bought my first Harley, which I still have today, as well as the Triumph. I had a steel fabricating business for 28 years, so I always had the availability. I started out just welding exhaust for hot rods or doing work for farmers. Then I got into more ornamental work, railings, and eventually commercial work. I went from just me to 70 people in the shop.

I could do stuff that nobody else [locally] could do because I had press breaks, welders, and torches. And I knew how to weld way back in the day. My first partner was from Brooklyn. I watched him build a bike from the frame up, stretching it. That's what inspired me to start customizing bikes.

Tell us: What do you have against sleeves? In 165 episodes and hundreds of photos online, there's never any sleeves. Do you cut the sleeves off every shirt you own?

Here's what I'm going to tell you. About three weeks ago, I started wearing long-sleeve shirts, the ones that we have for Orange County Choppers. And ... I kind of like them. People really liked them. And now I'm wearing T-shirts with the long sleeve on them. When I was a young guy, I used to roll my sleeves up. And the cutting off the sleeves, that started way, way back. And it just became part of who I was. Shirtsleeves just aren't a part of who I am.

You have all your kids' names tattooed on you. Did you get those when they were born? I didn't start getting work done again until probably 1999. If you look at the early shows, all I have is the one. Then I had multiple tattoos on my arms. My kids started complaining because I had tattoos of my dog on my arms before they were on there. On my left arm I have a portrait of my dog, Gus. He was a big part of my life for 11 and a half years. But they were like, “You got your dogs on there, but not your kids?”

There's a certain amount of creativity that goes into custom bikes, but it has to be balanced with physics. You could be the best artist in the world, but you have to know how art goes on the body. Talk about those similarities. Yeah. That's 100 percent true in my world. And with tattoos, there's a certain structure and balance. If you look at my arms, that's the way they're done. There's nothing on my arms that isn't meaningful. I will not get a tattoo just to get a tattoo. Sometimes I'll go years without any work and then something will come up and I'll say, “That's meaningful to me.” And I go get the tattoo right away. I have tattoos on my triceps and the side of my biceps all the way up my shoulder and each side of my back. On my 1974 Harley, which is called Sunshine, I did a pic-



Logo on the man's tank top, featuring a stylized motorcycle.

Snap-on



P
C16
MAXIMUM POWER

S/S / Acc / Steel

Brack's

INGERS

POWERPROBE

SHIM

ORANGE COUNTY
POWDER COATING

50-50

ture of a sun breaking out into a flame. I just had that done on the left side of my chest. I want to do the right side of my chest, but nothing has come along to interest me to do that.

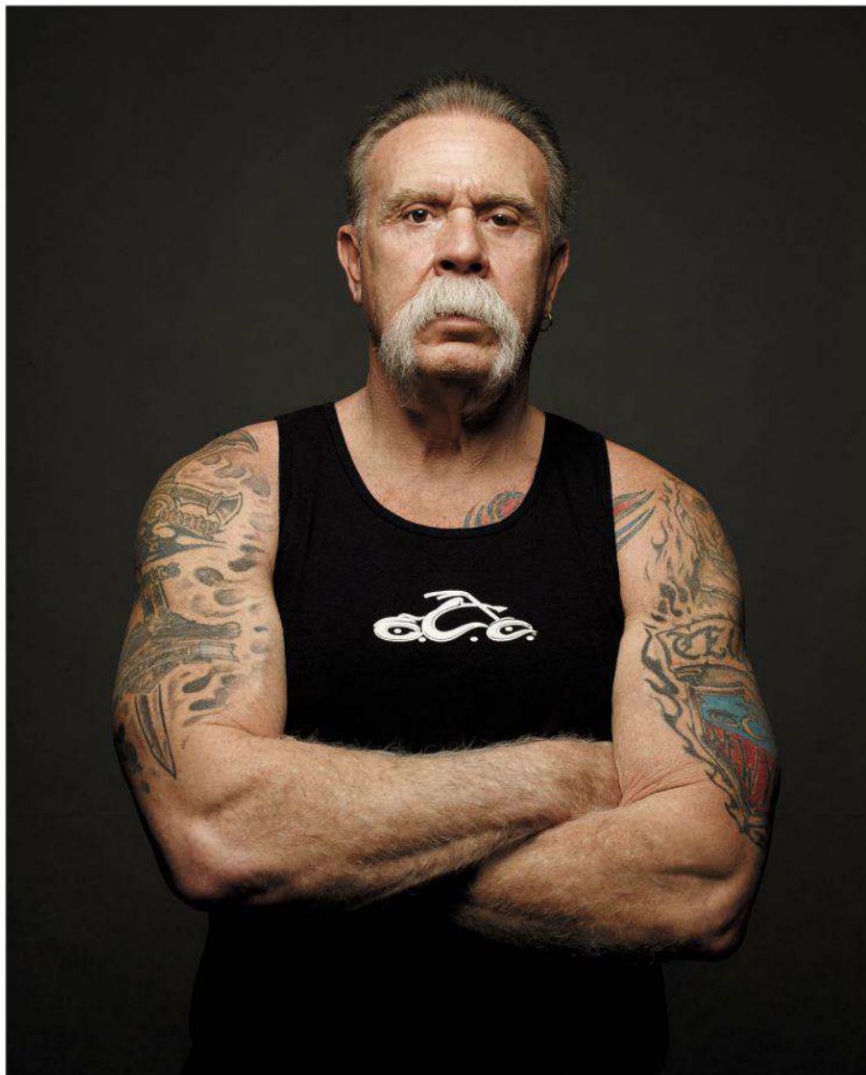
It does seem like the show afforded you a certain level of celebrity. Who are some of the people you've met or things you've gotten to do because of *American Chopper*? I've met everybody and I've been everywhere. It's cool that you meet famous people, but I don't get too wild like that. I met Billy Joel, Jay Leno, and Bill Murray was my favorite. I had lunch at Muhammad Ali's house. That's really cool. One of the cooler things is being able to make a difference in people's lives. The feel-good stuff is what it's really all about. We were named the Make-A-Wish Foundation's Chris Greicius Celebrity Award winner in 2005, over Disney. That's fucking nuts.

I was a kid who grew up with nothing, so I have everything I wanted, and more. I'm a real car guy. I have a nice collection of cars and over 40 bikes. I have over 38 acres here with horses, goats, and donkeys. I have a workshop at my house. I constantly build bikes. I'm not the type of guy who can sit down and watch a football game. I always have to be doing something.

On the other side, reality TV is a certain amount of airing your family's dirty laundry. Was there ever a time when you decided to turn the cameras off because it was a private family issue? The world knows everything about me. After the first show, it was too late to shut the cameras off. Listen, the thing of it is, I've always been a real person. And any opinion anyone ever had of me never made any real difference. When the Discovery Channel picked us and they said they were coming to film, I asked myself, "Should I lose weight? Should I talk differently? Should I act differently?" All these things go through your mind. And I'm a guy who didn't like to have his picture taken with a fucking camera in the first place. At the last minute, I just said, "Fuck it. I'm just going to be who I am," not knowing that they were going to air all that stuff. That was kind of shocking.

