

Inked

CULTURE. STYLE. ART.

**THE
SEX
ISSUE**

Christy Mack

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On the cover: Christy Mack; photo: Christian Saint; stylist: Darius Baptist; hair: Adam Maclay for ABTP using Affinage Salon Professional; makeup: Clarissa Luna for Artists by Timothy Priano. Swarovski crystal earrings; Melinda Maria ring; Eddie Borgo ring. This page: Riley Jensen; photo Gregorio Campos.

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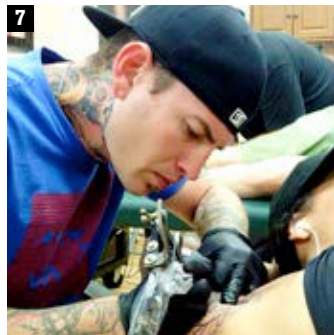
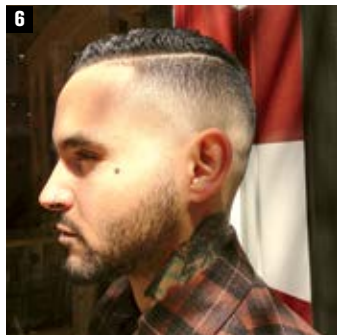
The beauty of culture, style, and art is that they are forever evolving and we all have a say in it. Our ethos is entirely crowdsourced in that the music you like, the movies you go see, the clothes you decide to wear, the art you buy, and the tattoos you choose to ink on your body informs the future of those categories. With *Inked* being a reflection and projection of our culture, we are constantly looking for the new in the hopes that by giving an interesting creation its shine in print we will advance culture. We also looked at ourselves this month and saw that we could evolve, you'll notice throughout the following pages that we have printed more interesting visuals, more tattoos than ever before, and have involved more tattoo artists in our editorials.

Luke Wessman (2) the renowned tattooer of Wooster Street Social Club and Love Hate Miami provided his inked hands for our spread on badass rings. When we were shooting the *Hottest Inked Girls of Portland* at the Jupiter Hotel we walked a block to Jackalope Custom Tattoo Shop and enlisted the help of Samuel Gosson (7). The tattooer drew the opening type for the pictorial freehand in chalk on the back of my hotel room door. Another artist of the lowbrow world, OG Abel (1), drew the cover type that reads "Christy Mack," the queen of our Sex Issue. *Wow, we have come this far into the letter and I have yet to mention sex.* In playing with the theme of the issue we asked four tattooists to pay homage to a first crush or muse on a canvas other than skin, one of them was Jon Mesa (6) who enhanced Jessica Rabbit by adding some tight ink on her curvaceous body.

Also catering to an inked taste is our house bartender Joe Donohue (8) who mixed up three bespoke gin cocktails for us. Photographer Zach Wolfe (3) captured the flavor of Ink & Dagger's iconic Russ Abbott, who, when not tattooing, is strumming his banjo outside his shop in Georgia. For an inside look on two guys who are a little more accomplished in the music world we dispatched Jeff Forney (4) to shoot The Madden Brothers; the corresponding text couldn't be more insidious as their older brother Josh Madden (5) penned the piece.

In the spirit of contributing to our culture through *Inked* please comment about things you like (or can't stand) on our plethora of social media channels: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pintrest, Tapiture, or whatever is the new hot app *du mois*. And feel free to e-mail me at the address below—together lets make this world a cooler place.

Rocky Rakovic
Editor-In-Chief
editor@inkedmag.com





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MAIL



SHE'S COMING OUT I have loved Skylar Grey's voice since I first heard "I'm Coming Home," but i had no idea what she looked like. She is a total babe! Her looks and tattoos are as beautiful as her voice. I can't wait to see more of Skylar as her career progresses.

Justin J. Madison, WI

facebook

SKYLAR GREY

Miguel Gutierrez Damn....maybe it's time to buy a new shirt? Or just don't wear one

Daniel Rupp This is some level way beyond beautiful

Kinga Csarmasz: Love the "woodrat" text

Lissy la'Rubia Now that's good work

Adam Bailey She is my future wife

YELAWOLF

Dan Dillon Keep it hip-hop Yeller!

Robert Fry Slumerican!!!

Denis LaPlatte Yelawolf straight kills it on the mic

SASHA

Angela Ton She so reminds me of Kat Dennings from *Thor* and *2 Broke Girls*

Royce Priestler Why isn't there women like that where I am, I need to move?

Ashley Glover Finally! A woman my size

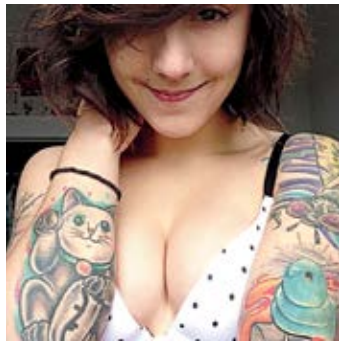
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Maria Rivera Dammmmmnnnn.

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TATTOO OF THE MONTH



BY: VOLKO MERSCHKY AND SIMONE PFAFF, BUENA VISTA TATTOO CLUB

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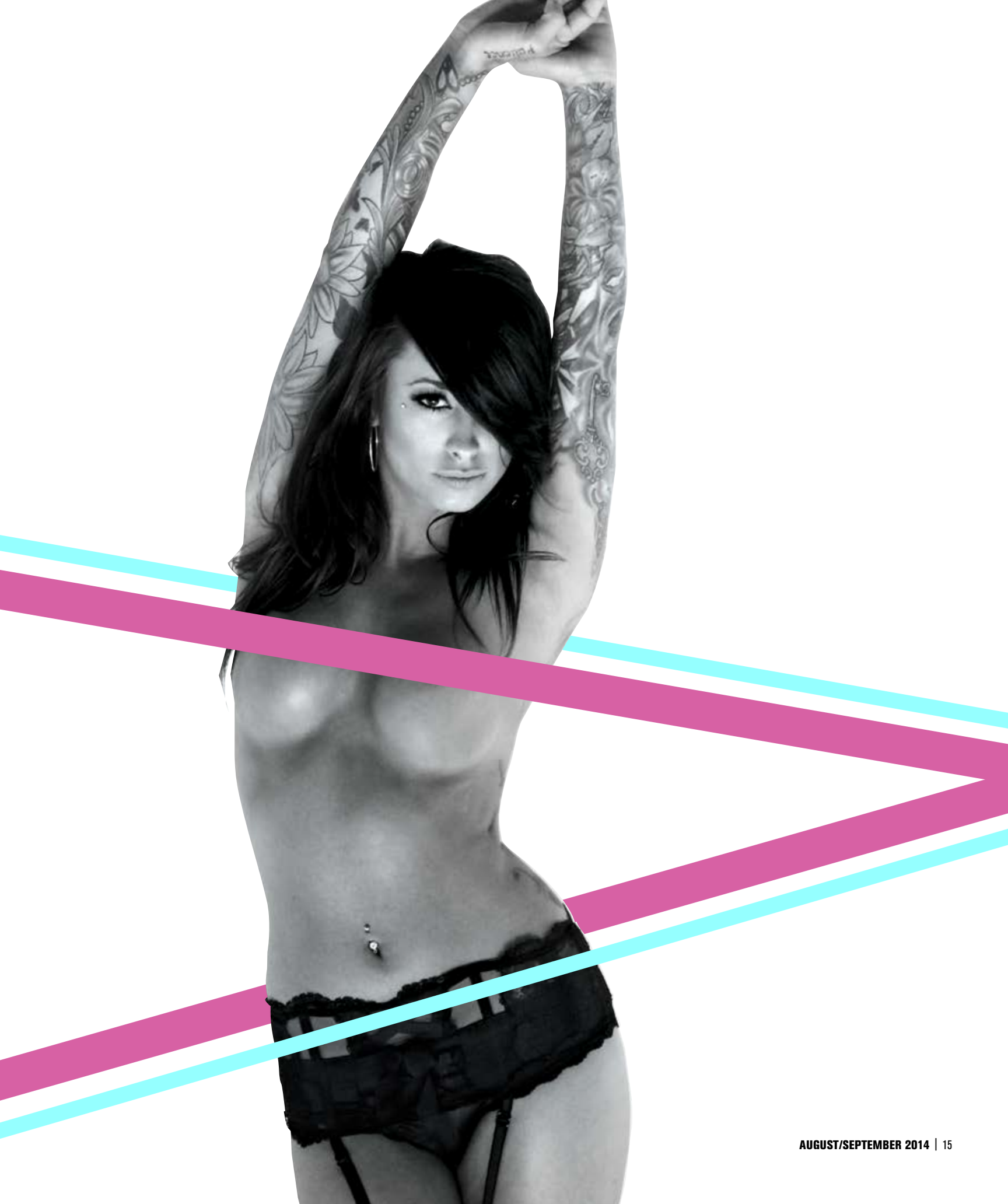
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Riley

BY CHARLIE CONNELL PHOTOS BY GREGORIO CAMPOS



After many successful years in adult film Riley Jensen opted to retire from the industry in order to pursue some of her other passions including cooking, alternative modeling, travelling, and getting tattooed.

"I loved being in front of the camera and being able to make money while enjoying one of the best parts of life—having sex," Riley says. "But I grew out of that being my only purpose. I want to be known as more than a sex symbol."

Now that Riley is out of the industry she will have time to add more ink to go with her beloved right sleeve. When designing the sleeve Riley wanted to make sure that every tattoo within the sleeve represented her perception of beauty in some manner. Included in the sleeve are a vintage camera to symbolize her career and a sunflower which she says symbolizes happiness. Perhaps the most fitting of Riley's tattoos is the bird covering her upper arm.

"Then there's the peacock," Riley explains, "knowingly gorgeous and full of the most beautiful colors." Just like Riley. 🐦



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HANDIEDAN

Through cutting and pasting—both traditionally and digitally—artist Handiedan adorns classic pin-ups with tattoos.

Dutch female artist Handiedan transforms ephemera such as cigar bands, old magazines, and stamps into a neo-vintage world populated by supple temptresses. Through her clipping out of pin-ups she cuts fine figures. “The sensual round forms of the female body, both soft and strong, are able to inextricably intertwine with the ornamental

background,” she says. “The energy in the classical physicality and sexuality that can be found in the vintage pin-ups I use have a high degree of civilized restraint. They exhibit a tasteful response to female sexuality that involves both the display and the suppression of its more physical aspects.”

One of the joys of Handiedan’s work is that you can consume the piece as a whole and then delve deeper taking it apart piece by piece in an attempt to discern

where each part of the image came from. “The materials all have a tale of their own as a part of our wide cultural history,” she says. “It is a creative, puzzling oasis that can be seen as the building blocks of the Yellow Brick Road.”

Naturally our favorite ornamentations are the tattoos on women who were belles of balls long before the current tattoo renaissance. “The tattoos have multiple functions,” she says, “some are used as a message be it symbolic or a playful wink.”



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COCKTAIL

CONVERSATION

A CHAT WITH THE INCREDIBLE SAM MILLER, BARTENDER AND MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS MANAGER OF PENTHOUSE CLUB PITTSBURGH.

WHAT'S IT LIKE WORKING AT A GENTLEMAN'S CLUB?
It's just like any other job but with a full bar and naked women.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS WORSE TO MAINSTREAM AMERICA: THE STIGMA OF BEING TATTOOED OR WORKING IN A GENTLEMAN'S CLUB?

In this day and age, tattoos have generally been accepted by society, gentleman's clubs, however, not so much. Sure, most guys love them but many women get uncomfortable when you even mention the idea. Telling my mom about my first tattoo was easier than explaining my first week at Penthouse. Actually, that conversation still comes up with other family members and friends, but they have no problem with the tattoos!

HOW MUCH OF YOUR TATTOOS ARE VISIBLE WHEN YOU WORK?

Most of them—but I keep my camel toe [tattoo] hidden!

WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE TATTOO?

