

# "Make me your girl"









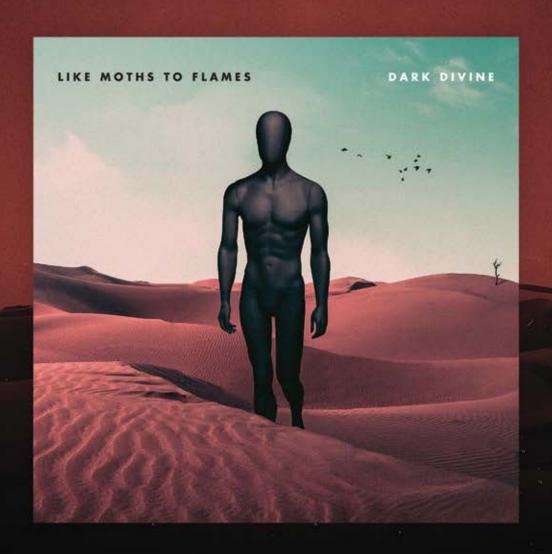
By Inked

WWW.SKELLYANDCO.COM



# LIKE MOTHS TO FLAMES

THE NEW ALBUM DARK DIVINE



AVAILABLE
NOVEMBER 3RD







rocky rakovic ian sami hajar stephanie r. guttenplan melissa wozniak

## contributing writers

jonah bayer, anja cadlek, jon chattman, johnny killmore, gil macias, robert mccormick, nicole petraglia, devon preston, richard whittaker, jessica wilde

## contributing photographers

james alicea, alvarado, katrina barber, taylor castle, archer dean photography, jason goodrich, sophy holland, nina loschiavo, pookie, smokey sunstone, james woodley

## interns

waz allie, stephanie durante, christian frarey

ad sales

kristine mcguire / kristine@quadramediallc.com

sales

heidi minx / heidi@minxlive.com

melanie (czoka) simmons / melanie@inkedmag.com

editorial

paul gambino

devon preston

video editor

peter roessler

social media customer service julian bellman randy trost

vendor support manager fullment

steve pearlman chris postell

marketing designer

iasmin chawla

international licensing

john cabell, 303-449-9194

cabell@cueballdigital.com

magazine office

inked magazine 12 west 27th st., 10th floor

new york, ny 10001

corporate office quadra media Ilc

174 middletown blvd., #301

langhorne, pa 19047

website inkedmag.com

president executive assistant

donald hellinger jami pearlman

head of accounts receivable accounts receivable administrator chris watson lydia isaac

ralph perricelli, irwin billman

newsstand consultants

fulco fulfillment

fulfillment subscription info

888-465-3305

back issues

888-265-3590



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# ALL THAT REMAINS

ALL THAT REMAINS

# MADNESS

**OUT NOW** 

featuring title track

"MADNESS"

and hit track

"THE THUNDER ROLLS"

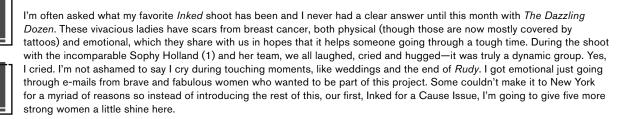
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TOUR DATES; ALLTHATREMAINSONLINE.COM

R4ZOR & TIE

"FORGED BY FORTITUDE" **OUT NOW** FEATURING "BENEATH THE RIVERBED"

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TOUR DATES: SONSOFTEXASMUSIC.COM

RAZOR & TIE



- 2. Kacie Chesley. "When I had a double mastectomy I was just 24 years old. I found out I was sick when I was pregnant with my second child. The surgeries started after I had him and I didn't have implants for two years after that." Upon her telling her Facebook friends about being in this issue of Inked, Linda Dwyer commented, "Congratulations. As I have said before not an out and out fan [of tattoos] but I love and see the beauty of yours. What a wonderful way to cover the scars with art!" It is people like Kacie who help let people outside the community know that tattoos are awesome.
- 3. Stephanie Probst. "I am a HER2 triple positive ductal invasive stage four breast cancer survivor. My tattoo is on my reconstruction scar and tells my story. The pink ribbon is my diagnosis, there are 18 cross ribbons-12 months of chemo, five weeks of radiation and my mastectomy. My boxing gloves let you know I fought and won. I would like to ask other survivors to please reach out to others that are going through this battle to share your love and hope."
- 4. Shaneé Laurent. "After initially going for an ultrasound seven months before my diagnosis and being told it was a benign lump, then trying to get pregnant with my then-husband and having two miscarriages (I was taking supplemental progesterone which was bad for my cancer), I was diagnosed with stage 2B breast cancer at the age of 33. I had to stop breastfeeding my 22-month-old and had a double mastectomy with reconstruction. I got a divorce in May 2016 and moved to my own place which I've been renovating myself! I spent the last year getting this amazing botanical piece by Miranda Brouwer at Wealthy Street Tattoo in Grand Rapids, MI. I often hear, 'Keep fighting!' Bitch, please, that's what I've been doing."
- 5. Kirsten Michaud. "After a bilateral mastectomy and two reconstructive surgeries, I was left with large scar lines, scar adhesions, drain scars and fat grafting scars. After extensive research I opted for a mastectomy tattoo. I was so lucky to find Ike Trimboli at Infamous Ink Tattoo Studio in Matthews, NC. Even though Ike had experience with tattooing scar tissue, I was his first mastectomy tattoo. From design to color choice, lke helped me every step of the way. He did an amazing job turning all of my scars into a beautiful piece of art!"
- 6. Ann Kramer. "I'm 39, was diagnosed with breast cancer at 31. I had six rounds of chemo, a double mastectomy, six weeks of radiation, two reconstruction surgeries and one killer tattoo by Karly Clearly of Davidian Tattoo!"

I'm excited for you to meet all the rest of the inspiring inked people in this issue—some of their stories may move you to tears. And it is OK to cry. A few months before he died from cancer Jim Valvano said these words during the ESPYS, "To me, there are three things we all should do every day. We should do this every day of our lives. Number one is laugh. You should laugh every day. Number two is think. You should spend some time in thought. And number three is, you should have your emotions moved to tears, could be happiness or joy. But think about it. If you laugh, you think, and you cry, that's a full day. That's a heck of a day. You do that seven days a week, you're going to have something special." -Rocky Rakovic, Editor-in-Chief















# aurora PINK EDITION

In honor of Breast Cancer Prevention Month, Dr. Dabber has partnered with The Keep A Breast Foundation for this limited edition Pink Aurora. 33% of all proceeds will go towards Keep A Breast.

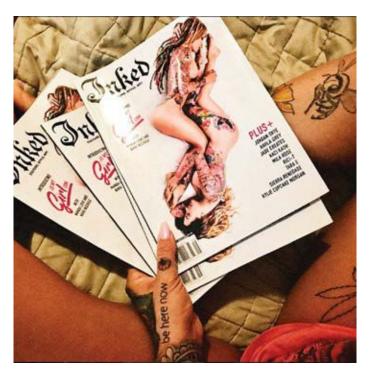












MANDA LOVE IN YOUR LAP. I LOVE YOU GUYS AND LOVE YOUR POSITIVITY TOWARDS ME! So wrote Manada Love upon receiving last month's Inked featuring herself and Nikki Nichole in bed. We by chance met Manda in Miami a few months ago during a model casting. We dug her vibe, shot her that day, and then the next with Nikki. People often ask us where we find our models, and the answer is everywhere. If you think you have what it takes to sparkle on the pages of Inked send your photos to castings@inkedmag.com, look out for our open calls and if you are coming through NYC, you can make an appointment to drop by our offices through that e-mail. We'd love to meet you!

# facebook

### **MANDA LOVE**

Carl Smith Absolutely gorgeous. **Ryan Caneforlyfe Cook Lawd** have fuckin mercy...jus aint fair I can look but cannot touch! Not even bein thirsty but its taken 30+ yearrs and I got a real crush now. Shid (sic), I would move to Cali to be next to heaven everyday Gregg Ingram I'm still impressed... how does it keep getting better?

### **NIKKI NICHOLE**

**Brandon Creamer** She's the most beautiful tattoo model out there and she has the personality to match! And those curves are lethal! Stacked from head to toe inside and outside! She's absolutely perfect in every way!

Bryan Lloyd I love the message. Amazing job on your part. I know what you went through from personal experience. Like you I became the bully after many years of being bullied. Didn't change a thing. But I now live my life on my terms. Screw the rest.

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@NATTYBOHH



@TESIA\_THE\_WICKED

# TATTOO OF THE MONTH



BY:ANTONY FLEMMING @ANTONYFLEMMING Want to be a Tattoo of the Month? E-mail your ink to editor@inkedmag.com

WRITE US. GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? SEND ALL PRAISE, COMPLAINTS, STORY SUGGESTIONS, AND OTHER COMMENTS TO LETTERS@INKEDMAG.COM. ALL SUBMISSIONS SHOULD INCLUDE THE WRITER'S NAME AND ADDRESS, LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR CLARITY, LENGTH, AND CONTENT. ALSO JOIN THE PARTY AT FACEBOOK.COM/INKEDMAG AND ACROSS PLATFORMS @INKEDMAG.















MOST BREAST CANCER
SURVIVORS FACE TWO
CHOICES:
RECONSTRUCTION OR NOT.

# BUT MOST DON'T REALIZE THERE'S A THIRD OPTION: INK.

OUR GOAL IS TO CONNECT BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS WITH TATTOO ARTISTS WHO CAN PROVIDE A FORM OF HEALING THAT NO ONE ELSE CAN.

P.ink is a verified 501c3, working with artists and survivors across North America to help survivors heal with ink.





# YOUR PURCHASE HELPS SURVIVORS HEAL... Your purchase will allow Seal The Deal Tattoo Cream® to make donations to p-ink.org, which connects breast cancer survivors with tattoo artists who can provide a form of healing that no one else can. Ink. These donations go directly to these amazing women by providing them tattoos of their choice.

# TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP OUR SURVIVORS HEAL.

Visit www.sealthedealtattoo.com to make a purchase or donate directly to p-ink.org thru our donate tab. 20% of everything sold on our site will go to these amazing non-profits listed on our site. Tattoo artists, for every order you make we will make a donation in your or your shop's name.









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# MAKE NEW YORK COLORFUL AGAIN

"A secret garden grows on Chrystie Street and it only comes out at night."

New York City may never sleep but in the evening it does get a lot darker. In certain spots in the city, when small business owners close up shop for the day, their last act is to reach up and bring down their roll-down security gates. With the squeal of metal gears and a thunderous impact with the city sidewalk, beautiful storefronts are shut off from the public. The vibrant streets of Gotham now look like cold corridors of corrugated metal.

