

# Inked

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## THE SEX ISSUE

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FEATURING

*KATRINA JADE*

*NATASHA GREY*

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# INKWELL



"Fellas! Step inside and see the show that was banned in 12 countries. She bumps. She grinds. She will make you lose your mind! Trust me, it will be the best twenty-five cents you ever spent!" Carny barking like that could be heard across the country from the 1920s all the way through the mid 1960s. And men (and women) lined up to drop their 2 bits for a peek at little bare skin! Fast forward to the 1970s and the infamous "Deuce" (42nd Street) of New York City and things went from naughty to out-and-out nasty! X-rated peep shows. Topless dancers! Live sex shows! And if you were lucky, you could actually get "lucky!"

Usher in the 21st century and along with it came the advent of virtual sex. Gone were the days of peeping at "dirty" magazines, phone sex went the way of the land line and X-rated videos and DVDs were thrown out with your behemoth of a VCR.

Welcome to SEX 2018, where streaming adult films for free on your computer and having a meaningful sexual relationship with your favorite cam girl have become the norm. This issue of INKED celebrates the wonderful and multi-dimensional world of sex!

In the brief time spent together between covers (of the magazine) we will introduce you to a host of hardcore (pun intended) players who make their living in the business of sex, including 6-page layout with porn's newest "evil angel" Katrina Jade!

Get a peek behind what really goes on in the bedroom of teenage cam girl Natasha Grey. Then sit down for a one-on-one with Nico Tortorella, Hollywood actor, as well as member, advocate, activist, and ally for all things LGBTQIA+. Go way behind-the-scenes of America's legal brothels with a courtesan who's worked the bedrooms of some of Nevada's most famous and infamous sex establishments. Plus meet a female porn director and a male porn star! Read how L.A.-based rapper Ghostemane and NY alt-model Ivory Suicide maintain a long-distance relationship. Then hit the rebellious rock-and-roll stage planks of Brooklyn's Company XIV and Paris's Mad Pussy Gang!

But wait, there's more! Hip hop innovator Ty Dolla \$ign stopped by our offices for a studio shoot and an exclusive interview and, as always, we've loaded up this issue with amazing tattoo work. This time from Inal Bereskov, Derek Turcotte, David Peyote, Vyacheslav Bodrov and Khan.

Enjoy the ride.  
Paul Gambino  
Editor-in-Chief

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# WORLD



## GETTING HEALTHY THROUGH ART.

For ten years Shawna has been filling her sketchbooks with artwork. She feels it's the best way to work through her depression. In fact, she believes it is the only thing that gets her through her darkest moments. We wanted to share a tiny bit of her work with you as inspiration to anyone else out there who may need an outlet to get them through their rough times. It can be drawing, singing, writing, whatever brings you to that better place. Just embrace whatever it is that makes you happy and do it. Do it for you and no one else.

## facebook

### RICK ROSS

**Richard Franco** Look, I have nothing against Rick Ross. However, I did find it a bit odd that his face appeared on the cover of select copies of the Inked Pin-Up issue! Is Ross the new poster boy for beauty?

**Valeria Misone** I saw that too. But, I also other copies that had Anna Lee on the cover holding a donut over her vajayjay. The Ross cover will probably become a collector's item!

### PRECIOUS CARGO

**Pat Billington** The pictures in that article Precious Cargo were incredible! The photographer Michael Joseph captured quiet beauty in a group that has surely been through some loud and ugly times.

### PINUPS FOR PIT BULLS

**Craig Natillia** We need more people like Deidre Franklin—who devotes her life to rescuing pit bulls, one of the most misunderstood animals.

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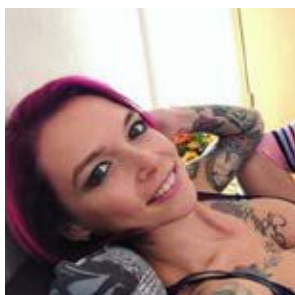
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# ALCHEMY



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Model is wearing:

R221 ..... Kraken..... Ring  
 E409..... Kraken..... Earrings  
 P818..... Kraken... Necklace

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 www.cassidyroseofficial.com

Photo : Vanessa Marie  
 Fotografin  
 www.vanessa-marie.de

P822 ▸  
**Talismanik**  
 Necklace  
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P823 ▲  
**Nocte Amor**  
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R226 ▽  
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 Promise Ring  
 (Sizes: N,Q,T,W)  
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◀P836  
**The Maiden's**  
**Conquest**  
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E409 ▽  
**Kraken Earring (Pair)**  
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R223 ▽  
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# JAY FREESTYLE BOUND BY HIS ART

words by devon preston

**"OVER THE YEARS, MY WORK GREW MORE ABSTRACT AS I STARTED TO SWAY AWAY FROM THINGS THAT WERE TOO COMMERCIAL."**

#### **How did growing up in South Africa impact you as an artist?**

I don't think that had too much of an impact on me, as I was still very young when I lived in South Africa. Art back then was just a hobby; I'd occasionally draw if I was bored, but being in school, I was more concerned about getting through [school] as fast as possible. I never thought I'd end up being a professional artist. I guess if I think back now; I do find inspiration in African crafts (wire/wooden sculptures).

#### **How did you get into painting?**

I actually got into painting after tattooing. Once I found my style, I wanted to be able to accurately portray paint effects (splashes, textures, drips, etc.). So, I had to learn to paint in order to be able to understand how the textures and movements are formed.

#### **How has your work evolved over the years?**

My style and tastes are forever changing. I love being fluid and constantly learning new things. Through tattooing, I've learned more about painting and through painting, I've learned more about art. The two go hand in hand with other, when one of them improves, so does the other. When I learn a new technique in painting, I automatically try and mimic it in my tattoos and vice versa. I've also been exploring painting with different mediums to get a broader [understanding] of what I prefer. I started with watercolor, then moved to acrylic, and now I'm learning oils. Each medium has helped evolve and shape my work over the years.

#### **How did moving to Amsterdam impact your work?**

I think the culture shock was a good thing for me. South Africa is very conservative, and Amsterdam is much more liberal and free thinking. It helped open my mind and look at life with a different perspective. Before, I used to be very closed off and only follow what society deemed as "normal" It didn't take long before I grew more open-minded and learned to have an appreciation for everything in life. Over the years, my work grew more abstract as I started to sway away from things that were too commercial.

#### **How does multi-media play a role in your art?**

It helps keep things fresh and interesting. With my shibari series, it gives the images an added 3D element, [making it] a more impactful visual. With my suspension pieces, which are paintings of bondage suspensions, the paintings are able to hang from ropes which is something that as far as I'm aware



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of has never been done before, thus giving the art an extra edge. I want to create artwork that shows the beauty and elegance of something that is very misunderstood.

**What first inspired you about shibari?**

My wife and I are into BDSM. It's something that's always been a part of our personal lives. From a young age, I've found Japanese rope bondage intriguing and beautiful. It's something that I think you have to be involved in to fully understand. Society naturally deems it as sick or perverted because the average person doesn't understand it. I think that also makes it more inspiring because it feels taboo, you either love it or hate it. It's natural to want to paint things that I like, and the fetish scene is something that's a part of my life and therefore something that will always inspire me. It's interesting for me to see that for every ignorant idiot out there that gets offended by a painting, there's a like-minded person who understands my work and appreciates it.

**Which fine-artists are some of your biggest inspirations?**

I would have to say Jeff Gogue, Chris Guest, Casey Baugh and Agnes Cecile.

**Do you ever use live models for your work?**

I do sometimes, if I can't find the right pose I'm looking for. When I do use a model, I take a photo of them and work from reference.

**What is the process for creating one of your paintings?**

It all starts with finding the right pose. I'm limited to the angle the body needs to be in because I naturally cannot make the ropes go in and out of perspective, they can only lie flat on the canvas. So the pose needs to almost always be completely head on or side profile, which generally is the worst angle to use for a painting. Once I've found the correct pose, the rest is pretty easy. The painting is the fun part. Once it's done, I cut holes in the canvas where the ropes need to be threaded through and I carefully thread and knot them into place. The suspension pieces are a bit tricky, I have to build extra reinforcements on the back of the canvas so it's strong enough to be held from the correct suspension points that are on the painting and not deter from the pose.

**What are your goals as a painter that you hope to accomplish in the next five years?**

I'd love to find the balance between painting and tattooing, that I can paint for half the week and tattoo for the rest. At the moment I'm only able to paint like 2-3 times a month if I'm lucky. I've just opened my own studio and art gallery so I finally have a place to exhibit my works properly. In the future I'd love to do solo exhibitions in other art galleries around the world. I've been wanting to publish a book about my art and tattoos. I'd like to teach workshops and do collaborations with other artists.

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# vod-ka

In the Czech Republic, it's an Easter tradition for young men to go from house to house spanking unmarried women! As a "thank you" they get a shot of Vodka from the girl's father.

photo by peter roessler



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# mad pussy gang

Stroll down some dark, back alley in gay Paree, and if you're lucky you'll find yourself face-to-face with the MPG!

portraits by Michael Clairet live photos by Thierry Daviot, Olivier Clarisee and Flockart

A combination dance and pyrotechnic troupe, Mad Pussy Gang's performance style could easily be described as organized chaos. These tattooed babes, dressed to impress, somehow manage to stay sexy while performing death-defying fire dancing. From their collective experience in show business and the wisdom it's afforded them, the group has crafted unique identities for each of its members. But these stage names are much more than simple catchphrases. They capture and crystalize each member's way of life.



**Stacy**

A founding member of Mad Pussy Gang, Stacy does it all. From juggling and visual effects to cabaret and fire dancing, she's got plenty of tricks up her sleeve.



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**Lea**  
Originally a model, Lea recently discovered fire arts and began fire breathing a few years ago. She has since evolved into her alter ego: The Mother Dragon



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**MANON**

From fire fingers and torch manipulation, to fire eating, Manon is obsessed with pyrotechnics and serves up a fire whip specialty. Did we mention that her underwear shoots flames?



**MALSE**

Straight from years of tearing it up in the caberets, this Parisian pussy cat performed in various nightclubs, under the name Kahramana Kah, before joining Mad Pussy Gang.



**Laura**

Fitness obsessed and totally ripped, Laura is one tough chick. From martial arts to hip-hop, she brings an extreme level of intensity to everything she does.



**Nolwenn**

Performing since she was 10-years-old, Nolwenn is an explosive dancer with a hidden predilection for snake charming.



# Vex Sells

Bridging the Gap Between Cinematography and Porn, Vex Ashley is Breaking Down Industry Barriers with Innovative Art Direction and a Dedicated Army of Patreon Subscribers

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**While mainstream facets of entertainment such as music, television, and film thrive in the presence of diversity—the same cannot be said for pornography. From adapting to new technology to navigating major budget cuts, to struggling with censorship across the board, thriving as a content creator in today's porn industry isn't what it used to be. There's also more risk involved, but for Vex Ashley, that risk is definitely paying off. Fresh from art school, Vex took a chance creating her now beloved company Four Chambers, which by design challenges society's comprehension of sex on screen. Vex's work feeds the growing desire for aesthetic and conceptual porn—which in exchange circumvents the anxiety to create videos that are more violent, dangerous, and dirty than the last. This is not to say that her work isn't graphic, it's still fucking on film after all, but it's a breed of eroticism that's seldom available for consumption. Suffice to say, being a rebel pays off.**

**When did you find your passion for film and photography?** I guess I was probably the first generation to really grow up online, documenting and creating images was second nature. I fell in love with the magic [of] filmmaking.

