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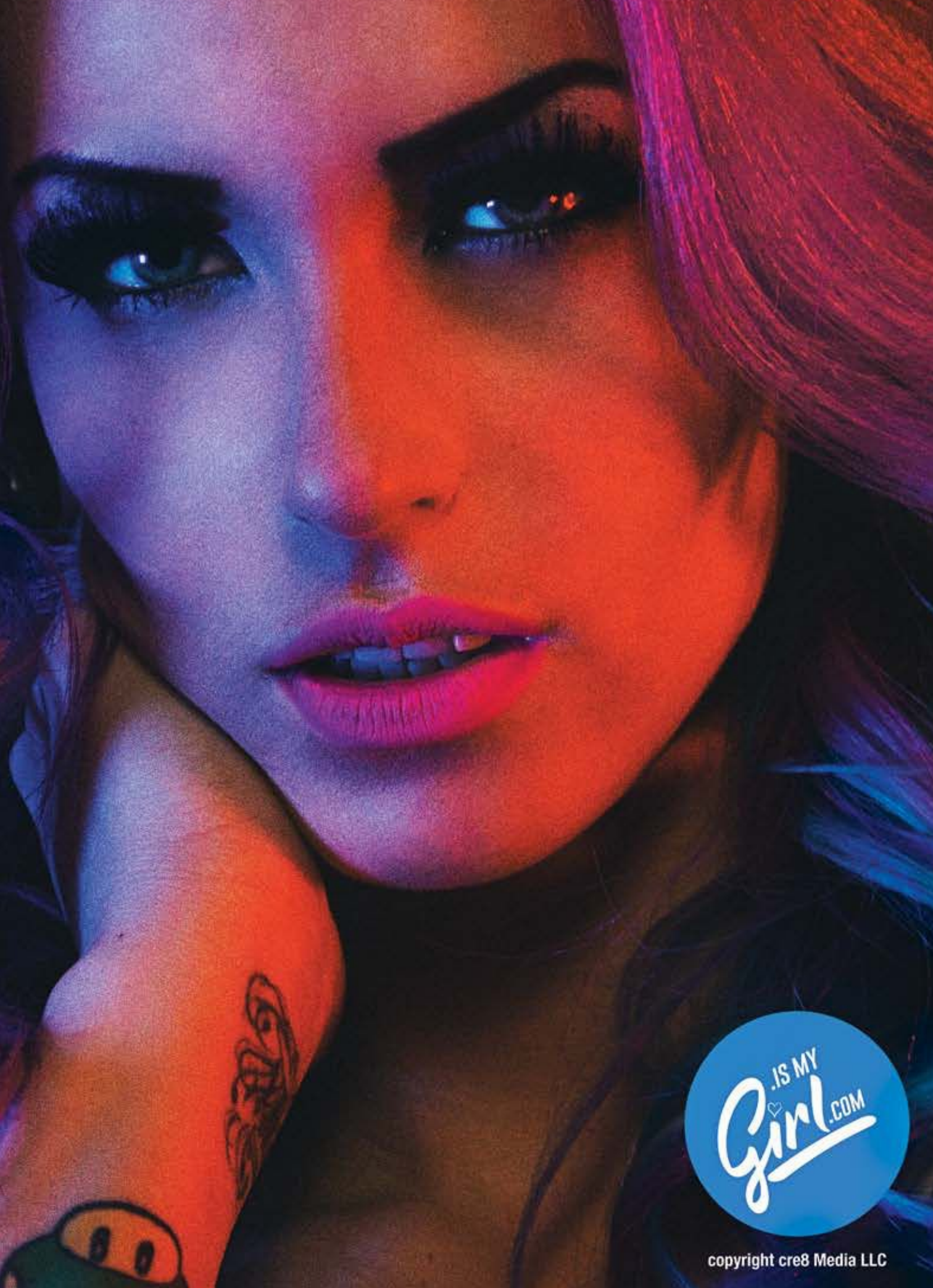
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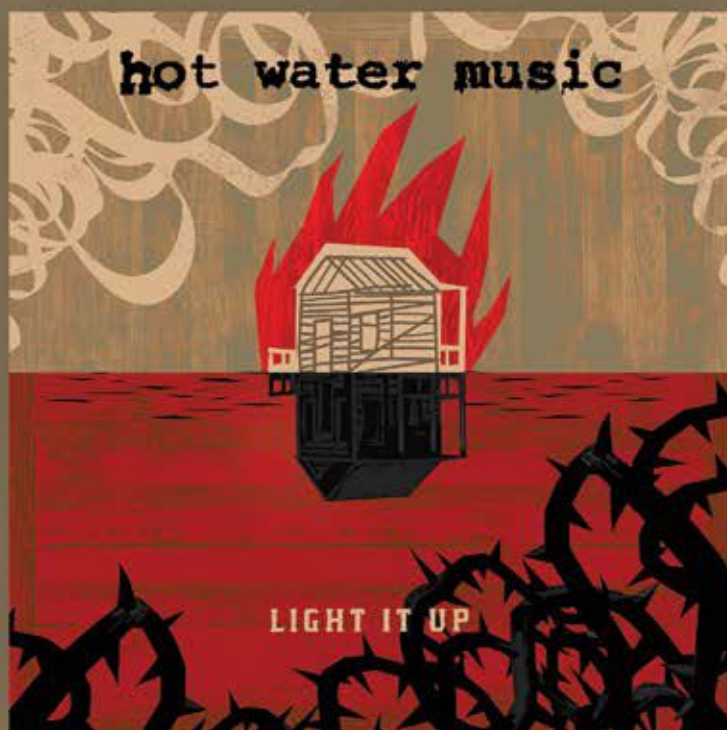


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KUBLAI KAHN

n o m a d

9.29.17



NEWS

When I wake up in the morning the first thing I think about is you. Yes, you dear reader.

By purchasing *Inked*, reading our website and following us on social media you have kept this marvelous media thriving, so I want to ensure that our content always serves your desires. The second thing I think about is coffee. I need coffee. And the third is our story subjects. The pride of *Inked* has been our ability to shed light on incredible tattoo artists, celebrities, brands and models for a decade. You have been wonderful enough to also endorse three of these by getting tattooed by artists we've featured, supporting our celebrities' projects and buying products from InkedShop.com. Even though models routinely feature on the cover of the magazine, those poor girls haven't had an opportunity to garner proper tribute.

Until now. Introducing IsMyGirl.com, a place where you can interact with our models off-the-page.

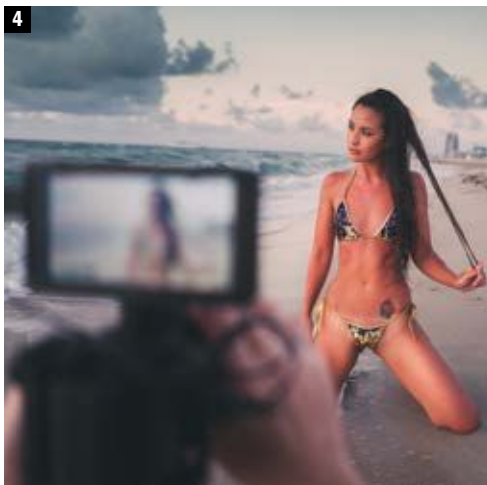
Trust me, you'll want to interact with these girls. Why have faith in me? Well, I have spent time with them. In this photo (6) I am on South Beach with cover girl Nikki Nichole and I am showing her how to "poke it out." The Inked staff went down to Miami to find more beach babes for IsMyGirl.com like Kaci Kash (5) who provided the "Toblerone Zone" for our drink shoot and reflects our Creative Director Ian Sami Hajar (1) in her glasses. You can also meet Kylie Cupcake Morgan on IsMyGirl.com who was photographed for this issue by Peter Roessler (4). Yup, we have rewarding jobs, take for instance intern Frankie Bonn (7) who donned a unicorn mask and was ridden by Jade in our office. Jade's on the site as well at jadecreates.ismygirl.com.

An artist who cultivates sublime art from the female form is Alex Garant (2); she offers her transcendental pieces in *Third Eye Vision*. Nicole Wilson (3) looks to the past, to the oldest tattoos ever found. She talks to *Inked* about replicating the tattoos of Ötzi the Iceman on her own body. Through Wilson's project, hers and Ötzi's tattoos were, at the moment, the newest and oldest in existence.

For our Art Project this issue we assigned tattooers particular models and they created flash sheets around their essence. Tattooer Caleb Neff (8) made a particularly nice sheet using Jordyn Ryder as a muse.

Ryder? You don't even know her. Well, you can, just follow her at jordyn.ismygirl.com.

Rocky Rakovic
Editor-In-Chief
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LETTERS



THIS IS WHAT A STRONG, BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LOOKS LIKE. Mikayla Salmons was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at just two months old and as of press time the 18-year-old is fighting for her life. A few months ago she shot this photo for us and spoke of her bodyart. Tattoos "show more of who I am, that I am not just Cystic Fibrosis, I am Mikayla and I have likes, ideas and enjoy many things," she said. "[Getting tattooed] does take away the pain just for a little time that I have from this disease and it's a pain I chose to go through. My first tattoo was 'Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away' with a purple ribbon for Cystic Fibrosis going down my side. I like to believe in making every moment count and not to regret anything in life."

facebook

JORDYN RYDER

Robynne Stout When our tatted skin is old and wrinkly...our minds are not going to care. It is still art and will remind us of the memories and reasons we got the art in the first place.

Marcus Callerame I have a 16 year-old daughter and I am thankful for intelligent beautiful women such as yourself being out there proving it can be done!

Brian Wagoner My uncle told me my body was "God's temple" once and I shouldnt get tattoos..I told him I chose to decorate my "temple" because who wants a temple without decorations?

KEIGHLA NIGHT

MacKenzie Callahan I didn't know the older you get the more tattoos hurt! That's interesting!

Shelbie LaFontaine Both my feet are covered and it was very painful. I did them both in one sitting because I was not going to do it again if I stopped!

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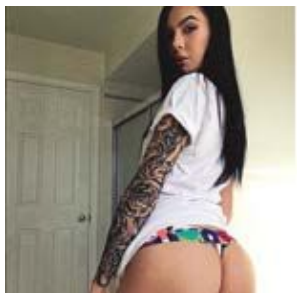
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TATTOO OF THE MONTH



BY: ALEXIS VAATETE @ALEXISVAATETEART

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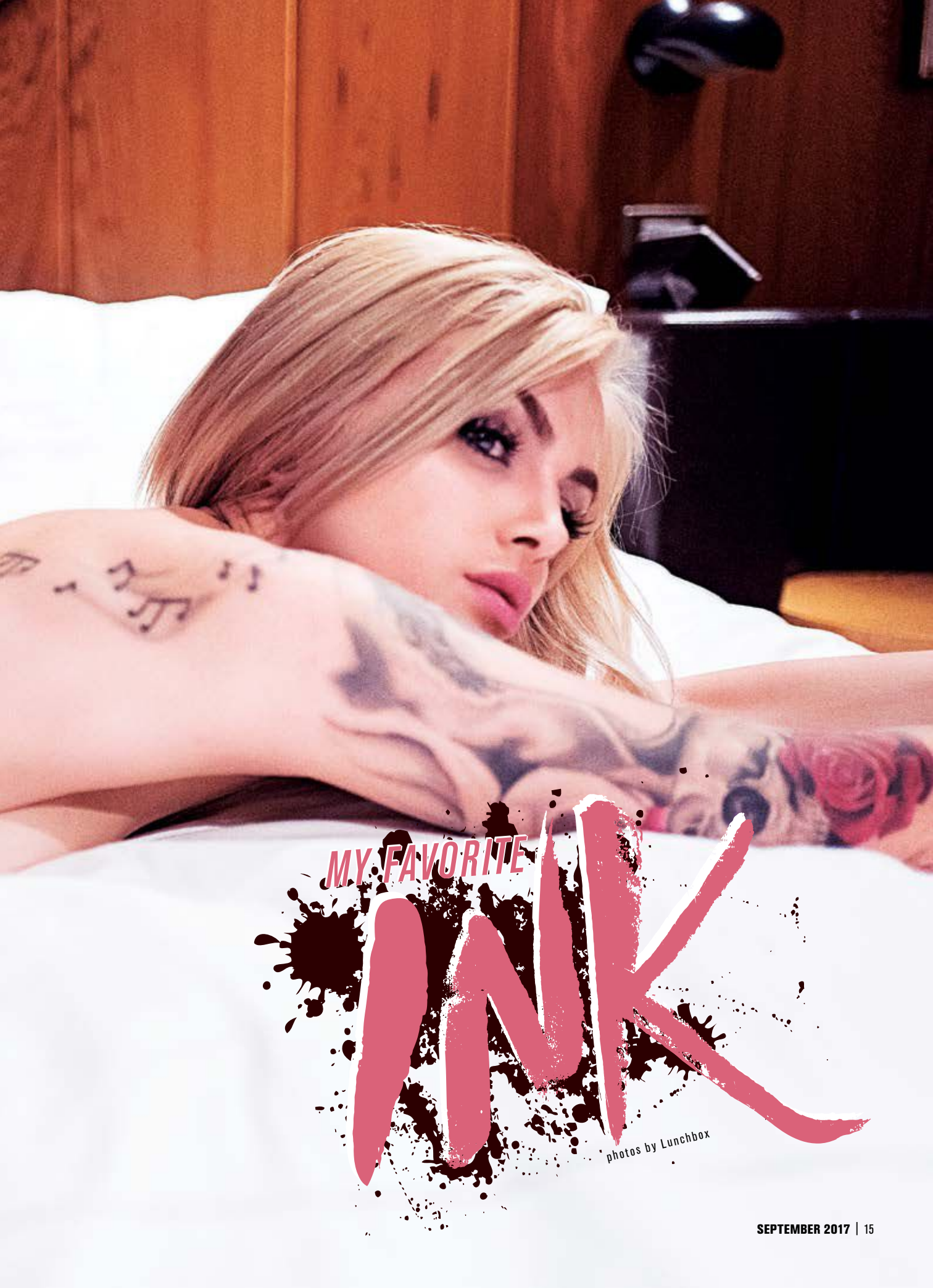
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MY FAVORITE

INK

photos by Lunchbox





KAHLA GREY

Why is your favorite tattoo on the back of your head? I've always wanted my head tattoo but it had to be meaningful since it's out there for the whole world—I wear my hair up a lot.

