

## KC Angel BIO

I now live in Los Angeles, working as a professional tattooer and freelance artist. Having pursued a diversity of mediums for years, I have been recently focusing on painting, and continuing to present my work in galleries and shows. As an artist, my art reflects the unique combination of personal and professional experiences that this biography summarizes.

I was born in Los Angeles in 1967, and moved around southern California quite a bit when I was a kid, from Venice to Ventura and several places in-between. Once I started school, art was very much my main focus, although I was also a voracious reader with deep interests in history, science, and generally, how things are made. I also began my obsession with scale modeling and miniature detail painting. Additionally, when I was about 14 years old, I had a very brief mentorship from talented illustrator, John Findley (best known for his graphic series *Tex Arcana* published in *Heavy Metal* in the 80s). I also did Graffiti for the first time in my mid teens, when my friends and I formed a small crew. Screen-printing, stop motion animation and Marquette sculpting were also interests I pursued in high school as well.

Overall, my teen years were quite chaotic. I always had my art, but craved camaraderie and found it lurking in the shadows of the underground music culture. As punk rock waned and hardcore rose, I found myself surrounded by like-minded people. Feeling embraced by this alternative scene, I began to establish myself as an artist. I made my first foray into commercial art at this point, creating illustrations for flyers, handbills, fanzines, and, eventually, t-shirts and record covers for several different bands, including album covers and t-shirt designs for The Accused (Seattle, WA). I also did cover art and other work for *Maximum RocknRoll*.

After moving to the East coast in 1985, I developed a career as a professional tattoo artist for over twenty years, while also pursuing other artistic interests. My first experience with tattoo design was working on the film of "Free Jack". Hired as an artist, I designed and applied several faux tattoos on featured extras, including a full torso-to-head dragon design that was prominent in the film. Inspired by this opportunity, I decided to devote myself to the unique, living medium of tattoo.

When Tony Olivas' (black and Grey tattoo master) Sacred Heart Tattoo opened in early 1994, I started my career as a professional tattoo artist. At Sacred Heart, I tattooed several well-known Atlanta music artists including Da Brat, CeeLo Green, Khujo (Goodie Mob), and others. In 1996, I moved back to the West Coast, tattooing at Tony's satellite tattoo shop in South Lake Tahoe, CA.

In 1999, I returned home to Los Angeles, where I had the great honor of working for Leo Zulueta (the father of modern tribal tattoo) at his world famous shop, Black Wave Tattoo. From 2001 to 2006, I was an artist at American Electric Tattoo Co, in Los Feliz for Craig Jackman (known for "LA Ink"). While there, I also did freelance commercial design and advertising artwork.

Afterwards, I tattooed at Sacred Rose Tattoo in the SF Bay Area for several years. Then, from 2012 to 2015, I worked at Spiral Tattoo for Leo Zulueta, again, this time in Ann Arbor, MI. In late 2014, I returned to LA.

## KC Angel EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Stone Malone Gallery* (Hollywood, CA) “Heroworship” group art show  
“Justice League Confidential” exhibited.
- 2016 *True Love Tattoo Gallery* (Berkeley, CA) “Year of the Monkey”
- 2016 *Georgetown Art Attack* (Georgetown, Seattle, WA)  
Famous Monsters meet Hamburger Joint Nostalgia at Zippy’s, art walk
- 2015 *Stone Malone Gallery* (Hollywood, CA)  
"New Blood" group exhibition, showcasing emerging talents
- 2015 *True Love Tattoo Gallery* (Berkeley, CA) “Year of the Goat” group show
- 2011 *SR2 Gallery* (Berkeley, CA) “The Art of Sacred Rose Tattoo” group show
- 2010 *SR2 Gallery* (Berkeley, CA)  
“Malice in Wonderland” split/collaboration show w/ Mark Bode
- 2010 *111 Minna Street Gallery* (San Francisco, CA) “Foot Fetish”, group show
- 2010 *SR2 Gallery* (Berkeley, CA)  
“Easside Wesside Spraycan Art” group show (curated by Mark Bode)
- 2009 *Hyaena Gallery* (Burbank, CA)  
“Missing the Muse” (Bettie Page Tribute) group show
- 2009 *1AM Gallery* (San Francisco, CA)  
“Wizards, Lizards, and Broads” group show
- 2008 *Double Punch Gallery* (San Francisco, CA)  
“The Bode Broad Exhibition” group show
- 2008 *The Gallery* (Atlanta, GA) “Monster Mayhem” group art show
- 2007 *SR2 Gallery* (Berkeley, CA)  
“Pop Om Art Show” group show, curated by Mark Bode
- 2007 *111 Minna Street Gallery* (San Francisco, CA) “Sketch Tuesday”
- 2006 *SR2 Gallery* (Berkeley, CA) “Unframed & Unhinged” (new work) solo show
- 2001 *La Luz De Jesus* (Los Feliz, Los Angeles, CA) group show
- 1972 *My Grandmother’s Backyard* (Beverly Hills, CA) solo show

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 'Tattoo Masters Flash Collection' part 1  
Selected Styles from Around the World  
published by Edition Reuss  
Artists from around the world, Ed Hardy, etc.  
two tattoo flash sheets
- 2009 Sept 'Skin & Ink' (Tattoo magazine)  
Sacred Rose Article: several tattoos and paintings featured.
- 2008 Oct "IRONHORSE" (Motorcycle lifestyle magazine)  
'Tattooer Profile'  
Featured Artist: interview, tattoos, artwork, and paintings
- 2001 Jan 'Skin & Ink' (tattoo magazine)  
Black Wave Tattoo article: quotes and tattoos featured.
- 1995 Jan 'Tattoo' no.65 (tattoo magazine)  
Sacred Heart Tattoo opening: tattoos, quotes, and paintings featured.