**What made you decide to get a formal art education?** I never thought I would ever end up making anything close to art for my living. I just wanted the time to work and fuck around being an 'art student' for a bit. I was sure I would probably leave get a 'real job,' which never quite worked out. I thought I would end up teaching art.

**What drew you to digital sex work, both as a performer and videographer?** I loved the freedom. What I found frustrating about the traditional art world, was the amount of bullshit you had to buy into. Old fashioned institutions and ways of doing things seemed stale and oversaturated. The exciting thing about making porn independently is that it hasn't been considered culturally worthy, and you're breaking new ground. It's entirely self-directed, you don't have to beg old establishments for permission to exist. You can make your own work, on your own terms. It feels very creative, very D.I.Y., and very exciting.

**What inspired you to create Four Chambers?** I wasn't seeing a lot of work online that was expanding the potential of porn as a creative medium for ideas. Porn is a medium, like comedy or literature, not a monolith. I was seeing a lot of one similar thing, both visually and conceptually. I wanted to see if we could explore the potential of what fucking on film could say and do.

**Do you define or categorize your work as pornography?** Yep, absolutely. I mean there's a lot of fucking in it. If it's not porn then what is it? I think there's a tendency to break porn down into categories of art and porn—worthy or unworthy, acceptable or unacceptable based on if we consider something to be in 'good taste.' For me this is kinda bullshit because tastes are subjective—who, why and what turns us on is diverse. There's room for all kinds of porn in pornography. I'm proud to stand in solidarity with other porn performers and sex workers.

**What films, artists, and movements inspired your approach to pornography?** So many, I'm a magpie. I pick up influences and ideas everywhere. I love the high intensity and atmosphere of music videos, they've been a big part of how we approach our editing. I love artists who work viscerally with their bodies, such as Carolee Schneemann, Ana Mendieta, and Helen Chadwick. Films like *Under the Skin*, Cronenberg films, *Suspiria*, *Possession*—both aesthetically and atmospherically. I'm a stupid romantic and I love storytellers like Nick Cave and Leonard Cohen. I love the writing of Jorge Luis Borges and the magical realists—I've jokingly called Four Chambers 'magical realism porn' which has weirdly stuck.

**What was it like creating your first film? Did you immediately know**

**you wanted to do more?** The first film we made was shot on a crappy point-and-shoot and edited in whatever free software was on our computer but, we immediately fell in love with the potential of filmmaking. The best thing is that we don't need a lot of money to make interesting films today.

**How does collaboration play a part in your work?** Working with performers rather than dictating and managing them makes for, in my opinion, better, hotter porn. We work with performers on concepts and ideas that complement them, that they hopefully think are interesting and are excited to be a part of. I always aim to work with people who inspire me personally in some way, who bring something more to a scene, or someone I really have a crush on.

**What is your technical process for creating pornography?** First, think of a hot, weird or stupid idea.

Second, pitch hot, weird, stupid idea to someone I either want to fuck or want to see fuck.

Third, buy weird props, masking tape some lights up precariously, buy snacks.

Fourth, point camera in general direction of sex.

Fifth, usually try and do something creative beyond our knowledge and capabilities.

Sixth, clean up, order takeout food.

Seventh, fix it all in the edit.

**How does social media play a role in your work?** Social media is the only way we've gotten the word out about what we're doing. We don't use traditional porn advertising, tube sites, or buy banners. I think it's the future but, it's so precarious because social media sites are censoring and deleting more and more sex-related content. We could be censored and deleted at any time. It's frustrating, but sometimes it means you have to get creative in order to post the work you want. I think I could put 'expert in censoring Instagram nudes' on my CV.

**Do you believe the porn industry is in a good place at the current moment?** It's in a strange place. Porn is increasingly a part of everyday culture which means it's also become public enemy number one again. Porn takes the blame for a lot of society's issues without anyone wanting to deal with the root of the problem. [We're] moving away from big business and old-fashioned porn companies and that's really exciting. There's more and more diversity and difference, and that's also exciting. But it's still an unstable and difficult place to be.

**What appeal does your work have over mainstream pornography?** I'm not trying to compete with mainstream pornography. They're doing one thing and I'm doing something else. It has as much right to exist as we do. There is a growing movement of people who are looking for porn with more of a personal connection or a different aesthetic quality—porn that isn't only about contextless, graphic, and anonymous fucking.

**Have you experienced any conflicts as a female in this industry?** I'm lucky, I work for myself and I make the work I want. I don't have to put up with a lot of the usual bullshit you deal with from powerful men in a capitalist patriarchy. That goes for porn and any industry. Monetising your body and sexuality can be an interesting and challenging minefield to navigate. It's complicated and there's no right answers. I just try to do my best to make porn and show sex in a way that feels right to me and to raise the profile of other people doing the same.



# Small Hands Big Porn Star

The AVN 'Best Supporting Actor' Winner  
Talks About Being Married to One of  
Porn's Biggest Entertainers, Becoming a  
Sex Star, and Hands-Free Masturbation.

words by Matthew Clibanoff



**The world's foremost sexual acrobats perform on brightly lit, Los Angeles sound stages and present themselves with an openness that most of us would never dream of. But when the lights flick off, pornstars are just people, cleaning spunk off their bodies with baby wipes, wondering what's going to be served for lunch. They're blue-collar celebrities, and the advantages of their fame are heavily counterbalanced by a long list of disadvantages. Still, someone has to do it. Someone has to blend the erotic and severe, to flagrantly display society's id. Aaron Thompson, known by the pseudonym Small Hands, knows this better than anyone.**

**A transplant from civilian life, Small Hands wound up in porn after he started dating Joanna Angel, the woman behind the massive adult alternative site Burning Angel. His introduction to the industry, was a budgetary decision by his (now) wife. Now, Small Hands is a seasoned vet. He's been in hundreds of scenes and was also recently named XBIZ's 2018 Male Performer of the Year. With this in mind, we sat down to talk to him about his experience in porn and the different trends that are currently dominating the industry.**

**What's it like having your wife direct you?** It has its pros and cons. Our relationship is on such an intimate, tight level that the shit people would normally think about [doesn't happen]. Sometimes a girl is nervous to be a little too slutty with me because you know, Joanna's right there calling the shots. A lot of these girls look up to her, so if anything, Joanna's presence makes the girl nervous. Me and Joanna are cool. Nothing phases us.

**Do you two have an open relationship? I assume there really isn't any other way to do it if you're in porn. What are the boundaries?** We're not swingers. We don't really have an open relationship per se. We just have what we have. We have our own rules. It might be really open compared to some people but hell man, compared to some of my friends, it's not. It's all in the context of how you look at it.

**You obviously have to screw other people on camera though, where's the line?** For us, when we're not filming, we like to have girls over and have threesomes a lot. We do that all the time. If I'm out of town for a few days and Joanna is home and she gets horny and lonely, she might invite a girlfriend over and they might have fun together. That's about it though. We're not having cocaine-fueled orgies like it's Studio 54 or something like that.

**If she's home alone, she doesn't see other guys?** She hasn't expressed any interest in that. With us and with all things sexually related, as long as you're really honest and open and communicate things and express why you want that or where it's coming from. I wouldn't care if she wanted to have sex with a dude while I was gone, she just hasn't expressed any interest in that.

**What led you to this lifestyle? What was your path to porn?** I did not want to be a male pornstar or performer. I was playing in bands. I owned a business. I had all this other stuff going on. I would be on set sometimes with [Joanna] and I would watch how it worked and I'd think, "Man this is a tough job for the dudes. There's a lot of pressure. I don't wanna do this." We were already having fun and having threesomes with pornstars and stuff, so I was getting all the perks and I wasn't getting any of the stress. Long story short, Joanna owns a company and she's like "Man if you could learn to do movies, I wouldn't have to pay a dude every time your dick comes out. You're going to do this for free if you can learn how to do it because it helps the company." I was like "I don't know if I want to put myself out there like that." She was like, "Do you love me? Do you want this company to succeed and grow?" I was like "Alright, I'll give it a try.

If I totally fail miserably, don't hate me forever." I got through it and I did a couple more and all of a sudden other directors started asking about me and I started to get fans and it kinda just grew from there. It wasn't really planned out. A lot of people don't know this about me though: I do all of Burning Angel's post production. I do all of our editing. I write and record all the music for the soundtracks and the scores. That's what I do all day, other than fucking.

**Has sex become mechanical for you? Does it just feel like work at this point?** You have to understand, it's a little bit of both. When you do what I do and do it as often, you have to figure out how mechanically to do that, like an MMA fighter. You're training, you're watching what you eat, you're going to bed at a certain time. [I'm] learning [my] body really well and what works to make me and my dick fuck the best. There's a lot of prep and planning that goes into it. That's all the mechanical shit. By the time [my] dick actually comes out I'm like "yes!" It's fun as hell. It's almost like you've worked so hard, here's the victory lap.

**How do your parents and your friends feel about your life in porn?** My Dad's a preacher, so he doesn't talk to me anymore. I grew up the son of a Christian Baptist preacher. I grew up in church. But [as for] everyone else, my friends have been really cool and my sister and I are still really tight.

**How'd you break the news?** I didn't. I still don't know how my dad found out. Somebody must have thrown me under the bus. I don't know. Basically, I wanted my parents to get to know [Joanna] as a person, before they judged her, but my dad is really old school. For the first year and a half, they loved her. We had dinners together, they thought she was great. We didn't tell them. Then one day I got a call from my dad and he asked: "Does Joanna do porn?" I'm not going to lie to my dad straight out, so I said "Yeah. She does. I hope by knowing her over the last year and a half, you can see the type of person she is and how much we love each other." But he didn't. He told me I was going to hell and hung up on me and cried, and that was the last time I talked to him.

**Do you not talk to your mom either?** My mom sneaks me texts late at night when my dad's asleep but I haven't really spoke to or hung out with her in a few years. She'll send me a birthday card every year. I haven't seen or spoken to my dad in a long time. He didn't come to our wedding either. My mom came but Pop didn't come.

**Let's talk about your work with VR porn. Do you believe this is the next big thing in porn?** As a consumer, I think if the technology gets better. However, I don't think it'll take over in its current state. I've watched it on the headset and I've tested it out. After a few minutes, it's a little too much. I get a headache. There's a lot of limitations with how you can do the sex. It doesn't follow you like a cameraman follows you. I think if the technology improves then maybe, but as of right now, no.