You were always threatening to put your size 12 in somebody's ass. Did it ever come to that? Not really. It never came down to hands. It was throwing shit and breaking shit. There was one incident with me and Paulie [his son], where we were in each other's face. There was a little hands-on, but it was never the rule. I grew up in a tough background where you had to do everything yourself. I was in the construction business. And back in the day, there weren't a lot of lawsuits. It was more of whoever yelled the loudest got their money. And if you had to grab somebody by the throat, you did it because that's just the way that it was. It was hard to grow out of that mentality.

How about the correlation between biker and tattoo culture? If you look back at the last 15 years, they have kind of fed off each other and gained widespread acceptance. It has changed. I'm not sure, 100 percent sure, what



“SHIRTSLEEVES JUST AREN'T A PART OF WHO I AM.”

that's all about. It's cool. But there's the real biker who likes to ride and work on his bike. Then there's the suit guy who likes to have a bike in his garage and take it out on weekends, which is okay. And then there's that lawyer who grabs a few tattoos, which is cool. I'm not really into taking people's inventory. But it's not the real deal to me. I think chicks are more into tattoos now than those people. Girls like things a certain way. They spend more time figuring out where the tattoo fits, and honestly I think chicks look great with tattoos. My wife has only one and I really like it. I'm sure she'll get more. But I never look

at a chick and say, "What the fuck is that?" I actually go up to that person and talk to them about it.

What projects can we look forward to seeing from you in the future? We're always doing something. We have a 100,000-square-foot building [in NY] with a 30,000-foot retail space. It's kind of like a museum. And then we opened up two more in Miami and one in Panama, so that's exciting. We're going to go international with our brand, and you might even see me on TV again pretty soon. ■

POSTCARDS



FROM

THE

PROUD

HIGHWAY



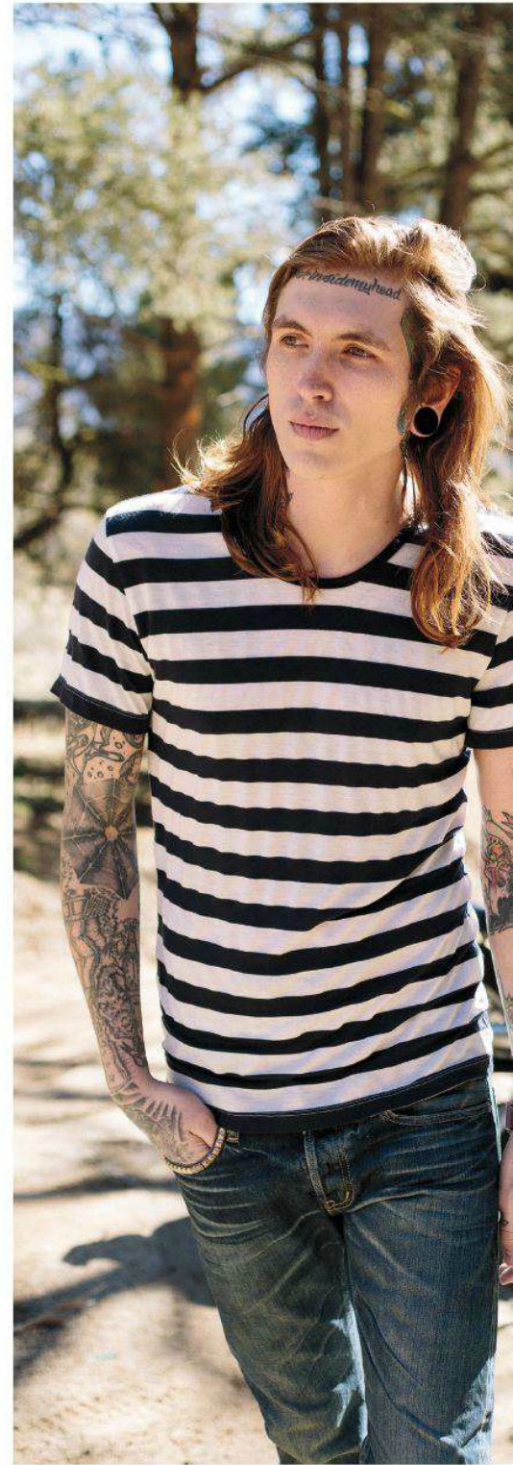
STYLE FOR GUYS WHO PREFER SCENERY TO "THE SCENE."

PHOTOS BY **SCOTT TOEPFER** STYLING BY **LUKE STOREY**

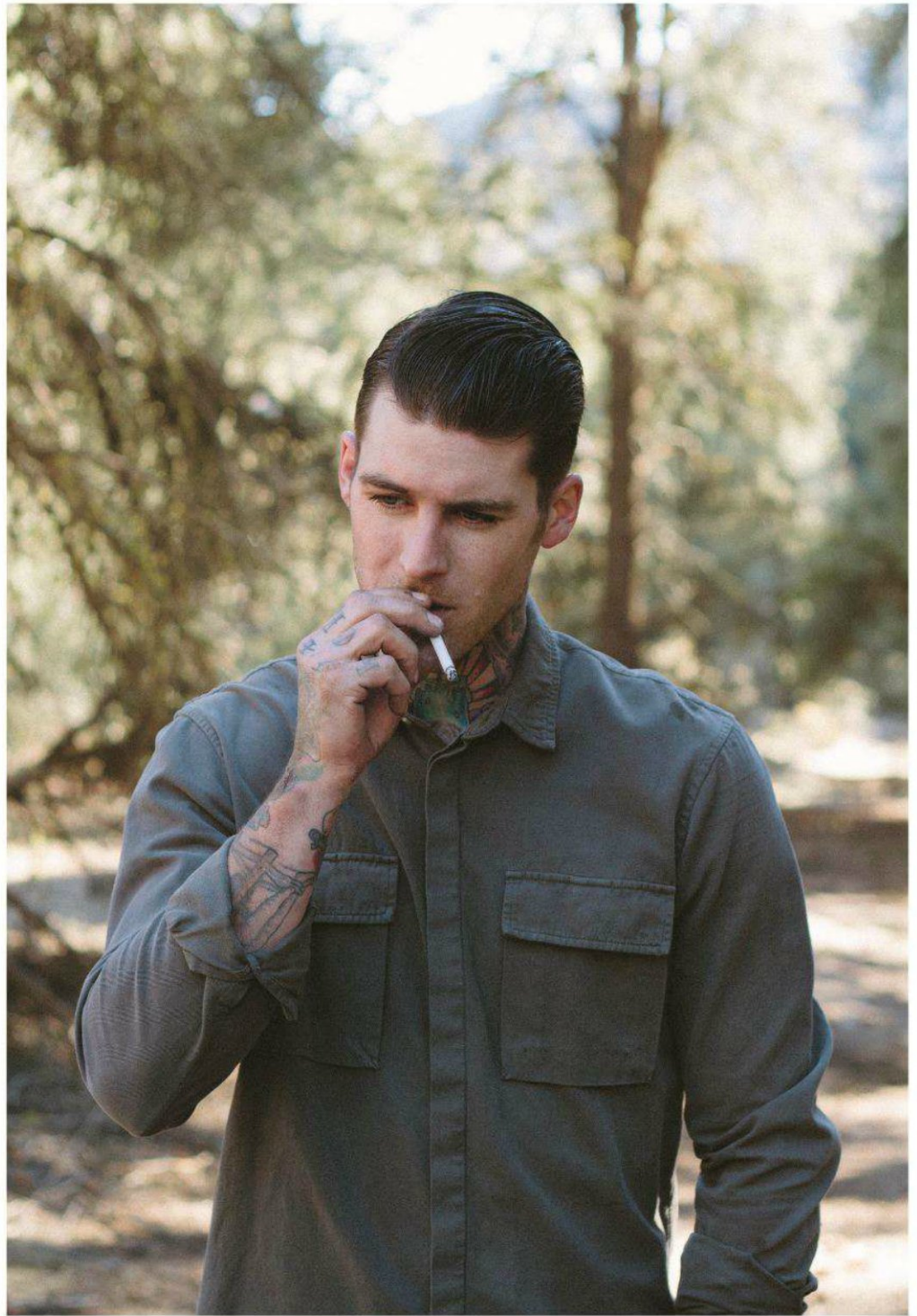
On Brad (long hair): Comune jacket; T by Alexander Wang shirt; Diesel jeans.
On Josh: Comune shirt; Shades of Grey jacket; Diesel jeans; Oliver Peoples sunglasses (throughout).