In 2014, artist and skater Billy Rohan grew tired of the drabness and came up with the idea to bring legal street art to the gates. He met the good folks at Lower East Side Partnership and they gathered the funding and organization to launch the 100 Gates Project.

The group worked to gather artists and businesses interested in an adorned gate and then connected the two sides. Since you read *Inked* you know that tattooers can be difficult people. All tattooers are both artists and small business owners so they had their work cut out for them. But one-by-one as the gates began to be decked out in the Lower East Side, painters and owners became very keen on the project. Artists such as Buff Monster, L'Amour Supreme and Joan Di Lieto have lent their talents to transform NYC one row of paint on metal at a time, and the historic Katz's Delicatessen gave their famous front to an artist. What was first thought to be 100 gates in the LES, has gone beyond that number (as ESPN's 30 for 30 series has gone beyond 30 documentary films) and has spread to Harlem and Staten Island. The new designs have become popular selfie backgrounds with thousands of hashtags on Instagram.

Artists are getting commissioned work and neighborhoods are getting amazing art. There is a grouping of businesses that have all adopted nature themes, to which project manager Natalie Raben remarks, "A secret garden grows on Chrystie Street and it only comes out at night." It is very reminiscent of the tattoo industry providing jobs and public art, and both movements first blossomed on New York City's Lower East Side. —Robert McCormick

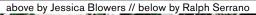


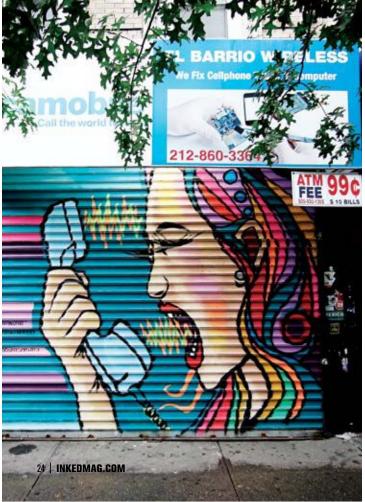


above by (left) Jana Liptak (right) Abigail Leora // below by Buff Monster





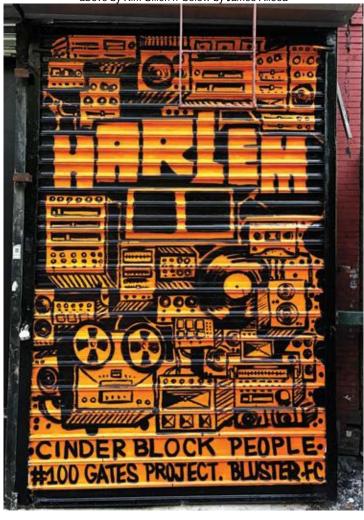


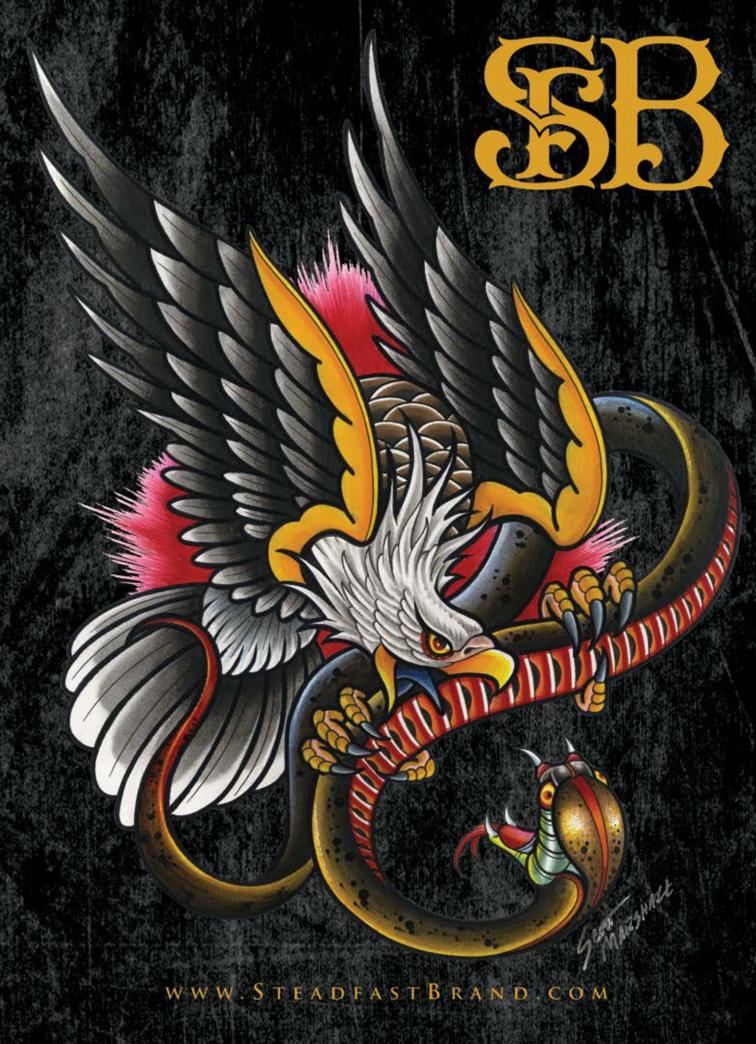






above by Kim Sillen // below by James Alicea





# KAYTE RAE

THE SEXY SIREN REVEALS HERSELF ON KAYTERAE.ISMYGIRL.COM

PLEASE TELL US HOW YOUR
COLLECTION OF BACK TATTOOS
CAME TO BE? My back tattoos
began with "Lust" written in script
on the top of my back. When my
roommates and I were younger we
all decided to get "matching" tattoos
of our sins. The artwork below came
later but also symbolizes lust as it's
main theme: a Siren creating chaos
in the ocean but still longing for love
of her own.

# WHAT'S "PRETTY POISON" MEAN?

It was a nickname I was given, also one of my first tattoos. It still kind of sticks with the general theme of lust and me being something that's beautiful but will damage you in the long run.

WHAT DO YOU DO MORE OFTEN: CHANGE YOUR HAIR COLOR OR GET A NEW TATTOO? That's definitely a tough one. I generally get work done every other week but it's not always a "new" tattoo. Either way, I go under the gun more than the hair dye.

## WHAT DOES ISMYGIRL MEAN TO

YOU? Ismygirl.com allows me to have an outlet where I can express myself freely without having to censor parts of myself and my life.

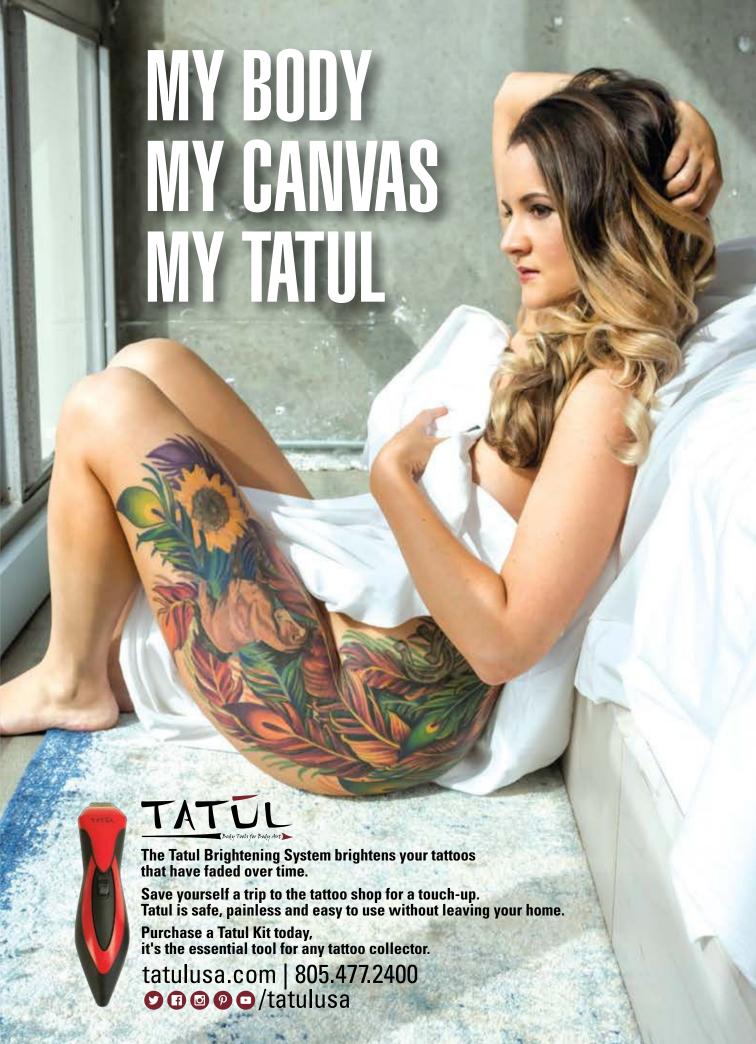
YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF AS
"CUTE AND FUN WITH A HINT OF
MYSTERY" WHICH OF THOSE IS
YOUR FAVORITE ATTRIBUTES? The
little bit of mystery I bring is definitely
one of my favorite attributes.

LOOKING AT YOUR INSTAGRAM, IT APPEARS THAT YOU SMOKE, WHO LIVING-OR-DEAD WOULD YOU MOST WANT TO PASS A JOINT TO? I do

smoke, and support legalization. My mom and dad were hippies and followed the Grateful Dead. I never got a chance to smoke with either of them before they passed away. So I would definitely say my parents.

photo by Pookie





# FOR CANCER

Drink for a Cause. Brooklyn Brewery teams up with local charities like the New Jersey Grabowskis to raise money for cancer research.







THE DAZZL RDOZEN We had the absolute honor to meet 12 incredible women who were bold enough to tell their stories of battling breast cancer and show their fabulous mastectomy tattoos.