**So hands-free masturbation isn't the future?** It sounds cool. I just don't think the technology is good enough to take over. I think it'll take a while. It's pretty cool when you put the headset on and your view is cinematic and panoramic and you can turn your head. It's not to the point where you can physically walk in a full 360 around the girl. It's cool but it's not good enough yet.

**What's to stop VR porn from replacing regular sex if it gets that good?** Honestly, people replace regular sex with things now like Fleshlights™ and jerking off to porn. I think the same kind of people who don't have sex, either at all or very much, are the kind of people who will replace their sex. As cool as hands-free masturbating is, I think regular fucking is going to be around for a while.

# CULTURE



## DEEP THROAT

The film that brought adult cinema to the mainstream world, *Deep Throat* is a 1972 American porn flick that was at the forefront of the “Golden Age of Porn.” Written and directed by Gerard Damiano, (listed in the credits as Jerry Gerard) and starring Linda Lovelace, the pseudonym given to Linda Susan Boreman, this was one of the first pornographic films to feature a plot, character development, and relatively high production values. *Deep Throat* earned mainstream attention and launched the “porno chic” trend. Campy by today’s ‘hardcore sex standards’ the film is definitely worth seeing, if not just for its place in cinema history. Rent it on high quality VHS today!



## BOW CHICKA WOW WOW Sextape 4

That’s right, there are at least four volumes of this series out there! This is the real deal, these tunes are not your standard “bow chicka wow wow’s.” You’ll feel so sleazy from listening to these beats that you’ll need to take a shower after taking this vinyl off the turntable.



## NIGHT SHIFT

The legendary Princess of Punk Rock Porn Joanna Angel puts down her sex toys and picks up a pencil (Hey kids, do you know what a pencil is?) and lets the creative juice flow as she sucks you into an interactive story of lust.

This book lets you choose your own fantasy and then decide just how it’s going to play out! Buy the book and you’ll see just what we mean. C’mon, it’s the second best thing to having Joanna right there in your own sex life!



## TRUE CRIME

Bosch is back. Amazon Studios is bringing back Bosch for its fourth season this spring and fans of the show can expect plenty more excitement from Michael Connelly’s celebrated crime phenomenon. Based on Connelly’s best selling detective novels, the digital series puts an INKED twist on conventional cop shows—with tattooed actor Titus Welliver taking on homicide cases in an off-the-cuff fashion. Tune in to the highly anticipated upcoming season in April 2018.



## ALL YOU CAN EAT

Who says that women are the only ones who can be playful with bedroom attire? It’s time that guys get tongue and cheek when it comes to dressing down for foreplay. Invite a friend or two over to experience these ‘All You Can Eat’ underwear and let us know if anyone leaves hungry. Whether you enjoy spooning or forking—these briefs will get the job done.

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# WHISKEY DICK

While the term 'Whiskey Dick' may refer to the horrors of alcohol induced impotence—this lubricant promises to bring your sex life to the next level. The brand boasts that it has been aged for over 4 years in white oak casks and that customers will recognize the distinctive Tennessee taste. We promise that this velvety lubricant will have your girl begging for 'Whiskey Dick' like never before.



# MILE HIGH CLUB

around the globe in style. The Tambour Horizon watch by Louis Vuitton transitions effortlessly from country to country—aiding wanderlust enthusiasts with top rated travel apps and custom interfaces. For the first time in history, your next journey is officially connected.



# TROUSER SNAKE

The INKED reader deserves the best, especially when it comes to maximizing potential in the sheets. The Velv'Or King Cobra is the most exclusive cock ring on the market and with a price tag of up to \$160,000—it better stand up to its name. This luxury male accessory is handcrafted by a master silversmith in the UK who puts in over 100 hours of labor into your lifetime of pleasure.



# HISTORY OF HEFNER

The "Playboy: Complete Centerfolds, 1953-2016" is an all-encompassing look back at over sixty years of nudity in print. This voluptuous collector's edition boasts a staggering 734 pages of Playmates of the Month—with Marilyn Monroe kicking off history as Hef's first centerfold. See for yourself how the iconic publication evolved into the cultural brand that exists today, and relive some of Playboy's sexiest stars.



# FIFTY SHADES OF FREED

Okay, for the 23 peopel out there who didn't see the first two installments of "Fifty Shades", here's your chance to get in on the kink...before the series decides to get out of the biz and renounce its evil, dirty past!

Get out your whips, chains, and cuffs—because Fifty Shades is back and ready to turn you on. We have to say that this the third and final installment to the kinkiest film series of all time, Fifty Shades Freed is the perfect blend of eroticism and romance. Hollywood heavy-weights Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan will have fans begging for more from this sex soaked drama—encouraging couples from around the world to introduce new toys and techniques into the bedroom...kitchen, the back seat of your car, public restroom...well, you get the idea.



# SMALL PACKAGES

When it comes to sex, no man wants to hear the phrase 'Good things come in small packages.' However, when it comes to this pint-sized erotica book, we can make an exception. Straight from Goliath Books comes a collectable that can find a place on any book shelf. "Photographia Erotica Historica" offers readers 200 pages of vintage erotic photography, despite being no larger than 3 inches in height.



# GOLD MEMBER

If you're in the mood to shell out some serious coin on the lady in your life—look no further than YVA. This 24-karat gold personal massager by Lelo is more than just a sex toy—she's a lifestyle. Give the gift that keeps giving all night long and treat your girl to a lifetime of luxurious orgasms. Who knows, maybe she'll let you take this treasured toy for a spin.

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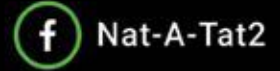
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# WILDE ABOUT SEX



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](mailto:press@inkedmag.com).

**Any ideas from a female perspective on 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 six months, so be it. Your man will love it.

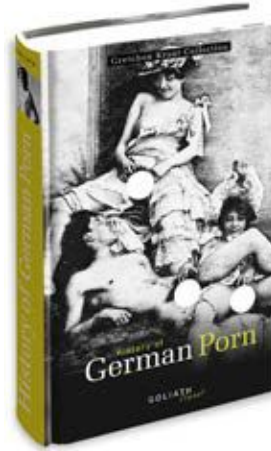
**My wife has gotten chubby lately and doesn't want to sleep with me anymore because she is self conscious. What can I say to let her know I still think she's sexy?** —Hank

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 them, why the hell not?



## HOT SEAT

When streetwear legend Supreme collaborated with Finnish furniture brand Artek, they crafted the sexiest chair on the market. Remastering the beloved Aalto Tank 400 armchair with a nasty twist—anyone would be lucky to get down in this custom piece. Just make sure that grandma doesn't have a heart attack when she takes a closer look at the obscene jacquard print.



## HISTORY OF GERMAN PORN

After World War I the German public shook off the senselessness of the Age of the Kaiser like a drunken stupor. Growing poverty and unemployment stood in stark contrast to the excesses and indulgence of the capital's night life and its overflowing creative energy.

It was the time when photography commenced its victory march, and dared all, without shame to express themselves. This exclusive Goliath collection features over 200 photos showing you these sparkling days; a high time when pornographic pictures were still sensational, daring and provoking, but most of all: prohibited.



## BEER ME UP, SCOTTY

What if there was another world, a world that appeared similar to our own, with the same people, the same places, and even the same advancements in technology, but a world in which the motives and ethics of inhabitants were turned upside down? The heroic now villainous and the noble corrupt, valuing power over peace and willing to obtain their desires by any means necessary - this is the Terran Empire in the Mirror Universe.

Our universe may feel villainous and corrupt at times, but we can still find comfort in good friends and tasty beer. By spanning north and south, east and west, continents and traditions, Mirror Universe blends ingredients bringing together the world of brave new craft brewing. HOPS - MALTS - LAGER - UNITE!"



## KINK

Photographs by Howard Schatz

The typically hidden worlds of bondage and discipline, sadomasochism (BDSM), and sexual fetish come out into the open every September at the annual Folsom Street Fair in San Francisco. Over the past 25 years, Howard Schatz has set up an outdoor studio at the fair and made portraits of the participants, collected now in this volume of remarkable, life-affirming and revelatory photographs. This groundbreaking book is set to be published April 1, 2018. The book contains 100 images culled from over 5,000 portrait sessions. Many of the portraits are accompanied by reflections written by the participants about their sexual preferences and the way that those preferences fit into the broader scope of their lives.

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# IVORY & GHOSTE

“Believe it or not, sex exists beyond the constraints of a computer screen—it’s a fundamental aspect of every romantic relationship.”

photos by peter roessler words by devon preston











**While musicians and models may be made for each other on paper, more often than not, their relationships never stands the test of time. However, L.A.-based rapper Ghostemane and NY alt-model Ivory Suicide are making it work against the odds. For our 2018 Sex Issue, we believe that it's important to not only highlight the seduction of the sex industry, but to put a focus on real relationships. Believe it or not, sex exists beyond the constraints of a computer screen—it's a fundamental aspect of every romantic relationship. Take a look at how Ivory and Ghoste navigate long distance, online fans, and hookup culture.**

#### **How long have you been together?**

**Ivory:** We've been together for about a year now.

**Ghoste:** We've been together for a while, but it's long distance because I live in California and she lives in New York.

#### **How did you meet?**

**Ghoste:** I was on tour and I played in New York City, it was actually on my birthday. And she was at the show. I met her through a friend and she thought I was a douchebag when we first met.

**Ivory:** Yeah, I didn't like him. I was like, who the hell is this guy?

**Ghoste:** I didn't do anything to make me seem like a douchebag, I just looked like a douchebag I guess. But I quickly turned that around.

#### **What made things turn around?**

**Ghoste:** We have really similar interests.

**Ivory:** Yeah, I caught him talking about science and I was super surprised. Then we started talking about science and pop culture.

**Ghoste:** We linked with the intellectual stuff. It's kind of weird these days to find intellectuals that are into the same music as you.

#### **What's it like having such a long distance relationship?**

**Ivory:** A lot of travelling.

**Ghoste:** Luckily we both, for the most part, have jobs where we can take time to go see each other. It's kind of nice to get that space.

**Ivory:** Sometimes, he will be touring somewhere and I will be shooting somewhere and we will meet up in a different country.

#### **What is one word you'd describe your partner as?**

**Ivory:** If I had one word to describe him with, it would be "interesting." Or "peculiar," I guess.

**Ghoste:** I guess my word for her would be "rare", for sure. She's definitely a rarity.

#### **What is your favorite tattoo on your partner?**

**Ivory:** My favorite tattoo on him is his forehead. It's the first thing that I see when I look at his face.

**Ghoste:** My forehead says 'Kybalion.' It's really complicated, but it's ancient hermetic philosophy basically. It is considered the first religion ever.

[Kybalion] is tied into your belief in the universe and one supreme mind that created everything in existence. My favorite tattoo of yours is probably the ghost.

**Ivory:** I got a ghost tattoo obviously because of Eric, (his stage name is Ghostemane), and because I am also known as Casper sometimes. This is because I am very pale. It's both of us and our ghost love.