Tracy Watts hat; Rag & Bone belt; G-Star Raw jeans; H&M shoes.



Shades of Grey shirt; Hysteric Glamour jeans; model's own watch and rings throughout.



Marc by Marc Jacobs shirt.



Shades of Grey tank top; Diesel jeans; H&M shoes.



Shades of Grey tank top ; Hysteric Glamour jeans; John Varvatos boots.



Carhartt vest; Iron and Resin shirt; Levi's jeans. Opposite page: On Josh: Iron and Resin shirt; G-Star Raw jeans; Rag & Bone belt; H&M shoes. On Brad: Hysterie Glamour shirt and jeans.

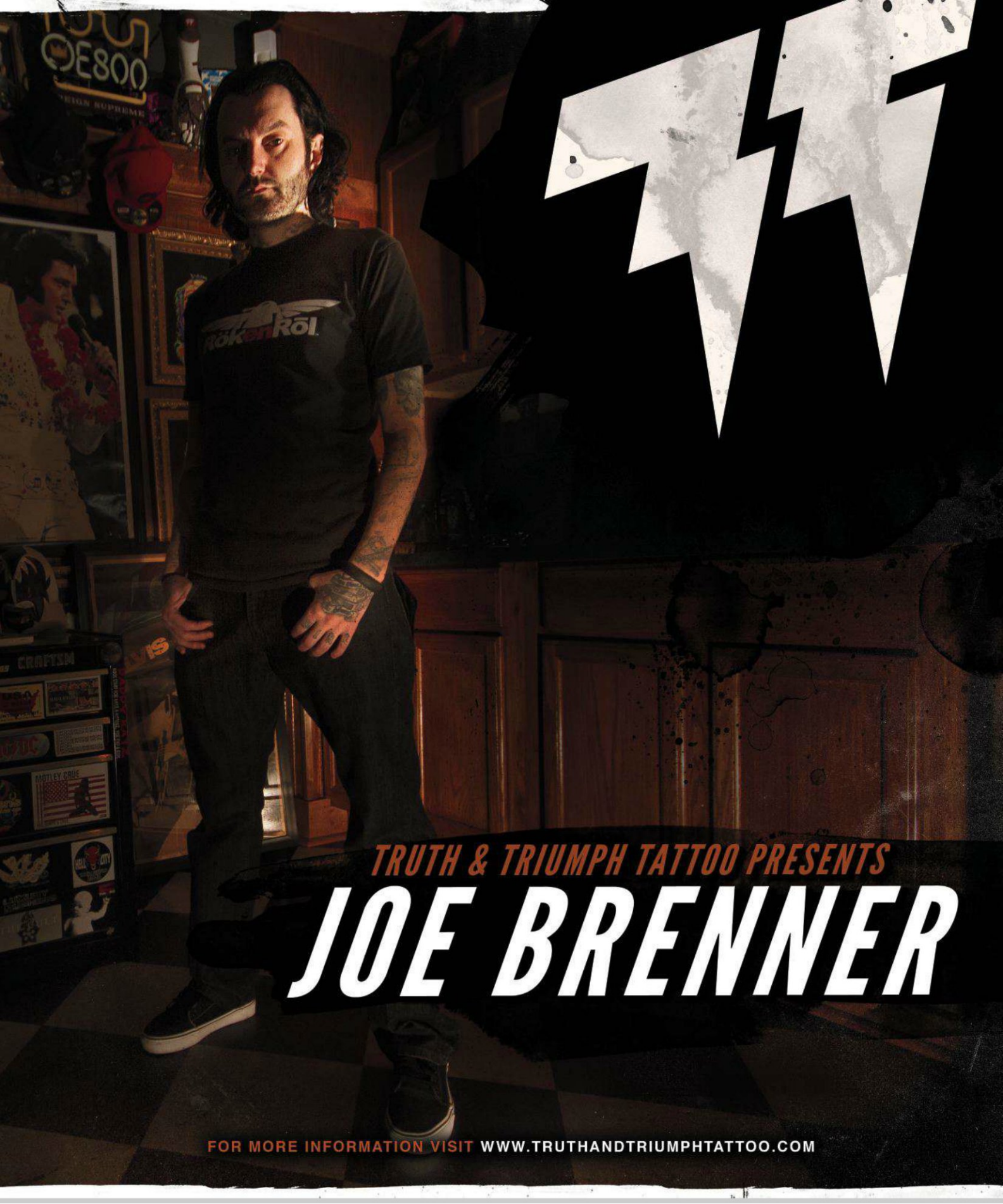
Models: Bradley Soileau and Joshua Dane at Next Management
Los Angeles, Wyatt Vandergeest **Grooming:** Robyn Sweeney



Being the youngest in a family of successful small business owners keeps you in a shadow that isn't easy to get out of. The Brenners and Co. have always taken their professions seriously. The tattooer of the family wasn't just a small name in the industry either. Brian Brenner is the owner and operator of Dayton Ohio's premier elite tattoo studio.....**Truth & Triumph Tattoo**. Truth & Triumph has been a breeding ground for many industry greats, and has a reputation and historical value that cannot be duplicated or imitated to say the least. In the center of this tattoo crew sits **Joe Brenner**. His unique style and charm, not to mention his hard as nails work ethic, has kept Joe on the up and up at the studio. Joe is highly respected by his peers and has become a real asset to his team. His art style is reminiscent of the elder Brenner (Brian), but Joe has added his own originality and innovation to his pieces that are quickly earning him an uncontested reputation of his own. One more brick in the wall of building a team that is **UNBREAKABLE**, and **SUPERIOR IN SUBSTANCE & STYLE! TRUTH & TRIUMPH TATTOO!**



**TRUTH &
TRIUMPH**
T A T T O O



TRUTH & TRIUMPH TATTOO PRESENTS

JOE BRENNER

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.TRUTHANDTRIUMPHATTATTOO.COM

ARE YOU AFTERCARELESS?



