



# TUSTLE DUTTER DELUXE

Find us on FACEBOOK.COM/HUSTLEBUTTER

# YOU CAN'T KNOCK THE HUSTLE.

LUXURY TATTOO CARE - TODAY TOMORROW FOREVER

\* NOT FOR TOAST \*



Available at Inkedshop

HUSTLEBUTTER, GOM

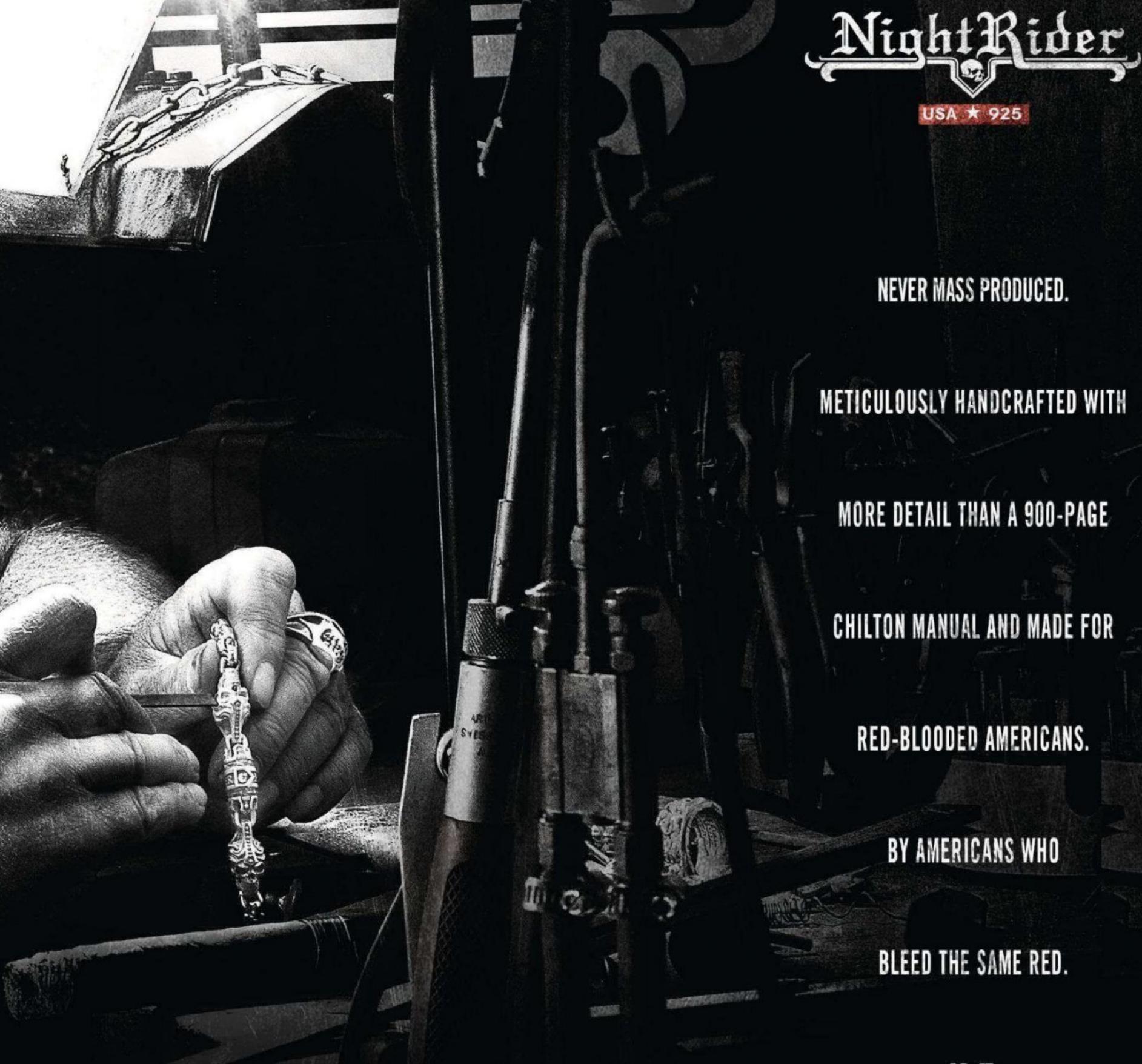


# NOT PICTURED:

# Chinese

# SWEATSHOP

Find more issues at magazinesdownload.com











# TABLE OF CONTENTS







On the cover and mini-poster: CARA MIA; photo: CHRISTIAN SAINT; stylist: COLLEEN MCCANN; prop stylist: SARAH BARTON BERNSTEIN; hair: ISAAC DAVIDSON and MATT DOERS for Wigbar using Yorok; makeup: BETHANY TOWNES; manicurist: JESSICA TONG; location: FAST ASHLEYS. On the cover: ASOS Swim bikini; Bebe shoes. On the mini-poster: Bluebella nipple tassels; stylist's own shoes.

# AMERICAN TATTOO

WWW.AFFLICTIONCLOTHING.COM

# EMBRACE THE LIFESTYLE. Inkedshop.com



todd weinberger @toddINKED creative director

rocky rakovic @inkedfluencer editor

director of special projects ian sami hajar

photo editor liz green @elgreezy

madeline dawson @fletcher dawson fashion editor

digital imaging specialist jessica herrera contributing editor jennifer goldstein

contributing copy editor autumn whitefield-madrano

contributing designers/illustrators tess barber, lauren heffron, erika liu

#### contributing writers

jonah bayer, matt bertz, lani buess, jon coen, nick fierro, gil macias, john buffalo mailer, robert mccormick, bryan reesman, trish vogel, charles walsh

#### contributing photographers

justin bernard, mike choe, ann coen, daniel edward, katrina eugenia, liz green, eric ita, anjelica jardiel, jared leeds, matt licari, thomas liggett, bradley meinz, antonio petronzio, christian saint, drew anthony smith, kristen vetter, jay watson, rick wenner, daniel wooden

#### interns

kristen cusumano, christie foy, pallavi gupta, adam lowe, kayla ricci, megan sattur, haleigh schiafo, rachel trow

joely (price) syme publisher

joely@quadramediallc.com

kristine cummings sales

kristine@quadramediallc.com

melanie simmons melanie@inkedmag.com

web editor charlie connell

web content manager brian toynes

social media kirsten birmingham

> rachael dillon jaime pietzsch randy trost

dylan houser @pinksinks inkedshop brand manager

inkedshop marketing inkedshop store managers

hervé charlot james delaney

eric mcguire

office manager kristen vetter

international licensing john cabell, 303-449-9194

cabell@cueballdigital.com

magazine office inked magazine

12 west 27th st., 10th floor

new york, ny 10001 quadra media Ilc

corporate office

174 middletown blvd., #301 langhorne, pa 19047

inkedmag.com website

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

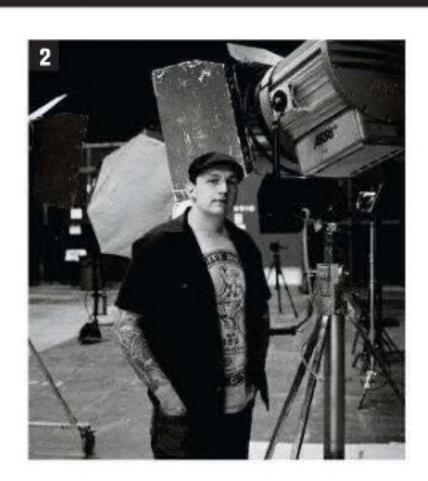
INKED, ISSN (1555-8630) Issue 61, is published bimonthly by Quadra Media, LLC 12 West 27th St, 10th floor, New York, NY 10001. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices.

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



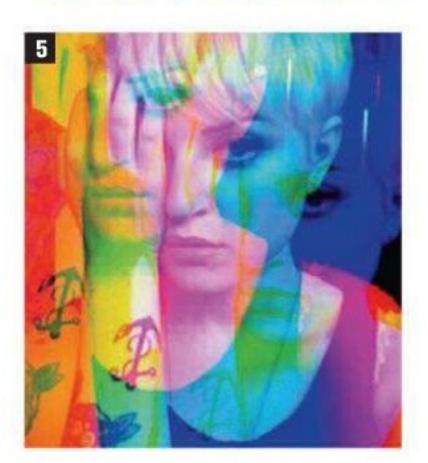
# INKWELL

















In their time, pin-ups weren't as wholesome as we view them now. They started as adverts for burlesque dancers (the equivalent of '90s-era 900-number ads in your local alternative paper) and helped kick-start the sexual revolution. These women were brave enough to flaunt their bodies in a time when you could be arrested for wearing bathing suits that were too revealing. While vintage pin-ups may look sweet, those women were badasses. We celebrate their spirit in an issue dedicated to those who did something with their skin that pissed off mainstream America.

In one of my favorite INKED shoots ever, Antonio Petronzio (1) captured the unmitigated beauty of burlesque performer Katrina Darling. We dispatched Rick Wenner (2) to photograph the king of pin-up tattoos, Joe Capobianco, and his crew at Hope Gallery Tattoo. Stephanie Weber (3) dolled up the throwback singer Dominique Pruitt. And writer Trish Vogel (4) found a modern-day (and tattooed) Alberto Vargas in Carla Wyzgala.

As the modern-day girls who embrace pin-up fashion gravitate toward the dudes with grease in their hair, we also look into rockabillia. For the story "Deuces Wild," stylist Rachel Trow (5) picked the *koolest* chain wallets, cuffed jeans, and creepers. Ann Coen (6) spent a day at the beach watching tattooed gentlemen rev their ramblers during the Race of Gentlemen for "Oil and Water." Meanwhile, our cover and pin-up shoot was photographed by Christian Saint (7). Adding the cheeky, period-appropriate style to those photos was Colleen McCann (8).

In the spirit of pin-ups, tack the mini-poster to your wall or, heck, tear out any of the pages and decorate your space as you see fit. If you do, take a photo of the wall, upload them to social media with the tag #inkedmag, and e-mail them to me. We at INKED would really love to cover our walls (both the actual ones and our Facebook one) with your favorite pin-ups.

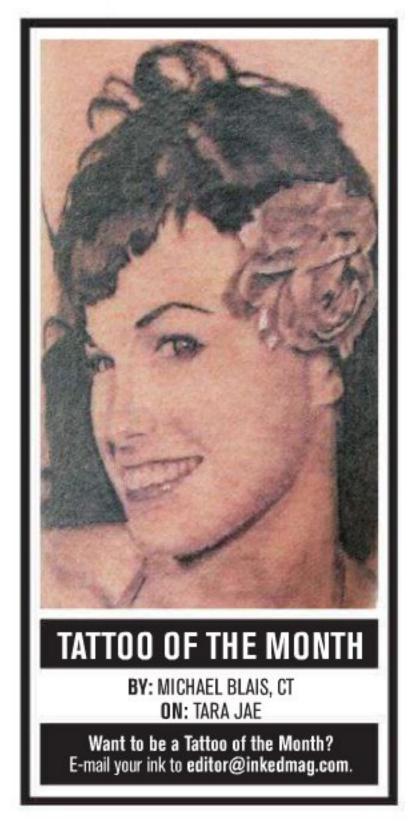
Rocky Rakovic

Rocky Rakovic Editor editor@inkedmag.com



# MAIL







# SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND

This is so hot. The counterbalance and soft colors make the photos unique. This is one of the best designed features I've seen. Erica Long, Tempe, AZ

# INKEDSTAGRAM. HASHTAG YOUR SELFIE #INKEDMAG







@ILYMORGANNN

NAME AND ADDRESS. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR CLARITY, LENGTH, AND CONTENT. ALSO JOIN THE PARTY AT FACEBOOK.COM/INKEDMAG AND ACROSS PLATFORMS @INKEDMAG.

# facebook

#### **LADY DIAMOND**

**BLACKMOON CAT** A normal, and yet so sublime body YONA DEMOULIN sublime, magnifique, simply perfect **ZELKO RIHANNAA** Too too Sexy!

**BEN GAIKOWSKI** My mom almost took my magazine because of this cover! Nice tattoos!

# **SONNY SOON LES TATTOOS**

The tattoos really are at the top of the top. Splendid picture.

# **EXQUISITE CANVAS**

**ROSS CLAWSON** Gorgeous work of art. The woman is beautiful too. STEPHEN ROBERT **HANDING** Exquisite ink!

JONAS LETTS This is the best I have seen! No shit. Absolutely fucking stunning! KEVIN WILSON Whoa... words do you no justice.

# **GENERAL**

JUAN LIMONES JR I've loved y'all since y'all first came out. You found beauty in all tattoos and women. Continue to do what you do. Fuck the norm.



@X\_KARI\_X

WRITE US. GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? SEND ALL PRAISE, COMPLAINTS, STORY SUGGESTIONS, AND OTHER COMMENTS TO LETTERS@INKEDMAG.COM. ALL SUBMISSIONS SHOULD INCLUDE THE WRITER'S

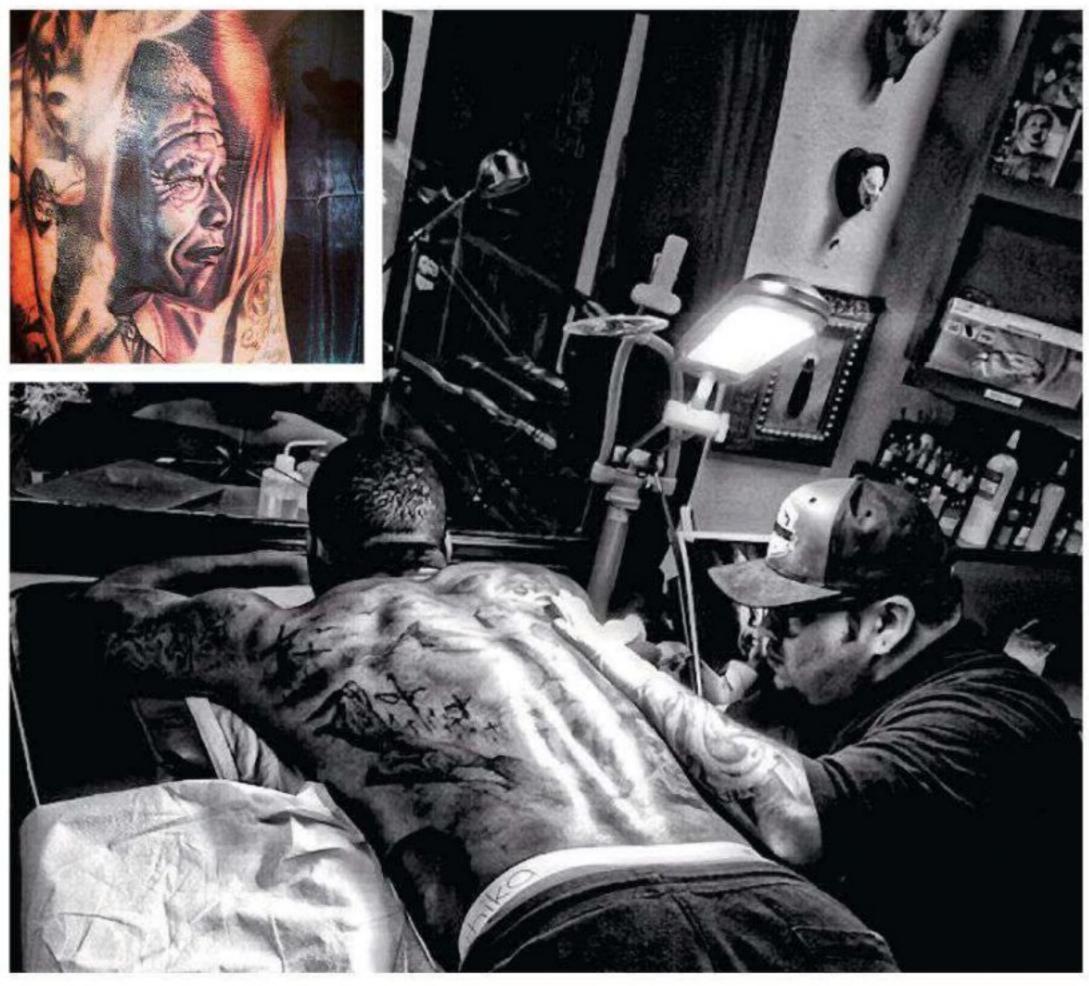
# INKED LIFE

LOOK. PLAY. DRIVE.



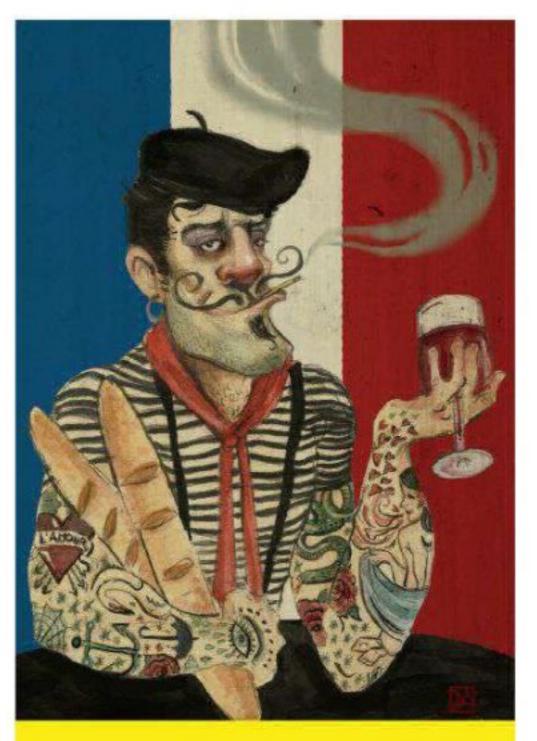
BIKINI BOTTOMS; INKED SHOP BRACELETS; STYLIST'S OWN RING STYLIST, MADELINE DAWSON; MAKEUP, CARISSA SWANY; HAIR, KRISTIN TALAVERA; SUGAR DOLL SWIM BIKINI TOP; AMERICAN APPAREL

photo by LIZ GREEN



# MADIBA LIVES ON

Rapper The Game recently sat for INKED Icon Nikko Hurtado, who tattooed his side with a tribute piece to Nelson Mandela that shows the Nobel Peace Prize recipient looking out from behind prison bars. When he completed the piece, Hurtado quoted the South African hero: "A good leader can engage in a debate frankly and thoroughly, knowing that at the end he and the other side must be closer, and thus emerge stronger. You don't have that idea when you are arrogant, superficial, and uninformed."



# **NO LOCAL COLOR**

As of press time, the French government had set out to ban 59 products that are used in colored inks for safety reasons. This affects nine out of 10 colored inks available in France, and tattooists are pissed because they feel there isn't sufficient evidence that those products are actually harmful. French tattooer Tin-Tin warned, "If this ban goes into force, professional tattooists will be in danger of having to shut their parlors to the benefit of underground tattooists who work at home with no hygienic provisions, who buy ink from China, and are never bothered by the authorities."