#### **What are your nicknames for each other?**

**Ivory:** I call him my squish.

**Ghoste:** I call her my lemon drop.

**Ivory:** You also call me your ferret.

#### **Tell us what it's like having fans of your intimate relationship?**

**Ivory:** Watching people ship our relationship is the cutest thing ever. I get a bunch of happy messages from kids all over the world and they're drawing pictures of us together.

**Ghoste:** When I was over in the Ukraine, this girl gave me a painting of me and a painting of her. And when you put them together it makes one picture. Even though the music I make is kind of weird, I'm still a rapper, and I think it's cool to promote monogamy in this space of music. It's not something that's really predominate now.

#### **What do you do like to do together?**

**Ivory:** We like looking at memes and funny videos together.

**Ghoste:** We watch documentaries.

**Ivory:** We also hike a lot. We're always hiking.

#### **What's your craziest moment together?**

**Ghoste:** It was actually Halloween day, in Angeles Forest.

**Ivory:** How PG are we keeping this?

**Ghostemane:** We got high on this mountain.

**Ivory:** At the top of the mountain.

**Ghoste:** We were smoking at the top of the mountain and realized that there was no one there. So we were kind of looking at each other and thinking the same thing. And we just decided to...

**Ivory:** Get one with nature.

**Ghoste:** So we were out there and decided to lose the clothes, then go all out.

#### **What's something your partner doesn't know about you?**

**Ivory:** I'm *really* good at swimming. I was a life-guard, I don't know if I told you that.

**Ghoste:** You might know this, but I used to be on my school's weight lifting team. I was able to bench press 225 pounds. And I was a tiny kid, only like 135 pounds. I just had freakish strength.

#### **What's up next for the two of you?**

**Ghoste:** I have a mini tour, starting on February 9th. I'm hitting all of the cities that I didn't hit in my last national tour. Tickets are at ghostemane.com.

**Ivory:** You can check all of my upcoming sets out at [Suicidegirls.com/ivory](http://Suicidegirls.com/ivory) and I have other content coming out every month at [jakiichu.com](http://jakiichu.com).

A photograph of a bedroom with a bed in the foreground, a mirror on the wall, and a framed picture. The room is lit with a soft, warm light. The text is overlaid on the image.

# CONFESSIONS of a TEENAGE CAM GIRL

Undressing the fastest growing field of the digital sex industry with Natasha Grey

photos by peter roessler words by devon preston

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*In 1998, David Letterman had Jennifer Ridley, who created a 24/7 livecast of her daily life, as a guest on his show. In that interview, he made a bold statement about Ridley's site JenniCam—saying 'I don't care about the internet, but this is the perfect idea for [it].' Although this wasn't a profound statement at the time, twenty years later it highlights the unexpected explosion of the digital sex industry. Although JenniCam is a primitive example of what camming is today, Ridley paved the way for cam girls world wide. Internet users could have never predicted the rise of cam girls, not to mention the way the business has evolved to suit new technologies, cultural expectations, and generational kinks.*

*Camming, which generates an estimated \$2 billion annually, is one of the fastest growing facets of sex work, with more women working from their bedrooms than on porn sets or in a strip clubs. Today, almost everyone in the western world has encountered a cam girl in their daily life, but most would never know it. Not all, but many cam girls strive to create personal, intimate, and unique content that you can't get from watching porn. By interacting with an online audience in the comforts of their own home, they establish an authenticity that is refreshing for many consumers. Sure, it can be as dirty as any other medium of adult entertainment, but the most successful cam girls offer an extension of themselves in addition to the striptease.*

*In order to make it in 2018 as a cam model, women in this industry need to spend as much time building their social media as they do in the chat room. People entering camming today no longer have the luxury of being a niche on the internet, like it was back in 1998 or even 2008. They need to find a way to build their brand off cam in order to keep the customers coming, which is where platforms like Twitter, Snapchat, Patreon, and even Instagram come into play. If you have an innate understanding of the way each platform distributes your content—as well as the importance of connecting with individuals and brands—almost anyone can make it as a cam girl. The number of gorgeous girls doing virtually the same thing in this industry is endless, therefore it takes both hard work and a mind for business to succeed.*

*Lucky for 19-year-old cam girl Natasha Grey, she possesses each of these attributes. While she would still consider herself a rookie, Grey is a rising star in the cam world and will undoubtedly explode over the next several years. She sat down with INKED to share how she started in this industry, what her family thinks of her career, and how she navigates hookup culture as a cam girl.*

#### **How did you first get into camming?**

**NG:** The way I first got into camming is kind of funny. When I turned 18, the first thing that I wanted to do was go get a vibrator. So I walked down the street and went to the sex shop. As soon as I walked in I realized that I probably looked super young and got carded at the door. I didn't even have time to get my ID, so I brought my passport. They let me in and I ended up buying a bunch of stuff. From there, the manager was like 'I really like your look, do you need a job?' I immediately said yes and I got hired on the spot. I started a couple days later and was reading AVN magazine when I saw a huge two-page ad for Chaturbate. And before I even clocked out of work, I was uploading my age verification on the site. Two weeks after I turned 18, I was already camming a lot. It was amazing and it changed my life.

#### **Was this ad your first introduction to camming?**

I had heard of camming before, I'd been on My Free Cams even though you're supposed to be 18 to be looking at those websites. I'd also followed cam girls on Instagram. The first cam girls I followed were Sabrina Nellie and Cortana Blue, who are pretty popular on My Free Cams. I followed both of them and couldn't wait to do that one day.

#### **Did you learn from these girls how to make it in camming?**

The best tool that I used was checking out what other people were doing. Not necessarily to rip them off but to see how they were doing it, what was already being done, and how I could make it unique. Even to this day, when I log on I always look to see what everyone else is doing. Because if I put on a school girl uniform and go on Chaturbate to see five girls doing that at the same time, then that's no fun for me. I always like to do something that's as different as possible.

#### **Were you hesitant to join this industry?**

I was. I had the general fear of what my parents or what the kids I went to high school with were going to think. But at the same time, I was so excited to be getting paid to do something that I loved so much, be my own boss, and get the chance to travel—that I didn't think about it. If I were to sit down now and stress about it, I still have tons of hesitations and reservations. But you have to have a positive attitude.

#### **Do your parents know? If so, what do they think?**

My mom knows. As far as my upbringing goes, my mom had me when she was twenty and was a single mom. We get along on a friendship basis rather than a typical mother daughter relationship—she talks to me about sex and anything else. When I told her what I was doing, her honest response was 'Can you help me get started?' She wanted to do it because it's fun and empowering. She wasn't necessarily proud of me but definitely happy to see me happy.

#### **Is she doing it now?**

She's not, but she should as weird as that sounds. Honestly, I think everybody should be a cam girl in one way or another.

#### **What was it like getting positive responses from people in your chat room?**

It felt good. I think people think that if I'm posting pictures of myself I must be super confident, but at the end of the day that's not true. I'm super shy and sometimes insecure. Like, for example, I've always hated having small boobs and I got made fun of for being flat, I still do till this day. But I can still remember getting a long message from a follower telling me how gorgeous I was and to never change my body. He loved my small boobs and my petite frame, so I thought 'Oh, I guess I don't look like a little kid.' It made me feel more like a woman and less of the shy, insecure kid I've been my whole life. It allowed me to blossom.

#### **How do you use social media to promote your work?**

Instagram helps a lot as a way to network. Random people hit me up to do shoots, model for them, and I don't know what I would do if my Instagram got deleted. I would probably cry and have a heart attack because it takes a lot of work to gain a following. Girls ask me how I did it and for me, I joined Is My Girl, and everything exploded in the right direction. The best way that I utilize Instagram is just by being a huge tease. Whether I'm live on Instagram or just posting a photo, I always tell people to check out the link in my bio for even more. That brings me a lot of traffic for sure.

#### **Could you see yourself getting into mainstream porn?**

I do shoot my own porn, it is very amateur. But pretty much all of my porn is solo or HD POV, which I like. I would





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love to do porn, specifically girl girl porn, that would make my dreams come true. But, I'm hesitant to do boy girl porn. I'm really passionate about working with people who have special needs. My little brother has autism, and I always wanted to be a special needs teacher. After exploring that, I decided that I wanted to be a speech therapist. That's what I plan to go to school for way down the line. In the long term, I want to be able to help people with my clothes on.

#### **How does your job affect your dating life?**

I've definitely experienced backlash from guys. The worst experiences I've had were from scorned exes. Not anyone with any relevant opinion to me. Really all I get from them is, 'Why don't you go fuck yourself for money.' To which, I say 'Thank you, that's exactly what I planned on doing tonight.' But in current relationships, it's really important that you're with someone who is a confident person. I don't think you should be dating the cockiest dude who is totally in love with himself, but if you're in this industry and you're with a guy who is insecure with himself, there is going to be jealousy and almost always gaslighting and manipulation. Personally, I think that a lot of guys struggle with an insecurity problem, even when dating girls who aren't in sex work. I hear it all the time from my girlfriends who have regular jobs that their boyfriends are checking their phones and questioning them. Sorry, I have to post nudes and I don't have a choice to the 100% perfect girlfriend. The guy that I'm seeing is cool, he's very respectful of what I do and we cam together live.

#### **Have you learned from the guys in your chat room about the kind of people you want to date IRL?**

Through camming I meet very kind and generous guys. And not to sound like a gold digger, but it's nice to be with someone who doesn't think twice about paying the dinner bill. I'm bipolar, so I am very easily upset and agitated, especially by guys saying things to me. So I look for a very kind, sweet, generous, and respectful person that knows when to give me space.

#### **How have your friends reacted to your camming?**

Luckily, I've gained more girlfriends than I've lost. All of my new friends are very sex positive and never judgemental. That's my biggest fear when it comes to being in the real world, being judged by other women. Because who cares if some guy calls you a slut? They're a dime a dozen. But hearing something from another female would really hurt me. Maybe that's because my mom has always been supportive of me and I've never gotten that response. But that's why I love what I do, because you're connected to these girls in a very open way. There will always be the crappy friends, who you realize are toxic. But there's a quote that someone told me the other day, which is 'Your true friends smile with your successes.' That really meant something to me as someone who has lost close friends because of my job.

#### **What are your future plans as a tattoo collector and as a cam girl?**

I have a good friend who is tattoo artist. His name is Ben Weiss, and he mostly does American Traditional. But he painted this beautiful painting for me after I gave him the idea of a butterfly inside of a hannya mask. As soon as he painted that, I knew that was what I wanted on my body. But the thing is, with traditional Japanese bodysuits, you tattoo your whole back, your butt cheeks, and down your legs. Yet I don't want my butt cheeks tattooed, I don't know why. However, I definitely want to get leg sleeves and get my other arm done.

One of my goals for camming is being accomplished right now by being in INKED Magazine. Especially since I'm only 19, that's a huge deal for me. Another goal that I've recently accomplished was becoming a SuicideGirl, I just had my first set bought. As *Is My Girl* continues to grow, I'd love to get a bigger following. My biggest desire is to just keep learning, because I learn something new about this industry every day. Aside from work, some other goals are to own a Dodge charger, travel more, and continue making amazing female friends in the industry.