Who did it? Mineka Whiting at Third Eye Body Art in Mesa, Arizona.

Where did the idea of adding watercolor come from? Mineka does beautiful watercolor work and I didn't want it just solid plain filled-in, so watercolor added enough for me.

What does it mean to you? The lotus has so many different meanings. I chose green and blue for my daughter's and my birthstones. Conveniently enough the meaning behind green and blue lotuses is more than fitting. Having my daughter changed my life for the better and she has been a huge blessing in helping me better myself. I am also super about learning and expanding knowledge on several different levels, so the blue lotus fits well. My daughter's birthstone is emerald: A green lotus is a beautiful gift for anyone trying to improve their life and start good habits. Mine is sapphire: The blue lotus represents knowledge, wisdom and intelligence.

What's it like to have your favorite piece being one you only see in photos and mirrors? It's weird because I know in mirrors and photos things look different and I'll never see it with my own eyes, but that's OK.

How many more tattoos do you think you are going to get? All of them! I want to cover most of my body except my chest and neck.

You enjoy cannabis, what do you wish people knew about it that they get wrong? It doesn't cure or help everyone, but the people who do benefit from it get such a better quality of life. Just because you smoke weed or administer it other ways does not make you some skeezy stoner. I've seen people go from 14 seizures a day to one in three months with CBD. It's amazing, and anyone who is anti marijuana is either undereducated or had something negative personally happen related to weed.

Why should our fans follow you on IsMyGirl.com? I'm not one to tell people how to live their lives, but you should do it. Sometimes I'm funny! If you like my other content on other social media, well, it only gets better from there. Meet me in the live chat—we can kick it and smoke.

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THIRD EYE VISION

In Alex Garant's incredible art the beauty is quite literally in the eye of the beholder.

I am staring at my computer screen looking through Alex Garant's gallery and I'm feeling a little lightheaded.

"For me, it is about more than trying to paint something beautiful, I want my art to be an experience for the viewer," Garant says. "I truly appreciate when people have a reaction to my works."

Her work plays with the eyes of her muses that she uses. A peak into her inventory of female portraits is dizzying; the way the colors mesh into each other and how each face is drawn with four or six eyes is rather disassociating. I am both repelled and drawn at the same time.

"The reaction can be negative, positive, confusing or even for some, nauseating; it is irrelevant to some degree," she says. "As long as people feel surprised or intrigued, I will consider a piece to be successful. I believe that humans communicate enormously via visual cues and general observation. While establishing a rapport with another being, eye contact is key."

Indeed, eyes are the windows to the soul and Garant wants to connect her subjects to her viewers in a fantastical way. "I work with particular muses and I always try to render their beauty through the final overall effect of the piece," she says.

But are we just staring into a mirror? "When seeing a piece of art we particularly enjoy, we often attribute this positive response to the aesthetically pleasing colours or the literal subject portrayed," Garant says. "But I truly believe we are just picking up on subliminal memories or subconscious elements we relate to, creating that special 'connection' with some paintings."

What do you see? —*Madison Hooker*



// D-GRIP HAWK PEN



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UPTOWN GIRL

WE MET KARISSA E. YOUNG AT BONDURANTS ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN. IS THE NEIGHBORHOOD A-CHANGIN'?

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE BONDURANTS? Bondurants is a neighborhood craft beer and bourbon bar. We've poured almost 3,000 different beers so far and we have over 200 American whiskeys. We do have awesome food that's all made in-house—some in our smoker!—and I guess it's got a bit of a Southern accent. Don't get me started on the ranch, what I consider the nectar of the gods.

IS THERE A TATTOO SCENE ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE? The only scene I come across is a stroller gang. There are so many babies everywhere!

WHAT DO PEOPLE THINK OF YOUR TATTOOS? Besides the ones that think I'm going to rob them? Most don't care but love my work.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO GET SCARIFICATION? Scars are beautiful to me, they tell a story, no matter what shape or form they are. Mine just happens to be a diamond. I love everything about it and would love to get more one day!

IF SOMEONE WANTS A WHISKEY BUT IS UNFAMILIAR WITH ALL YOUR OFFERINGS WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST? Vodka soda. All jokes aside, we take pride in our selection. If they wanna drink what I drink—it's gonna be barrel-proof like Rowan's Creek, Noah's Mill or EH Taylor!

WORD ON THE STREET IS THAT YOU ARE STUDYING TO BE A MORTICIAN. WHY ARE YOU THINKING OF GOING INTO THAT? My background is in makeup artistry, but I lost my drive to work in the makeup industry. I had a family friend's son pass away in a terrible car accident. It was open casket and unfortunately the mortician didn't do such a great job. A lightbulb went off in my head and I knew that was my calling. To use my skills and help others when it matters most. The rest is history and I am almost finished with school and will soon be a funeral director!

photo by Pookie



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High Life

If you are like us, then you are also a lot like champagne: fairly classy and often drunk at parties

Photo by Peter Roessler




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LIVE EVERY DAY LIKE IT'S HUMP DAY

Nikki Nichole hosts our popular @InkedMag Facebook "Live Hump Day" segment and you'll be able to see much more of her on nikki-nichole.ismygirl.com
photos by Lunchbox and Peter Roessler



What is your idea of perfect happiness?

I'm a simple gal. My idea of perfect happiness is getting home from a long day of work, taking all my clothes off, and eating a gallon of ice cream in front of my television.

What is your most marked characteristic?

I'd have to say that it's a close call between my goofy personality and the fact that I have only watercolor tattoos.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

My greatest accomplishment would be changing the direction my life was headed, when I was young. I was following the footsteps of my parents, which was prison. With the help of boxing, I learned self-control and had a healthy way of relieving stress.

What is your greatest fear?

I have crazy anxiety when I'm driving and I see pedestrians walking on the sidewalk. My greatest fear is that someone is going to jump out in front of my car and I'm going to accidentally run over somebody. Weird, I know.

What historical figure do you most identify with?

Joan Rivers, because she was never afraid to speak her mind and she was a successful working mother.

Which living person do you most admire?

My mother. She's been through some crazy hardships, but still managed to eventually get her shit together and not let it destroy her. I look up to my mom a lot.

Who are your heroes in real life?

My grandparents who took the time and energy to raise me and get me out of foster care. I would probably be a completely different person if it wasn't for my grandparents taking me in.

What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?

My butt is too big to fit in my jeans.

What is the trait you most deplore in others?

When people judge my big booty problems.

What is your favorite journey?

This amazing thing we call *life*. I have experienced things through modeling that I never thought I'd be doing in a million years.

What do you consider the most overrated virtue?

Modesty.

Which word or phrases do you most overuse?

"Yeaaaaah, buddy", because I tend to get overly excited about the smallest things and I figure that phrase is better to scream instead of "Fuuuuccckkkk yeeeessss!"

What is your greatest regret?

That I didn't savor the taste of that last piece of pie.

What is your current state of mind?

Gym. Food... More food.

If you could change one thing about your family, what would it be?

I wouldn't change anything. My family is extremely





supportive. We are very close. We constantly talk, and always get together for the holidays/special occasions.

What is your most treasured possession?

Memories and experiences.

What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery?

When I open a box of pizza and realize it's all gone.

Where would you like to live?

In a house made of bacon. With unlimited bacon.

What is your favorite occupation?

Does being a mother count? Raising my daughter and making sure

she turns into an amazing woman some say, is a full-time job and it's awesome!

What is the quality you most like in a man?

I absolutely love when a guy can make me laugh so hard that I snort.

What is the quality you most like in a woman?

Women that empower other women.

What are your favorite names?

Any name that is short and sweet and easy to yell.

What is your motto?

It's a joke, not a dick. Don't take it so hard.



THINGS ARE GETTING

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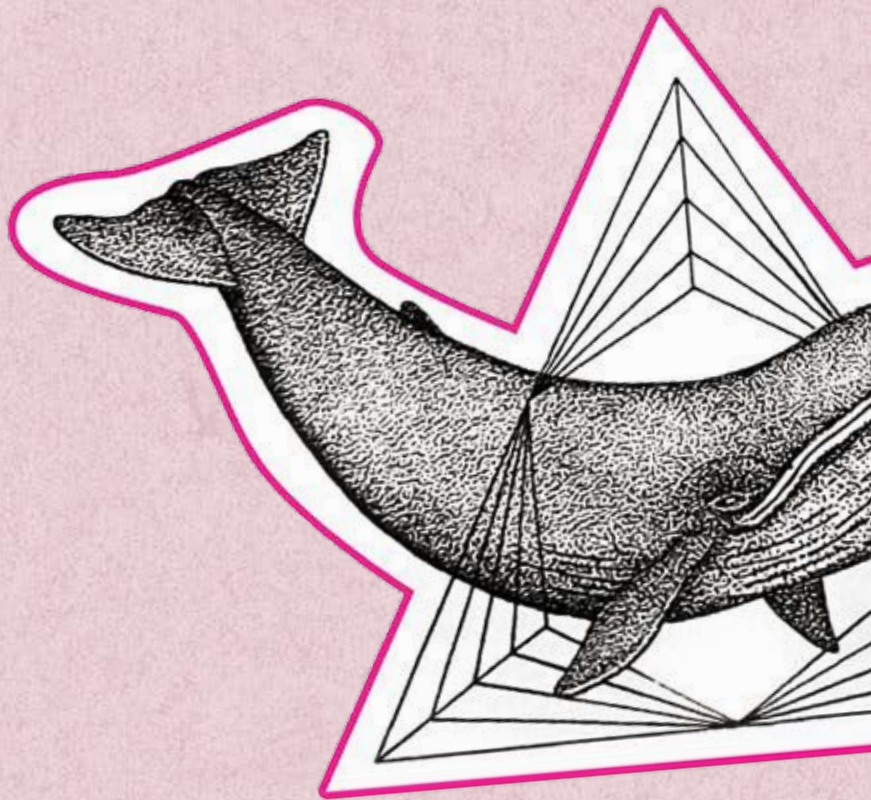
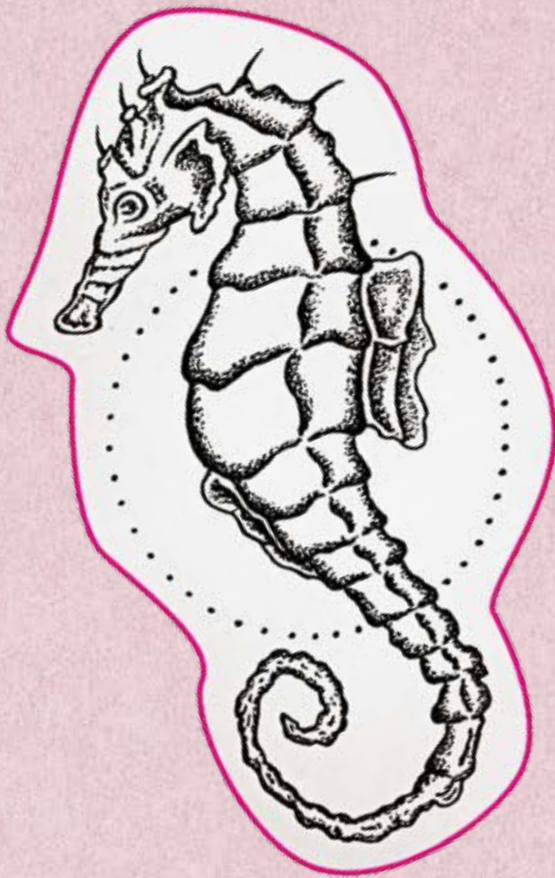
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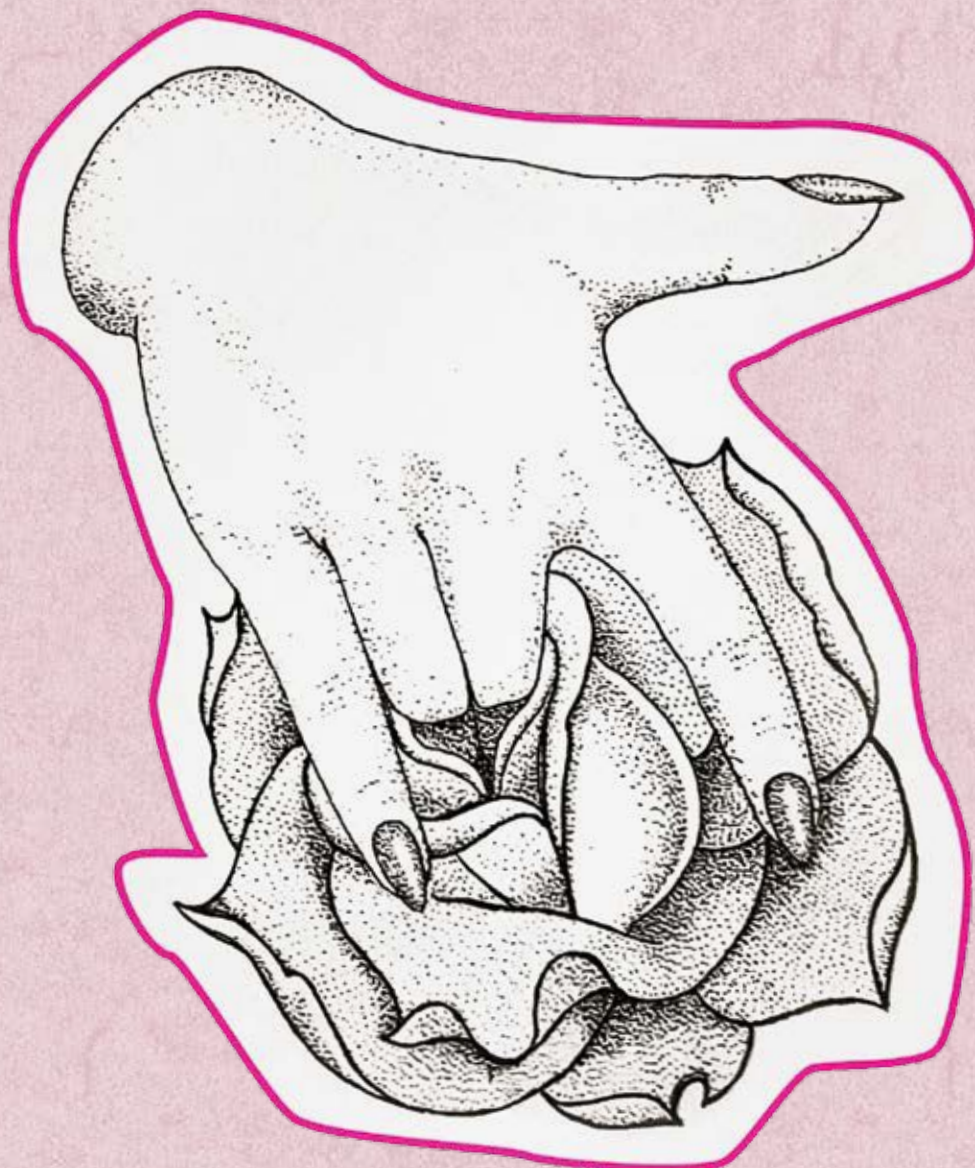


