

# ONE



## INTERVIEW: erik bailey

PARIAH tour  
BCSD contest  
NYC invitational

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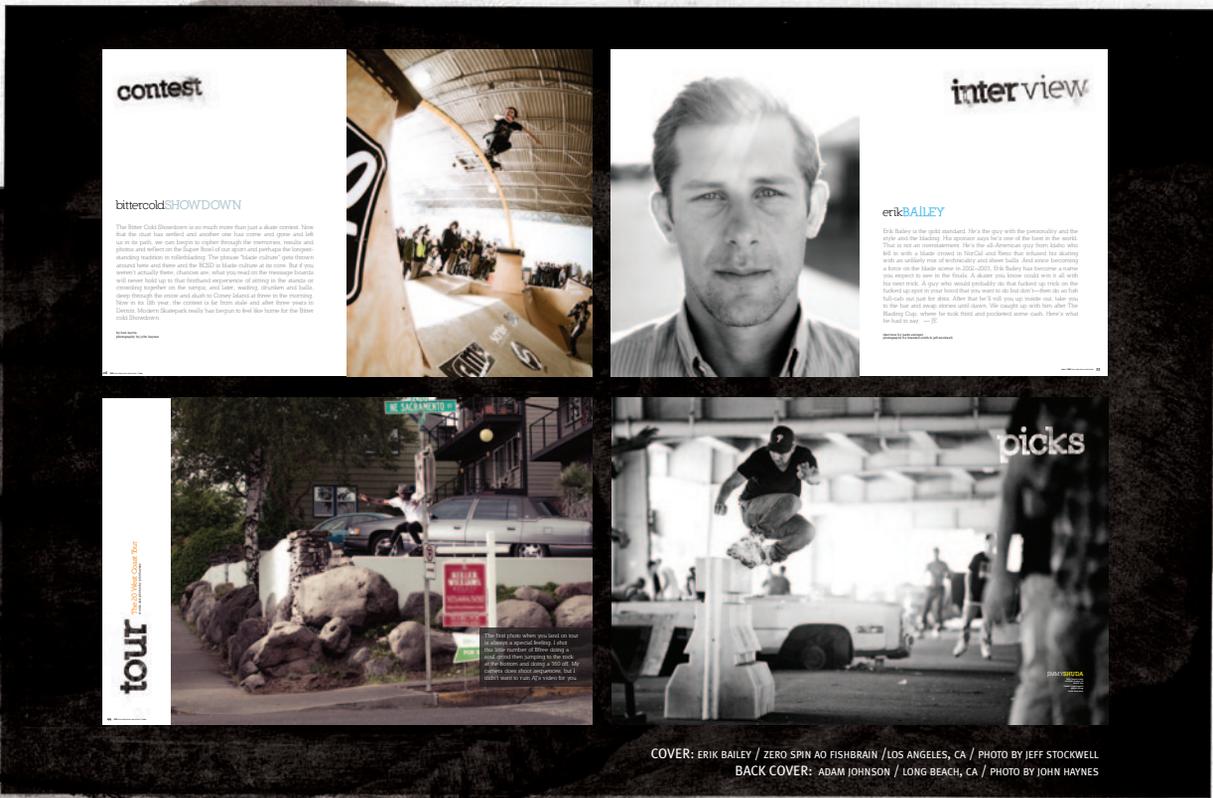
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 BACK COVER: ADAM JOHNSON / LONG BEACH, CA / PHOTO BY JOHN HAYNES

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## #OccupyYourLife

It's so easy to bitch about stuff. It's probably always been easy, though in our day and age it's become not only socially acceptable to bitch about stuff, but being thought of as "good" at bitching about stuff is actually a desirable trait. A commodity. With the right veneers in your mouth and tan on your skin, you might be able to parlay your bitchin' abilities into a career in television or entertainment. But if you're like most, your de facto outlet for your daily bitching is that great void right at your fingertips—the Internet.

Whatever your poison—Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr—there is almost zero filter between the gray matter inside your head and the full public view of online exposal. For some, it works. You're witty. The things you say are universal but edgy enough to catch a casual laugh from a reader or even cultivate a following. Sure, sometimes you push people away, but mostly your fans just get a better sense of who you really are, becoming more closely associated with your thoughts and opinions. Therein lies the intrinsic "social value" that the folks in your marketing department keep talking about.

But with "Likes" and "+1s" springing up everywhere and each and every media site, service or destination providing an outlet for your every thought, whimsy or criticism, well, it's clear things aren't going back to the way they were. Unless the solar flares kick up and kill off all our electronic gadgets. Otherwise, settle in for a long haul of every asshole thinking their two cents is worth sharing.

What's funny though, or not funny but actually tragic, is that all this energy put into criticism is energy that's taken away from action. The action has become merely sharing your opinion. Once you've pressed "Send" or "Share" or whenever your brain thinks you've reached some sort of conclusion. You had a dilemma ("How do I feel about this?"), decided on an action ("I will press the 'Like' button.") and now that you've clicked the mouse button your brain is on to the next distraction. The next "problem" in need of a solution as it were. So now we're in a tragic loop of more people "caring" about any given subject than at any time in human history, but fewer people concerned with acting on those concerns than at any time in human history. Weird, right?

So today as I write this letter and think about blading, and

the hurdles that stand between our community and the goals we wish to reach, it's hard to not think about the thousands of Americans out in the streets right now, protesting laws and policies that reward the financial sector at the expense of everyone else. And more important to me than the politics of their protest is simply that people have taken to the streets in a display of action. It may not seem like much, but showing your face in a crowd of protestors is infinitely more badass than purportedly supporting/criticizing/striking out on the web. These are regular, struggling people who are getting arrested and maced and kicked and hit with nightsticks because they believe that the system has to change; that unless they personally put their energies and heart into fighting the status quo, their voice (and the voice of millions like them) will be lost.

Come to think of it, all these Occupy Wall Street protestors (and the much more badass Arab Spring protestors from Egypt and Tunisia and Libya) have a lot in common with rollerbladers. We all not only compose a population that is predominantly in the middle class or lower economic brackets, but we realize that our interests are not being represented by anyone beside ourselves. The big difference between bladers and these protestors is that one group is willing to fight and face arrest/injury/death for their beliefs; the other would rather anonymously attack each other on the Internet.

Amidst a sea of disillusion one voice can unite the masses and tap pent up frustration to ignite change. One person can start a revolution, and despite what we've written above, that revolution doesn't need to be in NYC or Cairo or anywhere other than in your town and with your scene. The battle lines for blading stretch around the globe, through skateparks, skate spots and city streets everywhere. If you want something changed, get down to changing it yourself. If you want blading to be bigger, make it bigger. But don't just bitch about it, do something. If you don't, why would anyone else?

Mobilize your army. Take the high ground. It's time to Occupy Your Life.

Justin Eisinger  
San Diego

October 3, 2011

*youth*

F A R M E R . J U L I O . H A F F E Y

T H E Y O U T H C O . C O M



G E T @ T H E M G O O D S . C O M



photo by Michelle Gerard

Very few cities worldwide have been through the turmoil that Detroit has—economic, racial, cultural—and fewer still have survived it. I'm proud of Detroit, and to be from here, but to listen to some outsiders, Motown is now but a zombie shell of its former glory, filled with nothing but ruins, rust, and crime. This is far from true, of course, but the romance of the classic fall-from-grace storyline is too much to resist, so embellishments are made to fit the narrative. It seems the same thing often happens to rollerblading. Outsiders look in, but only see what they want, what they've always been told—blading's just an overextended '90s fad, long overdue to fade away; the platypus of the action-sports realm.

Detroit and blading alike never even have a chance when seen through that type of crap-colored lens; through them both we appear to be simply too dumb to realize our time has passed; too stubborn to lay down and die. But what they're actually seeing is hope, and perseverance—the two things that Detroit's never stopped manufacturing and that rollerblading depends on as we weather the storms of our sport's adolescence. Detroit's economy may have shrunk, as has blading's, but our hearts have not. In many ways, both blading and Detroit are better than they have ever been—despite, and maybe even because of, our hardships.

Blading in Motown has always been strong year-round—from

the Airborne days, through Octona's run and especially now, with Modern and our other world-class indoor parks, the Bittercold Showdown, and my loft/minipark keeping our winters just as fun as the summers. Our warm-season Friday Night Skate is in its 11th year, well past the 300-session mark—one of the longest-running things in blading, anywhere.

In the last few years Detroit bladers have re-discovered the city itself, as have many young people across the metro area—sessions now happen as often amid the “rust and ruins” as they do out in the ‘burbs. A few months ago we held the Delta City Open, the first street comp in the Motor City since the IMYTAs. It went off without a hitch, entirely within the city limits, and even included a spot we built ourselves, which seems on track to becoming Detroit's de facto public skate park.

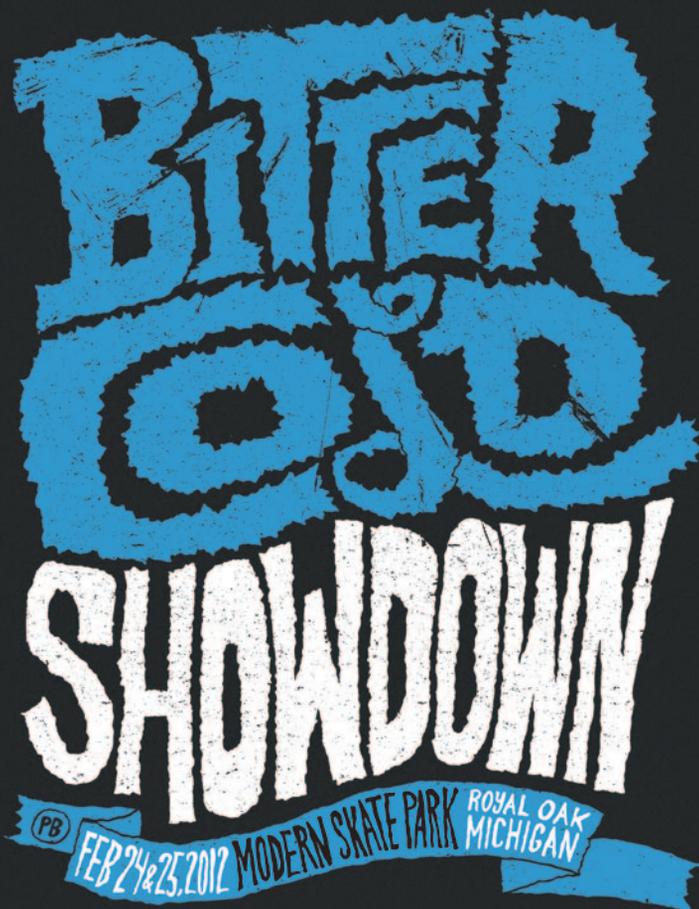
It used to be that Detroiters wouldn't be caught dead in a German import: now a German company sends Don Bambrick and J.C. Rowe, two of our best blading exports, all around the world. Our next batch of talent is coming down the assembly line and will be in showrooms soon; you can kick their tires digitally at [detroitrolling.com](http://detroitrolling.com), or just see what else is going on in our part of the bladeverse. By the time you read this, though, we will probably already have been on the road to come see your part of it. Or just swing through the D sometime—of the many cool things we've built in Detroit, our blade scene is probably the best. — Al Dolega



# MORE THAN JUST A TRIP TO EUROPE

Experience different places, a different culture and a different world. Hang out and party with Rollerbladers from all over the world and feel the special Winterclash atmosphere. This could be the trip of a lifetime.