# THE FIRST DOCUMENTATION OF TATTOO REMOVAL DATES BACK TO THE 6TH CENTURY.

# HEALING **PROCESS**

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, 10 women who had mastectomies were inked at Saved Tattoo, in Brooklyn, NY. Thanks to the crowd-funding efforts of P.INK (Personal Ink) and 10 legendary tattoo artists-Virginia Elwood, Roxx, Amanda Wachob, Stephanie Tamez, Michelle Myles, Nikki Lugo, Michelle Tarantelli, Joy Rumore, Miranda Lorborer, and Jen Carmean-these women have pieces that make them as beautiful as ever.

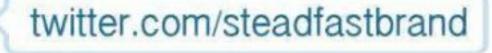






- **3714 likes**
- steadfastbrand "I LIKE YOUR NEW SHIRT!!!" "THANK YOU!!!" models: @the\_ruca & @mattybullitt photography by:#seanhartgrove MUA:@marlenebarbie | Owl by:@artofgunnar In-house design & art direction by: @aurorawho









It's time to elevate your drinking staple.

Remember those crazy parties in college? That time you prayed to your particular God and bargained with him or her that if the hangover went away you'd never drink again? If you don't remember, you were probably drinking vodka.

As beginners, we all start off on the low-grade, cheap stuff that could probably run a car. I had my first experience with vodka when I was 17, taking straight shots of Popov's finest \$10 vodka out of a water bottle. Needless to say, I spent the rest of the evening sitting in a lawn chair, expelling my stomach in the rain. But as we get older, acquire a little money, and develop our palates, we return

to vodka. While working my way out of that chair and up the ladder to Absolut, Three Olives, and Grey Goose, I realized there is a vast difference between the swill in a frat party's jungle juice and the liquor shaken at high-end cocktail bars. Yes, vodka is supposed to be tasteless—which is why it is a fantastic training-wheels liquor—but once we learn to drink in polite society that same attribute makes it the star in mixed drinks. However, we would never give up the nights spent shivering on a cold bathroom floor. Without those we wouldn't have the same appreciation for the complexity of the bottles to the right. —Trish Vogel

# **COCKTAIL CONVERSATION**

A chat with **April Kayganich** of Dirty Bill's in Austin, TX.

INKED: How would you describe your bar?

APRIL: Unpredictable. The wild, wild West. A dive bar with the best dance parties in town.

What type of clientele frequents Bill's? We get it all: the newly-21-year-olds that go to University of Texas, skaters, cougars, celebrities. I really like that we have such a diverse crowd.

What's the wildest thing that has happened at Bill's? From all the body parts I've seen to the random acts of craziness that have inspired shot specials, it is so hard to pick out which moment has been the wildest.

Would you say the crowd is tattoo-friendly? Very. In Austin, it is very rare to find someone without a tattoo.

How do people react to your tattoos? I have been told many times that I wear them well and that not many girls can pull off a sleeve. People always want to grab my arm and stare at it or look at my legs or touch them. I feel like a piece of art because people are always staring and getting up close and looking at every inch of me.

Do you have a favorite vodka? I love Tito's Handmade Vodka. For one, it is a local vodka, and it also has a really good taste.



# April's American Mule

Fill a glass with ice, pour in 1½ ounces Tito's Handmade
Vodka, and add ginger ale and a little bit of fresh lime juice. "It's pretty damn delicious," says Kayganich.



# Black Pepper Gibson

Stir Karlsson's Gold Vodka with ice, strain into a chilled martini glass, add pickled onions, and garnish with freshcracked black pepper.



# David Rios's Musica es Vida

Shake 1½ ounces Cîroc Vodka, 1/3 ounce tangerine liqueur, 1/3 ounce simple syrup, 1/4 ounce pineapple juice, 2 dashes Blue Curaçao, and 1 dash lime bitters with ice. Strain and garnish with a lime peel.



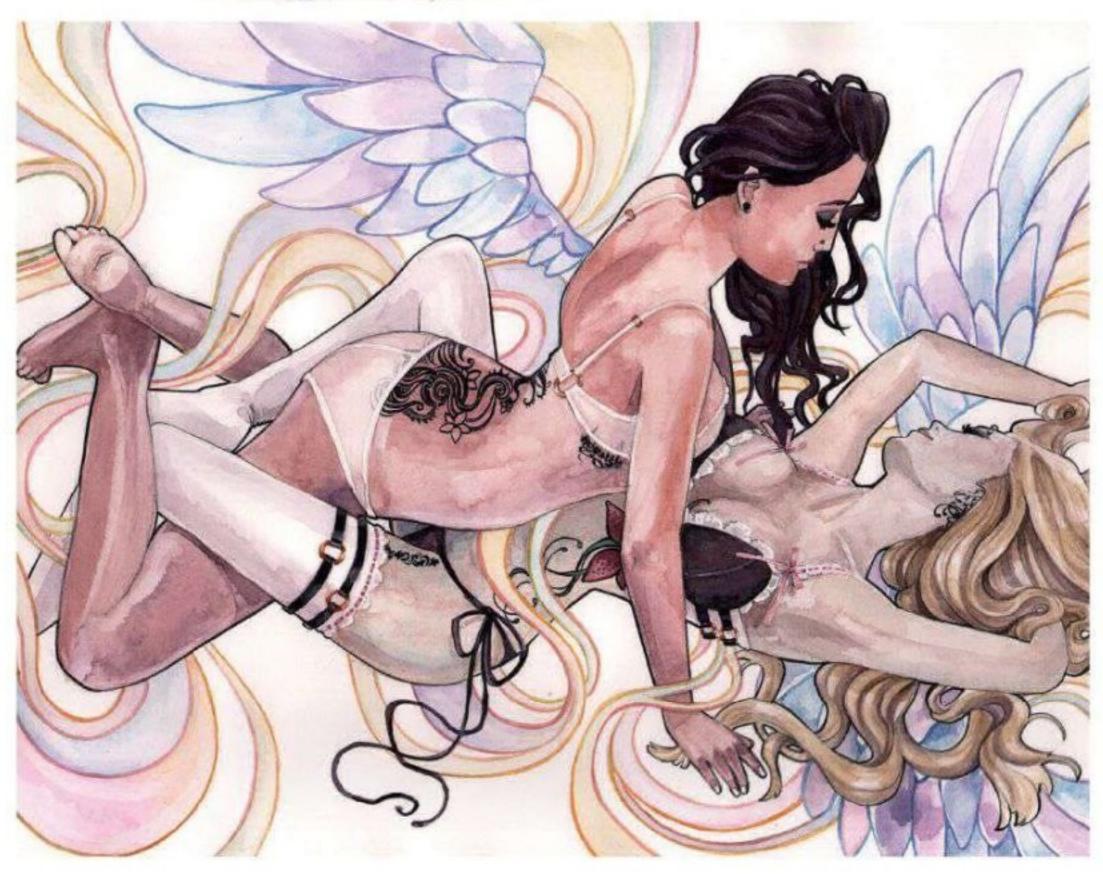
# INKED LIFE | view

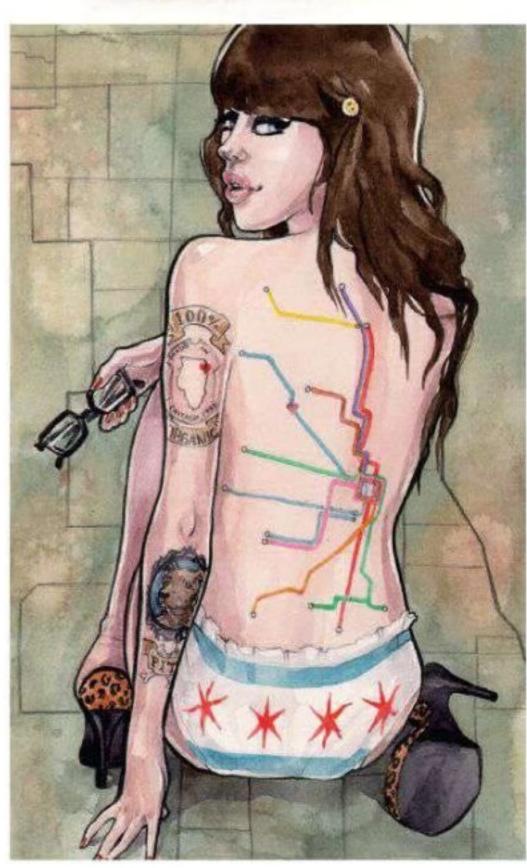
Clockwise from right: Untitled, Chicago Blackhawks Pin Up; Tease; Chicago CTA Map; Angel Seduction.











# **NOT YOUR** GRANDPA'S PIN-UPS

Carla Wyzgala makes watercolor glam girls for the 21st century.

In the ever-changing-and now digitally influenced-art scene, being a pin-up artist who uses watercolor is something to be admired. Carla Wyzgala is holding on to the finite art with all her might. "I try to stay true to myself in my artwork and stay true to watercolor by creating a world that I would love to live in," she says.

For this Chicagoan, painting modern-day pinups has always been more than brushing girls with a pretty face. "Drawing ladies was the ultimate expression of 'dress-up' for me as a young girl. That part of the process still remains the most enjoyable to me-only now it is designing pin-ups dressed in lingerie, tattoos, and piercings," says Wyzgala. "But it's important to me to give every girl that I paint a personality and story too."

Wyzgala may be faithful to her watercolor brushes, but that doesn't mean she hasn't dabbled in the thought of testing out her artistic talent with a tattoo machine. "I have seen my work tattooed by other artists and think it translates very well," she says. "It certainly makes me consider learning how to do it-but for now I will just keep getting tattooed." -Trish Vogel



magazinesdownload.com

# INKED LIFE | spend



# DANESON. TOP PICK Sadly, there are still situations where it's not socially acceptable to sip on a glass of fine

# **NAUGHTY DEVIL**

If it's wrong to be attracted to a cartoon character, we don't want to be right. This Betty Boop Devil Wacky Wobbler (about \$22, rockabilly-rebel.com) depicts the iconic character embracing her wild side.

# **LOOK SHARP**

You'll feel like a street tough from days gone by when you slick back your hair using the Rumble 59 Butterfly-Comb (about \$40, rockabilly-rebel.com). With its steel handle and leather carrying case, this is one comb not to be trifled with.



# HAIL TO THE KING

single malt scotch. But we have Daneson Single

Malt No. 16 toothpicks (\$36, daneson.com) to

help get us through. Soaked in Islay single malt

scotch, these toothpicks fill your mouth with the

smoky flavor of the old country.

Throw out the tacky black velvet painting of bloated Elvis in a sequin jumpsuit and replace it with the Elvis That's All Right Aluminum Sign (\$12, store.sunrecords.com) that pays homage to the 45 that launched the King's career.



INKEDMAG.COM

HOT CHOCOLATE

It's a miracle that the chocolate inside isn't melted

by the scorching pin-ups on the wrappers of these

MarieBelle Pinup Bars (\$17 each, mariebelle.

com), available in both dark and milk chocolate.

# RISE AND SHINE

Give yourself a pompadour that would make the Fonz shit himself with envy. Royal Crown Hair Dressing (\$13, pomade-shop. eu.com) will hold your hair in place even if you jump over a shark on your water skis.





You'll stand out from all of the hipster fucks rocking Wayfarers when you wear Tres Noir Waycooler sunglasses (\$85, tresnoir.com).

# MOOD LIGHTING

Even with the lights off, this Down the Stairs Retro Pin-Up Girl Desk Lamp (\$43, zazzle.com) is always turned on with its sexy pin-up drawn by the legendary Gil Elvgren.

# **BIG BAD WORK SHIRT**

This Lefty Joe Wolf Work Shirt (\$50, lowbrowartcompany.com) is perfect to wear when you're working on your hot rod or going out on the prowl to find Little Bo Peep.

# A REAL SCORCHER (7)

Bettie Page set a lot of hearts on fire in her day. Now you can use the Queen of Pin Up Bettie Page Love Tap Licensed Custom Zippo Lighter (\$63, zlighters.com) to set all sorts of things aflame.

# INKED LIFE | look



22 | INKEDMAG.COM

JOW BOWY ART COMPANY

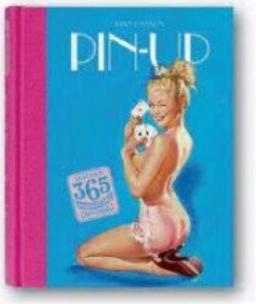
ART & APPAREIL



USE COUPON CODE INKED10 FOR 10% OFF ORDER WWW.LOWBROWARTCOMPANY.COM

# CALENDAR GIRLS

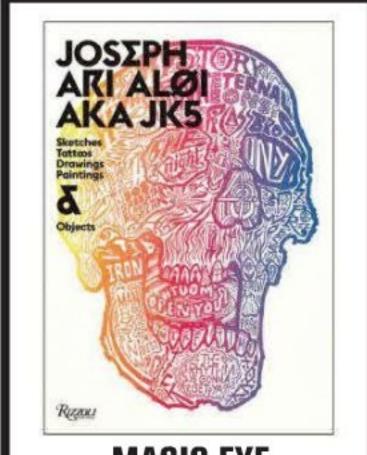
Even the rainiest spring day can be brightened up by the sexy pin-ups collected in Taschen's 365 Day-by-Day Pin-Up. The hardcover book features a year's worth of gorgeous glamour art from icons such as Gil Elvgren, Earl Moran, and Bradshaw Crandell, as well as elegant photographs of the greats, like Bettie Page and Jayne Mansfield. The artwork is accompanied by come-hither quotes from the women who were unabashed eye candy in the years leading up to the sexual revolution of the early '60s. You can devour it cover-to-cover, but beauty like this deserves to be savored day by day. —Charlie Connell







# > BOOK



# MAGIC EYE radical sea of calligrap

Melt into a radical sea of calligraphy and geometry with Joseph Ari Aloi AKA JK5: An Archive of Sketches, Tattoos, Drawings, Paintings, and Objects (\$45, rizzolibookstore. com). Joseph Ari Aloi is a tattooist by day, but there's nothing he won't put color to, and that includes vinyl toys, canvas, scratch-boards, and walls. He even paints with language through poetry. In this book, there are some sketches no larger than an index card that feature everything from a microworld of psychedelic patterns to an abyss of wordplay hidden behind vulvas in all the colors of the rainbow. —Charles Walsh

# > MOVIES



# 300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE

Based on the graphic novel by Frank Miller, this prequel/sequel hybrid to the stylish 300 follows the rise of Xerxes (Rodrigo Santoro) before and after the events of the first film. This time, most of the battles move to the tumultuous seas as Greek General Themistocles (Sullivan Stapleton) unites a tanned, ripped, and shredded Greek army and leads them against a massive Persian invasion led by Xerxes and Artemisia (Eva Green). The lovely Lena Headey reprises her role as the Spartan Queen Gorgo. Zack Snyder (who directed Man of Steel) produces this time around. -Gil Macias



# **VAMPIRE ACADEMY**

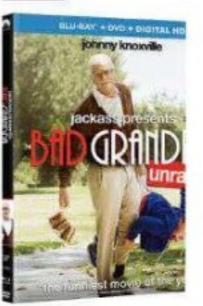
There are two types of vampires: Moroi (mortal, peaceful vampires who drink blood from donors) and Strigoi (evil, immortal ones who kill). And then there are Dhampirs-half human, half vampire beings who train to be guardians of the Moroi. Still with us? Rose Hathaway (Zoey Deutch) and Lissa Dragomir (Lucy Fry) are teenage best friends who attend an academy for Moroi and Dhampirs. Outside their sanctuary, shit is stirring thanks to the Strigoi. Basically, if you threw vampires, Mean Girls, and The Craft into a blender, this movie is what you'd get. Director Mark Waters (Mean Girls) is perfect for this stuff. -G.M.



# ROBOCOP

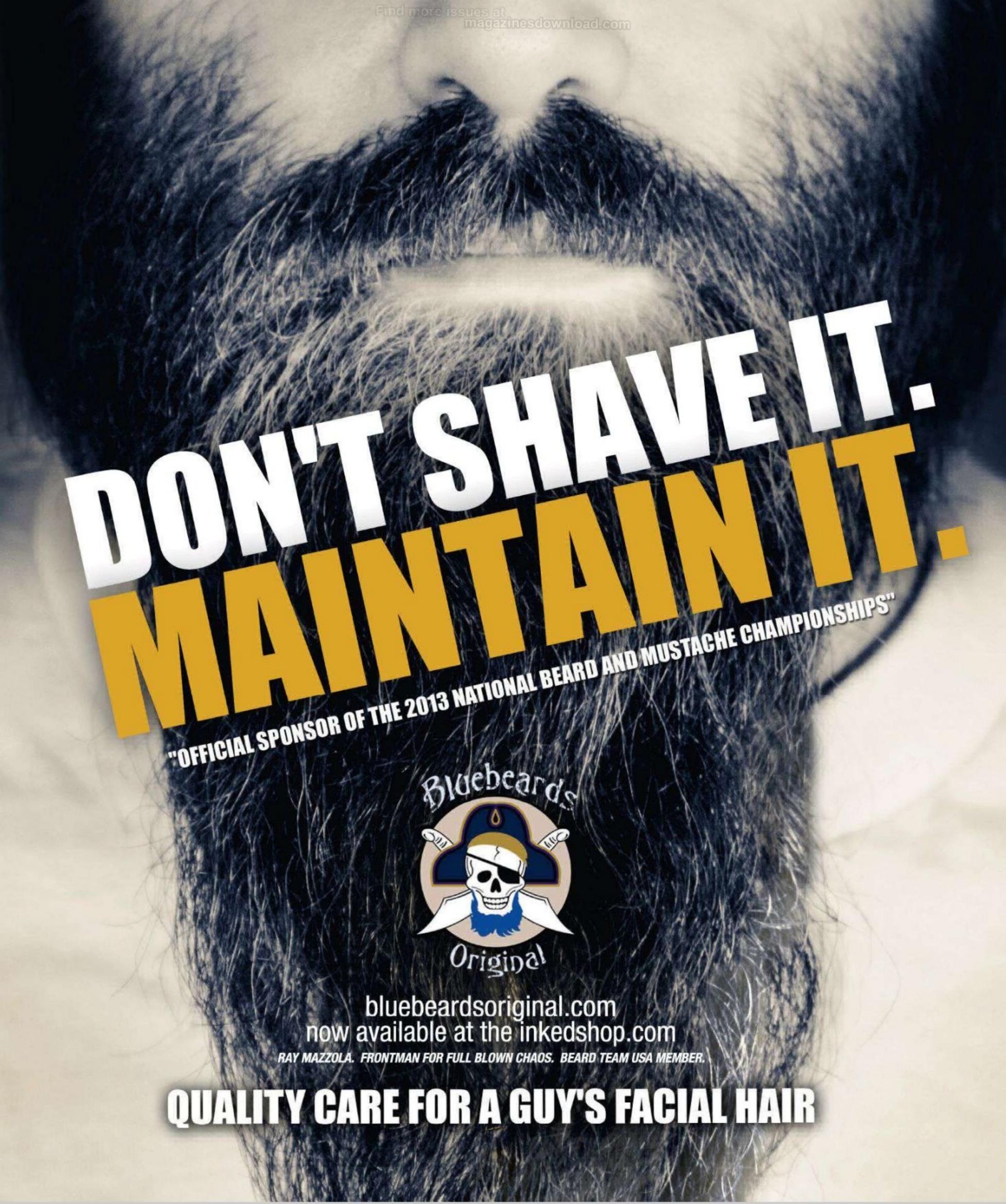
It's 2028. When Detroit police officer Alex Murphy (Joel Kinnaman) is critically injured, he's revived as part human, part robot super-cop, courtesy of OmniCorp. Not as predominantly machine and controllable as his makers might think, Robocop has a human side and chooses to fight corruption and crime on his own terms. It's hard to imagine Paul Verhoeven's 1987 satirical, bloodsoaked original being topped (and Murphy's PG-13 death appears to be watered down and far less gruesome this time), but at least this has a great cast going for it: Michael Keaton, Gary Oldman, and Samuel L. Jackson also star. -G.M.