JORDYN RYDER BY
MATT HAWK
@MATTHAWK _ TATTS

FLASH MOB

The model becomes muse for tattoo artists. We assigned each tattoo an Inked model and they created a flash sheet based on her essence.

Curated by Pookie

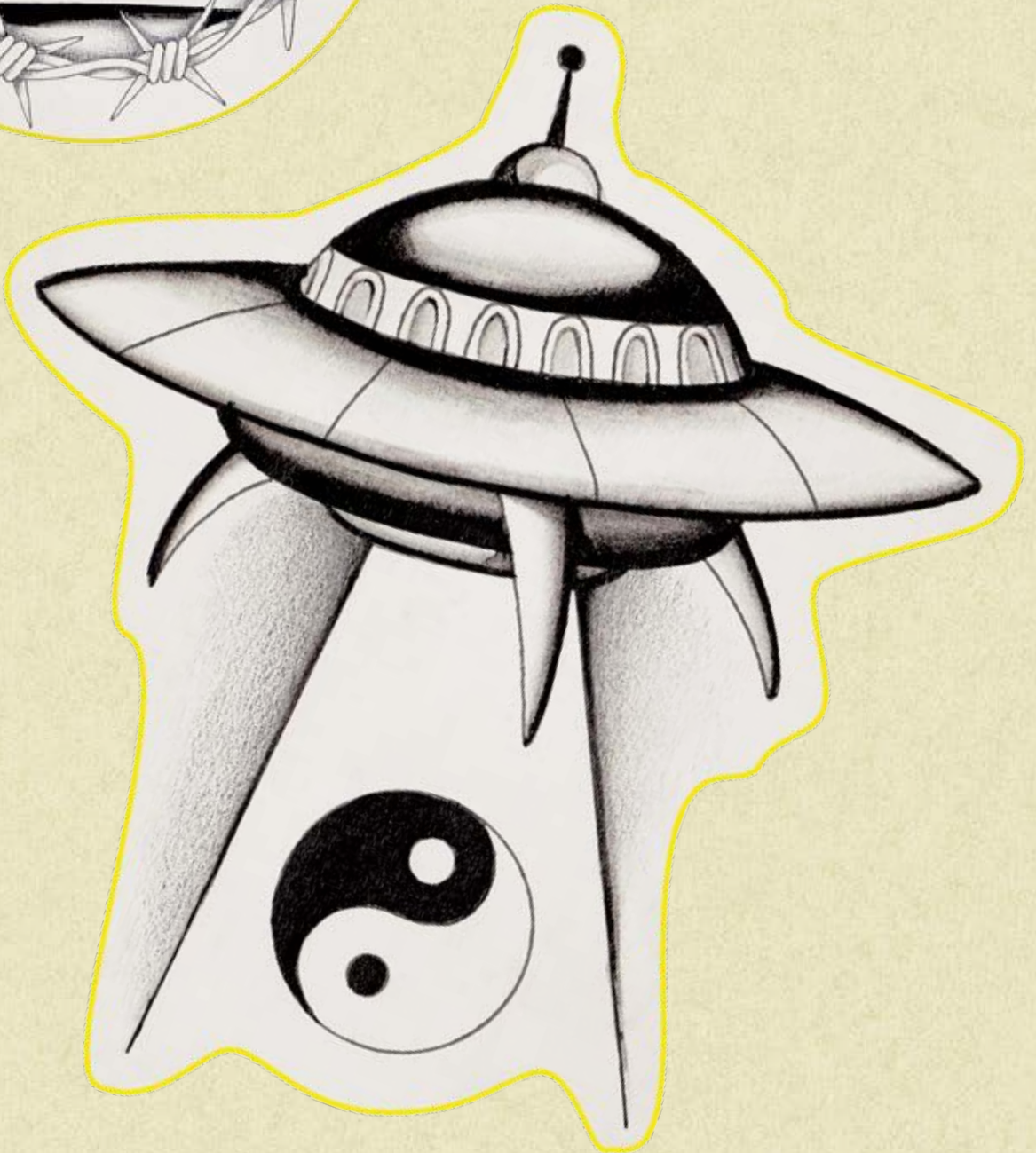


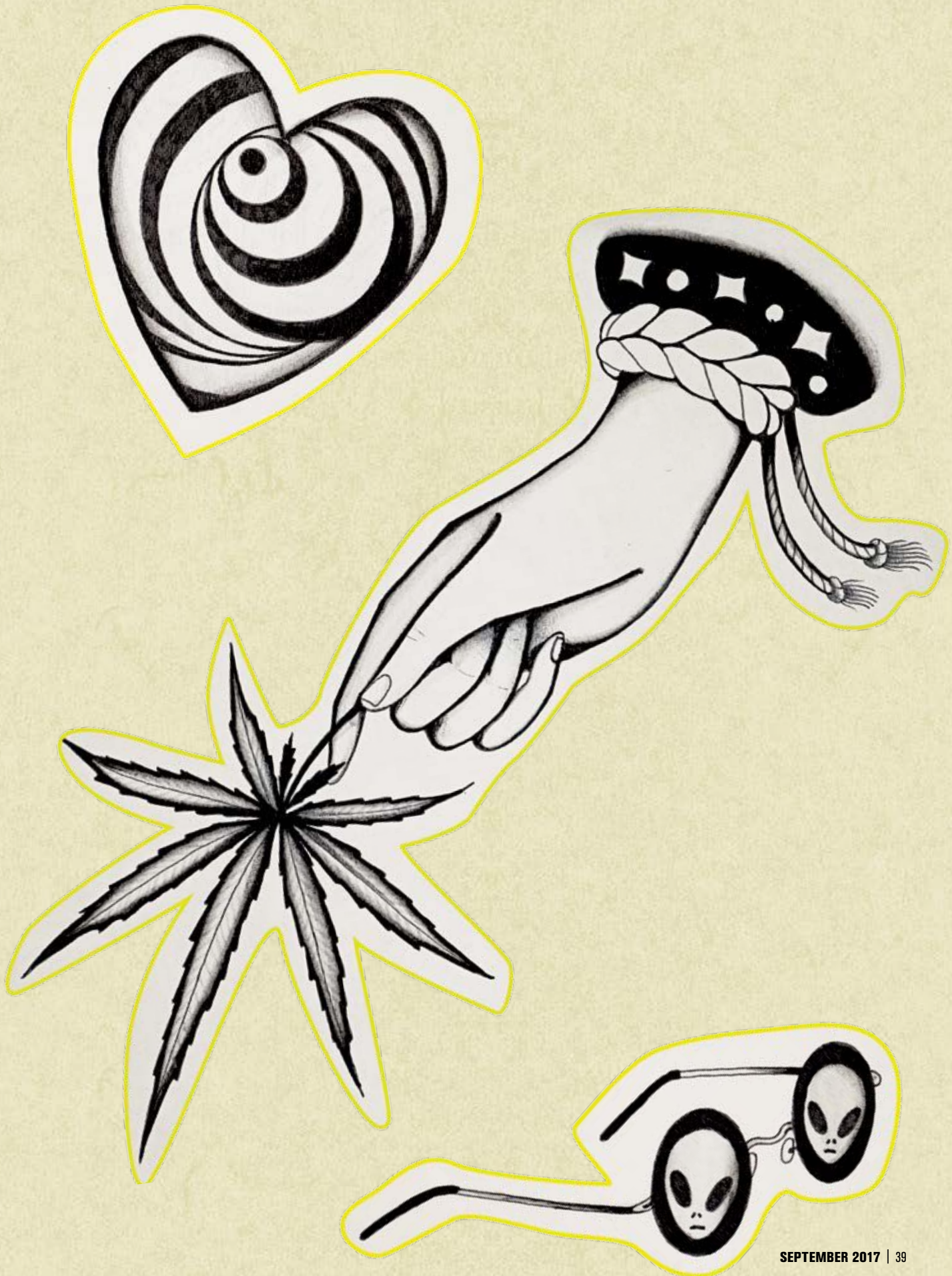


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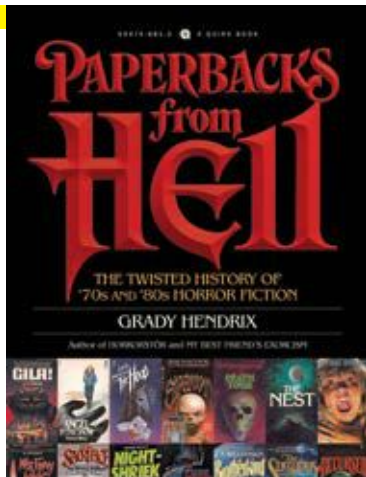
We All Float Down Here!

Those with coulrophobia (that's the fancy word for "fear of clowns") may want to steer clear of this fright flick. Based on one of Stephen King's most popular horror novels, *IT* is set in Derry, Maine, a town that is plagued by a shapeshifting, child-eating demon whose favorite form is a sinister, balloon-loving clown named Pennywise (the story pre-dates the

"Bro Hymn" band). Pennywise was famously played to creepy perfection by Tim Curry in a 1990 TV movie. If you never thought that performance couldn't be topped, think again. This time, Bill Skarsgård (*Hemlock Grove*) plays the titular role and if you've seen the spine-tingly trailer, his interpretation is the stuff of pure nightmares. —*Gil Macias*

RED ALL OVER

Yes, yes, yes! If there is such a thing as a B-movie festival equivalent in text-form it is *Paperbacks From Hell*. The collection of wicked '70s and '80s horror fiction with commentary by Grady Hendrix will make your feathered hair stand on end. Including pieces by V. C. Andrews, R. L. Stine and some writers who toiled in obscurity, this is the perfect book to read on a rainy day—when the sky is raining blood. —*Robert McCormick*



CAT SCRATCH COLORING BOOK

Break out your 64 box of Crayolas for Alexandra Crockett's *Metal Cats Coloring Book*. Members of bands such as Thrones, Isis, Napalm Death and Black Goat show off their felines. It's all "skulls and Siamese. Corpse paint and Persians. Baphomet, pentagrams, blood and tabbies!" We love the idea of showing the softer sides of these metal artists—it's cool for cats. —*Madison Hooker*



Tattoo Your Phone Case

Want to have your tattoo burned into your phone case? Now's your chance. Toast makes their cases with renewable energy, sustainable materials and fucking lasers! Toast designs cases for any device you may own: phones, laptops, tablets and even game console and controller cases. Style and functionality don't often go together in the world of cases, so this is a refreshing mix. The company, which started as a Kickstarter campaign and now makes its slick cases in a Portland, Oregon, workshop, uses materials made in the USA and donates a portion of their profits to charities that put money toward environmental protection. It's the all-around package for the conscious and of course, art-conscious, consumer. —*M.H.*

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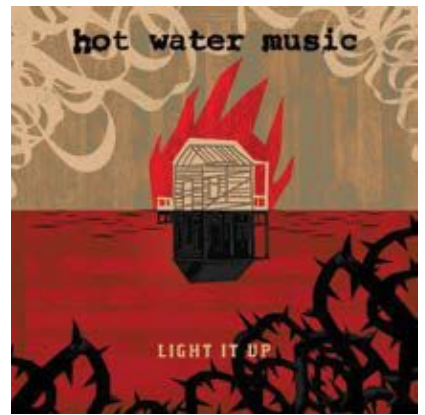


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My Blu-Ray Heaven

Wow, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is turning 20 years-old and for that, it's getting a Complete Series DVD Boxed Set that contains 39 discs and all 144 episodes. *Alien: Covenant* on Blu-ray gives die-hard collectors a few choices, aside from the standard edition. Best Buy has its own steelbook version and Target's exclusive comes with *The Creatures of Alien: Covenant* book. While we eagerly await the third season of *Ash Vs. Evil Dead*, catch up with Season 2 on Blu-ray including various featurettes such as "Up Your Ash" and "Women Who Kick Ash," you get it.... Marvel's *Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2* comes home in this 4K Ultra HD and Blu-ray combo pack. This version contains over 80 minutes of never-before-seen bonus content and will make you dance like Baby to the "Guardians Inferno" music video. —G.M.