[winterclash.com](http://winterclash.com)



[www.bittercoldshowdown.com](http://www.bittercoldshowdown.com)

#### Lost photo equipment:

1. Light meter, \$350
2. Canon 1d battery charger, \$150
3. Manfrotto tripod plate x 3, \$20 each
4. Hard drive with photos, \$priceless
5. My mind

#### Reasons to have a beard:

1. Shaving takes time and money
2. Gives you something to stroke when in deep thought
3. Built in sunblock for the summer
4. Face warmer for the winter
5. Save your food/drink for later

#### Motorcycle rides:

1. Salton Sea through Borrego Springs
2. LA to SF on Highway 1
3. Ortega Highway
4. Cave Creek, AZ
5. Mt. Baldy

#### Long Beach hangouts:

1. Ferns
2. LA Mexicana taqueria on Fourth Street
3. Stockwell/Sayer's house
4. Portfolio Coffeehouse
5. Queen Mary bar

#### Cameras:

1. Canonet Rangefinder
2. Olympus Stylus
3. Pentax k1000
4. Canon 5d mark II
5. Hasselblad 500 c/m





*Love The Bladers*

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**NAME:** Michael Patrick Opalek  
**AGE:** 38  
**LOCATION:** Park City, Utah  
**OCCUPATIONAL STATUS:** Assistant Distiller  
**YEARS BLADING:** 20  
**INTERESTS:** Making booze, beer and whiskey  
**SITE:** www.highwest.com



**FOR THE RECORD:** I've been home brewing beer for a bit over two years now. It was something I'd wanted to do for the past decade but never got into it. Just before I moved out of Los Angeles, I was working part time at a small brewery called Angel City. It was fun and interesting work and really motivated me to start home brewing. As much as I wanted to stay at the brewery, there really wasn't much work for me and randomly my brother asked if I wanted to move to Park City for the winter. I did, and decided to stay. Besides bartending, I got a job working in the warehouse for this distillery that just started up. I bottled the hooch and did shipping. It sucked, but I did it for a year knowing I'd move up quickly in the company. Just over a year ago I got promoted to Assistant Distiller. I do everything from propagate our yeast, to making the mashes, to running the still. I have anywhere from one to three distillations a week. I call myself the luckiest distiller on Earth. To get to a position where I'm at, most would have had to have gone to school for this and then spend years at a distillery working their way up. I got lucky. It's an interesting job that is totally different than skating. Math and science is a daily adventure for me now, which puts me out of my element. We currently make three different kinds of whiskey. Rye, oat and malt (malt is basically scotch, but since we're not in Scotland we can't call it that), along with a vodka made out of oats as well. The oat whiskey is un-aged, so it's clear (whiskey gets its brown color along with other flavors from the barrels it ages in). Our rye and

malt are aging right now, but we will come out with those as an un-aged product, hopefully this year.

The distillery has only been around about four years now, but only really producing consistently for just about two years. Any whiskies that are brown with our name on them, we did not make. We purchased back east and blended with other whiskeys to make them our own. The distillery has won a few awards for this. It's a good way for the company to make money while most of the whiskeys we produce age. There has been a huge push in the spirit market for clear un-aged whiskeys. Our oat has done well and won a few awards. You can check out the website and see if our booze is available in your neck of the woods. We're in about 15 states at the moment, and Canada. I ultimately want to get back in the brewing industry but for now this works. Though my liver is not too excited about it! But to be honest, if a job in the blading community came my way I'd take that in a heartbeat!

I'd really like to thank Jon Julio and the whole Valo team for keeping me hooked up with skates and being way too fun to hang out with; Isaac and Eulogy for all the wheels and support over the years; Brian Krans for his writing; Tory for being a bad ass great friend; and my dad for everything.

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## THE PULL

THE-PULL.COM

## AGGRESSIVE MALL

AM 96 LAUREL DENIMS HAT  
retail: \$29.99

Aggressive Mall has made a name for themselves with customer service, a deep selection, and the highest quality custom products in the business. That streak continues with the 96 Laurel Denims hat. AMall has been on the denim tip this year and the 96 Laurels is the perfect addition to the trend. Features AM embroidered logo dead-center, white AM patch on the side, and a 3D stitched logo on the back. Inside-out denim on the underside of the bill adds another smooth detail.



## SCRIBE URETHANE

PAUL JOHN WHEEL  
retail: \$32.00 (4 pk.)

Paul John does it all. When he's not blading, he's behind the camera or off in some foreign land with the Xsjado team and it seems like this year he's been on the come up pretty hard. Check out his second pro wheel from Scribe. The graphic — a collision of red, white and blue — offsets the all black urethane and looks like it could be an animated still from one of PJ's Midnight Cinema productions. Measuring in at 58/HARD, we're pretty sure you're not going to de-core these jams.

## XSJADO

FARMER 4.1 PRO BOOT  
retail: \$239.99

The Farmacy is back with a limited edition release of his latest pro boot from Xsjado. The complete setup comes in all white yet somehow they're still dark as fuck. Everything you've come to expect from a Xsjado: huge soles, unlimited control, unique look. Get em' with the signature Chris Farmer footwrap that doubles as a shoe or change it up. It's not like the Stockwell footwraps we featured in our last issue would look bad in these jams either.



## GROUND CONTROL

JOEY CHASE XS FRAME  
retail: \$69.00

We've seen Joey skate better drunk than most could sober. Not really sure if this has anything to do with these new deals from GC but we sure are proud of him for scoring his first pro frame. The XS has been described by Joey himself as "Light but solid as shit," and it features a slightly harder plastic than previous designs for faster grinds and a smoother, more stable ride. Put some money in Joey's pocket and score a pair.



## USD

RICHIE EISLER CARBON FREE  
retail: \$309.00

What's a Carbon boot without the carbon? That's what you'll find out when you shred the new Richie Eisler Carbon Free. Featuring the famous Carbon fit, but paired with a less-exotic plastic support understructure, the combination is streamlined flexibility and the traditional flex you've come to expect from your blades. If cost and/or extreme rigidity were concerns, set them aside and give these boots a spin.

## VALO

JON JULIO LIGHT  
retail: \$355.00

The first production run of the new Valo Jon Julio lights sold out before the skates even hit the shops. The idea was to take a completely different approach to the design while staying true to that classic Valo steez. After years of testing and a number of prototypes, the skates have finally shipped out. The Lights feature a redesigned soul plate, thicker liners, an innovative take on the carbon-fiber shell, and skins made from high-quality leather. If Jon Julio is willing to put his stamp of approval on these, we don't see why you shouldn't.



## STRANGE CREATURES

CHIEF TEE  
retail: \$14.00

We couldn't decide between this shirt and the Voodoo Show design because they're both pretty rad and Amir Amadi took forever to send us a picture of the shirts anyway. So, we just said fuck it and went with the Chief but checking out the entire new line of shirts from Amir and the rest of the Strange dudes would definitely be a good idea.

just released/



## Jay-Z and Kanye West

Watch the Throne  
2011 Roc-A-Fella Records

favorite track:  
"Gotta Have It"

There's a thousand-plus music marketing heads involved with Jay-Z and Kanye's "Watch the Throne" project who want you to believe that it's the hip hop event of the decade. With names so colossal, it'd make sense. On one hand, we have the richest, most business-driven rapper alive. On the other, we have the most adorably attention-thirsty man in the history of rap. It's easy to see the names and get excited, but these are two very bold characters. "Watch the Throne" is amazing on the surface — heavy, flavorful beats, and comic verses of wealth, power, and just plain goofing off. But the truth is it lacks its own soul. "Watch the Throne" is a fun listen, but it's a hard album to get involved with. Unfortunately in the end, Jay and Ye end up sounding like two boisterous independent rappers laying down verses for someone else's album.



## Active Child

You Are All I See  
2011 Vagrant Records (US)

favorite track:  
"Hanging On"

If you look back at '90s R&B and soul and wonder what happened, you're not alone. You're just one member of an entire deprived generation. Lucky for us, our generation's musicians have stepped up and revived some of those memories. The influence may be slight at best, but a slew of artists are incorporating a lot of soul and funk into their own original work. Last year, it was Gayngs. This year, it's Denver's Active Child. There are some differences, however. "You Are All I See" sounds troubled and awkward upon first listen. Vocals shifting and echoing throughout sound like Zapp and Roger hired transgender vocalist Antony Hegarty. Musically, it sounds like it could be a part of "The Breakfast Club" soundtrack. Take the time to absorb this 40-minute album, though, and you'll find it has a lot of charming character — even some you might be able to attribute to the classics.



## Beirut

The Rip Tide  
2011 Pompeii Records

favorite track:  
"Payne's Bay"

Zach Condon, otherwise known as Beirut, will always make brilliant, beautiful music. His third full-length "The Rip Tide" is filled with those swaying vagabond melodies he's best known for. Although it was his early travels that inspired a great deal of his music making and the further that time slips into the past, the less inspired his music sounds. "The Rip Tide" is pretty sleepy. There isn't much range moving throughout the album, and it lacks energy. Plenty of great artists stay within a narrow range of sound and succeed with great songwriting. There isn't much going on in the majority of the songs on "Rip Tide." Unlike Beirut's past albums, most of these songs fail to take risks. Before you know it (in just over 30 minutes), the last track finishes and you question whether you were paying attention. It's enjoyable in the background, but can't stand on its own feet up front.



## CANT

Dreams Come True  
2011 Terrible Records

favorite track:  
"Answer"

CANT is the side project of Grizzly Bear bassist and producer Chris Taylor. The Brooklynite has also produced for several well known artists, which led him to creating a record label (called Terrible Records) for personal projects, as well as CANT. Not knowing this, it's really hard to make that connection running through "Dreams Come True." His first proper full length, "Dreams" is kind of all over the place. There's the incredibly dark, dancy moments (like a goth Miike Snow), the '80s progressive soul moments, and tracks with a hint of Grizzly Bear's minimalism before stomping drum machines arrive. Somehow, though not on paper, these tracks play incredibly smoothly together. Picture being left at a speakeasy disco while coming down from your indulgences. "Dreams Come True" is a clash of industrial electronic versus classical minimalism but works best when they meet halfway. A great first solo effort.



## Cerebral Ballzy

Cerebral Ballzy  
2011 Williams Street Records / Cartoon Network

favorite track:  
"Insufficient Fare"

Hardcore might be clawing for a comeback. Either that, or people have been really tired of music not being very loud for the past five years. Old bands like the Descendents are reforming to headline festivals like FYF, and acts like Cerebral Ballzy are topping hype lists for 2011. That would've never happened five years ago, and maybe rightfully so. After all, progressive isn't exactly a great word for Cerebral Ballzy's self-titled debut. So, if you're looking for something groundbreaking, look elsewhere. With that said, this album is pretty damn fun to listen to. With only a couple songs over two minutes, its 12 tracks move through pretty quickly like a sucker punch in the back of the head. And if you're completely over political, conscious punk, Cerebral Ballzy is mostly concerned with skating, getting laid, and basically blacking out. There's nothing too serious here, but that's why it works.



## Ganglians

Still Living  
2011 Lefse Records

favorite track:  
"Sleep"

Ganglians seem like they have a lot of fun. It just comes through the music. I get visions of them building layers upon layers on a track and getting super wide-eyed and smiley off experimenting. They sound like a happy art-rock band paying homage to Buddy Holly. On previous releases, their experimentation took off into different worlds, and while exciting, at times they left the listener behind. On this year's "Still Living," they've figured out a way to be risky while staying reachable. The beach twang is at hand, the wandering vocals still echo throughout, but the songwriting is much more structured. The sound is more formal feeling but doesn't lose its Ganglians character. In fact, a lot of the songs on "Still Living" achieve what was missing so much from previous releases: a little bit of focus. It's good to see these guys growing into their talent.