The grayscale candelabra on my right shoulder blade done by Johnny Matters, the owner of Wayward Tattoo in Erie, PA. It represents my inner light for the dark times I've gone through that have molded me into the person I am. It's beautiful.

WHAT DO YOUR CUSTOMERS TYPICALLY DRINK?

We do a lot of bottle service and serve much domestic beer but we make our fair share of specialty cocktails too like Peach or Watermelon Long Island Ice Teas and Vegas Bombs.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF A MAN WHO ORDERS A GIN DRINK?

That's my kind of man! A gin martini is one of my favorites to make! I like it extra dirty...

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GET GINNED UP

GIN COCKTAIL RECIPES

BY JOE DONOHUE

ST. GEORGE: INKED STREET

The best of both boozes, St. George Dry Rye Gin is a pure and crisp gin that gets its flavor from rye instead of wheat. The robust flavor of the grain is accentuated with black peppercorns, subtle spice notes and citrus. It's a whiskey drinker's gin that we've used to turn the classic Ink Street cocktail on its head.

- 2 OZ. DRY RYE GIN
- 2 OZ. ORANGE JUICE
- 1 OZ. LEMON JUICE
- 1 OZ. LIME JUICE

Combine the ingredients in shaker filled with ice, shake, and pour into a chilled cocktail glass garnished with a lime.

BROKER'S: THE 208

They just don't make them like they used to. Which is why the distillers at Brokers busted out a 200 year old recipe, calling for 10 botanicals from eight different countries, and one of the finest copper stills in the world to get things done right.

- 1 DASH LAVENDER BITTERS
- 0.5 OZ SIMPLE SYRUP
- 0.5 OZ LEMON JUICE
- 0.5 OZ GRAPEFRUIT JUICE
- 1.5 OZ TANQUERAY TEN GIN

Combine ingredients in a mixing glass, add ice, then shake and strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with a grapefruit twist.

UNGAVA: OPEN WATER

As if Gretzky, poutine and the Kids in the Hall weren't enough, our neighbors to the north just showed up at our door with a bottle of exceptionally smooth, and deceptively strong gin. Every hand-picked leaf and berry that lends its flavor to this spirit brings us one step closer to the taste equivalent of the Aurora Borealis.

- 2 OZ. UNGAVA
- 3-4 WHOLE BLACKBERRIES
- ½ TEASPOON SUGAR
- SODA WATER

Muddle the blackberries and sugar in an Old Fashioned glass and fill with ice. Add the ungava and top with soda water.

La Marca Del Diablo

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Like many kids LaMarr Woodley spent his childhood full of energy, running around both on and off the football field. The only time young Woodley could be guaranteed to be sitting still was on Saturday mornings at 11 when the X-Men cartoon would air. Woodley would get lost in the crazy world of mutants with superpowers. While he liked Professor X, Cyclops, Storm, and the rest of the team there was one character that would stay with him for the entirety of his life, Wolverine.

Speaking strictly from a literal perspective the main reason Wolverine will stay with Woodley is that he has an enormous tattoo of the comic book legend covering much of his upper right arm, but it goes deeper than that. After all, Woodley was a Wolverine, a Michigan Wolverine that is.

"When I graduated from Michigan I wanted to do something a little bit different," Woodley explains. "I didn't want to do the M [Michigan's logo] tattoo that everybody else does, I wanted to do Wolverine. It mixes the cartoon that I was a fan of and my school."

After spending most of his career as an outside linebacker with the Pittsburgh Steelers Woodley will be switching positions this season as he transitions to defensive end for his new team, the Oakland Raiders. Many players would feel extra pressure trying to pick up a new position but not Woodley.

"I'm excited about playing defensive end," Woodley says. "The transition is no big deal, I'm just going from standing up to putting my hand back in the dirt and rushing. That's what I've done my entire life; rush the quarterback, rush the quarterback."

Much like his favorite X-Men character the only thing on Woodley's mind when he hits the field is attacking. It doesn't matter if he drops into coverage to hit a receiver or if he is rushing through the line to sack a quarterback, Woodley is out there to inflict some punishment on the other team. By keeping his focus simply on hitting the opponent Woodley doesn't get lost in his head when facing elite quarterbacks like Peyton Manning, who he will now have the pleasure of lining up against twice a year.

"Whenever I line up I want to get after every quarterback, every offensive lineman, every running back," Woodley says. "I just don't care. If you have the opposite color jersey as me I'm going to go after you. I'm excited about the opportunity to get after you."

While he may have the same spirit as Wolverine, Woodley was not blessed with the genetic mutation that allows Wolverine to heal at a miraculous speed. After suffering a string of injuries over the last couple of years Woodley saw less time on the field and eventually this led to the Steelers deciding to let him go. There has been a concentrated focus on the safety of the game in the past few years, particularly when focusing on head injuries, but this hasn't caused any trepidation in Woodley about playing the game that he loves.

"I'm not afraid of getting hurt, I don't even think about it," he says. "Whenever the game is over I'm excited—win or lose—that I'm walking off the field instead of getting carried off. When I get done playing this game I'm probably going to be 32, 33. I've got a long life to live, this is just a piece of my life."

As part of the initiative to make the game safer, hits that were legal

just a few years ago now carry a 15-yard penalty and the potential of a substantial fine. The rule changes have caused a lot of defensive players to grouse. Woodley accepts that he might get penalized from time to time but he can't change the way he plays: full-on attack mode is the only way he knows how.

"I'm just trying to take you down," Woodley says. "It's not like I'm intentionally going after your head, I'm aiming at wherever there is the most for me to grab to take you down."

When Woodley was only a sophomore in high school he went to the flea market in his hometown of Saginaw, MI, and got the Chinese character for "wood" tattooed on his arm. So as to avoid looking foolish Woodley did a decent amount of research prior to getting the tattoo to make sure that it actually said what he wanted it to. While the tattoo was accurate, that didn't save it from becoming one of many of his early tattoos that ended up being covered by other ink.

"I used to have a big Woody Woodpecker tattoo," Woodley says with a laugh. "At the time he was cool. The details were cool. But it was like one of those old 3D movies that looked good at the time until all of a sudden there is an HD TV. Then you look at it and say Awww, hell no. So I had to cover it up and get the HD."

Woodley certainly has upgraded his ink. In addition to the fierce Wolverine tattoo on his right arm he is sporting a couple of pieces by Ami James including an amazing tattoo of King Tutankhamun's sarcophagus on his forearm. James also inked Woodley with a couple of wolves on an episode of *NY Ink*.

One of Woodley's tattoos that got covered up was script saying "Sag Nasty," a nickname for his

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WOODLEY

BY CHARLIE CONNELL PHOTOS BY AARON RICHTER

INKED PEOPLE

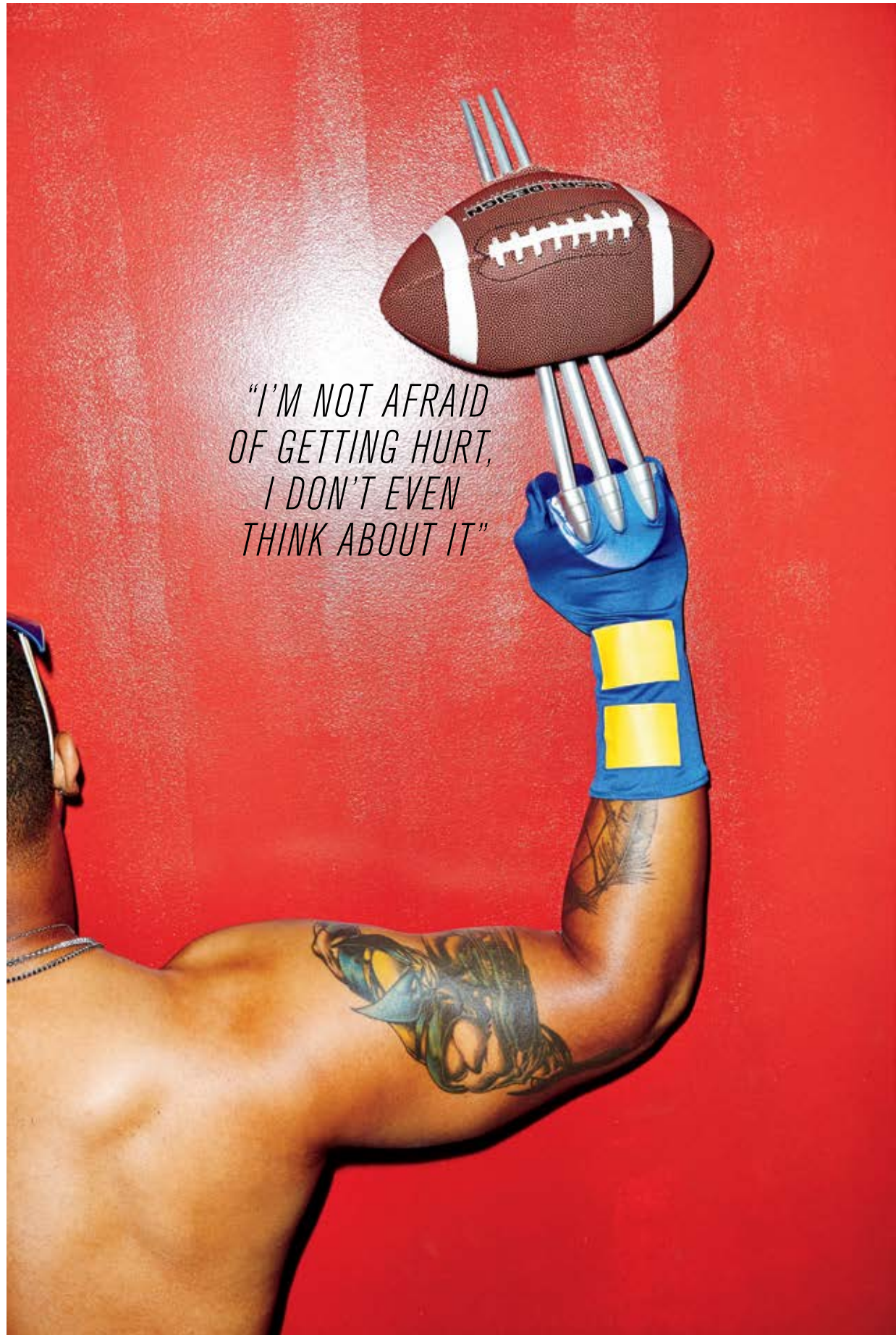
hometown. As he grew older Woodley understood that calling his home by such a derisive name might not be the coolest thing to do anymore, especially since he loves the place so much.

If Woodley is like Wolverine on the field he's much more like Professor X when he goes back to Saginaw in that he does as much charity as possible to help out struggling kids. In addition to running a football camp Woodley has helped with a program that prepares kids for their first day of the school year by giving them school supplies and haircuts as well as helping to pass out food around the holidays.

"When you grow up in a city as a young kid you are always saying that you wish we had this thing or that we could do this other thing," Woodley says. "You always say that if you are fortunate enough these are some of the things that you would go back and do. Everything is just to give back, to give something that you feel like you needed when you were young."

When he was let go by the Steelers in the off-season no one would have faulted Woodley if he took it a bit personally and felt dejected. But much in the same way that he goes after quarterbacks and Wolverine goes after Sentinels, Woodley is approaching his change of team full of gusto and vigor. The Raiders may have struggled a bit last year but Woodley thinks that by adding players with the sort of experience that he has—Woodley played a huge role in the Steelers 2008 Super Bowl victory—the Raiders might soon be hoisting a Lombardi trophy of their own.