# by Melissa Wozniak photos by Sophy Holland assisted by Krystallynne Gonzalez digital tech Casey Showalter hair by Erin Tierney, using Oribe assisted by Megan Motter make up by Shirley Pinkson using W3II People assisted by Ashley Jameson and Andrea Edwards styled by Newhart Ohanian assisted by Chiara Mendryscha and Elena Vassiliu shot at Pier 59 Studios

ALLYSON CHRÍS PHANIE DANA K JENNIFER MYLE KAREN MELISSA JALLYSON CHRÍ





JENNIFER JAYE
New York City, 6 years cancer-free

"I picked up surfing. I'm kicking ass with ice climbing. If I die in some extreme sporting event, my last thought will be, 'Oh, thank god cancer didn't get me!""

wearing Erickson Beamon necklace, Alexis Bittar cuff











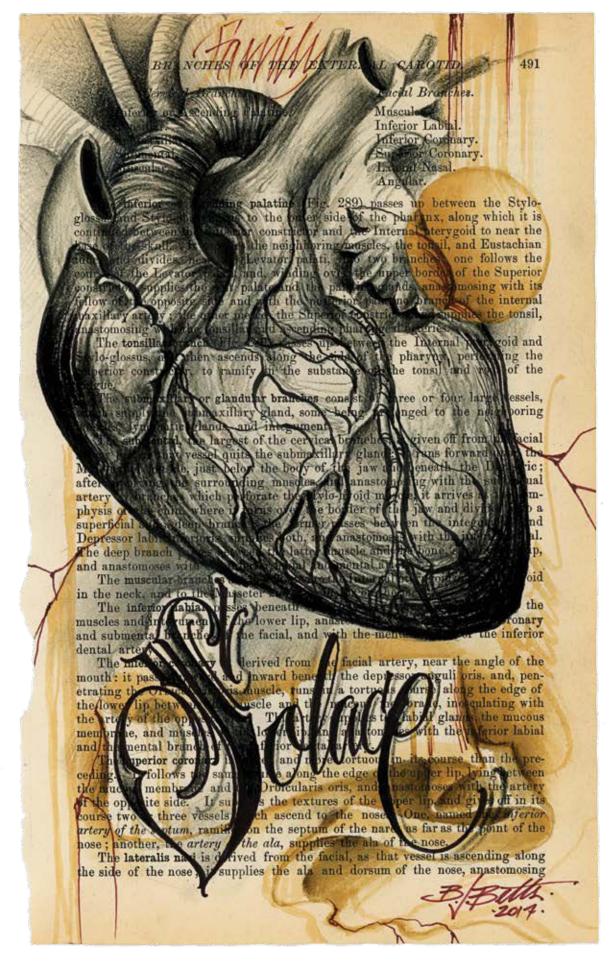








With a close connection to heart disease BJ Betts gathers his friends to draw, reminding us all to check our most vital organ.



tendinous fibres radiate through the valve to its attached margin, and these fibres form a constituent part of its substance throughout its whole extent, excepting two narrow lunated portions, the lunalar placed one on each side of the nodule immediately adjoining the free margin; here the valve is thin, and formed merely by the lining membrane. During the pussage of the blood along the pulmonary artery these valves are opened, and the course of the blood along the tube is uninterrupted; but during the ventricular dastele, when the current of blood dong the pulmonary artery is checked and particular on back by its elastic wills, these valves become immediately expanded, and the course of the tube. When the case are closed, a presentable of the substance of the tube. When the case are closed, a presentable of the property arterial filling up the same contact with a care by their oppositions of the three straight and the three straights.

Between the second valves and the communicement of the pulmonery artery are varve pouches white the pulmonery and the communications of cusalva). Similar sinuses called the communication of the aorta; they are larger than the pulmonery snaces. The blood, in its regurgitation toward the brack hads its resumed (account to sand to sand down the valve-daps.)

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We examine the interior of the anterior interior interior

The Left Ventricle is longer and nor conical in shape than the right ventricle, and on transverse section its cavity presents an oval or nearly circular outline. It forms a small part of the anterior surface of the heart, and a considerable part of

3

auricle. It is derived from the lower part of the acrtic ser the fœtus, and an abnormal communication may exist at this part, owing opment

of this septum.

The Endocardium is a thin membrane which In of the heart; it assists in forming the valves by its reduplications, continuous with the lining membrane of the great blood-vessels. It is membrane, giving to the inner surface of the heart its glistening appearance. It is more opaque on the left than on the right side of the heart, thicker in the auricles than in the ventricles, and thickest in the left auricle. It is thin on the musculi pectinati and on the columnæ carneæ, but thicker on the smooth part of oth, transparent the auricular and ventricular walls and on the tips of the musculi papillares.

Structure. The heart consists of muscular fibres, and of fibrons rings which serve for their attachment. It is closely covered by the visceral layer of the serves pericardium (epicardium), and its cavities are lined by the endocardium. Detween these two membranes is the muscular wall of the heart, the myocardium. the fibrous rings surround the auriculo-ventricular and arterial orifices are upon bledleft than on the right side of the heart. The auriculo-ventricular formant of the muscular fibrous (ariely) schment of the muscular fibres of the auriths and ventricles, at and telephonic valves the ring on the left side is closely the margin, ith the aortic arterial ring. Between these and according to the left side is closely the margin, ith the aortic arterial ring. Between these and according to the left side is closely the margin, ith the aortic arterial ring. connected the right auriculoventienler ring is a pass of and elephan, a notule of bone, the os cordis. larger Dimal

tariel orifices serve for the attachment of rounding the a Each ring chment notches, within which the middle ee deep artery (which presents attachm of the arter coat an erous memb hree convex semicircular segments) is firmly fixed, the to its fibrous ring being strengthen d by the thin cellular convex semicircular segni atternally and by the endecardism within. opposite the margins semicircular notches, in the activity sings endocardium by its redu on, forms the semilarnar valves, the of the ring being contin each of the segments of the valve at in this situation is this The middle coat of the the sides of the are dilated to form the

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Mark your calendars. The biggest show on television returns on October 22 and continues with the all-out war between Alexandria and The Saviors. Not the one with dragons, *The Walking Dead* Season 8. When we last left Rick and the gang, they finally stood up to the sadistic Negan and teamed up with the Hilltop and Kingdom colonies—even Shiva,

Ezekiel's tiger, got in on the mayhem. Negan is sure to retaliate swiftly and he and his beloved barb-wired bat, Lucille, will be out for blood. Relive season 7 all over again on Blu-ray. The Walking Dead: The Complete Seventh Season is now available and comes with deleted scenes and nine behind the scenes featurettes. —Gil Macias

### Of Same Cloth

Fashion is beginning to catch up to gender fluidity. Off the heels of a successful Kickstarter campaign SVCRED: EDM x Streetwear is about to hit the clubs and the curbs. They have a very simple mission: advocate for gender fluidity and androgyny by providing a platform of alternative self-expression and a space for people to embrace their quirks, eccentricities and self-perceived flaws.—Robert McCormick

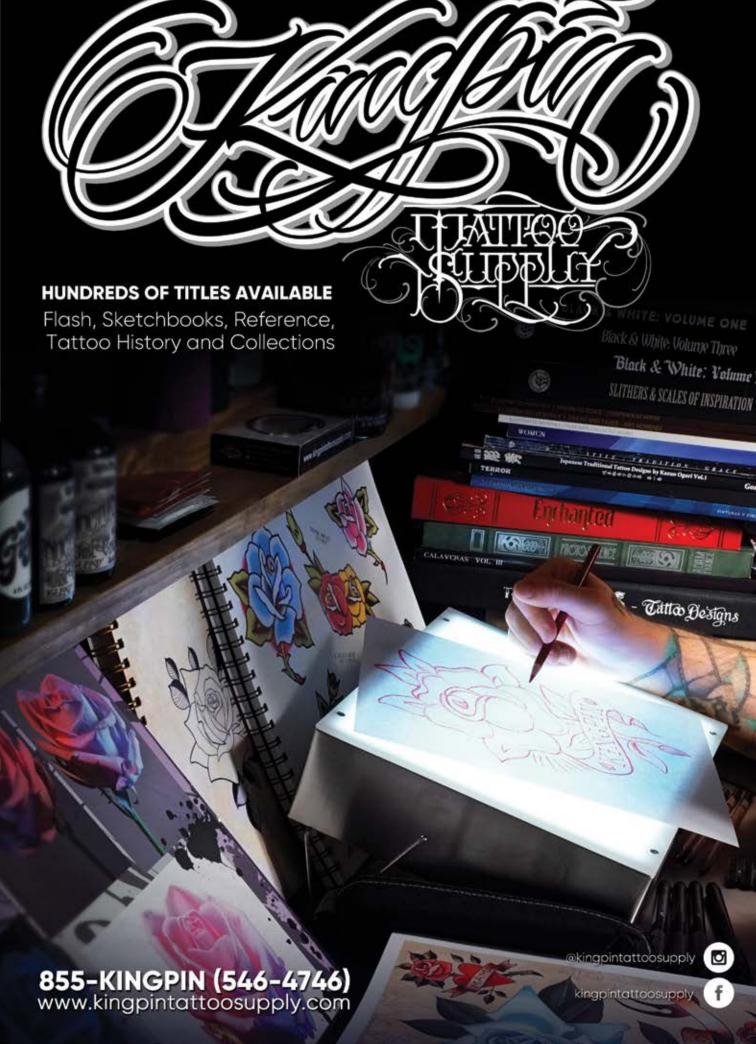






### H.R. Giger's Throne

If you are an H.R. Giger fan with means then you need the Harkonnen Chair. It is one of H.R. Giger's furniture designs and is manufactured by hand chiefly out of black fiberglass, made to resemble human skeleton. The chair was initially designed for the unproduced movie version of the novel *Dune*. Each Harkonnen Chair is handmade to order, a process that requires patience and fine craftsmanship. As with every Giger furniture piece, the Harkonnen Chair is available in an open ended-edition. Each chair comes with a Certificate of Authenticity. Approximate delivery (anywhere in the world) is three to four months from the time the order is placed. Contact: Les Barany les@hrgiger.com





It's been 35 years since Ridley Scott's science fiction masterpiece *Blade Runner* graced cinema screens and now we're getting the long-awaited sequel *Blade Runner 2049*. This time, Scott serves as producer with director Dennis Villeneuve taking the helm. Villeneuve is no stranger to science fiction. He dazzled us with last year's Best Picture nominated film, *Arrival*. Set 30 years after the original storyline, new blade runner, LAPD Officer K (Ryan Gosling) seeks the elusive Rick Deckard (Harrison Ford, reprising his role) after unearthing a secret that could bring chaos to what's left of society. If you haven't seen the original, shame on you. But you can now visit striking world of *Blade Runner* on 4K Ultra HD Blu-ray, available now. —*G.M.* 





### **Childs Play**

Cult of Chucky, the seventh entry in the undying series follows our favorite homicidal doll to a mental institution where he plans to get revenge on Nica, the unlucky survivor of Curse. Alex Vincent returns as a grown up Andy and Jennifer Tilly returns once again as...both Tiffany and herself? Nab all seven Chucky films at once in Chucky: Complete 7-Movie Collection. —G.M.