THE PLAYLIST BY JONAH BAYER

"POSITIVE SHADOW, NEGATIVE LIGHT" Behind the Shadow Drops

If you could share a blunt with these four, you'd never get a pull. However, they share a track like spit, spit, pass.

"WANT YOU BACK" Haim

Haim's long-awaited sophomore album features more of the gorgeous harmonies we've come to expect.

"VULTURES" Hot Water Music

Gainesville punk legends return to their roots on this melodically minded anthem.

"ANXIETY" Jason Isbell

Our favorite alt-country troubadour tastefully tackles mental illness on this stellar track.

"NUMB" Lost Balloons

The Marked Men's Jeff Burke trades garage rock for laid-back psychedelia on this summer jam.

"THE MAZE" Manchester Orchestra

The opening track on *A Black Mile To The Surface* is hypnotically beautiful.

"GUILTY PARTY" The National

This haunting indie rock track will stick with you long after it's ended.

"SUICIDES AND LAZY EYES" Rainer Maria

'90s emo icons haven't missed a beat.

"THE VIOLENCE" Rise Against

Punk's reigning heroes drop more palm-muted perfection on the masses.

"SO NUMB" Sannhet

This instrumental trio from Brooklyn doesn't need words to create captivatingly dynamic music.



Play On Playboy

Before there were Inked Girls there were Playboy Playmates. Now, certainly, the tattooed girl-next-door is more desirable to our crowd but *Playboy* did celebrate some timeless beauties. On September 5th Chronicle Books will be launching a tome that features every centerfold from 1953-2016, from Marilyn Monroe and Pamela Anderson to Brook Power. It is understandably a hefty hardcover so reinforce your coffee table now as you pre-order on Amazon for \$46.39. Fun fact: Cheryl Bachman (pictured to the left in her centerfold from October 1991) now has a half-sleeve. —R.M.

Ride The Wave

The classic Japanese work "The Great Wave Off Kanagawa" gets a new canvas. Mary Jane Nite, a Taiwanese clothing company, designed a sexy set of thongs featuring the historical painting. These soft, cotton panties come in a set of three colors: white, pink and nude. Whether it's a cozy night in or a crazy night out, these are ideal for the art lover. —M.H.



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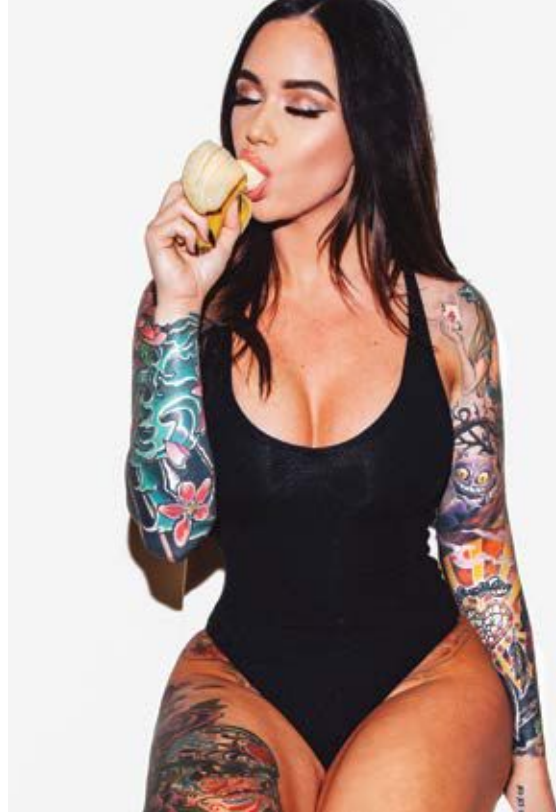
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KINGSMAN: GOLDEN CIRCLE

Director Matthew Vaughn (*Kick-Ass*) returns to helm the sequel to his brilliant and badass spy-action flick *Kingsman: The Secret Service*. When the headquarters of the elite secret service known as the Kingsman is destroyed, they soon cross paths with an allied U.S. spy organization and team up with them to take down a common enemy. Taron Egerton returns as "Eggsy," and newbies to the cast includes: Halle Berry, Channing Tatum, Julianne Moore and Jeff Bridges. Colin Firth, whose character died during the events of the first film, mysteriously returns as Harry Hart. —G.M.



WILDE ABOUT SEX

Jessica Wilde (@JessicaWilde) is here to answer your burning sex questions—though if it burns consult an actual doctor right now. She's not a doctor, but she once role-played as a nurse so she's beyond qualified. Send your questions to press@inkedmag.com.

I want my girlfriend to peg me but I'm scared to ask her. How do I go about it? —Murray

Well, closed mouths don't get fed. Same goes for your buttole, dude. If you're into that, just be open with your woman. I'd do just about anything for my partner....

Why are girls so fixated on remembering "special days" like when we first met and where? I don't get it. —Josh

Because she cares, Josh. Women are more likely to be sentimental creatures and want to cherish the beautiful memories before you guys start farting in front of each other and taking each other for granted.

Where does cheating begin? Is fantasizing about someone else considered cheating? I do it sometimes and I feel really bad. —Chelsea

It's really up to the person's views if it's cheating or not. I don't think about someone else when I'm engaged with my partner and I would hope he isn't. Maybe spicing things up with some role-playing will get you back into focusing on your man.

My girlfriend likes to call me "Daddy" in the bedroom and it weirds me out. Is this a common thing? —Anon

So common! In fact, I like it. It's not an incestuous thing, it's more of a strong man thing. Embrace your providing role and rock that girl's socks off, Daddy.

How can I convince my wife to visit the nude beaches when we travel to Europe this year? She thinks I want to go to perv, but I just like being naked. —Anon

Try explaining how you like putting yourself out there, then act a little jealous about men looking at her body. If she feels like you are a little protective she'll focus more on showing off her bits to get back at you than wondering where your eyes are focused behind your sunglasses.



Black and Rosé

Rosé is the wine of the moment, and our fridge is stocked with Black Ink's offering. The aromatic wine's recent bottle is adorned by LA Ink's artistic Amy Nicoletto. "I was really happy to work on this project with Black Ink, as it gave me the chance to have my tattoo art seen in a new way" she says. "There's no greater honor than being trusted to tattoo your art onto another person's body, but to see my work on a bottle of wine and for it to be seen on the shelves of stores around the country is super exciting." Yes, we judged this wine by its bottle but once we popped the cork we were delightfully validated. —Anja Cadlek



Ready to Die

What happens when you die? That's the question begged by *Flatliners*, a remake of the 1990 horror flick of the same name about five medical students who are obsessed by that. So what do they do? They experiment by stopping their hearts for short periods of time. It turns out that certain forces aren't too pleased with people entering the afterlife and coming and going as they please. They soon become haunted by paranormal manifestations of their past. —G.M.





The Museum of Tattoo Art.

Tattoo Art by Jess Yen

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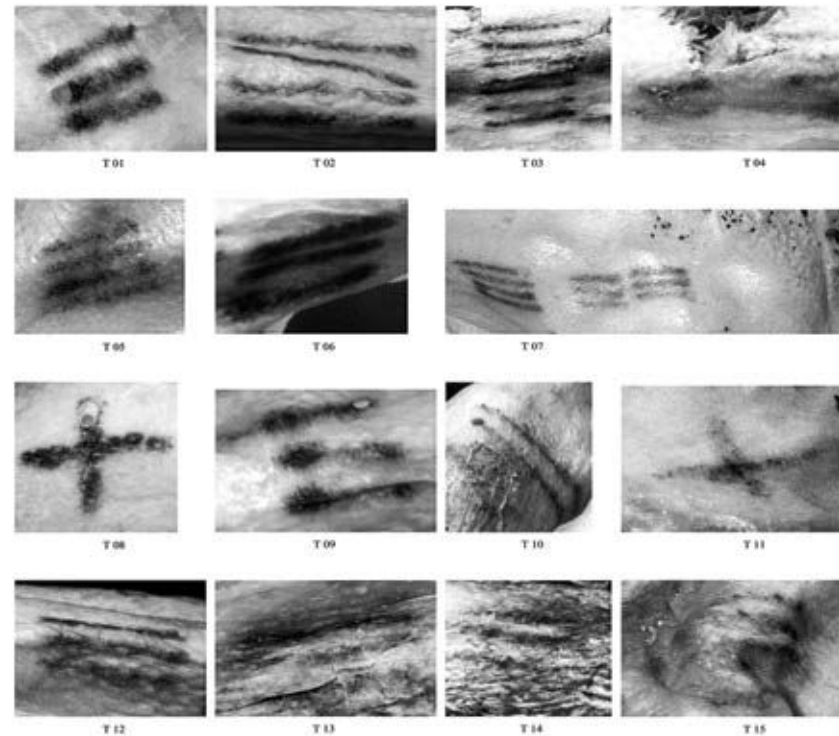
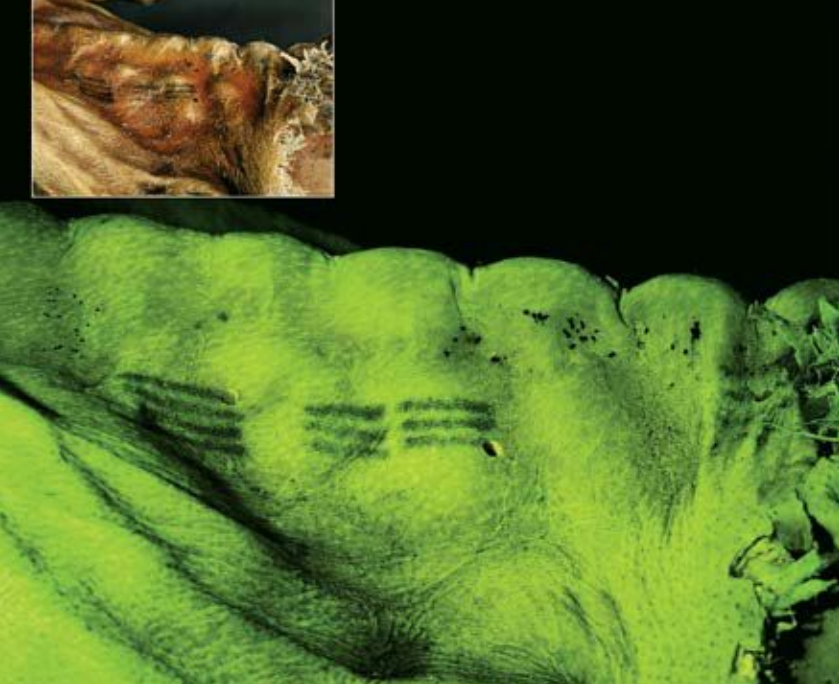


Linked to the Past

The oldest naturally preserved mummy ever found, Ötzi the Iceman, was covered in tattoos. Visual artist Nicole Wilson adopts the same exact markings as the man born 5,000 years ago and reflects on how far we've come.

By Nora Goodbody

Photos by TJ Proechel, Peter Roessler and South Tyrol
Museum of Archaeology/Eurac/Samadelli/Staschitz





Nicole Wilson walked into Three Kings Tattoo in Brooklyn, New York carrying two small vials of her own blood. Soon the blood would be tattooed into her skin, leaving behind the exact same marks as those found on Ötzi the Iceman.

Ötzi was discovered by hikers in the 1990s in the Ötztal Alps on the border of Austria and Italy. His body is covered in tattoos, well-preserved from being frozen in a glacier for thousands of years. Scientists dated him to 3300 BCE and through research have figured out intimate details of his 45 years on this planet: what he ate, what region he was from, and how he died.



Wilson, a visual artist living and working in Brooklyn, has always been drawn to the one thing that scientists cannot quite figure out—the meaning behind the mysterious tattoos covering his body. “The reason I’m so interested in Ötzi is because scientists were able to recreate his last meal, they were able to identify where he was from, identify all these things about him. But the one thing they can’t actually go back and tell the story of his tattoos,” she says. It was this that motivated Wilson to delve deeper into Ötzi. Although scientists have speculated what the tattoos mean, claiming they could be identificatory or medicinal, they are not able to come to any definite conclusions. “No amount of science will ever be able to reconstruct the story that tells us why these tattoos are on his corpse.”



Wilson, drawn to these marks found on the representative of early man, decided to recreate Ötzi’s marks on her own body. “Ötzi is an archeological figure, but he also can be translated into an archetypal male figure,” Wilson says. “My artwork at large is interested in challenging structures of power, especially male-centered and patriarchal. I became obsessed with the idea of taking Ötzi’s marks and making them mine. There was something deeply feminist and very empowering about doing this.” But she knew that simply tattooing them would be too easy, too direct a translation. She wanted to create a “cyclical process where I was marking myself with his images but through something that was mine and only mine and inherently mine, and then something that would become part of me and I would sort of swallow his marks.” So she tattooed the images onto herself using something produced by her body: her own blood. Through research, she found that blood contains a pigment called heme and, theoretically, the body reabsorbs its own blood. She called a friend with a tattoo machine and put the then-found 59 tattoos onto her body. The result was a series of dark pink scars (post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation); the color of the heme was visible underneath





the skin as the body slowly broke down its pigment. The marks lasted about two years.

Although the tattoos faded, the project was far from over. Last year, Wilson found out that there were two more tattoos discovered on Ötzi's body due to an advancement in photographic imaging techniques. She immediately knew she needed to do the project again and, this time, decided to collaborate with an artist. But finding an artist who would adhere to her unconventional requests was not easy. "I tried calling around to a couple of tattoo shops in Brooklyn and was met with a lot of, 'I don't want to do this,' and also a lot of people telling me that it was a dumb idea, that it couldn't be done, that I didn't understand the process of tattooing." After growing tired of negative reactions, she was told by a friend to reach out to Three Kings because they have a reputation for not shying away from the strange. So, Wilson paired up with Mat Moreno, an artist at Three Kings who has been tattooing for 11 years.