"It was great to have all of that success early in my career, getting used to being in the playoffs, knowing what it takes to be a winner, knowing how to get to that next step," Woodley explains. "That's the thing we bring to Oakland. We got Justin Tuck who won two Super Bowls. We brought back Charles Woodson, he's been to the Super Bowl. James Jones, he's played in the Super Bowl. You bring guys in with the experience that know how to win and sometimes that's the missing piece to being a successful team." ■



*"I'M NOT AFRAID
OF GETTING HURT,
I DON'T EVEN
THINK ABOUT IT"*

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MIND IS A
TERRIBLE
THING TO
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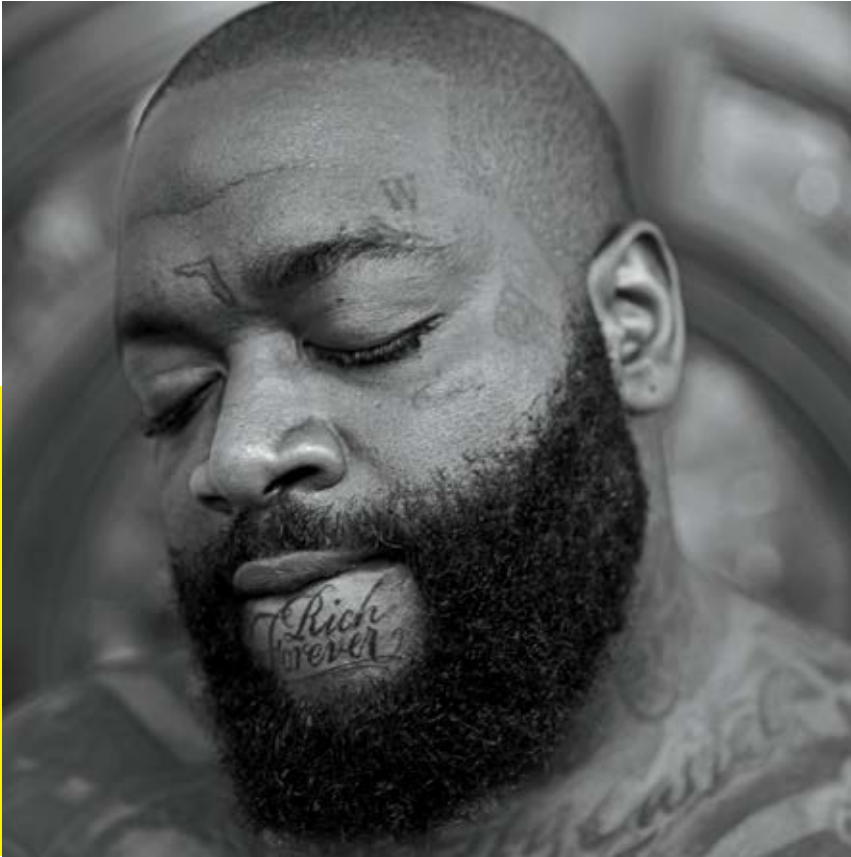
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CULTURE

ROSS, COURTESY OF NIKKO HURTADO



CHIN MUSIC

Remember Gucci Mane's awful ice cream cone? Now hip-hop has a new—good—face of visage tattoos in Rick Ross. The Bawse rapper recently visited Nikko Hurtado who inked the phrase "Rich Forever" on Ross's chin in honor of the 2012 mixtape of the same name. The single needle line work of Hurtado's lettering is not only tight but lends the image to be easily altered to "Rick Forever" if Ross's head gets any bigger.

RUBBER SOUL



Chucks: Converse All Star High Tops, have become almost iconic in American footwear. Evolving from basic basketball shoes to casual canvas sneakers and eventually to custom designs accented with leather exteriors, Chucks seem to have never gone out of fashion. Now, Converse is preparing to launch a brand new line of high-tops made predominantly out of rubber. Significantly more water-proof than their traditional high-top, these new slick kicks will be available to stomp puddles in white, red, and black.



BOTTLE SERVICE

Sebastien Mathieu, of Le Sphinx tattoo studio, pulled latex over J&B scotch bottles and custom tattooed the skin, putting in an average of 20 hours of work per bottle. Adorned with emblematic Traditional Japanese designs they were installed as art in Paris's L'Eclaireur Rue Herold.

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GET IN DEEPER WITH SAMCRO

Relive Jax's reign with Tara and Clay in the slammer. The latest and most controversial season of *Sons of Anarchy* makes its way to DVD and Blu-ray with over 16 hours of entertainment—including deleted scenes, character good-byes, *Sons*

for Sandy, and a gag reel (yep). Rewatching the twists and turns near the season's end that lead to a shocking finale and a character death that will leave you drooling for Season 7 to hurry and get its ass here. —*Gil Macias*



THE INKED PLAYLIST BY JONAH BAYER

BEARTOOTH "Between"

If you thought that summertime anthems couldn't feature crushing riffs and screaming, think again.

ANBERLIN "Stranger Ways"

Anberlin bid goodbye to the world with an ambient ballad that will keep them in listeners' minds.

BLACK ANVIL "Still Reborn"

Black Anvil have created their own genre of "New York Black Metal" and they showcase it in all its melodic glory here.

THE BLACK KEYS ^ "Bullet In The Brain"

The Black Keys craft another fuzzed-out masterpiece with this psychedelia-tinged cut.

BLEACHERS "Shadow"

Jack Antonoff from Fun embraces his love for eighties pop on this sweetly syncopated anthem.

FAILURE "Come Crashing"

Failure's first new song in over seventeen years is a welcome dose of atmospheric post-rock from a familiar friend.

JOYCE MANOR "Catalina Fight Song"

This California-based punk act get aggressive on this relentlessly infectious call to arms.

SAY ANYTHING "Judas Decapitation"

Max Bemis digs deep on this upbeat, synth-driven song that's dripping with catharsis.

TIGERS JAW "Hum"

Tigers Jaw transcend their emo roots with this delicately driving rocker that's brilliant in its simplicity.



48 HRS: BANGKOK

Music. Tattoos. A 4 billion dollar sex industry. Bangkok is the tits, and local master tattooer Mimp gives us an exclusive tour of Asia's Sin City. First, grab dinner at Kuang Seafood. They're famous throughout Asia for their crab stir-fry, and the oyster omelet is an aphrodisiac that is more palatable than....well there are some exotic libido enhancers that are harder to swallow. Nightclub Route 66 is next, and, "has the best sound in BKK," says Mimp. If you can't find the right dance partner here, you can window shop at Nana Plaza, a fixture of the red light district. In the Morning visit JJ Market which has everything from live animals to fashion throughout a string of 15,000 vendors. Your last stop is Mimp Tattoo Studios. Mimp's award-winning pieces will blow away your buddies in the Western world. —*Charles Walsh*

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Artist: Clark North

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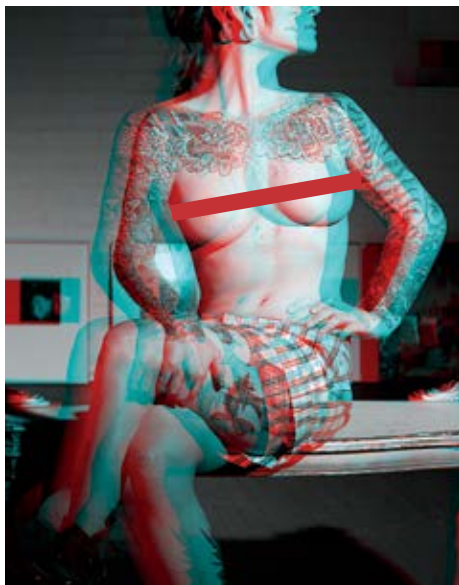
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IT'S IN THE GAME

The day a rookie steps onto an NFL field for the first time, the developers at EA Sports take note of everything from the type of gloves they wear to how they tuck their socks. But one thing was always missing—the players' tattoos. Copyright laws frequently side with the tattoo artists, which means if a game were to include every players' tattoo it would put the publisher at risk for litigation. Stephen Allen from Crybabies Tattoo in Shreveport, Louisiana sued the company and former NFL running back Ricky Williams over featuring his work on the cover of the 2004 game *NFL Street*. The case was eventually dropped, but in response the NFLPA recommended that players get waivers from their tattoo artists to avoid legal pitfalls. 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick followed that advice, and now he's the first player in history to have his ink featured in *Madden*. Expect to see many more in the coming years. —Matt Bertz



3DD

Pornography has always been on the cutting edge of technology—VHS conquered BETA with an assist from the industry—and they now have 3D photography in their sights with a new book entitled *3DD*. It is the brainchild of photographer and self-proclaimed “breast enthusiast” Henry Hargreaves. The book comes in two forms, “Original” and “Deluxe,” with each one chock full of pictures of breasts appearing to jump off the page. Why limit the natural beauty of a woman to a mere two dimensions?

SECRET STASH

Too often the tools that are used to bring us great pleasure, sex toys, are relegated to sock drawers or under the bed. We're not saying that you should leave them on the kitchen table or give them a spot on the mantle, but you can hide them in plain sight. These beautiful tattoo-inspired porcelain boxes crafted by Seletti are perfect for storing your favorite toys in a dignified manner.



DESERTER FOX

Megan Fox, who plays April O'Neil in the new *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, is thinking of removing part of her signature look, citing that she has grown out of them. “I want to get rid of a lot of my tattoos,” Fox says. “I just don't want a portrait of Marilyn Monroe on my arm anymore, it's not significant to me.”

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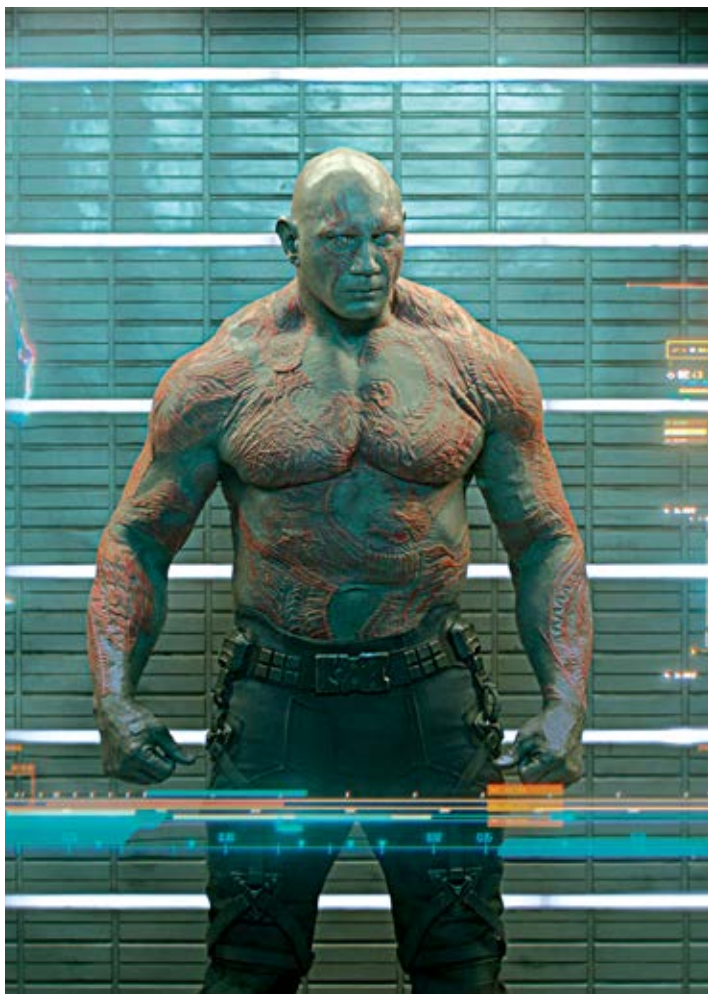
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BAUTISTA MAKES HIS MARK

WWE wrestler-turned-actor, Dave Bautista, stars as the intergalactic badass Drax the Destroyer in Marvel's *Guardians of the Galaxy*. After taking off the body treatment (three and a half hours to put on, an hour and a half to shed) he talked with our Gilbert Macias.

INKED: So what's the backstory on Drax's markings? Could they be tattoos?

BAUTISTA: He never really refers to them as tattoos. He just refers to them as the story of his life. Which to me, I translate that as tattoos, because that's what my tattoos are. They're the story of my life.

Were you familiar with Drax before you got the role?

When I first got offered the audition, my acting coach and he told me to do some research because I wasn't familiar with Drax. Then I saw a picture of him, and I was like Wait a minute, that guy looks familiar. I think we share a resemblance.