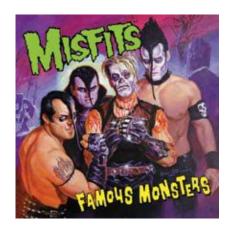
### Play Another Game?

Oh, horror movie serial killers and franchises. They never stay truly dead, do they? Freddy bit the dust in Freddy's Dead: The Final Nightmare, but returned in Wes Craven's New Nightmare and Freddy VS. Jason. Jason died in Friday the 13th: The Final Chapter, but came back to life in Jason Lives, died again and even went to hell, then space. You get the picture. Now it seems Jigsaw, whose last movie was 2010's Saw: The Final Chapter, couldn't get past the seven-year itch and seven movies just wasn't enough. In this all-new 8th installment, Jigsaw, the bodies pile up again with all too familiar traps, riddles, cassette tapes, and freaky puppets. John Kramer (aka, Jigsaw) is dead, so who the hell could it be this time?. —G.M.

### <mark>Endo Arm FTW</mark>

Director and self-proclaimed "King of the World" James Cameron (*The Terminator, Alien, Avatar, Titanic*) is responsible for two of the best sequels of all time: *Aliens* and *Terminator 2*. The latter came back to theaters in 3D this summer and now it's coming home in pristine 4K Ultra HD Blu-ray. But what's even cooler is that there will be 6,000 Endo Arm Special Edition sets. Yup, that's a life size replica of the iconic T-800 cyborg arm. —*G.M.* 





### THE PLAYLIST BY JONAH BAYER

### "SCREAM"

**Misfits** 

As long as there is an October issue of Inked there will be a Misfits plug. Misfits forever.

### "PURPLE MOUNTAINS"

**Able Baker Fox** 

This post-hardcore act's first album in nine years is just as vital as their debut.

### "LUSTRATION"

**Circa Survive** 

America's favorite progressive punk band return with another instantly distinctive track.

### "GONE BUT NOT ENTIRELY"

Iron & Wine

Sam Beam returns with a brand of folk you've come to love.

### "CRUSHED OUT"

Less Art

Members of Thrice turn up the aggression on this dissonant blast of unbridled anger.

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### I Am The Night

"Pale blue striated flesh streches upwards into a regal and organic ice crown; this malevolent and powerful being raises more questions than he answers." There's sure to be a lot of Daenerys and Jon Snows (by the way have you seen the female "sexy Jon Snow" costume? It is really messing with our loins) but it is always fun to play the villain. How about a little love for the Night King? This insanely life-errr... living-dead-like mask from Composite Effects will make you king of the Halloween party's ice luge. For a cool \$669.95 its for serious fans only. -Anja Cadlek

### To Dye For

We've always loved the vibe of Tish and Snooky's Manic Panic NYC. This year they have turned 40 but are still shimmering. Check out manicpanic. com for cosmetics, accessories and hair products for the funky girl in your life—or to enchance your Halloween costume. Currently we are loving their Dyehard of the Month feature in which they highlight a customer who is radiating with bold hair. See for example Katrin Albert to the right. -A.C.





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.

Any ideas from a woman's prospective how to deal with mismatched libidos? i don't know how to bring it up without hurting her feelings. -Daryl Drake

Some women need more attention to detail when it comes to revving up the engine. Before having the "I want to have sex all the time, what gives?" conversation why don't you try a little harder to turn her on more often. Foreplay can go a long way.

My boyfriend has to move away for work for six months. Do you think Skype/phone sex is a good way to keep our relationship alive? How do i do it? -Heidi

Absolutely. If you are in a long distance relationship you'd better start setting up your camera gear. In order to remain connected there needs to be a level of intimacy. If that means you are running your own porn production via FaceTime for the next 6 months so be it. Your man will love it.

My wife has gotten chubby lately and she doesn't want to sleep with me anymore because she is self conscious. What can i say to let her know I still think she's sexy? -Hank

Leave up some BBW porn on your computer, feed her cookies while going down, tell her you love how big her ass has gotten. I'm all for a healthy lifestyle but if your woman can embrace these extra lbs while she has them then why the hell not?

I can't get wet lately but I don't want to offend my boyfriend by letting him think he can't turn me on anymore, what should I do?

Blame it on your vagina. A man's ego can bruise easily but if you are honest and tell him something is going on with your body I'm sure he will be understanding. Pick out some nice lube together, he's going to be happy just getting some action.

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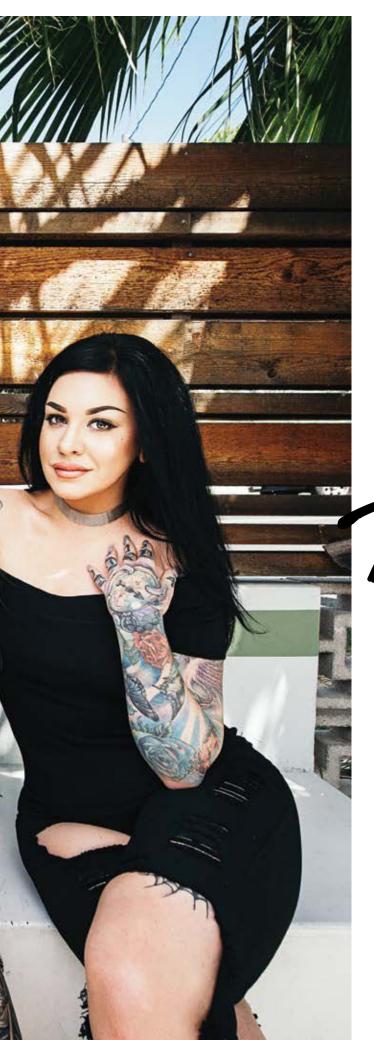
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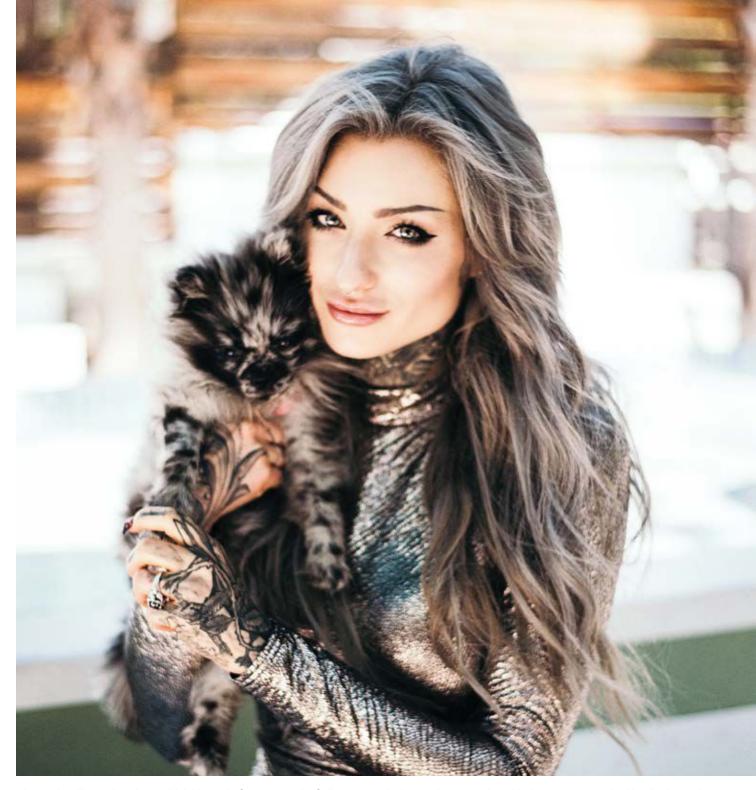




HARPA

Spike presents a new series *Ink Master: Angels*. Darlings from *Ink Master Season 8* Ryan Ashley Malarkey, Kelly Doty, Nikki Simpson and Gia Rose traverse the country, challenging local artists to see who has the chops to make *Ink Master Season 10*. We sat down with three of the four while they swooped into Austin and atalked bout their alliance.

by Richard Whittaker photos by Katrina Barber



It was the alliance that changed Ink Master. In Season 8 of the Spike reality show, the female tattooists rejected sabotage and dirty tricks in favor of mutual support and friendship. Now four of the best have taken to the road as part of Ink Master: Angels.

They're on a whirlwind tour across the US. Today they're at a hip bar in Austin, with Season 8 winner Ryan Ashley Malarkey poolside, braving the 100-degree-plus temperatures. Inside, third place runner-up Kelly Doty and fifth place winner Nikki Simpson are beating the heat (Gia Rose, who came eleventh, is back at the hotel). It's not all fun and relaxation, as the quartet are on the hunt. At each of the 10 city stops for Angels, locals will challenge them: If they beat the veteran, there's a place on Ink Master Season 10 waiting for them.

Malarkey still seems a little shocked that joining the main show would lead to this new adventure. She said, "I didn't have any intention of making it all the way to the end and kicking ass. I just wanted to be part of something awesome." She also did not anticipate the girls' alliance, which she described as "legit. We would stay up at night and laugh 'til 3 AM, and be silly together. We knew the whole time it was a competition, and we would look at each other and go, 'Yeah, we are competing,' but life is not about competition. Life is about the friendships you make, and the lessons you learn." When the producers approached them about Angels, the answer was a quick yes. "Of course we wanted to do this whole amazing project again, this life venture again, but really we just wanted to spend time with each other."

The spin-off has been a real change of pace for confirmed homebody Malarkey, who normally prefers the solitude of her mountain home with her pets. "It feels like my life at home and what I have established for myself is one side of me, and what I'm discovering is another side. I do like adventure, and I do like travelling to these other places, and it hasn't been hard." For Simpson, this nationwide jaunt fulfills a childhood dream of being a rock 'n' roll star. Growing up in Tucson, she said, "I wanted to tour and I wanted to travel, but I have no real musical talent in my body. My dreams were gone, but that fantasy was there." Conventions and guest spots scratched that itch, but for Angels she's relishing a different city every few days. "I love falling in love with cities, with art, with people."

Yet, life on the road is a massive change to life in the studio. As profession-

al tattooers, Doty said, "We're used to a regimen and a regular schedule of get up, start drawing, tattoo all day and all night, go home, draw, sleep, repeat. Now we're TV hosts and tattooing on TV regularly, and it's a completely different world. Getting to do that, and going to all these cities, meeting artists that you've never heard of, but you're absolutely blown away by, it's an absolute gift."