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# NATASHA MACKENZIE

What do a koala, a kangaroo and our cover girl have in common? They're all adorable Aussies! Take a trip down under to meet the intoxicating Tasha Mackenzie. For our 2018 Sex Issue, Mackenzie flew around the world from her homeland of Australia to New York City for a seductive photoshoot that is sure to blow your mind. Here's a tiny tease of the gorgeous fitness model and tattoo collector in her first **INKED** spread.

photos by peter roessler

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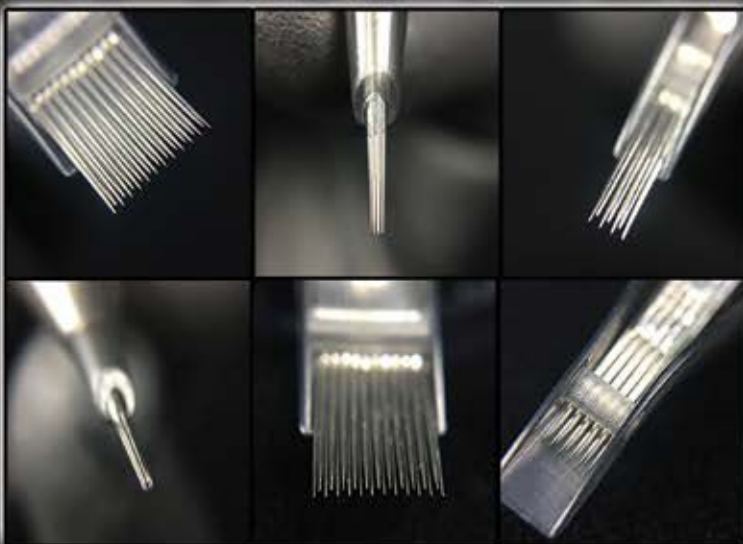
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When it comes to the rap game, L.A.'s Ty Dolla \$ign is at the very top. From major collaborations with Lil Wayne, Wiz Khalifa, and The Weeknd to smash solo tracks like 'Paranoid' and 'Blase', the Almighty Dolla seems to have cracked the code to hip-hop success.

These, however, are just his superlatives. The question is: what's really behind those shocking green eyes? After interviewing him, I can say with certainty that this artist is more than just a fierce pair of pipes. First and foremost, he's a musician, a master of the keys and the legacy of a funk icon. Second, he isn't afraid to go outside his comfort zone—whether it be topping the rock charts or experimenting with vegan burgers. And last but certainly not least, he's a dedicated father who doesn't let fame get in the way of maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Don't let this artist's dirty rhymes or the ink on his skin fool you, Ty Dolla \$ign is a far cry from your average rapper.

How did growing up in L.A. influence you as an artist?

Growing up in L.A. definitely influenced me because I grew up listening to the L.A. sound: Dr. Dre, DJ Quik, E-Swift from the Alcoholics, Mad Live, Fred Rick—I could go on for hours. That's our shit. Me and all my boys, we influenced each other. Church, growing up in church and learning all of the instruments. My Pops, being in Lakeside and having all of his homeboys around.

You've mentioned before that Tupac was a big influence on you. What about Tupac, specifically, inspires you?

Pac, what he did with his platform and his lyrics. His lyrics basically got me through my parent's divorce. His lyrics were about always keeping your head up. I would get drunk as shit, wondering why I was even here because I wasn't even worth shit anymore. Then you listen to Pac and he makes you feel like you're worth something again. That's why Pac inspires me.

How did your production crew D.R.U.G.\$ influence your career?

That was just my bros from the neighborhood. We all knew that we were the dopest musicians in the city. We linked up and would make tracks together. It turned into some real shit when Beach House 1 and Iggy Azalea's work started going up. Casso, ended up getting killed and made me not want to do beats anymore. I focused on my artistry, but now I'm back to making my beats again, and y'all gonna hear some new shit very soon.

With YG, it was your first big collaboration, but what was it like when your first single My Cabana blew up?

Yeah, that was definitely a surprise. It was just a song where I was talking about some crazy ass shit that was going on at my Hollywood crib. I had this big ass balcony and a crazy cabana that we built. We would always have girls come over and one day I was just playing with how many I could fit in my cabana, and we made a song about it. It caught the

attention of Complex, Fader, and all of these different magazines, who started writing up on me. It was good to finally get recognition for all the hard work I put in, but you never know what song is going to make it.

What was it like going on the Under the Influence of Music 2 tour with Wiz and A\$AP Rocky?

To be on a big ass stage every night with amphitheaters and to have a good set time with openers like Rocky, was lit every night. Every night I partied, plus we had after parties. Plus, it was my first time getting to learn how a real tour works. After that tour and I began to learn that it wasn't always a party. It's a real job with a lot of people working for you, and it's a business. That was definitely a lesson, and I'd like to thank Wiz for taking me under his wing and showing me the ropes.

What was it like then collaborating with Wiz and then The Weeknd on your first triple platinum, Or Nah?

It was amazing. Shout out to Abel. Shout out to Wiz. I was originally doing that song for Wiz's album at the time, but I dropped Paranoid and that blew up, so the label wanted me to drop an album. But instead of dropping an album, I dropped an EP that had Or Nah, Paranoid, and a couple of different songs.

That song, with those guys, kind of turned you into a sex symbol. How did that feel?

\*Laughs\* I guess it feels cool, man. Shout out to anyone that listens to my music and adores me.

I saw in an interview with Charlamagne tha God, you talked about what a 'Booger Wolf' is.

That was a great interview. Booger Wolf it means, not my cup of tea.

It's definitely a very visual phrase. Let's talk about your first studio album Free TC

TC is my little brother, he's locked up for a crime that he didn't do. The whole purpose of Free TC was to raise awareness about the social injustices going on everywhere, not just with me and my family. If Free TC did anything, it rose awareness. We went gold with the album and it's amazing. Shout out to everyone that bought it.

Over the past two years, you've been all over the pop charts. What's it been like working with artists like Nick Jonas or groups like Fifth Harmony?

It's been great to drop into some other genres. I got nominated for Best Rock Song at one of these awards shows recently, and I got nominated for Best EDM for the song I did with Afrojack. It's not about one sound or one genre, at the end of the day I like to experience all different flavors. When we were taking pictures earlier, I was listening to Bad Brains and Pennywise, all that type of shit. I fuck with that too. Sometimes I might listen to some old house music and [when I was a kid], my Pops would play me some old Bootsy Collins and I didn't fuck with it.

I wanted to listen to Dr. Dre or whatever was our shit at the time. But, it's crazy that I [listen to] a wide range of music now.

Do you think that listening to other genres of music helps you as an artist?

For sure. It gives me an open ear and an open eye. I can come out with something [different] when everyone is trying to copy the last hit that came out.

Recently, it was announced you'd be collaborating with Ashanti.

Ashanti reached out through my homie Slowbucks, and I was always a fan of Ashanti coming up. To work with her was some legendary shit, and we killed it.

Is there anyone that you have yet to work with that you would like to collaborate with in the future?

I want to work with Kid Cudi. I've been a fan of his work for a while, and I think that me and him together would make some next level shit.

You've also done a lot of songwriting, including Fourfiveseconds with Kanye, Rihanna, and Paul McCartney. What was it like working with that crazy trio?

It was amazing. 'Ye is like one of the top artists of all time and to be able to connect with him on a song and be involved... just being in the room was dope.

What about writing Young, Wild, and Free with Snoop and Wiz?

That was a huge hit and when I went on tour with them, he would sing that song at the end and the whole crowd would sing every single word. It's always a blessing to see that.

A lot of rappers, such as Childish Gambino and Ice Cube, have gone into acting. Would you ever think of doing TV or film?

I made a film to go along with my album that I will be announcing very soon. Beach House 3 just dropped, but I have a lot of visuals to go along and I can't wait until they drop. It's just a little taste of what I can do. I am really in love and obsessed with my music for right now, but who knows. Soon, you might see Dolla the actor.

Since this is INKED, let's talk tattoos. What was it like getting tattooed during your Campaign mixtape?

When I made Zaddy, if you listen closely you can hear the tattoo machine. I'm singing on the mic and Nene, who does all my tats, is inking me. I was getting the back of my arm done with a portrait of my Grandma.

What was your first tattoo?

My first tattoo was a treble clef on my left arm, but I already got it covered up because it was boof. I drew it up and my homie tatted it.

What made you get portraits of your family members?

I got my dad's mom, my dad, my mom, my grandma, my daughter, Casa...I love portraits. I love details. I love words. I'm getting a word right now for my label. I've got the L.A. memories as well. I have a Griffin on my chest for my last name and people always try me like 'why does he have the devil on his chest?' Naw, it's a griffin which is like a gargoyle, it's a protector of your temple, and your body is your temple—you fucking assholes. I love you though, team Dolla for life.

Do you have any matching tattoos?

We all got T.G.O.D., Taylor Gang. Then everyone in my label The Movement, we all got this pig which is our logo. I also have \$24.00 on my neck for 24 hours, which is the project I'm about to drop.

When did you get 'Dolla \$ign' on your throat?

I got the Dolla \$ign after 'Toot It N Boot It.' I think that was in the video. We made 'Toot It N Boot It' and it was originally my song, but I gave it to YG because Def Jam reached out and wanted to sign him. Once I knew that I had something, I said 'Fuck it,' I don't need a job, and I can tattoo my neck.

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## The Old Frontier:

# *An Honest Look at American Sex Work*

photos yana toyba words by matthew clibanoff

*"The Bunny Ranch doesn't actively recruit working girls. All of the 540 working girls currently active in Dennis Hof's six operating brothels reached out to us." - statement from Jeremy Lemur, communications director, Moonlite BunnyRanch*

Worldwide, the cultural stigma against prostitution is beginning to wane. Sex work is completely legal in both Germany and the Netherlands, and prostitutes enjoy varying degrees of protection in plenty of other countries within the EU. With legality, comes important health and pay regulations that protect both working-girls and patrons alike. Despite this, the US has a much more conservative view towards sex work. Pursuant to US law, street prostitution, that is the solicitation of customers in a public space, is illegal in all 50 states.

Procurement or pimping is also illegal. Louisiana even has a statute that refers to any solicitation of oral or anal sex as a crime against nature; convicted prostitutes are required to register as sex offenders. That said, there is one exception: prostitution is legal within the confines of a brothel in certain counties of Nevada.

Nevada brothels are the frontier of American prostitution, operating within the law and pioneering new ways in which to market and sell sex. They're clean. They're safe. They're regulated. Patrons come in looking for something specific and leave with toothy grins pasted on their faces. The girls work as independent contractors, splitting their earnings 50/50 with the house, and despite high-end prostitutes' reputation for being expensive, the girls set their own rates and are often willing to work within their clients' budgets.