#### > DVD



# **BAD GRANDPA**

We agree with the quote featured on the cover art: Bad Grandpa was the funniest movie of 2013, and it will undoubtedly be one of the funniest movies coming to Blu-ray in 2014. Watch Johnny Knoxville transform into 86-year-old Irving Zisman and play real-life pranks on unsuspecting people, with his 8-year-old grandson in tow. If, for some reason, you haven't heard of this movie, rent it and avoid the trailers at all coststhey spoil the biggest laughs. The Blu-ray includes an unrated version, behind-the-scenes extras, alternate takes, and deleted scenes. You'll never hear Warrant's "Cherry Pie" the same way ever again. -G.M.



# INKED LIFE | play

# > VIDEO GAMES



#### LIGHTNING RETURNS: FINAL FANTASY XIII

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360

The saga that started four years ago finally gets the resolution Final Fantasy fans have been waiting for. The world is ending in 13 days, and the only person who can guide souls to salvation is Lightning. As she travels the world shouldering this heavy burden, expect to run across many familiar faces—some of whom you can't wait to catch up with, and others who have been harboring grudges since Lightning disappeared 500 years ago. You put many of these disagreements to rest via the stream-lined battle system, which allows you to switch between different attacking and defensive styles at will. Keep those battles short, because a doomsday timer is constantly ticking down as you try to complete the job. PLAY IF YOU LIKE: Final Fantasy XIII-2, Melancholia, Lost Odyssey —Matt Bertz



# THIEF

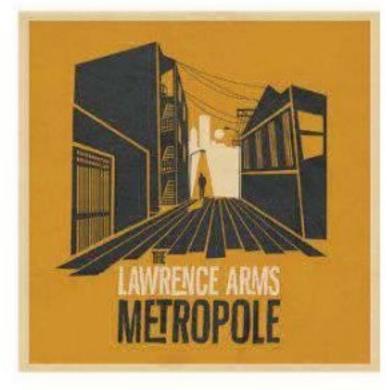
PLATFORMS: XBOX 360 AND ONE, PLAYSTATION 3 AND 4, PC Some are born into luxury; a smaller faction helps themselves to other people's spoils. This reboot of the legendary stealth game asks you to take a five-finger discount on items of much more importance than valuable trinkets. When his hometown city is besieged by a plague, Garrett returns to investigate. The city he returns to hardly resembles the one he remembers, with the poor living in squalor while the rich thrive off their misfortune. Armed with a bow and arrow and a blackjack, he weaves his way through treacherous circumstances and steals valuable evidence to find the source of this disparity. Feel free to grab something for yourself while you're at it. PLAY IF YOU LIKE: Dishonored, The Name of the Rose, The Lies of Locke Lamora -M.B.



# TITANFALL

PLATFORMS: XBOX 360 AND ONE, PC

No next-gen game has generated more buzz than Titanfall. Designed by the members of core team that put mega blockbusters Medal of Honor and Call of Duty on the map, this competitive firstperson shooter trades in bolt-action rifles and tanks for sci-fi weaponry and hulking, humancontrolled robots. Cleverly mixing non-player combatants into competitive multiplayer makes Titanfall a much more accommodating game to new players-don't expect to die within three seconds of spawning-but skilled shooters can still demonstrate their mastery while commanding the fearsome Titans or jumping between buildings with the help of jet boosters as a soldier. PLAY IF YOU LIKE: Elysium, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 4, Blade Runner -M.B.



# THE INKED PLAYLIST

BY JONAH BAYER

# AGAINST ME! "FUCKMYLIFE666"

The band channels Billy Bragg on this upbeat folk-punk track.

#### **CASPIAN**

# "Hymn for the Greatest Generation"

Instrumental and epic post-rock in a seven-plus-minute opus.

# DOOMRIDERS

"Dead Friends"

This hardcore track is dark and doomy just what the devil ordered.

# DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS "When He's Gone"

The guys haven't lost the grit on their latest batch of alt-country anthems.

# FRIGHTENED RABBIT "Radio Silence"

If you've ever spent all night next to the phone you'll relate to this ode to loneliness.

# GUIDED BY VOICES "Littlest League Possible"

There's nothing fancy about GBV's latest track, and the simplicity is refreshing.

# ^ THE LAWRENCE ARMS "Beautiful Things"

The spirit of unwavering hope is harnessed in this slab of punk perfection.

# NATIVE "Word City"

Native evoke bygone post-hardcore acts like Milemarker in their own unique way.

# NOFX "Stoke Extinguisher"

Their palm-muting and harmonic skills are as sharp as they've ever been on this guitar-driven ripper.



# IT'S YOUR HOLIDAY TOO

This Valentine's Day drop a hint to get the stuff you want.

Your woman is probably going to try to change you, even if just a little. She is going to want to pick out your clothes, may tell you that she doesn't like your sketchy pal crashing on the sofa, and might even buy you grooming supplies that are endorsed by her favorite heartthrob. Even cool chicks like SuicideGirls are giving their men grooming goods.

"I'd get a true gentleman old-fashioned hair products,"
Katherine Suicide tells us. Razzi Suicide feels similarly about
a throwback morning routine, commenting, "You can't go
wrong with a straight razor."

"I'd get him a gift card to The Art of Shaving," Lolana Suicide says. "That place is classy as fuck."

If you don't end up with those gifts, you may want to hint at one of the sets below. Or ignore the lady and stock your own vanity and buy your own new clothes. But really, you should probably tell your old buddy that he can't crash on your couch anymore. —Robert McCormick



# **RALPH LAUREN POLO RED GIFT SET**

They say that the man whose favorite color is red has a natural ambition. The namesake color of this cologne, shave balm, and deodorant (\$81, ralphlauren.com) appears in the scent, which has notes of red saffron, red grapefruit, and deep redwood.



# MAN CAVE ORIGINALS SET

Mixing and matching shower products from different makers is like filling up a tattoo sleeve with disparate genres. Start your morning harmoniously with this sustainably sourced set (\$55, mancaveinc. com) with a moisturizer, face wash, shampoo, shower gel, and deodorant.



# **BLUEBEARDS ORIGINAL TRIO**

You wouldn't run soap or face wash through the hair on your head, so why use it on your beard? The Beard Wash, Beard Saver, and Wonder Beard Intensive Repair conditioner in this set (\$49, bluebeardsoriginal.com) are formulated to keep face fuzz clean and soft.



# **DOVE MEN+CARE EXTRA FRESH GIFT SET**

The men's stuff from Dove is impressive: Their Extra Fresh line is powerful enough to clean a (real) man's skin without drying it out. In this sleek Dopp kit (\$20, dove mencare.com) you get shave gel, a body and face bar, body and face wash, hydrating face wash, and a "Shower Tool."







WWW. ENEMYBRAND.COM

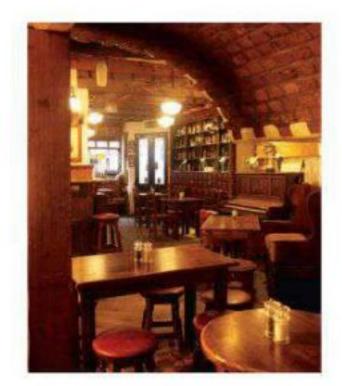
USE CODE: INKED30 FOR 30% OFF



The Irish sure know how to party. They stretch their signature holiday, which falls on March 17, to a festival that lasts a week. But there is more to the country's capital city than the view through the bottom of a pint glass. **Neil Harte**, a Dublin local and tattoo artist at Dragon Tattoo (Talbot St., Dublin 1)—"Dublin's Premier Tattoo Studio for Over 25 Years"—shares some of the best places to hang out around the city. Yes, there are more bar suggestions than normally appear in this column, but you aren't going to Dublin for clean living. -Trish Vogel



^ IN REBELLION You may believe Ireland is more devoted to brown liquor than the juniper-based alcohol favored by the English, but The Gin Palace (42 Middle Abbey St., Dublin 1) is a staple of the capital's drinking culture. "It's a cool place for a drink after work," Harte says. It even has a gin club—which is cooler than a sausage of the month club.

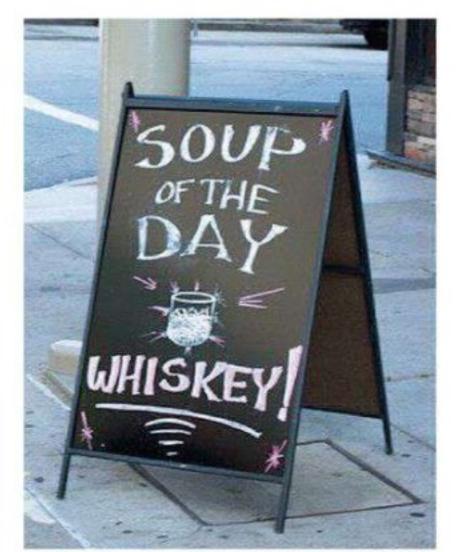


< TRADITIONAL IRISH PUB Looking for a real taste of Irish culture, including stout? The Celt (81-82 Talbot St., Dublin 1) offers live music, good food, and an even better time. "It's a cool, oldschool bar, and the staff are sound," says Harte. But if you want a seat, make sure you get there early; the bar fills up

quick at this cherished joint.



^ DIFFERENT KIND OF BARS Most people wouldn't put going to jail on their travel itineraries, but Kilmainham Gaol (Inchicore Rd., Dublin 8) is a prison turned museum. An audiovisual tour lets you get a feel for life behind bars and delve into some of the more disturbing parts of Irish history.



# < EUROPEAN BBQ

If you're hungry, Brady's Castleknock Inn (Old Navan Rd., Dublin 15) is the place to go. It may take a while to peruse the menu, as they have an array of classic Irish dishes, but Harte suggests the more American fare. "It's got the best beef and pork BBQ ribs in Dublin 15," he says.



ANIMAL INSTINCT Phoenix Park (Dublin 8) is the Central Park of Dublin, according to Harte. It has 1,752 acres of really green space and a zoo. "It's a great spot for a cycle; you can rent a bike for the day." he says. "If you get to the zoo, you should head to the wolves pen and shake your keys. You get a great reaction out of them."



# SHOP WWW.BDROCKS.COM



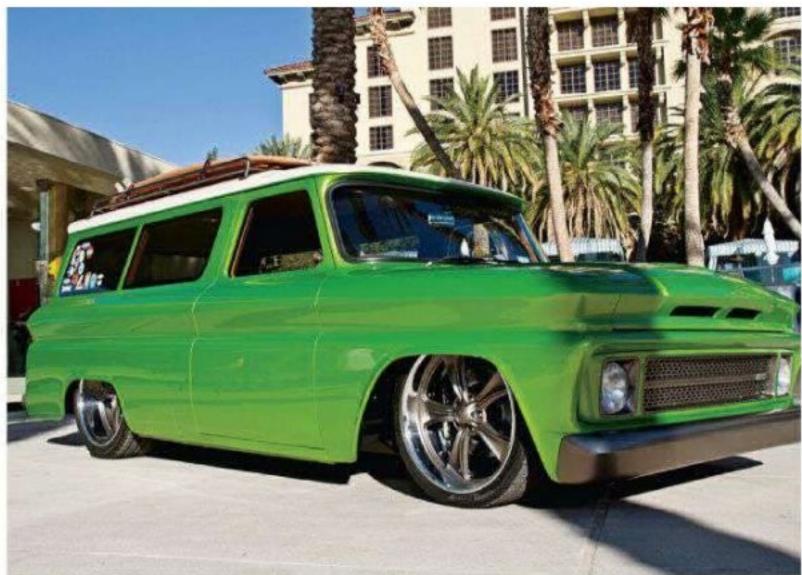


**USE PROMO CODE** INKEDGIRLS **FOR 10% OFF** BDROCKS.COM!

Clockwise from below: Tucci Hot Rods' 1927 "Fire Cracker" Ford roadster; Mr. Gasket's Lime Crush by The Roadster Shop; Voodoo Hot Rods' DIY Build; Randy Ellis's 1945 Willys Jeep.







# AMERICAN CHOPPERS

If you don't have the time to wrench on your own rod, check out the work of the best chop shops.

# THE ROADSTER SHOP FOR MR. GASKET'S LIME CRUSH

The Chevy Suburban has long been the go-to vehicle when it's time to cram the crew in the backseat and head to the beach. The Lime Crush, an electric green '66, puts the "nuclear" in nuclear family with its screaming paint job and kitsch-perfect body work sculpted by The Roadster Shop of Mundelein, IL, for Mr. Gasket. Complete with a surf rack and teak interior, the Lime Crush is a beach bungalow on wheels. Turning heads from the shoreline to the Great Lakes,

it features parts from Mr. Gasket, a brand that emerged from the drag race circuit in 1964, has been cranking out one-of-a-kind components since LBJ was in the White House, and shows no sign of slowing down.

**TUCCI HOT RODS' 1927 "FIRE CRACKER" FORD ROADSTER** Dave Tucci of Tucci Hot Rods in upstate New York isn't a builder; he's a magician. His team's tour de force, the "Fire Cracker," which was given away at the Syracuse Nationals car show, is a display of his deft touch. It looks as if the roadster was put together with a wrench and a wand. It was designed with pre-WWII American engineering, bomber seats from Speedway Motors, and a '32 Duvall windshield frame, and capped off with a gold-leaf number 09 and hood flames. Inside are 185 horses built to run like Man o' War.

RANDY ELLIS'S 1945 WILLYS JEEP Fords and Chevys have been at the forefront of the custom world for as long as it has existed. But Randy Ellis turned his gearhead gaze to another American classic, the Willys Jeep. It's hard to talk American muscle without this tough-as-nails angular icon coming to mind. Ellis used the fact that this Jeep lacked the curves typical of most hot rods to his advantage, and created a low, rugged design with a drag-race aesthetic that didn't compromise the Willys iconic look. The result is a boxy, utilitarian street rod with mud tires—the kind of car Captain America would have driven if he had been born into the Munster family.

VOODOO HOT RODS' DIY BUILD Where's the fun in being a hot rod owner if there's no dirt under your nails? The entire genre is rooted in using your own two hands to create something new out of something old. In that vein, the good folks at Voodoo Hot Rods have taken something from the past—the Deuce roadster—and reproduced its body and chassis using ultra-lightweight and super-durable carbon fiber. Using these throwback pieces, and other parts (listed at voodoohotrods.com), you can build the Evolution 32R in your own garage. Switchblade, pompadour, and letterman jacket not included. —Nick Fierro



now available on INKED SHOP. COM



PINUP & SLASHERY









NOTHING TO WEAR?

Inkedshop.com



### INKED PEOPLE

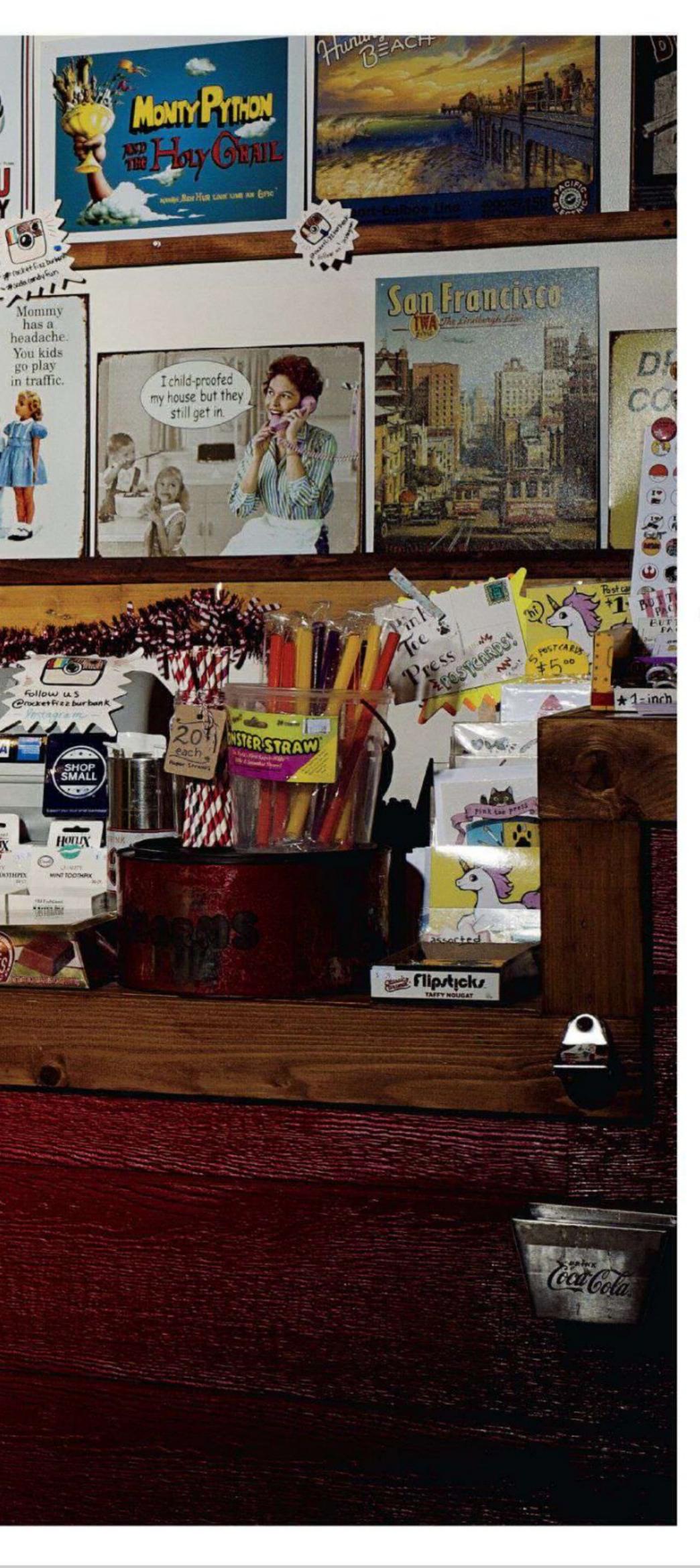
SINGER. CHEF. BAND.



STYLIST, DORIS MAYDAY AT PINUP GIRL BOUTIQUE; MAKEUP, STEPHANIE WEBER; HAIR, TONY MEDINA; LOCATION, ROCKET FIZZ SODA POP & CANDY SHOP IN BURBANK, CA; BANANA LEAF PLAYSUIT. FOLLOWING PAGE: TIGER VAMP DRESS



Find more issues at magazinesdownload.com



# DOMINIQUE PRUITT

The retro pop starlet has an ear for bygone eras.

When listing her influences, singer Dominique Pruitt points to past acts like Patsy Cline, Aretha Franklin, and Elvis as well as the modern soulful sounds of Amy Winehouse, The Black Keys, and The Raveonettes. But she was impacted most by her father and the movie Cry Baby. When she was 9, she saw the John Waters film, and from then on she fell for all things from the mid-20th century, including the sound.

