











CONTENTS

Editor

James Sandercock

editor@totaltattoo.co.uk

Sub Editor
Emma Garwood

Art Director **Perry Rule** artwork@totaltattoo.co.uk

Advertising Manager **Jill Feldt**

advertising@totaltattoo.co.uk

Social Media Manager
Emma Whittaker
totaltattoo@totaltattoo.co.uk

Contributors

Marco Annunziata Lars Krutak Tina Korhonen Travellin' Mick Doralba Picerno Ester Segarra

All correspondence should be sent to

Total Tattoo Magazine PO Box 10038 Sudbury Suffolk C010 7WL

www.totaltattoo.co.uk









REGULARS

07 editorial

james' thoughts for the month

08 newsflash

tattoo news and reviews for your delectation and delight

84 subscriptions/ total tattoo t-shirt

new design, available now

49 gallery plus

inspiration just for you

96 convention calendar worldwide convention listing

97 next month's issue a quick peek into the future

98 mugshot tommi crazy, middleton tattoo

DISCLAIMER

Adverts and articles appearing in Total Tattoo magazine carry no implied recommendation from the magazine or from KMT Publishing Ltd. We reserve the right to refuse an advertisement or article which we consider unsuitable. All details are correct at time of going to press. Whilst we make every effort to ensure all advertisements, articles and credits are correct, Total Tattoo magazine and KMT Publishing Ltd will not be held responsible for errors or omissions.

Material appearing in Total Tattoo may not be reproduced for any purpose without the written permission of KMT Publishing Ltd. All letters sent to Total Tattoo magazine will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication and copyright purposes and as such are subject to editing and editorial comment.

Total Tattoo magazine No. 109 NOVEMBER 2013 Published monthly by KMT Publishing Ltd. All rights reserved. Printed in England on re-cycled paper by Buxton Press Ltd Distributed by Warners Group Publications Plc



Private View Branden, Tattoo No.



ON THE COVER

Model: Telly Lale Tattoos: Various Photo: Tina Korhonen



Advertising & general enquiries
01787 242100

Subscription enquiries
0800 917 8794

totaltattoo@warnersgroup.co.uk
To find your nearest stockist call
01778 391150

or e-mail your postcode to

INTERVIEWS

Every month we scour the planet to find the best artists. We bring you their stories and we showcase their work. In this month's issue...

14

Gene Coffey

His beautifully unnatural abstracted watercolour visions of nature.



The neo Nordic movement gathers momentum with traditional Viking techniques.



Sam Ford
With ink in her blood, second generation tattoo talent Sam keeps Southend on the map.



SUBMITTING PHOTOS

vickyb@warnersgroup.co.uk

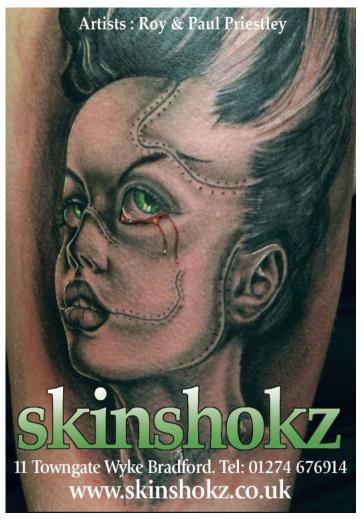
Images must be high resolution (300) and sized at 100mm by 150mm.

Email your photos to gallery@totaltattoo.co.uk or send them on a disc to Gallery, Total Tattoo, PO Box 10038, Sudbury, Suffolk, C010 7WL

The disc needs to be labelled with the artist & studio name.

Competition Terms and Conditions

All winners will be picked at random (or on merit if applicable) after the closing date. Entries received after the closing date will not be considered. The editor's decision is final. Only one entry per person please, and remember to include your name and address. Winners of convention tickets will be responsible for their own transport and accommodation unless stated otherwise. Total Tattoo is not responsible for items lost or damaged in transit – though of course we will try to help if we can.









Alice came to a fork in the road. 'Which road do I take?' she asked. 'Where do you want to go?' responded the Cheshire Cat. 'I don't know,' Alice answered. 'Then,' said the Cat, 'it doesn't matter.'

Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland



EDITORIAL

very month, come rain or shine, hell or high water, one thing happens at Total Tattoo: we hit the big red button and the new issue of the magazine goes to print. At that point, all the hard work we have put

into it and all the hours of checking and cross-checking come to an abrupt halt and we just have to let it go. What seemed to have infinite permutations earlier in the month suddenly becomes permanent, and for that reason we want to get it as close to perfect as we can possibly manage.

But what would happen if the permanence were taken away and we could simply dip back into it and make whatever retrospective changes we fancied? What if nothing was on-the-record or set in stone? For all of us working on the magazine that point of no return is vital; it's what makes us tick. Total Tattoo is as good as it is because of the dedication of our in-house team and our contributors, and the time they take to do things right.

Immediate gratification is all very well - and sometimes it's just what you need - but it seldom has much value. The number of times I've stood staring at the chocolate bars in the newsagents, made my selection, enjoyed that heavenly first bite... only to realise how short lived that reward really is. The fillings in my teeth and my everexpanding waistline are all that remains of that sweet-toothed feel good moment.

A tattoo is different though, isn't it? Yes, you get that wonderful rush when you first see your new tattoo, but surely living with it long term, and the way it makes you feel in the long run, is where it's at. Or maybe that's just my out-of-date old school attitude. Laser technology is making it easier than ever to remove unwanted ink, so does this mean the idea of the tattoo as fashion mistake has now been given the green light? (It makes me wonder how many people now factor the cost of laser removal into their budget when they're getting tattooed...)

The face of tattooing is changing. For me, the permanence - or otherwise - of tattoos is one of the biggest issues that's around at the moment. It's going to have a huge impact on the future of the art form. If people don't think that ink is for ever, their decision making process is going to reflect that. Surely it's better to make a choice and fully embrace it? Because when you commit to something, that's when things really start to happen...

Until Next Month

James

editor@totaltattoo.co.uk

www.totaltattoo.co.uk

www.facebook.com/totaltattoomagazine

ON-LINE MAGAZINE

Available worldwide

ipad • iphone • Android Kindle • Mac & PC



digital version of Total Tattoo contains the same great features as its printed partner, and can be simply downloaded in an instant - any time, anywhere.













totaltattoo.co.uk

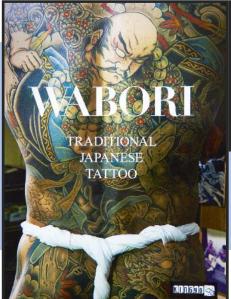


NEWS & REVIEWS

Tattoo news and reviews for your delectation and delight. If it goes on in the tattoo world, it goes in here.

Send us your news items, books or products for review and items of general curiosity and intrigue for the tattoo cognoscenti.

News, Total Tattoo Magazine, PO Box 10038, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7WL





Wabori: Traditional Japanese Tattoo By Manami Okazaki Published by Kingyo Press Price: £62 252 pages

Though there are many highly desirable publications about Japanese tattooing, Manami Okazaki's **Wabori** has the most personal feel of any that we've come across.





The interviews with the horimono masters, conducted and compiled over a six year period, have a real human touch and provide a fascinating insight into the discipline of their lifestyle. The book starts with an informative overview of the history of tattooing in Japan and also includes interviews with Motoharu Asaka, master woodblock printer, and Shoko Tendo, daughter of a Yakuza boss. Interwoven with the text are some wonderful photographs. All in all, plenty of powerful reasons for lovers of Japanese tattooing to invest in this title.





Octopus Tattoo

Colin Jones from Stained Class will be guesting at Octopus Tattoo in Derby from 6th to 9th November. If you're interested in an appointment, call Octopus Tattoo on: 01332 204240



RepTilia artist print and t-shirt up for grabs

RepTilia Art Movement is the brainchild of David Hillier, an avid tattoo and art enthusiast. More than just a clothing company, its objective is to promote the work of the RepTilia family of artists as well as producing some nice looking clobber. There are five handpicked resident artists in the family, each with their own signature style, plus invited guest artists and an apprentice (following the tattoo studio model!) If you want to find out a bit more about the RepTilia family or the RepTilia philosophy, head to www.reptiliaartmovement.bigcartel.com In the mean

time, how about a t-shirt and signed print by Canadian tattoo artist and RepTilia family member, James Greenaway? To enter, just email your name and address to **comps@totaltattoo.co.uk** with the subject line COLD-BLOODED. Closing date 5th December. T&Cs apply (see page 5).



WIN HEADPHONES WIN HE WAS AND HEADPHONES WIN HE WAS AND HEADPHONES WIN HEADPHONES WIN HEADPHONES WIN HEADPHONES

News from Marshall and Headphones to Win!



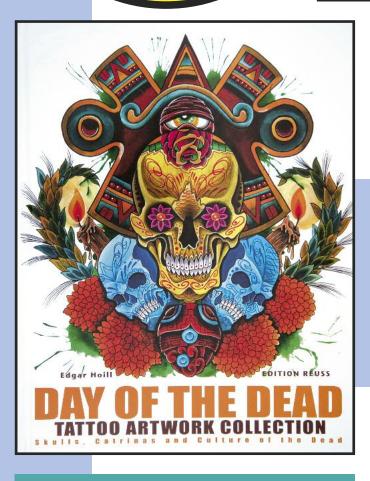




With the same iconic styling as their legendary amps, Marshall's new Stanmore compact active speaker makes a simple statement: Rock 'n' Roll. But don't let the vintage look fool you. This is state-of-the-art tech, with wireless connectivity included, and it packs a powerful audio punch. At a cool £400 it doesn't come cheap, but this is quality gear. Also available from Marshall is the Monitor Headphone. As you might expect, these highly desirable little babies have that retro feel too... and, what's more, we have a set to give away! To be in with a chance of winning, just let us know why you need them in your life.

Email **comps@totaltattoo.co.uk** with MUSIC TO MY EARS as your subject line. Closing date is 5th December. T&Cs apply (see page 5).

Check out www.marshallheadphones.com for more product details.