JACK RUDY
H2OCEAN PROTEAM ARTIST

TONY OLIVAS
H2OCEAN PROTEAM ARTIST

BOB TYRRELL
H2OCEAN PROTEAM ARTIST

JESS YEN
H2OCEAN PROTEAM ARTIST

THEY AREN'T.



 #H2Ocean

 @OfficialH2Ocean
@H2OceanProTeam

866-420-2326
EUROPE +49 2562 99299-0 AUSTRALIA 1300 758 759 PUERTO RICO 787-536-7984 USA/CANADA 866-420-2326

WWW.H2OCEAN.COM

"BY DOING THE HELL CITY CONVENTIONS, WE'VE BROUGHT PEOPLE TOGETHER, WE'VE CREATED RELATIONSHIPS. ONE COUPLE GOT MARRIED ON THE MAIN STAGE AT HELL CITY. IT WAS A MATCH MADE IN HELL!"
—DURB MORRISON





DURB MORRISON

The tattooer, hell-raiser, and organizer of the most anticipated annual tattoo convention talks about what goes on behind the booths.

BY MARISA KAKOULAS
PORTRAIT BY ALISSA BRUNELLI

THERE ARE MANY in the tattoo industry who claim to be “the hardest-working artist in the business,” but Durb Morrison is too busy for such posturing. Instead, he lets his countless tattoo endeavors speak for him. Over the past 23 years, Morrison has run multiple successful studios; he produces Hell City, one of the biggest and best tattoo conventions in the country; he manufactures True Tubes and runs an innovative tattoo supply company; he organizes large-scale art shows; and he holds regular painting nights at his Red Tree Tattoo Gallery in Columbus, OH. Plus, he puts on a great tattoo. In this interview, Morrison talks about how he went from punk to entrepreneur and stayed on top of the tattoo game throughout the years.

INKED: You started off as a punk teenager who tattooed with a homemade machine, and became a renowned tattooist who also manufactures innovative tattooing supplies. A lot has changed over the years.

DURB MORRISON: Definitely. I was a skateboarding punk rock kid. At that time, with skateboarding, there was a lot of artwork rotating around it, and a lot of that art had a traditional tattoo foundation to it. There were also some really heavily covered skateboarders, even back then, who I looked up to. When I think back, I can see how I was naturally attracted to certain things, and how I'm supposed to be exactly where I am today. But I never really set out to be a tattoo artist. I had done a lot of art classes in school, and naturally did a lot of painting, so I had the art in my blood and on my mind. Right around when I was 14, that's when my friends and I started hand-poking little tattoos on places we could cover up, like our ankles, so we wouldn't get in trouble. When I was 17, I started getting professional tattoos, going to shops, and hanging out with heavily tattooed people. Around that time, a guy who saw that I had the art skills down taught me how to make one of those homemade machines. That was the catalyst for everything because not only did I have a tattoo machine, but I had friends who were willing to let me do my artwork on them.

Back then, did you have any idea tattooing was something you'd do for a living? It started really as recreational. I didn't take it as seriously when I was just getting into it. It was punk. It was a rebellious art form. We're talking 24 or 25 years ago. But after I started getting going with it and tattooing more people and seeing the effect it had on them—how they really loved their tattoos—it drove me to continue tattooing and dive into it artistically. I started studying it, looking at all the magazines, driving hours to hang out at certain studios and watch the tattooing. Also, there was the inspiration of the community behind it. There was just so much personality. It made me want to be a tattoo artist and dedicate my life to it.

How did you get started professionally? I started sending my friends

who I tattooed to this guy, Tim Miller in Columbus, OH, to show him the tattoos I had done. He was a guy who we all had gotten tattoos from. One day, he said he wanted me to come up and speak with him, and I did. I was kind of nervous, thinking, Oh shit. I went to his studio and he pretty much said he'd like me to come work there. At that point, I'm the youngest fucking kid that he's probably even asked to tattoo, but he saw some potential. The first day I worked there, he said, "You're not going to tattoo for at least six weeks. You have to stop and do things at the studio like scrub tubes." But things got very busy that first day, so he then says, "You want to do one?" I said, "Fuck yeah, I do." After I did it, he looked at it and said, "That's really nice. Wanna do another one?" I ended up doing six tattoos that day, and I made more money than I had working out of my apartment. I worked at his studio for a year and then hit the road. That was one of the best learning experiences—to get out there and work around a lot of artists who are a higher caliber than you. It motivates you and makes you realize that you have a lot to learn.

Where did you go? I went to California, then ended up going down to Biloxi, MS, and tattooed for a gentleman named Sailor Moses, an old-school legendary artist who passed. He was an old-timer who really knew his shit. I thought I knew a lot of shit when I got there, but he really kind of put me in my place.

Sailor Moses probably gave you quite a history lesson as well. He did. There were always these old-schoolers that used to come around there. I was educated on the lifestyle, the history, and the people who had really made an impact on tattooing. It was crucial because I don't think I really would've understood everything behind what I was doing without it.

You met Sailor Moses at Sturgis, the motorcycle rally, right? Yeah, I think it was around 1992 when I met him there. When me and Dean Deaknye had hit the road, our first stop was Sturgis.

Tattooing all those bikers at Sturgis must have been pretty hard-core. It was wild.

"EVERYTHING I'VE DONE—OUTSIDE OF ME SITTING ON MY ASS AND ACTUALLY TATTOOING—HAS ENCOMPASSED TATTOOING."

Imagine you're 19 and new to tattooing, and the next thing you know you're at Sturgis tattooing crazy bikers. That's where I met Brian Everett, Mike Siderio, all these old-schoolers. Being exposed to that level of tattooing and all the crazy biker shit—it was otherworldly. During bike week, the stores kind of move all their stuff to make room to rent their space to other businesses and make more money, so all these tattooists rent them out and set up shop there for a week. That's where I met Moses, and he invited me to Biloxi. That's another fun part of tattooing, that it can take you so many places, and you meet so many people who you could never forget. To have that strong a community is the best.

It's interesting that you mention community. Many artists today say that the community feel is gone because of the mainstreaming of the art form. What do you think about that? If people say there's no community, it's because they don't put themselves out there and be a part of it. They just sit in their shops, complain, and separate themselves from it. I feel very strongly about the community, and because I've been a part of it for so long, I wanted to give back. For example, by doing the Hell City conventions, we've brought people together, we've created relationships. People have even got married at Hell City. It definitely has a community feel in a creative environment.

People have gotten married at your conventions? We've had three or four couples get married at the conventions. We had one couple get married on the main stage on a Sunday in the morning before the show even got started. They had met at Hell City and two years later got married here. It was a match made in hell! *[Laughs.]*

When you started the Columbus Hell City convention in 2002, how did you set out to make it different? I got the idea of doing Hell City by working

so many conventions myself back in the day. Some of them didn't even have a trash can and electric outlet at the booth when the show opened. I saw things that were lacking and what needed more focus. I wanted to do something different, something more entertaining and more artistically visual—not just a bunch of booths. We have big screens, banners, backdrops, and the stage looks good. I handpick all the artists out of so many who apply, and the caliber is very high. There are seminars and opportunities to learn. We say that Hell City is for tattoo artists, collectors, and enthusiasts. Somebody can have just one tattoo, and be enthused about it, and they can feel welcome. We even have Heck City, a place where kids who come to the convention with their parents will have a positive experience and respect for tattooing when they get older. We make it fun. Tattooing is fun. The people are fun. Why wouldn't a convention be fun?