## Girls

Father, Son, Holy Ghost  
2011 True Panther Sounds

favorite track:  
"Myrna"

I wasn't a huge fan of the first release from San Francisco band Girls. I thought it was kind of flimsy and lacked real substance, and, honestly, it didn't give me much hope. That was until the "Broken Dreams Club" EP hit shelves. Their sound grew more diverse and dynamic, expanding out of the treble-heavy sound they seemed to have lost themselves in before. It promised their next release would be one not to miss. Turns out that record, "Father, Son, Holy Ghost," is everything anyone who knows the band could possibly hope for. The lows and highs, the careless and the overwhelmed are all represented, as well as neatly organized across 11 tracks of beach rock greatness. "Father..." feels so free while working within such traditional rock boundaries. It shows true songwriting ability, while wearing so much character. I'd be surprised if it wasn't at the top of most year-end lists.



## Mellow Hype

BlackenedWhite  
2011 Fat Possum Records

favorite track:  
"64"

Whether you're loving it or can't stand any more, face it: OFWGKTA will be making noise for at least another year or so. Currently, the best of their back catalog, as well as the work they were finishing up pre-fame is hitting shelves. So far, Mellowhype's "BlackenedWhite" is definitely the most impressive of the reissues. Made up of Hodgy Beats and Left Brain, Mellowhype's newest (though originally released almost a year ago) is loud, fast and pissed off without being obnoxious. Unlike most famous member Tyler the Creator's "Goblin," "BlackenedWhite" plays out strong without being sluggish thanks in part to Left Brain's production. What truly makes this record work, though, is Hodgy Beats. Hodgy has an incredibly smooth rhyme scheme (think Mikey Rocks) with a feisty, raspy delivery. "Blackened-white" is slyly controversial, keeping it off the front line of the most popular of Odd Future, but making it one of the stronger releases so far.



## Shabazz Palaces

Black Up  
2011 Sub Pop Records

favorite track:  
"An Echo From the Hosts That Profess Infitum"

When Digable Planets crushed speakers in the '90s, they weren't flashy, or iced out, and they weren't producing club bangers. They created impressive, cleanly crafted hip-hop. They made their noise and you either got it or you didn't. It seems Butterfly of Digable Planets is taking a similar approach with his new project, Shabazz Palaces. And like Digable Planets, if you take the time to soak up the full-length debut "Black Up," you'll have a hard time letting go. "Black Up" is batshit crazy, but confident, sounding like a conspiracy theorist with all the right answers. The beats, the vocals all dip in and out of clarity, distance, and power. The song structures follow no guidelines. It's a wild trip that takes some getting used to. But after a few listens, you may end up ditching the rest of your modern hip-hop collection. It's truly that good.



## SOUND CHECK ▶ Little Dragon / an interview with Fredrik Källgren Wallin

Interview by Justin Eisinger / photo by Anna Dobbs

**Hey guys, thanks for taking time to answer our questions. And we can't lie, we first learned about Little Dragon when Ritual Union landed in our PO Box. The album is ridiculously infectious. Just a great vibe. But I'm guessing our readers don't know a whole lot about Little Dragon either, so can you start with some basics, like, telling us how the four of you guys got together?** We met randomly at the emergency room after a dance marathon. The story is not as cool or exciting as it sounds. But at least we all met!

**I've been to Gothenburg before, and it's a cool city. Except of course when I heard the gunshots at the 2001 G-8 protests, but that was a coincidence. What's it like living in Gothenburg? How about the music scene, were you inspired by your environment or were your inspirations coming from other sources/places?** G-town is the bomb; inspiring is just the start. The stuff that goes down here is just whack attack.

**"Whack attack"?** (We suddenly remember that English is a second language for these guys.) Doesn't that mean good?

**Not really, but it's okay. I read in another interview that you guys start writing a new track by laying down the drums, then it starts taking shape. How about the vocals, are they entirely inspired by the tone of the track, or do you come in and decide to make a track with some atmospheric tone to match a vocal idea you had?** It could start with a hush of maracas and then shit breaks loose. But although our process is kinda worked out, each song comes together differently. That's sort of the magic of recording and creating music.

**Right now I think you're still touring in North America. How's the tour going?** It is rolling radical. Played some good venues.

**We were originally supposed to meet up in Brooklyn back in August, but you guys had just done a show the night before in LA, the flew to NYC, and, well, shit got fucked up. How did the bi-costal jump work out—good shows?** It was wicked wackiness with wooly workouts. But yeah, that was kinda tough; the overnight bi-costal thing. But we lived through it.

**What sorts of differences (or similarities) do you see in your fans, depending on their country of origin or location?** German peeps dance a bit more to the right, Canadians have a slight jumping headspin thing going on.... The list could go on forever.

**Sticking to the tour/show theme for a minute, what would you say is your standout live performance? Are there any that really stand out for you?** No, it's like "Groundhog Day" every time.

**How long until you guys get back into the studio and tackle another album?** In couple of hours, I should say. But we're on tour, so more like weeks.

**Anything you can share about direction or avenues the group plans to explore come recording time?** 3D is the new avenue for sound.

**Okay, before I let you guys out of here, last question: you guys know anything about people doing tricks on inline skates? If so, share your knowledge/experiences/thoughts.** Tricks on inlines! That sounds like some cool stuff. I am still working on my backwards glide.

**We'll end it there. Thanks again for the time, can't wait to hear what comes next.** Peace and new tricks upon you all! **ONE**



## Regardless / Directed by Brandon Negrete



“Regardless” is the new release from seasoned video maker Brandon Negrete. The video has one of the most stacked lineups of the year — Haffey, Stockwell, Bailey, Bolino — plus a group of your favorite up-and-comers. This one is a throwback to the days of no-nonsense skate videos. You don’t have to fast forward any time lapse shots or interviews in “Regardless,” and that’s what sets it apart from recent vids.

Let me break down my thoughts while watching “Regardless” for the first time:

- Intro — I liked Gummo too
- Chris Haffey — I feel bad that the rest of the guys have to follow the powerhouse.
- Andrew Jacuzzi — This guy is skating fast
- Keaton Newsome — Needs to learn how to shotgun a beer
- Chris Dafick — Ted Nugent
- Kruse Sapstein — I can’t wait to see his next part
- Erik Stokley — Awesome song
- Bailey — That fakie 360 is way bigger than it looks
- Ross Kuhn — Best name in the biz
- Stockwell — Pools are good for your health
- Jon Bolino — Stale fastslide

Get this one to see where skating is headed for 2013.

- Pros: Some of the best in the game, going big
- Cons: Underexposed footage



## Seven Rats / Directed by Craig Smith



“Seven Rats” is an inside look at the Australian rolling scene. Craig Smith let me know that this is the first video shot entirely on DSLR cameras. DSLRs are the cameras that look like your moms old still camera but actually shoot video in addition to stills. DSLR footage looks a lot better than even the high-end video cameras out there, and “Seven Rats” proves it. The editing is clean and the skate profiles are studded with stunning shots of what I can only guess is Australia. The skaters in this video may be unfamiliar to a lot of you, but trust me these guys are no wannabes. “Seven Rats” is full of big spots and stylish tricks. Big ups to Danny Johnson for standing out, and to Craig Smith’s commitment to putting out a sharp video.

- Pros: Random crazy electro music
- Cons: Random crazy electro music



## Fester / Directed by Nick Wood



Fester, the best wheel company you have never heard of. The Fester team consists of San Diego locals Nick Wood, Damien Wilson and Lyle Shivak. The Santee guys are backed up by newcomer Casey McFarland, jumpin’ Joey Chase, and of course no video would be complete without Jon Bolino. These six guys all have complete parts, full of hammers at familiar San Diego spots. I believe this is Nick Wood’s first time putting together a video, and I have to say he started out strong. My only complaint is that all the big tricks from each section are shown right off the bat in the intro. Next time maybe save each dude’s ender trick till the end, ya know? Other than that, cut down on the footage of grown men pooping and you got yourself a winner.

- Pros: Santee taking matters into their own hands
- Cons: No bonus footage



## Big Money Hustlas / Directed by Kareem Shehab



Kareem Shehab is a rollerblader that kind of took over the fixed-gear-bike video scene. If you don’t know what fixed-gear bikes are, just think Lance Armstrong with no breaks, thumping down stair sets and chunking ledges. “Big Money Hustlas” has a lot of twisted footage mixed in with the fixed gearing. Kudos for getting the shot of the giraffe giving birth, Kareem, that cracked me up. If you’re into fixed-gear freestyle you should pick this up, and you should also keep those long-ass pegs away from any of my spots.

- Pros: Inspiration to go bigger on blades
- Cons: The sound of fixies grinding



**I BELIEVE.**

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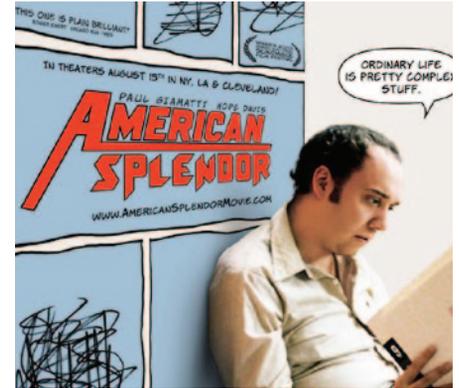
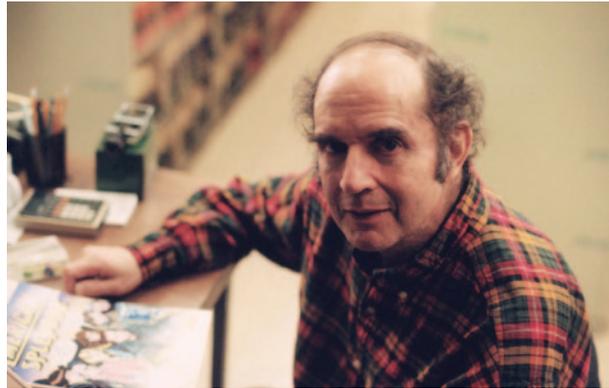
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## press play / American Splendor

review by Justin Eisinger / 2003 HBO Films / Fine Line Features



## street talk /

**Zooming:** Getting caught up in something that makes time pass quickly. Zooming frequently takes place while in the company of a member of the opposite sex.

Examples:

"This chick zoomed me at the airport. She was talking my ear off, and I loved it."

"Who's zooming who now?"

## spot-ed /

**Bubble Rails**  
IRVINE, CA



**Chris Haffey**—Zerospin Gap ("Regardless")

**Brian Shima**—Zero top soul (the first rail) and soul to fishbrain ("Coup de Tat")

**Brian Shima**—AO fish (the first rail) and inspin royal ("Coup de Tat")

**Brian Shima**—Soul to topsoul (the first rail) and misfit ("Coup de Tat")

**Dustin Latimer**—Cess Slide the stairs ("Words")

**Aaron Feinberg**—backside pudslide (ONE V6N1)

**Demetrios George**—270 back farv (on the first) and fullcab truespin miszu ("ONEVideo")

**Kevin Gillan**—ao Soul 360 rewind (the first rail) and zero royale ("Coup de Tat")

Hailing from the cuts of Northeastern Ohio, I have no idea how a prominent and influential underground comic book came out of Cleveland—and I didn't know a thing about it.

You might think that a slow movie about a miserable sonofabitch like Harvey Pekar and his underground comic book would be a total pain to watch. But you'd be wrong. Amid the gray-brown depression haze of urban Cleveland, file clerk Harvey Pekar learned to direct his misery into comic book stories about his misery. Sounds like a horrible bore, right? Well, probably, but in the hands of Pekar, armed with his biting and unblinking eye for absolute honesty, the pain/humor/victory/defeat of everyday life is celebrated.