When comparing the legitimacy of Nevada's brothels with the dangers of meeting strangers from the Internet or dealing with pimps, it's tough to argue with the state's stance on legalized prostitution. That said, when things sound too good to be true, they usually are. Ninety percent of the prostitution that takes place in Nevada is illegal, and while Las Vegas's stance on sex work certainly has a lot to do with it, there are systemic issues in the state's brothels that have some working girls convinced that they're safer going out on their own, risking run-ins with law enforcement.

Dennis Hof is inarguably the biggest name in American prostitution, gaining notoriety over the last few decades for his lectures on sex work at Harvard and Oxford, his role on HBO's *Cathouse*, and his very public push for legalized prostitution. He also owns six brothels in Nevada, the most famous being the Moonlite BunnyRanch. His sexual appetite is as well-known as his brothels and according to his communications director, "Dennis has had over 4,000 sex partners thus far. We plan our meetings around his sex schedule, not the other way around."

Adi, a former brothel courtesan, has had some bad experiences while working at some of the Nevada houses, including a two-year, ongoing bout with food poisoning and super seedy customers with requests that go above and beyond what should be considered safe sex practices. Adi cites one customer in particular, "There was a client who kept purposely breaking his condom. Trying to have unprotected sex with the girls against their will." Adi goes on to say that she felt it took way too long for this client to be banned from the establishment.

Despite her negative experiences, Adi still believes that brothels are the way to go so long as independent prostitution remains illegal. Her issue with them, however, is the power imbalance between the owners and the girls. This is the main reason she chooses to work independently/illegally now.

Adi's experience with freelance escorting is impressive. Her minimum rate is \$2,000 and she doesn't have to split it with anyone. That said, the life of a freelance prostitute isn't without its own difficulties. Since going independent, Adi's biggest fear is that of law enforcement. In order to prevent run-ins with the police, Adi has to perform extensive screenings on all of her prospective clients. She collects their names, their personal information, and their work in order to verify who they are and to make sure they aren't imposters or worse, police officers. Undercover cops have been known to arrest prostitutes after having sex with them.

On top of this, Adi has to be extremely careful when dealing with new customers. If Adi were to ask a friend to wait around to protect her on the off chance her client becomes violent, her friend could be arrested and charged as a pimp, even if her friend doesn't take a cut of the profits. Despite these difficulties, Adi has managed to navigate the tumultuous waters of independent prostitution without incident. She also boasts a 70% return rate on her clients and genuinely loves what she does, stating "I love being a professional girlfriend." For Adi, a lot of the job is therapy and she loves being there to support and nurture her clients emotionally as well as sexually.





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# KATRINA JADE

Say Hello to Porn's Hottest **Evil** Angel

photos by billy ward words by Isabell "Rocsi" Rivera





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Listen up fellas, it's time for a new tattooed porn star to take the stage and while she is by no means a rookie, Katrina Jade is definitely moving up in the world. Fresh off nabbing 'Female Performer of the Year' at the 2017 XBIZ Awards, the 27-year-old from Southern California is breaking new ground for sex starlets with the success of her sex-documentary, *I am Katrina*. She stopped by INKED to get intimate about her very first time on set, her sex life off camera, and where she's headed next.

How does it feel to have won 'Best Girl/Girl Scene' at this year's AVN Awards?

KJ: I've always been extremely grateful to be nominated, most importantly to be nominated for 'Female Performer Of The Year' two years in a row at AVN and XBIZ. I've always been very happy and humbled just to be nominated. Winning XBIZ 'Female Performer of the Year' in 2017 was a huge accomplishment. I hope to win the AVN 'Female Performer of the Year' one day. This year I took home an award for 'Best Girl/Girl Scene' with *Kissa Sins*, from my showcase *I Am Katrina*, an *Evil Angel* film, directed by the one and only John Stagliano.

How long have you been doing porn?

KJ: I've been in the industry for four years.

What did you do before porn?

KJ: I actually have my Cosmetology License.

What made you want to do porn?

KJ: I initially wanted to further my sexual experiences. I really wanted to have sex with people who do it professionally; it seemed like a fun idea at the time. A professional setting, with someone who has sex professionally, in front of a crowd, a camera, the wardrobe and makeup—it all excited me.

What was the first porn you did?

KJ: My first shoot was for Kink.com and it was a live show called *Electrosluts*.

Were you nervous for your first shoot?

KJ: I was because it was a live show. I never webcammed or put on a live show before, and I had never been shocked with tasers. It was a really unique and new situation for me. I didn't know what to expect or how I would feel considering I had never done it. But I loved it. Everyone was so patient with me, as well as being very nice and encouraging. The shoot really set the tone and helped me flourish sexually as a young woman.

Would you do BDSM off set?

KJ: I have. In my personal life, we have a lot of leather straps and things of that nature at home. Although I'm not deep into the lifestyle nor a pain slut, I do love bondage—with the right partner who is experienced and that I trust of course.

Do you and your husband value an open relationship?

KJ: Very much so. We've always wanted the

other to maintain their individual sexuality, without any repercussions or jealousy from the other person. We communicate with each other about our needs and boundaries, establishing a strong bond that way.

Do you do the same things in the bedroom that you do in porn?

KJ: That and more. My husband and I are both more taboo than mainstream porn shoots, so yes! We are and have always been in a sexually open relationship since the day we met, he loves watching, we enjoy swapping, threesomes, orgies—both together or separately. We've always supported one another's individual sexuality.

Was there ever a time the producers wanted you to do something, you didn't want to do?

KJ: Never. I've always said no to something I didn't want to do and no one has ever pressured me after I voiced my decision. My agency, OC Modeling, communicates my limits with directors when they book me, so there aren't any surprises. They are the barrier and take care of me in that aspect.

Is there anything you won't do in porn?

KJ: Of course, I'm not what you would call a 'subby girl.' I'm a switch—I can be aggressive or submissive, depending on my mood that day and my partner. That being said, with certain partners that I trust, I'm naturally a submissive to a natural alpha male. But, I don't allow anyone to slap me in the face or belittle me with name calling. That's a big no-no for me.

Do you have a hard time getting booked in porn because of your tattoos?

KJ: At first yes, because the 'tattoo phase' in porn was over before I got in. Or so I was told. Therefore, a lot of companies didn't know how to cast me. But, once I built a good reputation that changed very quickly.

Which tattoo was your first?

KJ: My first tattoo I want covered up, it's the small one on my wrist.

Which tattoo is your favorite?

KJ: 'My Daddy's Girl' tattoo, it's for my husband.

Do you have a favorite tattoo artist?

KJ: My sleeve was done by Phil Garcia. I found him on Instagram, and I've been going back ever since. The rest have been done and retouched by different artists.

Is there meaning behind the spider web on your face?

KJ: Nothing. I'm not that deep. I just woke up one day and wanted a web on my face. I'm not even being sarcastic.

If you quit porn, what would you do?

KJ: I would find something else within the sex industry because I don't see myself ever leaving it.

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# MY ISSUE WITH SEX

**(except it's not an issue)**

photos by peter roessler words by nico tortorella from tv lands *YOUNGER*

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As I imagine my next tattoo, prepare for my next mark, I take off all my clothes and stand in the mirror. Facing myself head on, head out, I stare at the inked emblems that came before this present moment. The scars of hearts leaving nickel trails on my skin and the space between. The journal of times before and the people that came with. The lovers and best friends. The portraits of family members programmed, the guardian angels. The words and symbols that prompt visceral response both personally and interpersonally. The tattoos on pregnant skin penetrated. Facing the man that I am, I imagine how I will feel with this tattoo on me, inside me.

Getting a tattoo is like having sex. I need to establish a relationship with the concept before I lay naked on that bed to get stabbed repeatedly. I need to fall in love with the idea of the image before the lube. Before we make this permanent, I need to create space on my body and in my heart in order to authorize the union. The beauty of these unions is that they are all intrinsically exclusive. They look different, smell different, feel different. And now more than ever, it's important to value what makes us unique.

We are living in the golden age of sexual and gender liberation. I believe it to be one of the most fascinating conversations we are having, but it's so much more than just a conversation, it's a way of life for so many. How did we get to the point, where we have 71 different gender options on Facebook and enough sexual orientations to confuse even the most seasoned gay? I don't have those answers, but let's be honest, it's about time the conversation progressed.

My own sexuality and gender exploration have been topics of conversation ever since I was old enough to understand the physical act and even more so since going public with my always evolving stance on personal identity and the emotional exchange. I want to be clear that when I speak of myself and my story, in no way am I casting generalizations on the entire community. I prefer to imagine each and every single one of us as an individual, and the more we all honor each other as individuals, the more respect for each other we will all have. For me the only way to truly understand a label is to try and understand a person.

I am a proud member, advocate, activist, and ally for all things LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, etc.). Today I identify firstly as a human being (most of the time). I am an actor, an author, an artist, a lover, a future husband, a son and brother. I am a masculine, cisgenderish dude who uses he/him pronouns. I am a bi+, fluid, queer, polyamorous, demisexual and I know that's a fucking mouthful, but I usually am. So, let's break that down, yeah?

We all have some sort of preconceived notion of what masculinity stands for, which is an entirely different conversation, but let's just say that in this political and social landscape, mine at times

can be a bit fragile.

Cisgender is the opposite of transgender. I was born in a male body with male parts and I identify and express myself as such, usually (hence the ish). All gender to me is performative in nature, from my most femme flare to my most masculine, cisgender, and butch qualities.

Bi is short for bisexual, the B in LGBTQIA+, meaning I am able to be in both romantic and physical relationships with men, women, and everyone in-between. People, myself included, speak of the bisexual umbrella in which labels like pansexual, fluidity, multisexual, gender blind, etc. fall under. Linguistically the term bisexual can feed into the binary of gender, male and female, and the + gives us just that, more than.

Fluid to me far surpasses my own sexuality or gender identity. Fluidity is a lifestyle, the ability to morph, shape shift. After all, every one of us is made from water, and I don't know if you've heard, but the ice is melting.

Queer is a term that has been reclaimed by the community over the last few years. Historically it has had a real negative connotation, but today, queer is a celebration. It means different, other than, non-heterosexual. Queer is also an umbrella term that simply allows space for exploration on both the gender and sexual spectrum.

Polyamorous is a term that describes the type of relationship I am in, and there are a plethora of different poly bonds. I am marrying my best friend, lover, twin flame in March of this year at the New York City Courthouse. We've decided to save the big wedding for when we have kids so they can be part of the union. Bethany Meyers and I have been together in one way or another for the last 12 years. She is my everything, and I am hers, except we are not totally everything each other needs, and we've realized that's ok. Polyamory is the possibility or state of being romantically involved with more than one person at a time. The greatest misconception about poly life is that we're out here clipping anything that walks 24/7. As that can definitely be the case for some poly folk, no judgment, Bethany and I have a different outlook. We give each other the space to fall in love and form intimate relationships with secondary or even tertiary partners. As someone fairly new to identifying as polyamorous, I believe we still have so much of this world to explore, and I couldn't be happier doing it with my best friend. To be honest with you, I spend most of my time these days alone writing and rarely want to sleep with anyone else unless I'm emotionally involved. This leads me to the next term, demisexual.