You've been in the business 23 years—what have been some of the highlights of your career? That's a tough one. Well, one is when I started my own studio, Stained Skin, back in 1994, after returning to Columbus from Sailor Moses and traveling. I felt like I had left to gather information and techniques and brought them back to apply through my studio. Then there are my first covers and magazine interviews back in the day—those are major milestones in a tattoo career. And then there's Hell City. I can't even recall all the good things that have happened because everything in tattooing has been positive throughout my life.

You're still getting magazine coverage after all this time—like this conversation right now. What do you do to keep on top? To stay relevant, oh yeah, that's the one thing tattooers want. We want to stay active in the industry we've spent so much time in. I feel that, with the conventions and True



Tubes ... we're reinventing the tools artists use. Everything I've done—outside of me sitting on my ass and actually tattooing—has encompassed tattooing. With True Tubes, we've innovated disposable tubes; we came out with a steel-tip disposable and ErgoSquish, a disposable that can be adjusted. I feel that's another way to give back to the community.

You also opened up a new studio as well. Yes, the Red Tree Tattoo Gallery. I had had Stained Skin for a long time, and then I opened up a second studio back in my hometown, Newark, OH, which is an hour away. The shops became really successful, with a lot of great artists, but it

got to a point where I was running both shops and Hell City, and I had too many irons in the fire. Something had to give. So I sold both busy studios, and I designed a private studio to keep tattooing on my own, which allowed me to grow Hell City. After a while, you start to miss the studio environment, the camaraderie with other artists and just shooting the shit. Once Hell City grew and was running smoothly, I then wanted to do a shop again, but not another street shop. The whole format for the Red Tree Tattoo Gallery is an appointment-only, full custom studio and art gallery with really good tat-

“BACK IN THE DAY SOME OF THE CONVENTIONS DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A TRASH CAN AND ELECTRIC OUTLET AT THE BOOTH. I SAW THINGS THAT WERE LACKING. I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT, SOMETHING MORE ENTERTAINING AND MORE ARTISTICALLY VISUAL.”

too artists who each have their own style. The top floor is all tattooing. There are five tattoo artists and an art gallery. The downstairs is like Hell City headquarters for organizing the conventions, but also half of the downstairs is True Tubes, where we handle orders and things like that. What we've also been doing lately with the shop is having paint nights. It started out just painting ourselves and then it grew. We've had a lot of tattoo artists from other shops come to our paint nights. There were 25 people painting last time.

Between tattooing, running a studio, the conventions, the products, and having a personal life, how do you balance your time? It's a careful balance. The key to doing everything is to be extremely organized. I'm proactive, not reactive. I don't try to cram everything in. Three weeks after Hell City ends, I start working on the next one, so I pace myself. Now, do I go ape-shit crazy sometimes? I'm not going to lie. It's hard to do it all always with a smile on your face.

You're lucky to have a strong wife. Alissa is awesome. She understands and she can deal with me when things are stressful. It's weird; she almost never gets in a bad mood. So when I get in a bad mood, she'll just point out a whole other view of the situation and also remind me that people would kill to be in the position I'm in. I could never find another girl like her, who could deal with everything and be as creative and offer a lot of advice. She also has her own thing, shooting for Suicide Girls. She's their Midwest staff photographer.

To help relax, do you do yoga or meditation or something like that? I don't have that much time these days, but I have done some martial arts. Now

I just exercise to stay fit. When you feel good, things just flow.

Tattooing does really take its toll on the body. It does. I have what's called meralgia paresthetica. It's a compression of my femoral nerve in my left leg from tattooing wearing tight belts and leaning over my clients so that my belt has compressed the nerve. I get numbness in my leg, burning sensations, and cramps. That's the one thing that will probably lead to my retirement as far as sitting and tattooing every day. It's also what has motivated me to do other things outside of actually doing a tattoo. The next generation needs to be aware of this. As tattooists, we shove crappy food in our faces; we sit there hunched over and twist to one side; we have eyesight, hearing, and spine issues. You don't really think about it until you have an issue. So I recently gave a seminar at the Paradise Tattoo Gathering called "The Longevity of the Tattoo Artist," which talked about yoga, stretches, and everyday preventative measures tattoo artists can take. Like, if your client has to use the restroom, get up and stretch for a second, and focus on yourself for a moment. Tattoo artists focus on everything but themselves, so this was a way to say, "Pay attention to yourself."

With your type of schedule, you have to be especially mindful of that. People always say to me, "Dude, you're so fucking busy." But I'm not going to be forever. There will be a finish line, and at that point, I can look back and know that I put forth every amount of energy I had into every project I did, and it actually made a difference. ■

*Red Tree Tattoo Gallery
1002 N. 4th St., Columbus, OH
durbmarrison.com*

7th Annual

July 26th, 27th, & 28th

LIVE FREE OR DIE

2013 TATTOO EXPO

• TATTOO CONTEST

• PIERCING CONTESTS

• CASH PRIZES

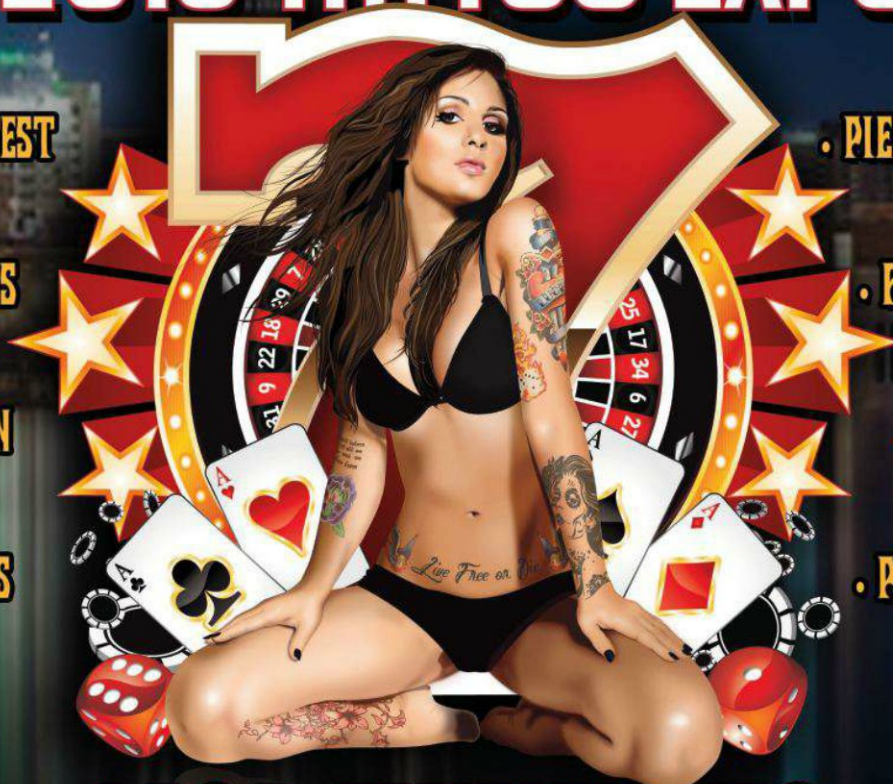
• FREE GIVAWAYS

• ART FUSION

• D.J. MUSIC

• SIDE SHOWS

• PINUP PAGEANT



L.F.O.D. HEAVY HITTERS

CHAD CHASE



NICK MALASTO



RYAN SOLDANO



BILL RHINE



ROBERT MYERS • JAIME "TANK" SMITH • JAY SKI • & MANY MORE!!!