So that's who the movie's about. Pekar. Playing Pekar in the movie is Paul Giamatti, who's hope-starved performance shows us Pekar's life of near total dudgey; each minute detail of each task filling his mind with a runaway train of thoughts and assumptions and desperate declarations. Think of him as George Costanza without Jerry Seinfeld, a deep bed of neuroticism. Driving home these points is Pekar himself, actually appearing in the film, sometimes with real-life wife Joyce Brabner. Their inclusion (and that of the many other real-life characters which influenced the story) sets the definitive stamp of approval on the authenticity of this film's presentation of the story.

As shown in the film, "American Splendor" the idea was inspired in no small part by all the characters that surrounded Pekar in his everyday life. From co-workers to wives and even underground 'comix' pioneer Robert Crumb, Pekar drew from his own experiences to tell a story about being an American in America, even when totally unconscious of being such a thing. This was just life. These people, and the situations Pekar found them in, went right into the books, putting the absurd, cruel humor of reality into the comic book form.

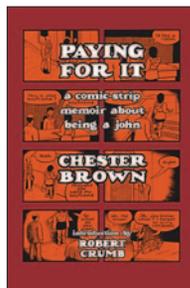
Part feature, part documentary, "American Splendor" is a mixed-media experience that deftly handles multiple narrative styles, including comic book panels and thought/speech balloons. Upon its release in 2003 the critics agreed, bestowing the honors of Grand Jury Prize for Dramatic Film at Sundance Film Festival, and the FIPRESCI critics award at Cannes.

Besides his work on the "American Splendor" comic books, Pekar earned high praise during his lifetime with the autobiographical "Our Cancer Year," which, fittingly, detailed his personal battle and victory against lymphoma. And which much like "American Splendor" relied on the dark humor of mortality to find solace from the terror of life.

After being diagnosed with cancer for the third time in his life, Harvey Pekar was found dead in his Cleveland Heights home on July 12, 2010. But don't worry about that; go watch the film.

## comic / Paying For It

Drawn and Quarterly  
Reviewed by JE  
\$24.95



"Paying For It" is arguably the most honest piece of literature I've ever read. That is not to say that every detail of the story is true—I have no idea—but it is allegedly creator Chester Brown's personal story of deciding to only have sex with hookers. I call it honest because Brown does little to embellish his actions or character, leading one to assume that we're getting the straight dope. The result is a story that's less luridly erotic and more, I guess, depressing in that self-revelatory/discovery sort of way. With concise storytelling and distinctive indie art stylings, Brown effortlessly takes the mystery and so-called sex appeal right out of the "oldest profession."

## kicks / Nike Air Foamposite Pro



As the NBA talks money and tries to figure out how they're going to end their lockout and actually play this coming fall, it's easy to reflect on better basketball times. 1996 was a much better time for the NBA, with numerous teams playing amazing basketball. The arenas were full, the tickets were selling and the footwear industry was booming just as loudly.

Deep in the Nike Innovation Kitchen (they actually call it that) the designers were trying to create a shoe with no stitching in its upper or sole construction. The idea was it would perform better, last longer, and be much more comfortable if it didn't use conventional stitch methods to form the panels of the upper that surround your foot. They accomplished this with a composite of foam and synthetic materials that were light and strong all at once, giving them the name Foamposite. If you get the chance to try them on, any apprehensions you have about the alien look of the shoe will immediately disappear.

Needless to say, Nike couldn't miss in the late '90s when it came to designs and pairing them with white-hot basketball talent. Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway was paired with the sneakers during the design process and a legacy was born. The Foamposite One (same as the shoe above but with no swoosh) and the Foam Pro spurred a long lineage of sneakers that perform far better than most basketball shoes. Actually playing basketball in these is a dream, and doing anything less strenuous than basketball is of course just as nice. If you've got a flair for the unorthodox then you can find the Foamposite Pro in most of the big chain sneaker shops like Finishline in a rainbow of color options. Lace them up and you'll never want to take them off. – Mike Rios

## tech / JOYSTICK-IT

MSRP > \$17.99



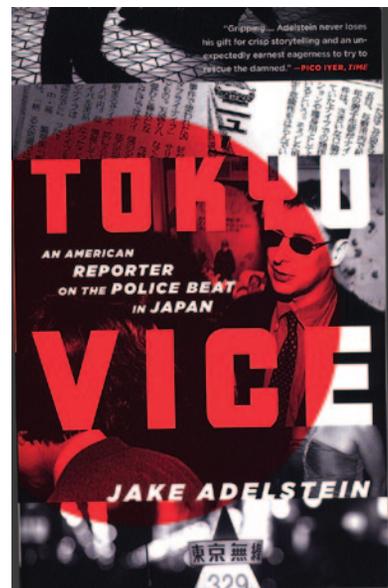
Mobile gaming isn't going anywhere, but sometimes that old school tech needs some shine, too. Enter the Joystick-It game controller from ThinkGeek. Simply place the controller on your device (iPhone or otherwise), press it down, and you're ready for thumb-on-joystick, arcade-style control. That means more precise control and faster response time. And for you iPad gaming enthusiasts, there's one for those, too.

## book / Tokyo Vice: An American Reporter on the Police Beat in Japan

written by Jack Adelstein

When thinking of Japan, its dark, tough, and gritty side doesn't often come to mind, but it assuredly exists. "Tokyo Vice" exposes it all in this real life crime story that details the transformation of a young American college student into a seasoned crime reporter for Japan's biggest newspaper, the Yomiuri Shinbun. To get to understand a culture, one should look at its criminals and the things that it tries to hide from the rest of the world, and Jake Adelstein was on the front lines reporting on these very issues for 12 years. Ultimately the story becomes one about human trafficking and sexual slavery in a country that didn't want to admit that it existed and how he came face to face with the most powerful Yakuza boss in Japan, his life and his family's lives being threatened by a cool, professional Yakuza enforcer.

This book contains all of the traits of the best crime stories. Amazingly unique and interesting characters line the pages from beginning to end, and Adelstein's witty and honest writing drive the action forward. Sex, greed and corruption always make for fascinating stories and there is an abundance of it in "Tokyo Vice." It would be easy to focus on that cynicism except that he also shows us some genuinely good people who, although imperfect, give the book its life. – ZoSo



## flick / Drive

directed by Nicolas Winding Refn



"Drive" came out to much hype here in LA, as any film shot solely in your town does. But unlike other movies that try to conceal their true location, this was one of those Michael Mann-esque styles where there's a lot of helicopter shots and unique locations. Sometimes it takes an outsider (Refn is from Denmark) to shine a light on the random places that every city has to offer. Like a skater cruising around at night in a new city, he takes the audience into LA and allows you to see it from many different angles usually unseen. The film is all shot on the new ARRI ALEXA, so it's visually stunning to say the least. It stars Ryan Gosling who, according to all the girls around me, is the "it" thing right now and I can see why. He definitely brings the coolness to this film. The setup is fairly simple: he falls for his hot neighbor (Carrie Mulligan) who has the baggage of a kid and an ex in prison. Diving right into this situation headfirst, our "Driver" somehow ends up in all kinds of unforeseen shit. Who would have thought helping out the hot neighbor could lead to this? Sit back and enjoy the ride. – Wes Driver



# am hour

adam exline

WORDS BY  
ADAM JOHNSON

PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
JOHN HAYNES

Adam Exline is what some people refer to as a seeker. He is constantly on the lookout for things to shred, women to fall in love with, parties to crash, and friends to chill with. To facilitate this lifestyle he has packed up his backpack and hit the road over the past several years in the same spirit of Rob G. to find adventure and learn about himself and life in the process. Touring with Adam I've learned a lot about the spirit of the next generation. Gone are the days of sticking to what you know, who you know, and your

hometown. If you are dedicated, like Exline is, you have to put comfort, stability, and financial gain on the shelf in pursuit of passion, love, and rollerblading. Adam's quest for adrenaline is unparalleled and has already left him with a broken wrist and a broken heel filming for his next video project. Like him or love him, Adam is as dedicated a rollerblader as you'll find, and he has the couch surfing resume to prove it.





contest

## bittercoldSHOWDOWN

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The Bitter Cold Showdown is so much more than just a skate contest. Now that the dust has settled and another one has come and gone and left us in its path, we can begin to cipher through the memories, results and photos and reflect on the Super Bowl of our sport and perhaps the longest-standing tradition in rollerblading. The phrase "blade culture" gets thrown around here and there and the BCSD is blade culture at its core. But if you weren't actually there, chances are, what you read on the message boards will never hold up to that firsthand experience of sitting in the stands or crowding together on the ramps, and later, wading, drunken and balls-deep through the snow and slush to Coney Island at three in the morning. Now in its 11th year, the contest is far from stale and after three years in Detroit, Modern Skatepark really has begun to feel like home for the Bitter Cold Showdown.

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by ben karris  
photography by john haynes





BRANDON SMITH / FAKIE 270 DISASTER ROYALE

My trip began when Detroit local Alex Coe, whom I had never met, picked me up from DTW early Friday morning. Yes, I gave him gas money, yes we ended up hanging out later on that weekend, but it's a 45-minute drive from the airport to Modern and Alex didn't just run me back and forth, the dude made that trip multiple times throughout the weekend for anyone who needed a ride. Somehow he even got me back to the airport for a 7 a.m. flight to Phoenix on Sunday morning.

So Saturday, post-tradeshows: As everyone kind of floats back in from the parking lot and into the actual skate park, ONE magazine boss man Justin Eisinger comes up to me and says, "Karris. Go with Haynes!" I follow ONE photog John Haynes across the entire park and over to the DJ. It turns out the bastards had unplugged the cord that was offering power to John's flashes that he had meticulously spent all morning rigging in the rafters of the ceiling. Ya know those inflatable flash balloons you've seen at skateboarding contests? Well, Haynes pretty much did that on his own which is why the photos accompanying these words are probably some of the best you've ever seen of BCSD. And dammit we weren't going to let this bald Detroit DJ put it all to waste. Haynes gave em' the stink eye while JE found another outlet that saved us from having to string extension cords along the entire

back wall of the park. I think it even turned out that the DJ was wrong anyway and we would have been fine.

The pro contest was a badass celebration of blading from the first heat all the way through to the finals. On top of the bank to box—a focal point of big tricks in previous years—was an obstacle built just for the 2011 contest, aptly dubbed, "The Gnar Bar." (Not to be confused with BAR BAR, the local watering hole whose busiest weekend of the year is the Bitter Cold Showdown.) Dudes like Brandon Smith, Jeff Stockwell, Brian Aragon, and Julien Cudot laced trick after trick, grind after grind across this rail. Once BSmith laced his first topsoul across "The Gnar Bar" he pretty much incorporated the rail into every one of his lines. AMs like Michael Garlinghouse, Tyler Hester and Dave Lang killed it all over the park. Like in previous years, the contest was heat after heat after heat of impressive skating. The tension was high as ever with the skaters feeding off of the collective energy in the park. Bolino and Broskow just kind of have this thing about their skating. It's something that comes from straight up passion. They keep the spectators on the proverbial edge of their seats and you can just tell that John and Alex are comfortable on blades like it's their second nature. Fuck, it's like watching a video game.







JULIEN CUDOT GETS THE HAMMER.

When it came time to announce the winner, Julien Cudot was the name booming through the microphone and the French skater took his place on the winner's pedestal, champion hammer in hand and a couple big stacks of cheddar that probably lost a lot of their value once he got back to Europe.