It was a gift Doty almost never received. She almost said no to Season 8, as filming would take her away from her newly opened shop in Salem, Mass. Now she's a road warrior, immersing herself in the different local scenes. "If you were to divide up the country, I could tell you all the regions of styles. New School is definitely an East Coast thing, California is very rooted in black and white realism." Those differences are reflected in who the local competitors choose to challenge from the Angels. "People want to go up against somebody that they see themselves in. Luckily, with us, we have so many different styles represented that they have their choice in all of that."

Those regional trends are something Simpson experienced before. With her bold lines and bold colors, and fine art influences from Pre-Raphaelites like John William Waterhouse and Art Nouveau master Alphonse Mucha,

she stood out in LA and Hawaii, but, she said, "I'd go to the Northwest, and no one gives a shit. They'd go, 'You're neo-traditional, you're color illustrative, we have a million of you."

A pure East Coaster, Doty calls her own style "spooky illustrative," merging the area's thick-lined and bold-colored New Style traditions with the influences of Gothic illustrators like Gris Grimly, and lowbrow fine artists, Camille Rose Garcia. By contrast, Malarkey stands as a geographic and stylistic oddity, a Pennsylvania artist whose works epitomizes those West Coast fine lines and gray scales. That's something she attributes to a different kind of needlework: A graduate of New York's Fashion Institute of Technology, she began her artistic career as an illustrator and finisher for a high fashion house. "I had tweezers and a pile of beads, and I had eight hours to make this intricate, beautiful design. ... My artwork has always been fine line, has always been delicate, so once I picked up how to translate that into the tattoo medium, my style just snowballed."

The non-traditional influences on all three artists point to a reality of the tattooing industry—that, for the longest time, was male-dominated, both in terms of the number of tattooers and its culture. Simpson admitted she was a little surprised when she saw how many female artists *Ink Mas* 





ter found for Season 8, "but I think that women with tattoos lately have become such an important factor in the industry of cool that people are embracing it. People love to see women with tattoos, and people love to see powerful women, and people love seeing women making moves. So I think this is the perfect time for women to be inspired to do whatever the hell they want, and be whatever the hell they want."

Malarkey blanches at being called a pioneer because, she said, "There have been so many brave, strong women that have been through some serious shit and paved the way for us to take this opportunity, and to be taken seriously, and to be respected." However, it's still a long way from a level playing field. "People are like, 'yeah, she's good, but people just want to get tattooed by her because she's hot.' You know what? I don't have to either be a good tattooer who doesn't give a shit what I look like, or this put-together woman who sucks at tattoos. There's no reason that women can't be strong and confident and beautiful and talented."

meant more opportunities for female tattooists. "It's not just big, burly dudes anymore," said Malarkey. "There are really feminine, ladylike tattoo enthusiasts who want something soft and delicate. I feel like I entered the industry at a point where there is so much demand for what I do that I was able to connect with so many of my clients because they trusted me, and they trusted my aesthetic, because I am a female."

Simpson hopes that just by showing women at the top of their game, *Ink Master: Angels* will inspire the next generation, just as she was inspired by seeing the generation before her. "I love seeing a woman make waves, and really make her presence known, because we were never in the foreground in this industry."

For now, all the Angels are just relishing being on the road for the show. Simpson said, "What can be better than doing everything you love, and getting paid for that, and spending time with some of your best friends, and visiting the coolest places? I literally can't ask for anything better."

Ink Master: Angels premieres on Spike, Oct. 3



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Self-expression on the football field has come a long way from the end zone dance.

by Jon Chattman

photo by James Woodley

Last season, Kenny Stills, like Colin Kaepernick and many other NFL players, took a stand against social injustice by not standing at all. Unfortunately, the Miami Dolphins wide receiver said taking a knee during the National Anthem had the opposite intended effect and because of it, he's decided to stand this season. "It was dividing and distracting," he said. "More people were talking about the protest than what we were protesting."

Realizing the world in which we live changes by the minute, the second, and the tweet, the Minnesota native is currently trying to find some kind of way to get his message across. "I'm trying to figure out the best way to get done what I want to get done." After all, he said, the world has enough division and diversion. Case in point: We spoke with him less than a week after the deadly protests in Charlottesville.

"I'm really just continuing to work in my community and trying to treat people how I want to be treated and hope that it can spread like wildfire...just love and respect each other more," he said.

One way in which Stills has always been able to express himself is through art emblazoned all over his body. The sad state of world affairs and last year's protest will be no different. The Minnesota native plans to get the word "unity" or carry its message on his leg-some rare untapped skin real estate-by summer's end. We spoke to the stylin' player about the origins of his art, a bit more about Kaepernick, and hey, there's a football season coming up, right?

We naturally discussed the Fins. Last year was the best Stills had in agua green since being traded from the New Orleans Saints in 2015. He scored a career high nine touchdowns

and had 17.3 yards per catch average. Pretty spiffy. So spiffy it led the team to re-sign him to the tune of \$32 million over the next four years. He said he's looking forward to next season and likes the team's chances in the AFC. "The confidence is big in Miami," the speedy offensive threat said.

### Last season was a step in the right direction for the team, and you crushed it personally. Did you approach this offseason any differently than in years past?

For me, it was just building off of what we did last year with the routine I created for myself, the training regime and diet. It was doing everything I had done in previous years but finding ways to improve on that even more.

### Not to make those of us who don't go to the gym as much as we'd like feel even worse, but what did you do differently? Harder, longer workouts?

You can work, train your body, lift weights, run, train all of your muscle groups, and do all of those different things, but you never really train your eyes. Receivers separate themselves by working on their eyes. So I linked up with a company Eye Gym, and basically you're on the computer for 10 minutes a day doing different eye excursive work on reaction times, peripheral vision, and recognizing different symbols at different times. So, it's these eye exercises that help track the balls. It helps me read the defense before a play even goes down. It's the little things people never think of. It's just finding a way to separate yourself from other players.

Talk to me about the team a bit. You signed in the offseason. What's the chemistry like and how high are your expectations going into this season?

Obviously, I have supreme confidence in the team coaching

Kenny Stills and his tattooer Dubier Higuita at Inkaholik Tattoos and Piercings in Miami.

staff. That's why I decided to sign here. We're a bunch of guys that are hungry and we have a head coach (Adam Gase) who lets us have a good time out there and prepares us to win. I have a lot of confidence in the squad, and I'm obviously looking forward to build on last season.

### Last season you took a knee during the National Anthem. Colin Kaepernick and many others did as well. Can you talk to me a bit about Colin, in particular, and the consequences, it seems, he's paying for the actions he took last season?

What he's done is something that will go down in history forever. What they've done is taken a couple things he's done—the [pigs dressed as police officers] socks and Fidel Castro T-shirt—and let that overrule all the good he's done. He opened a lot of our eyes. He's done great work in the community-giving back his own money and time. I think it's wrong what's happening with him not having a job. In my eyes, plenty of people have given a political stance and opinions of what's going on, and they're not being blackballed from their jobs.

I think it's wrong, and I just wish more owners would be honest. If he's not good enough, don't hide behind the curtain. Don't pretend to be worried about the fans or ticket sales if that's not the truth. We can make a lot more progress in the world by people being honest about their intentions. They might not like the way he went about things or that he had taken a knee, but people are paying attention to the wrong thing.

Many just said the same thing about the president condoning Confederate statues being taken down as a way of diverting attention away from his missteps in not speaking out against Neo-Nazis and white nationalists in Charlottesville...

It's frustrating. It becomes easy when people don't want to talk about the real issues. I'm really just [focused] on continuing to work in my community and trying to treat people how I want to be treated and hope that can spread like wildfire...just love and respect each other more.

### Shifting to tattoos, can we expect some kind of ink to reflect this "love and respect" theme?

Yes. That's what we're going to do next Friday. I'm thinking of doing a unity-type thing on my leg. We're trying to figure out where.

### Take me back to your first tattoo. How planned out was it, and did you know exactly what you were going to get?

On my forearm it's a lot of words. Honestly, it's from one of the chain emails from back in the day that my dad had forwarded to me. It's just words of encouragement and when I first read it, it just felt like I needed the words forever:

To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did. When God takes something from your grasp, He's not punishing you, but merely opening your hands to receive something better. "The will of God will never take you where the Grace of God will not protect you."

### That's deep and a lot of words—you went all out... You could've gotten one word or like a small Super Mario mushroom or something.

Nah, I definitely went all out.

How old were you and where'd you get it?

I was like 16 or 17, still in high school. It was the Fourth of July, and I borrowed money from a friend. I got it from some guy at a

### It was a tattoo artist right? Not just some guy?

Yeah, he was an artist. People don't really know this, but it's misspelled. [Laughs] It looks good, but if you look up close he messed up something. There's no "e" in the first something. It's cursive so you can't tell, but I know. But, that's the least of my worries. It's funny.

### And we're sure the message still stays with you.

It's been motivating, comforting and it's done a lot for me. I'm proud of it.

You are covered in tattoos so we won't ask for a play-byplay of each one, but when did you get your second? I think it was a couple months later.

### Is there a theme for each of your tattoos? Do all of them have meaning, or when you have as many as you have do you just get some for the hell of it?

The majority are meaningful. I have my clothing line logo (Lumbear) stamped on my arm and on a couple different places. I have a needle with ice water in my veins. I have lots of space covered up but have room for more. I'm going to get my legs done soon. My back will be finished soon. The more you get, the more opportunity there is for fun stuff.

### Did you know you'd end up getting so many or was it simply you got one, then wanted more and more?

I knew once I'd got them, I'd at least want to get sleeves. Then, once I got sleeves, I wanted work on my chest. It does get pretty addictive. In college, Wiz Khalifa was blowing up, so my friends and I were all influenced by him and what he was doing. With my best friend and me, it became a competition almost. But, my appreciation of art plays a big part of all of it. I've always been a doodler. I wish I had that skill, but I was blessed with other talents so it's fun for me to get with another artist, give them my idea, and work on it together.

### Did anyone in your family freak out at all?

At first, they'd say, "Are you gonna stop now?" Now they don't say anything. I've never really worried about it. I left home at 17 with a scholarship to play football. I didn't ask my parents for much. I didn't need any opinions on my body.

### Can you pick a favorite or a most personal?

Honestly, what I'm going to be doing on my leg will be my favorite. All of them are my favorites. I love getting tattoosthe whole experience and the bond you make with the artist. It's tough to say one is your favorite. They are all unique and different.

### Do you have one artist you go to regularly, or a bunch?

I have a bunch. I try to find a different person at the right time, and the right price.