## REVIEWS

- “KC, KC, KC... He did such a WONDERFUL job reviving my dull tattoo! I came in with an unfinished tattoo, hopeful that KC would be able to do as much as he could to revive the piece I was somewhat ashamed of (colors did not complement my skin tone and had horrible thick jagged lines everywhere). KC is an artist, without hesitation he started working on it and I was amazed at how he turned my tattoo into a masterpiece! I have found my new tattoo artist! THANKS KC!” - 2009 client at Sacred Rose tattoo (source: Yelp)
- “I've always been hesitant about going to tattoo shops because I always feel so out of place. People at Zebras and Industrial Tattoo treat you a certain way if you don't have a certain look, which I don't have. So I came to Sacred Rose with that same hesitation, but the first thing I noticed was how bright and lively the atmosphere was. The front desk lady was really helpful and explained about the deposit dealio and making an appointment and gave me advice on who would be a suitable tat artist for me. Since I wanted text, she referred me to KC Angel, whose apparently great with text. I came here to get a simple tattoo of three words on my wrist "via, veritas, vita" with the only description to KC that I wanted something that was Old English-esque, not gangster looking, and not Lord of the Rings looking. He hashed something out and it was magical. In short, KC Angel is awesome with making beautiful texts and he also explained to my friend and i while working on my wrist about generalizations made of tattoo parlors using dirty needles and the resulting denial of tattooed individuals' blood donations to certain blood banks. He is a magical man.”-2010 client at Sacred Rose Tattoo (source: Yelp)
- “First off my tattoo artist's name was K.C. Angel, what a rockin name huh? Me and my best friend stopped by before a concert to get a few quick tattoos before a show because that's how we do. K.C. was a shy sort of fellow but very sweet, and did an incredible job in record time. We were in and out of there in no time and are pleased with his work till this day. They price them by the piece so you won't really know what you are going to spend until you actually go in. It is in the heart of Silverlake so if you are waiting for a friend there is plenty to do while you wait.”- 2006- client at American Electric Tattoo (source: Yelp)
- “So, the label. In a word... creepy. There are a lot of colors and a picture of a kid holding a burger and drinking a mug of root beer. The freakish cartoon image of the kid licking his/her lips is unsettling at best. It reminds me of every creepy/scary toy doll movie from the 80s. The color scheme and frightening imagery definitely catch the eye, but if i weren't reviewing this for the purpose scientific discovery and a general civil obligation to provide reliable information regarding the appropriateness of root beers to the public, i doubt i would think this was worth drinking based on looks alone. I mean, seriously... this kid is freakin' me out with his/her huge sunken eyes, piggy nose and weird mouth.”- 2014 - Cosmo's root beer reviews (in regard to my label design).

## KC Angel CV

### Art and Art Related Work History

#### TATTOO

- 2012 - 2014 *Spiral Tattoo* (Ann Arbor, MI) - Owner, Leo Zulueta
- 2007 - 2011 *Sacred Rose Tattoo* (San Francisco, Berkeley, CA) - owner, Karen Roze
- 2001 - 2006 *American Electric Tattoo Co.* (Los Angeles, CA) - owner, Craig Jackman
- 1999 - 2001 *Black Wave Tattoo* (Los Angeles, CA.) - owner, Leo Zulueta
- 1997 - 1998 *Sacred Heart Tattoo* (S. Lake Tahoe, CA) - owner, Tony Olivas
- 1994 - 1997 *Sacred Heart Tattoo* (Atlanta, GA) - owner, Tony Olivas

#### MISC

- 1999-2000 *Grocery Warehouse* (Art Gallery/Pop-Up venue; DTLA, Los Angeles, CA)
  - Co-owner/curator, organizer, designer, gallery hanging/installation.
- 1998 *Impact Studio* (Art Gallery; Lower Haight / San Francisco, CA)
  - Curator, gallery hanging/installation.
- 1987-1990 *Wood Logic* (contractors/historical renovation; Atlanta, GA)
  - Carpentry from frame to finish, and renovation of historic buildings.
- 1986-1988 *Center for Puppetry Arts* (Atlanta, GA)
  - Designed, sculpted, and repaired puppets, props, and staging for performances.