"Charg!ng" was the video selected to be premiered and Adam Johnson chose a local theatre in downtown Royal Oak to unveil his and Sean Kelso's long awaited project AKA tour documentary AKA skate video AKA an unreal collection of footage from all of the Straight Jackit riders that is probably still on repeat in your DVD player, now months after its initial release. After the premiere mostly everyone piled into BAR BAR or bounced between hotel rooms. I wouldn't be hard pressed to say that most go to Bitter Cold just as much to party as they do for the actual event.

For me and some other AZ dudes, our after party began with a visit from Detroit's finest. The first words they said were, "Okay guys, if you've got any dope put it on the table right now." Actually, the cops turned out to be pretty cool considering most of the people in the room weren't even old enough to vote, let alone drink a beer. But busting some longhaired, skinny-jean wearing skaters wasn't their main agenda. "Whose van is this?" They repeatedly asked us in regard to a big white van parked directly in front of our room at the Econo Lodge. Apparently the owner of the van, who later turned out to

be Andrew Jacuzzi, had gotten drunk and driven it into a couple of parked cars on his way out of the park and the fuzz weren't too happy with him. In hopes of finding Andrew, or something that might further incriminate him, they searched the van, then shined Maglites into and knocked on the doors of all of the rooms around us. "So what do you guys know about an Andrew Jacuzzi?" the boys in blue asked before giving up. I think one of us said something like, "Oh, he's a pro skater from Brazil" or "He goes by the name Stephane Alfano." But I can't be too sure. Eventually, when their efforts turned up nothing, they just left and we continued in our debauchery.

Now the question remains, what about next year? If this whole 2012, end-of-the-world-apocalypse turns out to be another great letdown we're going to need a venue for the comp. A new park would put everyone on an even playing field and call for bigger tricks, inspired lines and more creativity. Nevertheless, there is an overflow of Bitter Cold history at Modern Skatepark and to say that every trick has been done or that the cap has been reached in terms of what is possible? Well, that is open for interpretation and will probably be the topic of discussion up until Daniel Kinney lets the word out. Is 2012 the time for a new park? Perhaps, but for now it's safe to say that the last weekend in February has once again proven to be one of the best times of the year for rollerblading. **ONE**



# inter view

## erikBAILEY

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Erik Bailey is the gold standard. He's the guy with the personality and the style and the blading. His sponsor says he's one of the best in the world. That is not an overstatement. He's the all-American guy from Idaho who fell in with a blade crowd in NorCal and Reno that infused his skating with an unlikely mix of technicality and sheer balls. And since becoming a force on the blade scene in 2002–2003, Erik Bailey has become a name you expect to see in the finals. A skater you know could win it all with his next trick. A guy who would probably do that fucked up trick on the fucked up spot in your hood that you want to do but don't—then do a fish full-cab out just for shits. After that he'll roll you up inside out, take you to the bar and swap stories until dawn. We caught up with him after The Blading Cup, where he took third and pocketed some cash. Here's what he had to say. — JE

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interview by justin eisinger  
photography by brandon smith & jeff stockwell

**All right Erik, let's just jump right into it. How do you deal with the pressure of being "Erik Bailey"?** Ha! The pressure of being Erik Bailey... ?

**Well, is there pressure to being Erik Bailey?** There can kind of be at an event or something, maybe when there's non-bladers watching or something, and you know, you kinda want to give 'em a good show. Maybe if you're not warming up, you just get there and you're like, "I can't look like a chump..."

**What about if there's real bladers there, just like today? (This interview was filmed immediately following Erik's third-place win at the inaugural Blading Cup event in Santa Ana, CA.) Do you feel pressure to be the best you can be when there's people watching you blade? Or is it not even like that at all?** Not really, I've kind of casually always done what I've done.

**Really, that's pretty impressive. Just casual, that's awesome. I'm relaxed...** I mean there's times where I, like, go a little more crazy than I usually do, but I dunno, there's not a lot of pressure because if you put pressure on yourself it gets awkward, I think. There's definitely been times in my life where I've put pressure on myself. ... ASA Finals '99. Lotta pressure.

[Filming is interrupted.]

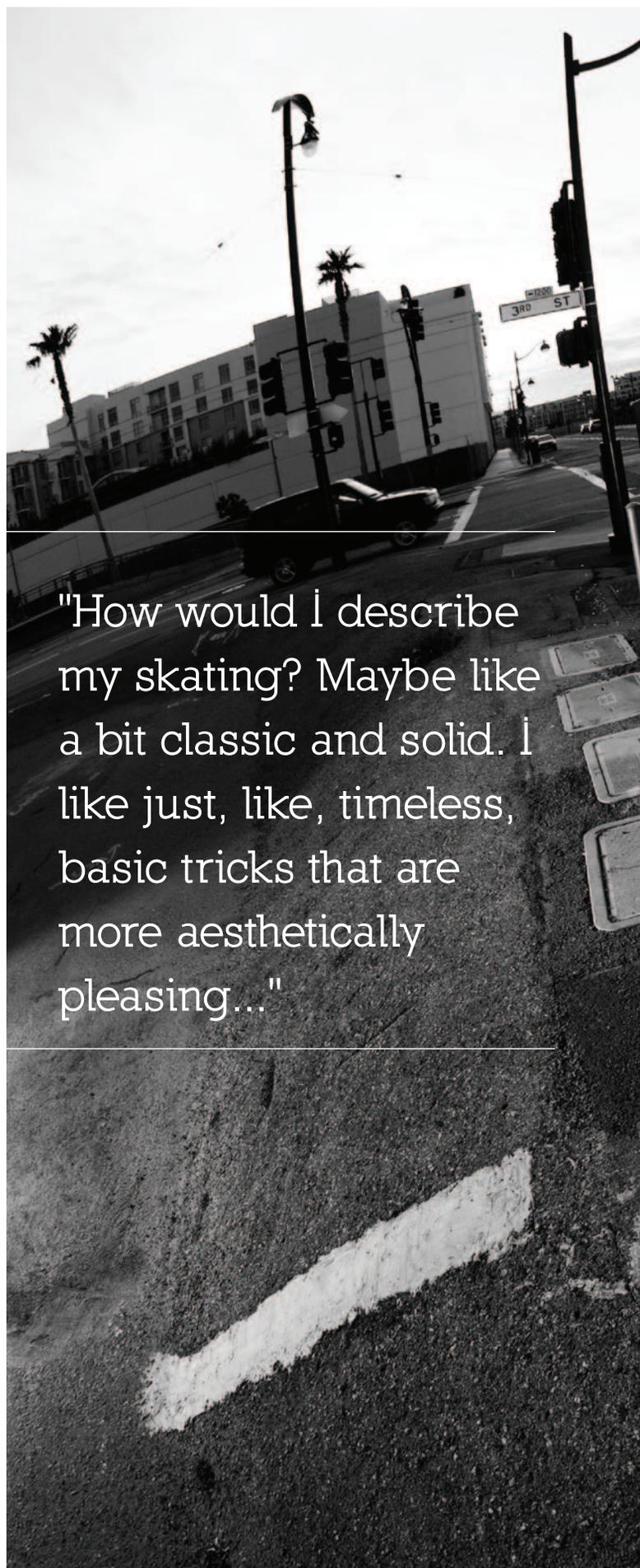
**The pressure of being Erik Bailey; I asked that question because you always seem like a calm and collected dude who's in control of what you're doing, what you're saying, how you're coming across. Coming from that, where does the willingness to throw your body at an object or into air, where does that come from? 'Cause it makes me think there's like a really crazy, dark side to you that I don't even know... Like in Valo 1, where you front nugen that curved ledge down the stairs, and you're going so ridiculously fast, I don't know where you got the idea "I'm actually going to do that." How do you balance calm cool dude and Bailey the stunt child?** I guess it just naturally happens. I don't know. You have those days and there's stuff you want to do with your skating, and you have got to accomplish it. ... This is a weird question...

**Yeah, it's a hard question.** I think what it was—I was an energetic kid, like, ADD. And I think that now I can control it. Just, like, be calm all day, and then focus it. Yeah, I put all my energy towards it...

**So you've learned to harness the energy that you have. When do you think that changed?** When what?

**You said you had all this energy and you learned how to control it, how old were you when that happened?** I don't know, I think it's how I grew up skating, so I just throw myself at things—psyched—go for shit.

**Cool. Like I said, re-watching your sections reminded me that you do huge, huge shit. So on this tangent, have you ever had to describe your skating? And to that effect, do you think your skating has an attitude? Some guys are all aggro, you're apparently the calm, chill dude who just focuses it sometimes and, whatever, but how would you describe your blading?** I don't think I've ever had it brought up like that. How would I describe my skating? Maybe like a bit classic and solid. I like just, like, timeless, basic tricks that are more aesthetically pleasing—to myself, personally. Other people do lots of different tricks that I just can't make look as nice. I try to stay away from certain stuff.



"How would I describe my skating? Maybe like a bit classic and solid. I like just, like, timeless, basic tricks that are more aesthetically pleasing..."



AO FISH / SAN FRANCISCO / PHOTO BY BRANDON SMITH





TOP ACID TO FAKIE / BARCELONA / PHOTO BY BRANDON SMITH

**You do... you've got a bag of tricks on standby that are awesome.** Yeah, that just always work...

[Interrupted again—Jef Stockwell and his girl.]

**All right, Erik, you've traveled the world extensively with Valo, so where's your favorite place to blade?** Probably San Francisco... or Barcelona is cool as well. Just, I don't know, I kind of like not a place in particular, but always getting to skate new things. Not skating the same things all the time. Always being able to skate new things. I like the idea of just traveling.

**Same train of thought, where's the best nightlife, the best girls, the best hangouts?** Best hangouts and nightlife... well, I've got a girl, so...

**Nothing against Katie, of course! But, like, for all the single guys out there.** I would say I really liked Copenhagen. I really enjoyed everything about the city. It's really beautiful... The history.

**You were just there recently, right? How'd it go?** It was good. It was fun. A big turnout [at the Roskilde Festival], and everyone turns up because it's not just a thing for skating, it's like a music festival, and camping. And I think a lot of people see blading, and just see people having fun skating, because it's not a huge competitive thing. Actually you don't even win money, you just win festival cash for, like, beers. It's really laid back, the vibe comes across that way. It's more just like for the experience.

**Now I don't want you to think about this too long, but think about it quickly, what do you think is your favorite trick you've ever done?** Whoa, shit... one that stands out was in the HEAT video there's a front royale, even though it's just a royale, on that roof, the little angled roof, like the corner of a roof, and then you have to gap out pretty far. And that I think, because I'd never even been to that spot before, but the second we'd seen it I was like... somebody has to do this right now. And it slid really well, and it just, like, I didn't even take a gnarly fall. And that's just what it was, you could take a gnarly fall. It's just jagged kinda rocks below. Or the other thing is the sweatstance that's in the interview.

**Yeah that thing is boss. It's huge. How long do you think that ledge was? Any idea?** Pffft...I dunno. It was long.

**As everyone is seeing, it's a long fucking ledge. Similarly, what's a trick that someone else has done that you think elevates the game?** Shima's wallride at the Montreal IMYTA was one thing that really sticks out. That was like a game changer. I dunno, just like, different stuff for different times. Feinberg in the Mindgame video, it's not even filmed very well, where he does soul down the ledge and then jumps over the deal, sort of like B Cam did, but got hurt. He does it to fakie as well, right? That was a game changer, for years back.

**That makes sense. There's no right or wrong answer.** There's just so many, dude, I don't know. But for me those two are good examples.

**Back to the travels. In San Diego, I'm seeing a ton of old dudes getting back on their blades. Even today, so many faces like Bryan Jagers and Dayton Coopersmith, and I know there's more. Is that something you're seeing**



540 / SACRAMENTO / PHOTO BY BRANDON SMITH

**when you're out traveling? Are you seeing more people on blades? Does it seem like it's the same? What's your read on, like, more bladers or less bladers right now than in the past?** I would say that a lot of older heads are getting back in to it. I don't know if it's like, any more than six months ago, but there's a lot of old heads out there. I guess I wish it was more young heads, but it's great to see them.