### What do you think your tattoos collectively say about vou?

You don't have to look real close. It tells you a lot about me and who I am. I have "Glory to God" on my chest. On my body is a tree of life, and underneath is a demon. It's pretty hard to miss what the message of my body is.



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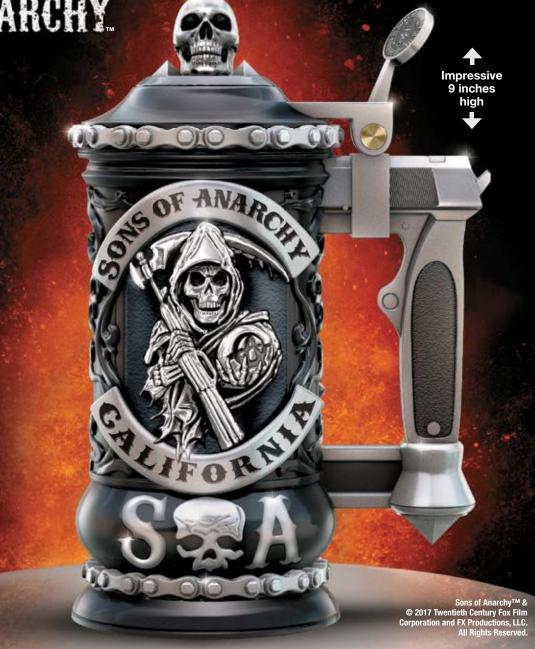
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### How many pieces do you put out in the collection?

Per collection I'd say about five-to-six pieces. I strongly believe in quality over quantity. Keeping the collection small really helps me keep to that.

### Where do you see footwear going?

Footwear has turned into a beast in the last few years. It's going places we've never seen before. There are no limits to what we can and can't create.

### Where do you draw inspiration?

I get inspired by music, cars, colors, clothing and looking at artwork knowing I could harness that same creativity within my projects.

### Often the flourish in your product is on the inside of the piece, does that design idea mean that most of your tattoos are also hidden?

I do like to add a hidden aspect to my products. At this point with the tattoos that I have, I would say yes. Like my product, my tattoos aren't meant for other people, nor are they meant to seek attention. It's personal. My tattoos are hidden because they are for me.

### Mind taking us through your battle with testicular cancer?

Well, when they say battle, they really mean battle. Cancer has been the

hardest thing I've personally gone through. I was diagnosed with two types of cancer, non-seminoma and embryonal carcinomas, an aggressive germ cell tumor. I had surgery to remove the cancer in November and in December 2015, I began six weeks of chemotherapy treatment. I'd go five days a week, for six hours a day for each cycle. It's been two years since chemo, and I continue to see my oncologist every three months. The battle is ongoing and I know in the near feature, the battle will be won. It's important to stay healthy and always be proactive when it comes to your body. If you feel something different. Go get it checked out.

### How did that change your outlook?

Because the battle is still ongoing, my work ethic is to make sure projects are done just in case something else happens. Your life should be lived a day at a time. My mentality is "working for today." And what I can do for today. Because I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow. Or what kind of bullshit news they are going to give in terms of the cancer. I need to make sure I've done enough. The uncertainty is lame. Time is so precious. Tomorrow is not promised and you don't know what it will bring you.

### What would you tell someone who is going through cancer?

I would tell them what Rocky says, Rocky Balboa. "The world ain't all sunshine and rainbows. I don't care how tough you are, it will beat you to your knees and keep you there permanently if you let it. Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give. It's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward." This quote helped me through the darkest times. It gave me motivation to push and get through the rough times. Think positive and know you can overcome this disease. Fight!

### What is it like working with the Testicular Cancer Foundation?

TCF was the only foundation that reached out to me at my lowest times. They sent me a care package and let me know there were people out there that cared. They constantly were in communication with my wife. It left an impression and made me want to incorporate them into our business. In that, I created a "cancer" mask which 100% of the proceeds will go to TCF. They are a great nonprofit that truly understands testicular cancer and works hard on creating awareness.

### What is one accessory that a man should never skimp on?

A man should never skimp on shoes. I feel that it's the base of an outfit. I personally work from the feet up. Footwear is dope. You truly can express yourself with a great pair of shoes!



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Where is your happy place? The beach is my happy place, 100%. It is my home. I grew up on the beach!

What is your favorite style of bathing suit? Definitely a two-piece, but it must be comfortable!

Do you surf? I do surf. My father, Izzy Paskowitz, taught me. I learned at a young age!

Please tell us about Surfers Healing. My brother Isaiah was diagnosed with Autism at the age of two. He and I are only 18 months apart so growing up together was interesting. My dad ended up paddling out with Isaiah one day after he was having a meltdown-his behavior was bad at this point in his life and my parents were hitting a wall-but something about floating out in the ocean calmed him. Something about feeling the ocean splash him gave him peace. And riding that first wave changed his behavior. My parents saw the joy it brought him. They saw a calmness come over him that they had never seen before. That feeling of seeing Isaiah happy is what started Surfers Healing, and now we are able to share this amazing therapeutic sport with so many families. We now travel all over the world with the best surfers so we can share this experience with other kids like Isaiah and other parents like my own. It may not be a cure, and who knows if anyone will ever find one, but to be able to change one day for these children, or even one moment, is what we live for. The joy on the kids faces and the tears from their parents' eyes will never, ever stop affecting me. To be able to just hang out on the beach, knowing that nobody is going to judge your child for making weird noises or whatever it may be, is so comforting. It's cleansing for kids and parents.

Can you tell us about one of those moments? I recall years ago this little boy on the beach crying his eyes out, kicking and screaming, biting, clawing, trying to run away. His poor mother was only trying to check him in and get him to sit down, it wasn't even time to surf yet. When it was his turn to surf she came up to my mom crying from stress and she just knew he wasn't going to get in the water. My mom walked away with her in private and convinced her to let my dad at least try. My mom knew that exact feeling and I could see them both crying together. It took some time but she agreed. My dad came over with one of the volunteers to get the boy. They picked him up and carried him to the water. We were standing on the beach together and his mother was shaking and crying watching her son having a horrible tantrum as he was getting onto the board. I remember my mom saying to her over and over crying, "It's OK, it's OK it's OK." My dad paddled out with the child so far. He just kept going. They sat out there for awhile, and after what felt like forever, they paddled in for a wave and caught one in. The closer they got I could see this kid's huge smile. They rode right up on shore and he was beaming with joy, laughing so loud. His mother literally collapsed in relief. Tears were pouring from her face to see her son like that. She held onto my mom and dad, hugging

them so hard. I remember thinking, Wow, it's so much more than surfing, This moment is life-changing for these kids and parents-even if it's just one day. What these families go through at home is hard as fuck! Can I say that? My dad later told me they paddled out so far and stayed out so long because dolphins swam around them and that's when he stopped crying.

What was it like growing up with an Autistic brother? That is always a funny question for me only because I never knew any different. I guess it's my "normal." But it wasn't easy. I've always been very protective of Isaiah. I always wanted to protect him from judgement. It's hard to watch him struggle, especially when he was younger, like 10 or 12, and he knew something was wrong with him. He used to say to me and my parents, "I wanna to fix this little boy." Every single time he would say it it would shatter my heart in a million pieces. He really carved a sensitive person inside of me. Isaiah doesn't speak much at all, he isn't very verbal. Just basic speech. But watching his struggles throughout life hurt me. It always will. I will always be here for Isaiah; he's my baby brother.

What do you wish people who are not informed of Autism knew more about? I wish more people would know that Autism has a huge spectrum. There's all different kinds of levels and each individual kid is different. Yeah, there's basic autism behavior, but they are all different. Some kids are so extremely severe with zero words and behavior issues and then there's some who just seem a little "socially off." I hear people say all the time that autism isn't that bad...but you have no idea.

What kind of family do you have now? I have three kids. Being a mother is my most favorite thing to do. My husband is my biggest supporter. He rocks my world.

Let's talk tattoos. Who does your work? My tattoos are done by a few different people. But my most favorite artist is my lovely friend Jaclyn Greb.

What's the ink behind your ear? That's a cross behind my ear. I'm Catholic and I love religious art so much.

And your neck piece? My neck tattoo is a quote from a song from my favorite movie ever, Labyrinth with David Bowie. "Babe with the power," from "Magic Dance." I love David Bowie and that's been my favorite song since I was four years old.

What will be your next piece? My next tattoo I'm going for will be a Sacred Heart on my arm. I overthink my tattoos sometimes...well, at least my big ones, ha ha. I'm going on a year now wanting a Sacred Heart and I'm finally committing!

Please visit: surfershealing.org







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photo by Smokey Sunstone







# Downshifting: Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis

When the world gets to be too much, a face full of wind atop an Indian motorcycle is a better prescription than a fistful of antidepressants.

By Johnny Killmore Photos by Jason Goodrich

The last time I did this someone shot at me. But that was a lifetime ago. And instead of a dilapidated five-ton truck, I'm at the controls of a blacked-out Indian Chieftain Dark Horse, outfitted with a Champion sidecar. Instead of my .50 cal. gunner, Sanchez, beside me, there's a photographer. Still, I'm geared up in the heat, listening to the engine idle. I've got a few thousand miles to go with several strangers who are about to become my close friends. We'll share a series of adventures that only we will understand. Yet this isn't

This is the Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis with Indian Motorcycle.

During nine days on the road from Los Angeles to the famous biker rally in South Dakota, we will hit everything from hail to 114-degree heat along the way. Twenty veterans from four branches of service are on this ride, along with film and support crew, united by a love of adventure on two (and three) wheel

But there is another thing that unites this group: scars. Whi wheelchairs and prosthetics make some of the scars obvious, most agree it's the damage inside their heads that is hardest to deal with. A lot of these vets don't leave the house very often, not and PTSD. "The legs are the healed wounds," says Neil Frustaglio. "It's the wounds inside my head that are still healing." And the Veterans Charity Ride exists for that exact reason. You don't need to be a combat vet to know what motorcycle therapy is. When the world gets to be too much, a face full of wind is a better prescription than a fistful of antidepressants.

one of the founders of the VCR. He was heading to Sturgis on his own when he ran into other vets from his old Army unit and got to talking about how great it would be if disabled vets could get this same taste of freedom and the open road.

Now in its third year, the VCR is doing just that

Up and over the Angeles Crest Mountains, I'm in familiar territory. A California native, descending into the desert toward Vegas still brings back memories of Iraq. Mainly it's the heat. 113 degrees worse, so I don't complain.