Drax might forever resemble you in cartoons, toys, and video games from now on.

Crazy, right? That's the stuff I

always loved about wrestling. They came out with the action figures and video games. It instantly turns me into a little kid. I've got that strong childlike, geeky side to me. It makes me proud of my career. It's incredible and surreal.

Have your tattoos affected the types of roles you land?

I think my look, overall, is going to affect the type of roles I get. Hopefully, this role as Drax will limit that a little more. People will see that I take acting very seriously and that I'm more than just Bodyguard #2 [Laughs]. I love acting and I want to be taken seriously.

Do you see yourself, perhaps, getting a Drax tattoo?

I've got a little bit of time off and I plan on hitting up my tattoo guy, John Koral, in Tampa and getting a few things here and there. It's definitely addictive and I'm living proof. I started with a tattoo on my butt so I could hide it from my dad [laughs]. I'm running out of room though. I would like to take a part of Drax's life story and put it somewhere on me, because now Drax is part of my life story.

LUST STORY

If you are going to watch one salacious artistic film in your lifetime make it *We Must Remain Wildhearted Outsiders*. Apneatic stars as half of a lesbian couple that sells their own sex tapes in Middle America before the Paris Hilton Age.



BALLIN'

If these boxer briefs look a little crazy that is because they are inspired by the NBA's bombastic power forward Chris "Birdman" Andersen. PSD utilized an amalgam of the big man's tattoos including his neckpiece for their Freebird design.



THE PRETTY RECKLESS

GOING TO HELL



THE NEW ALBUM

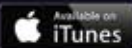
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9.21	Ft. Lauderdale	10.10	Los Angeles	11.6	Portland
9.23	Mobile	10.11	Anaheim	11.7	Hampton Beach
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RAZOR & TIE





7 Minutes in Heaven

And Other Things that Happened During Our Porn Star Sleepover

photos by jeff forney produced by evan seinfeld

Ah, the sleepover, do women really have pillow fights, practice kissing and play Twister? With the help of Evan Seinfeld (of Biohazard, Attika 7 and the adult film world) we invited a seven porn starlets and models—Skin Diamond, Sarah Jessie, Katrina Jade, Jessi Lee, Raven Bay, Nina Kate, and Nikki Hearts—over for an evening. They did much more than paint their nails; dreams really do come true.







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CRUSHING IT

Four tattooers pay homage to their crushes and muses on canvases other than skin.

JOE CAPOBIANCO OF HOPE GALLERY

"I've dug pin-up art from a very early age. As I got a little older I went from admiring the painted pin-ups of Gil Elvgren and Alberto Vargas, to looking for pin-ups in the flesh. Aria Giovanni was one of the first gals—of my time—in life that I felt captured the look, curves, and, of course, attitude of the classic gals that adored. Like many classic pin-ups, there is more to this gal than just not being hard on the eyes. As for why I chose to portray her as the sexy, blood-sucking siren, well I also have a love for classic horror, and have tried to work that into my work. While traditional 'good girl pin-up' work had been coined 'Cheesecake,' I choose to call my less-than-traditional, more edgy, horror-based work 'Blood Puddin'."



JEREMY SWAN
OF BROKEN ART TATTOO

"This piece is called 'Push Pull.' My hand reaches through the portal of my imagination where my muse—my wife—lives. She is adorned in things that inspire me. The initials belong to my wife and two daughters. A muse, at her best, should make you want to you live...and make you want to die. That's why I am reaching for the sword. Do I push it further into the heart...or pull it out?"

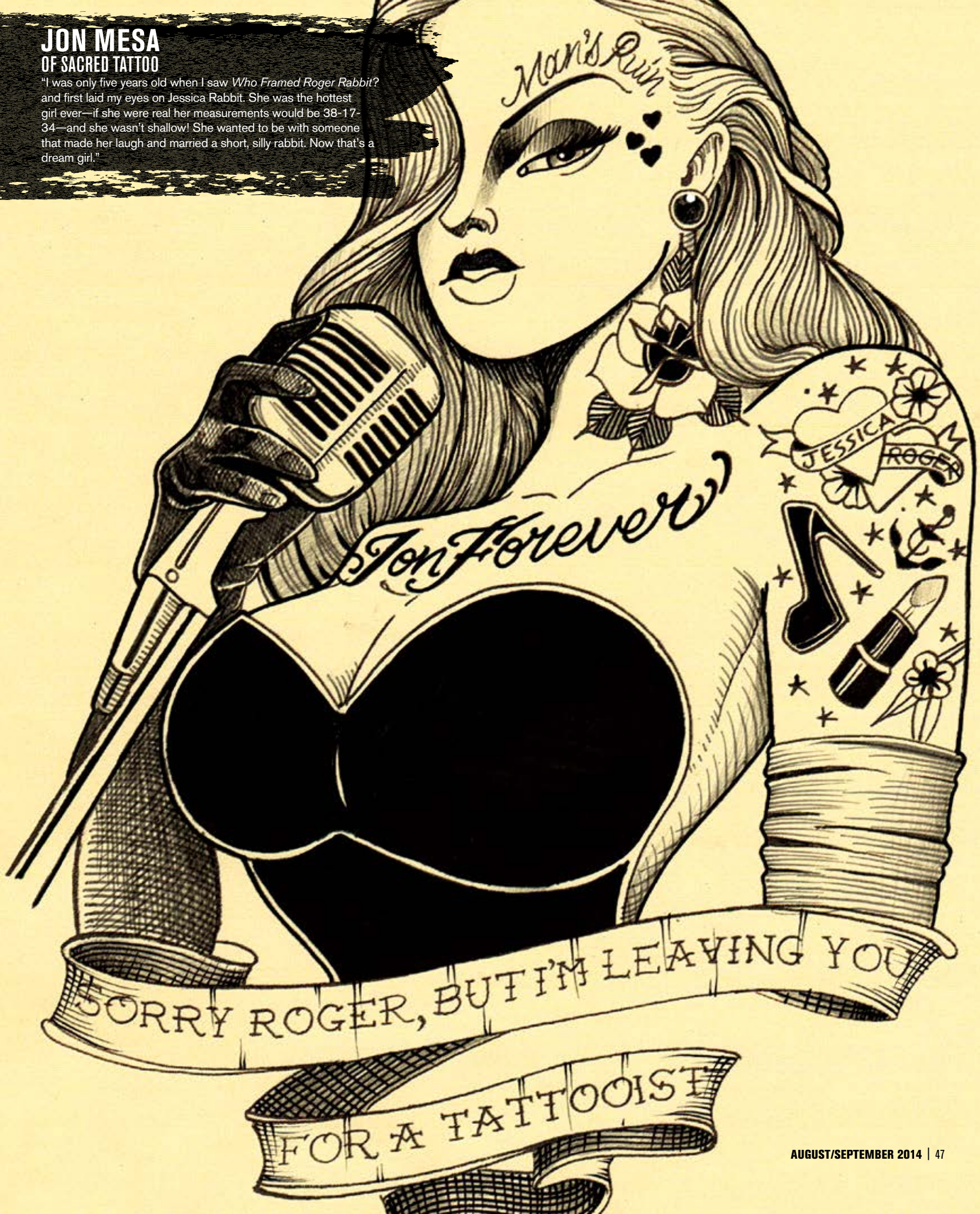


MARY JOY
OF ED HARDY'S TATTOO CITY

"Han Solo was the scoundrel of the universe—the bad boy who was a good guy down deep. He was a real man: tough, capable, and confident."

JON MESA OF SACRED TATTOO

"I was only five years old when I saw *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* and first laid my eyes on Jessica Rabbit. She was the hottest girl ever—if she were real her measurements would be 38-17-34—and she wasn't shallow! She wanted to be with someone that made her laugh and married a short, silly rabbit. Now that's a dream girl."







MADDEN BROS.

I was sitting in a coffee shop in LA a few years back when my brothers, the Madden twins, casually mentioned they were headed to Miami for a week to spend some time in the studio with Pharrell Williams. I guess it's hard to imagine someone leisurely mentioning a thing like getting in the studio with the one and only Skateboard P—it was an awesome conversation I'll never forget but at the moment nobody had any idea what would transpire. It was a different time and place in music. With tracks like "Call Me Maybe" and "Party Rock Anthem" riding high on the charts, what was to be expected from the Neptunes producer and the Good Charlotte guys?

When I heard the first demo for "Good Gracious Abby," a track that sounds like João Gilberto and Stan Getz collaborated with the Eagles, it was pretty obvious that whatever this was—it was going to be different. The time spent with Pharrell rolled into a couple of Miami trips and a handful of tracks that would set the tone of this still-unnamed project with a very different sound. It was the impetus of a new movement that would change everyone involved a few degrees—a few degrees warmer, I think.

During this three-year songwriting sabbatical, another interesting thing happened: Joel got a call with an offer to be part of the cast that would launch a new version of *The Voice* in Australia. Oz is like our second home, and it was a radical opportunity for all of us to go over and hang out in a very awesome and different music scene. You can hear the influence of it in the brothers' new sound. Of course Grant Cobb, one of our favorite tattoo artists and best friends, came out and blessed Joel's *Voice* team with their first tattoo in Sydney.

The time between shooting seasons of *The Voice*, which has become wildly popular, was spent writing songs with this organic sound, and I noticed a rare occurrence in the process. They say you have your whole life to write your whole record.

Records can become a bit of a responsibility, an agreed upon arrangement with record labels in fact. The brothers Madden went back to their normally scheduled program of taking the kids to school, fixing up the garage, and training the family dog. Somewhere in the middle of it all life picked up where it had left off before a career in music happened.

Time spent with Williams yielded the beginning of a new sound—then hang outs with music buds

like Dan Keyes (Recover/Young Love), Ryan Adams and producer Eric Valentine (Queens of the Stone Age, the Wombats, The All-American Rejects) further solidified this new sonic identity. The Madden Brothers soon hatched a completely new collection of tunes that felt like familiar classics—a group of songs that sounded more reflective of their music DNA. The demos led to a stint in the studio with a frequent collaborator, producer, Eric Valentine and then the guys went in with the legendary Joe Chiccarelli (Beck, The Shins, Elton John, Morrissey).

After three years of life spent mostly at home (relatively) and writing songs only when they were moved to do so, Joel and Benji sat in a car with me not far from the coffee shop where it all began and I listened to 14 songs that sounded like nothing the guys have ever done. The album *Greetings from California* bears all of the influence from a youth filled with The Beach Boys; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; and The Eagles. Half of the record that was recorded in complete analog—no manipulated sounds and it stands out.

As the brothers Madden ready themselves for the release of *Greetings*, rehearsals are in session and the first single, a sing-along entitled "We Are Done" is already charting internationally. The response has been pretty incredible, especially considering the music was made entirely for the pleasure of the artists and on their own timeline. I got the chance to see a live show of *Greetings From California* recently in a small bar and I can only tell you it sounds like fun—the most fun my brothers have ever had. I think that's the way it's supposed to be.

I think I know the answer to this but who's sat the longest for ink and what was it for?

Joel: Benj holds the record with somewhere around 12 hours for his Benjamin Franklin (he's out of his mind) back piece. I could only make it to eight hours. And the older I get the less I can sit.

Benji: I did my back piece with Grant Cobb in three sessions—12, 12, and 10 hours—and I sat for 12 hours on my chest and stomach too. Grant is the only guy who will tattoo me for that long! I like to get my tattoos over and done with. As the years go on I get tattooed less and less, so when I do, I make it count!

Who are your top five favorite artists?

J: I haven't even had the pleasure of getting work from some of my faves, and some I'm covered in, but here they are in no particular order: Adam Barton, Grant Cobb, Minka Sicklinger, Cartoon, Juan Puente, Norm, and Mark Mahoney.

B: Grant Cobb, of course, Juan Puente, Dave Waugh, Matt Rinks, Richard Stell, and I would love to get pieces by Scott Campbell and Frank Carter.

Are there any up-and-coming tattoo makers that I should look out for?