Now, about her father: He is her song-writing partner. In fact, he wrote one of her most gorgeous songs, "To Win Your Love," more than 30 years ago. "My dad wrote it about my mom when she had a boyfriend but he was in love with her," Pruitt says. "Well, apparently the song won her over and they've been married 31 years now. My mom sang the original demo of the song before I was born, and I loved that song growing up. When it came time to record my own album [she is in the process of recording her full-length debut], it was a no-brainer that I would do it, with my own spin."

As a performer, Pruitt knows that half the musical experience is about presence, and she has that not only in spades but in clubs. "If you love a record and go to see the band live and they aren't very good, or they're totally boring, it's really disappointing!" says the singer who is known to knock back tequila shots mid-set. "Also, it can be a killer for a band who is great live to have a meh album, of course. It's very important to me that the album translates well to stage, and vice versa."

The first thing you notice about Pruitt's image is her vibrant red hair. As to whether redheads are more exciting? "I know that I have way more fun as a redhead!" she says. "I'd been red for years, and two years ago I dyed my hair platinum to mix things up. I loved being blond too, but I missed my red way too much and went back after just a few months. I felt like I wasn't myself when I wasn't a redhead."

Adding to the effect of her fiery red 'do are Pruitt's nine tattoos. "I support the mantra of Let your freak flag fly-and truly believe in just being myself," she says. "My tattoos and my personal style are both very colorful, and a little bit kitschy. I'm expressing myself through how I dress, and just consider my tattoos lovely extra accessories."

Her favorite piece, the roses and gypsy on her left thigh, was done by longtime friend Dr. Woo at the Shamrock Social Club in Hollywood. Her first was the peacock on the same leg. "The idea just popped in my brain, and I went with it," she recounts. She plans on getting a couple of great individual pieces on her arms as well as filling up that left leg. As to why she started with her leg, she answers, "Probably also because I'm a born and bred southern California girl-I love my short shorts and showing some tattooed leg." -Charles Walsh

# KRISTEN KISH

How does the elegant Top Chef unwind? With a Miller High Life and "shitty" chicken fingers.

Boston chef Kristen Kish's most recent tattoo—inked just two days before her photo shoot for this magazine—represents irony. The 30-year-old says it has become an overarching theme in her life: She's meticulous and has "a tendency to over-think," yet things never seem to go according to plan—albeit in a very good way.

Take last year, for example. In February, she won Season 10 of Bravo's *Top Chef*, but she had to do it by clawing her way to the top in a parallel web series called *Last Chance Kitchen* after being eliminated from the regular competition. The roundabout win isn't the only way her life has changed course unintentionally. Although Kish was born in Korea, she was adopted at four months by an American couple and grew up in Michigan. She set off to study international business in college, but ended up a chef. Even the fact that she's in Boston at all is a bit of a fluke. After graduating culinary school in Chicago, she was having a rough time and figured, "the best way to start over was kind of just to start over." That meant moving halfway across the country to a city where she knew exactly one person. "I lived in what was essentially a frat house, with five other people I didn't know," she says. "It was a tough year and a half, but it probably helped propel me to where I am now."

And where she is now is a very good place. After Top Chef, Kish was named chef de cuisine at Menton, one of Boston's best restaurants. "It prob-

ably looked to many like I won a TV show and got that job, but it had been in the works for a while," she says. In her position she leads a team that creates seasonal, French- and Italian-inspired food with meticulous French technique. "I do elegant, refined cooking all day, but at the end of the night, I just want a bourbon, a Miller High Life, and some shitty chicken fingers," Kish says, proving that irony was indeed the right theme for her most recent tattoo.

The piece, inked by Ian Dana Camp at Good Faith Tattoos in Clinton, MA, depicts a boy holding a bunch of balloons with strings that have been cut. It's an image that would be kind of sad if it weren't for the fact that the "balloons" on the other end of the strings are actually rocks. The tattoo joins a collection of other images Kish has, including, on her right arm, the identifying number and Korean name she was given before she was adopted and, on her left arm, odes to both her parents, a music note, *fines herbes*, a spoon, and a few others. Kish is also thinking about getting a tattoo inspired by the work of her favorite artist, Justin Bua, but she doesn't want to plan too far ahead.

"If I start thinking about the future and where I want to be, I lose focus on the present," she says. "I mean, when I was 18, I wanted to be married by 24, have a white picket fence and a fucking dog—all that." But she has adjusted her thinking. "Now I just want to be happy. ... I feel like you succeed more when you don't put as much pressure on yourself." —Jennifer Goldstein

38 | INKEDMAG.COM photo by JARED LEEDS



#### INKED PEOPLE

# REVEREND HORTON HEAT

Jim Heath, the frontman of the seminal rockabilly act, preaches on.

"I been wearing creepers since '82," says Jim Heath, a.k.a. Reverend Horton Heat, with a hint of Texas drawl. He's enjoying some down time before the full North American tour in support of *Rev*, his band's first album in four years, and musing on rockabilly fashion—all the greased hair, hot rod tattoos, and pin-ups in polka dots you see today.

"The Stray Cats, the Cramps, and the Blasters had a lot to do with fusing rockabilly with punk. When the Blasters came through Dallas in 1983, my friend called it the 'Great Rockabilly Scare of 1983,'" Heath remembers. "Rockabilly lasted through the swing movement. I loved those bands, but the people got a little snobbish. The rockabilly scene can feel that way to a degree. But by and large those are my people and I'm into the culture."

The vocalist and guitarist grew up in Texas and formed Reverend Horton Heat in 1985, building a retro, distortion-laden foundation for a subgenre of alternative with two albums on Sub Pop Records. They've put out 10 records and worn plenty of pavement since. "Our last album was really country. It was fun to do and it's a cool album, but modern country people, they don't really give a crap about Merle Haggard or Willie Nelson. They just

listen to this bad rock and roll that they call country. We like playing wild, fast, rock 'n' roll shows." Victory Records is putting out the new album, but the Rev doesn't sweat that the label is best known for its catalogue of hard-core bands. "I just need their promotional machine—which is based around us playing live gigs—to keep this whole thing running."

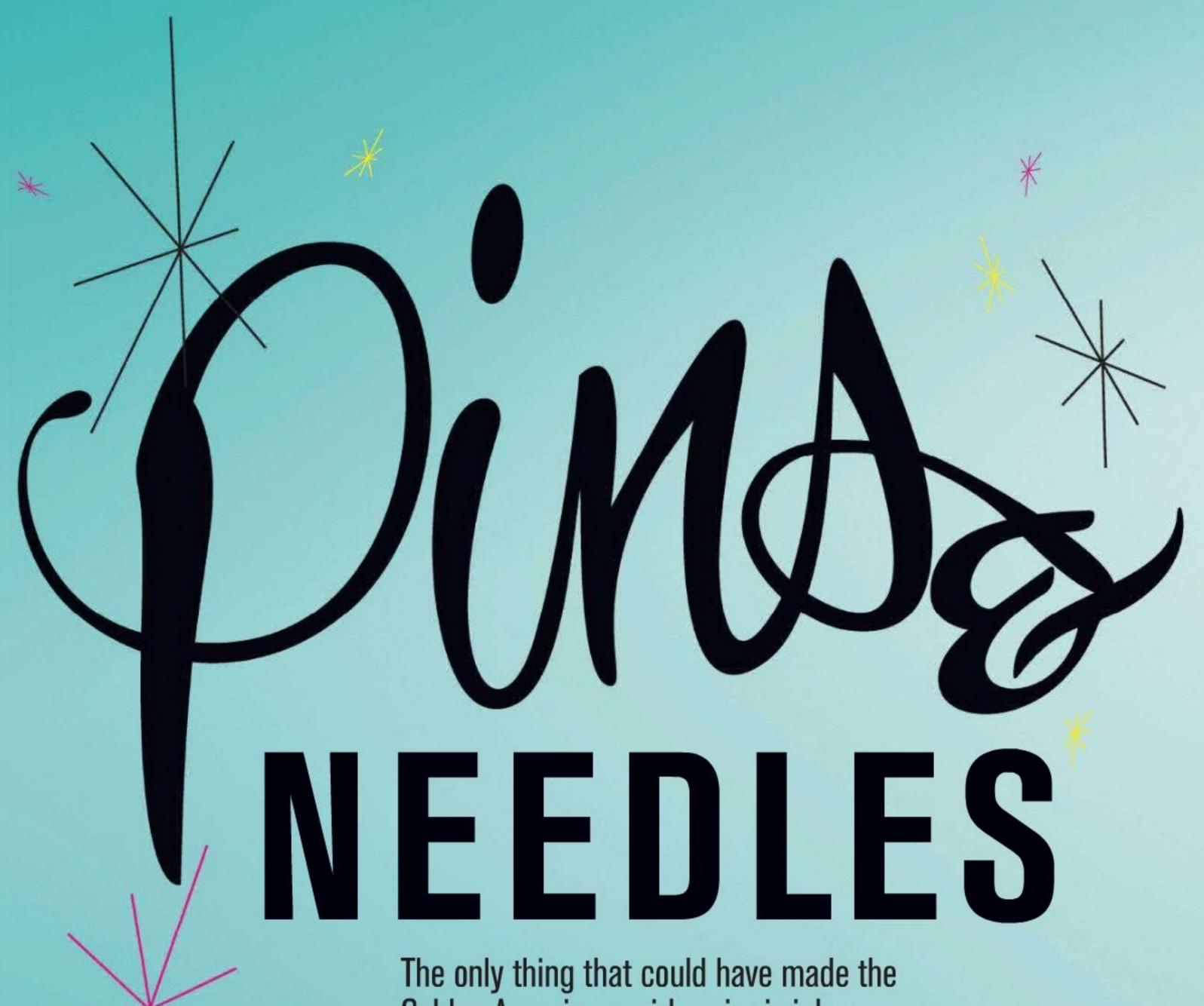
Although he doesn't have sleeves of devil girls or sailor tats, the band members do have some very classic ink. However, Heath warns against getting the logo of your favorite musical artist as a tattoo. "Say you have a Gary Glitter tattoo—you never know when someone is gonna get hauled off to jail for being a pedophile! The whole [tattoo] kind of hinges on their future behavior," he laughs.

So what is a night out with the Reverend like these days? Fast women and a car chase?

"It used to be that way—a few broken bottles—but I'm a husband and a father now. I play so many shows myself. But if something special comes through, my wife and I will go out. And actually, the last time we did get in a barroom brawl." —Jon Coen

40 INKEDMAG.COM photo by JAY WATSON





Golden Age pin-up girl sexier is ink.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN SAINT ILLUSTRATION BY TESS BARBER



















# OILANDWATER

At the Race of Gentlemen, taste the salt, sand, and emissions from vehicles that came off the line before the catalytic converter was invented.

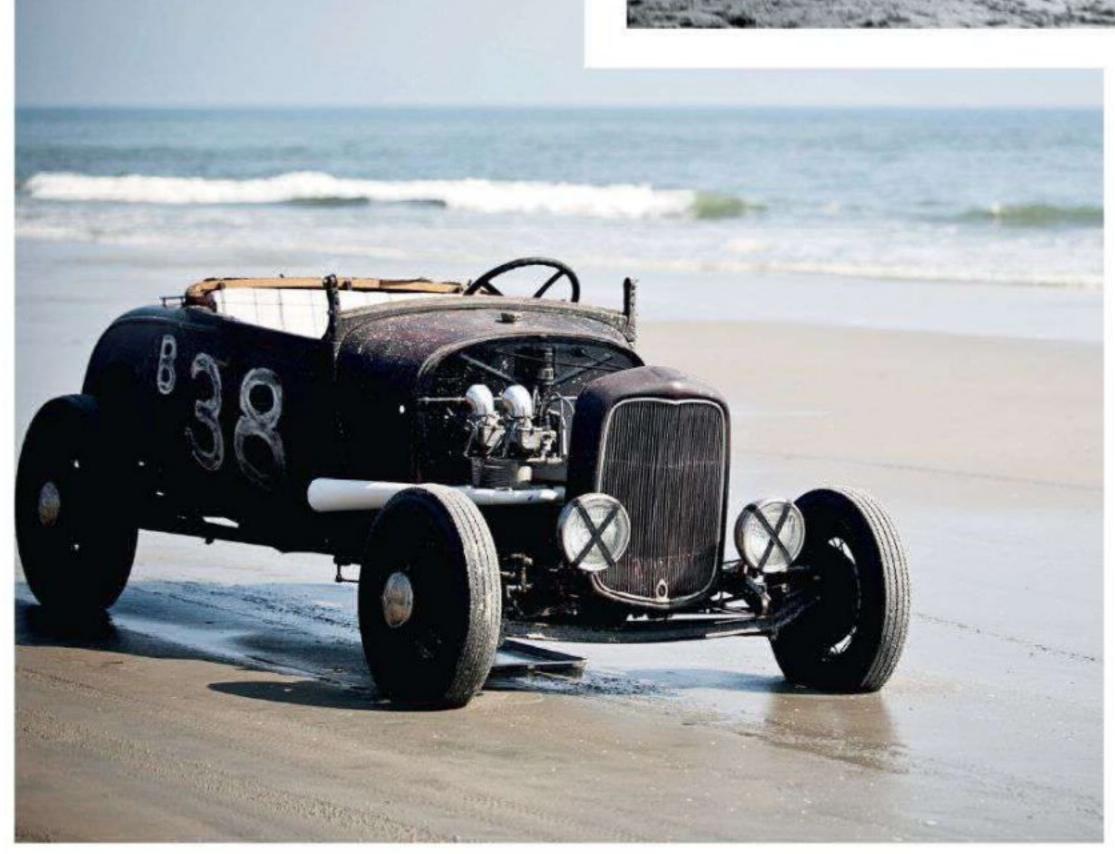
BY JON COEN PHOTOS BY ANN COEN

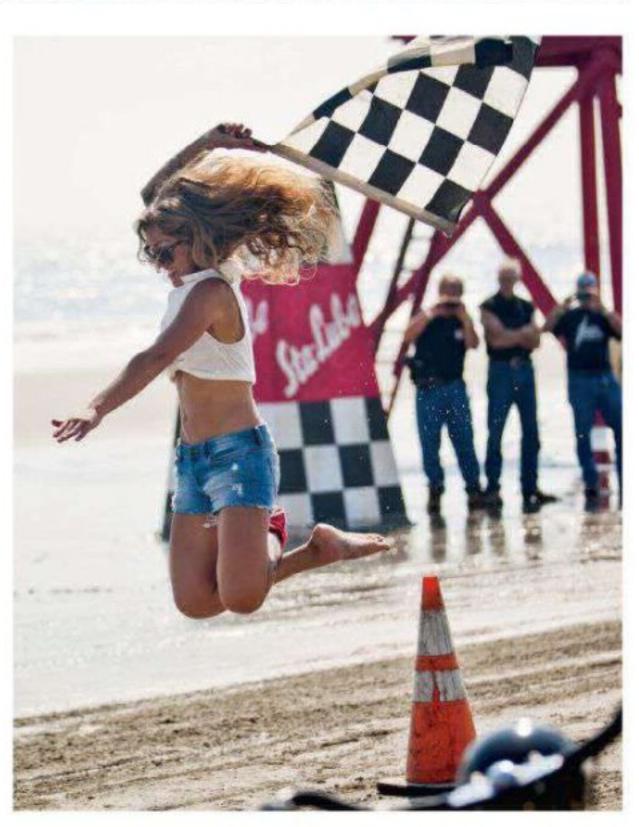


















Find more issues at magazinesdownload.com





n a sunny Indian summer day, vintage hot rod and motorcycle tires caused sand to spray as if it were surf on the Wildwood, NJ, shore. "It's a way to get New Jersey on the map for something cool for a change instead of Tony Soprano or some housewives," explains Tom Larusso of Oilers Car Club, amidst the early mayhem of the 2013 Race of Gentlemen. Much respect to the late Gandolfini-but point well taken. "There's a lot of work that goes into the race, but at the end of the day, I'll look out and see that I made 8,000 or so people really happy," Larusso says.

From the din of old-ass engines, a gasp arises from the several hundred folks sitting on a berm of sand watching the action. Larusso's event director partner, Mel Stultz, had been surfing down the low-tide flats on his 1939 Indian Chief, one bare foot on the backseat and the other on the gas tank, when he spilled and tumbled forward.

"Hang on a second," says Larusso. "Let me make sure he's all right."

Stultz gets up without bothering to shake the Atlantic's fine, silty sand off his jeans and bounds across the track, past pre-World War II motorcycles and hot rods, making his way through the crowd, greeting acquaintances and chuckling to friends.

Larusso shakes his head and continues: "We wanted to keep it all original. We've had a good turnout both days and I won a few races. I'm happy."

The Race of Gentlemen was born out of an idea between Larusso and Stultz. The former handles the logistics and financials; the latter handles the creative and spontaneous circus stunts. The first race was held in 2012 on the beaches of Allenhurst, NJ, some 100 miles north, but there simply wasn't enough room between the ocean and boardwalk. In 2013, Larusso says the Greater Wildwood Hotel and Motel Association actually asked the partners to bring the show to their wide, flat beaches. The number of racers and fans doubled. The classic American boardwalk and Wildwood's retro-style architecture and amusements lend a perfect backdrop.

"The town is over-the-moon happy with us, and that means the world to me," says Stultz. "We are sometimes looked at as hooligans, and while most of us are nonconformists, we are gentlemen that just wear our hearts on our sleeves. Once you get past the beards, funny mustaches, tattoos, or whatever, you find men that have passion and a love of what helped found this countrymechanical engineering."







The idea of racing vintage motorcycles and automobiles on the beach sounds pretty novel. And it is. But back in the days when Triumph, the fledgling Harley-Davidson, and Indian Motorcycles were putting out their first bikes in the early 1900s-at the same time the Dodge Brothers and Henry Ford were fine-tuning their automobiles-racing of machines was done on the beach. For decades, stock cars zipped along the sand of Daytona Beach before the Daytona International Speedway hosted its first race in 1959.

"This doesn't happen anywhere else in the States. It's really impressive. At a car show, you sit on a lawn chair and people check out your car. But this is a whole other level," says Jim Loughlin of Jamesburg, NJ. He, his brother, Brett, and his father, John, had built the car -from scratch-the week before the event. It was one of two fromscratch hot rods out of the 35 or so.

"We basically built it for this weekend," says Loughlin. "We saw this race last year and built the body out of five metal sheets. We were still working on it Friday afternoon."

Most of the day's racing is impromptu. Rival car clubs square off-the Oilers, the Villains, the Gasket Goons, the Alter Boys, the Injectors of Branchville-and grudge matches are settled. Tattoo artists race against tattoo artists. Bosses race against employees. Stultz races everyone. When two revving vintage engines come up to the line, announcer Nick Foster offers comedic, old-timey commentary, vivacious Sarah drops the checkered flag, and the cars fly toward glory, oneeighth of a mile away. "And they're off in a cloud of smoke and sand and machismo," Foster announces.