**That's awesome. Well, when we were prepping for this the other day online, you said that Jeff (Stockwell) has inspired you to start shooting pictures. And most of us, from watching you in videos, we know that you're into motorcycles. So are there any other hobbies you've got going on that you can share with us?** I can't really think of... I have a garden; I work on my garden in the summer time?

**What kind of vegetables do you grow?** I've got everything, really—a bunch of tomatoes, carrots, all the herbs, a bunch of squash and all sorts of things... zucchini, cucumbers, sweet peas...

**Nice. Erik and his green thumb. Ha. Let's see, what other sort of stuff do people want to know about you... What's your favorite movie?** I don't know! I honestly don't watch that many movies...

**Whoa, you're stumped.** It's different for different times. I like a lot of Wes Anderson films. Anything with Bill Murray's always good.

**Let's switch it up, what's your favorite album?** Hmm... all-

time favorite... dude, so many. Maybe Van Morrison's "Astral Weeks."

**How about this classic question: Beatles or Stones?** Neither... nah, definitely the Stones, but neither. Ha.

**How about the trend of old bands getting back together and touring, well past their prime? Should a band that hasn't played in 20 years get back together and tour for the money? Like when Led Zeppelin did that show a couple years ago...**

I don't know, I guess it does kind of ruin it, you know. I saw the (New York) Dolls play and it was kind of awkward. There's the new guitarist who replaced Johnny Thunders. It was still enjoyable, I guess. Danzig still kills it. He never stopped though.

**I want to talk about life in the Bailey residence. You and Katie have been together for nine years. I asked you the other day if you were gonna ever get married, and you got completely beet red. Even now you're smiling like the Cheshire cat. So what's going on there?** I'm... living my life. You're blowing me up!

**I thought you turned red because you were going to pop the question.** No, no... (Laughing.) That's my baby, man. I think she was right there when you asked that before, that's why I turned red.

**Whoa, sorry. Ha, ha! Are you the oldest?** No, I've got an older sister and two younger.





TRUESPIN SOUL TO FORWARD / LOS ANGELES / PHOTO BY JEFF STOCKWELL

So you're sort of the middle kid. Yeah.

**Now let's talk about the Valo family. When the Valo clan is on tour, how are the roles divvied up? It makes sense that Jon's the dad—because he's the President—but who's the mom, or the good son, or the bad son? Do you guys sort of fall into these roles, or is it different every time?** Not really because we all mix really well and we're all really good friends. We all have mutual respect for each other, and I think in that traditional mom/dad thing there's a hierarchy, but I think we're all just homies. We just mix really well, no matter what.

**That sounds like a lot of fun. Similarly, in "Shred Til You're Dead 2," you and Jeff (Stockwell) carry on on screen like the guys from "Grumpy Old Men." Was it a plan for Ivan to get all that footage, or did it kind of just come out? I mean, you and Jeff have a great friendship, but was it weird to watch it play out that way on the screen?** It's funny, really. It's like we have the brother relationship, right? We just give each other hell all day long.

**Ivan said there might have been some other, less funny scenes that didn't make the cut. Scenes like, "Fuck you, I don't want to be your friend anymore!"** (Laughing.) Ha ha! He's so dramatic.

**So it's all Jeff, it's not you? You're calm and collected—classic and powerful! We know about you.** (Laughing.) So dramatic...

**Something I've been thinking about is, what's getting you excited about blading right now?** Pretty much the things that have always gotten me excited. Traveling excites me more because I'm in Idaho for the past year and a half. Whenever I can break loose I get excited, so that's always great. I don't know... new projects, "Valo Five."

**How much input did you put into the Valo Light?** I had to make sure that it—it was something that we always sorta knew was gonna happen, and it just finally worked out. We just had to make sure it fit our feet well; that it was wider and pretty much just the overall shape. It'd be nice if we could get a good liner I think...

**Okay, but back to that the same things are exciting you now as always have, is there anything worth mentioning that is bumming you out?** I try not to really think about that stuff. There's a lot of shit that obviously bums other people out, but everything's always gonna have a good side and a bad side. And you kinda gotta go with it. I mean, fuck, I probably complain about random shit all the time, dude, but that's my little bit of venting. Right now, the event today, just the overall—people just seemed to dig it.

**Yeah, driving up today I had no idea what to expect. It was a total success. But listen, I heard one time that Valo pays health insurance for blade-related activities. Is that right?** That is right.

**How fucking awesome is that? I don't think anyone else does that, or even comes close.** It's amazing, absolutely. It's not like an insane amount or anything, but it's awesome.

**It is, that they do anything is huge. I wanted to make sure to get that straight. Anyway, we've been talking for about 20 minutes. They're dying to come out here and smoke. Let's wrap this up. Is there anything coming down the pipe that you're doing or involved with that people should know about?** Nothing really, to be honest. Just living day by day. (Laughing.)

**Erik's just the coolest, calmest dude ever, as evidenced. Which reminds me, I wanted to know, how long have you and Pat Lennon been friends?** Dude, I've known Pat since '97. I met him at N.I.S.S. events back in the day, and he was kind of like the rambunctious little kid—you know how Lennon is—and he'd talk to everyone and

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"...but the second we'd seen it I was like... somebody has to do this right now. And it slid really well, and it just, like, I didn't even take a gnarly fall. And that's just what it was, you could take a gnarly fall."

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we just kind of got along right away. He was always the kid too who never had plans for a place to stay. He would just show up like, "I need a spot," and I would obviously have a place to stay, so I let him crash a few times. We were just always homies.

**So tell me a quick Pat Lennon story. Maybe one where it's you and Leno, but definitely one where shit goes all Lennon-style.** Dude, there's so many... like, fuck... just a funny one that comes to mind? We're at a random party one time and it was actually his going away party and I'd just moved into a new house in Reno and he was going to Minnesota for the summer; it was sort of around the time before the first 4x4 video, "Leading the Blind." So he was leaving and I was kinda taking his truck—he just left his Bronco with me, but we had a keg party for him—

**Did the Bronco have the right plates? Or was it—**That was the motorcycles! Dude, there are so many good ones. I should tell another one after this one. So everyone's hanging out and there's these little red keg cups and Lennon—well him and Ben Weiss would be, like, "Oh, my beer's got a leak in it," and casually piss behind it, you know... so we're on top of this balcony and the keg had just ran out but he's just like pissing off this balcony when Erik Burke's girlfriend comes around the corner, like, "Oh, shit," like, just dives in front of it mouth open, catching it—a mouth full of piss. And it takes her like three seconds to realize and then her face turns beet red, she spits it out and then boogies.

And then another good one, so in San Francisco there's these water treatment facilities in the side of this hill and there's this huge bank with a weird gap on top of one and Lennon had decided he wanted to jump the deal but the only way to do it was with a motorcycle, and he'd just gotten a motorcycle—no plates, no anything—and he'd built a little bridge on a 2x4 to ride the bike out onto the deal, but that was the thing, you could only go on, you couldn't ride it back off. So once he rode it on he's there for a minute, it's on, he's testing it for speed, and then this dude comes out like "What the fuck are you doing? Are you out of your mind?" This is right after 9/11, kind of around that time, and he's like, "People think you're out here trying to blow this shit up. You better get out. The police are on their way." And I'm sure Lennon had warrants or some problems like no license or something, so he just took off—left the bike on the deal. Bike's gone. Like, \$8,000–\$9,000 bike, gone. Dick, his dad, gets a call about five or six years later. The DMV or the impound or something tracked him down and called about it. Dick told 'em to keep it. So it's gone, never to be seen again.

**Man, I should've had you open with the Lennon story. Wow.** There's so many more. It's amazing.

**Well, man, listen, thanks for taking the time to talk with us, shoot the photos and stuff. Now let's go to the party. ONE**



CAROL FRANC BUCK FOUNDATION SCULPTURE GARDEN



# ONE

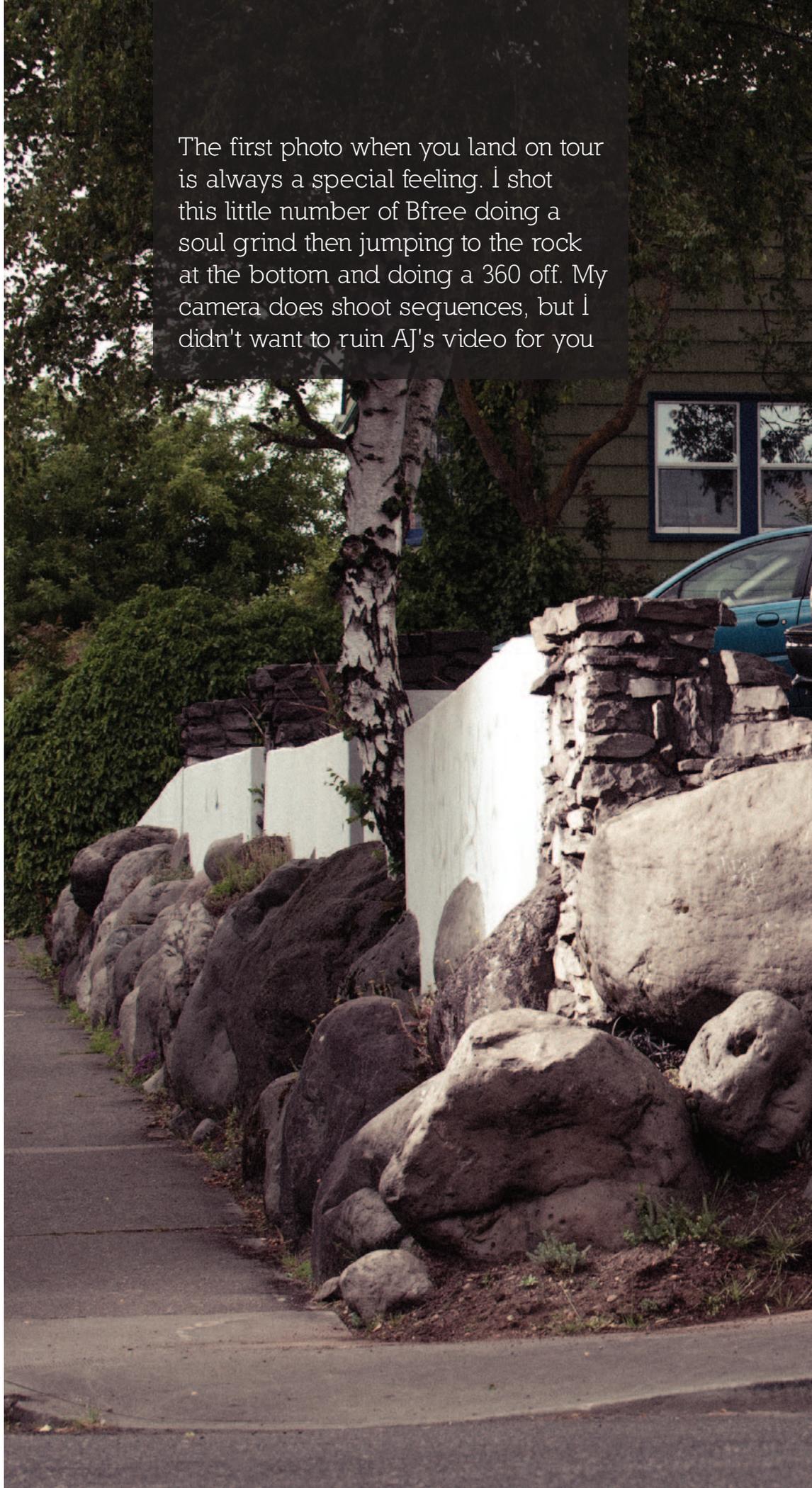
ERIK BAILEY / SWEATSTANCE / RENO, NV / PHOTO BY BRANDON SMITH

# tour

Filming For Pariah

words and photos by john haynes

The first photo when you land on tour is always a special feeling. I shot this little number of Bfree doing a soul grind then jumping to the rock at the bottom and doing a 360 off. My camera does shoot sequences, but I didn't want to ruin AJ's video for you