## Commercial Art Work

### MUSIC GROUPS

#### *The Accused* (Seattle, WA)

##### Albums/EPs/Singles:

- 'Hymns for the Deranged' (1988, Empty Records) COVER, LABEL, INSERT
- 'Grinning Like an Undertaker' (1989, not used for production) COVER
- 'Accused/Morphius Split' (1989 split 7 single, Empty) INSERT
- 'Straight Razor' (1990, Nasty Mix) COVER
- 'Oh Martha + Baked Tapes' (2006, Nuclear Blast & GmbH) COVER contribution
- '34 Song Archives Tapes 1981-86 (2006, not used for production) COVER
- Tour T-shirt
- Advertisement
- Posters
- Promotional Items
- Stage Backdrop
- Bass Drum Head Cover
- DVD cover

#### *The MENTORS* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Artwork used for several applications including promotion.

#### *Two Minutes Hate* (Atlanta, GA)

- Logo artwork used for various purposes

#### *G.B.H.* (aka Charged G.B.H., Birmingham, England)

- Artwork used for various promotional items

#### *TAD* (Seattle, WA.)

- European Tour (shirt design)
- Promotional item designs

#### *The Tombstones* (Atlanta, GA, featuring Stevie Tombstone)

- Artwork used for promo items.

#### *Hot Rod Lunatics* (Seattle, WA)

- LOGO
- Album covers
- Promotions
- T-shirts

*Knuckle* (Atlanta, GA., featuring members of MASTODON)

- Album COVER
- LOGO
- Promotional items, including T-shirts, posters, and advertisements

*ALCOHOLOCAUST* (Atlanta, GA, featuring members of Primate)

- Promotions
- T-shirts
- Stickers

*Four Hour Fogger* (Atlanta, GA, featuring members of MASTODON)

- Designs used for several applications.

*Snatch* (Atlanta, GA)

- 7 inch single
- Logo

*Black Eyed Vermillion* (Austin, TX)

- Designs used for promo items, including stickers and buttons.

*PELIGRO* (DH Peligro, drummer of DEAD KENNEDYS, Los Angeles, CA)

- Several designs including LOGO and T-shirt artwork.

*Throw Rag* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Artwork used for various applications.

*The Dead Kennedys* (reformed group, San Francisco, CA)

- Artwork used for promotion.

*Night Terrors* (Atlanta, GA)

- Design for T-shirt and future record release 2016.

*TOE TAG* (Seattle, WA)

Albums/EPs/Singles

- 'Machete Killah' (2007, 7" vinyl, Bag of Hammers) COVER
- TOE TAG/Pottbelly/Project9/thePlanktonBeat' (2007, split 7" vinyl, PB records) COVER
- 'Piss Boner and a Handful of Dirty Words' (2009, split w/World of Lies, Portland, OR) COVER
- 'No More Then Splatter Zombies with Guitars' (2013, split 7" vinyl w/Bandanos, BRAZIL) COVER
- 'Here She Comes Again' (2013, LP, Ind.) COVER
- 'TOE TAG' (2014, LP, Behind the Mountain) COVER
- Several T-shirts, ads, promo items, stickers, buttons, etc.

## LOGO DESIGN

*Punkcore Records* (Long Island, NY, 1989) - Record Label/distributor, artists include *The Casualties*, *Chaotic Dischord*, *Lower Class Brats*, and *The Varukers*.

- Logo (still in use)

*Conundrum Media* (Seattle, WA, 2013) Record/Media Label

*Orificial Plushie Phun Klub* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Logo design for Greg "Plushie" Hanna Bass guitarist, *The DICKIES* 2003-2010

*Th'Underground Graphics* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Clothing and accessories

*Le Plateau* (San Francisco, CA)

- Restaurant, concept design

*Zippy's Giant Burgers* (Seattle, WA, two locations)

*LOST PHANTOM* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Art, clothing, and accessories

*HELIOS Lighting* (Olympia, WA) Retail/distributor of upscale lighting and accessories

## OTHER NOTABLE WORK

*Zippy's Giant Burgers* (White Center and Georgetown, Seattle, WA)

- Beverage Label Design for 'Zippy's Giant ROOT BEER
- Menu design, signage, advertisements, and promotional designs

*Sacred Rose Tattoo* (Berkeley, CA.)

- T-shirt and advertisement

*MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL* magazine (San Francisco, CA)

COVERS: #85, June 1990, and #107, 1992 as well as artwork printed in various issues.

*American Electric Tattoo Company* (Los Angeles, CA)

- Ad and promo design

*AngelWorks Production* (Los Angeles, NY, Atlanta, Belfast/IR)

- Production design, stage prop design, and manufacture

“Free Jack” (motion picture 1992, starring Emilio Estevez and Anthony Hopkins)

- Design and application of faux tattoo on featured extras

“Pray for Rock & Roll” (motion Picture 2003, starring Gina Gershon)

- Technical advisor of tattoo application

“Stealing Harvard” (motion picture 2002, Bruce McCulloch /Kids in the Hall, featuring Tom Green)

- Technical advisor
- Produce additional background art

*Throb* (Atlanta, Ga. retail clothing)

- Logo design
- Signage

*Masquerade* (nightclub/music venue, Atlanta, GA; Tampa, FL)

- Design and creation of interior decor
- Advertisement artwork/design

*Piercing Experience* (Atlanta, Ga. retail specialty jewelry/piercing studio)

- Exterior Wall Mural