Generally, whoever gets off the

line first wins, but occasionally a roadster will splash through the shallows and overtake its sandcaked opponent at the finish. Scott McCann of Deluxe Speed Shop in Denver wins for the fastest Flathead V8 with his 1928 roadster that did 117.3 mph at Bonneville Speedway in 1952. Mike Santino wins among the four-bangers.

"It's a really squirrely track," says Josh Kohn of the Immortal Ink shops in Flemington and Clinton, NJ. "But it's really easy to spin a hole off the line. So there's some skill involved. You try not to dig in. It's not just about horsepower."

Kohn is racing with his club, the Gasket Goons. He grew up around cars before he got into tattooing, and the Goons' Pennsylvania and New Jersey chapters arrived on Friday and threw up their banner at the Starlux Boutique Hotel for the weekend. Kohn brought his whole family down, and raced a 1930 Model A Ford with a baby seat and his own custom artwork, as well as a Panhead bike.

The weekend has proven to be the perfect storm of hot rods, rock 'n' roll, and tattoo culture, with the likes of Pat Simmons of the Doobie Brothers; motorcycle Cannonballer Sean Brayton; owner of Inksmith and Rogers, Mike Wilson; noted bronze moto sculptor Jeff Decker; and Orange County Choppers mechanic Rick Petko. Stultz's event props, cleverly done to re-create the vintage hell-on-wheels feel, complete the scene. "Why let 'em sit in a museum when we can keep 'em running?" asks Stultz. "We have the technology to rebuild. Ride it hard, rebuild, repeat!" The racing may not be as fast as NASCAR, but when it comes to aesthetics and good times, nothing beats the Race of Gentlemen.

# INKMASTER

Spike TV's Ink Master, starring the judges at right, harks back to a time when America made things by hand. This season, the contestants vying for \$100,000, a feature in INKED, and the title of Ink Master have varying styles, and will be serving up offerings as diverse as the specials on a diner menu.

BY ROCKY RAKOVIC
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ERIKA LIU



Dave





Chris Nañez





#### **KYLE DUNBAR**

FROM	FLINT, MI
SHOP	ALMIGHTY TATTOO
EXPERIENCE	21 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	REALISM

MISSION: Dunbar, a contestant on season 3, wants to prove he deserved the opportunity to come back.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: He's a nice a guy until you push him. Look for the Juggalos to support him through social media.

# Season 4



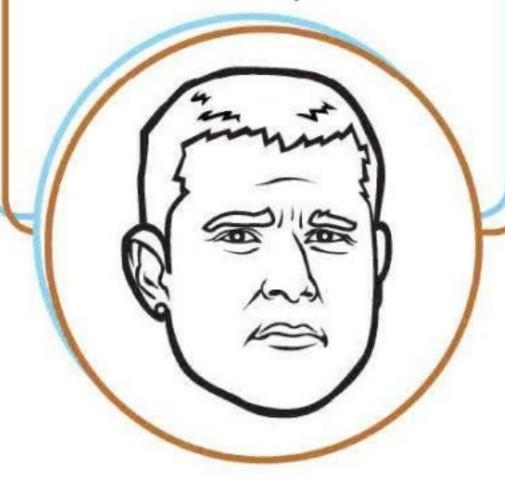
#### "The Hothead"

#### **BUBBA IRWIN**

FROM	. SCOTTSDALE, AZ
SHOP	OLD TOWN INK
EXPERIENCE	7 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE REA	LISM (PORTRAITS)

MISSION: He started tattooing out of his house and wants to rise from the basement to lnk Master.

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** He's the son of a farmer and a former motocross racer who has broken more bones than you could name.



#### "The Polynesian Perfectionist"



#### **ROLAND PACHECO**

FROM	HAWI, HI
SHOP	XISLE CUSTOM TATTOO
EXPERIENCE	8 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	POLYNESIAN

MISSION: He may have only been tattooing for eight years but he's been producing art for over two decades and will bring his talents in watercolor, charcoal, and animation to the competition.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: He free dives, spearfishes, and burns it up on motorcycles.



#### "The Bull"

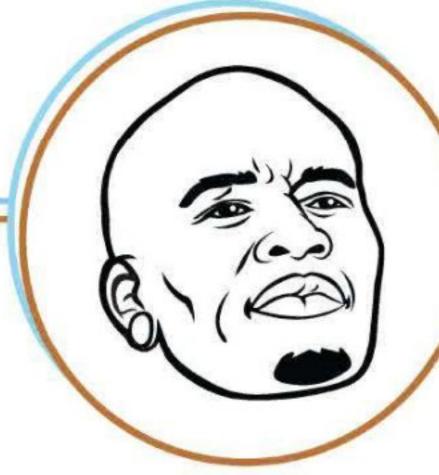
#### **JIM FRANCIS**

FROM	GREENFIELD, WI
SHOP	MILWAUKEE INK
EXPERIENCE	12 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE AM	ERICAN TRADITIONAL

MISSION: To win this thing, Francis will "throw you under the bus and make you think you did it to yourself."

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** Has an ego bigger than his chin hair and is looking forward to "shit talking."





#### KING RUCK

FROM	LAS VEGAS
SHOP BLA	CK SPADE TATTOO
EXPERIENCE	7 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	NEW SCHOOL

MISSION: He wants to take down the "spoiled brats" in the industry who are all attitude and no art.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: Into graffiti before he started tattooing, King Ruck often refers to himself in the third person.

#### "The Ruckus"

#### "The Rule Breaker"

#### HALO

FROM	SEVERN, MD
SHOP	BLACK LOTUS TATTOO GALLERY
EXPERIENCE	9 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	REALISM, NEW SCHOOL, COLOR WORK

MISSION: Halo has won more than 150 awards and is looking for the supreme title. He promises, "There will be blood."

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** After recently beating cancer, Halo has a new lease on life and isn't going to put up with anybody's shit.

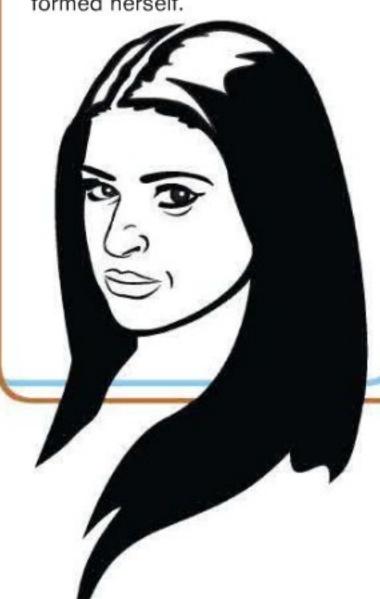
#### "The Cutie"

#### **ASHLEY BENNETT**

FRO	)M	CLIFTON PARK, NY
SHO	DP	TRUE TATTOO STUDIO
EXF	ERIENCE	6 YEARS
FAV	ORITE STYLE.	AMERICAN
	TRADITIONAL A	ND LETTERING WORK

MISSION: "Out to prove that girls can do exactly what the guys can do, and better. The tattoo world needs more estrogen."

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** She was a self-described "fat girl" who transformed herself.



# Seventeen Contestants



#### "The Confident Zueen"



#### **RANDY VOLLINK**

FROM	MESA, AZ
SHOP	
EXPERIENCE	9 YEARS
FAVORITE STVI F	PORTRAITS PHOTO-REALISM

MISSION: He's planning to use his sexual orientation to his advantage by flirting with other (male) contestants. If anyone is uncomfortable, "All the better, let them be thrown off their game!"

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** Vollink isn't all charm; he refers to himself as a diva who will "cut you" if you step over the line.



## Electric 7attooing

#### "The Alpha Male"

#### **SCOTT MARSHALL**

FROM PLAINFIELD, IL
SHOP ROSELLE TATTOO CO.
EXPERIENCE
FAVORITE STYLE HE LIKES TO BE "VERSATILE"

MISSION: Marshall works quickly and is quick to run his mouth. Pair that with his belief that he is the "motherfucking man" and it won't be surprising if other contestants are knocked off their game.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: He graduated from the American Academy of Art, Chicago, so he has a deep appreciation and understanding of art beyond tattooing.



#### "The Real Deal"

#### **DAVID BELL**

FROM	FREDERICKSBURG, VA
SHOP	TLA TATTOO
EXPERIENCE	. MORE THAN 20 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	BLACK-AND-GRAY

MISSION: "To show what a true, apprenticed, well-rounded tattoo artist is all about."

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** Bell has three children and is married to a woman with more tattoos than he has.





#### **WALTER "SAUSAGE" FRANK**

FROM	LAS VEGAS
SHOP	CLUB TATTOO
EXPERIENCE	13 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE . REALISM, PORTR	AITS, BLACK-AND-GRAY

MISSION: Frank wants to do as well as his coworker Joey Hamilton, the winner of the title last season.

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** Sausage is an entertainer. Expect some comic relief from the man nicknamed after encased meat.

"The Entertainer"

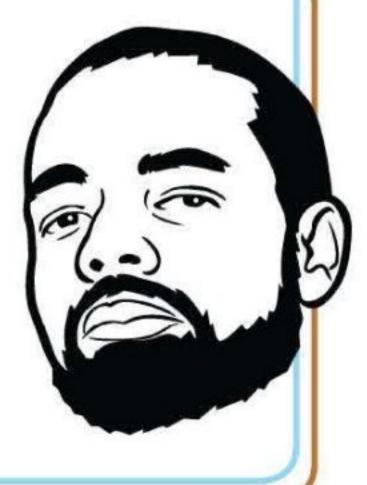
#### "The Overconfident Rookie"

#### **DAMON**

FROM	BOSTON
SHOP	BROCKTON INK
EXPERIENCE	3 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE	ILLUSTRATIVE

MISSION: He's behind on his rent, car payments, insurance, and other bills so he's here both for notoriety and for that \$100,000.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: He's only been tattooing for three years, so he knows that contestants are going to pick on him. He would like to say that he'll let his work speak for itself but admits that he has a "broken filter."



#### 'The Black Widow"

#### LYDIA

FROM.......ALBANY, NY
SHOP......UNIQUE ARTS STUDIOS
EXPERIENCE.....9 YEARS
FAVORITE STYLE....BLACK-AND-GRAY,
PHOTO-REALISM, "MORBID"

MISSION: She wants to take down the contestants who "tattoo like drunk 4-year-olds." Don't be shocked if she pipes up as others are being judged.

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** As a boxer, Lydia was told that she was "too aggressive." Watch for her mean left hook.

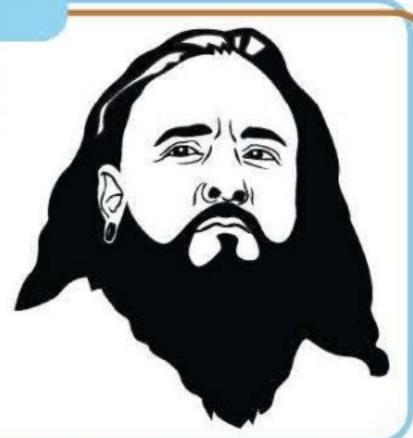


#### "Maybe Not So Gentle"

#### "GENTLE" JAY BLONDEL

MISSION: Blondel sees this as his coming-out party and doesn't think there is another contestant who can "spank him."

OUT OF THE CHAIR: The "Gentle" Jay nickname is misleading, akin to calling a big guy "Tiny"; look for him to provide drama.

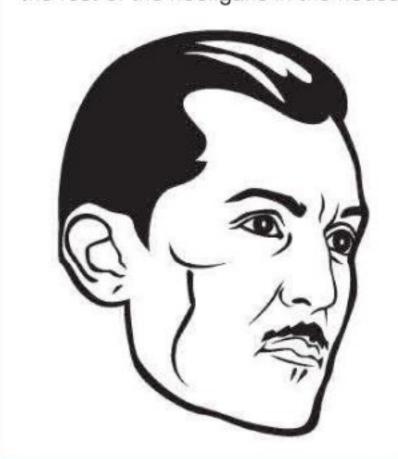


#### "Mr. 700 Cool"

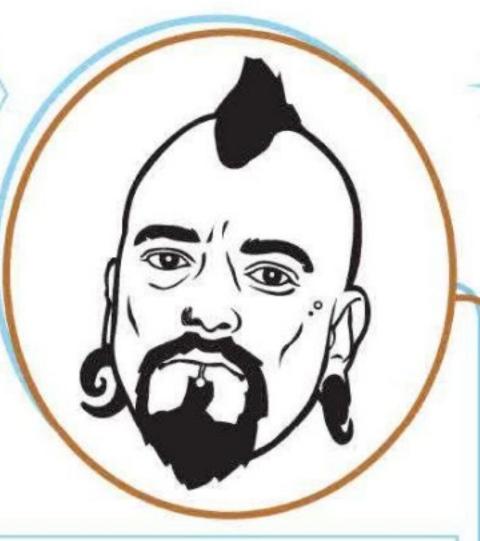
#### **KEITH DIFFENDERFER**

MISSION: Diffenderfer left tattooing to make money in construction in order to support his young son. Now he's back and ready to prove himself.

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** A former Catholic altar boy and disciplined martial artist, his demeanor is respectful compared with the rest of the hooligans in the house.





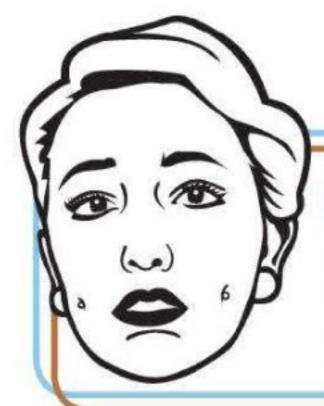


#### **MATT HIXSON**

MISSION: He's here to win, here for the fame, and here for the money. If you try to befriend him he'll "throw a drink in your face."

**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** He admits that people describe him as a "dickhead-asshole without a filter."

"The Loose Cannon"



#### **MELISSA MONROE**

FROM. FARMINGTON, WI SHOP. HOMEWARD BOUND TATTOO EXPERIENCE 5 YEARS FAVORITE STYLE PIN-UPS, NATURE

#### "The Small-Town Girl"

MISSION: She won't back down to anyone who thinks her five years of experience in the industry aren't enough to let her be called lnk Master.

OUT OF THE CHAIR: Monroe may have a laid-back, midwestern attitude, but being the black sheep of her small town has made her tough.











he great thing about burlesque is that it's stripping but with the theatrics of things like ballet, magic, and aerial, and it has an element of comedy," says Katrina Darling. "Burlesque traditionally came from when a comedian toured with a girl and he would use her to bounce off jokes, and in between sets he would push the woman out and she would disrobe-most of the time rather inelegantly. It wasn't the art form that it has evolved to these days." The doe-eyed Brit with blond hair (for the moment) speaks with an aggressive conviction about her passion, maybe even with a tiny crisp on her shoulder because she wants everybody to take her life's work seriously. Burlesque is a lot like tattooing: The uninformed group people scratching tattoos in prison along with Filip Leu, just like they'd classify the go-go dancer splaying herself to the tune of Buckcherry as being on par with Katrina.

No, Katrina is a performer who uses both her wit and body to create art on the stage. She conceives her acts, she choreographs, she designs her look, and she taps into the souls of her audience. "Everybody likes to smile and have a laugh. There's a variety of people in the room, and I try to get everybody on the same level. There is a tangible thread throughout humanity."

She draws a very mixed crowd; for example, at an AIDS benefit in Vienna, both President Clinton and Elton John watched her act. "I have performed for everybody from plumbers to princes."

Speaking of royalty, Darling is not the only headliner in her family: You have probably heard of her distant cousin Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge. In her showstopping act "God Save the Queen," Darling rocks her own tiara, swathes herself in the Union Jack, and dances to the British national anthem and the Sex Pistols. "Burlesque really gives me a platform to be as creative as I want to be while I tell a story," she says. "I want you to be entertained, to see something visually gorgeous and awe-inspiring."

Part of the visual is her collection of tattoos. "How I position and pose myself onstage is definitely influenced by how I have adorned my body," Katrina says. She got her first tattoo around her 18th birthday when her friends were at a music festival at Glastonbury and she had to stay home because she had shows booked. "I wanted to have my own rock 'n' roll fun, and that was when I got the little ice-cream cone on my ankle."

Her intricate pieces are done by her best friend's fiancé, Daniel Hartley, who works out of Cock A Snook Tattoo Parlour in Newcastle, England. Her fair skin is adorned with plenty of roses, a black swan, a stag's head, and a cat. "I am a crazy cat lady," she says. "It is just a bit of a pissed off pussy."

Katrina gets tattoos when she feels she's accomplished something. "Sort of in the way that tribes have tattoos to mark different stages of their lives, I feel the need to get tattooed when I have leveled up as a person," she says. While her ambitions are great, she isn't in a rush to completely fill up her skin just yet. "I slowed the pace down a little bit because I don't want to run out of good real estate too early," she says. "I still want to be getting tattoos when I am an older lady." -Rocky Rakovic













# Q & A

# ASKING ALEXANDRIA

The frontman and lead guitarist of the outlandish metalcore band share—maybe even over-share—with INKED.

### BY BRYAN REESMAN PHOTOS BY BRADLEY MEINZ

Considering they pride themselves on being hedonistic hell-raisers, it's probably no surprise that Asking Alexandria singer Danny Worsnop and lead guitarist Ben Bruce jovially make fun of themselves and the lunatic circus they are a part of, confessing to all sorts of sins. Don't be fooled by the aggro, metalcore-flavored sounds on their third and latest album, From Death to Destiny; they're soaking in booze, babes, and bravado. Just watch their short film, Through Sin + Self-Destruction—a narrative collection of videos from their second album, Reckless & Relentless—to witness what Bruce calls a documentary of their lives, which are clearly inspired by '80s-era debauchery.

In spite of their potentially debilitating excess, Asking Alexandria's music has evolved on its most recent album, with Worsnop singing more (after a recent vocal recuperation) and the group churning out melodic, '80s-style riffs with greater character. We got a chance to probe further into the British band's decadence, their ink, and, as Worsnop says, their "fuck-uppery and sheer lack of regard for any rules."

INKED: There is a lack of rock stars these days. Are you trying to bring that back?

Ben Bruce: Yeah, I absolutely agree, everyone seems to be little bit of a bitch these days. They've lost the whole spirit of rock 'n' roll itself. I don't think we've gone out of our way to bring it back. It's just that we actually are a bunch of dickheads, so it just happens.

And you're proud of it.

Bruce: Totally proud.

You were banned at a club down South because you got fans to hang from the ceiling, right?

Bruce: Oh God, yes. Worsnop, was that in Birmingham, Alabama?

Danny Worsnop: Yeah. They tore the ceiling down.

### Did you ask them to do that?

Worsnop: I don't likely remember.

Bruce: I remember. It was when we get the crowd to crouch down on the floor and jump up. It was a particularly low ceiling, so Worsnop said, "I want you to jump up and not let go." So they did, and the whole roof caved in.

### What did the club do about that?

**Bruce:** They fucked us. They sued us and banned us from the area.

# Did they win?

Bruce: Yes.

Worsnop: We didn't have much on our side for that one.

Bruce: It was all on film. We couldn't deny it.

# You definitely like to talk about partying and chicks, but that's not everything that this new album is about. There is a tiny bit of growing up going on.