5

▷ 4A



4

▷ 3A



3

▷ 2A

Some of my best memories are late night tattoo sessions with Grant (Cobb) and all of our friends. I still smile when I look at the coffin inside my left middle finger, all the Good Charlotte and Avenged Sevenfold guys got in a hotel room on tour. —Benji Madden

B: A kid named Kris Maron who tattoos out of Scranton, PA. I love his New School Traditional style! He also grew up in La Plata, MD (Clarks Run). It's really cool to see a hometown kid make it.

J: I pretty much have fallen out of the tattoo world, so I wouldn't know the up-and-comers. I feel so old now, I just stick with what I like.

I got a hinge after seeing Benji's and wanting one for a long time—are there any tattoos you've seen that you want?

J: I've always wanted a snowflake, a reaper, a sparrow, a crow and a Black-eyed Susan. And I've been saving my hands and my neck for something special.

B: I really want to get some more Traditional stuff done. I really have grown to love the timeless aspect of that tattoo art. I think the over use of it in pop culture turned me off a bit in the last decade, but now I am coming back around to it.

I remember you guys sitting for a tattoo on tour, getting up halfway through the session to play a set, and then sitting down and getting right back to being tattooed—isn't that crazy to think about? I think back to those days sometimes and laugh.

J: Our late teens all the way through our 20s were spent that way! I wouldn't change a thing about the crazy shit we did back then, but I wouldn't go back either!

B: Some of my best memories are late-night tattoo sessions with Grant and all of our friends. I still smile when I look at the coffin inside my left middle finger. All the Good Charlotte guys and the Avenged Sevenfold guys got them together in a hotel room late one night on tour. It's a great memory to have. I also remember getting my throat tattoo by Franco Vescovi in a hotel room in Vegas, that was funny. Why did I feel the need to tattoo my throat in a hotel room in Vegas? Rock 'n' roll I guess! 🤘

Greetings From California comes out September 16th.
The Madden Brothers Tour is coming this fall



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I was kicked off of Facebook for impersonating myself. Though I post better things on Twitter, my Instagram took off. I guess some people just like to look at me. Once in a while I drop major wisdom on Twitter...and nothing happens.

You have to handle snakes every day or as frequently as you can. I own nine snakes and they just tolerate people, all they want is warmth and food, in order for them not to give you attitude you have to handle them a lot. If I am going to put my make-up on I will put a snake on my shoulders or if I am going to watch TV and nap I'll grab a bigger snake and put it around me.

I came into porn at the exact time when nobody was like me—a very curvaceous woman with tattoos. Usually when you see a tattooed girl in porn she has no tits, no ass, she's like a stick figure.

I have not filmed anything in 10 months, I might go back to porn in the future but right now is just not the time for me. My website christymack.com is still a place for people too see films that they can't see anywhere else. Porn was great, I got my start there, it got me followers on all social networks it got me to branch out to other things like my online store, posters, appearances, and Flesh Light.

I have a few of my Flesh Lights around the house and I tried to make them queef for longer than I should admit to.

Nobody would want anything to do with me had I not started in porn, and maybe I will go back someday.

When you get to a point in business when you don't have to do something why do it? If I am making more money doing non-physical things why would I put my body and my mind through something that demanding?

Some days were way easier than others. You show up, you have sex, you have fun and you leave with a check. Other days you are giving a blowjob for 12 hours, and it's like what am I doing wrong here?

You never realize how ugly you are until you are in a make-up chair for three hours.

When I have sex on camera I am going to put my legs in places I didn't know I could put them, but if I am having sex in my personal life I am not there to impress, I am there to have a good time. If you think you have to impress your partner you are in the wrong situation.

I love the look of tattoos. When I get up in the morning and look in the mirror I feel beautiful for having tattoos. The beautiful thing is that the more tattoos I get, the more beautiful I become.

I'm glad that I didn't get all my tattoos quickly, I collected. As my life progressed, my tattoos progressed. And I have more room so I hope I have a lot of life left. I want to get to that place not just all in one day.

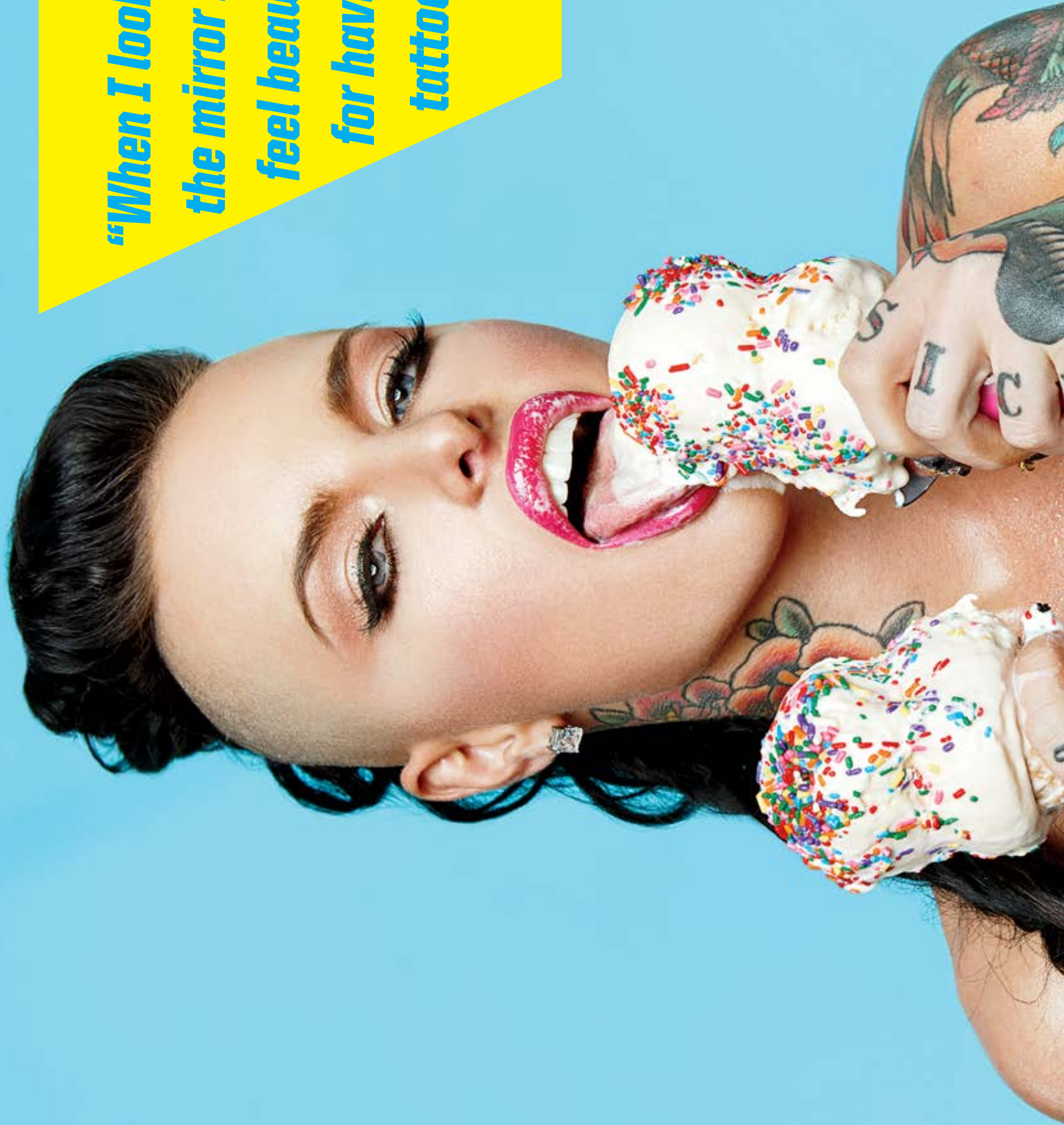
I fly in my artist from Indiana, John Haase, who did my heart, the back of my neck, my hands and my underboob.

I will never tattoo my ass or my boobies—those are the moneymakers!

Since I am rarely in clothes, no matter where I get tattooed eventually someone is going to see it. 🐍



***“When I look in
the mirror I
feel beautiful
for having
tattoos.”***







D&G tank
Moschino bikini
bottom
Eddie Borgo ring



Ca& Lou necklace



RINGS left hand:

- THUMB - ROOM 101
- POINTER - HAN CHOLO/INKED SHOP
- MIDDLE TOP - KING BABY
- MIDDLE BOTTOM - VERSACE
- RING - ROBERTO CAVALLI
- PINKY - KING BABY

NIPPLE RINGS

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photographer- Michael Kraus
models- Luke Wessman, Zephy Dime

RINGS right hand:

THUMB - ROOM 101
POINTER - ROOM 101
MIDDLE - ROOM 101
RING - HAN CHOLO/INKED SHOP
PINKY - KING BABY





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DIESEL
ROBIN'S JEAN
DIESEL
BLACK GOLD
KING BABY

PART 7 OF ONE MAN'S JOURNEY INTO THE ELITE WORLD OF TATTOOING ART AND CULTURE.

BY JOHN BUFFALO MAILER
PHOTOS BY KATRINA EUGENIA

JOSH LORD'S schedule had been even busier than usual, as he was trying to finish up several pieces that had been lingering for months. Somewhere on that list was Buffalo's shoulder piece, which he had started eight months prior. Today was meant to be the day they were to finish.

Although she had attended all the previous sessions and documented them for the magazine, and although Buffalo had given her a good deal of shit for not coming to this last session, as he did not understand the logic of that, Katrina refused. She was Italian and stubborn and something inside her told her that there would be no tattooing happening on this freezing November afternoon for her to photograph.

So, Buffalo was there alone this time when Josh showed up late. He took one look at the centerpiece tattoo that had been the place-holder for this larger piece for the past 15 years, and quickly deduced that Buffalo would need to get at least one session of laser removal done before he could work his magic and finish the piece.

That really sucked. When Buffalo had taken this assignment from Rocky, *Inked's* fearless editor [(fearless) editor's note: *Is keeping myself in masturbatory? Perhaps, but it also demonstrates that Buffalo is complimentary and on a first name basis with everybody he meets.*] he thought the whole thing would be done in a month.

Now here he was eight months in, two-thirds of a tattoo on his shoulder, and accepting the grim reality that it was going to be a hell of a lot longer before Josh could finish it.

Rocky had completely forgotten about the assignment by this point.

Unable to get any work done that day, the two men agreed that the best use of their limited time would be spent next door at the bar, as Buffalo still had no clue how he was going to write this piece and was desperate for more interviews with Josh in the hopes that the answer would present itself. Of course, he had no intention of expressing his fears to Josh, as placing your trust in a writer to capture the essence of who you are, for a national audience dedicated to the very craft you make your living in, was roughly equivalent to placing your trust in a tattoo artist to permanently alter your appearance.

After all, once you took the leap, both paths would lead to you being judged by the world based on the results.

The transcript of the conversation between Josh and Buffalo at the bar was as follows:

JOSH - "So, how are you going to write this piece?"

BUFFALO - "I'm gonna pray to the writing gods and hopefully they will show me the way to tell this story.

This is almost like a joint profile of the two of us, or I think that's what Rocky wants. It's a very strange piece to write. I don't begin to know how to tackle it."

J - "You should let me write the last line."

B - "Now you're pushing it."

Laughter.

B - "But I'll tell you this, if you don't let me ask you some fucking questions while we sit here and drink, the gods are not gonna be very happy with me."

J - "What do you want to know?"

B - "How are you doing on your list of clients? Made any headway since last I saw you?"

J - "This is off the record, but I will start taking new appointments again in January."

B - "You're going to start taking new appointments again? You're like the fucking John Edward of tattoo appointments. And he communes with the dead! I had to get a god-damned assignment from *Inked* to get a tattoo from you! And I know I'm already getting a nice big shoulder piece here, but discovering what a truly rare privilege it is to get a tattoo

from you, the whole time I've been trying to figure out how I'm going to get you to do the other shoulder?"

J - "You'll have to write another piece for that."