Moreno was more than willing to go through with Wilson's request. He says, "When my manager first brought me

the email and explained to me what the process was or what was being requested, I didn't really blink an eye. Most people don't know, I'm pretty goth. So anything with blood." He was willing to try something new, although he was not sure if using blood instead of ink would ultimately be successful. And although he wasn't familiar with Ötzi before taking the project, Moreno has always been drawn to archeology and history. "You know, I'm a big Indiana Jones fan," he says. "The original movies—not the latest one."

With an artist on board, the process of tattooing all 61 of the marks onto Wilson's body started. Instead of drawing her own blood, like she did the first time, Wilson had a friend who is a nurse draw it for her. "I felt like it wouldn't have been cool to pull out a knife in the middle of a tattoo shop and draw my own blood," she explains.

Wilson and Moreno spent a lot of time making sure that the position of the tattoos on Wilson's body correlated to where they are on Ötzi's body using the published research from South Tyrol, Italy, where Ötzi's body is preserved in an archaeological museum. The tattoos

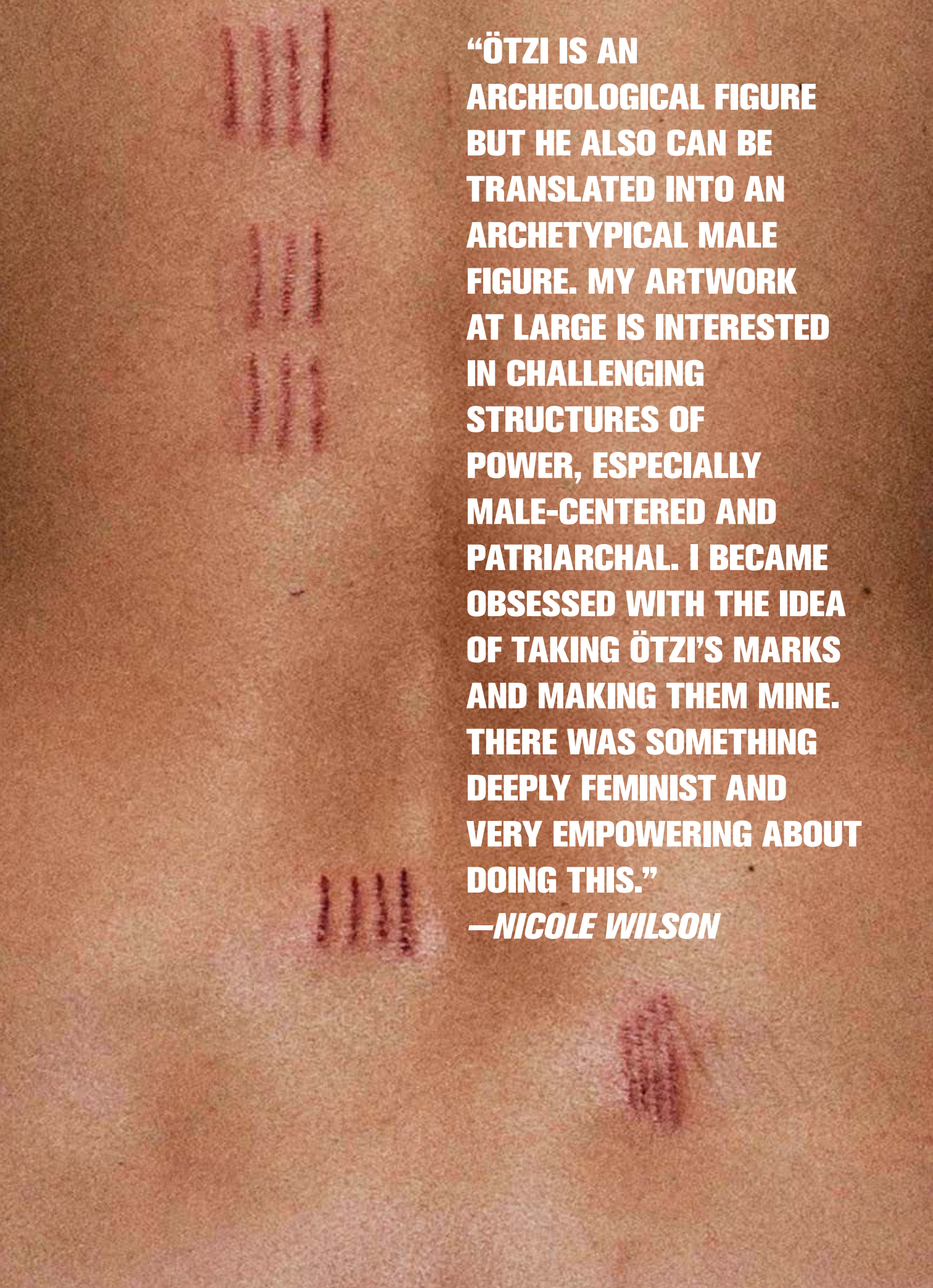


are groups of thin-lined hashes along the lower legs and spine. There are two more sets on the lower right ribs and the left wrist. They exist in groupings of no more than five and most are about an inch or two in length. There are also small square crosses on the back of the right knee and on the left ankle.

With the tattoos placed, Moreno filled the ink cap with blood, which he honestly admits made him “a little queasy.” The process, for the most part, was similar to that of a regular tattoo. Moreno says that, “Yeah, there was blood. There was blood on the blood and the mark being made was like this washed-out red. And then the blood would kind of trickle up and bubble up afterwards. There were a couple of spots I needed to hit another time, take another pass just to make sure that they stayed and that they were visible. But for the most part you were able to see everything right as it was being done.” Despite Moreno’s uncertainty, it had worked. This time, all 61 of the marks found on Ötzi were on Wilson’s body. Her blood had seeped into her own skin, leaving behind the same marks that existed on a Neolithic man all those years ago.

At this moment Ötzi and Wilson’s tattoos were the oldest and newest on Earth.

Wilson feels connected to Ötzi through their tattoos. “Because there’s an actual physical thing to point to,” she says. “I feel like by mimicking the marks on his body, by taking his marks and marking myself with his marks, I am identifying with an early ancestor.” The transference made by the marks from his body to hers not only forges a connection between the two, but also reinstates Wilson’s personal connection to the marks. She has taken these tattoos that belonged to him and made them her own, stating that she views them as art above all else. She’ll carry the marks with her as they grow lighter each day, as her body recognizes each tattoo as its own and absorbs it, as historical artifact becomes one with her body and they become just as much a part of her as they were of Ötzi. She says, “I’m purely, in a weird way, a piece of paper or something like that, that’s moving them through the world. I have other tattoos on my body that are my tattoos and yes, I know Ötzi’s marks are now on my body and they’re mine, but they’re also art at the same time. It’s my job to live with them as they fade and carry out this project.”



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BLOOD ON THE CANVAS

Vincent Castiglia paints haunting imagery with his own blood.

By Paul Gambino Photos by Frankie Bonn

Vincent Castiglia is the kind of person who causes people to stop and take a second look when he enters a crowded space. He has striking good looks and a physical and mental intensity that can actually be felt across the room. This same intensity carries through Castiglia's work. Many times his paintings are extremely large, and they are all highly detailed. His imagery is captivating and unsettling, to say the least, and the medium he paints in exclusively is...his human blood.

Castiglia visited our offices one day where he spoke to us about his work, both past and present. Then he was gracious enough to invite us to his amazing studio deep in the "canyons" of lower Manhattan where we got to watch Vincent work on a painting while he answered even more questions (we had plenty). The result is a scratch-the-surface kind of look into the inner workings of a very complex and talented artist.

When did you start working in blood as the primary medium for your paintings?

Interestingly enough, I began to experiment with blood as opposed to oils at the same time I decided to become a tattoo artist in 2001.

Why blood?

Well, I was doing a lot of pen and ink drawings, and although I was happy with the imagery, I felt there was a disconnect between the piece and myself. The drawings were coming from a very intense place. They were a definite physical manifestation of some very intense emotions I was experiencing at that time. I started to experiment with blood in small amounts. I would incorporate my blood into the drawings of human figures — if they were bleeding, or if there was flesh disintegration. And then it was almost an epiphany. The use of my blood in the drawings was the first time I felt I was successfully communicating a deep-seated truth in a piece of my art. It was a perfect symbol to capture that essence, something I didn't feel when I was previously working in conventional mediums.

When did you make the leap to solely working in blood?

I continued to work on these pen-and-ink-and-blood drawings for awhile and then somewhere along the line it began to make sense to work entirely in blood. I felt and still feel it is the purest mode of communicating my feelings.

Technically, how is it to work in blood as opposed to the more conventional mediums?

I have to admit when I first started I didn't know if the blood would hold up. Would it have any archival quality? Fortunately, as it turned out, it did—blood is rich in iron oxide, which is actually a pigment. The painting technique I use with blood as the medium is exactly the same one I used when I worked with paint. I start with the light shading, gradually building up to work in all the details. However, I do wear gloves when working in blood, even when it's my own...it's just a matter of hygiene. I want people who come into my work area to feel it is safe and sanitary.

Do you feel more emotionally attached to the "blood paintings" than when you were working with paint?

Initially, painting with my blood came from a personal place and it was a very private experience that served a specific purpose in my life at the time. In fact, it was so personal that initially I never mentioned that they were painted in blood and even considered telling people that the medium was iron oxide. Also I didn't want the fact

that piece was done in blood to overshadow the painting itself.

Do you find people have a hard time getting past the blood aspect?

It can be frustrating at times when I feel the medium is overshadowing the content, but I believe now people are able to look past the medium and concentrate on the body of work. And that has a lot to do with the technical execution of the work. The amount of detail and precise execution that goes into every painting allows it to hold up no matter what the medium.

Do you ever work in other people's blood?

Absolutely. In fact, I have actually had celebrities commission work from me with the request that I use their blood.

Can you tell us who they are?

Two of the most recent were the comedian Margaret Cho and Gary Holt of Slayer. For Margaret I painted her portrait using her blood and for Gary I painted his guitar's body. It took 18 vials of Gary's blood to complete his guitar and when I was finished the guitar company covered it with a resin so the imagery would not deteriorate, since Gary actually plays that guitar. It's a functional piece of art.

How do you view your own work?

These paintings are containers. They capture, hold and convey a section of life. I believe they contain psychic energy.

We heard there was a documentary made about you and your work. Can you tell us about that?

So the documentary *Bloodlines: The Art and Life of Vincent Castiglia* is seen through the director, John Borowski's lens, focusing almost entirely on my painting. He has directed a series of serial killer docs, which are all available on Netflix, so I'm the first living, non-murderer subject he's profiling. In addition to interviews with myself, it also includes interviews with collectors of my work such as Gregg Allman, Gary Holt, Kerry King and Margaret Cho. I've have yet to see the final cut, so of course I am a little nervous about viewing the finished product.

At first glance you would assume all of your work comes from a place in your life where there is only pain. Is that an accurate assumption?

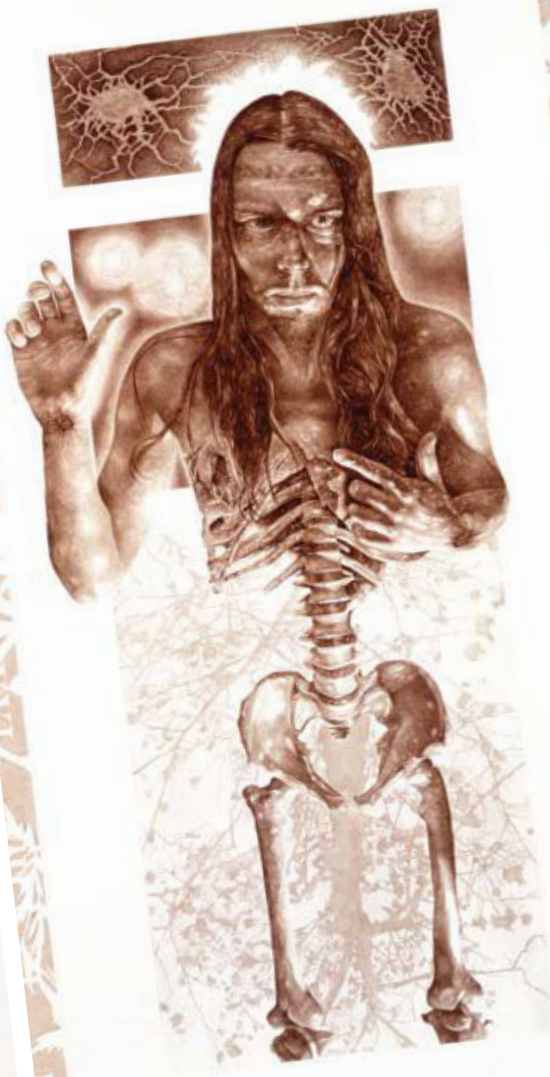
The work is not trying to be dark. It is a reflection of the gamut of experiences in life. All human emotions: love, lust, hate, despair, birth, death, nurturing and disintegration. Love can exist within a state of what looks like complete decay. Just the way birth and death are part of the same process, so too are the stations of love and happiness. They are not mutually exclusive from decay and sadness. All these things can and do coexist.

We're here for such a finite time and we do the best we can to see there is a lot of beauty and truth that exist amongst the mire and the unsavory aspects of life.

My earlier work weighed even heavier on depicting mutilation and deterioration of the flesh. That's where I was. Over the years the content of the work has changed. However, despite what the work may look like on the surface—and this holds true for even my earlier more anxiety riddled pieces—there is always a thread of hope and perseverance. It's what unifies the body of work.