Bruce: There's a tad of growing up going on. Worsnop would disagree that I've grown up at all, but I think we've all grown up a little bit. I think we're a lot more competent songwriters and musicians now, and it shows through the record. There are still songs about partying and stuff like that. Worsnop wrote the lyrics. He went through some shit times during this record and some good times, so it shows.

# Worsnop, what's the most personal song for you on this album?

Worsnop: Probably "Moving On." It's a story through my life. [It's about] always leaving something behind, and coming to this life expecting to fill a void and being painfully aware that you're always going to need that. It's still lonely and difficult to be on the road ... away from home and away from our friends. It gets hard.

From Death to Destiny was recorded in eight different studios on three continents, and you had vocal issues. Do you think there is a sense of angst or anger that you brought into this album because of that?

Worsnop: I tore a vocal cord. The problems weren't related to the

album; they were just personal things. I disappeared for a while. There were a lot of problems trying to get my head into the right place.

Vou guys spend a lot of time touring in America. What do you love most about touring here?

Bruce: I love the fact that there is fucking Wi-Fi everywhere. We go to Europe, and there's no internet. It's a nightmare. That fucking blows. We all moved to the States about six years ago now, so this has almost become home to us. When we're touring the States, we're most comfortable here. We've got our tour buses, and our friends and our family are around us. It's like we're home.

Worsnop: To me, when we go over to England it's like an American band

# So if you have family coming with you on the road, are you more aware of when you're acting like an asshole?

going to England.

Bruce: We're definitely more aware of when we're acting like an asshole, but we just don't give a shit.

Worsnop: They know what we're like.

We've been like this our whole lives.

Nothing's changed because we're in a band.

Who's the biggest prankster in the band?

Bruce: We don't really play pranks.

We're usually too drunk.

# "I'M CONSTANTLY TRYING TO GET DRUNK ENOUGH SO THAT I KEEP FALLING OVER JUST IN THE HOPES THAT THE TATTOOS WILL RUB OFF."-BEN BRUCE

### You guys have a ton of ink.

Worsnop: I do-a whole bunch of crap.

Vour right arm is covered in trippy imagery, including dragon faces and skulls, with a little bit of pastel color thrown in there.

Worsnop: My right arm was done by a guy called Sean Zee. We pieced together a bunch of different designs and created this big, evil pile of color on my right arm. The rest is by a guy called Clint Cummings from Texas. I'm seeing him in a few days to have another session.

# So did Clint do the Fender Telecaster and "Forgiven" tattoos on your left arm? Worsnop: One of them was done in

Dubai by a woman whose name I don't remember, and the other was done by Sean Zee. He did my hands and the Telecaster.

Who inked "Fuck This" on your fingers?
Worsnop: That was a guy in San Diego, and I don't remember his name. I only got that one piece, I think.

What was the inspiration for your right arm? Worsnop: There is none. [Laughs.] It's just a bunch of intense shit.

As you add more tattoos later on, do you think they'll have more significance for you?

Worsnop: No, I'm the worst at meaningful tattoos. All my tattoos mean ...

I like tattoos.

# Where did "Forgiven" come from?

Worsnop: I got "Forsaken" first on my right hand ... and "Forgiven" went alongside it. The "Forsaken" was the first tattoo I got, and I can't remember for the life of me why I got it. It just looked good in the font.

What other ink do you have on your body?
Worsnop: On my leg, yeah. I got a
bunch of stuff on my right [leg] when
I was drunk on alcohol or other
things over the years. I got a lot of
wild shit on there that people have
done. I didn't think at the time that
when you give drunk musicians even
so much as a pencil, they're going
to draw dicks, so I've got a couple
of dicks tattooed on me, crudely and
with little to no technique.
Bruce: You're welcome.

### Bruce, did you ink stuff on him?

Bruce: I did, actually. Probably one of his best pieces is a little stick man jerking off and it says, "I like Bruce's penis 'cause it's exactly like mine," or something like that.

### You have such a comfortable bromance.

Worsnop: It's a second calling to Bruce. It came naturally to him, and I think he has a bright future in stick-figure tattooing.

## Bruce, you have said that you have a lot of "shitty smiley faces" on your body.

Bruce: I do. I have two smiley faces on my knees. One of them says, "Laugh Out Loud." One of them says, "What The Fuck?" They are just the worst things you've ever seen. In fact, I blame my drinking habit on those tattoos because I'm constantly trying to get drunk enough so that I keep falling over just in the hopes that the tattoos will rub off. It's also what I blame my cock addiction on—as much time on my knees as possible.

# What other stuff do you have on your body?

Bruce: My right sleeve is basically imagery of "A Single Moment of Sincerity." My left arm is the same thing, but for "The Final Episode." They were just the first two songs we wrote together as a band, and they are kind of the reason we took off and are where we are at now. They just tell the story [of each song] in image form. I got two very large swallows on my chest—again, for my love of cock. It says "Family First Deposit." Then I've just got a bunch of random shit on my legs and my feet and my ass.

# You have a weird Jesus-Iron Maiden tattoo on one foot, correct?

Bruce: I do, on my left. I have Jesus doing the devil horns wearing an Iron Maiden T-shirt, and it says "Lord of Metal" around his head. We've played with them a few times, but I've never actually shown the band [the tattoo]. I don't know if they would be impressed.

### Who did your ink?

Bruce: Sean Zee did all of my good, legit stuff on my neck, my arms, and my chest. Everything else was by random tattoo artists in random shops. [Bassist] Sam [Bettley] actually did one on my ass. That's good.

### What is it?

Bruce: You know when you go to the cinema or the mall and you see

those emergency exit signs? That little dude running out the door? I've got that guy running into my asshole, which is pretty good. I've got another tattoo on my right butt cheek that says "Noon Groovers" because I like to groove at noon, apparently. It sucks because I was in the bathroom the other day taking a shit, and I stood up and thought, Oh man, look at my ass-I can never, ever have sex with a woman ever again and walk away thinking, Ohhh yeeeah. They're just going to watch me walk away and think, What the fuck did I just have sex with? What a dickhead. Worsnop: You can't be a badass. Just wipe your dick on the curtain and leave.

# You guys are a public service announcement on why not to get drunk and get tattooed.

Bruce: No, do it. Go for it. I think it's hilarious, and I don't want to be the only one dickhead left. I want everyone to feel my pain. So, yes, go ahead, do it. It's a great idea.

Worsnop: Bring everyone else down with you.

# How much alcohol tolerance do you guys have at this point? How much do you tend to drink in one night?

Bruce: I normally drink a bottle of whiskey myself at night plus however many double vodka Red Bulls and however many beers. I'm probably dying slowly but surely.

Worsnop: And I don't know how to count.

# When you played the Best Buy Theater in New York about a year and a half ago, there was a line around the block early on. Why do you think they were willing to get there so early?

**Worsnop:** They thought the cast of *Twilight* comes to the show, but it was all a lie.

Bruce: They really have nowhere else to go because we sleep with all of them and give them all [a venereal disease], so our shows are more like a support group.

**Worsnop:** They just come to the shows to collect child support.

# What's the craziest thing a fan has ever done? Bruce: I had a guy ask me to sign his

penis. He slapped his cock out on the table in front of me.

# And did you?

Bruce: Yes, I did.

### Do you think he got it tattooed?

**Bruce:** Maybe. I don't know. That would be good.

**Worsnop:** We had a cool little gang bang with some fans who were very friendly.

Bruce: Is that the one I was in?
Worsnop: No, I was thinking of a different one. [Bruce grumbles.]

### They must have been very friendly fans.

Worsnop: Very friendly. Very hospitable to my penis.

### Do you ever worry about STDs?

Worsnop: I just pretend they don't exist. [Bruce laughs.] Ignorance is bliss. As long as it's not falling off, it's all right.

# Do you guys have a favorite tattoo of each other's?

Bruce: We've got each other tattooed on each other.

# You've got each other's names tattooed on each other?

Bruce: You can't see it. It's in a special white ink. Right by my penis.

### So you guys really love each other.

Bruce: Oh yeah.

Worsnop: No, I think he's a prick.

Bruce: That's what the tattoo says. "I think you're a prick."

# What do you think your fans would be surprised to learn about you?

Bruce: Nothing at this point.

Worsnop: I don't think many people would be surprised by anything we did at this point. We've crossed the line of being able to surprise people. Everything is expected now.

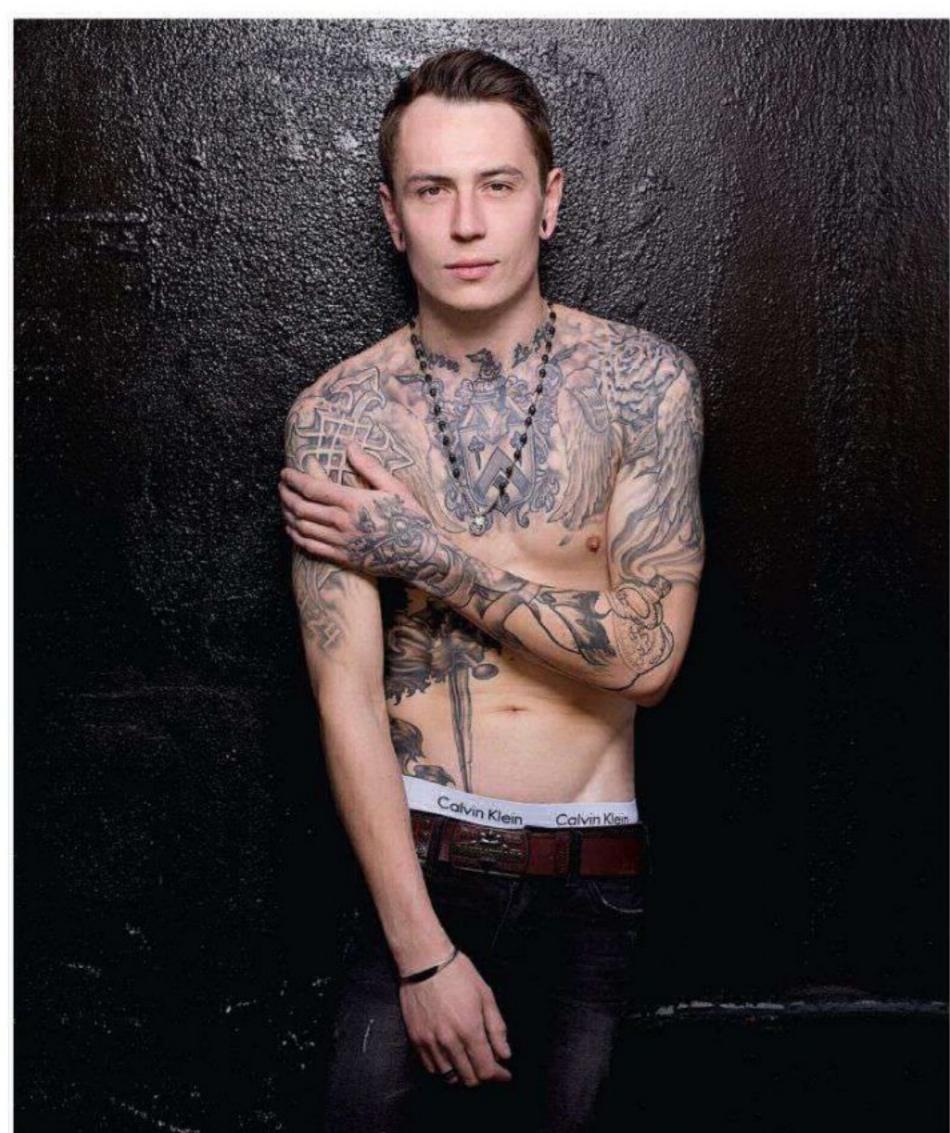
### Maybe your next album should be your bornagain, Jesus phase. That'd be unexpected.

Worsnop: Well, that would be predictable. I'm due for that. In the schedule of rock stardom, I've had my downfall, I've come back, then I've had another downfall, then I'm back. So I should find Jesus pretty soon, take a hiatus, go to Tibet, become a monk, come back, then have a downfall again, and then I should be on the straight and narrow just to cruise from then on out. Or die.

# You guys should have been around back in the '80s.

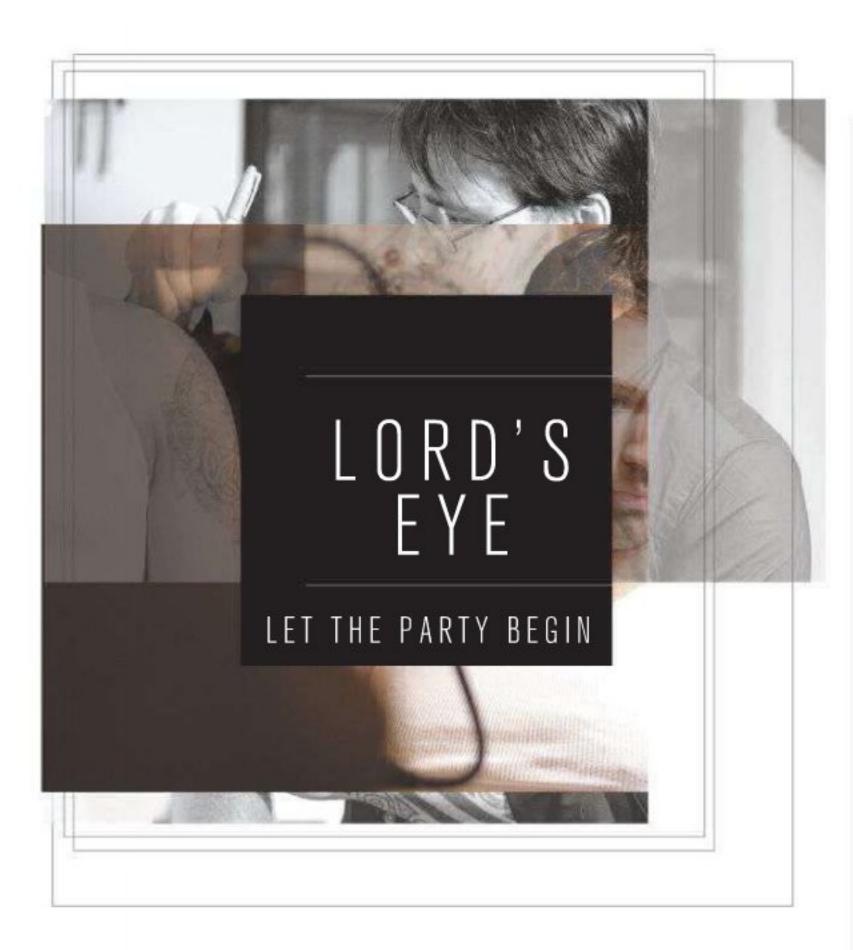
Bruce: If we were alive back in the '80s, we might not be alive now.











# PART 4 OF ONE MAN'S JOURNEY INTO THE ELITE WORLD OF TATTOOING ART AND CULTURE.

BY JOHN BUFFALO MAILER PHOTOS BY KATRINA EUGENIA

ack at East Side Ink, John Buffalo Mailer was sobering up quickly and trying to continue an interview as tattoo artist Josh Lord worked on his arm. "Now, do you think you're going to do this forever?" Buffalo asked him. The multitasking of being in the head of an interviewer while also being in the head of someone who is having his body permanently altered turned out to be, once again, more of a trick than Buffalo had anticipated.

"I would really like to," Lord answered as he put some more white into the new cherry blossoms on Buffalo's shoulder. "Saying I've always enjoyed it doesn't even do it justice. I love tattooing! Tattooing is really what's led me to all the other things I love doing and am successful with."

"Can I have a pickle?" Katrina asked.

They had brought their leftovers back from Beco. A little backup nourishment, Buffalo had thought to himself when they were leaving the restaurant. Not for him. He was high on the adrenaline of booze and getting more ink. No, this was

for his girlfriend, Katrina, as Buffalo certainly did not want to break one of the three golden rules of keeping your woman happy—in this case, satiating her hunger. He was proud of himself for thinking ahead and making sure there would be more to nourish them than whiskey and beer for the next several hours. He figured she would not be too cold or too hot in the shop.

"You can have all my pickles."

He turned to Lord, trying not to lose the train of the interview. "So how did tattooing lead you to find all the other things you love doing and are successful with?" Lord stopped working on the piece for a moment, collecting his thoughts.

"There's great painters, drawers, or sculptors-all kinds of other art where if someone is driven and they love what they do, if they're not too much of an evil critic to themselves, they can get somewhere. For me, I just know that if it weren't for tattooing, I never would have gotten to the level of perfectionist that I would be happy working with every day. If I tried painting, I would have held it up to the standards of people that there was no way I could have possibly achieved the equal to without spending my whole life devoted to it. And then I would have talked myself out of finishing a painting. I would have just brutalized myself as my own personal critic. But as a tattooer you don't have a choice; you have to finish what you start. And because it's such a difficult, technical task to even do one tiny little line that looks good, you can't think of the whole piece. You have to just think about the limited section of the piece that you're doing. And then you take someone like me, whose mind spins probably too quickly, I'm thinking about a thousand things constantly, constantly. It's hard to get your mind to slow down long enough to actually do those things. So tattooing was the perfect industry to force me to complete things with perfection, without any attachment to the overall image during the moment I'm making that individual line. I think of tattooing as if it was a lifeline. It taught me how to take that time and do that. Now I can transfer that; I can paint now. I've only done, like, five paintings, but I can do it if I have to. I'm sure I could probably sculpt. ... I actually think I could fake my way into most artistic professions now because I can't imagine any of them are much harder than the physical act of tattooing."

"Have you ever fucked up a tattoo?" It was a helluva time to ask.

"Ungh, we all have." Lord kicked his gun back on and continued to work as he spoke. "But what's fucked up to you and me are totally different. Now when I see a little line that's shaky, I see that as an example of where my mind wandered. So if you were looking at one of my tattoos under a microscope, you could pretty much read my mind.

"You could see where I was just doing the tattoo, where someone distracted me, where I was thinking of bills, where I was thinking of someone I owe money to, or someone who owes me money. All the thousand things that can come into your mind whenever you're doing anything all day long."

"I feel the same way," Katrina said.

Lord smiled and went on. "Tattooing properly is just an act of physical meditation, where, if you're doing it fully, your line looks pretty good. Or your shading looks pretty good. It's never perfect. You can never really make it perfect, 'cause it's skin. You're not a computer. So you get as close as you possibly can with it. It's the same for writers or musicians or other artists. A lot of the time it's either you're trying to express something to people or you're trying to perfect your art. And I would fall more into that latter category, of someone who is always trying to perfect their art."

"Well, there's also the responsibility of skin versus canvas," Buffalo offered, not sure where he was going with this, once again. "That's the leap in terms of the difference between tattooing and all the other visual arts, isn't it?"

"Absolutely."

"I mean, if you sneezed while the gun was on a client's arm."

"Oh my God, yeah."

Buffalo suddenly felt superstitious. "I don't know if that ever happens, though. Perhaps the tattoo gods don't allow it." He hoped.

"Something like that." Lord did not like this strain of talk. Buffalo sensed that and tried to steer it another direction.

"Although, I think about the guy you told me about who wanted you to put a swastika on his neck. Maybe that person gets a sneeze when they're getting inked." "If someone is driven and they love what they do, if they're not too much of an evil critic to themselves, they can get somewhere."