RADISSON HOTEL - 700 ELM STREET • MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

www.LiveFreeorDieTattooExpo.com



From left: Antonio Roque, Scott Christopher, Brandon Alton, Brian Page.

BLACK LABEL TATTOO CO. & BODY PIERCING

126 E. Patrick St.
Frederick, MD
301-378-2308
blacklabeltattoocompany.com

BY LANI BUSS
PORTRAIT AND INTERIOR PHOTOS
BY MALEK NAZ FREIDOUNI

Black Label Tattoo Co. & Body Piercing is an intermingling of tattoo artist Scott Christopher's various interests. Named after his favorite Johnnie Walker blend, the nearly 2,000-square-foot shop is large enough to be an average home. But don't expect to find a nuclear family in the expansive space. Instead, flash sheets, electric guitars, vinyl album covers from punk bands, and even a coffin populate the establishment. Of course, there are tattoo stations as well, and they offer clients plenty of room to stretch out. With light wood floors that juxtapose vivid lime green or rust-colored walls, the space is bold and badass.

"Everything about the shop just kind of happened," says Christopher. "I had something vague in my mind when I got here, but it has always just grown organically. I'm a bit compulsive and tend to change things as soon as the idea comes to me. That's easy when you never had a template to begin with."

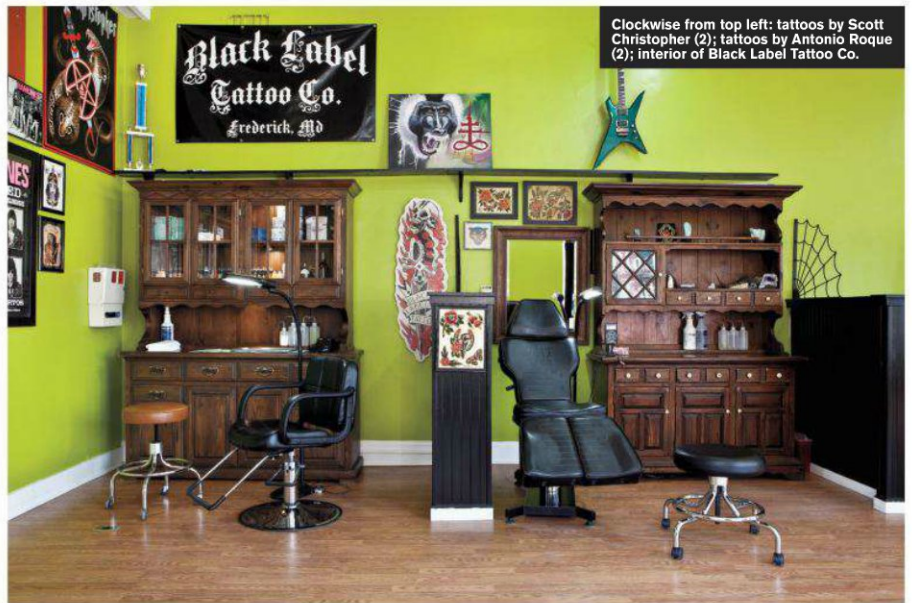
"We try to create an environment we are comfortable in," he adds. "So we allow the physical shop itself to grow around us, rather than keeping any particular look or theme."

When it comes time to talk tattoos, though, the boys of Black Label have a clear direction. "When I think of a tattoo, my immediate men-

tal image is of American traditional tattoos," says artist Antonio Roque, who became enamored with tattoos at a young age after seeing his dad's biceps anchor and forearm eagle. "The style is tried and true; it's stood the test of time. I like being able to identify a tattoo across the room. I think that says something about how it was applied."

"What is tattooing aside from the influence of our predecessors and peers?" asks Christopher. "I learned traditionally, branched out, but always found myself reverting to the things I learned first."

Christopher opened shop in July 2011 in historic Frederick, MD,



Clockwise from top left: tattoos by Scott Christopher (2); tattoos by Antonio Roque (2); interior of Black Label Tattoo Co.

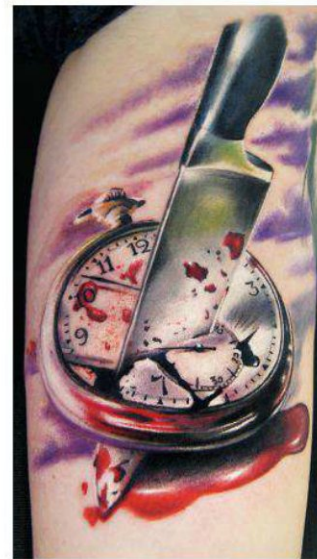
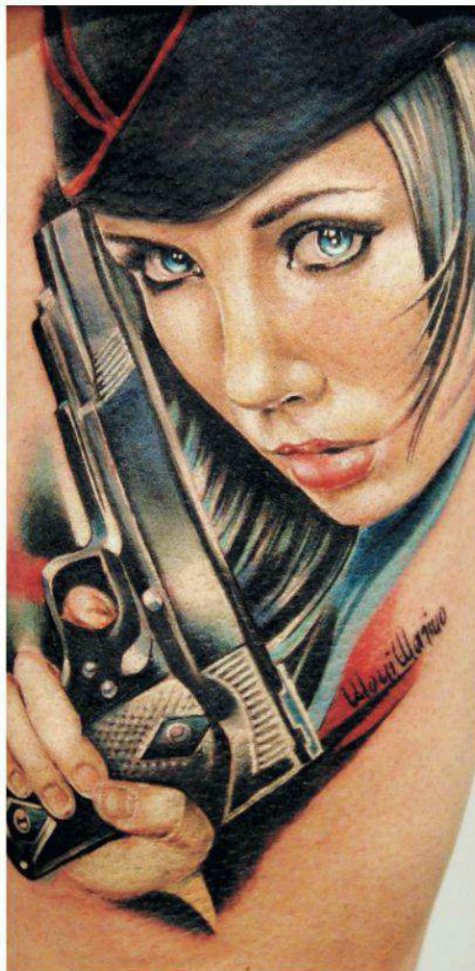
simply because he wanted new surroundings. "I'd worked around just about everywhere, but that gets old," says the tattooer of 18 years. The fact that Frederick has a rich art scene—there are more than 10 art galleries in downtown alone—adds to the location's appeal. Residents have a "tattoo savvy ... that most places don't have," says Christopher.

Roque says he took notice of the shop immediately after it opened. "I saw Scott's quality and work ethic and knew at some point I'd need to at least get tattooed," he says. He ended up landing on the shop's permanent roster. The

experience has allowed him to feed off of the knowledge from the slew of guest artists that circulate through the shop. "Being around different groups of artists is incredibly important to grow your skill set," says the tattoo artist of five years. "Through an apprenticeship you're taught a specific way, your mentor's way. For me, being here, I've been able to take techniques and ideas that work for others and adapt that to my use. It could be anything: technique, ideas with setup, or new or different materials that I wouldn't have tried otherwise. I try to learn something from any artist I can watch."