They have about the same amount of blood but so much less surface area to radiate body heat; they get both cold and hot more easily. We dunk cooling vests in ice chests at each fuel stop, but

it only does so much.

Neil and Josh are all smiles though, riding together on an Indian
Scout sidehack, fitted with a hand-shifter and Rekluse clutch. They take turns riding and did a bunch of the conversion work

themselves. Riding behind them makes me smile.

They keep throwing water in the air, trying to hit me. I can see them headbanging to Slayer whenever I pull up beside them for photos. To hell with the heat, we're free and on our way to Sturgis. The day ends with a party at the Indian dealership in Las

Vegas, then plenty of beers at the hotel.

Day Two starts with a run on the super-slab. It's a familiar and boring run north on I-15. We clip the corner of Arizona and curve through the Virgin River Gorge. Finally some new scenery. I use it as an excuse to kick down a few gears and make the bike work. As we are through the curves on I-15, tracing the Virgin River, I'm surprised that a heavy cruiser with a sidecar can hold a line so well... especially with a photographer sitting backwards in the chair. It's a lot of fun, and it's no doubt easier than shooting while riding like other photographers on the ride. Hell, there's even time to look at the scenery and the river far below.

It's short-lived, though, and we shift into the perpetual road construction of St. George, Utah. I won't complain though because the temperature is only in the 90s and I know where we are heading next: Zion.

### **Zion to Moab**

There is a weird thing about Zion for me. The only other time I was here was right after I got back from Iraq. I was planning a massive road trip via email while I was still deployed. It was January and we were freezing, but the place was pure magic. Zion will a heavy load and leave unencumbered.

Now, over a decade later, I'm back for much the same reason: to clear my head and reconnect with the country I left, supposedly to defend. The convoy of Indian motorcycles moves through the gentle curves with ease, adding to the beauty in front of me with flashes of chrome and gloss paint. We plod along Highway 9, exchanging one surreal view for another, hardly able to believe it. We stop to check out Checkerboard Mesa. I take a minute to call my mom. "I bet you didn't think racing sidecars and riding through the canyons like an idiot was ever going to pay off, did you?!!" She laughs a genuine laugh I haven't heard in years. She also tells me I've been popping up in social media posts. She's seen a smile on my face she hasn't seen in years. Not the one

element.
Talk that night at the lodge in Bryce Canyon is of long waits at Veterans Affairs for wheelchair parts, frustrating visits from workers looking to reduce benefits, and working with county veterans' offices to help keep the VA in check. It isn't depressing talk, it's

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just how things are.

By the end of the night I'm convinced a good wife and a good dog are another solution to any of life's problems. Most problems are in our head, and combat vets spend a lot of time there. The perfectionism bred by the military, combined with nothing ever being good enough, can make living inside your head a dark place. Several of the guys mention how good their wives are at grounding them back in reality, or reminding them not to be so hard on the kids. And a good dog is much the same. They sense your frustration rising and lay their head in your lap. Keith's dog will even grab him gently by the hand and pull him outside. These aren't trained service dogs, either; the waiting list is long and everyone wants "someone who needs it more" to have access first. Selflessness dies hard in combat vets.

In the morning we are on the road early, leaving Bryce Canyon for Moab by way of the Grand Escalante Staircase. The 20-bike motorcade stops fairly frequently, the engines ticking softly in the still-cool morning air. We chat a bit at these stops but I mostly take in the views. On the move, every rise in the road reveals another panorama.

When we get to Moab I have my first taste of how significant the Veterans Charity Ride has become. A chapter of the Patriot Guard Riders has come out from Colorado, about 40 strong, to escort us into town. They fly huge American flags and are themselves led by a police escort. We ride in on the tail of a storm, water spraying up from our tires and the final, lazy raindrops still falling. In town, a flag line is there and we are met by the mayor, sheriff, police chief, and other community leaders. Usually, when that much of a town's brass shows up about some bikers, it's to run them off. But the city of Moab has a touching ceremony and an \$8,600 donation they had been collecting for months.

I wasn't expecting to be sitting on a stage with Frey and all the riders, and when two little girls hand me some pictures they had drawn for us, I am genuinely touched. I think back to the Iraqi kids that would follow us around looking for food or an energy drink; they'd go crazy if you gave them a pencil.

By now, most of those kids would be in their mid-teens to mid-20s. How many took up the cause? No way of knowing.

We end the day at the Red Cliffs Lodge, a paradise about 25 minutes outside of Moab. We'll spend the next two days here, soaking in the views and beating up some Polaris UTVs with professional offroad racer Casey Currie (sorry about that, Casey).

### Bob's Bar

The first night at Red Cliffs Lodge is when I realize we have a lunatic in a mobile bar with us. When Bob Hudson heard about the ride, he decided to come along. A retired vet himself, he lives in a sweet RV. Perfect.

I thought little of it until I saw the party lights lit and a few people milling around. One of the photographers, Jonathan Shelgosh, fills me in on a 14-mile detour down a dirt road he took with Bob in the RV. After a miscue with the GPS, ol' Bob decided there was no easy place

to turn around and, after all, every road leads somewhere.

After nearly having his laptop fly off the table a few times, Jonathan gave up on trying to get any work done and looked out the windshield to see a river crossing. Not a stream. A river. Bob found low gear and bounded in, no idea how deep it was or how firm the riverbed.

Jonathan tried some logic about trying to take a four-wheeled house through an unknown river in an area with no cell service, but the response was something like, "Shut up with all that whining and pour me a Scotch!" I started hanging out at Bob's all-terrain bar as often as possible. Hunter S. Thompson wishes he did things that crazy.

The second river crossing didn't give him any pause either. Maybe it was the Scotch?

### Airborne George

I wake up still wearing my boots, sleeping in a plank position with my head half off the foot of the bed. Damn, that Bob knows how to party. Luckily Red Cliffs Lodge has strong coffee and a decent breakfast buffet. I shower, take some ibuprofen, and I'm back in the game.

Today I get a chance to ride two wheels. The 2017 Indian Roadmaster is a full dresser in the truest sense. GPS, infotainment, heated grips, electrically adjustable windshield...even an altimeter. With 111 cubes and only 25 degrees of rake, the bike moves with urgency and steers with ease. Cruise control eases the strain on my broken wrist (long story) and my mind wanders to the cargo in my saddlebags.

Since leaving LA, we've been carrying the ashes of George Wittie. A member of the 82nd Airborne, George's family asked us to take him with us on the ride, spreading his ashes along the way. Needles Overlook, with its panoramic views and sheer red cliffs, will be a perfect place for Airborne George to take one final jump.

On the way, a wasp somehow makes it up Richie Two-Chairs' pant leg. A paraplegic, Richie has no way to know the little bastard is going to town on him. Fortunately, Doc (Robert Pinkham) is piloting his sidecar, and he gets the bike pulled over in short order. We aren't sure if Richie is allergic. He has the shakes and is sweating but is it the heat? Shock? Richie suddenly yells out, "I can't feel my legs!" and we're rolling on the ground laughing. Richie is never far away from a joke and he is always smiling. After pulling out the MyMedic kits we were given the night prior by a ride sponsor, Doc gives Richie some Benadryl just in case and we're back on the road.

I search the FM dial for a station as we approach the overlook. "Wagon Wheel" by Old Crow Medicine Show is on and it matches the gentle bends perfectly. I crank the volume and bang a downshift. The big Indian carries George and me to the overlook like a southbound train, and after a short ceremony the winds carry half of Airborne George to the heavens. The rest will ride on to Sturgis for a final goodbye.

### Colorado to the Black Hills

I could have stayed in Moab another month, but

the road was calling. In fact, it calls us into some heavy winds as we move into Colorado. We use a decent amount of I-70, but we grab frontage roads regularly to keep the pace relaxed. The folks at Rever throw us a party below their offices in Eagle, and the day seems like an easy one. The next day we hit Loveland Pass, where the winds are strong but don't phase us as we stop to take in the view. Raindrops hit us when we stop for lunch, and by the time we come back to the bikes we know the rain gear has to come on.

By the time we are pulling out of the parking lot, fat drops of rain give way to tiny hailstones. Out on the interstate it turns back into rain and the right lane is flooded. The narrow sidecar wheels push right through the puddles but I worry about hydroplaning my front wheel.

In the poor visibility we get separated. The group isn't back together until we arrive in Denver. There we share a hotel with a 450-person-strong women bikers' convention. It's pandemonium. Drunken she-beasts stagger the hallways and surge into the hotel bar, cackling and screaming over each other. I have no idea where Bob has parked the RV so I just head to the room.

The next morning is when I notice James for the first time. Now, of course I've noticed him on the ride already. In fact, I try to stay near him when we are in towns because he has a great mix of music coming from his stereo. I mean this is the first time I notice him praying.

James did 22 years in the Army and came out with a Bronze Star among other things. He is usually very quiet, but when he speaks you get the feeling it's heartfelt and worth listening to closely. Each morning, he quietly moves from bike to bike, praying for it and the riders' safety.

I come up and stand near while he prays over my bike. Not too close; you don't want to sneak up on a combat vet with his eyes closed. Even at six feet away I surprise him when he opens his eyes. By the last day of the ride, though, we'd pray side-by-side. I'm not even Christian, but when you have someone looking out for you like that, I can only see it as an honor. Knowing someone has your back means a lot.

Leaving Denver, we run out of scenery. We've come down from the high country; most of the mountains are behind us until we get to the Black Hills, 300 miles to the north. Not that Wyoming is ugly. It's just that the eastern part is a letdown after so much beautiful country.

Pounding a Monster at every fuel stop keeps me awake partly from caffeine and partly from constantly needing to take a leak. The hypnosis wears off shortly before we get to Hot Springs, South Dakota. It's a postcard town with the Fall River running through it. The Red Rock River Resort is smack dab on River Street. The building is from the 1800s and the bar is cash only. The proprietor heads off to bed and tells us to lock up when we're done.

### **Sturgis**

It's only 90 miles to Sturgis. So much has been written about it I see no reason to add to it. The riding is as good as everyone says. The traffic and crowds are as bad as everyone says. American Flat Track is as epic as ever. Indian Motorcycle gave us VIP treatment at the Buffalo Chip to watch the action. I was in my element.

But I remember the quiet times more than anything I saw on Main Street or at the Chip. For example, the Mystic Hills Hideaway has a small pond with an island in the center. A cross sits on it. There, we said a final goodbye to Airborne George. I remember the beers by the fire and the quiet conversations with friends. I remember waiting for Neil to push his sidecar back from a parking space on his dual prosthetics and someone suggesting we help him. "He doesn't need any help," we replied. "If he needs help, he'll ask."