BOOK REVIEW

Day of the Dead Tattoo Artwork Collection: Skulls, Catrinas and Culture of the Dead

By Edgar Hoill

Published by Edition Reuss

Price: £82.50 144 pages

Certain topics retain a perennial fascination for tattoo collectors and artists alike, and Mexico's traditional celebration of El Dia de los Muertos is certainly one of those. During the past decade, the characteristic imagery of decorated skulls and beautiful women's faces overlaid with skeletal features has found its way into the vocabulary of tattoo artists worldwide, the variations limited only by their imagination. This massive volume bears witness to that fact. Within its pages are countless versions of Day of the Dead iconography – including paintings, drawings, photographs and sculpture – by numerous artists in many different countries. It's not hard to see how this cultural phenomenon has reached out around the globe to inspire and captivate so many creative spirits.

CLOAK AND DAGGER

The megatropolis that is London recently welcomed a brand new studio: Cloak and Dagger Tattoo Parlour at 34-36 Cheshire Street, Shoreditch, London, E2 6EH (just off Brick Lane, in the heart of one of



London's most creative districts). Manned by Al Boy, Hugh Sheldon and Luke Jinks, you can find out more at www.cloakanddaggerlondon.co.uk





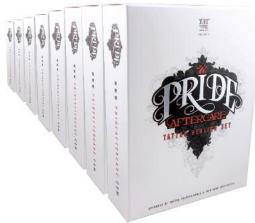


INKSHACK TATTOO

Experienced tattoo artist wanted for new studio in Solihull (West Midlands) town centre. Must have portfolio and excellent drawing capabilities. Please email inkshack@hotmail.com with any enquiries.







SHOW YOUR TATTOO YOU CARE... PRIDE AFTERCARE HEALING SETS FOR 10 LUCKY READERS!

You can't put a price on good tattoo aftercare. It's make or break in those early days. No matter how fabulous your ink looks when you first get out of the tattooist's chair, it won't be looking nearly as good a few days later if you don't respect your new tattoo and its healing process. That's where TATSoul's new Pride Aftercare comes in. The range features Pride Aftercare Cleanser, Pride Aftercare Ointment and Pride Aftercare Lotion. It's a threestage treatment that will give your new tattoo the best possible start in life. We have 10 Pride Aftercare Healing Sets to give away. So be a responsible parent, drop us an email and if your name is one of the first ten out of the hat, you'll be a winner. Send your email to comps@totaltattoo.co.uk with the subject line **HEAL**. Closing date 5th December. T&C apply (see page 5). For more details check out www.tatsoul.co.uk/totaltattoo

LINKYS

Here is this month's selection of web links, containing a wide range of tattoo snippets for you to enjoy. If you know of a good Linky that you think our readers would like, drop us a line to

editor@totaltattoo.co.uk putting Linkys as your subject.





Ed Hardy drawing flash https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tpuGgjf-IM





Dynamite Bali x Buch Tattoo Bali https://vimeo.com/75634647

Factorum Body Modification in Norwich are delighted to announce that they have the

talented Emma Sailor Tattooist joining them from 28th October. Contact the studio or Emma directly for appointments and pricing. Tel 01603 618188





Vanity Fair Decades: the 1940s https://vimeo.com/75906247





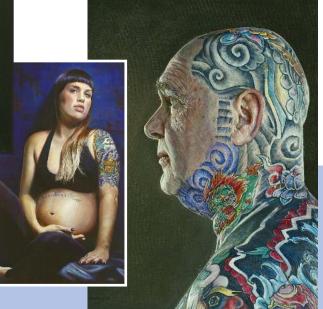
Carlos Torres: tattoo timelapse https://vimeo.com/44833260



Jackie Edwards Portraits: Posers wanted!

These extraordinarily realistic portraits by Irish-based artist Jackie Edwards are the result of a project exploring the beauty of bodily decoration. Jackie travels far and wide in search of the "right people to paint" - people who really stand out - and for her, the art represented within the picture is as important as the art involved in making the picture.

Passionate about the beautiful techniques used by the Old Masters, oil and egg tempera



is Jackie's chosen medium. Working on linen, or on a wooden panel, she carefully builds up layers of translucent, semi-opaque oil glazes over an opaque monochromatic egg tempera under-painting, bringing a depth of colour and illumination to the finished piece that could not be achieved through any other means. Jackie's work is available through The Doorway Gallery in Dublin

(www.thedoorwaygallery.com) and she is happy to take commissions. She is also always seeking interesting-looking people who would like to pose for her. You can contact her through The Doorway Gallery. Look out for the limited edition prints of her work that will be available towards Christmas!

Birmingham

Based in Birmingham city centre, Birmingham Ink are looking to take on a third tattooist. You must have high standards in art, tattooing and hygiene; a minimum of six years shop experience; and a professional work ethic, with no ego or attitude. GSOH essential! To apply, email a few examples of your tattoos and artwork, with basic bullet point information on yourself (no essays please) and three references to tattoostaffbrum@hotmail.com

It's the Law

It's yet to happen, but it could be on the cards... Washington DC's law makers are looking at introducing a 24-hour mandatory waiting period for a tattoo. Najma Roberts, spokeswoman for the Washington DC Health Department, told the Washington Post this was a measure aimed at ensuring people were "in the right frame of mind" when deciding to get tattooed, so they don't "wake up in the morning... saying, 'Oh my God, what happened?" If this law is passed, one element of tattooing will be completely lost: spontaneity. Is this a good thing or a bad thing? What are your thoughts? Let us know at editor@totaltattoo.co.uk

will soon be opening its doors in the historic city of Chester and they are looking for a select group of very talented artists (ideally with an already established client base) who are able to provide quality original custom tattoo work. If this is something you would like to find out more about, get in touch via tattooistvacancy@hotmail.co.uk



Just Our Bag

Tovicorrie have added a new clutch bag to their supercool range of handmade leather goodies. The bag is a collaboration with tattoo artist David J Watt from Black Lantern Tattoo and is priced £73.00. Take a look at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/tovicorrie for more of Tovicorrie's glorious designs. HILTON BRIGHTON METROPOLE

15TH FEB 16TH 2014

BRIGHTON

TATIOD CONVENTION

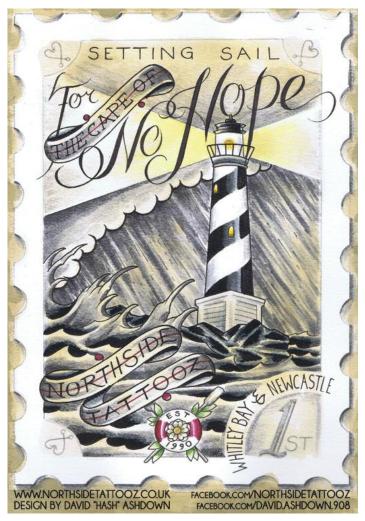
I ATIOD CONVENTION

I ATIOD





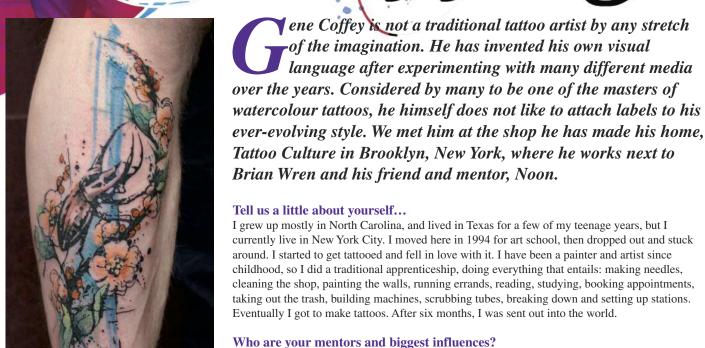






please mention total tattoo when replying to adverts • please mention total tattoo when replying to adverts





I find influences all around me: paintings, street art, music, literature, comics, video games pretty much everything fuels me. As for tattoo artists, Noon has been my mentor. He encourages me a lot and has truly been a great friend and teacher throughout my career.









'Solitude can nurture immense breakthroughs in creativity, but it shouldn't be confused with isolation. Isolation can do the exact opposite and be detrimental to my state of mind.'















How important has your artistic training been to you in your work?

If you are going to be a good tattoo artist you need to have a foundation in the basics of art. To me that means you need to be able to draw. Hand to eye coordination is essential for being able to create visual art. Some people create their entire designs for tattoos by using Photoshop and images that they find online. But if you don't know how to execute a clean drawing of the design, your work is going to be trash. Shitty execution makes for shitty tattoos. Some people look at some of the stuff I do and just see messy tattoos and think, 'Oh awesome, I can just skip all that learning how to draw and paint bullshit and just do messy / scratchy tattoos and call them artistic!' What they don't know is I spend hours on some of the designs beforehand, painting and drawing and repainting them, sometimes half a dozen times before I find the one that feels right and works as a tattoo. A tattoo is only as good as the prep work. The drawing is essential.

Do you think it's important for modern tattoo artists to work with different artistic media?

I consider myself to be an artist first and foremost. I just happen to be tattooing for a living. But my passion is in creating works of art, whether on people's skin or on canvas. I think that a modern tattooist does not need to work outside the tattoo medium to do great tattoos. But if you want to expand on the vocabulary of the art form you need to seek answers outside tattooing, and that means looking at and creating other forms of art.













How would you describe your style?

It's just me. I don't know how to describe it. People call it watercolour tattoos, but for some reason I hate that term. I don't think it's entirely accurate, and it also makes me feel compartmentalised, which is not something I want to be.

What's the weirdest thing anyone has asked you to tattoo and what should a customer avoid asking you?

People don't really ask me for weird stuff. That's more Brian's cup of tea. As for what they shouldn't ask me, it's the same for all tattooists: Don't ask me to copy someone else's tattoo or someone else's style. And don't ask me to do it cheaper or try to bargain. It's insulting.











You have been in New York for two decades now, so sometimes I guess you just need to get away?

I certainly could not live without visiting other places. I need to see other cultures for my own growth. Every time I go somewhere I come back with a renewed sense of purpose and insight. Sometimes, just being on a plane for a couple of hours can help put my whole life into perspective. I contemplate how big our planet is, how many people there actually are on it and how different we all are, and also how much we are all alike. I love going by myself to a country where I don't speak the language and just being a fly on the wall for a week or two. Something strange happens when you go somewhere unfamiliar and don't have a real conversation with another person for a couple weeks. You gain a huge appreciation of what you have back home. Solitude can nurture immense breakthroughs in creativity. But it shouldn't be confused with isolation. Isolation can do the exact opposite and be detrimental to my state of mind. It's a fine line, but worth exploring. I've had some of my biggest ideas while on solitary trips abroad.