This is one of my favorites. A demisexual is someone that feels space to no sexual attraction to a person until they are emotionally involved, and let me tell you, this is 100% me. I can't tell you the amount of times my dick hasn't even gotten hard trying to have a random hook up. Finally, I just realized, oh shit, I'm a sensitive lover boy who needs to think with both heads

and a heart in order for this to work, and I'm not even a little ashamed.

Alright, so what does this all really mean? That answer, I do not have. What I do know is that I've been doing the work on myself. It means I'm beginning to understand who I am, what I like, and how I fit into the world around me. It means I am learning to fall in love with myself first, which allows me the real space to fall in love with others. It means I am a product of the generation, and even more so, a voice for it. The fact that I've even been given this opportunity to expose myself like this in INKED magazine means it's working. It also means I am beginning to understand my own privilege and the responsibility that comes with it. Whether you like it or not, this movement is real and marginalized individuality is finally getting the light it deserves. Obviously, there is still so much work to be done given this administrations setbacks and the recent nationwide unveiling surrounding sexual misconduct, and that is on each and every one of us.

The opposite of issue is harmony. As much as it may sound like I have an issue with sex or sexuality, I like to believe that I am just beginning to live my life harmoniously. And I'm here to remind you that it's ok. You see the second we start doing the work on ourselves is the same second we start to grow and inspire the people around us.

Having a branded body etched in contrasting styles by various artists is not that different from my own sexuality and gender expression. I am a man of diverse taste reliant on current life experience and desire. Sometimes I prefer bold and traditional, others times fineline, watercolor, realistic, or abstract. I wear my identity and expression, quite literally, on my sleeve. My sexuality, gender and tattoos are always for myself first and secondly for those who are interested. I only have myself to judge and stare at in the mirror at the end of the day, and I'm way more interested in who I am going to bed as, rather than who I am going to bed with.

I love you.

Now lay me on that bed baby and stab me, just always make sure your needle's clean.



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words by devon preston

# INAL BERESKOV

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While you may not know his name, Inal Bersekov's art has been put on a worldwide pedestal. It has been featured on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, it's been shown off at the Billboard Music Awards, and been liked by millions on social media. Guess it pays to have rap icon Drake as a regular client.

While this black-and-grey visionary may hail from a small Belgian town outside Brussels, his tattoos have since gone global. However, Bersekov is more than just a tattooer to the stars—he has the technical and artistic talent to last a lifetime in this cutthroat industry of ours. His mastery of fine details and considerate approach to nostalgic multi-media have proven to be a hit with a growing generation of tattoo collectors. On the flip side, his appreciation for saturated black and lasting linework keeps his artistry from becoming a novelty. As far as tattooers to keep your eye on in 2018, he should be at the top of everyone's list. That is, if you can snag a session in his highly sought after chair.

### **How did you get into tattooing?**

Well, that's a long story, I've been drawing forever. My parents even have a [drawing of the] Mona Lisa I did when I was 4 years old. I almost got my degree in Economics, but I dropped out to pursue art. I was into photography and video making before tattooing. I used to work as an art director for an advertisement company in Luxembourg, but unfortunately, I lost my job. One day my friend Laurent came back from Thailand, and he saw all of the drawings I'd been posting on my Facebook, and he just asked me why I've never tried doing tattoos?

His dad owned a tattoo shop at that time in my city so he promised to bring me a "Chinese tattoo starter pack."

So, he brought me one the next day. I tried those tattoo guns on those plastic sheets, and then I asked him if I could tattoo somebody, and after only three days, I made my first tattoo, a portrait of Malcolm X. I then posted it on Facebook, and it went viral. That's how everything started!

### **What was your first shop experience like?**

I've never worked for another shop, besides my shop in Belgium. At first, it was hard and stressful because I never had any experience before opening one.

Thankfully my fiancé, Florence Van Parijs, helps me with the paperwork and all of the appointments.

### **Do you have any special training?**

In Belgium, we are behind compared to the United States. Nobody wanted me as an apprentice, so everything I've learned was from hours and hours of training on my friends. And of course what is the best training? It's comparing

your tattoos to what you've done the day before and to those of big tattoo artists like Niki Norberg, Richard Feodorow, or Carlos Torres.

### **What conventions have you done recently?**

Recently, I went to the ToxCitlnk (the second biggest convention in Belgium) and a couple others in France. I don't plan on going to any conventions in the near future since I'm about to move to the United States.

### **What made you want to work in black and grey?**

All my life, I've been drawing with my basic pencil. I think that's why I love black-and-grey

And of course for me, black and grey stays forever and never gets old.

### **What are the major differences between color and black and grey pieces?**

Black and grey is smoother. I love color tattoos, but compared to the colorwork, I think black and grey is a little bit harder. Don't get me wrong, it's two totally different schools and techniques, and there are incredible artists out there.

### **When do you ever find yourself using color?**

Everyday. I use white ink to finish almost all my tattoos.

### **What inspires you as an artist?**

My life, culture, (movies, music, art, paintings) and of course other artists.

### **What sets you apart from other artists?**

I love details. I love to push the details to the edge.

### **What other mediums do you work in?**

Painting and sculpture.

### **What tattoo artists do you admire most?**

There are different people

out there who inspired me during my apprenticeship and of course still now!

I like Niki Norberg for his incredibly detailed pieces.

Richard Feodorow has incredibly well-composed projects.

Oscar Akermo has great technique.

Carlos Torres has awesome compositions.

I can't mention everybody! Guys, I love you all. Don't get mad at me!

### **What kind of tattoos do you look forward to doing?**

I think I want to push my technique further, and do more movies scenes, more photography. You can't tell yourself you're the best or that you're done [growing]. That's what motivates me. I'd like to add colors, but differently from what we see today. I'd like to combine different techniques.

### **Before someone gets a tattoo what advice do you give them?**

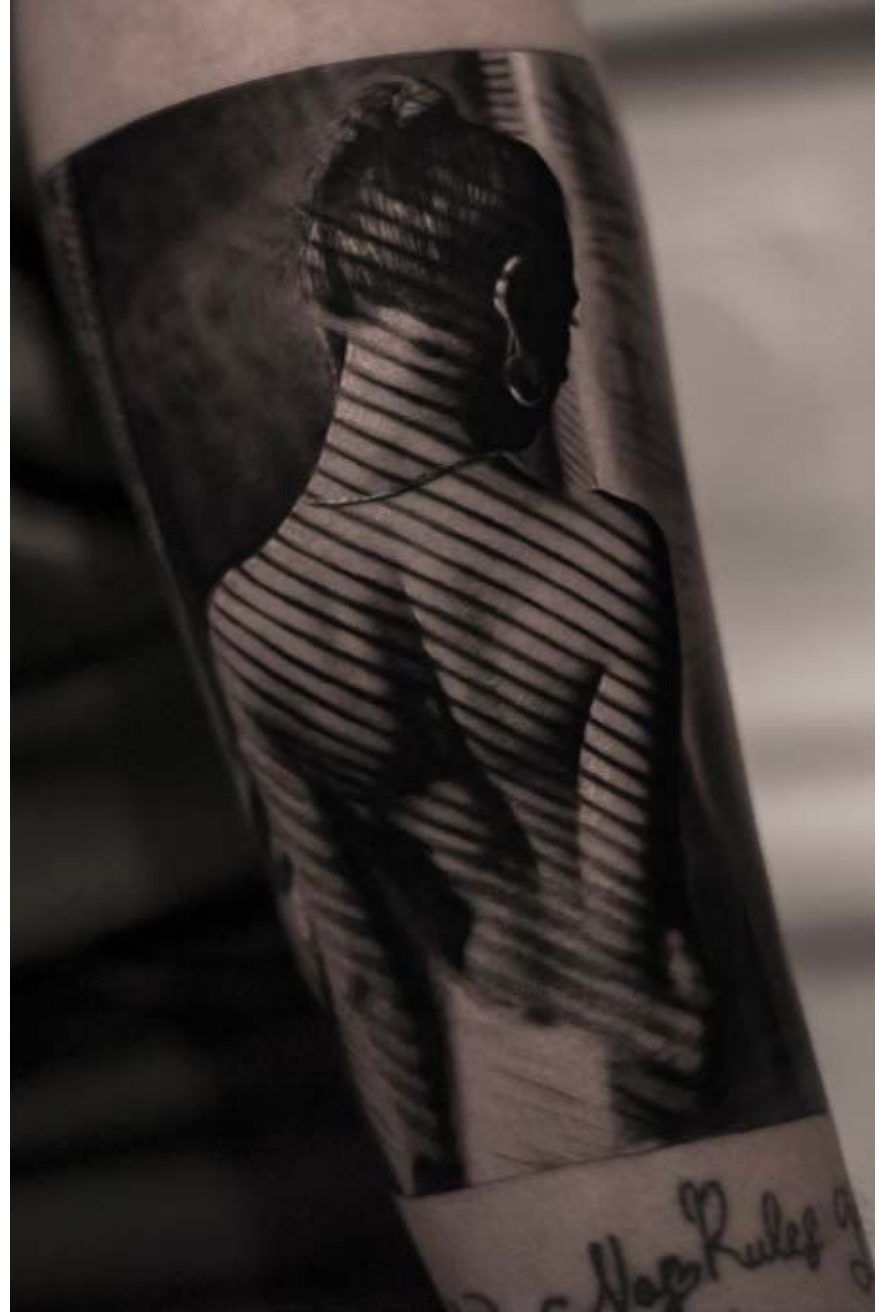
[I tell them] to think about something and to do it differently, so it will never get old. [I tell them to pick] something personal, and to trust your tattoo artist.

### **Is there a tattoo that you haven't done yet that you are dying to do?**

A whole body with all those tiny details!

### **How do you see the black-and-grey scene evolving?**

Every day, I'm discovering new artists, and every day I see more and more amazing tattoos. But, I think we're reaching the maximum potential of the technique. In the future, it's going to depend on the project, composition, and the final touch the artist will bring.







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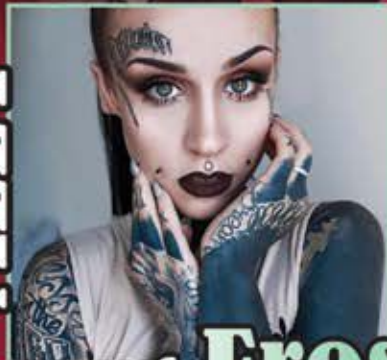
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**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR TATTOO STYLE?** I would describe my tattoo style as illustrative realism. I dabble in New School and illustrative with realistic elements. Even when doing something portrait style, I try to capture the idea of the photo while still simplifying it and altering it into this style. I have always been drawn to appreciate realistic painters and illustrators, I suppose my appreciation for it led to an obsession to capture things and make them as life-like as possible. I do prefer color, but I have fun with the odd black-and-grey project, that I do take on. I like variety and love creating large scale work. As far as subject matter goes, my favorites things are from my childhood like cartoons, video games, comics...anything with bright color and dynamic contrast.