Lord gave a noncommittal laugh and then turned serious as something occurred to him. "Well, you know what's awful? Sometimes, if I'm working on somebody—and this is very rare, because I actually almost always like my customers—but if I'm working on somebody with an awful sense of entitlement and I find myself annoyed by the customer, when that happens my first instinct would be to rush through this. But then what happens instead, because I thought that, is I actually end up doing the exact opposite and working even harder on that person, so that no one would suspect that I did something malicious on purpose. It's like a lawyer who defends their guilty clients harder than they do the innocent."

It was not lost on Buffalo that Lord had been working on his tattoo for over six months at that point. Hmmmm. "Why would you not want anyone to know that you don't like the person?" Buffalo asked in his most innocent voice.

"Well, as an industry, we can't really express that tactfully."

"It's a dangerous, slippery slope of power, isn't it?"

Lord switched up the needles, ready to do some dark shading. "It is. Plus, it's a different day and age. We're not the tough-guy tattooers of 10 to 20 years ago."

"How many tough guys come in to get tattoos in the East Village? Like, how many Hells Angels?"

"We don't get any of those guys. They have their own shops that they go into. They used to come in a lot to Fun City, where I worked. And they run the New York City Tattoo Convention. And that's all I'm saying about them on the record."

Lord was not fucking around about changing the topic. Buffalo didn't blame him.

He'd encountered the Hells Angels when he was 19 and interning for *Black-Book* magazine. He had been assigned to do his first story, a piece on leather pants. To spice it up, he had planned to interview someone in the Hells Angels

about what they thought of all the Chelsea boys rocking the leather pants look. This was the late '90s. After no one would tell him where their headquarters were located, Buffalo finally stumbled upon the building and was met with a 300-pound bouncer in sunglasses and an open leather vest with no shirt on underneath. He did have a fantastic tattoo of an eagle right over his heart.

He was one of the most badass dudes 19-year-old Buffalo had ever tried to get to agree to an interview. After he made his case, the bouncer told him they were not interested. When 19-year-old Buffalo pushed it a little further, like a good journalist should, the man slid his sunglasses down an inch and looked the kid right in the eyes. "We're not interested."

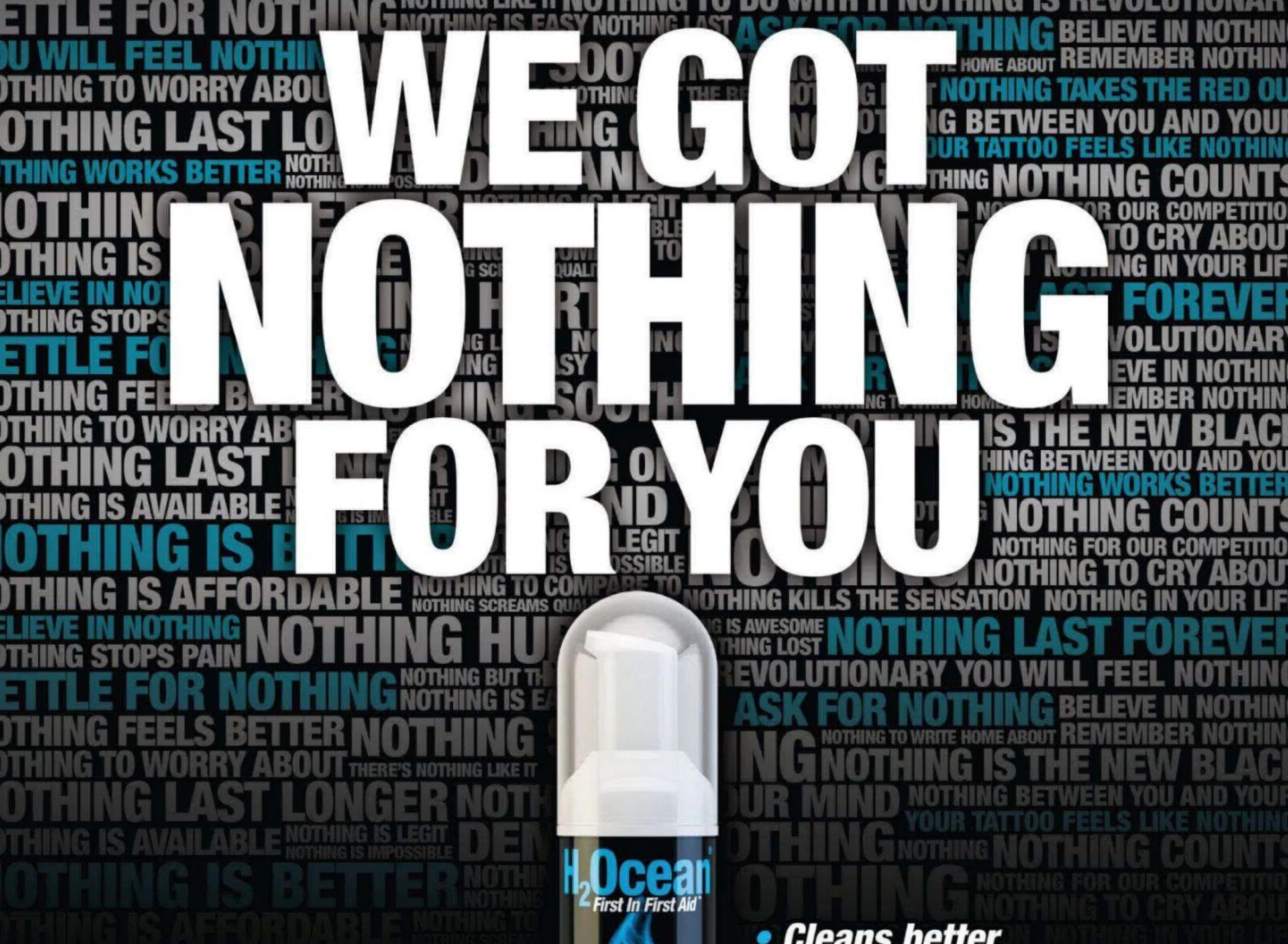
Fortunately, 19-year-old Buffalo, while young and dumb and naive, was smart enough to listen to the man and walk away, ultimately handing the piece over to another intern with a less rock 'n' roll take on the matter. So he was not surprised at Lord's hesitancy to say one word more about the Hells Angels.

Instead, Lord said, "It's always a little bit rough going back in. But here we go," and he started working on the parts that had already received a good amount of ink at their previous session. "Did we both agree on these being thicker lines? Let me know if it's real bad when I go back in." It actually hurt much less than Buffalo had anticipated. Lord had a feather-like touch. "Is that a normal amount of pain, or worse than normal?" Lord asked him.

"Normal amount of pain."

"Okay. A little bit of traffic is coming in here, but I like the chaos." Buffalo looked up and saw Patrick Conlon, who had returned with the other tattoo artist named Josh who worked there. Their roommate was with them. He looked to be about 23, and was one of the skinniest kids Buffalo had ever seen. The kid had decided to get a spontaneous tattoo on both his arms, and Patrick and Josh were more than just a little eager to cover their pal in ink.

Over the course of a year INKED will be serializing John Buffalo Mailer's literary tattoo memoir. If you missed the earlier installments visit inkedmag.com/buffalo.





**Order Now** 

www.h2oceanstore.com



Cleans better

Feel no pain

Longer sessions

 More comfortable tattoo experience

# Ucean NOTHING®

Blue Green Foam Soap with 5% Lidocaine

WWW.H20CEAN.COM

1-866-420-2326



/H20cean /HTwoOcean



@OfficialH20cean #H20cean4Life

# INKED SCENE

INK MASTER. SPOT. SHOP TALK.



# INKED SCENE | ink master







# JOEY HAMILTON

Meet your new Ink Master.

BY ROCKY RAKOVIC PORTRAITS BY ERIC ITA

Spike TV's *Ink Master* just keeps getting better. Not only does the show celebrate great tattoos and educate the public on good and bad tattoos, it enhances the careers of tattooers deserving the renown. Past contestants such as Jime Litwalk, Tatu Baby, and Craig Foster have their appointment books slammed, but not as much as Season 3 winner, Joey Hamilton. Working out of Club Tattoo in Las Vegas, he has a lot of international clients who fly in to see him—but as soon as the show started airing, local clientele started snatching up his time.

Since the victory, Hamilton says he gets about 60 calls for appointments a day and some people are already asking about his 2016 schedule. But until then, Hamilton is working on ideas for T-shirts, designing a deck of Bicycle playing cards that will be going into Walmart, planning a convention tour, and enjoying his fame. When we reached him to hear more, he was in his home state of Oklahoma, where he was going to a Thunder game "to get my face on the Jumbotron."



# "I HATE TO SAY THIS, BUT THE JUDGES COULDN'T DO THAT TATTOO."



INKED: What's it feel like to win Ink Master? JOEY HAMILTON: Surreal. I was experiencing it-not thinking about it playing out on TV-but people want to take my photograph and I realize that they watched it.

Are you sure it's not because you're handsome? Well, there are a lot more people now. I'll just say that.

Do you think you came off the way you would have liked to be portrayed? I feel good about it and I am definitely grateful for that. I feel like I represented myself well in the series.

And are you happy with the tattoos that you did? I was never on the bottom once to have to defend my tattoos, so I thought that was really good.

What made you want to go on the show? I did [the TV show] Inked many years ago on A&E. I liked the little notoriety of doing something like that and I just felt like I wanted to try it again. I actually tried out for Best Ink and went really far in the process of getting picked, but at the last minute they told me that I didn't make it. Because I prepared to do that, it was a big letdown mentally.

Wait, you wanted to be on Best Ink? The whole reason I was trying out for Best Ink is that it is fewer people and I felt like the talent on that show wouldn't be as high as Ink Master. I thought I would have had a better chance at winning on Best Ink but then I said, "Screw it, I'll go for the bigger show now."

How did you feel about competing on TV? was nervous because you don't know what to expect or how it goes down. But I have had so many experiences in my life that have geared me towards doing this, like living with 16 people in one loft. I did the military and there were 20 guys in our tent.

How does Ink Master compare to convention competitions? When we got down to the end it was like a convention, where new school is going against realism. And I have been in that situation many times in conventions. Jime [Litwalk, the runner-up] and I talked about that situation. What it boils down to is that the judges pick what they like in styles and how you are executing it. It is like a convention-style competition.

You weren't really positioned as a type of character on the show. Maybe I'm getting old, but the drama part is getting old. Like with Josh [Hibbard]. I like Josh as a person and I am glad that he got to show that he can actually tattoo-because a lot of the tattoos he did were horrible, like the pinup-but at the end he was pretty proud of himself because he got the most airtime. He was running around going, "I got the most airtime!" He felt like he won in that way.

He and Jime seemed to have tension. I really felt that Jime got misportrayed on TV. Every day he was in there helping people out. We gave Josh everything he asked for. He wanted to be the villain. I didn't like the way he turned it to make it seem like we were

# "I LIKED WEARING THE VEST BUT WHEN YOU ARE TATTOOING FOR THAT LONG IT IS DEFINITELY TOUGH TO WEAR CLOTHES LIKE THAT."

bullying him, because we weren't.

He would make comments and we would respond. But people in that house knew about Jime's character.

He was kind of the big mentor in the house. But he doesn't take shit.

You've worked in the same shop as Jime, so you're friends, right? At the very end of it I really wish Jime wasn't there because one of us was not going to win.

Are you comfortable with your final piece being the tattoo that you are most known for? Somewhat. I definitely would like to go into it some more because I was playing catch-up. In the last session, instead of really being able to knock it out of the park, it was more trying to make sure it didn't look bad. I am happy that it's the tattoo that people see. It is funny that you go to social media sites and you see people dog your work or say that somebody else's was better. I had a 19-yearold the other day write to me, "Stop tooting your own horn and your wife looks like a tranny." My response was: "You are 19."

What's your critique of Jime's and Tatu Baby's tattoos? The last two tattoos that I competed against were great tattoos in their own right, but as a tattoo artist I critiqued their work and I saw stuff that was wrong and I agreed with the judges on the competition part of it. I feel like Tatu Baby's composition wasn't that good. But the execution of it was amazing. The same thing with Jime's; the "battle royale" just looked like four tattoos that were put together. I put all of my tattoo on one page, I drew on one page, and I feel like that is what helped me out.

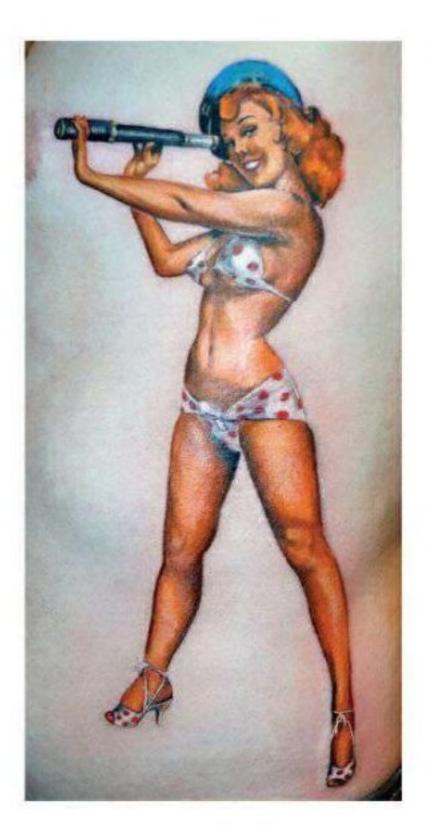
Do you think the piece best represents your style? It is indicative of how I work with people. When she came into that room I asked her what she wanted to get. I am the type of artist to say, "When you wake up in the morning

you are going to have that tattoo, not me, so get what you want." We bounced around ideas and as soon as [the canvas] said, "Mermaid," I said, "That's what we'll do." I always feel like I can tattoo what somebody wants and turn it into my style.

It was ballsy to draw breasts for your final piece on national television. I tried to put star-fish on them, and as soon as I was doing that it seemed too cartoony. I showed [the canvas] the drawing and it took her a session to be okay with the breasts being on her leg.

The judges knocked you for not making the tattoo pop, but since you tattoo in realism, isn't that what something underwater looks like? I tried to explain it. Every reference I saw, the colors were washed off in the background. They are judges and that is their opinion. Just like when [Chris] Núñez was dogging my gecko tattoo, it just shows that he may not have researched to know what those geckos look like. The same with the underwater stuff—boost the contrast.

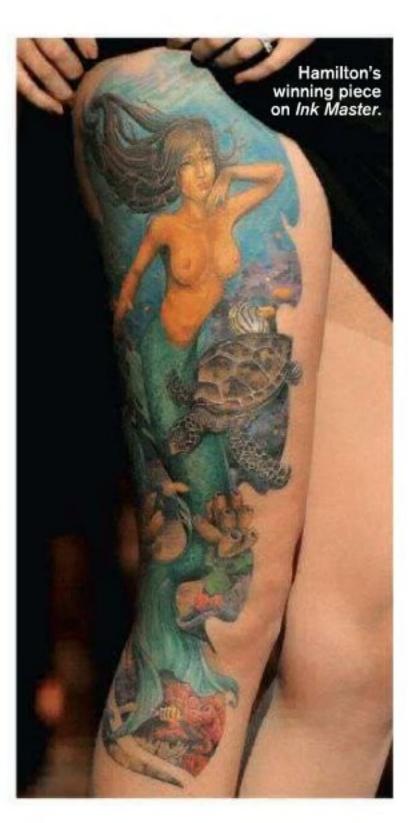
What's it like being judged by Núñez, who is a Japanese artist, and Oliver Peck, who is an American traditional tattooer? Oliver taught Kat Von D portraits, so he knows portraits. But I think that is the one thing that the show is lacking: a realistic judge. Because realism is a big part of our industry now and we don't have that guy who can pick apart things other than the technical part of it. I have a lot of respect for those guys sitting up there and doing that job. I did take offense sometimes, but I also tried to use what they were telling me. If you have a big ego and you go up there thinking that your way is the way, you are not going to learn anything. At the end, though, and I hate to say this, but the judges couldn't do that tattoo. So it is kind of weird in a way that the guys judging you don't do what you do.



Have the other Ink Masters reached out to you? There was a party after the show and Steve Tefft grabbed me and said, "You and I are doing shots. Screw these guys, you are in an elite group now." He is a pretty funny character.

And he wears those flashy shirts. If he is The Shirt you are The Vest. Yeah, you know, I don't usually wear a vest. I am a huge fan of John Varvatos's clothes, that rock 'n' roll stuff, and I had just bought a vest and I wore that to my first Ink Master interview. They were like, "Yeah, you are going to wear a vest all the time." I liked wearing the vest but when you are tattooing for that long it is definitely tough to wear clothes like that. I will bust out a vest every once in a while, but it is not my everyday attire.

Vou were in the Air Force before you became a tattooer? Yeah, my last year in the Air Force, it was about '96 or '97. At the end, with a year and a half left, I wanted something to do when I got out. Luckily this girl I was seeing at the time said, "Hey, I have a friend who is in the military and is tattooing at a shop at night, and I think you should look into that." Back then it was hard to get into the business but because we were both in the military he helped me out. I didn't even have a tattoo at the time. The first thing I did was



get a tattoo to see what it was like. And I am very fortunate that it worked out that way.

Were you always artistic? I was going to go to art school after high school, but my brother had just joined the Air Force and he was driving a BMW and getting married, and I was from a small town in Oklahoma so I thought that sounded cool.

Do you remember your first tattoo? My first tattoo was on Glenn Fleming, a gunner in the military; he was on Sons of Guns. It was a little skeleton guy, a carved statue he wanted. Being in the military, as soon as you start tattooing, all the guys want one. So I got a lot of time in the chair pretty quickly.

And look at you now. What's next for you?

I want to design a few T-shirts, get my website going. If the chance to co-own a Club Tattoo opens up I'll definitely be looking into that. I see myself traveling much more. I want to get my name back out on the circuit. The goal for this year is to parlay that *Ink Master* title and go out and compete alongside other amazing artists. Beyond that—normally I have a goal, but after this right now I don't have a goal.

Club Tattoo, 3663 Las Vegas Blvd. South #225 Las Vegas, NV, 702-363-2582, clubtattoo.com

# Ta Marca Del Diablo APPAREL



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

# INKED SCENE | spot



# HOPE GALLERY TATTOO

835 Woodward Ave. New Haven, CT 203-467-1622 hopegallerytattoo.com

BY LANI BUESS PORTRAIT BY RICK WENNER

Joe Capobianco may be best known to TV fans as the intimidating and outspoken judge on Oxygen's Best Ink who has a penchant for slick pompadours and bowling shirts, but the tattoo community knows him best as the man who helms Hope Gallery. Alongside Eric Merrill and Julio Rodriguez, he busts out the most animated pin-ups in the industry. While the show has brought new faces into the shop, it's Capobianco's off-camera cast that keeps customers coming back.