Do conventions play a part in your love of travel?

Not so much. I love the comforts of home and having the peace of mind that goes with it when tattooing, and I don't party. I'm a bit of a recluse, in that respect. I think I'm kind of awkward around strangers. Working in a shop is preferable to a convention for me.



Is New York still the creative hub it was?

New York is big and fast and has a lot of artistic institutions. I wish I could say that it's still the New York that I fell in love with 20 years ago, but it's not. It used to be edgy and full of creative energy that spilled out onto the streets and sidewalks. It was full of interesting characters and people. But now it's overrun with rich and well-to-do folk. It seems to become more and more sterile by the day. And to be honest, I don't like it that much anymore; it's a city chock-full of sports bars and big banks and fancy cars. I'm just trying to keep a little bit of the seediness around to remind all the straights where their sparkling city came from.

www.tattooculture.net

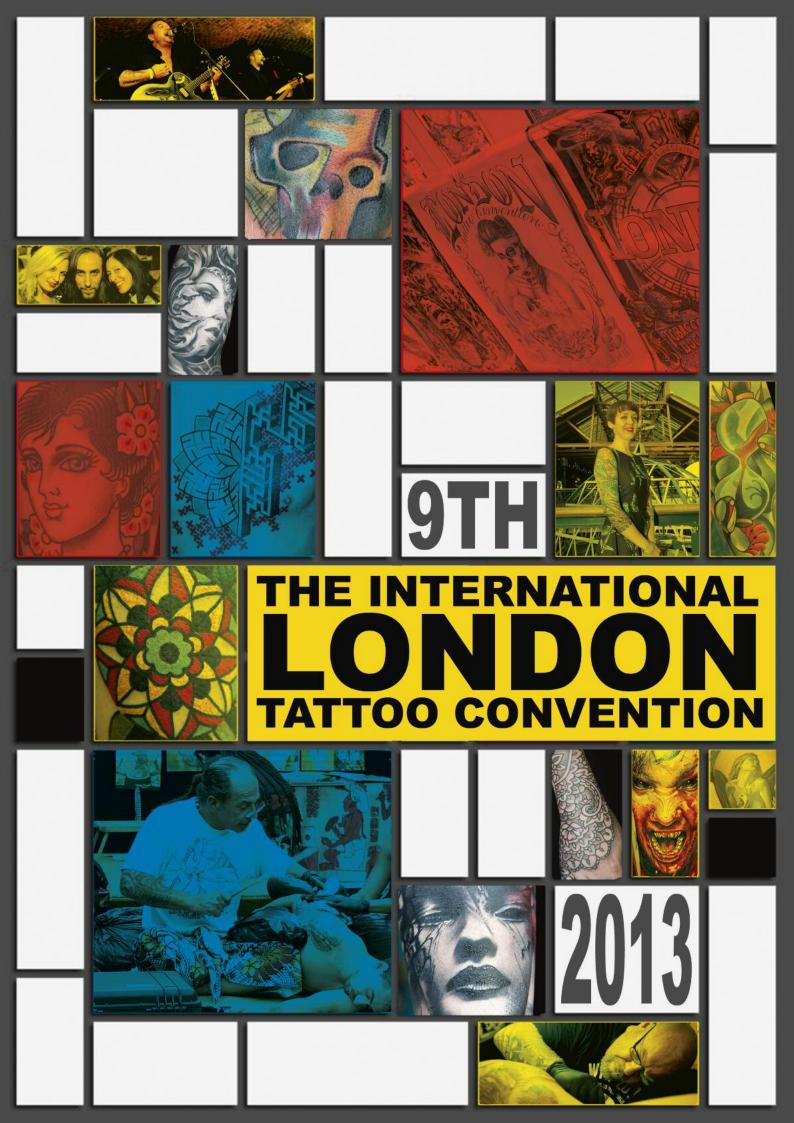




























Words:James • Photos: Tina Korhonen, Doralba Picerno, Ester Segarra, James & Perry International tattoo convention



very year thousands of tattoo fans converge on London's East End. The historic Tobacco Dock is their destination and there can only be one reason for the pilgrimage: the London International Tattoo Convention has come to town. Buzzing with excitement, whether they are planning to get tattooed or not, they all know this show is something special. And that feeling is infectious; it just seems to radiate from everybody – tattoo fans and artists alike.



It's going to be virtually impossible for me to convey in words the creative magnitude of this event. It's almost overwhelming. When you're there, you just have to take a deep breath, accept that there's no way you're going to be able to experience everything that's on offer, and plunge in. Just enjoy being part of it... it's a fun show to be lost in. It can be broken down into bite size chunks for a more focused approach (and to avoid serious indigestion), and the similarities in the layout each year help you to get your orientation, but there's always some great surprises in store.



- 1. choshu horikazu (japan)
- anna by rodrigo melo, north star tattoo (usa)
- ami james of miami ink fame, love hate (usa)
- chris garver of miami ink fame, love hate (usa)
- 5. chris crooks, white dragon tattoo
- 6. rob by greg christian (usa)
- 7. huey, fun lovin' criminals
- 8. ashley by lina stigsson, admiraal tattoo (netherlands)
- 9. ty by carlos torres (usa)
- 10. crez, adrenalink (italy)
- 11. pili mo'o (spain)





















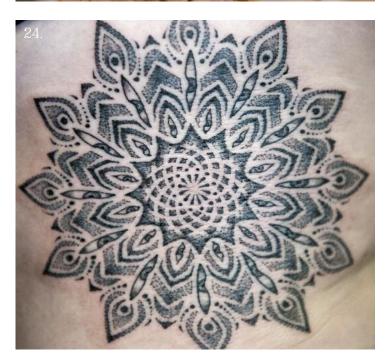
This year, as always, the retail therapy and entertainment of the (mostly) pain-free variety were to be found in the belly of the beast. The Fuel Girls played with fire, dangled from on high and straddled poles; the ever-popular Nerdy Stripper well... stripped; and there was some extremely titillating burlesque from ElegyEllem, Cervena 'Queen of the Damned' Fox, and Janet Fishietto. And you could get involved with the Miss Pin-Up UK finals hosted by Beatrix Von Bourbon, who also treated the assembled masses to her captivating burlesque show. Crowding round the stage, cameras at the ready, the audience simply couldn't get enough. As the sun sank below the horizon, and the long shadows thrown by the building's massive timber beams melted into darkness, the atmosphere in the basement changed. The volume was turned up and the bands took to the stage in the dimly lit, aptly named Voodoo Crypt. Henry's Funeral Shoe and the Fun Lovin' Criminals (fronted by the ever-popular Huey Morgan) took control of Friday night, with Vince Ray and the Boneshakers, Snatch It Back and The Urban Voodoo Machine taking care of the Saturday night fever.

Upstairs was the main event. If the London Tattoo Convention were a cocktail, this would be the Tequila in the Sunrise: hundreds of the finest tattoo artists on the planet brought together under one roof, and hundreds of world-class tattoos being produced every day, for three whole days. As an über tattoo fan, I have to say it doesn't get any better than this! Every continent is represented, and every style imaginable, with old masters and young bucks working shoulder-to-shoulder. It's a joy













- 12. lyu by tang ping, ziyou tattoo (china)
- 13. t-loz by csaba mullner, tattoo de sade (hungary)
- 14. steve by laura juan (spain)
- 15. nick by victor chil (spain)
- 16. the fuel girls
- 17. shige, yellow blaze (japan)
- 18. erikas by eddy tattoo studio (lithuania)
- 19. patricia by issa, tin tin tatouages (france)
- 20. massimiliano by crez, adrenalink (italy)
- 21. richard by xam, the family business
- 22. james by norm, will rise tattoo (usa)
- 23. rosa by dask, sake tattoo (greece)
- 24. emma by jondix (spain)













- 25. norm, will rise tattoo (usa)
 26. by touka voodoo, divine canvas
 27. by cui tattoo (china)
 28. dan di mattia, calypso tattoo (belguim)
 29. ty by victor portugal (poland)
- 30. by simone, buena vista tattoo club (germany)
 31. by horiyoshi III, chris trevino and tim lehi
 32. by bugs, tattoo lounge (usa)

- 33. the urban voodoo machine
- 34. henry's funeral shoe

- 35. cup cake heaven
 36. by josh duffy, timeline (usa)
 37. massimo and gabi
 38. by brad fink, daredevil tattoo (usa)

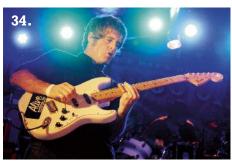
to behold, and the energy generated is unique to the London show. But it's not just the artists who create that atmosphere. A great cocktail needs a great mixer and at the London show it's us: the tattoo fans.

Each year tweaks are made to the show to make it a more enjoyable and comfortable place to spend time. This year two major changes made a big difference. The first was the toilets – lots of 'em! Not a very glamorous thing to talk about perhaps, but utterly essential and much appreciated. The other difference was in the layout. The familiar glass-walled rooms were still there, but then there was the new Great Gallery. Aptly named, it housed over one hundred and twenty artists. It was like a convention within a convention! It definitely improved the flow of the show by easing the pressure in the smaller rooms and it helped to avoid the gridlock that has occurred in previous years.























- 39. self portrait by roman abrego, artistic element (usa)
- 40. by jes yen, my tattoo (usa)
- 41 jes yen, my tattoo (usa)
- 42. by jee sayalero, human fly tattoo (spain)
- 43. by dave tevenal, memento tattoo (usa)
- 44. by florian karg, vicious circle (germany)
- 45 & 46. by gunnar foley,
- imperial tattoo (sweden)
 47. by henning jørgensen,
 royal tattoo (denmark)
- 48. nikole lowe, jondix, blue
- 49. by marco galdo, trafficanti d'arte (italy)
- 50. by bill canales, full circle (usa)



As always, the work was stunning. You will not find a better global showcase than the London Tattoo Convention. Nowadays the world's tattooists might be just a click away with the internet, but *nothing* beats the feeling of actually looking through an artist's book, your heart quickening as you realise their work is something special, then being able to talk to them in person or watch them work. The experience of tattoo cannot be found online or on television; that vital element of human contact is missing. The *real* experience is still to be found, alive and well, in the studios and at the shows. And for me, the London International Tattoo Convention is the epitome of that experience, at the very highest level.

