In fact, every time I engage in the act of creating it is a personal expression of my hope and perseverance.









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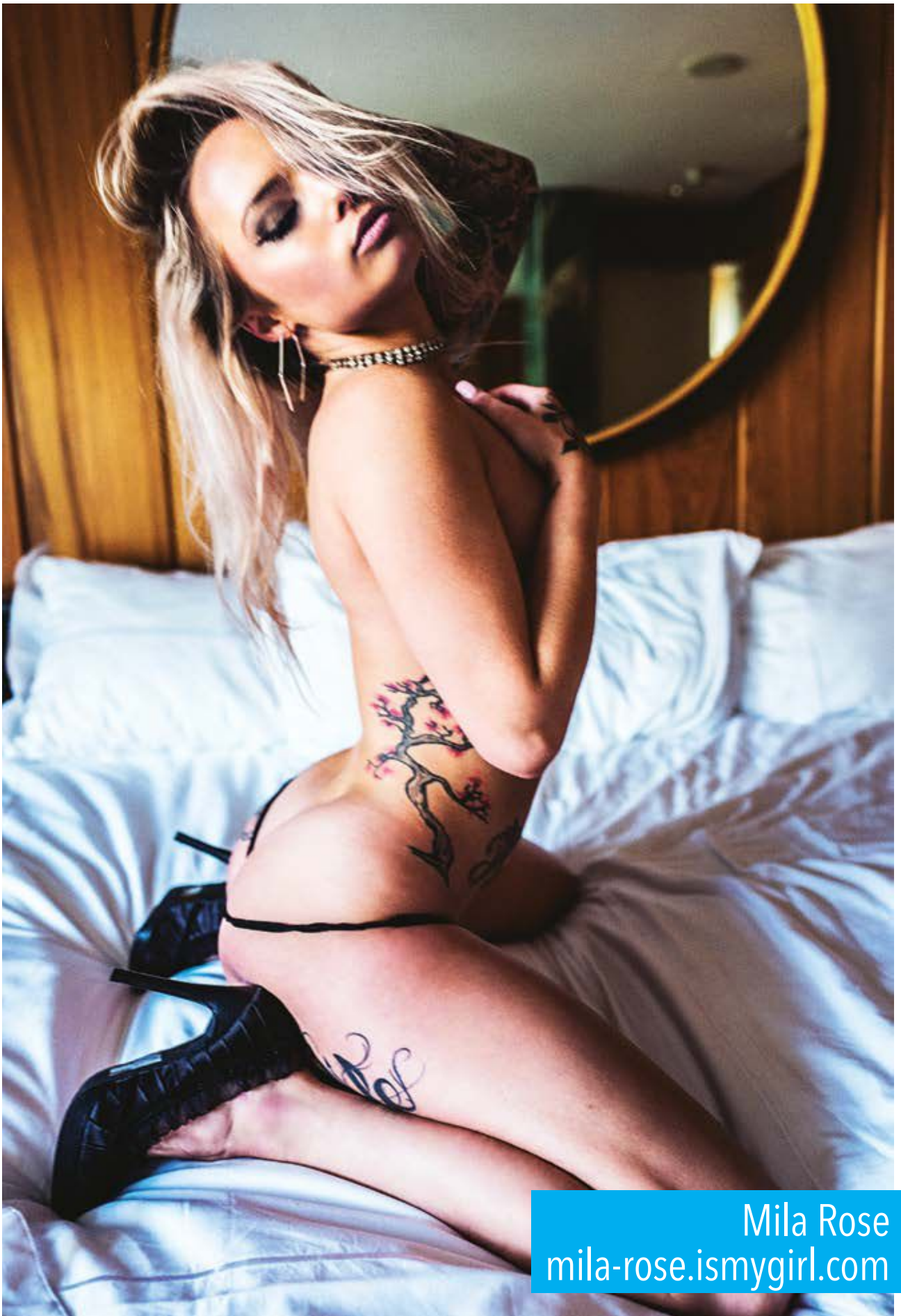


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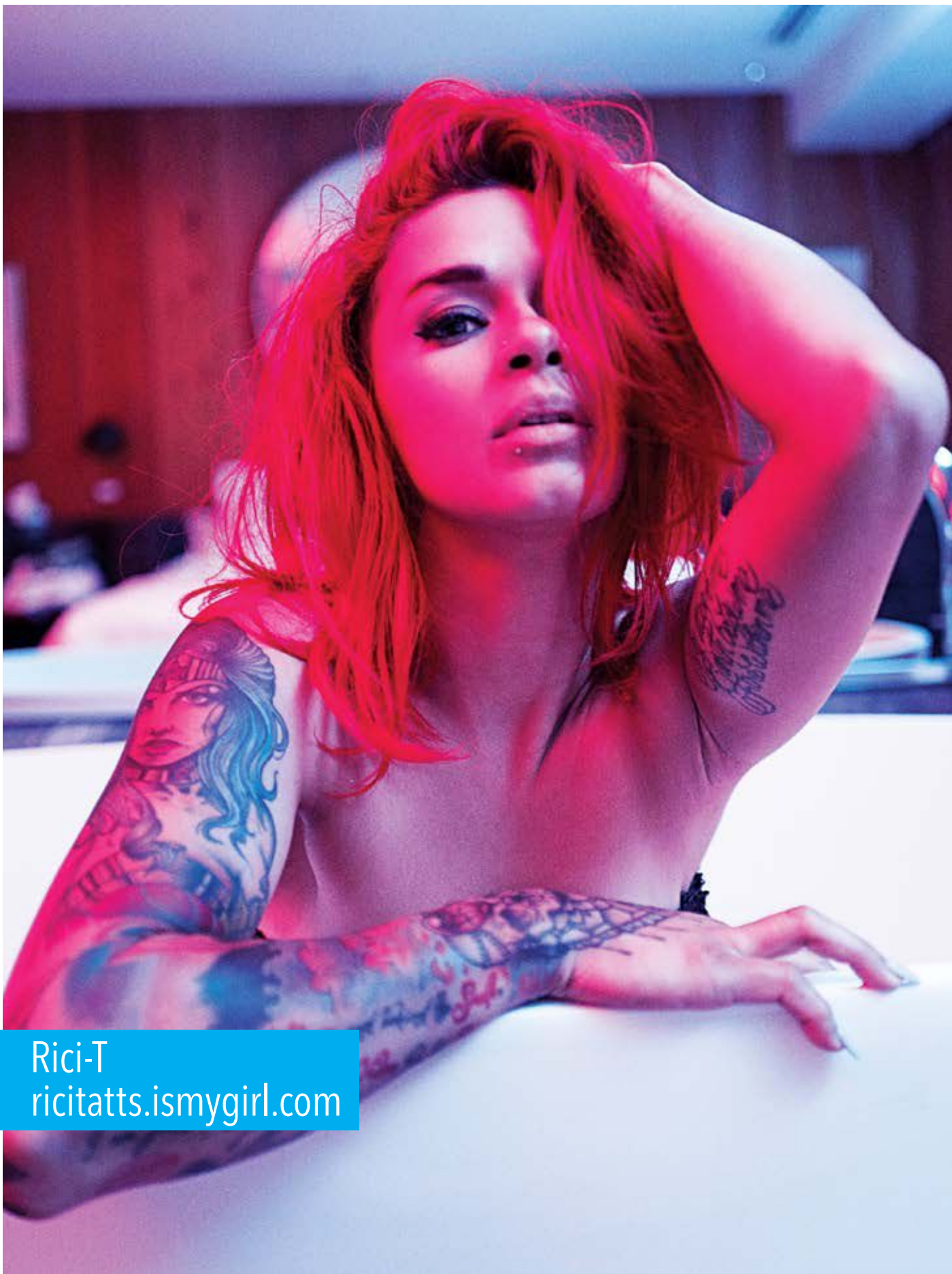


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AMERICAN TRADITIONAL

Jake La Botz—who has done eight tours of tattoo shops—has a new album with and an amazing old sound.

By Rocky Rakovic Photos by Poakie

“I THINK THERE IS THIS KIND OF BOND BETWEEN MUSICIANS AND TATTOOERS, THIS ARTISTIC CAMARADERIE, THIS ITINERATE LIFESTYLE.”

If you've passed by Inked's offices in the past few weeks then you have heard Jake La Botz because we have been cranking his new album *Sunnyside* on repeat. We even had him in to play a few songs and tell us about his journey and music. If American Traditional tattoos had an official anthem it would be growled by La Botz; the blues man puts together songs that will make the sailor tattoos dance off your skin.

Inked: How did this new record come to be.

La Botz: This new record I made with my good friend Jimmy Sutton of Hi-Style Records back there [motions to Sutton holding a guitar]. We've been knowing each other since 1991 and he gave me this great album he produced JD McPherson then I thought, Man I have to get in on some of that.

So we cut some demos about six years ago and then went our separate ways, being busy with different things, but I listened to the demos and they were haunting. They were better than anything I ever recorded and those were the songs "Sunnyside" and "How I Wish She Was Mine." So after a couple of years I called him and said maybe we should put this out so we went back and finished it.

Inked: What other music do you listen to?

La Botz: Well I love rock 'n' roll, really digging this band out there called Low Cut Connie, really digging JD McPherson. I like listening to a lot of old stuff too, like gospel music from the late-'30s to about the early-'70s. Soul music. Ragtime. Early jazz of course. Early R&B. And I love Afri-

can music and Cuban music.

Inked: How do you categorize your style of music?

La Botz: Whaddya say Jimmy?

Sutton: Man, that's a good question. [Points at La Botz] You've got a guy who learned how to play the blues from Honeyboy Edwards and guys like Maxwell Street Jimmy Davis—that's a big bulk of it. The guy loves the 1970s, he loves the staple singers, he loves Hank Williams. We took all of those likes and jammed it into one. It is pretty American-roots.

Inked: As is your ink, Jake. Let's talk about your tattoos.

La Botz: Yeah, so I have been tattooed in a lot of places over the years. Starting with hand-poke stuff when I was 13 or 14. My first professional tattoo was by a guy named Bob Oslon in Chicago, back in the late-80s. There was a guy apprenticing at Bob Oslon's shop called Guy Aitchison and Guy Aitchison's second-ever tattoo remains on my chest. [Opens shirt to show crazy design splashed across his chest] As you can see it is one of his early bio-mechanical kind of things. It held up pretty good.

Inked: Now he's a legend. That's like owning an early Picasso. Have you ever traded a tattoo for a song?

La Botz: Maybe not saying it in those words, but I am sure something like that happened once.

Inked: We heard that you toured tattoo shops.

La Botz: Right, so I do this thing called the Tattoo Across America Tour and for seven or eight years I have toured tattoo shops around the country, and I also did a little bit in Europe. I know a lot of tattooers. I think there is this kind of bond between musicians and tattooers, this artistic camaraderie, this itinerate lifestyle—tattooers I know go for place-to-place I would see them in this city, I would see them in that city. I played at tattoo shops, I am friends with a guy by the name

of Gill Montie, who I am sure you know, and Gill would have me play at his old Tattoo Mania up on Sunset Boulevard in West Hollywood. He had this guy named Mark Mahoney working for him, Mark moved across the street and opened up Shamrock Social Club and I played every week there back in 2004-2005. Mark is the coolest guy. I figured that I knew all of these tattooers, maybe I could setup this little niche thing of doing shows around the country. This was back in the "MySpace days," so I put it out on MySpace and got a lot of requests to play, and some people I knew and some I didn't. Some old school shops, some biker shops, some art school dropout shops, some metal shops, all these different kinds of shops where I met all of these great people and got to be friends with a lot of them. I'd go back year after year and it was a pretty grassroots thing, not your typical touring playing traditional music venues. It was kind of like house parties—but cooler.

Inked: Touring, do you feel a connection with your audience?

La Botz: That is maybe the most important thing, the communication that happens with the audience. One of the things I love about the tattoo tour is that there is no backstage so we have communication before, during and after.

Inked: You've been on-screen as well.

La Botz: My first movie was a movie called *Animal Factory*, it was a prison movie shot in Philadelphia and was written by Eddie Bunker, a great prison novelist, and was directed by Steve Buscemi. I met Steve Buscemi when I was living out in LA at a film premiere that I crashed while waiting in line for the men's room. I invited him out to a gig, and he was cool enough to say, "Yeah I'll come out to your show." And he did. Then he brought the writer Eddie Bunker out to my gig, and he said, "He looks just like my cellmate from 1965." So that kind of cinched the deal. They wrote me a part in the movie.

Then in the last Rambo movie I am one of the mercenaries in there and sing a couple of my songs. I had a little part in *True Detective* as Conway Twitty. I got a movie out on the streaming platforms called *The Grace of Jake* that I star in that's about a ne'er-do-well musician... that's based a little on me. The acting thing comes periodically, the main thing for me now is to get out there with this album.

Inked: How would you describe this new album?

La Botz: *Sunnyside* is a culmination of a lot of lived experience, much of it very heavy. Still, I think there is a playfulness and even lightheartedness about much of it—like reading a eulogy about a ne'er-do-well friend to a group who share in mutual fondness, sadness, and even delight as they recall the character defects of their deceased pal. For me this album marches through the streets like a New Orleans funeral procession—full of groove and joy in the richness of life and remembering all that has passed on.

Inked: What was the impetus for Sunnyside?

La Botz: Pain and misery. Are those two separate things? For me to write songs I have to get slowed down and stop in my tracks to receive melodies and find words for songs. What that usually means is that things have to not go my way. Then these things start to come out of me. We've all have different people living inside of us, different voices that want to tell a story. And creativity, I don't know what it is, but maybe it is tuning into those voices. This album is a combination of songs I've written in different places at different points but they seem to be fairly cohesive.

Inked: Do you write music to exorcise your demons, or for the love of performance, or...

La Botz: I write music because I'm really not good at anything else. I tried other jobs but music kind of clicked.