The Black Label artists have to keep on their toes at all times, says Christopher, especially since there's another shop in close vicinity. So standards are set high. "The integrity of the tattoo is of the highest importance," says Roque. "We know that clients don't know all the ins and outs of the process of the way a tattoo ages, and that's okay. That's not their job, it's ours, and it's our duty to educate. If a client's idea doesn't translate well to skin, it's our job to explain why and to offer suggestions as to what will work and last. Doing a tattoo that looks good on day one but won't hold up over the years isn't acceptable."

While it hasn't even been two years since doors opened, the Black Label crew has a survivor's spirit. With their sights on excellence in the tattoo industry and commitment to the client, it's safe to say the shop will stick around for years to come. But in Christopher's eyes, Black Label has already met with success. "My only intention, ever, was to open the shop," he says. "Once I was able to make that happen, I stopped making long-term goals outside of just doing good tattoos until my hands don't work anymore. I'm grateful simply to have had the chance to get to where I am now." ■



MONI MARINO

VISIT: facebook.com/monimarinotattooartist

What is your artistic process? I always drew and painted with my father when I was a little girl. He was an extraordinary artist. I was 14 when I discovered that you can draw on the skin permanently, and it has become the biggest love of my life.

When did you start tattooing? Twenty years ago. I was fascinated by the Chicano style in black-and-gray. Over time I experimented with new techniques and new machines. Now I'm tattooing realism in full color.

What's the most difficult part of a photo-realistic tattoo? When I'm working on a photo-realistic tattoo I try to relay

emotions with my art. I put soul into every tattoo I do. I believe that you may feel emotions better through the eyes of a woman or a child; that's also the reason I love doing tattoo portraits of women and children.

Would you consider tattooing a portrait of yourself, for the right client? If the client wants a portrait of me because he admires my art, of course.

Ah, and you assumed it would be a man. Do you think your appearance has helped or hindered the way people view you? If you are a good-looking tattoo artist but you cannot do good tat-

toos, you have no chance to be well-known and accepted as an artist.

You seem to be in high demand as an artist all over the globe. And from your social media accounts, it seems you are always painting as well. I take the plane every two weeks and I paint always when I travel. It is a great passion of mine.

How do painting and tattooing coexist? For me, painting and tattooing interact completely. When I paint I study the shadows and light reflections, and then I try to apply my studies of painting while I'm tattooing. Obviously the two are completely different techniques, but I think I tattoo as I paint. ■

Club Tattoo

Tattoos ♣ Piercing ♣ Fashion

Las Vegas

Planet Hollywood
Miracle Mile Shops

San Francisco

Pier 39

Arizona

Scottsdale
Tempe
Mesa
Glendale

*It's not just a tattoo,
It's a lifestyle...*

Mention this AD to Receive
Special Discounts

ClubTattoo.com



inked scene | SHOP TALK

NAME: Erin Bromley

SHOP GIRL AT: Slave to the Needle (Ballard), Seattle

WHEN MY COWORKER JONATHAN GILBERT first started at Slave to the Needle he was applying a stencil to a rather tall man. I was busy, running around cleaning things up for the day, when he stopped me and asked if I could get him a ladder. Being in the zone, I came back moments later with our three-step ladder. He had been joking; his client got a real kick out of it.

JUST THE OTHER DAY I HAD a bit of a line forming at the front desk. One person needed to be checked out and pay for their appointment, another was hoping to get a donation for their pit bull rescue auction, which is the type of thing we do very often, and a couple of people were waiting for a piercer. Amidst the hustle and bustle, a group of my coworkers proceeded to serenade me with the "Happy Birthday" song—very loudly, I might add. The best part? It wasn't even my birthday.

QUITE A BIT OF SINGING and air guitar happens on a daily basis at Slave to the Needle, particularly courtesy of tattooer John Fitzgerald. We have noticed that quite often when it's a song he doesn't like, he will only whistle; when he does like the song, he will sing along; and when he really digs what he's hearing, he will get up and perform an awesome air guitar. We do get the occasional harmonization from many other coworkers, namely Clark, Honest Jon, and Josh Wright. Poor Jonathan Gilbert is still figuring out the art of whistling.

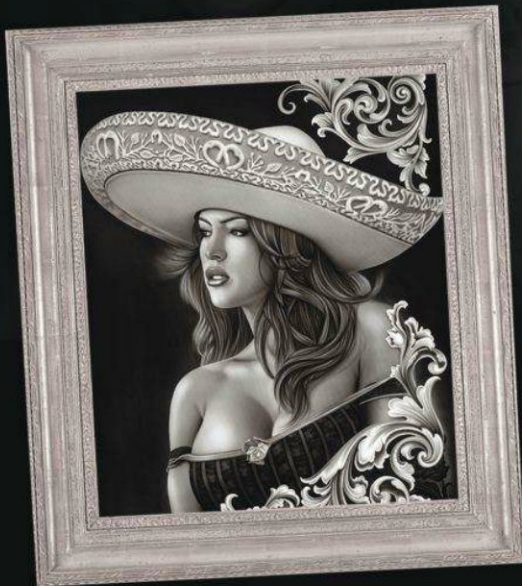


Know a stellar shop assistant who keeps the autoclave humming and the tattoo stations organized? E-mail us at shopgirl@inkedmag.com.

*Black
Market
Art*

TATTOO & ART SHOW

BIG CEEZE



ART CENTER GALLERY

April 5th, 2013 ■ 6 - 9 PM

2075 Westminster Mall Westminster, CA 92683

714 - 379 -9505 www.ArtCenterInk.com

www.BlackMarketArtCompany.com

ADVERTISEMENT

Inked



EMBRACE
THE
LIFESTYLE

INKED SHOP



HEAVY METAL

Seems fitting that this rock solid bracelet (\$64.95, inkedshop.com) has the poison symbol adorning the clasp.



SMOKE SHOW

Artist Jeffrey Richter created this gas-masked beauty to grace one of our favorite tees (\$24.95, inkedshop.com).



HANDYMAN

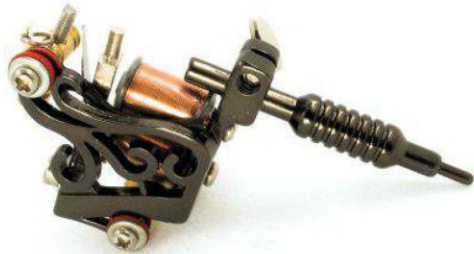
Tighten up your jewelry game with this stainless steel wrench ring (\$29.95, inkedshop.com).

SELF-WORTH

Bad motherfuckin' wallet (\$59, inkedshop.com) for a bad motherfuckin' guy. Get yours now if you fit the bill.



USE THIS CODE TO GET 10% OFF: **INKED413**



BEAUTY IS PAIN

You've got the ink, now show off how it got there with this miniature tattoo machine pendant (\$29.95, inkedshop.com)!