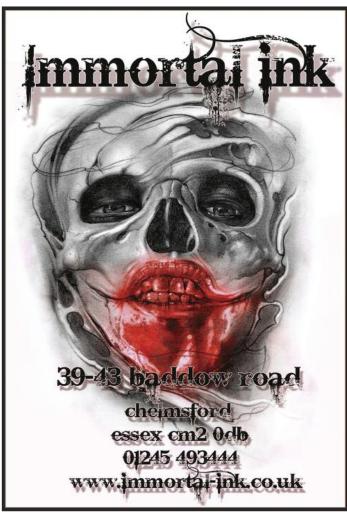
- 51. by henrik g (france)
 52. by brent mccown, tattoo tatau (austria)
 53. by cui tattoo (china)
 54. by chris crooks, white dragon
 55. by miss arianna, skinwear (italy)
 56. by miss arianna, skinwear (italy)
 57. by stizzo, best of times tattoo (italy)

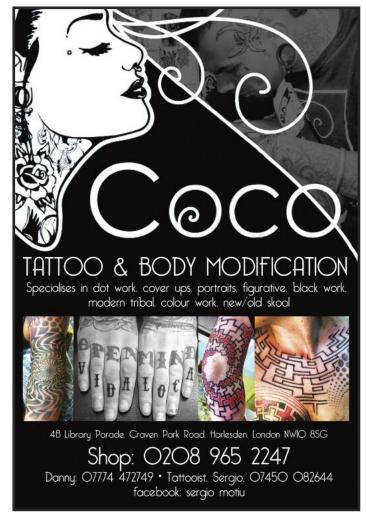






UNIT 201 BELGRAVIA WORKSHOPS 159-163 MARLBOROUGH ROAD N19 4NF LONDON KAMILTATTOOS.COM







PRIVATE VIE

Our showcase for paintings, drawings and design work by the most creative tattooists on the planet. This month **Brenden**, **Tattoo HQ** If you would like us to consider your work, please send examples to: **Private View**, **Total Tattoo Magazine**, **PO Box 10038**, **Sudbury**, **Suffolk**, **CO10 7WL**, **UK**











The loss of Marcuse of Smilin' Demons tattoo in September 2013 was deeply felt by many. Here is a selection of his unpublished works kindly given to us by his wife Maya, along with some that Marcuse gave to me on our last meeting.

Although we talked many times about many things, for some reason we never switched the recorder on. There was always going to be another time.

In truth Marcuse was never that fond of doing interviews. His philosophy was so much simpler...

"Let my tattoos and artworks say who I am!" Marcuse























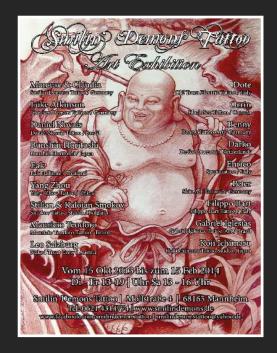














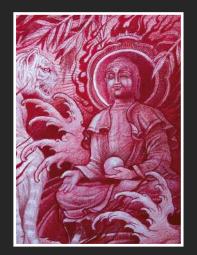
Exhibition

In honour of Marcuse, and to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the studio, Smilin' Demons Tattoo are holding an exhibition of past and present tattoo-inspired art.

The show will run from 15th October 2013 to 15th February 2014.

The list of exhibiting artists says all that needs to be said about the high regard in which Marcuse was held by his peers.





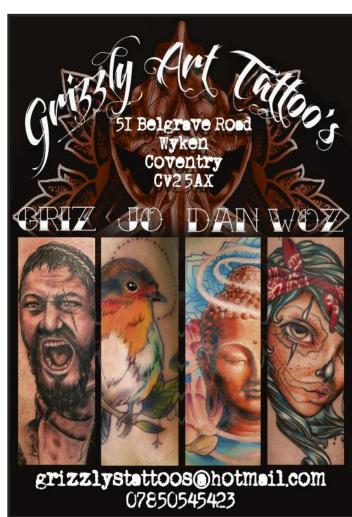


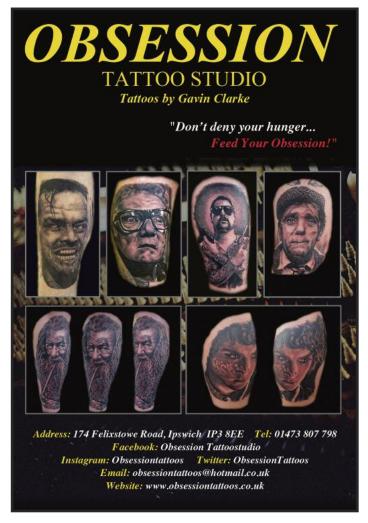


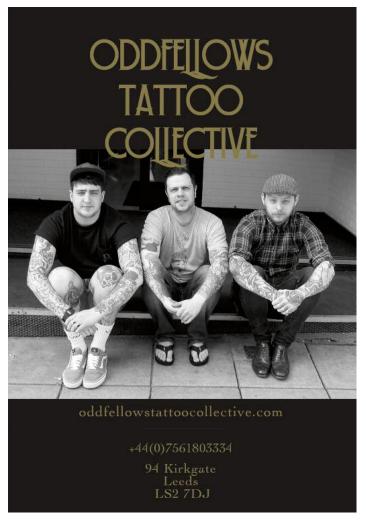












Proud organisers of the Norwich Body Art Festival

01603 886143

2 Lower Goat Lane Norwich NR2 1EL www.indigotatto.co.uk

Heather Gee



Gema Gold



Mike Boyd





Joe Carpenter

Piercing, Branding and Sub-Dermal Implants now available at Indigo from....









fter four successful years at the wonderfully historic St Andrew's Hall, the Norwich Body Art Festival has a new home. OPEN was once the regional headquarters of Barclays Bank (boasting the longest counter in the country!) and it's been beautifully converted into a 50,000 square foot multipurpose venue, with Youth Trust charity status, located in the centre of Norwich just a hundred vards from the show's previous home.

OPEN's stunning main hall housed all the artists working at the show – eighty seven of them to be precise. The hall is bridged across the middle by a dramatic staircase and the rows of booths beyond the staircase led to the stage area, where Lawrence Ah Ching was kept busy most of the weekend tapping out traditional Samoan tattoos. He was surrounded by several more booths, including Mac 'Doctor Evil' McCarthy (master piercer and body mod specialist), Norwich studio Sith, and newcomer Gavin Clarke from Obsession in Ipswich, who was sharing the space with Adorn from Hadleigh in Suffolk. Local alternative clothing shop The Rock Collection was also there. Upstairs, traders and tattooists alike shared the available space on the walkways, from where they could keep a watchful eye over the day's events.

In keeping with the building's primary function as a music venue and youth facility, off the main hall at ground level there was a separate sound-proofed stage and bar area, which also benefited from air-conditioning. No less than twenty acts graced the stage over the weekend, including a mind reader, various bands, comedians, and The Fuel Girls. There was also an art class and of course the tattoo competitions. The floor above the bar was a café/chill-out zone with pool tables, and drinks machines to complement the hot and cold food on offer. Comedy street theatre took place throughout the weekend in the shape of two old ladies and a couple of bearded gentlemen who walked the floor, entertaining as they went.

One of best things about this gem of a convention is the carefully chosen list of artists. There was a good balance of local and national talent: Matt 'Oddboy' and Jamie Greaves from Real Art near Leicester shared a booth with Phil Denby from local studio Institute Tattoo. Xed le Head brought his crew from London's Divine Canvas and sat along from Ipswich studio Curiosities (who did one of the sweetest mandalas I have seen this year). Opposite them was Jordan Croke from Second Skin in Derby, along from Norwich-based Indigo Tattoo; and the Ghost House Collective, also from Derby, had a strong presence, with all their talented artists in attendance. Jon and Enzo from Norwich's newest studio, Black Dog, were opposite local stalwarts Reuben Youngblood's Rude Boy studio... You get the idea! Everyone seemed busy and the familiar sight of cling-filmed limbs soon began to appear all over the hall.

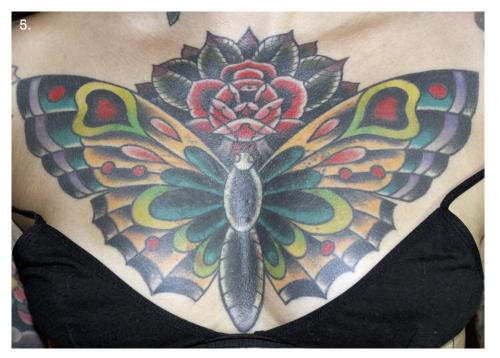
Every style was catered for – from realism to tribal, from names and stars to full-blown back pieces. And Dan Arietti of Brighton's Black Sails was offering the deal of the decade with all his tattoos priced at just £50-£60 apiece. With Dan having been awarded the trophies for both Best Wildlife and Best Back Piece, these were indeed amazing value.







- l. super cool dj
- 2. two lovely ladies of the country
- 3. michael by michael, adorn tattoo
- 1. sam by joe carpenter, indigo tattoo



Every year the organisers of the Norwich Body Art Festival seek feedback from those attending the show and they really do seem to listen; any possible grumbles are addressed, and improvements are made. They have a real desire to get things right – and maybe it's this that brings everyone back year after year. Or maybe it's the fine city of Norwich itself. Whatever it is, this show seems to have a good energy and it ticks by at a fair old lick. Perhaps that's why I'm always too knackered to make it to the after-show party!

With an entrance fee of just £10, this was a great value show. Offering a packed entertainment schedule and the possibility of getting tattooed on the day by any one of these great artists (some offering incredible deals), it was an unbeatable formula. This is certainly a show not to be missed. Keep an eye on Total Tattoo for next year's dates.

- 5. tem by tutti serra, black garden
- sandra by jordan baxter, hope and glory
- 7. wayne by gavin, obsession tattoo studio
- jordan by sam ricketts, the great western tattoo club
- 9. wayne by gavin, obsession tattoo studio
- 10. mark by woz, grizzlys tattoo art
- 11. lizzy by enzo barbareschi, black dog tattoos
- 12. david by josh fisher, factorum body modification
- 13. kirsty by sam rivers, curiosities tattoo studio
- 14. sandra by jordan baxter, hope and glory
- 15. matt by dan arietti, black sails tattoo

























- 16. simon by lee withey, ghost house collective
- 17. alex by mike wilson, inksmith and rogers (usa)
- 18. jack by justin burnout, ghost house collective
- 19. steve by oddboy, real art tattoo









This month's cover model is Telly Lale. Italian born and bred, she lives in Milan. When she's not working as a personal trainer or model she can be found wowing the crowds with her neo-burlesque show. Telly started performing at the tender age of four, and she's been driven by a desire for originality and a fiercely independent spirit ever since.