B - "Well, I'll make you a deal; if this one goes well, I'll write a book about you if you promise to put the Tree of Life on my right shoulder before either one of us kicks the bucket."

J - "No, my situation has actually changed for the first time in a long time, which is really interesting. I stopped taking appointments for a year because somehow, and I didn't see it coming, I just got way busier than you can be and actually tattoo people in a timely manner. So, all of my customers were suffering. People who were getting started couldn't get back in to finish things, and eventually I didn't realize how many people I had started on, until I was booked up for over a year and I couldn't possibly get anyone new in. Nor take a vacation."

B - "Isn't it insane to know what you're going to be doing every minute of every day for a year?"

J - "I don't like that aspect, honestly. And it comes across as very



LORD'S EYE

HOPING FOR PHILOSOPHICAL ROUGHNECKS

obnoxious when you say it, but I guess I was always a freewheeling person, who even though I was a workaholic, would take time off. I would work really intensely for 10 months and then take that money and go do something. Once I became a shop owner and a business man, and booked up a solid year... If you think about it, my job is intensely responsible for a short time, but you don't take anything home with you. You have to be responsible and present only when you're tattooing. The rest of the time I had no accountability."

B - "Is having OCD an advantage for a tattoo artist?"

J - "Oh, absolutely. If it weren't for tattooing, I don't think I ever would have found something in my life that brought my skill set in a happy productive way. Without the responsibility of finishing things on somebody else, I think I never would have really followed through on the artwork aspect. Being beholden to somebody, that forced me to dig deep and do my best, and my OCD combined with that responsibility is what makes me do my best. And if you don't have something that makes you do your best over and over and over, do you progress? I don't think so. The idea of practice makes perfect is flawed. Perfect

you didn't have an outlet for your art, which in many ways, even from the example of your first tattoo, saved your life. You could be a real thug roughneck, couldn't you? You could be in a position where you have no choice but to kill people, and come to the conclusion that that's just the way life is."

J - "I imagine I probably would have become a hit man for the mob. I'd be Natalie Portman in *The Professional*. It's an interesting idea you bring up. I think that ties into tattooing. In all of us, maybe we have to have that Incredible Hulk reason for doing something. If you *need* to do something difficult, it's different than just *wanting* to do something difficult. If you are protecting someone or something you care about, of course you're going to bring more to the table than you thought you could."

B - "So, because your art form is one in which, if you fuck up you effect someone permanently in a negative way, you have no choice but to bring your A-Game every time, and it is the repetition of bringing your A-Game to the table every day, that allows practice to make perfect. Is that right?"

J - "Exactly. So if you practice enough, even at your very worst, you still can bring the level of professionalism you need to get the job done."

A master is someone who know what they're striving for, knows that they'll never hit it perhaps, but is never fully satisfied with their performance. You should never believe your own propaganda.

practice makes perfect. So if you're practicing intensely, you get good at doing something well. If you're practicing haphazardly, you get good at doing something averagely. So, I credit tattooing as being maybe the one thing in my life that brought out my skill set, otherwise I was probably destined for a life in the service industry maybe.

No slur on the service industry, I love the service industry! But it would have eventually killed me. All that socializing without producing something would have driven me crazy."

B - "Be very honest with me now. If

B - "I would say therein lies the difference between someone who is very good at what they do, and someone who is a master. Because a master is not someone who is satisfied with their A-List. A master is someone who knows what they're striving for, knows that they'll never hit it perhaps, but is never fully satisfied with their performance. You shouldn't be."

J - "Absolutely."

B - "Even though your worst might be better than other people's best."

J - "You should never believe your own propaganda. ■"

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.

The Sexiest
Inked
Girls In
Portland

PHOTOS BY TY MILFORD | FEATURE TYPE BY SAMUEL GOSSON

Betty Bombshell



“There are so many incredibly talented tattoo artists in Portland. Tattoos are so widely accepted that they are almost encouraged.”

Casper Suicide

"The dream of the '90s is alive in Portland. A slightly more progressive culture exists here and permeates the younger generations which will create a more tolerant and educated tomorrow."

CE

“Portland is a city with a perfect mix of hip neighborhoods, hiking, coffee shops, brew pubs, restaurants, strip clubs and food carts. My favorite tattoo was done by Dominick McIntosh of Dead Gods Tattoo; it is a portrait of my mother and her ashes are in the ink.”

Sylvia
Go-Go

Zaelii

Suicide Girl
Hopeful

"My dad is heavily tattooed so ever since I was a kid I knew I wanted to decorate my body in art. I plan to be one of the most-heavily tattooed women in the world."





Anna Rose

“I’m a fourth generation
Portland native with
tattoos inspired by life
experiences...”





Tattoolandia

For years you readers have been telling us that we should visit Portland, that no other town compares in love of ink and chill vibe. Well, we couldn't ignore the call from the Pacific Northwest and we hopped on a plane for a fun and debauchorous week.

When immersed in Portland you realize that the city has this utopian quality in that it is completely inhabited by freethinking, all-accepting, nice people. Even the vagrants (not the struggling artists but those who will forever be riding the rails) have a friendly demeanor. Be it a sexual proclivity, a political thought, or an all-round outlook on life all are welcome in Portland. The United Nations would be best served to relocate here.

The second thing you notice is the skin. Along with the open-mindedness comes a community in which visual self-expression is celebrated. Before going out in Portland if you put on the weirdest mix of clothing you own, style your hair in a peculiar way, and grab something odd from your girlfriend's dresser to accessorize with you still won't be the third most outlandishly decorated person you will encounter that night. With this independence comes an amalgam of creative free spirits who adorn themselves with some of the best ink in the country. Extremely artistic tattooers have had as much to do with making Portland beautiful as the graffiti artists who are aplenty as well. There are plenty of good tattoo shops in the Rose City, the best being Atlas Tattoo Studio, but you can't flick an American Spirit without hitting a quality shop.

The third thing to catch your eye is more skin. The locals will tell you that they have the most strip clubs per capita in the country, and we tried to hit them all but ran out of time and singles (and two-dollar bills in the case of Casa Diablo). There are hazy memories of Stripperraoke at Devil's Point, "Tiny Tuesday" (all petite dancers) at Lucky Devil and the super-cute tattooed girls at Union Jacks Club.

From Union Jacks we stumbled to our temporary chic home of the Jupiter Hotel. What was once a motor inn has been transformed into one of the sickest lodgings on the West Coast. Reflecting the diversity of Portland's art scene, the Jupiter Hotel is an artistic orgasm from the varied room murals to the world-class art gallery to architecture around the property. The clientele couldn't be chillier and is a mix of the hip kids who are visiting and the local crowd who come to the Doug Fir, the restaurant and venue where you can catch the Afghan Whigs this August. We thought no other place represented the aesthetics and appeal of Portland as best as the Jupiter Hotel and thusly we shot this entire pictorial solely on the property. 📸

Stylist: Casey Boyd
Hair and Makeup: Patty Harding,
Claudine Ebel, Amy Gillespie

Terra

Please describe Portland: "Diablo!"

STETSON®

by JOSH LORD





Two American Style Icons Combine their Aesthetics to Create Wearable Art

Hat maker Stetson provided a cool canvas for New York City tattooer Josh Lord to adorn a new line of caps.

"Stetson has a long history in helping men achieve their personal style," says Stetson Art Director TJ McCoy. "This collaboration ensures that we will continue to stay relevant by being something new, something fresh, and really helping highlight the fact that we're interested in the art and culture of tattoos. The collaboration with Josh Lord is especially fascinating because I think in a lot of ways, tattooing plays on the same idea of finding THE particular style THAT is right for men or women, and then helping people achieve a look."

"When Stetson approached me to collaborate, I was excited about the concept of how art lays on a hat similar to the way that tattoos sit on a body," Lord says. "Everything you design tattoo-wise has to take into consideration how the art flows with the contortions of the body and the hat was a new challenge for me."

"In so many ways hat making mirrors tattooing," says McCoy. "A tattooer has an understanding of dimension. Also in the same way that Josh approaches a client and figures out the perfect piece for him or her, a hatter approaches a customer by figuring out what face shape they have and what kind of look they're going for."

The similarities extend to the hand-craftsmanship that goes both into creating a hat or a tattoo. "I feel like especially for our generation, people think that things are made by pressing a button but at Stetson a lot of our process still involves a lot of handwork," McCoy says. "Stetson hats go through over 36 hand-applied steps."

Before one of those steps occurred Lord researched imagery, took apart a few hats to see how the material flowed, and drew and drew and drew. "Working with my hands has always been something that I've loved," Lord says. "Craftsmanship has been more important to me than art. Knowing the craft that goes into hat making made me want to show through my art and effort that I completely respect and am in awe of the hat maker. This was my very first haberdashery gig and I thought for a long time 'about the right imagery'. In the end I was inspired by this idea of a predator." He decked out black and white trilby hats in a snake coiled around feathers. His third offering is a golden cockroach atop a green cap. "To me the cockroach represents the tattooing industry because it was a seedy trade that grew from the streets but we made good, eventually. We're golden now—but we're still cockroaches."



INK MASTER SEASON

5

S RIVAL

Ink Master—the most-watched tattoo competition in the world—returns with a vengeance for Season 5. This time the contest is incredibly personal as the tattooers all have a natural rival. Be it convention circuit foes, a former boss vs former employee, brothers, or even two enemies forged on the show in **Joshua Hibbard** and **Jason Clay Dunn**. Not only do they have to face their counterpart during judging, the artists will have to work while watching their rival as the tattoo studios now have a glass partition between the pairings—essentially forging fishbowls of rivals. There's going to be bad blood in the water starting Tuesday September 2nd, 10PM EST on Spike TV, as these tattooers duke out their foe and 16 other top-flight artists for \$100,000, a feature in this magazine, and the title of *Ink Master*.

PHOTOS BY MATTHIAS CLAMER



ANGEL

CRIS

ROBBIE

JAYVO



DON



ERIK



CAROLINE




JULIA



TIM



CLEEN



JOSH



MARK

For more information on all of the contestants and their tattoo galleries visit inkedmag.com

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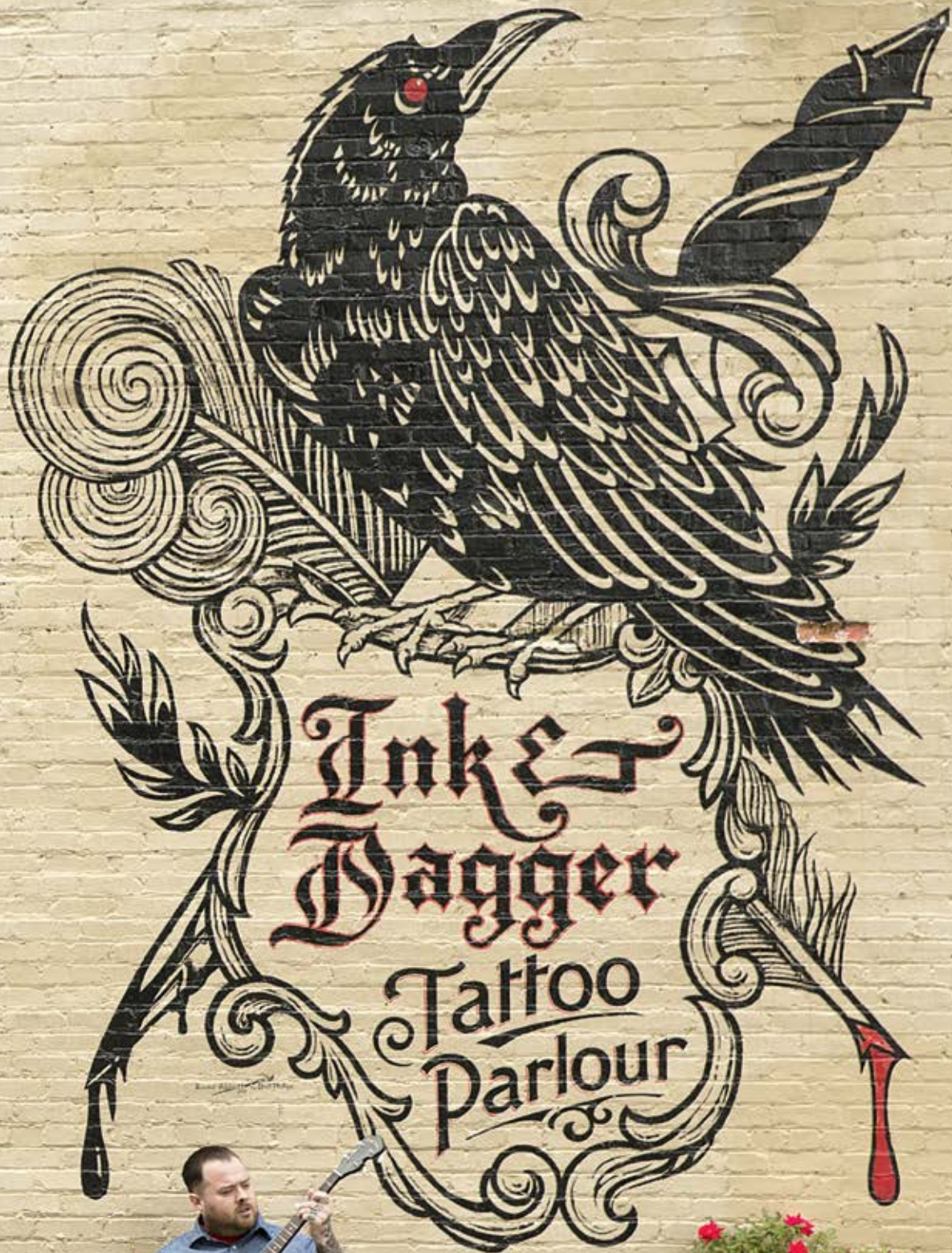
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RUSS ABBOTT