# DEREK TURCOTTE

FOLLOW: @DRKTURCOTTE

**WHAT INSPIRES YOUR WORK?** I am largely inspired by nature and wildlife, as well as, the comic and superhero universe. My wife Beth and daughter Isla are also a huge inspiration for me to always push to be a better artist and person. The artists and clients that I am surrounded by definitely have inspired me over the years— helping to mold me into the artist I am today. My twin brother has always been a huge support for me, he also has a lot of my first tattoo work.

**WHAT OTHER ART MEDIUMS DO YOU WORK IN?** As far as mediums beside tattooing on skin, I work on canvas with acrylic paint and airbrush using an Iwata Hp-cs Eclipse. These days a lot of my painting is done with Createx Illustration colors.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT TO TATTOO?** These days I look forward to doing pretty much anything large scale — anything psychedelic or geometric, cartoons, video games or wildlife. A tattoo that I hope to do in the future is a full bio-mechanical torso. I think it would be fun to design and execute. A Rick and Morty piece would be awesome as well.

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# DAVID PEYOTE

FOLLOW: @THEDAVIDCOTE

**WHAT YEAR DID YOU START TATTOOING?** I started tattooing in October 2011.

**HOW DID YOU GET INTO TATTOOING?** I've always been attracted to the art form. First time they piqued my curiosity as a kid was when I saw my uncle's old biker tattoos on his forearm. I remained curious about tattooing all the way through college. Then one day, I received a book entitled "Forever the New Tattoo" as a birthday gift from a friend and it was a revelation. I've been dedicated to the art form ever since.

**WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST SHOP EXPERIENCE LIKE?** The first shop I went to was your typical tattoo shop; loud metal music, dark paintings on the walls, and skulls everywhere. I didn't like the vibe much, but I was very interested in how the artists would do their work.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL TRAINING?** I would have to say, not really.

**HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?** A blend of psychedelia and surrealism.

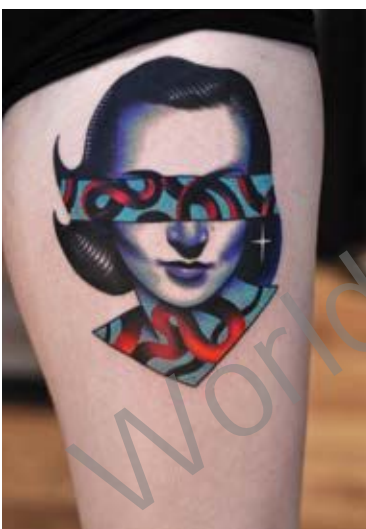
**WHAT LED YOU TO WORK IN SURREALISM?** I wanted to create pieces that remind us of the reality we live in, with a twist of imagination to it..

**WHAT SUBJECT MATTERS DO YOU PREFER?** Anything that is surrealistic. It can range from portraits to landscapes to abstractism. As long as it's weird, I'll dig doing it.

**DO YOU APPROACH PORTRAITS IN THE SAME WAY YOU APPROACH OTHER SUBJECTS?** Yes. I do some research on the person that I'm gonna be making a portrait of. I read about their personal life, achievements and general things that influenced them to try to capture the essence of their being.

**WHAT INSPIRES YOU AS AN ARTIST?** Everything, to be honest. A silhouette of an object reflecting on the ground can inspire me in many ways. I try not to limit myself to particular things.

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**WHEN DID YOU FIRST CONSIDER YOURSELF AN ARTIST?** I have been involved with art for as long as I can remember. I started sculpting when I was maybe six years-old. I would use different plastics. I then went to art school when I was nine years-old. I started to paint and work on making good compositions and of course continued sculpting as well. In the Ukraine, they have special schools specifically for art. I went there for sculpting when I was 13 years old. I went there for two years and then transferred to study architecture for almost four years.

**WHAT LED YOU TO WORK IN REALISM?** I love the work of the old master painters and I wanted to emulate their style. Even though their art is considered realism, it is not just an exact copy of the actual subject matter. I really liked that.

**HOW DOES NATURE INFLUENCE YOUR WORK?** Nature is all around us so it is hard to not be inspired by it. I enjoy looking at woods or lakes and I love the bright colors of the sunrise and sunsets. I like to include that in my work.

**HOW DOES CALIFORNIA IMPACT YOU AS AN ARTIST?** Being in California, I have been doing a lot more nature related work. More landscapes and ocean scenes, whereas in the Ukraine, I did more portraits and religious tattoos. I also have a lot more freedom in my work here and I feel my style is appreciated even more.

**WHAT ARE YOUR TRAVEL PLANS FOR 2018?** Oh boy! I am trying to do a lot of conventions and guest spots this year. My goal is to try to do at least one convention a month and travel the country. I am also working on getting a few guest spots in my calendar as well.

**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO TATTOO THAT YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE?** I would love to tattoo a triptych on three different people's backs. A triptych is three or more paintings that are combined to make one larger painting.

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# VYACHESLAV BODROV

**FOLLOW: @VYACHESLAVBODROV**





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**Kansas City**  
May 25th - 27th 2018

**Cleveland**  
February 22nd - 24th 2019

**Denver**  
June 22nd - 24th 2018

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**WHAT YEAR DID YOU START TATTOOING?** I started tattooing in 2001, in Tokyo.

**HOW DID YOU GET INTO TATTOOING?** I was born in South Korea. and I left my country in 1998. I went to Tokyo to be an architect, but when I first saw the Japanese traditional tattoo style, I fell in love with it. Then I started tattooing. It took two years to decide to pursue [tattooing], because I already studied to be an architect, but this art, was absolutely amazing. I was determined to become a tattoo artist.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL TRAINING?** Not really.

**WHAT CONVENTIONS HAVE YOU DONE RECENTLY?** I go to the London Convention by Miki Vialeto and the Paris (Mondial du Tatouage) convention by Tin-Tin every year.

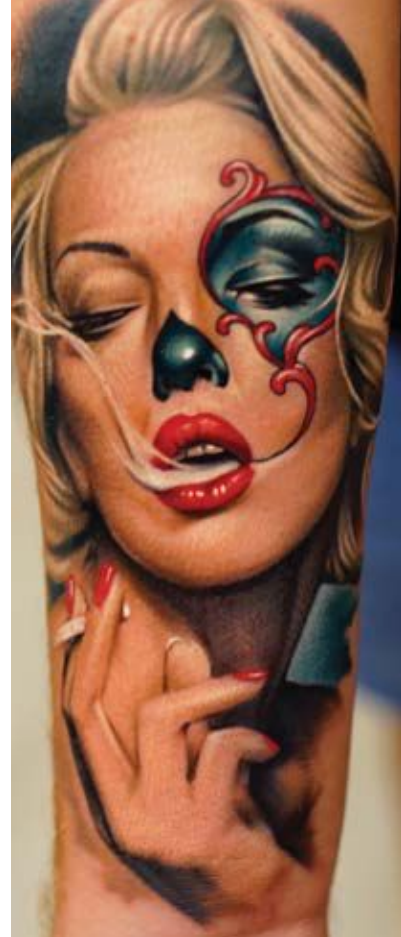
**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?** It's realism. I am really enjoying realistic tattoos now, it's just one of my favorite styles. Most of my customers like the way I do color realism, but I'm still working on creating my own style. Every tattoo is different, and the people that I work on usually have a story to tell.

**DO YOU PREFER COLOR OR BLACK AND GREY?** Color. It takes more work and more thought. I'm a thinker.

**WHAT SUBJECT MATTERS DO YOU PREFER?** Any subject that has a story to tell.

**IS THERE A TATTOO THAT YOU HAVEN'T DONE YET THAT YOU ARE DYING TO DO?** I really want to do a full-body, three-dimensional piece on someone who doesn't have any tattoos yet.

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FOLLOW: @KHANTATTOO



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# COM PANY XIV

photos by dan howell words by dan howell

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The ballet. The opera. Costumes and footlights. These are not the typical the trappings of a sexy and salacious performance laced with rebellion, but they're an integral part of the experience for Brooklyn's Company XIV. The self-styled Baroque Ballet company challenges preconceived notions of traditional art forms with operatic arrangements of rock and pop, gender bending ballerinas, circus acts, and skin. Lots of skin.

Company XIV was born out of the imagination of award winning artistic director and choreographer, Austin McCormick, in 2006—combining his background in classical ballet and baroque dance with elements of opera, burlesque, and circus performance. Company XIV is named after Louis XIV and McCormick's love of the era's lush and decadent style. His vision has garnered both attention and awards including multiple Drama Desk awards. McCormick and Company XIV finally found a permanent home in Bushwick, Brooklyn after several seasons of moving from theater to theater including a residency in Paris.

The abundance of bare bodies is virtually an uncredited character in each production and little is left to the audience's imagination as they watch performers get ready before the show and change costumes on stage. This tradition was initially a necessity, since the small warehouse space they started in had no backstage. When they are in costumes the effect is no less sexy. The decadent costumes designed by Zane Pihlstrom range from corseted bodices (both women and men) and frilly lace tutus (yes, also on the boys,) to S&M leathers and sequined g-strings. All of the looks have glitter, lots of glitter.

Past productions have included the classic fairytales Snow White and Cinderella, but these productions were not for the kiddies and included pole dancing, scantily clad aerialists, and opera divas popping their pasties with their unique hybrid "hip-hOpera."

Their recent production of Nutcracker Rouge has become an annual holiday tradition. The stage set is a mashup of Rococo and old Hollywood and the stage thrusts into the audience, aerial apparatus hanging over the seating, allowing performers to dangle high above the crowd. Nutcracker Rouge is a departure from the familiar ballet and includes an opera chorus in leathers, an aerialist singing Coldplay's 'Yellow' while dancing in a lyra suspended over the audience, a soulful Storm Marrero belting out Rihanna 'Te Amo' under a vintage candelabra, and a rousing rendition of Def Leppard's 'Pour Some Sugar On Me' sung by a towering gender bending diva (Michael Cunio) with a chorus of ballet boys emerging from his/her ample skirt. All of the dancers more than prove their classic ballet chops and several stretch well past the traditional boundaries with tap, modern and circus skills adding to the unexpected and unconventional life of the show.

Ten members of the highly skilled and athletic cast of Nutcracker Rouge posed for this INKED photoshoot on stage at their new home in Bushwick, Brooklyn. In the group photo: (left to right) dancers Mark Osmundsen and Nicole Von Arx, aerialist and soprano Marcy Richardson, standing on chair aerialist and dancer Steven Trumon Grey, kneeling is dancer Ryan Redmond, Katrina Cunningham, Michelle Lee laying on floor, dancer Lukasz Zieba on gold chair, and identical twins and dancers Ross and Nicholas Katen.

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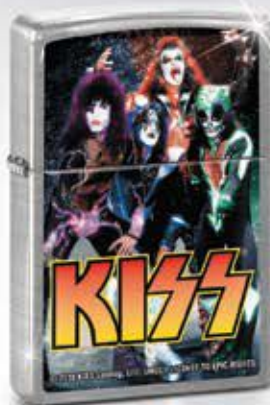
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