Telly... is this your real name?

People do seem to think that Telly is my stage name, but it's actually a nickname I got in first grade that just stuck. It's a mixture of my first name and my surname.

If you weren't living in Milan, where would you like to be?

If we're talking Italian cities, then it would be Rome. I love it – the weather, the lifestyle – and part of my family comes from there too. Open it up to the whole of Europe, and I would have to say Berlin. It has such a vibrant underground scene. The only thing that stops me moving there is the weather; it's way too cold for an Italian chick like me!

How would you describe your performance work?

My show is based on jazz and contemporary dance styles, matched with contrasting music. I try not to follow any recognisable trends in the performing arts. Stereotypes and the fashions of the moment just bore me. I usually perform in clubs and at tattoo conventions. The audiences at these events just seem to 'get' what I'm trying to do.

Tell us a bit about modelling and the shoots that you do.

The shoots I'm involved in are usually for advertising and magazine features. Lately I've been asked to do more for the fitness industry as well. I love to be photographed, especially when I'm actively collaborating in the creative process. That's the best part of modelling work.

And what's the worst thing about modelling?

When you are forced to deal with people who have a totally different point of view to your own, or completely different tastes.

How would you describe your own personal style?

My style is the result of the life I have lived, the person I have become, and the person I am seeking to be. Now this may sound confusing... but I strongly believe that there is no such thing as 'good taste'. What we *can* find is a unique personal beauty through the experiencing of life.

What do your family think about your tattoos?

Let's just say that my family have got used to them. When I got my first tattoo it was a bit of a tragedy. My mother said, "This may be your first one, but it also has to be the last one that you are ever going to have".

Obviously, as you can tell, I don't really listen to my mother. But she is pretty happy about the way things have turned out.

So what was your first tattoo?

I never talk about my first tattoo or show it to anyone – but this isn't because I don't like it. I really love it! All I can tell you is that it's very small and it's a fruit.

Do you have a favourite or most important tattoo?

No. Each one of them has its own meaning and its own soul. My tattoos help me to feel strong and they remind me that freedom is the most important aspect of life.

Do you ever feel the need to cover your tattoos?

No, I never feel the need to cover myself. I actually do the exact opposite. Of course sometimes people stare, or want to talk to me about my choices, but what can you do? This is one of the things you need to take into consideration when you get heavily tattooed!

Do you worry about how your tattoos will look when you are older?

Absolutely not! I see myself as a beautiful, colourful, older woman who will never feel lonely, because there will always be someone asking me about my tattoos.

You have *Fuckin' Casino* on your stomach. What that does this mean?

It means everything's a bloody mess – a right royal bloody mess, you know? Troubles are always there, around every corner, just waiting for you to bump into them. Sometimes that can be fun, but other times it can be difficult. But it's all part of a big neurotic picture. Life is like one great big Fuckin' Casino.

What makes you happy and what makes you sad?

Freedom makes me happy. The freedom to decide what I want to do – and where and when I want to do it. Professional and personal satisfaction are important to me, and I like sharing these feelings with the people I love. And the people I love are the people who make me happy. Surrounding myself with people who do not question me, people who are just happy for me... that makes me happy too.

As for what makes me feel sad... the past can make me sad. I sometimes feel very melancholic. There are skeletons in everyone's closet, ready to scare you and remind you of negative things, but I have no regrets in life. Whatever has happened was meant to happen.

Finally, do you have any advice for our readers?

Never be in a hurry to get tattooed, and be meticulous about both the artist and the tattoo style you choose. The most important thing is to be sure about what you are doing. What other people think or say – or how they react to your ink – is of no concern to you.









New decontamination regulations are coming soon - Be ready!

Hygiene grading is to be introduced in Wales in January 2014, with England expected to follow shortly after.

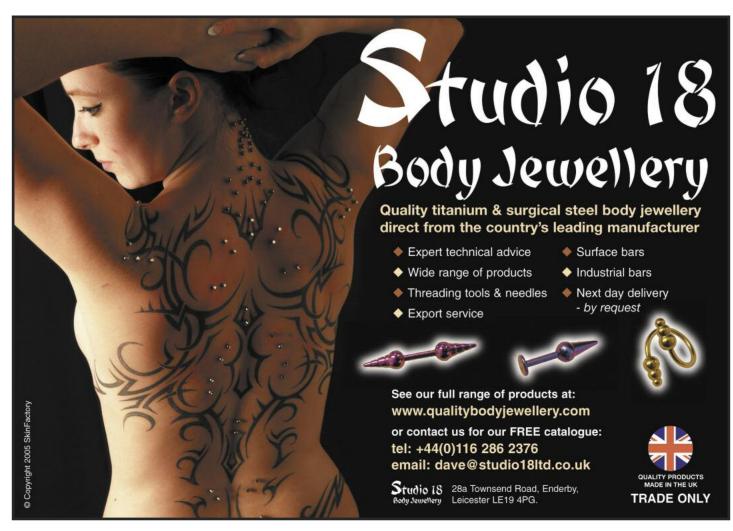
Have your autoclaves, washer disinfectors and ultrasonic cleaners tested in one visit!

- Certificates provided

- Testing to meet HTM 01-01 standard

Contact us today for more information 0845 602 8067 or www.jpenmedical.co.uk Quote: TotalTattoo2013







SOMETHINGFISHY



jeremy t miller,

screamin' ink tattoo (usa)







































































































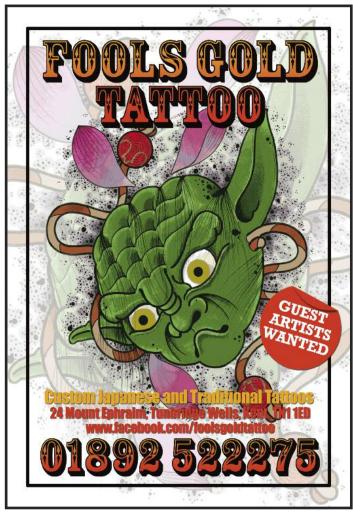


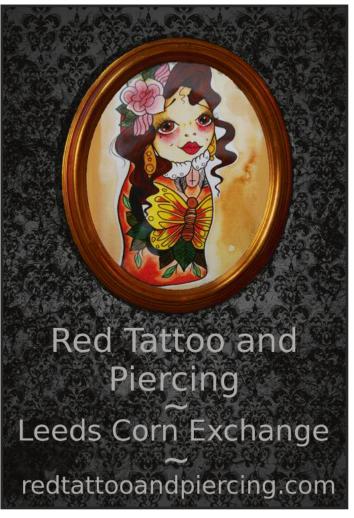












please mention total tattoo when replying to adverts • please mention total tattoo when replying to adverts













- jamie by archiebald cook, sharp practice
- 2. amber by col cooper, fool's gold
- 3. mary by eugene, ian ink
- 4. alan by nutz, nutz tattoo
- 5. toby by tim childs, tebori custom tattoo
- 6. ruby
- 7. nicky by gabriel gozzer, framed fabula (portugal)
- 8. joss by kaya-moon, kiss my ink
- 9. emma by steve hunter, touch of ink
- 10. festa by gez bradley, indelible ink
- 11. the guildhall
- 12. alex by wez and jags, the ink doctors
- 13. charlie by jonjo grant, black pearl tattoo studio
- 14. danny by daryl williams, my last one











POTSTNOUTH Tattoo Convention

July saw us heading down to Portsmouth for the second time this year. Our destination was the majestic Guildhall in the centre of town, the venue for this summer's Portsmouth Tattoo Convention. The sun shone on the fourteenth incarnation of this old gent of the tattoo calendar. It's an event that's always had a reputation for entertaining the punters and this year was no exception, with fire-eating, burlesque and a big snake... not forgetting what we all came for - the art of tattoo. This compact convention certainly keeps re-inventing itself, and it has a real grassroots feeling to it. Can't wait to see what happens next year!









Woody's Tattoo Studio,28 High Street,High Wycombe,HP11 2AG

Tel: 01494 464023

www.jammestattoo.com



FUN HOUSE TATTOOS

World class tattooing by Nigel Kurt & Jo Pink

www.funhousetattoos.co.uk www.facebook.com/nigelkurt1

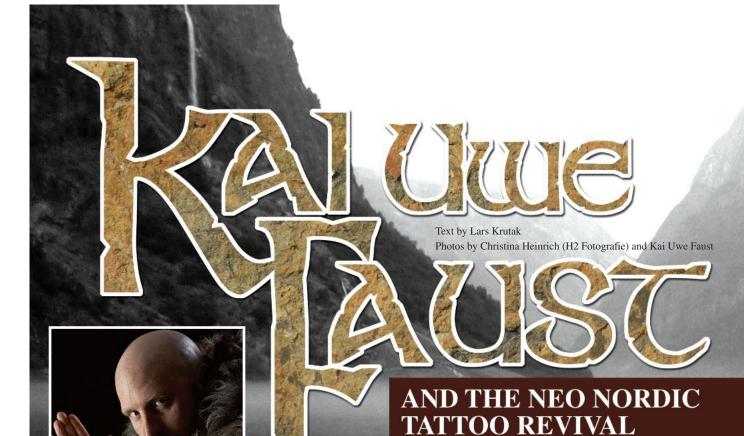
140 Sheffield Rd, Barnsley, S70 1JH **01226 779595**





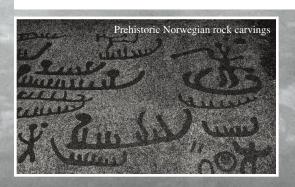






AD 793 was the year when hordes of Scandinavia like a firestorm and laid waste to the monastery at Lindisfarne, in Northumbria, to begin what scholars now call the Viking Age. The Vikings have long been known for their less-than-reputable history as raiders and plunderers, but they also excelled in shipbuilding, exploration and trade. Theirs was a society rich in art, spirituality and intellectual life. These aspects of their culture have been preserved for us in the form of archaeological monuments and artefacts... and, more recently, tattooing.