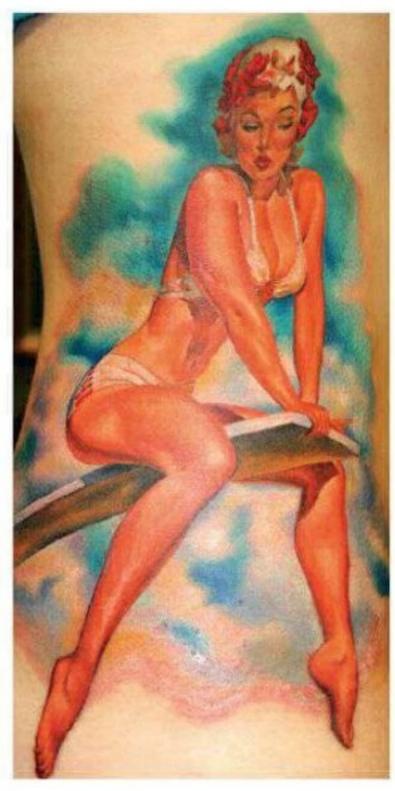
"Hope got its reputation from being a place full of great tattooers," says Capobianco. "And I'd rather people come to us because of the reputation we've attained doing what we're good at than a TV show."

Capobianco opened Hope Gallery in 2003 on a whim, after a dissatisfying stint renting a room to tattoo. Its imposing, cold, concrete edifice makes way to a rather inviting and expansive industrial interior space. Bathed in warm earth tones and set with distressed wooden floors, the shop has enough personal touches—like an Elvis-themed bathroom, leopard-patterned couches, a penny-covered bar, an insect moratorium, and even a life-size light-saberswinging Yoda—to compel anyone to

canvass the shop for hours.

Still, Capobianco says it's the people working in the place that set the bar, not the building. And the moment you walk into Hope you're greeted by the professional and personable Rachel Derken. "I know that when artists are knee-deep in their work, it's hard for them to put on their 'people person' face," says Capobianco. "So I've made a point in hiring good management to run the front." When it comes to hiring artists, though, Capobianco lets the crew come to him. Since you can't please all clientele, he says it's better to work with someone you get along









Clockwise from top left: tattoo by Joe Capobianco; tattoo by Tim Harris; tattoo by Julio Rodriguez; tattoo by Joe Capobianco; tattoo by Julio Rodriguez; tattoo by Tim Harris; tattoo by Christian Perez.





with who is in it for the long haul. "Not [those] flash-in-the-pan [types] looking for a place to crash until they move to their next city or dream job." Instead, someone like Tim Harris.

Harris came to Hope Gallery a little over eight years ago with the desire to work beside his biggest influencers-Capobianco, Merrill, and Rodriguez. "The knowledge I've gained through the years is immeasurable and priceless," says Harris. "Working with these guys, who have different styles when it comes to theory, composition, and approach, is great, especially when I'm in constant search to better myself." Like

Capobianco, Harris tackles pin-ups, but in a photorealistic style. He's been on a search to perfect the female form since high school, when he first started drawing calendar girls. "I had an affinity with voluptuous women at an early age-artistically, of course," says the tattooer of 15 years. "It's all about keeping the level of color saturation soft, yet powerful in contrast. But most important, making sure the face is on point. Lose it on the profile and it's all over; the sexiness is completely lost."

Capobianco plays by his own rules when it comes to his playful pin-ups. In general, they burst with color and a have a cartoony style that has become his signature. The look has even been dubbed the "Capo Girl." "The human figure is such an expressive, difficult thing to draw," says Capobianco. "There is so much one can do with it." His approach, he says, "is taking a little bit of this, and a little bit of that," regarding the various techniques he uses to develop an artistic flair all his own. "The female figure pin-up has been around a long time, and will probably never go out of style," he says. "Not to mention, drawing and staring at half-naked broads all day sure beats the hell outta digging ditches for a living."

It's safe to say that Capobianco and Harris will still be executing perfect 10s a decade from now. "Hopefully nothing changes," says Harris. "We've got a great vibe at the shop; we all gel well with each other. Other than that, wishful thinking would have us more of a household name."

Capobianco doesn't even want to hazard a guess as to what the future may offer. "Oh, hell, I don't know what tomorrow's gonna bring," he says. "I don't even wanna know what 10 years is gonna drop on my head! I'm all about letting the chips fall where they may. And I hope I'm fast enough to roll with the punches." M













# EVA SCHATZ VISIT: MINTCLUBTATTOO.COM

What sparked your interest in tattooing? I got tattooed by my former teacher, Leo, and while he was tattooing, I thought, Do I want to do this—could this be my thing? A flame burned in me, so I did everything I could to get an apprenticeship and learned how to tattoo. Years before, I had studied fashion design and graphic design, so I had a nice background for drawing and composing, and now I know it helped me a lot to develop my style quickly.

What's the pin-up scene like in Europe? I don't know if there is a real pin-up scene in Germany and Austria. There is a big rockabilly scene with some Bettie Page look-alikes, but that's it.

Whose pin-up style do you admire? Joe Capobianco inspired me a lot. His pin-ups have so much power and attitude. I really love the inspiring pin-ups from Emily Rose Murray, Valerie Vargas, Xam the Spaniard, and Claudia De Sabe. They are so incredibly beautiful. I get inspired by so many great photographers, and when I see a picture of a beautiful model I need to draw her. I love to

go to museums and get inspired by the old masters of painting, like Caravaggio, Rubens, Mucha. Standing in front of their paintings is a really special feeling of pure happiness.

What would you say is your style? I think it is a big mixture of traditional, comic, and realistic—in full color. I love to work with colors! I can feel more in color.

What do you like most about tattooing pinups? No human beings are exactly the same, not even twins. So you have millions of impressions every day, and no tattoo will look the same. Plus, I love to draw women.

To see more tattoos visit inkedmag.com.

# **NOW AVAILABLE ON DVD**

GET YOUR COPY ON amazon.COM OR VISIT TATTOONATION.COM TO STREAM ONLINE

# TATTOO NATION

# THE TRUE STORY OF THE INK REVOLUTION

NARRATED BY COREY MILLER

"A VIVID PORTRAIT
THAT SHOULD SATISFY
AFICIONADOS & INTRIGUE
THE CURIOUS." THE LA TIMES

A STREETWISE, FULL LENGTH DOCUMENTARY TOLD BY ARTISTS WHO LIVED IT IN THEIR OWN WORDS.

"THE STYLE AS IT EVOLVES...
...SO BEAUTIFUL AND
OFTEN MAJESTIC."

THE VILLAGE VOICE, NY

DANNY TREJO / TRAVIS BARKER / MISTER CARTOON / CHARLIE CARTWRIGHT / ED HARDY / KATE HELLENBRAND TIM HENDRICKS / MARK MAHONEY / FREDDY NEGRETE / JACK RUDY

TATTOONATION.COM

# INKED SCENE | shop talk



88 | INKEDMAG.COM



# GET SOME INK ON YOUR FINGERTIPS.

Inked, Inked Girls, and Freshly Inked are available on the App Store.



# INKED SCENE | events



INKED X SUICIDE GIRLS BURLESQUE TOUR
We presented the Suicide Girls Blackhearts Burlesque Tour—and when
the girls rolled into Live Nation's The Gramercy, we pushed to the front.
From skin to crowd surfing races, the ladies put on one heck of a show!











90 | INKEDMAG.COM photos by JUSTIN BERNARD







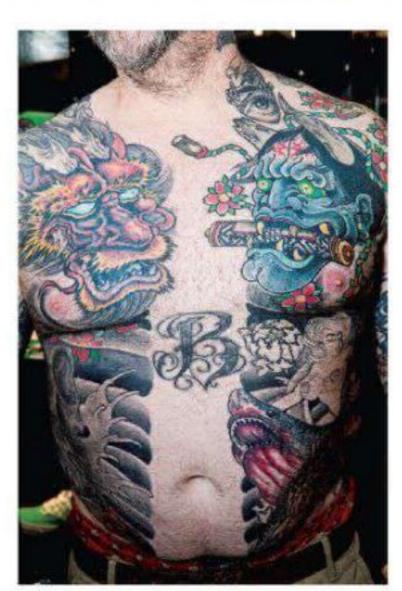


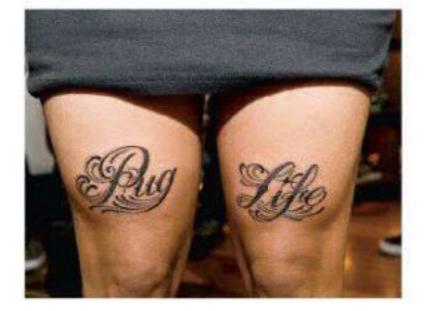


# **THREE TIDES CAME IN**

In collaboration with Philly sneaker shop UBIQ, we held a contest on Instagram where three winners got a tattoo by Three Tides Tattoo's Hiroshi Hirakawa and specialty UBIQ x Vault by Vans kicks.











# **BE IN BETTIE PAGE'S SHOES**

Take a page from Bettie's style book and strap these 4.5-inch wedges (\$144, ellieshoes.com) with tiki pattern, to your gams.

# **TOTES BETTIE**

Get up and go with your Bettie Page bowler (\$52 at Sourpussclothing.com) by your side! Stash your stuff in this matte vinyl purse with allover Bettie Page pattern, hardware, shiny vinyl details, zip top, and easy-grip handles.







# BEAUTIFUL DISASTER

With the Lolita Skull Racer Tank (\$21.50, pinkystarrocks.com) it was love at first sight, at last sight, at ever and ever sight.



# HARD AND TO THE POINT

Now a girl has two best friends with their Forever T-shirt (\$21, cartelink.com).



# **FAMILY PRIDE**

The I Heart My Tattooed Parents T-shirt (\$15, cartelink.com) is much better than a "World's Best Dad" mug.



# DEPENDS ON THE CONTEXT...

We got a tip for ya', get the Just The Tip I Promise T-shirt (\$21, cartelink.com).

# ORIGINAL. UNIQUE. RETRO-INSPIRED PRODUCTS FOR YOUR MODERN LIFE.

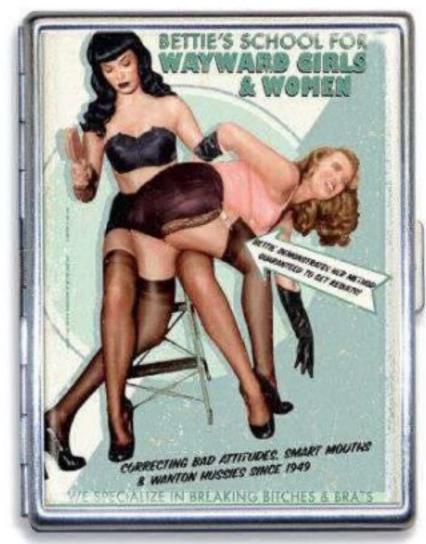


Bettie's House of Burlesque: See Bettie and her friends live onstage in a saucy and spicy review! The House Of Burlesque Compact (\$21.99, retroagogo.com) contains a mirror on one side, and a magnifying mirror on the other.



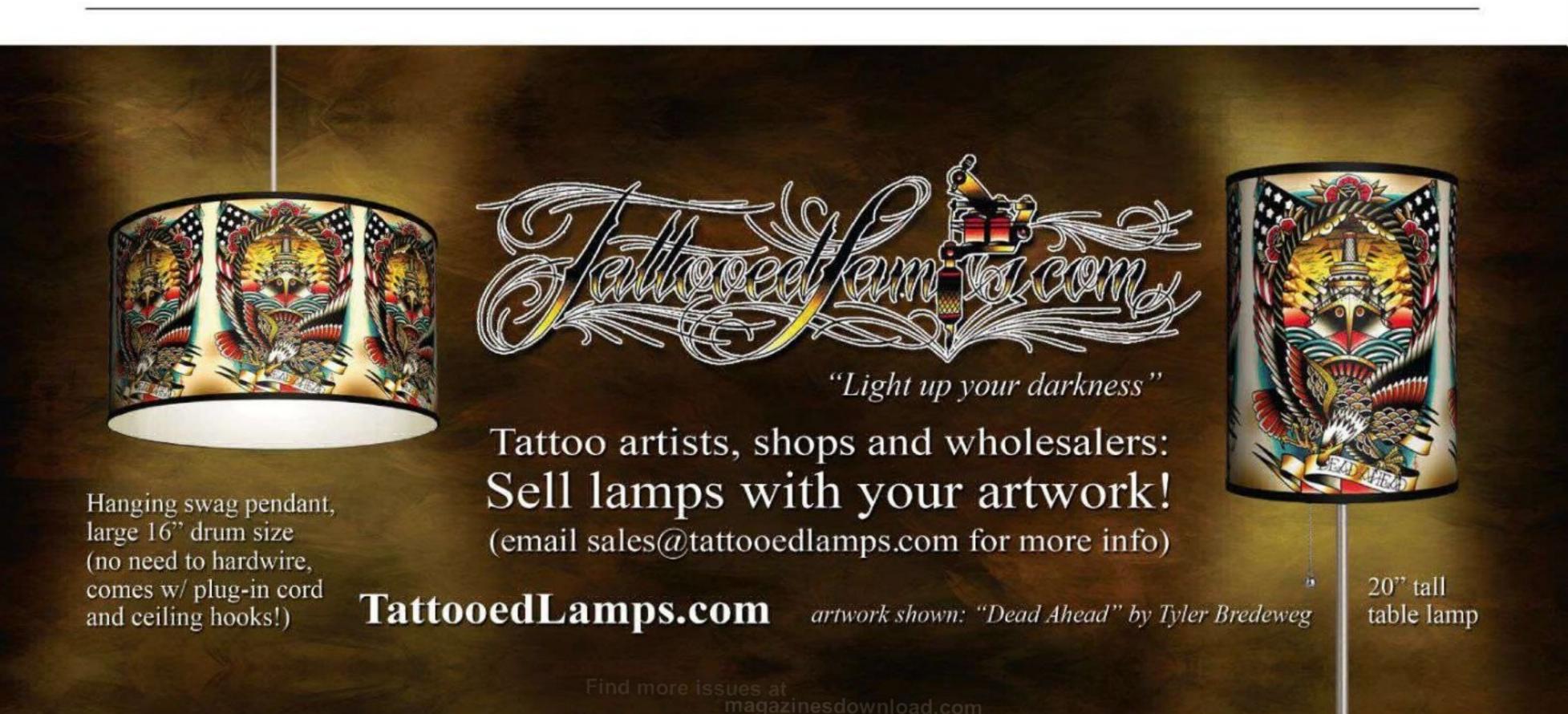
Haters Can Suck It! They know who they are! The Haters Can Suck It Compact, \$21.99, retroagogo.com) contains a mirror on one side, and a magnifying mirror on the other. The iron, round compact, chrome-plated 2.75" diameter by 1/2" thick has an easy and secure push-button open and close.

Bettie's School for Wayward Girls and Women has an open seat with your name on it. Your School for Wayward Girls Cigarette Case, (\$29.99, retroagogo.com) will comfortably hold nine credit cards or ID cards, or 20 of your business cards. For those of us who enjoy a smoke, it holds a half pack of your favorite brand. See you in detention, sweetheart!

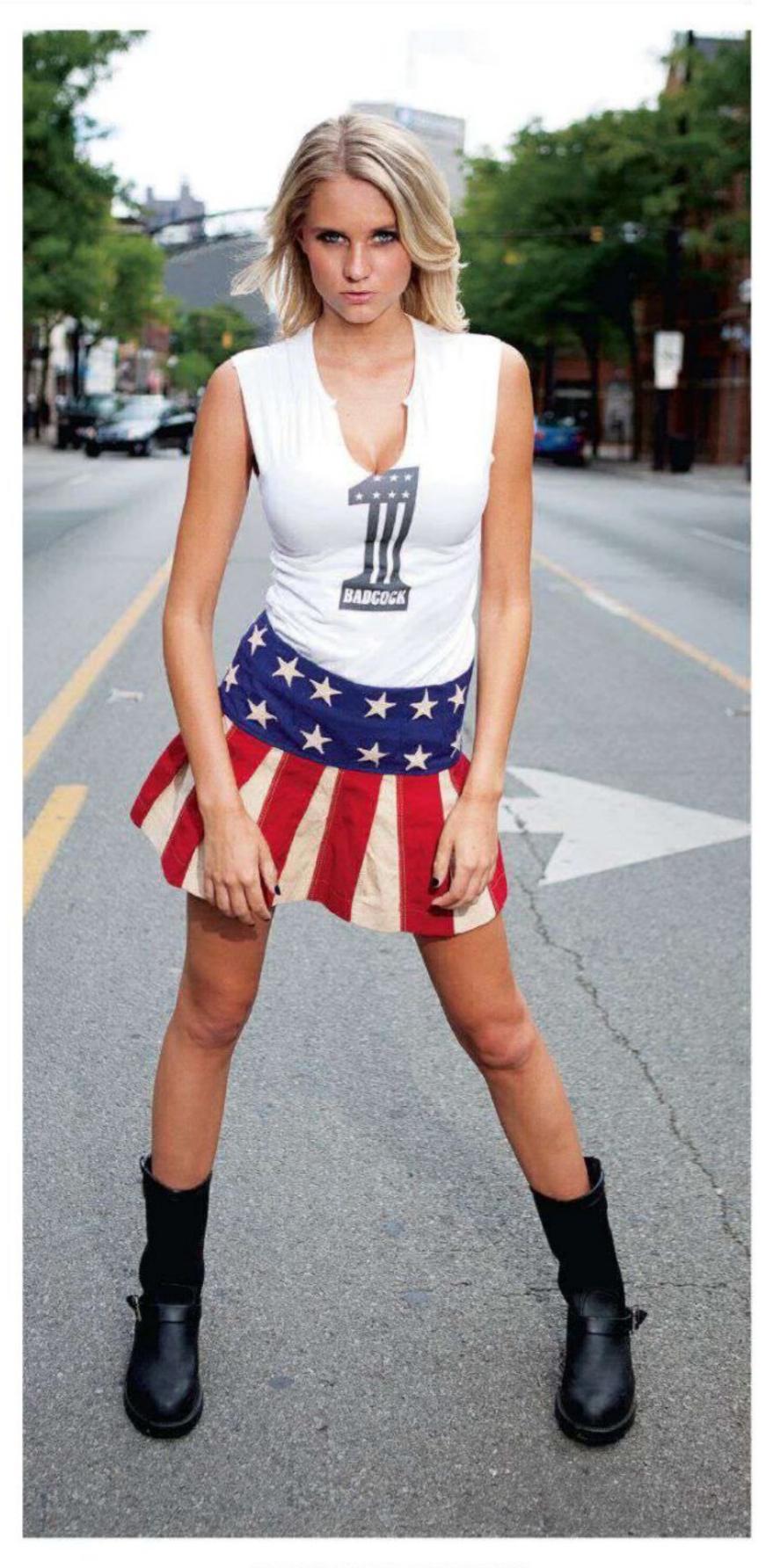


Bettie Page Spank Flask. For adults only! In this issue of Spank: Bettie Page in Bettie's Big Mistake. It's a tavern in your pocket where the bar is always open. This fantastic 8-ounce flask (Bettie Page Spank Flask, \$29.99, retroagogo.com) packs plenty of punch.









# **AMERICAN WOMAN**

The Betsy skirt by Badcock Jones (\$299, badcockapparel.com) is handmade in the USA (of course!) from 100% US flag cloth. Each piece is one of a kind and has aesthetic differences that are visible when comparing one to another-what we like to call character.





ind more issues at magazinesdownload.com

IT'S GOING TO BE A STREET FIGHT.

2.25.14 TUESDAYS 10/9c

SPIKE