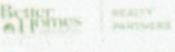


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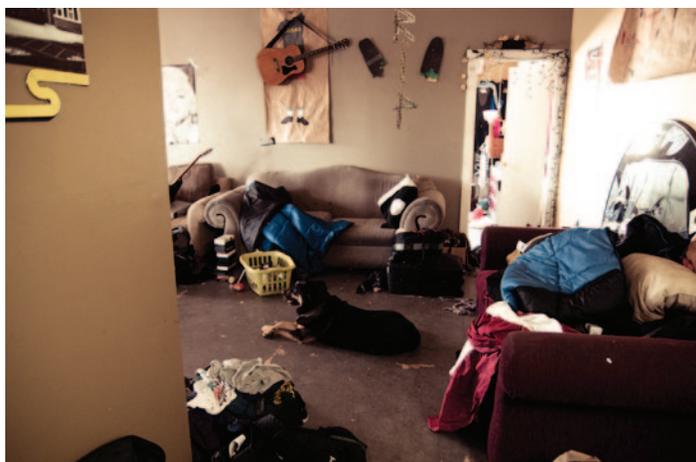
  
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Chris Farmer was having trouble thinking of a trick that was hard enough to do on this spot. Keep in mind that most non-pirate mortals would not even consider this a spot. Alley-oop fishbrain in Long Beach, CA.



Nick Labarre is one of the many ams that AJ has on board for his 20 clips of 20 dudes project. I had never met this dude before we shot this photo, but he grabbed this 180 stale like a seasoned ace.



Ross Kuhn brought us to this spot in Portland, and told us that he filmed a trick of Aaron Feinberg there. He took a chance on the other side of the camera for this disaster sweatstance.



This photo of PJ was really hard to get for a few reasons. We had to hurry so as to be spruced up in time for the “Shred Till You’re Dead2” and “Regardless” premiere, the light was changing fast and, most importantly, every time Paul John rolled on this fence it got more broken. Third-try mute wallride to fakie in L.A.



Mike Garlinghouse had to get pulled by a car to this disaster soul. Not pictured is the fence that he hit going really fast and sliced a hole in his hand big enough to hide a small pine cone. Disaster soul in the Portland night.







DRE POWELL / TTS / PHOTO BY AMATO

contest

## NYC Street Invitational

words by jimmy shuda  
photos by drew amato & corey oringerff

As I arrived in Brooklyn on Saturday morning to go to the New York City Street Invitational, a bloodshot-eyed Billy O'Neill greeted me. His eyes had nothing to do with the fact that the event was partially sponsored by Bernal Heights Collective but because he, the Create Originals boys (Hakeem Jimoh and Brian Lewis), and a handful of other friends had been up since 6:30 a.m. the previous day. You heard me right, in addition to the months of planning this event it had all come down to 30 hours of straight work to get the area cleaned up, get the course built, and make sure everything for the contest was in order.

I have always known Billy O'Neill, a.k.a. Fish, is dedicated to rollerblading. I became convinced of this after watching him get hit by a car and suffering injuries that most people would be unable to recover from, yet he was able to come back skating stronger and better than ever. Seeing his selflessness and the success he achieved through this event convinced me that not only was Fish dedicated to improving his self as a skater but also was dedicated to improving our industry as a whole.



SEAN KELSO / INSPIN FRONT TORQUE TO FISH / PHOTO BY ORINGDERFF



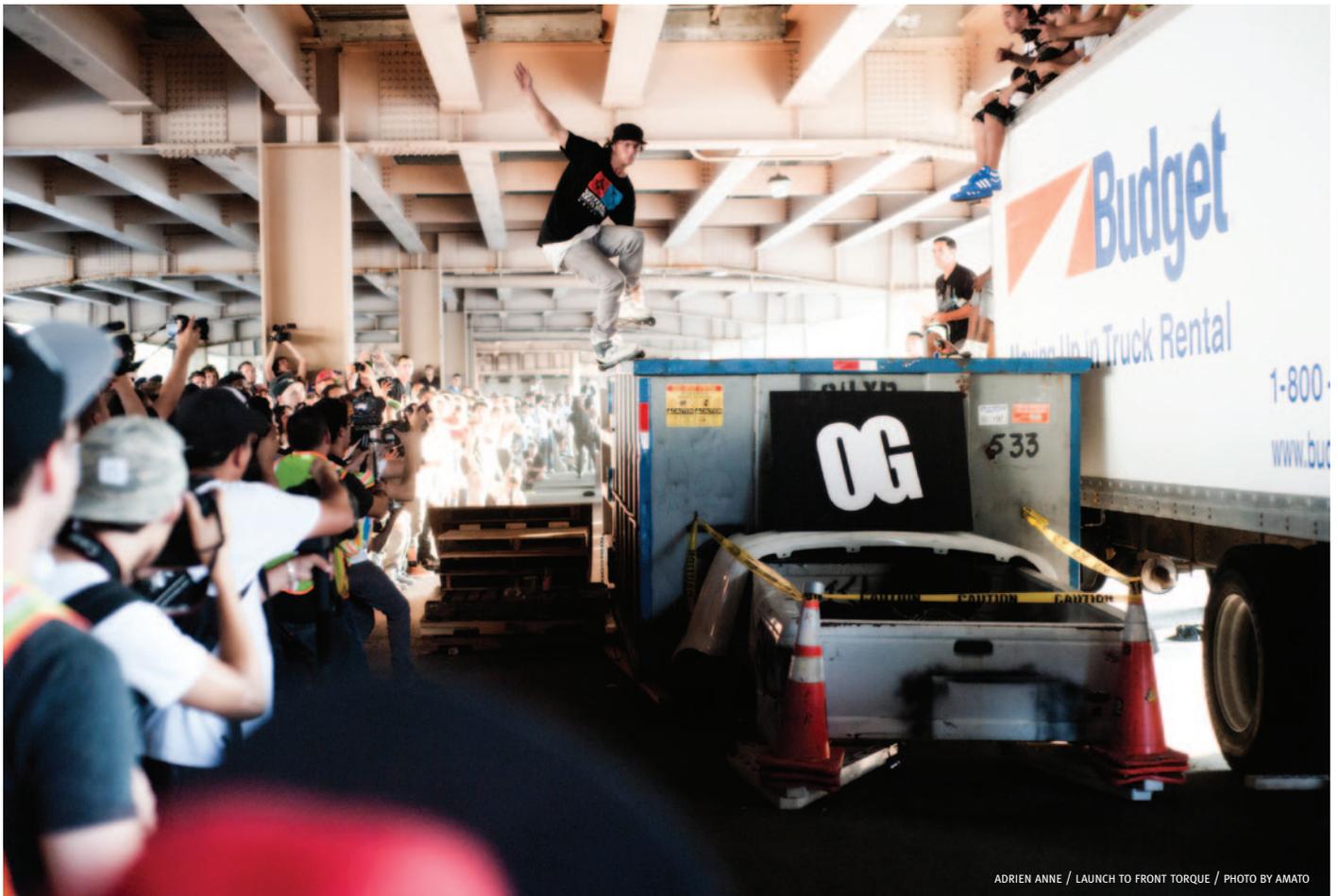
CHRIS HAFFEY / 540 / PHOTO BY ORINGDERFF

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"...this event convinced me that not only was Fish dedicated to improving his self as a skater but also was dedicated to improving our industry as a whole."

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As the hoards of people began to arrive at this event I realized it was going to be a special day and I was not disappointed. It was special because it attracted bladers both young and old. Guys who were new to the game and men who have grown up and gone off in their own directions and yet have never lost that love for the sport. It was also special because, like Jon Julio's recent Blading Cup, it gave random pedestrians both young and old a glimpse into our again-thriving industry. But it was most special because it was ours. When you run down the list of sponsors, it is loaded with the names of companies who are and have been dedicated to keeping alive what we love to do.



ADRIEN ANNE / LAUNCH TO FRONT TORQUE / PHOTO BY AMATO



ALEX BROSKOW / LAUNCH TO TRUESPIN WALLRIE TO FAKIE / PHOTO BY AMATO





CHRIS HAFHEY / LAUNCH TO AO SOUL / PHOTO BY AMATO

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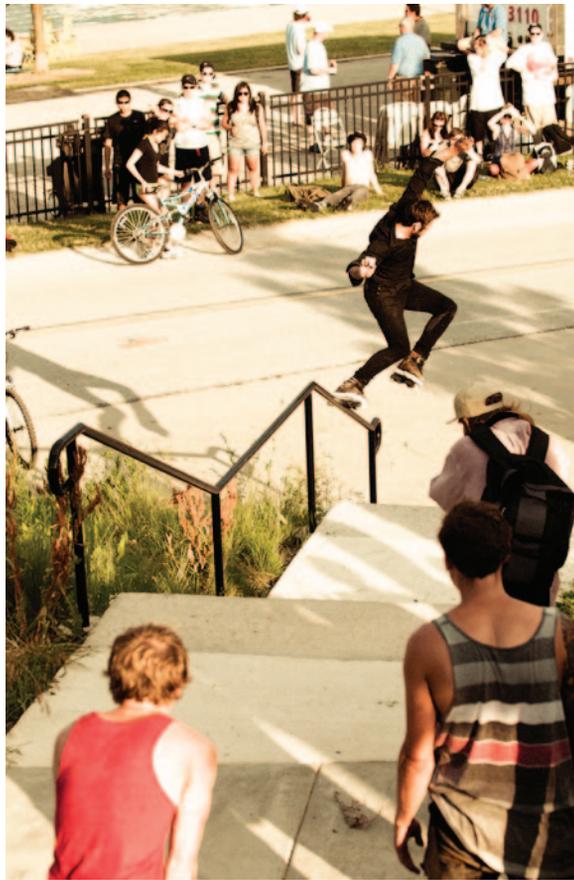
"It was also special because... it gave random pedestrians both young and old a glimpse into our again-thriving industry."

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It didn't matter that day that \$10,000 was given out or that a core street skater like Alex Broskow won with amazingly flawless and technical tricks throughout the entire day (though I was glad to see it happen). What mattered is that more and more, we have been able to prove to ourselves that we don't need corporate sponsors, or the X-Games, or anyone else for that matter to show to the world that we can thrive on our own. It didn't take superman front flips off of the Eiffel Tower or any other type of gimmick to shut down an entire block of NYC and to show both the general public and core skaters alike that we are still here and aren't going anywhere. After being involved in skating for over 19 years of my life, I was for the first time truly proud to see what our industry has become. **ONE**



ANDREW JACUZZI / PHILLIPS 66



TRAVIS RHODES / SWEATY TO BACK PUDSLIDE



HOWIE BENNET / BANK TO TRUESPIN TOPSOUL



PJ / MAKIO STALL



# contest

## Windy City Riot

photos by john haynes



BIKING BETWEEN SPOTS.

The following are the text messages sent out to participants in the WCR 2011 to keep them up to date on event details.

### **June 29, 2011 at 2:09 P.M.**

Bring blades. We're likely skating spot to spot in the city. Busts like crazy but throwing it back.