Nearly twenty five years ago, pioneering Danish tattooists Erik Reime (Kunsten på Kroppen, Copenhagen) and Jorgen Kristiansen (Mjølner Tatovering, Aarhus) resurrected the ancient tradition of Nordic skin art through painstaking research of Celtic, Pict, and Viking tattoos. They passed this knowledge on to the next generation of Neo-Nordic tattoo masters – artists such as Colin Dale (Skin & Bone Tattoo, Copenhagen) and now Kai Uwe Faust, who works with Erik Reime in Copenhagen.





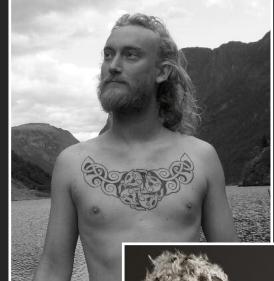
Kai Uwe Faust



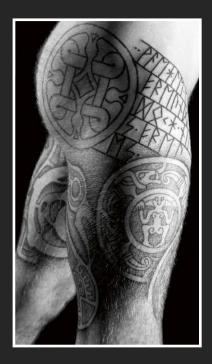
artistic elements from Sweden, Ireland and other northern European countries that even scientists would have a hard time characterising". The term generally refers to bold black and grey tattooing (though Colin has also pioneered the use of natural red ochre pigments in some of his designs). So I shouldn't have been surprised when Kai sent only black and white photos for this article! When I asked the reason for this, he said, "I don't work in colour. I'm colour blind." For a moment, I thought he was serious... but then he went on, "No really, if you look at the oldest tattoos they are all black, and that is my preferred palette."

Although there is no firm evidence regarding the types of tattoo pigments used by the ancient Scandinavians, I myself suspect that they probably used natural substances such as charcoal and soot. The oldest preserved example of

tattooing in Europe is a 5300-year-old 'iceman' [see Total Tattoo Issue 80 for the full story] and it has been shown that his tattoos were composed of vegetable carbon. Moreover, in all my travels through the tribal world, documenting tattoos, I have found charcoal to be the most widespread pigment used. It is sterile and takes to the skin easily, especially when hand-tapped, hand-poked, or skin-cut. And these are the ancient techniques in which Kai Uwe Faust excels. Some of his clients have 'gone back to nature' and been tattooed with organic sooty pigments on the tips of chert-tipped lancets and other skin-poking tools that severely test one's courage, strength, and pain threshold. But in the end the ordeal is well worth it. As Kai says, "My clients want to tap into the spiritual energy of nature and the sacred places that dot the northern landscapes. Their chosen motifs are varied. Some people want to get their kids' names in runes, make a memorial to a lost loved one, or have their spiritual cosmos or power animals tattooed on their bodies because they are very much into Shamanism and have these kinds of images already imprinted upon their minds".













Kai Uwe Faust, Colin Dale and the other Neo-Nordic tattoo artists often wield their hand tools at the Viking fairs and other Nordic festivals that take place at heritage sites across northern Europe. As Kai tells me, "It's a very special experience to create tattoos at these places because, over a thousand years ago, the Norsemen themselves were developing this artistic style at locations just like these". Some of these fairs offer historical re-enactments and demonstrations, such as blacksmiths forging

tools and heavily-armed (and tattooed) fighting men expertly manoeuvring Viking longboats. Kai has entered into collaborations with many of the craftspeople involved in the Neo-Nordic network, such as traditional jewellery designers and leatherworkers. But one of his most enduring creative relationships is with his close friend, German photographer Christina Heinrich of H2 Fotografie (www.body-art-photography.de), whose work is featured on these pages. Christina has been producing her dramatically lit images of Kai's elegant work since 2009, often taking her mobile photo studio to major tattoo conventions across Europe so that she can provide Kai's clients with exquisite shots of their newly acquired tattoos.

Neo-Nordic folks seem constantly to be re-educating themselves about ancient forms of northern European art through book research or active engagement with the environment, where they seek out rock carvings, runestones and other monuments from which they might source design ideas. Kai tells me, "A lot of thought goes into finding meaningful sources of inspiration, and people are really interested in making the history come alive again by having it tattooed on their skin". He goes on, "It might sound like a cliché, but it is really important to think about what you are putting on your body. So I really appreciate it when people come to me asking for a tattoo that will symbolise something with which they have an intimate connection – like family, the land, or spirituality – because that is something that is *greater* than themselves, and also greater than Facebook or Instagram! I know many artists look for inspiration on the internet, but

I don't. My inspiration comes from old books, artefacts, nature, and carvings from religious sites, like old stave churches".





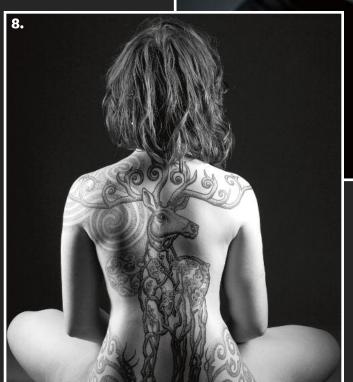
As my interview draws to a close, I am curious to hear what Kai has to say about the future of the Neo-Nordic tattoo revival. Does he think the movement is here to stay? "We've had all these recent trends in the tattooing world - tramp stamps, Chinese characters, sugar skulls, etc – and now it seems to be portrait art. Neo-Nordic tattooing has always been there, all this time, but it's been practised on the sidelines. It's never really been popular, but then again it's never been too unpopular either. However, it is increasing in popularity now and I don't see it going away any time soon. But we are still a really small niche in the everexpanding tattoo world and that's a fact".

One thing is certain though. There's a wave of Neo-Nordic artists coming over the horizon bringing with them an ancient Scandinavian tattooing tradition, a body of art rich in symbolism and meaning, for all to see and experience. *Mange tak og skål!* *

Kai Uwe Faust Kunsten på Kroppen Rådhusstræde 15 1466 Copenhagen K Denmark Tel: +45 33 14 48 26 tattoo.dk tattoodk.blogspot.com/





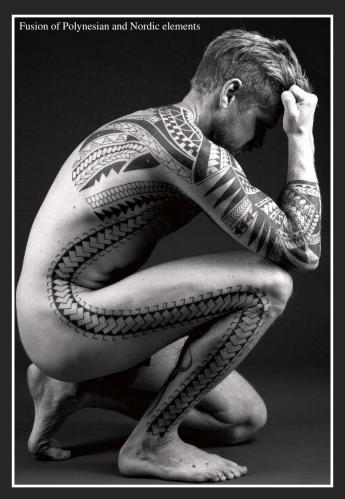


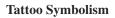
7.



"Many Thanks, and Cheers!"

Tattoo by Astrid Köpfler & Kai Uwe Faust





- Compass wheel tattoo, symbolising a close-knit family.
- 2. Stag and ram, symbolising power.
- 3. Baldur, Norse god of light and beauty.
- Freija, Norse goddess of love and sexuality (wearing Brisingamen, the most beautiful necklace ever made).
- The Venus of Willendorf, an ancient Upper Palaeolithic fertility figure.
- 6.
- Tree of life, with family members' names in runes. Raven holding Viking war god Thor's hammer (Mjölnir). 7.
- Stag rooted to the earth, and other symbols of life and power.
- Yggdrasil, the immense tree central to Norse cosmology. 9.
- 10. Tattoo evoking family history (including references to a blacksmith, a farmer and a priest).







MINI CUSTOM SHOW · LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ·

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: WWW.INKANDIRON.CO.UK AT THE TOWER•RESERVOIR ROAD EDGBASTON · BIRMINGHAM BI6 9EE TATTOO CONVENTION TICKETS



PLEASE SEND TATTOO BOOTHS & TRADE STALL ENQUIRY APPLICATIONS TOINK & IRON . PO BOX 16548 . SOLIHULL B919TR

THERE MAY BE SCANTILY CLAD PERSONS AT THE SHOW.
PARENTS MAY BRING CHILDREN AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION





Stockin Dolland Words and pictures by Travellin' Mick 111 Tolland



 by den yakovlev, negative karma (russia)

2. by daveee, kult tattoo (poland)

3. by fru duva (sweden)

4. by remigijus Cizauskas, remis tattoo (ireland)

ith its breathtaking location, world-class artists, and appreciative visitors (who know how to have a good time too), the Stockholm lnk Bash is a very special meeting. Now in its seventeenth year, it has never sold out to commercialism and remains one of the world's best conventions.

As soon as the doors open and the public is admitted, it seems that every artist is hard at work – including such star names as Volko and Simone of Buena Vista Tattoo Club, Tim Kern, Fabio Moro, Jondix, Carlos Torres and Steve Soto. But anybody who didn't book an appointment in advance needn't despair. Many of the world-class artists who come to Stockholm don't take pre-convention bookings. They know they can rely on the Swedish public's hunger for great tattoos to keep them busy all weekend.

This is particularly true for the traditional artists at the convention who prefer to tattoo the way it has been done for hundreds, if not thousands, of years – by hand, without the help of machines. Colin Dale of Skin And Bone has come over from Denmark, and Kiwi artist Brent McCown has flown in from Austria. And flying in from even further afield is Musashi from Japan, a huge fan of the Ink Bash who comes here every year.







Fortunately the aisles are wide enough to accommodate the onlookers who gather to watch the artists at work, sometimes for quite lengthy periods of time. The members of the Siamese family, for example, always draw the crowds. Originally from Phuket, this is a group of about a dozen mostly Thai tattooists who have settled in several Scandinavian countries under the auspices of master Sid Siamese. They specialise in entire body suits and they always attract plenty of attention.

It seems that the old school and oriental styles of tattooing have dominated the Swedish scene for years, but realism has now caught on big time. Danne of House of Pain has become one of the most sought-after artists – small wonder, as he's been mentored by Tumppi and Mikke (also at House of Pain), who were pioneers of this genre in Sweden. Another product of this hothouse of talent is Sandra, who is now working at her own studio, La Rubia Loca, in Uppsala.

It's astonishing how quickly the number of studios in Stockholm is growing. A decade ago, there were maybe a dozen, but now the number could well be into three figures. One of the most outstanding must surely be Crooked Moon, the home of the Pedersen brothers as well as Johan Ankarfyr. Jacob Pedersen won the prestigious 'Ink Master' television talent show last year, whose expert judging panel included such luminaries as Heidi Hay, Theo Jak and Jens Bergstrom – yet another indication, perhaps, of how far the public acceptance of tattooing has advanced in Sweden.