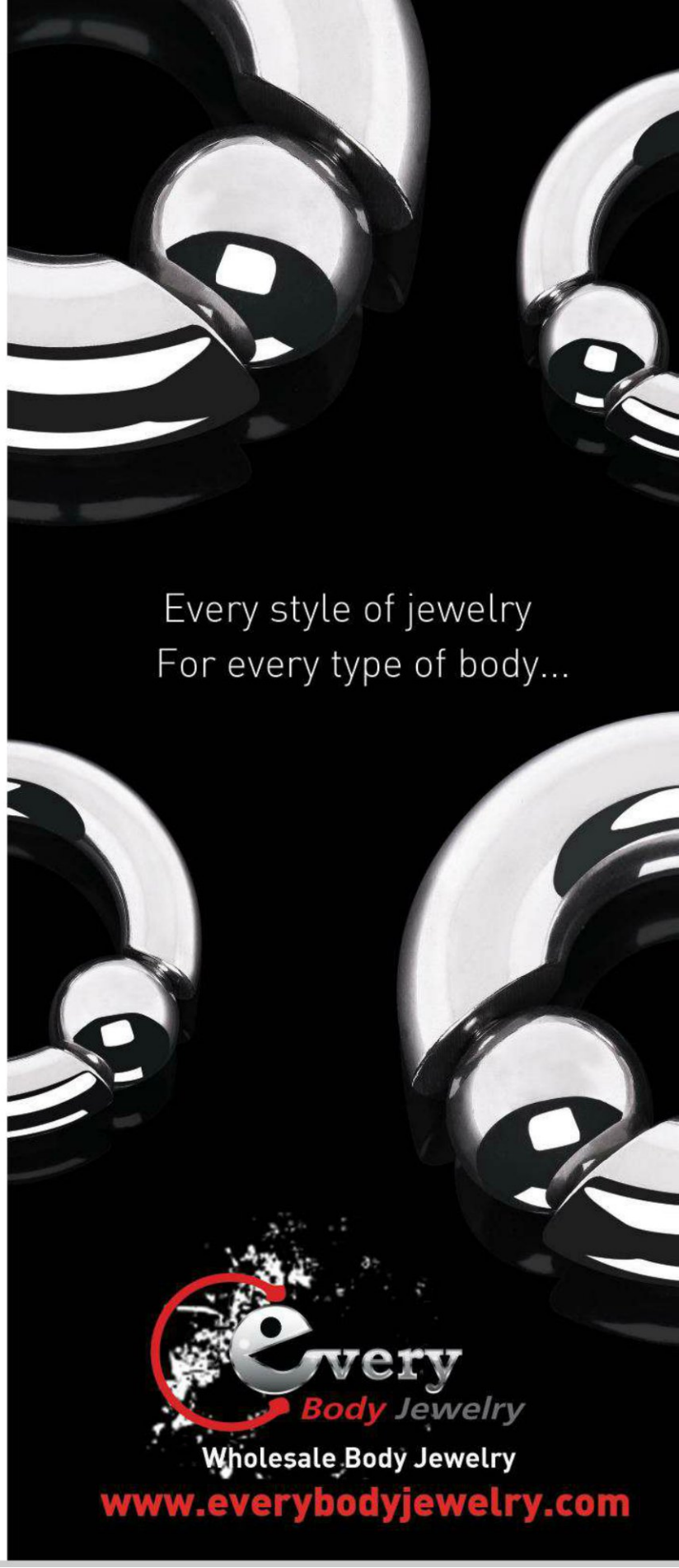
IRISH YOU WOULD

We know the truth, TATTOOED girls really do have more fun. This T-Shirt (\$24.95, inkedshop.com) is available now!



HOORAH!

All military personnel deserve our respect and support; whether they are tattooed or not! Get this shirt (\$24.95, inkedshop.com) and a portion of the proceeds will go directly to the Department of Veteran Affairs.



Every style of jewelry
For every type of body...



Wholesale Body Jewelry

www.everybodyjewelry.com



JESSICA MASCITTI

East Side Ink
97 Avenue B
New York City
eastsideinktattoo.com

Graceland Brooklyn
677 Lorimer St.
Brooklyn, NY
gracelandbrooklyn.net

Jessica Mascitti didn't pick art; art picked her. "It wasn't a choice," she says. "I can't do anything else." About three years ago she did her first tattoo on her mentor, the incomparable Patrick Conlon. "He let me tattoo a skull puking filigree on one of the few available spots left on his body," Mascitti says. "I was nervous, and he was incredibly patient." Since then she has been tattooing alongside him at East Side Ink and Graceland Brooklyn. Her specialty is dark yet delicate designs, with a sweet spot for B&B: birds and bones. Naturally, when deciding her most permanent piece—what she would sketch for her gravestone—Mascitti opts for the Triforce from *Zelda*, which nestles on the design of a winged beast on the *Skyward Sword*.



ULA5
SKULL DUSTER
BRACELET
\$35.00

E303
HORNET'S NEST
EAR WRAP
\$30.00

ULP31
SWITCHBLADE
CHOKER
\$45.00

ULP10
DEAD MAN'S
HAND
PENDANT
\$31.50

R183
VIS VIVA
RING
\$32.00

P609
DIAMOND
HEART
PENDANT
\$50.00

E5
DOUBLE AXE
MINIATURES
(PAIR)
\$16.00

E292
DIAMOND
CRANK-WHEEL
(PAIR) EAR STUDS
\$20.00

ULR10
KNUCKLES
RING
\$29.50

R182
INTENSE
ENGAGEMENT
RING
\$49.00

ULFE9
POISON NO17
EAR STUDS
(PAIR)
\$24.50

ULFP15
ROSE HEART
NECKLACE
\$59.00

UL13
ALCHEMY™

UL17
ALCHEMY™

P146
CHAOSTAR
PENDANT
2 TONE
\$30.00

P649
OVERLORD
PENDANT
\$32.50

P654
SKULLCRUSHER
PENDANT
\$27.50

B96
THUNDER
HAMMER
BUCKLE
\$75.00

R172
CORRUPTION
RING
\$35.00

CRISTINA
SCABBIA
OF
LACUNA COIL
IS WEARING
ULFP1
SWALLOW HEART
PENDANT
\$41.00

Alchemy
metal-wear

WWW.ALCHEMY1977.COM

For information on a store near you
contact (800) 578-1065
or sales@alchemyofengland.com
Wholesale enquiries welcome

Please quote INK4.13 in response to this advert

ALCHEMY OF ENGLAND
3520 ROBERTS CUT OFF ROAD
FORT WORTH, TX 76114
TOLL FREE: 1.800.578.1065
TEL: 817.236.3141
FAX: 817.236.3148



@NocturnalFeeder @kdoylem1989 #StereotypicalHarley

SMOKE BREAK



Smoke 'em if you've got 'em. Be independent.
#StereotypicalHarley



DarkCustom.com

Burnouts look great on film but in the real world are hard on tires, wheels, and other mechanical parts.

Harley-Davidson® Forty-Eight® with Hard Candy Custom™ Black and Silver Flake paint. Right: the new Street Bob™ with custom red wheels.
©2013 H-D. Harley-Davidson, Dark Custom, Street Bob, Forty-Eight, the Dark Custom logo and the Bar & Shield logo are among the trademarks of H-D Michigan, LLC.