Having limitations doesn't mean anything; we all have them. Do we make them into excuses and accept mediocrity, or do we bump into those limitations and see if they don't roll a little further back than we thought? I look at everything different when I'm home. There was no six-step process, no miracle cure. Hell, there wasn't much of a structure.

Just put people together on motorcycles and give them the road and each other. A lot of people don't want to talk to a shrink, but they'll talk to other vets. Looking back, I can tell the VCR isn't just about getting on the road, it's about getting out of your head. Dave Frey and his team have a damn good recipe for that, and the VCR is only phase one, but it is a big one.



























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# **DAVID ALLEN**

**By Devon Preston** Portrait by Taylor Castle

For tattooer David Allen, there were two big turning points in his career as an artist. The first was when he made the transition from art director of a major music magazine to tattoo apprentice. And the second came seven years later, when he took on his first mastectomy client. Since inking that first cancer survivor, Allen has gone through both a personal and professional transformation. He's gained worldwide recognition for tattooing hundreds of mastectomy patients; however, the biggest change in this artist came from within. He may never know what it's like to undergo breast cancer, but he's taken the inspirational stories of his unique clientele and used art as a means of revolutionizing the way women heal from this experience. He truly embodies what "Inked for a Cause," stands for, and it's about time we put a name to some of the most recognizable mastectomy tattoos in the industry.

### How did you get into tattooing?

I was an art director for a music magazine and I was a graphic designer for Atlantic Records. I just got tired of a desk job, so I approached a tattoo shop. I'd always wanted to make money drawing and I got tired of seeing the same people every day. I humbled myself by washing toilets and being an apprentice. I had to do freelance at night doing design work to still make money. But I loved it, I loved the one-on-one with people.

### How did you develop your style?

I think that your style is cumulative, it's everything that comes with you. It's your taste, the type of art that you like-the paintings, the sculpture and the architecture. I love flowers and I don't like to make tattoos that look like stickers, I want it to be a part of your form and your body. I like botanicals because I like the flow and I believe that placement on the body is just as important as the actual tattoo.

### Speaking of placement, when did you start doing mastectomy tattoos?

The first one was seven years ago. The first time I realized that I could use my craft to directly contribute to somebody's healing was overwhelming. I had to take a break from them because it was so overwhelming. I really wanted to wrap my head around what was happening and I wanted to study what was happening to the body and the scarring. But I also wanted to know, psychologically, how to handle the weight of the story. When you're talking about cancer, you're talking about death and loss. How do you talk about that during a tattoo? How do you go home and be present with your family after that? It's difficult, so I went to therapy to learn how to cope with that. I think it's important, because that one alone almost burnt me out. After that, about a year and a half later, I couldn't push it away anymore. I knew that I had to do this and that my skillset was meant for this.

### What are some of the physical differences between mastectomy and normal tattooing?

It depends on each situation, so it's relative. Let's say the skin has been radiated, it's completely different and it doesn't respond at all. You have to be super aware and cognizant, which means being light-handed where the skin may be thinner. If there's an implant, the skin can be super taut in some areas, but in others it's not. Every centimeter is different and you really have to be on your toes. You have to be on your toes anyway with tattooing, but you have to be careful because the skin can get overworked really easily.

The first time that I realized that I could use my craft to directly contribute to somebody's healing was overwhelming.

### How is applying a mastectomy tattoo different from another tattoo, emotionally?

If you're diagnosed and told that you have cancer, you have to remove it and you have to let that happen by losing control. The surgeon will take out as much as possible and then the plastic surgeon will do reconstruction on what

is left, which is an artistry in itself. The tattoo is an amazing step after that whole process, where they chose to take back control. It's them having some semblance of voice in a process that has ravaged

### Is there anything you wish people knew about mastectomy tattoos?

It amazes me the amount of pain that these women can go through, emotionally and physically. These women have range that, as a man, I just don't see as much. It's crazy for a 65-year-old woman to have no tattoos and come in to get a four-hour chest piece. But it happens all the time. I'm just lucky to be a part of this process.

### What's it like getting a client who may not have ever gotten a tattoo if not for their mastectomy?

I like it, because they're seeing this as an art form. We're tattooers and we love our craft, but to see it validated by people who didn't respect it before but now see it as an art form and a form of healing is huge. It blows my mind to be part of a process where this was once not an option and now it is. And now the medical community is beginning to offer it. It's beautiful that people are seeing this as the intersection of art and medicine.

### What does the theme of this magazine issue, "Inked for a Cause," mean to you?

It means healing. It means purpose. We all have a meaning and purpose for our tattoos, but when the cause is greater than you, it's important. One thing that I'm seeing in this, and it's beautiful, is that this is bigger than me and it's bigger than each individual woman that I've tattooed. It is a cause and it is a message of hope for everyone. The message is not "go get a tattoo," it's that you can take control and better yourself.















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FOLLOW: @IVANATATTOOAR





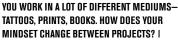


### YOUR STYLE COMBINES SCRIPT AND BLACK OUTLINES WITH WATERCOLOR-ESQUE COLORS. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? I

call my style "funky color." It's probably the closest description of what I do. I mix all different styles and techniques together, so it's very hard to categorize it or to describe it as one particular style. It's an organized mess. Yet my style of tattooing is not definite and is constantly changing. With my tattoos I portray my feelings, it is a reflection of that certain period of time in my life. I am learning and experimenting constantly with different aspects of my creativity. I don't stick to any rules. I create freely what is appealing to me and what has an aesthetic quality to me.



This is very easy for me as I see so much beauty and inspiration in nature! I think everything is just perfect the way it is and so intriguing! Colors, shapes, textures, variety—it's too much!



The most important for me is that when I create a certain piece I am capturing the very moment—my feelings, my expression, my sentiments. I love the "now," which is when I am tattooing. That particular time, moment and very minute of it. I tattoo as I feel, with no plan. I love that act of happening. It's very spontaneous and I know it will never be repeated again. It's absolutely amazing! With different projects of mine—for example, my prints—my mindset works similarly, yet it's different in terms of playfulness and layout.

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# SASHA UNISEX

FOLLOW: @SASHAUNISEX



### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST SHOP EXPERIENCE LIKE?

My first shop was a room in my apartment which I equipped with all the stuff that is needed for tattooing, so I had everything for comfort and safety to work.

HOW DID YOU COME TO START WORKING IN SUCH A UNIQUE STYLE? I simply drew what I liked in my favorite manner. The style came after time. I can describe it as a carbon copy of my watercolor paintings.

WAS IT DIFFICULT TO FIND A WAY TO CREATE THE WATERCOLOR LOOK WITHIN THE MEDIUM OF TATTOOING? The most difficult part was to learn how to make tattoos, to understand the technique. It is not difficult to copy your own painting to the skin.

### WHERE DOES YOUR STYLE COME FROM?

A vision came after my classes at the Academy of Arts, Department of Graphics. So my drawings look graphic, in spite of the watercolor effect.

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.

IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU ARE AN ANIMAL LOVER.
TELL US A BIT ABOUT HOW THIS HAS CARRIED
OVER INTO YOUR TATTOO WORK. WHAT IS YOUR
FAVORITE ANIMAL THAT YOU HAVE TATTOOED,
AND WHAT IS ONE THAT YOU ARE DYING TO HAVE
THE OPPORTUNITY TO TATTOO IN THE FUTURE? It
is obvious that we do best what we like
the most. I'm trying to refuse to do what
I do not like, so I enjoy all of my art. My
favorite animals are unicorns and foxes.
It is not necessary to make a tattoo to
express the love to some animal, it is
enough to draw it. So I have no urgent
need to make a piggy tattoo even if I
madly love them.

DO YOU EVER GET ANY SORT OF BACKLASH WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FOR THE TEMPORARY TATTOOS? I meet only positive comments and amazement because it is almost impossible to distinguish them from the real tattoos.

TO SEE MORE TATTOOS VISIT INKEDMAG.COM













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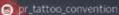






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# TAMARA SANTIBANEZ

FOLLOW: @TAMARASANTIBANEZ



### YOU ARE BASED IN NYC BUT YOUR TATTOO STYLE GIVES US THAT WEST COAST BLACK-AND-GRAY FEEL. ARE YOU INFLUENCED BY CHICANO ART?

I am hugely influenced by Chicano art. Even though it wasn't very present in the region I grew up in, the more I saw of it the more it resonated with me culturally. Buying work from Chicano artists, following Chicano tattooers, collecting Lowrider and Teen Angels magazines, and reading about Chicano history and politics are all very important ways for me to connect with my Chicana identity.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO TATTOOING? I was very much a crust punk and in a DIY scene then, and the first few tattoos I both gave and got were stick-and-poke and homemade tattoos. I was living in punk houses and seeing homemade tattoos done all the time, and also had friends who were apprenticing to tattoo. I was doing amateur tattoos but once I was old enough to legally get professionally tattooed, seeing things done that way made me want to learn how to really tattoo properly.



LIKE? The first shop I worked at was Three Kings Tattoo, which happened in a surreal way. I knew some of the guys there from doing some screenprinting for them, and they happened to see a tattoo I did on a friend. They called me and asked if I wanted to come work at the shop, starting by appointment and charging the shop minimum for everything. I did that for about six months before starting to take walk-ins. It was an intimidating experience to say the least. The shop had such reputable and experienced artists and a very high volume of walk-ins so it was a lot to jump into. Looking back now I'm so grateful it happened that way.

YOU HAVE ONE OF THE SICKEST DOOR-KNOCKER EARRING COLLECTIONS WE HAVE EVER SEEN. HAVE YOU CONSIDERED MAKING YOUR OWN JEWELRY LINE? I started going to school for fashion in the beginning so I'm definitely interested in style and design, but it's not where I'm interested in dedicating my time right now.

TO SEE MORE TATTOOS VISIT INKEDMAG.COM











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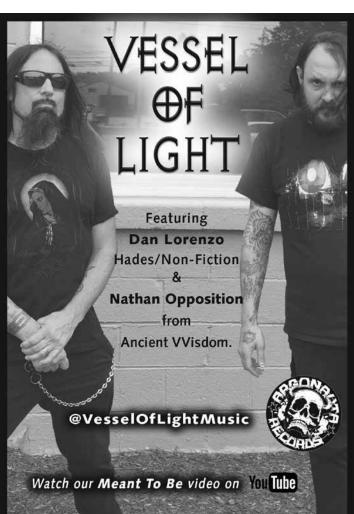


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