- by jens, circle tattoo (sweden)
 by wen long, cui tattoo (china)
 by rique corner (on the road)
 by sherbert cuff, crazy needle (norway)
 by miguel angel bohigues, v-tattoo (spain)
 by victor policheri, heidi hay tattoo (sweden)
 by beam siamese ix (sweden)
 by jimmylajnen (sweden)
 by pino cafaro, elektrik revolver (germany)







Swedish tattoo fans are knowledgeable and prepared to pay for quality ink; full sleeves are pretty much mainstream nowadays, with customers' expectations being shaped by the work of artists such as Doc Forest, Isak (East Street), Tumppi (House of Pain), Calle (King Carlos) and Heidi Hay, who have set the standards by which all subsequent work is judged.







Held on the last weekend of the month, the Stockholm Ink Bash conveniently coincides with payday for most Swedes. And that means party time! It seems that everyone wants to convert their money into either ink or beer and, as the sun starts to sink lower in the sky, chaos erupts at the bar. But this is Scandinavia, remember, so there's hardly any trouble at all - nothing more serious than a few spilled drinks, a few people passing out on the floor, and a whole lot of headaches the next morning... The tattoo artists see this happen every year, of course, and they come prepared. They start their larger projects early on in the day in order to be able to enjoy a few cold ones themselves later on, and they know it's highly unlikely that their clients will be on time for a Sunday morning appointment...

The Ink Bash finished with an afterparty in Stockholm's picturesque Old Town on the Sunday evening. Everyone was talking about how good this year's convention had been – and everyone was already starting to plan their attendance at next year's meeting!











- 14. by danne, house of pain (sweden)
- 15. by andy blanco, lifestyle tattoo (sweden)
- by peter lagergren, malmö classic tattoo (sweden)
- 17. by thomas, stuck tattoo (sweden)
- 18. by tim kern, tribulation tattoo (usa)
- 19. by iain, imperial tattoo (sweden)
- 20. by hakan, carneval tattoo (sweden)
- 21. by frej lind, royal arch tattoo (sweden)
 22 & 23. by henrik, east street tattoo (sweden)

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS



The Christmas present that lasts all year!

Receive 2 issues FREE when you subscribe Every issue delivered to your door

- Option 1 Call our subscriptions hotline on 0800 917 8794 and set up a direct debit for £10.50 per quarter (£42 per year) and recieve 12 issues for the price of 10 (For UK residents only)
- Option 2 Subscribe securely online at

 www.totaltatttoo.co.uk

 and recieve 12 issues for the price of 11

 Subscription rates: UK £46.20

 Europe £88 Rest of World £125

 (UK and Overseas Residents)





HIGGINS & CO TATTOO

QUALITY CUSTOM TATTOOING AND PIERCING



ABOVE COFFEE REPUBLIC

69 TERMINUS ROAD

EASTBOURNE

BN213NU

01323 301973

INFO@HIGGINSANDCOTATTOO.CO.UK

@HIGGINSTATTOO
@HARRIETHEATHTATTOO
@ELLIOTJOSEFGUYTATTOO
@PIERCINGBYCIARON







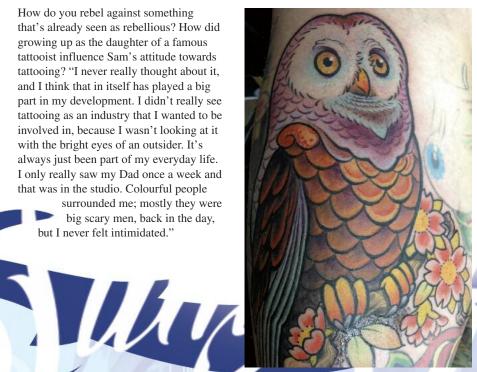
Sam Ford is without question one of the rising stars within UK tattooing at the moment. Her black and grey portraits and pin-ups have a softness and movement that has become her trademark and she is now applying that same level of skill and attention to her detailed colour work. Never one to seek the limelight, Sam's journey into tattooing has been low profile, but it was only ever going to be a matter of time before this talented artist's quiet determination brought her the recognition that she deserves. She is the daughter of the hugely influential Tom Ptolemy, and her studio of course bears the famous Silver Needles name, but most people only discover this family connection *after* being wowed by her work.



How do you rebel against something that's already seen as rebellious? How did growing up as the daughter of a famous tattooist influence Sam's attitude towards tattooing? "I never really thought about it, and I think that in itself has played a big part in my development. I didn't really see tattooing as an industry that I wanted to be involved in, because I wasn't looking at it with the bright eyes of an outsider. It's always just been part of my everyday life. I only really saw my Dad once a week and that was in the studio. Colourful people surrounded me; mostly they were

big scary men, back in the day, but I never felt intimidated."











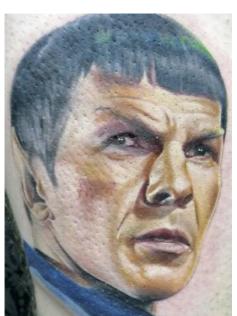
'I want to be able to appreciate all of tattooing and bring my own thing to it. It's worldwide and age old and I'm excited to learn about it all.

> Interview James Sandercock Pictures Sam Ford















When she was younger, Sam wasn't particularly interested in becoming a tattoo artist, "though looking back I did draw hearts and daggers in art class, so I guess something must have been there without me even knowing it". When she was twenty one she started to work in Tom's studio, but the drive to tattoo still hadn't grabbed her; as she tells me, "it was just a way to pass some time as I was in a bit of a slump". Then Jethro, who worked in the shop, let Sam have a go on him. According to Sam, "it felt like the most natural thing in the world". And that was the start.

Sam has been tattooing for eight years now, but she tells me that the desire was not necessarily there from day one. "First of all it was simply a way of making money. I know that's not a very fashionable view these days, but it was the same for my Dad when he started out; he got into tattooing to make

money, then the passion grew. I'm not sure if Dad ever really wanted me to get involved with the industry. It had taken him up and let him down by the time I started and I don't think he wanted me to get into something that he been burned by (especially with me being a woman). He had been consumed by tattooing and I think he wanted something different for me. I'm glad I got into it on my own, although of course I did have help. I am influenced by him a lot and it's amazing to have him there, but I wasn't mollycoddled. He did not teach me everything I know by a long shot, but it's great to be able to draw on his thoughts and experiences."

So if the desire was not there at the beginning, when did it start to take hold? "I opened the studio five years ago. That was a big outlay, so the next three or four years were spent tattooing everything that came through the

door, fourteen hours a day, seven days a week. I didn't really progress artistically at all. I was in a bit of a bubble, but then we had a guest artist come to visit – Mark Blanchard from Last Rites. He really opened my eyes. I felt like a child. It was a bit like 'fuckin' hell, I know nothing." Mark gave Sam a crucial piece of advice: he suggested she should devote more of her time to tattooing, and really focus on developing her work. He also introduced her to Instagram. The new global standard of tattooing blew her mind and she wanted to be part of it. "Something just clicked and I started to be more selfish. I think perhaps I was bit scared at how it had consumed Dad, but now I understand. It creeps in! I'm just trying to find a balance."



















The convention circuit has also been a big part of Sam's growth as an artist, and has changed the way she feels about her own ability to fit into the tattoo world. "I always had a feeling of trepidation; I was not sure people would accept me, or consider my opinions valid. But the more shows I did, the more I felt I was becoming part of a community. I've made a few good friends along the way, and the thought of being able to grow with those people over the next thirty years... I find that incredibly comforting. I feel like I'm on the cusp of something amazing."

Sam is the first to admit that she's created her own mental barriers - including the desire to do it her way rather than ask for help - but those barriers are tumbling down now and a new world is opening up. "So much is changing: the machines I'm using, the inks, needle configuration, new techniques. I just look back and think, 'why haven't I been using these or doing this?" For the first five years I used the same inks, same machines, same everything. I realised I'd been making life harder for myself. It's really just a case of being open to new ideas."



With the industry rapidly evolving, the multitude of inspirational artists posting on Instagram 24/7, the conventions and the guest spots, I wondered if Sam saw herself moving in a different direction any time soon? "I love doing portraits and pin-ups and I could probably carve out a whole career just doing them, but that's not what I want to do. Maybe it's an ego thing, but I want to be good at everything. Perhaps I just want to prove myself a bit. People seem to think that if you can do one thing well, then you can't do anything else - and that puts my back up. Tattooing is *not* just one thing and it's arrogant to think it is. It's constantly changing and always has been. I want to do this for the next fifty years! I want to be able to appreciate all of tattooing and bring my *own* thing to it. It's worldwide and age-old and I'm excited to learn about it all. I want to get as much out of tattooing as I can in my lifetime.

106 Southchurch Road Southend on Sea, SS1 2LX United Kingdom Phone: 01702 603 946 www.facebook.com/samtattooartist



Broad Street Tattoo Fil • Marcos Attwood • Jimmie Matthews • Jo 26 Broad St, Bath, BA1 5LW