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THE BLACK ROOM

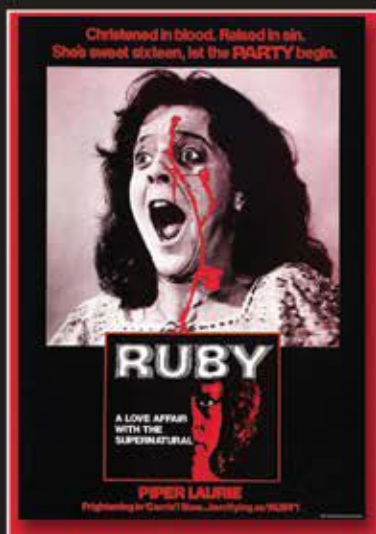


"The practical makeup and gore effects combine with the wildness of the premise to create something imaginatively bizarre." - *LA Times*

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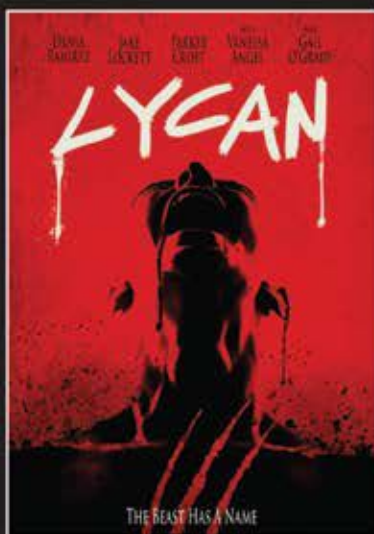
"Taking cues from *The Entity*, *Insidious*, *Wishmaster* and *The Evil Dead*, prolific writer-director Rolfe Kanefsky's **THE BLACK ROOM** is stylish, tense, captivating and fun; an instant classic." - *A Word of Dreams*

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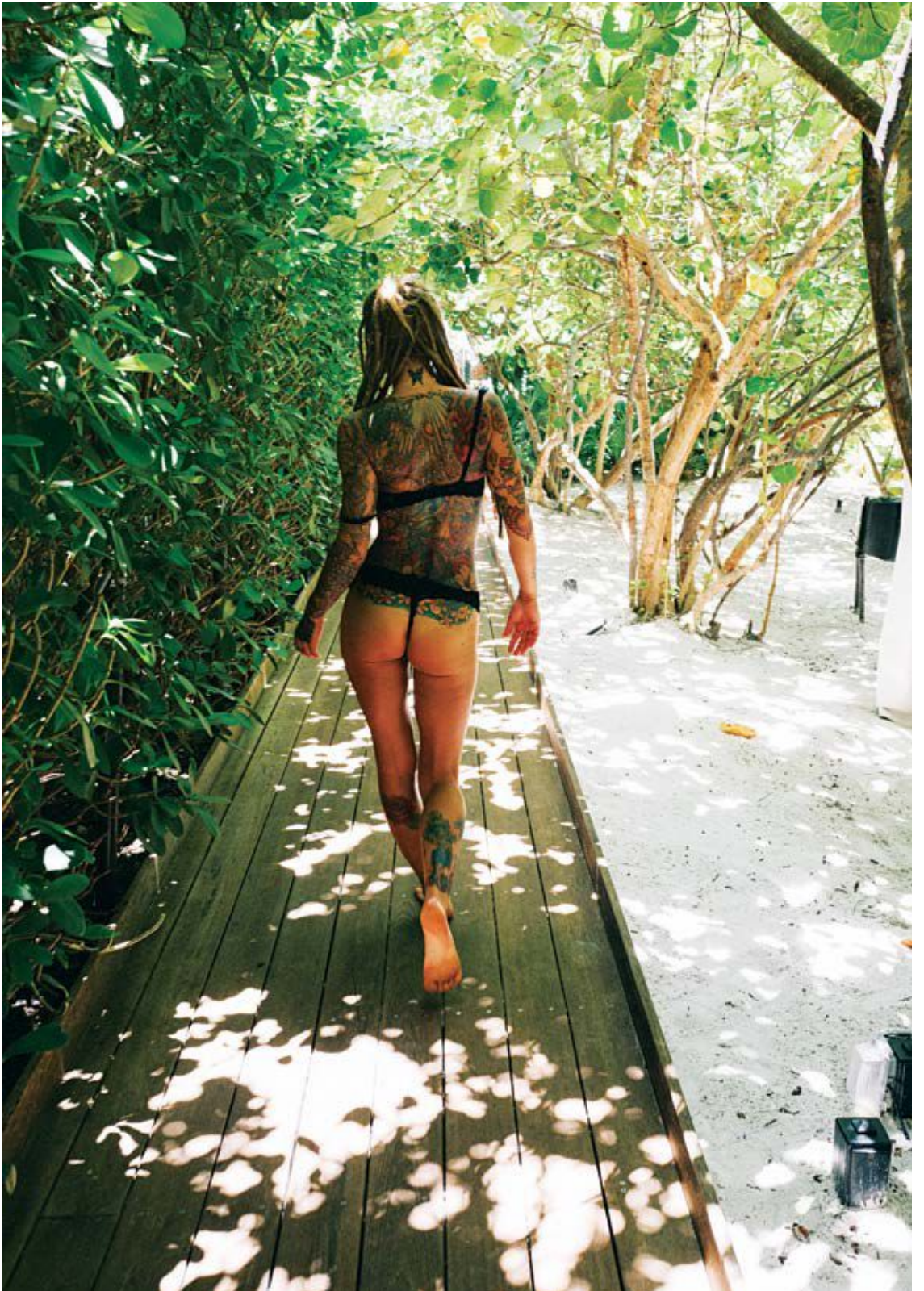


WANDER- LUST

"Not all those who wander are lost," wrote J. R. R. Tolkien. While he was thinking of Aragorn (we see you, LOTR fans), he may have well best described Manda Love. This natural beauty—both inner and looks-wise—can be found traipsing around the world spreading good vibes and smiles. Travel along with her at mandalovexrated.ismygirl.com, though some of the most breathtaking views you'll see happen when she puts her phone camera on selfie mode.

PHOTOS BY LUNCHBOX





Roadie





Jade creates a number of things: bath bombs, an overall sense of euphoria in our hearts, and the lingerie she is wearing. Yep, she is the sexy brain around the lingerie shop Little Pink Box. Visit littlepinkbox.fashion to see her wares and visit jadecreates.ismygirl.com to see her wearing less.

Photos by Peter Roessler

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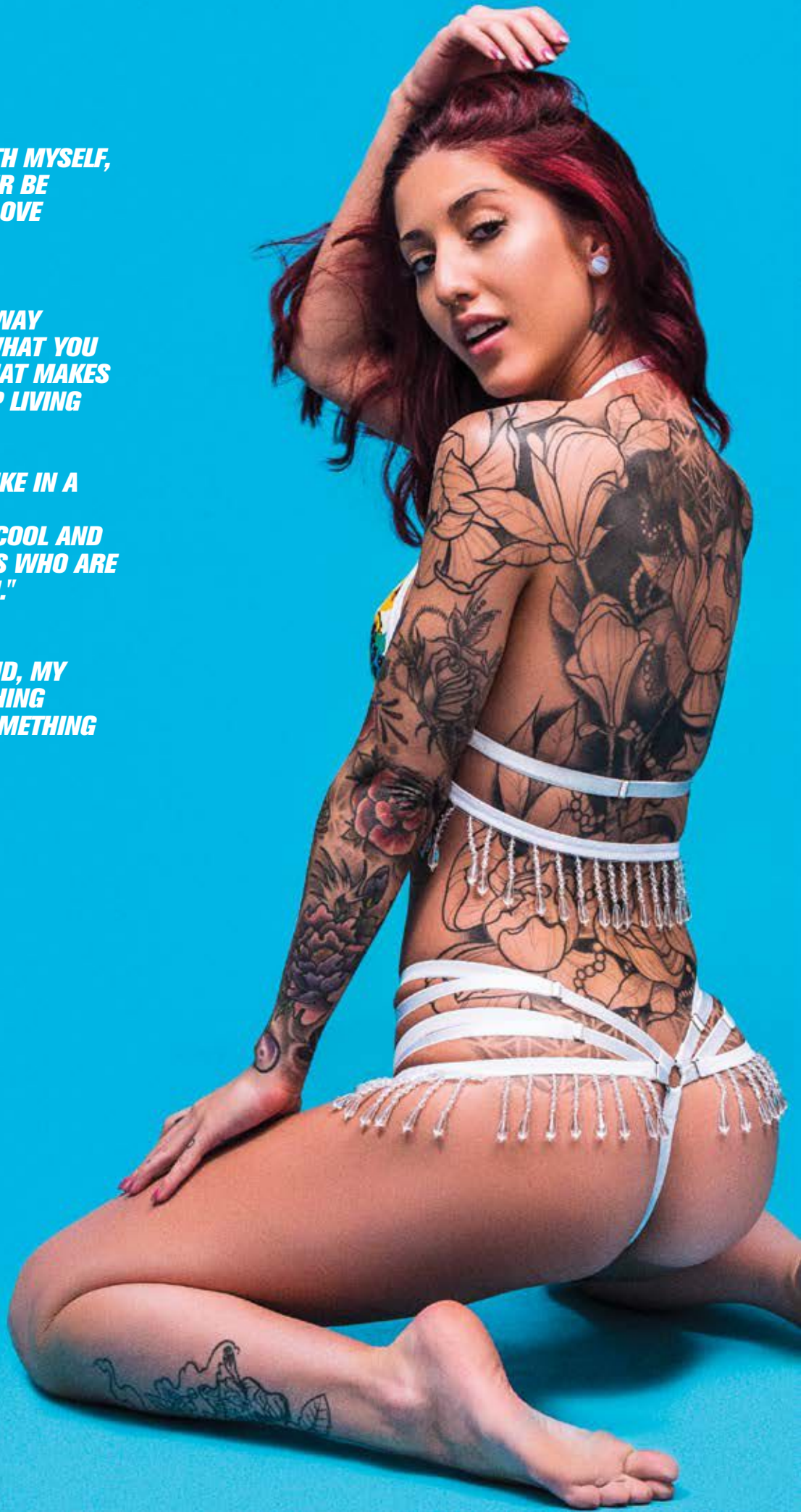
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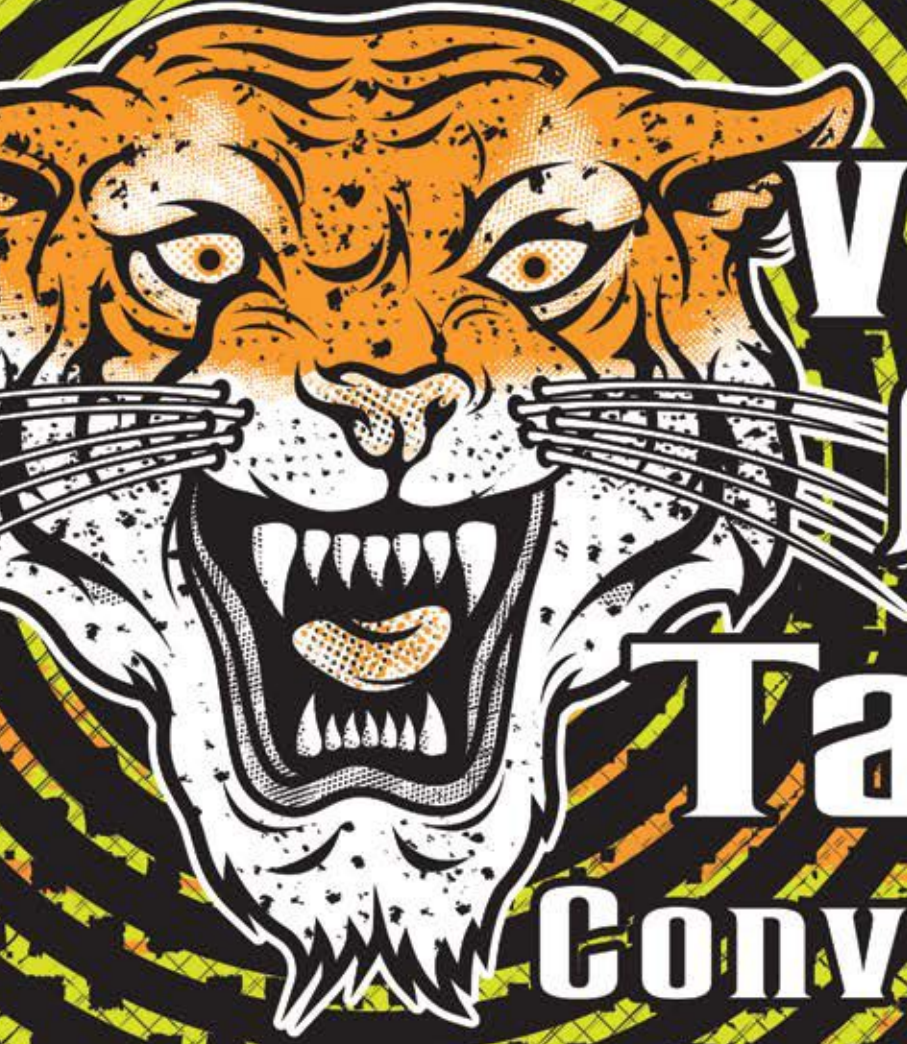
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JOSEPH HAEFS

@josephhaefstattooter

By Devon Preston

Portrait by Pookie

If you were to run into tattooer Joseph Haefs at a convention, you might assume that he specialized in a style that would match his rough and tough exterior. However, don't be fooled by his bulging muscles and intimidating face ink—this Vegas tattooer actually prefers inking delicate and feminine designs on an almost exclusively female client base. That's right, Haefs is the Hefner of the tattoo industry when it comes to forming artistic bonds with beautiful women, and he has no plans to give up his girly genre any time soon. Take a peek into the mind of Sin City's most notorious ink-slinging ladies' man, and while you're at it, you might as well get into character by reading this interview with your shirt off. Don't worry, we'll let Haefs explain the rest.