BY NATASHA VAN DUSER PHOTOS BY ZACH WOLFE

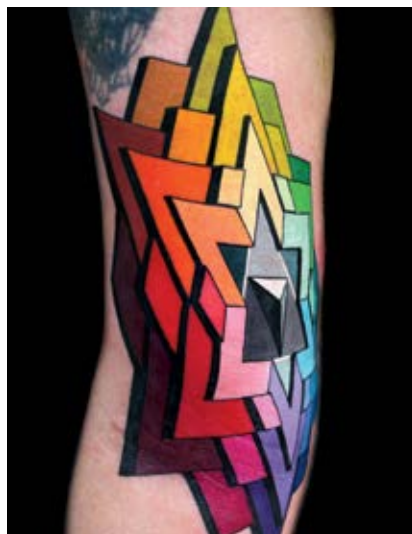


If you've ever walked through the aisles of a tattoo convention and spotted a guy decked out in ink, sitting back and playing a banjo, then you were probably looking at Russ Abbott. With a tattoo career spanning 17 years, the laid-back Georgia native has gained tremendous praise for his work in illustrative tattoos and his own development of the ornamental style.

Opening Ink & Dagger Tattoo just outside of Atlanta in 2007, Abbott has spent the last several years travelling all over the world giving artists seminars at tattoo conventions while promoting his many projects to help benefit fellow tattooists. Keep an eye out for him and his tattoos the next time you are walking around a convention. It's even been rumored that if you catch him at the right time, he may give out pudding to passersby.

INKED: How was your first shop experience?

ABBOTT: I started in a custom shop. We generally created a unique design for every customer. We had flash too, mostly Cherry Creek and other assorted '90s stuff. Suns, tribal, and kanji were really popular. I started getting into biomech guys like Aaron Cain and Guy Aitchison. New School was a big influence on me early on, too. Eric Merrill and Joe Capobianco were like gods to me.



INKED: What brought you to open Ink & Dagger Tattoo?

ABBOTT: I had been tattooing for about 10 years when I opened the shop. It was time to start forging my own path.

INKED: Atlanta, and Georgia in general, has a way bigger tattoo scene than most people realize. Why do you think that is?

ABBOTT: I think Atlanta is underrated in general. It's a pretty big city, especially when you factor in the giant metro area surrounding the city. We have a huge international airport. We have amazing dining, culture, and shopping. The weather is generally moderate, too. "Hotlanta" is not a totally accurate description.

INKED: Do you have any special training?

ABBOTT: I dropped out of college when I started tattooing. Everything I know about creating artwork and business, I've learned through self-study, reading, and collaboration with other artists.

INKED: What conventions have you done recently or are planning to do this year?

ABBOTT: This year I worked Asheville, North Carolina; Detroit; and Hell City

in Columbus. I'm going to Portland and maybe a couple of others.

INKED: What's this Tattoo Science that we have heard about?

ABBOTT: Tattoo Science is a great new company that's about to launch. They will initially be offering only one product that I know of. It's all hush hush until the patents are filed, but I can say that I've seen the product in action and I believe it has the potential to completely replace the tattoo stenciling methods that are currently used. This stenciling solution promises to replace the Thermofax machine altogether. I'm really excited about it, but, of course, all I can do right now is drop hints. Stay tuned for great things from Tattoo Science. They are some smart folks over there...

INKED: What drew you to work in a more ornamental and illustrative style?

ABBOTT: I used to work in every style imaginable. I did whatever people asked for in whatever style seemed to be right for the piece. Throughout those early years, I started to really admire Traditional American, Japanese, and Realism. I think the

illustrative style that I developed was just a natural combination of all three of those disciplines with a little New School influence thrown in. Of course, since I was becoming known for my diversity, I tended to attract clients with really unusual ideas and I would try to make the ideas work as a tattoo the best way I could. I started combining traditional with realism for a more illustrative feel. At some point, I had a style of my own. The ornamental style started a little later. I would do tattoos with frames around them so I could mix Black-and-Gray subjects with more traditional tattoos around them. Over the years, the ornamental scrollwork from those frames has just grown bigger and more dynamic. I've been really refining my vision on the ornamental work.

INKED: What inspires you as an artist?

ABBOTT: I just try to remain a fan of tattooing and keep up with all of the amazing work going on around the world. There's no shortage of access to inspiration online and at conventions. Plus we have an awesome crew of artists and guest artists at the shop that keep the fire burning.

INKED: What sets you apart from other artists?

ABBOTT: I'm the kind of person who never stops tinkering with my understanding of the craft. I'm always dreaming about what's next and how I can achieve some greater good.

INKED: What other media do you work in?

ABBOTT: Over the last couple of years,





I've thrown all of my energy into the digital art realm. I've been working with a Wacom Cintiq, which is like a giant computer monitor that you can draw on with a pen. The tools that I've discovered for designing tattoos with a computer are giving me such a boost in my process!

INKED: You released a book titled *Ornamental Archive*. Can you tell us a little bit about that?

ABBOTT: I was becoming known for ornamental design and so I decided to take the opportunity to create a reference book for other tattooers. The ornamental frames that you normally find on the web or in old books are so detailed. In order to make a more successful tattoo, I like to simplify the shapes and concentrate on defining light and shadow. My illustrations in *Ornamental Archive* are designed with the needs of the tattooer in mind. The binding lies flat so you can easily copy the line drawings and get right to work. The book has been out for about a year now and it's awesome to see the influence my drawings are having.

INKED: You've recently been working on the Abbott Color Wheel. What's that all about?

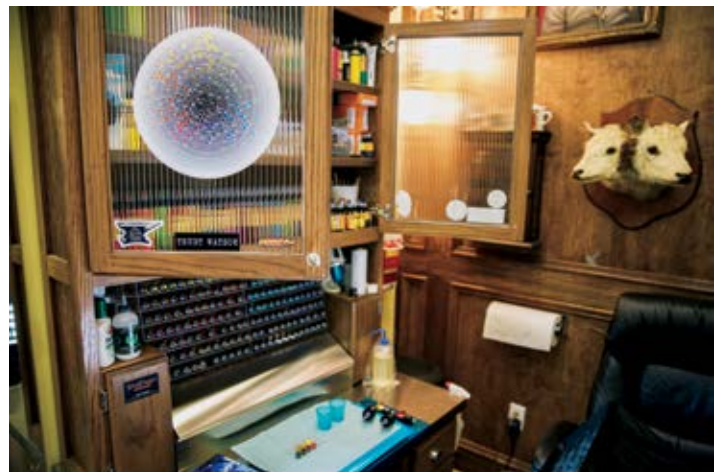
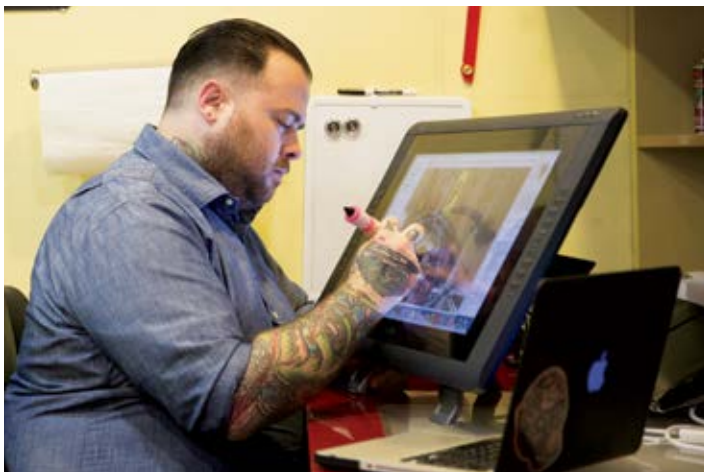
ABBOTT: The Abbott Color Wheel was the product of my obsessive quest to map the full gamut of tattoo color space. The range of tattoo colors available is steadily expanding and I found that my ability to keep them all straight in my head was lagging. I would tend to pick the same colors every time and ignore certain colors altogether. I needed a way to see them all at once and make accurate comparisons between them. The

Abbott Color Wheel has every color from Eternal Ink's line of pigments organized by hue, value, and saturation. In simple terms, it's a tool to help the tattoo artist decide which colors to use in a given situation. I have a deluxe package for the wheel that includes a selection of color scheme masks and a low tack adhesive color wheel that artists can put on a wall by their workstation.

ABBOTT: What's with the banjo?

RUSS: Outside of tattooing and family, banjo is my biggest hobby/distraction right now. I play it nearly every day so I keep one nearby at all times in case the mood to pick a tune strikes me. 🎸

"I'm the kind of person who never stops tinkering with my understanding of the craft. I'm always dreaming about what's next and how I can achieve some greater good."





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JESS YEN

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HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

People know my style as Oriental Realism. Growing up in Taiwan, a country which was colonized by Japan for about 50 years, both Chinese and Japanese cultures have greatly influenced me. Unlike traditional Oriental art, I add elements of realism and materialism into my work.

WHICH IS INTERESTING IN THAT SOME OF YOUR IMAGERY ISN'T REAL.

Yes, Oriental style has a lot of creatures that never existed, and by adding elements of realism, I could bring life out of them. People could visually feel the sharpness of a dragon's claws, the texture of its snaky skin, the furriness of its

horse hair on the back and its vivid eyes that tell you the storyline behind this work.

WHAT IS YOUR TATTOO PHILOSOPHY?

There is no "the best," only better. It's similar to an old saying: that there is always room for improvement. This is what motivates me to work hard and harder, and hopefully it will take me to the next level.

WHAT'S YOUR GOAL IN TATTOOING?