01225 329825

www.broadstreetstudio.co.uk











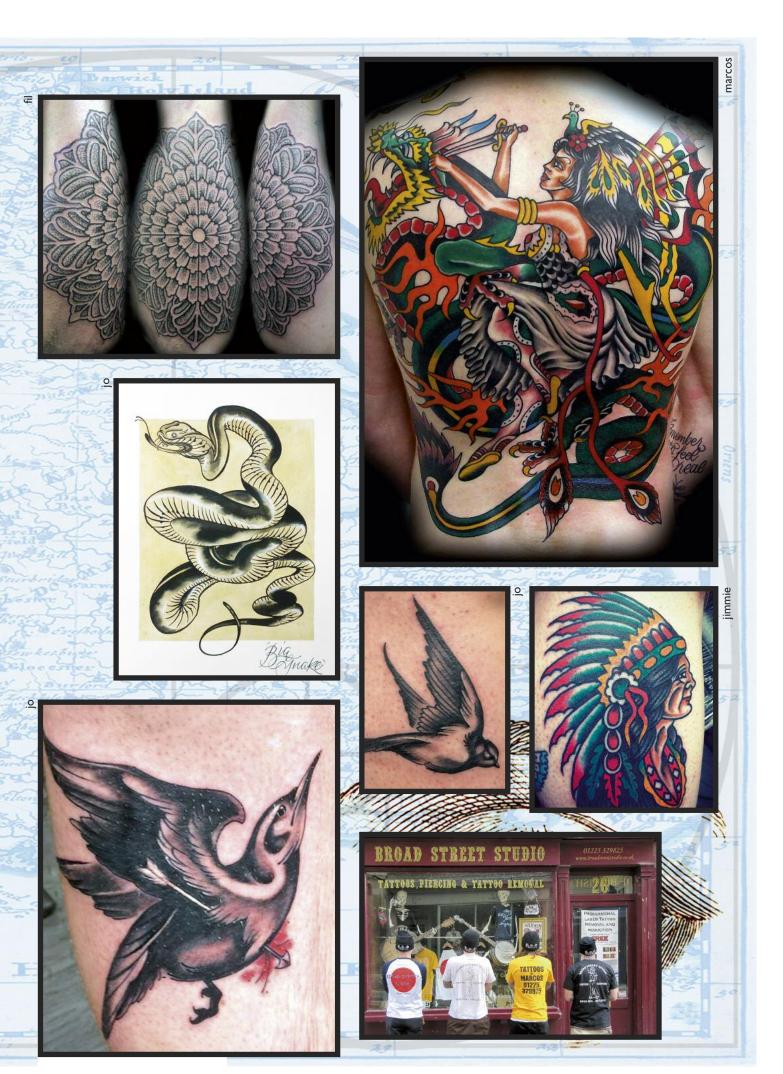








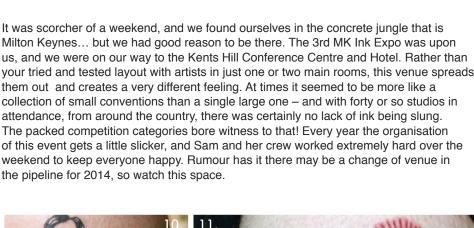






Words and pictures by Perry The tattoo convention

It was scorcher of a weekend, and we found ourselves in the concrete jungle that is Milton Keynes... but we had good reason to be there. The 3rd MK Ink Expo was upon us, and we were on our way to the Kents Hill Conference Centre and Hotel. Rather than your tried and tested layout with artists in just one or two main rooms, this venue spreads them out and creates a very different feeling. At times it seemed to be more like a collection of small conventions than a single large one - and with forty or so studios in attendance, from around the country, there was certainly no lack of ink being slung. The packed competition categories bore witness to that! Every year the organisation of this event gets a little slicker, and Sam and her crew worked extremely hard over the weekend to keep everyone happy. Rumour has it there may be a change of venue in











- 2. amazing reptiles
- 3. millie by aarone, underground tattoos
- 4. andy by a j curzon-berners, rising phoenix
- 5. matthew by elmo, underground tattoos
- 6. wayne by bobby leach, southmead tattoo
- 7. georgina by p j reynolds, rising phoenix
- 8. diego by leo rios, timebomb tattoo
- chris by jake, top hat tattoo
- 10. jared by tattoo guy, pigments tattoo studio
- 11. dom by elmo, underground tattoos
- 12. dean by carl collinson, urban image
- 13. rachael by silvia zed, shall adore
- 14. james by adem, fat fugu tattoo studio









CONVENTION CALENDAR

Tattoo convention listings on this page are free.

Send your details to Convention Calendar, Total Tattoo Magazine, PO Box 10038, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7WL, UK or e-mail editor@totaltattoo.co.uk All details correct at time of going to press. E&OE.

UK CONVENTIONS

November 16-17 East Coast Tattoo Expo

Highfield Holiday Park London Road, Clacton-On-Sea, Essex, CO16 9QY www.eastcoastexpo.co.uk

November 30-Dec I Cariad Ink Tattoo Festival

Venue Cymru, The Promenade, Llandudno, LL30 IBB Box Office tel 01492 872000 www.facebook.com/CariadInk

December 14-15 2nd Jurassic Coast Tattoo Convention

The Allendale Centre, Wimborne, Dorset. www.jurassiccoasttattooconvention.co.uk

2014 February 15-16

Brighton Tattoo Convention

The Hilton Metropole Hotel, Brighton, East Sussex www.brightontattoo.com

March 1-2 Tattoo Tea Party

Event City Limited, Phoenix Way, Urmston, Manchester, M41 7TB www.tattooteaparty.com

April 6 Ink & Iron

The Tower, Reservoir Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 9EE www.inkandiron.co.uk info@inkandiron.co.uk

April 12-13 Tattoo Extravaganza Portsmouth

Portsmouth Pyramids Centre, Clarence Esplanade, Portsmouth,
Hampshire PO5 3ST,
tattooextravaganza@live.co.uk
www.tattooextravaganza.co.uk

April 12-13 7th North Lakes Tattoo Show

Shepherds Inn, Carlisle, Cumbria Tel 01228 545156

www.northlakestattooshow.co.uk

May II Somerset Tattoo Convention

Blake Hall, St Saviours Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 3NZ

May 17-18 Liverpool Tattoo Convention

The Adelphi Hotel, Ranelagh Place, Liverpool, Merseyside, L3 5UL
Tel: 0151 709 0479

www.liverpooltattooconvention.com

June 7-8 Northampton International

Tattoo Convention

Saints Rugby Ground, Weedon Road, Northampton, NN5 5BG www.northamptoninternationaltattooconvention.com Tel:01604 949958

June 13-16 Inkfest 3

Sand Bay Leisure Resort, Weston Super Mare www.inkfest.co.uk

June 21-22 Ink for Heroes

The Racecourse, Knavesmire Rd, York, North Yorkshire YO23 1EX www.inkforheroes.co.uk inkforheroes@hotmail.co.uk

July 12-13 Milton Keynes Tattoo Expo

stadiummk, Stadium Way West, Milton Keynes, MK I IST www.mktattooconvention.co.uk
Tel 01908 604201

OVERSEAS CONVENTIONS

November 8-10 4th Brussels Tattoo Convention

Tour Et Taxis, Avenue du Port / Havenlaan 86C, B1000 Brussels, Belguim www.brusselstattooconvention.be

November 8-10 Florence Tattoo Convention

Fortezza Da Basso, Firenze, Italy www.florencetattooconvention.com Tel: (+39) 328 8250275 info@florencetattooconvention.com

December 7-8 Lady Ink

Eventzentrum Z 2000, 2000 Stockerau (bei Wien), Austria www.facebook.com/events/483741388346936/www.facebook.com/LadyInkFemaleTattooArtistsOnly

February 7-9 Milan Tattoo Convention

Centro Congressi AtaHotel Quark,Via lampedusa 11/A, Milan www.milanotattooconvention.it

March 7-9 Mondial du Tatouage

Mondial du Tatouage de La Villette 211 Avenue Jean Jaurès, 75019 Paris, France www.mondialdutatouage.com

To find out about our special offers for display adverts, email advertising@totaltattoo.co.uk



NEXT MONTH

A glimpse of what the future holds!

If you would like to see your work published in Total Tattoo, send your pictures to gallery@totaltattoo.co.uk or send discs to Total Tattoo Magazine, PO Box 10038, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7WL, UK







To find out who sells Total Tattoo in your area, email your postcode to vickyb@warnersgroup.co.uk

Save money with a subscription! For details, call our free subscriptions hotline on 0800 917 8794 or visit **www.totaltattoo.co.uk**

Tattoo studios! You can sell Total Tattoo on an easy sale-or-return basis. To find out more, email totaltattoo@totaltattoo.co.uk or phone 01787 242100



What makes you happy?

That a few my friends already have portrait of me on their skin. I wanna do world domination, and be tattooed on as many people as possible! [laughs]

What makes you angry?

When gifted, talented artists don't have the motivation – and when people without talent are so much more motivated.

What was the last book you read?

I'm not very "friendly" with books. I like looking at the illustrations more than reading. The last book I read was in primary school...

What was the last movie you saw?

Hangover Part III (and now I don't wanna go to Las Vegas any more!)

What pets do you have?

I used to have a real zoo in my house, but now I live in the UK... and the landlords here are not very animal-friendly... but yes, anything from dogs and cats to fishes, spiders, birds... I love animals and they are my favourite subject for tattoos.

What would you eat for your last meal on earth?

My grandmother's *pierogi*, the Polish version of dumplings.

If you won the lottery what is the first thing you would buy?

I would start travelling the world! But the thing that I would like to buy?...hmm... probably the legendary De Tomaso Pantera sports car or, if it was a real big win, a candy apple red Ferrari Enzo or a 458 Italia.

Who would play you in the movie of your life?

I'd like it to be directed by Tim Burton. He could choose the cast, and make the movie really twisted.

What song would be the soundtrack to your life?

I think I would ask Devin Townsend to play some heavy stuff with very a spaced-out sound. He could just improvise something for me.

What would your super power be?

I would just clap my hands and people would become a bit more responsible for the things they do and the things they say.



What achievement are you most proud of?

My biggest achievement is that I always work on the edge of available daily hours... being hyperactive with my brain... and I'm still not completely crazy...

What is your biggest regret?

With the passage of time, the things that I regretted doing when I was younger now feel like good lessons. So I'm happy that I had to go through those things, and I don't regret them any more.

What keeps you awake at night?

I'm a real daydreamer. The visions I get (without any drugs!) excite me and motivate me, and that's what keeps me awake at night too.

What is the best lesson life has taught you?

It's taught me always to keep my mind open to new things, but it's also taught me not to welcome everyone I meet with open arms.

How would you like to be remembered?

As a person who never said to anyone, "It was just business".

What is your favourite tattoo that you have done and why?

I translate my tattoos into my personal life and into the life of my clients. I just love them, and there are too many to say which is my favourite ever.

Finish this sentence: Tommi is...

....an immigrant from a different planet

NOSTALGIA Traditional tattooing



PROFESSIONAL CUSTOM TATTOOING



Instagram @NostalgiaTattoo

Mick Miller @Miller_Tattoo

Liam Alvy @LiamAlvy

Rebecca Vincent
@Rebecca_Vincent_Tattoo

























Danny Light @DLightTattooer

Constance Parkin @ConstanceParkinTattooer

William "Luke"
Downing III

@Pan Tattoo

Custom Piercing by: Tez Gordon @TezGordon









www.nostalgiatattoo.co.uk - nostalgiatattoo@gmail.com



We are here!

7A The Crescent Hyde Park Corner Leeds, LS6 2NW

0113 274 1166