How did you get into tattooing?

In about 2001 my first wife was stripping her way through college and was making a lot of money but she didn't want me to work. I would drop her off at work and then I would go buy marijuana from my tattoo artist on Las Vegas boulevard. I used to start hanging out at the shop and I fell in love with it right away. The owner was like, "Wow, you work great with people! Do you want to work tomorrow?" And I was like, "Are you going to pay me?" He said he'd think about it and then my buddy called saying that they wanted me to work. So I became a counter guy and then I went in one day on my day off and the owner asked me if I wanted to tattoo. They threw me to the wolves. I used to resent not originally being a custom artist—doing big, beautiful pieces—but now I appreciate it, because all those bangers and all of those walk-ins made me be able to deal with people and the stress.

When did you transition from a street shop artist to a custom artist?

I'd say in about 2006. Cleen Rock One moved and he opened up his shop outside of Chicago and I went to work there. Two of the artists there told me what I needed to hear and they were like, "Slow the fuck down, whatever you're doing is not working." They would make little inside jokes but I didn't know they were being for real. Even though I made the most money, my tattoos were the poorest quality. I went through emotions like, "I'm going to beat this fucking guy up," or "I want to cry because what he was saying was true." I went to work the next day, shut my mouth, and started trying to do better. They told me what I needed to hear even though I was already tattooing nine to 10 years, banging them out. Then I moved back to Vegas and started working in a casino shop and met my lovely wife, Michelle. She had integrity and class and respected herself so something in me made me want to do better. So I forced myself to change and we talked about what kind of money I was going to contribute to the family. I left the

casino because I wasn't going to work on the strip tattooing tourists and banging them out. I knew that the quality was lacking and it was hurting my soul, so I started messaging girls that had tattoos on social media. I started following these girls and saying that I would tattoo them all day for a decent price, and it just took off like wildfire.

How do you think social media has influenced your career as an artist?

It's helped a lot. It gave me the business to do what I wanted on chicks who had already started following and liking my work. Eventually they wanted me to do whatever I wanted and that's when I noticed my quality got better, when I fully loved it. I can no longer do what I'm not into and that's not me being a snob. If you were my client, I would want you to have my best work. If I don't love your idea, then you can pay me double.

What do you think is the difference between tattooers and tattoo artists as someone who has been in both places?

I know artists who can paint and draw circles around me. But when it comes to tattooing, they can't really apply. They can't really break those painterly habits. There are some artists who are fine artists, but they can't wrap their head around simple traditional and they think it's lame. But they don't know, those are the fundamentals of tattooing and once you get that you can take your art to another level. Some people, I'm not going to name drop, but their tattoos are horrible, however, they can draw and paint amazing. But they're not humble enough to let everything go and learn tattooing, then take it to the next level. So I am thankful for where I came from, with all of the bikers and the craziness.

Let's talk a bit about the persona you've developed through social media, specifically, why you tattoo shirtless.

At a couple of shops I'd worked at, it

would be late, we'd be drinking, then we'd take our shirts off and get crazy. Then when I started filming live I developed this fan base of these women who hated their lives because their husband hadn't touched them in months. I had this one client who was like, "Your attitude doesn't match the way that you look." And I said, "Oh, you wanted a total douchebag. You wanted me to say, 'Sit down, shut the fuck up, and when I'm done tattooing you, you're going to blow me in the bathroom.'" And she was like, "Yeah kind of." So sometimes I like to bump up the douchebaggery just to be funny, but that's not who I am. I'm a nice guy at heart, and I do have douchebag tendencies, but that's me.

Do you ever feel that you're being objectified by your female clients?

Yeah, but it goes back and forth. How many girls do you know who want to post pictures of themselves nude on Instagram, but they don't want to be judged? So I do it for them. Everybody wants to be sexy, everyone wants to look good and be attractive. And I help them do that. I give these girls confidence and do mommy makeovers. Girls who may not have the most round butt, I will use my art to accent and exaggerate it. And that's why I'm overly flirty, because I like to make people feel good and I like it back.

Do you feel that you're being typecast as someone who only tattoos beautiful women?

Yes, and I love it. You know what's funny is that right before I met Michelle, I was at this party with this guy and we were partying hard. He asked me what style I did and I said, "Uh, girly?" I felt like a bitch, but everything I do is feminine. I just connect with chicks more. I can tattoo a guy for five hours and not say a word, because some guys are trying too hard to show that they're tough or they're talking about fucking football. I don't like football, I like food and I like girls. I like real-life shit, I like talking about your weakness, strengths and how you can get better. I

think that talking about your weaknesses makes you stronger and the average dude doesn't want to do that, so I relate to girls more. Also girls smell good.

How would you describe your work relationship with your wife?

At the beginning, I fired her almost every day because the biker scumbags in the shops that I used to work with said, "no old ladies in the shop." When we opened up our own shop I needed her because she has two degrees in business and ran a big corporation, so she knew how to make things last. In this industry, amazing tattooers lose everything because they party too hard and they can't manage their money. She keeps all the money and she keeps track of everything. I told her that I'm never going to change who I am but I also know that she isn't going to change who she is either. We just get along so well and vibe together that I call us the Sonny and Cher of tattooing.

Not Sid and Nancy?

Sometimes. But as much as we bicker and get on each other's nerves, we love and miss each other. We've never really spent a lot of time apart in the six and a half years we've been together, maybe just a couple of days.







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MOLLY JEAN

FOLLOW: @MADDMOLL

Where did the Headless Babe Club idea come from?

The idea for the Headless Babe series came out of my frustration about the type of language often used to describe female (or non binary-conforming) bodies. After a particular conversation I had with a guy, the objectifying words he had been using left me with this unpleasant image of women who were literally turning into objects—basically just sexy, curvy bodies without heads. The first few headless drawings I did were directly in response to that conversation. I really didn't expect it to turn into such a popular project, but I'm so happy that people fell in love with these babes.

What sort of people have embraced your Headless Babes?

Female-identifying and queer people have had an amazing response to this series, which has been kind of a fantastic surprise and really changed the tone of the whole project. In my experience, usually pin-up-style tattoos appeal mostly to men, but very few male-identifying people have shown an interest in this project. Because it has been so embraced by women and queer people, the project has gone from a frustrated response to sexist comments, to a celebration of sexuality and beauty and individuality.

Do you, yourself, wear a Headless Babe?

I do have a Headless Babe, I joined my own club a few months ago and tattooed one on my shin. My babe is kneeling in front of a lightbulb and her head is a large moth.

Would this work as Headless Dudes?

I've done some headless figures that are more gender-neutral, but I don't think I'll ever do a specifically male series. A big part of the reason I actually chose to name the project the Headless Babe Club is because "babe" is gender neutral—guys can totally be babes, and I'm open to doing more manly bodies if that's what a client requests.

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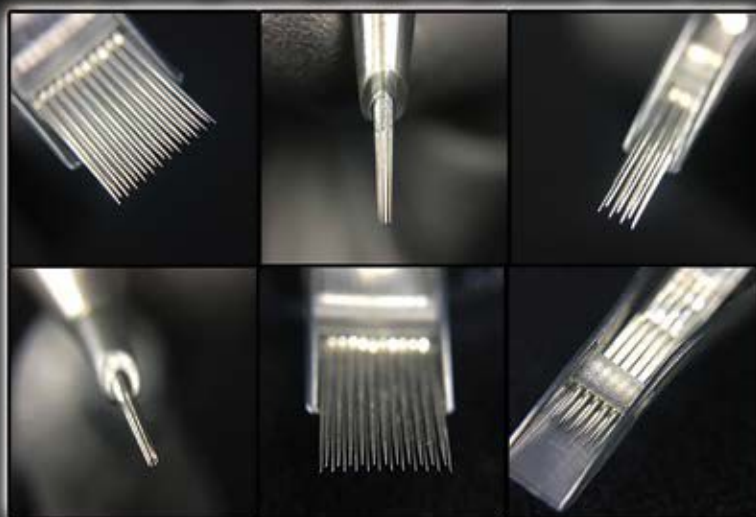
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SABRINA SAWYERS

FOLLOW: @SABRINA_SAWYERS

SO YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AT THIS FOR LONG.

I started a year ago in July 2016. I was first supposed to apprentice awhile ago but the tattooer started doing crack. Also I was getting tattooed by Melissa Valiquette, who told me that she doesn't take apprentices, but said I could be shop manager. Then after a year of working like a bitch for an apprenticeship I got to start.

DID YOU ALWAYS WANT TO TATTOO? I've been drawing on arms since I was young.

NOW YOUR BODY ART IS A LITTLE MORE ADULT.

Are you talking about my porno tattoos? I guess you can't show those, but I've always drawn dicks on people. It's fun to draw dicks on your friends when you are all drunk. But now they are forever so it is much more funny to me.

AND OFTEN THEY ARE FRAMED INTERESTINGLY.

I like to put lesbians in upside down crosses with a church burning in the background to fuck with religion because I don't like religion.

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR REFERENCE MATERIAL FOR THE PORNO TATTOOS?

Clients were asking me for specific positions or actresses so I started watching a lot of porno for references.

YOU WORK MOSTLY IN BLACK-AND-GREY, RIGHT?

Yes, I would like to do more color realism but nobody asks for color. My goal is to be the [go-to] person for color realism in Montreal.

WHAT IS THE TATTOO SCENE LIKE IN YOUR HOME CITY? Friendly.

ANY BIG PROJECTS COMING UP? I did a tattoo of the weird/funny rapper Stitches and then he hit me up saying he wanted me to tattoo him on him. He's flying me down to do that tattoo and a few others. It's going to be fucking crazy.

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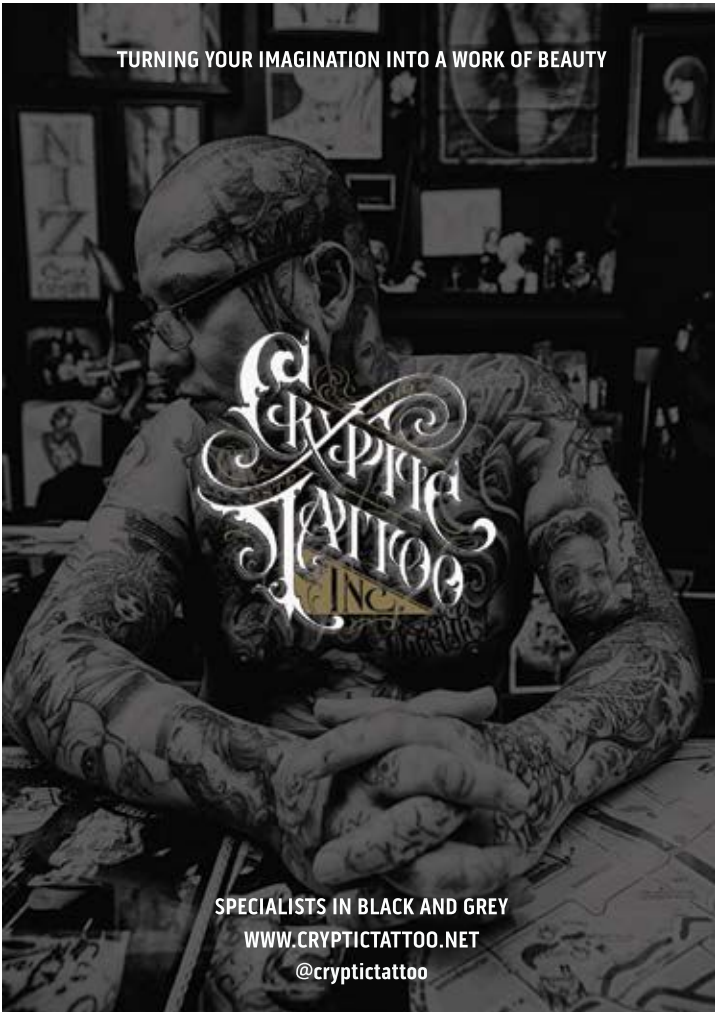
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SAD AMISH

FOLLOW: @SAD_AMISH_TATTOOER

WHERE DID THE NAME SAD AMISH COME FROM? For starters, it just was to hide my real name. Then I wanted a name that is the opposite of my tattoo style. I think it works.

WHY DO YOU DO NAUGHTY TATTOOS? They aren't really naughty, I've draw women for the beauty of body curves since I was a kid. I think women's bodies are the most beautiful things in the world—speaking of physical beauty—especially their fragility and all that it can represent.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PORNOGRAPHIC AND ARTISTIC? I think everybody is free to determine his or her own boundary. Mine is represented in my work, although sometimes I overtake it...

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF A WOMAN? Without hesitation: the butt!

WHY DO YOU WORK MOSTLY IN BLACK INK? It's easier for traveling, haha!

WHAT TYPE OF CLIENT GETS A SAD AMISH TATTOO? My customers are mostly female, because they are the people who most appreciate the beauty of the body, I think.

HAS ANYONE EVER REQUESTED SOMETHING THAT YOU FELT WAS TOO EXTREME TO TATTOO? Unfortunately, clients ask me about projects which I am obliged to refuse because it is too extreme and it doesn't correspond to the way that my work shows.

WHERE DO YOU GET INSPIRATION? My imagination comes from everyday life, from memories, from photo books by Nobuyoshi Araki or Ed Fox or Terry Richardson, from my girlfriend and from my customers' brains.

DO YOU COME UP WITH MOST OF THE DESIGN IDEAS? It depends, but right now I work a lot with the ideas from my clients. When they leave me free to design from my own idea it can become dangerous for them!

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