My lifetime goal is to complete 100 bodysuit tattoos. I have completed about 10 or so with about 20 in progress. I am always looking for people who want a full bodysuit. 🐉



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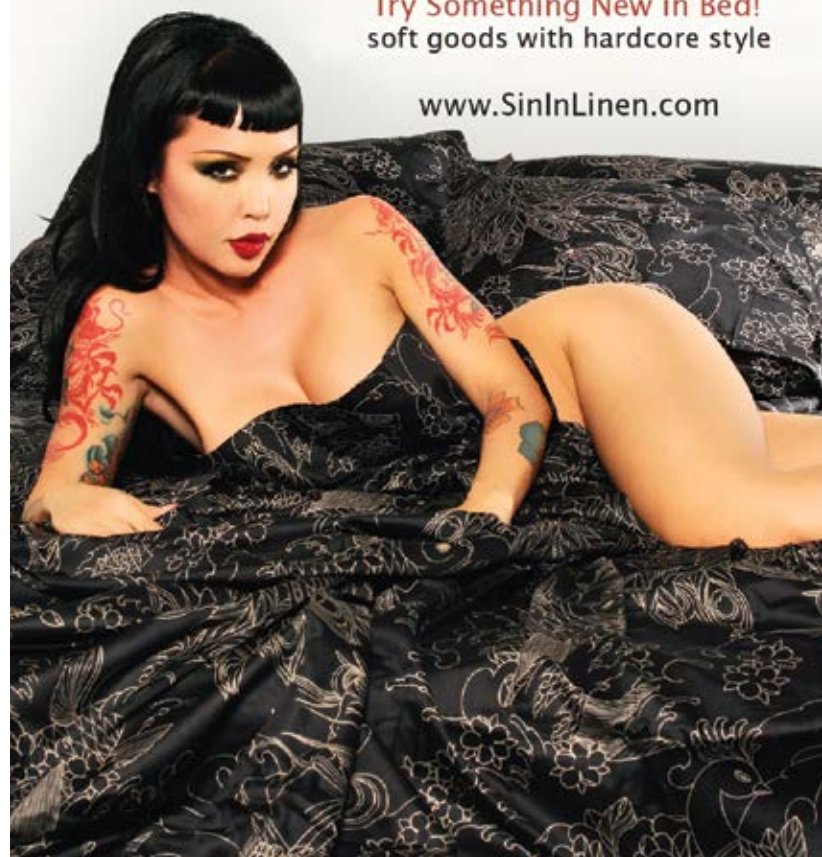
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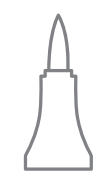


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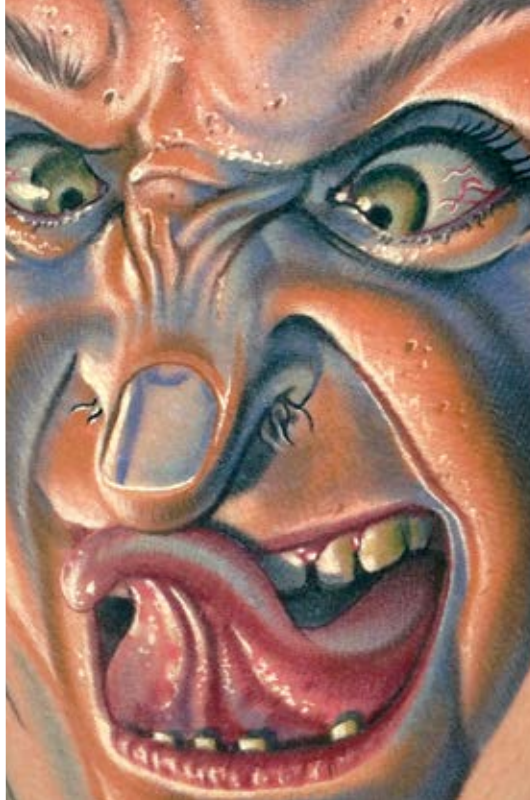
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PHIL GARCIA

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YOU SERVED IN THE NAVY FOR ABOUT NINE YEARS—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. HOW DID THAT EXPERIENCE HELP YOUR TATTOOING?


I think my time in the service has helped me take my life seriously and give me the strength to overcome all the obstacles in my life. The Navy taught me motivation, discipline, honor, courage, commitment, and attention to detail that have helped me achieve this level of tattooing.

YOUR WORK TENDS TO VEER BETWEEN REALISM AND NEW SCHOOL.

Every now and then I will dabble around with some New

School tattooing and I guess I am in the realism category, but I'm still not quite happy with how realistic my tattoos appear. Compared to the photo reference, it's still missing something. I will always try to get it as close to real as I can but sometimes real is a bit boring. I always try to apply my artistic licensing to all my work.

OTHER THAN THAT WHAT SETS YOU APART FROM OTHER ARTISTS?

My subject matter and detail. I love nature and tattooing natural mages. I tend to pick references that are different from what you normally see and I try my hardest to put every ounce of detail and texture into my tattoos. 

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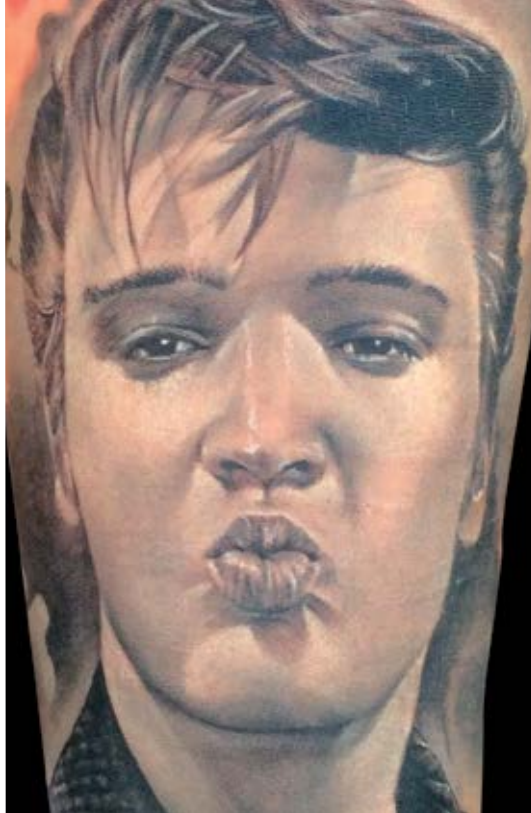
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The girl sitting in Amor Sierra's chair was crying and smiling and pretty much covering every emotion. Her shoulder had a couple of new flower tattoos—red roses—and they were covering up a man's name. Her pimp's name, to be precise. He owned her once. The girl had fled the world of sex trafficking, and the next step was to ditch that prick's name. "To see that tattoo go away, it was like she could see her life change," recalls Sierra, owner of the Miami Tattoo Company. The girl is one of six who accepted Sierra's offer to remove or cover up sex slave tattoos. Sometimes the ink is a bar code. More often, it's the pimp's name, branded to his property.

Dozens of tattoo shops have made similar offers to sex trafficking victims and former gang members. Nonprofits like the Fresh Start Tattoo Removal Program, Inc. keep lists of shops that'll do the removal or cover-ups for free. The work usually comes with tales of how the girls ended up there. "It's super emotional," Sierra says. "Hearing what they've been through, it's horrible. But it's good to think maybe we are helping them get past it." The photos on this page represent the quality of tattoos Miami Tattoo Company puts out but are not the cover-ups given to former sex workers, as we don't want to reveal any identifying marks of the women trying to start their lives anew. —Eric Barton

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KELSY NAKA
Manager at Farsyde Tattoo &
Piercing in Kāne'ohe, Hawaii

One of the funnier moments has to be when a couple of middle-aged women came in to get small tattoos. The artist did a bit of drawing then got everything set up and had the first come over to his station. Her friend suddenly yelled, "Drop trou!" and the woman who was about to get tattooed hooted and dropped her pants and panties down to her ankles. The artist paused for a moment in disbelief but continued to ask her where she wanted the tattoo. She pointed to her hip. When he was done applying the stencil, he politely told her that she could put her clothes back on so he could do the tattoo.

If you don't know Kāne'ohe, we have tons of chickens all over the place. A handful of them really took to one of our artists. I can still remember him walking from the shop to his car across the parking lot, with a flock of roosters, hens, and chicks following him in a line! Their devotion became so great that they would even run up to his car when he'd pull up in the morning, anxiously waiting for him to get out.

Being in a spot where a lot of tourists tend to visit, we get a lot of odd yet completely innocent questions from people. One of the best questions had to be, "When do the whales pass by?" Quarter to noon, ma'am, Monday through Friday—they're off on the weekends. "I leave later this afternoon, but I want a half-sleeve, can I come in now?" Everyone's a comedian these days. That, or they think we are magicians. ■

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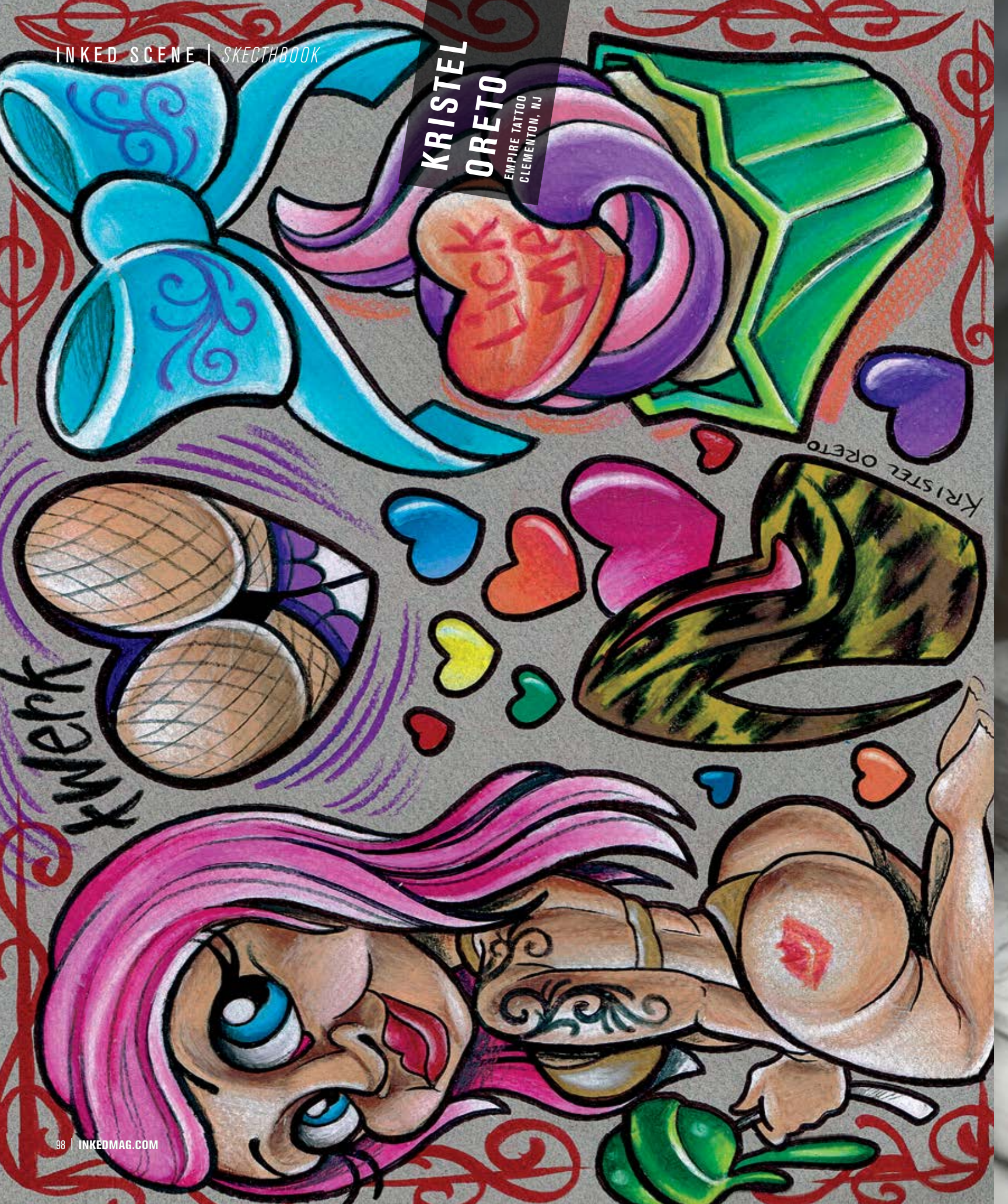
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