### **July 3, 2011 at 12:47 P.M.**

For the WCR Street Comp on Sat (Day 2) we will be meeting at Grant Park Skatepark at noon on Balbo and Columbus, downtown. We will skate/bike from spot to spot. Try to bring a bike if you can. There will be about 4-5mi of skating. If you must drive between spots, parking fees will run you about \$40 for the day and make you late to some spots. Bike rentals with a credit card are available in Grant Park for \$35/day. Awards are @ 31st Skatepark. After party is @ the VFW.

### **July 4, 2011 at 7:12 P.M.**

I've kept WCR online registration open for the slackers. It's closing tonight around midnight though for sure. Everyone competing in the park comp needs to sign a waiver with the Westmont Park District. If you are under 18 a parent/guardian needs to sign it. The link for the waiver is on the WCR registration page.



STEVEN TAT / 540



BLADING BETWEEN SPOTS.

### July 8, 2011 at 10:11 A.M.

Windy City Riot 2011 Day 1 of 2 is today at Westmont Bellerive Skatepark, 205 W. 63rd Street, Westmont, IL. \$5 for spectator. \$15 for Amateur. \$20 for pro/open. Helmet recommended. 12-4pm warm up. 2-3:30pm registration. 4-5:30pm Amateur. 6-8pm pro/open. 8:30-9pm awards. THE PULL product is available at the park.

### July 9, 2011 at 10:17 A.M.

WCR Day 2 is today. You can park near THE PULL at 657 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL. Then at 11:30am bike or take the CTA to the meeting spot. Meeting/precomp/registration 12:00pm-2:30pm at Balbo and Columbus, Chicago, IL. Bring a swim suit and towel for the beach break. \$40 to register. At least \$1,000 to 1st place **ONE**





# picks

JIMMYSHUDA

TRICK: Topsoul to fakie  
LOCATION: Brooklyn, NY  
SKATES: Valo  
FRAMES: Create Originals  
WHEELS: Eulogy  
PHOTO: Drew Amato



# BRETTDASOVIC

TRICK: Gap to roll  
LOCATION: Minneapolis, MN  
SKATES: USD  
FRAMES: Kizer  
WHEELS: Undercover  
PHOTO: John Haynes

# ROBZBRANEK

TRICK: Topsoul to fakie  
LOCATION: Corpus Christi, TX  
SKATES: Nimb  
FRAMES: Ground Control  
WHEELS: Scribe  
PHOTO: Greg King





NO PARKING  
AT ANY TIME  
EMERGENCY  
VEHICLES  
ONLY

NO PARKING  
AT ANY TIME  
EMERGENCY  
VEHICLES  
ONLY

## DANIVES

TRICK: X-grid to fakie  
LOCATION: Cambridge, UK  
SKATES: Valo  
FRAMES: Ground Control  
WHEELS: Street Artist  
GEAR: Loco Skates  
PHOTO: Sam Cooper

# TRAVIS RHODES

TRICK: Switch sweatstance  
LOCATION: Montgomery, AL  
SKATES: Valo  
FRAMES: Valo  
WHEELS: Street Artist  
PHOTO: Cory Oringerdf





# ANDY PLUMRIDGE

TRICK: Negative acid  
LOCATION: Melbourne, AU  
SKATES: Nimh  
FRAMES: Ground Control  
WHEELS: Street Artist  
PHOTO: Hayden Golder





# JCROWE

TRICK: Backside 360  
LOCATION: Barcelona, SP  
SKATES: Xsjado  
FRAMES: Create Originals  
WHEELS: Eulogy  
GEAR: Black Fabric  
PHOTO: Jeff Stockwell



JOHN **BOLINO**

TRICK: Stale 540  
LOCATION: Los Angeles, CA  
SKATES: Nimh  
FRAMES: Create Originals  
WHEELS: Fester  
GEAR: VX  
PHOTO: Jeff Stockwell



TAYLOR RITCHIE

TRICK: Gap to soul  
LOCATION: Vancouver  
SKATES: Razors  
FRAMES: Ground Control  
WHEELS: Undercover  
PHOTO: Leon Basin

BFREE

TRICK: 360 state  
LOCATION: Portland, OR  
SKATES: Vato  
FRAMES: Create Originals  
WHEELS: Street Artist  
PHOTO: John Haynes





# 15 minutes

## toto ghali

by mike opalek / photos by matteo attanasio

I don't remember the last time I saw Toto Ghali. It had been a really, really long time. But to my surprise we were both in China for the Asian X-Games. It was really great to see an old friend. Toto is crazy, it's true, he told me so... Actually, I think his words were, "It's okay, I'm French, I'm crazy..." A lot of Europeans have that in their eyes and Toto is one of them. Don't get me wrong, he's not a slasher or anything, he's just very passionate at what he does. He's always been outspoken and this has led to him being banned from skate comps all over the world. In fact, I'm pretty sure he mooned the judges at an X-Games. Though I haven't always agreed with his thinking, I have the utmost respect for him and what he has brought (and brings) to the blading world. He definitely thinks outside the box and is doing great things. On a drunken night somewhere in Shanghai we sat outside on a street corner and ate various meats on a stick from a street vendor with no shirt on and several missing teeth, and Toto told me how he was gonna change the world. I'm into it. —Mike Opalek

**Can you give me some specifics—age, years skating, current occupation?** Born in 1972. Got my first pair of rollerskates for my sixth birthday (1978). In 1982 I did my first downhill and jumps over cars. In 1988 I did my first drop-in on a mini-ramp in Marseille, following up my first drop-in on a bowl. 1989 was my first vert contest, at The World Cup in Münster, Germany. Then in 1995 I changed to to inline skating.

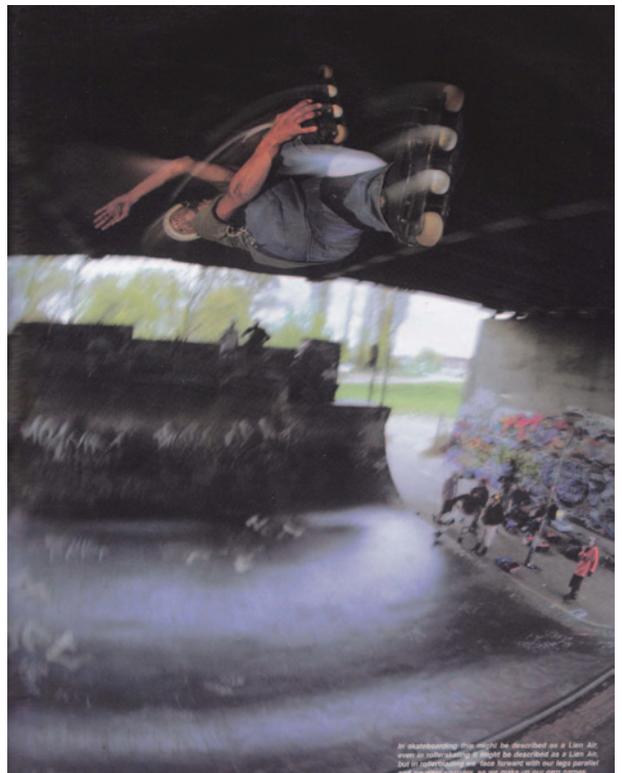
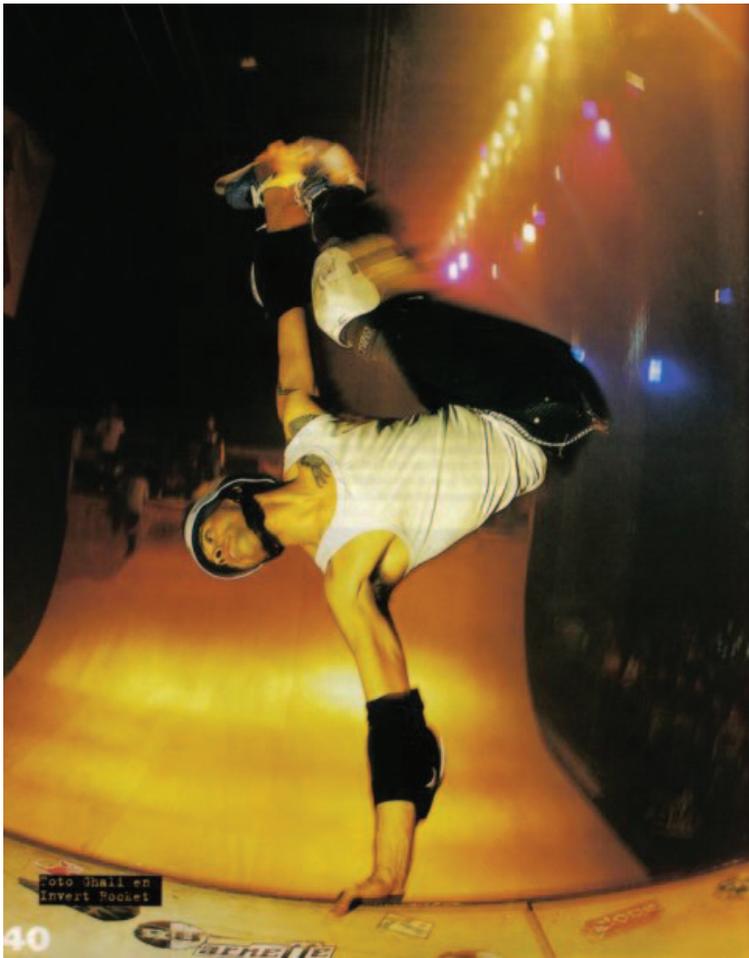
**What was the rollerskating scene like, growing up in France?** The skating scene in France at the beginning was guys cruising all over town and meeting by the sea, doing jumps over stairs or over bars. There were many riders on rollerskates.

**How was the transition to inline?** I had been sponsored by the same company, Sunde, since I was 9 years old. And I was already developing products such as frames and pads. Then the explosion of inline skating made it possible for me to gather the necessary investment to develop a complete line of aggressive skates.

The brand was OUT—Once Upon a Time. It met with huge success and sold an enormous quantity, but there was also a lot of criticism because of a lack of design on the skates, and because they were cheap. Many kids bought them and the pros were saying it is a skate for kids. Therefore I contacted Kato about developing a specific street skate, and Remz was born.

**Why so many vert skaters?** It is not true. In Europe there were always more street skaters than vert skaters. It's just that the vert skaters were in the spotlight more often. I personally started by street skating and then turned over to vert. And I do not like vert skaters with no street base.

**Why did you start your own boot company?** I started my own firm because it was simply needed. The products available at that time were simply shit. A few of them got better, added some style. It's the same now. It is an absolute must that our industry be driven by the riders, and that those riders become product managers or



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: INVERT ROCKET; SPINE AIR; LIU KANG, AMSTERDAM, JESS D.; INVERT AT SMP 2011, MATTEO A.

product developers. This is the only way to finally, one day, have product really adapted for us. Nowadays, most of the skater-owners try to have control over the product, but they don't really have full power over their creations. I've always liked my freedom, so I made my brand, and I was already developing and making—with my own hands—kneepads and skates for rollerskating when I was 13 years old. When I was 17 years old I was making my own frames and selling them across Europe.

**What happened to it?** I left my investor to develop Remedyz with Kato. I injected my last funds into producing some Remedyz as The IND in San Diego. It was at this time that Kato modified the Remedyz with a soul plate made in the U.S. Then I moved back to Germany to establish 21 Solutions and started distribution of Remedyz. One year later was the crash of the market that forced Kato to sell Remedyz to Razors.

**What did you do after?** I kept on with 21 Solutions as a web services provider, then I started a medical teaching concept firm in Switzerland named medvisual.com. I stayed away from the industry for about five years because of my daughter (now 6 years old), but I've started traveling and being active in skating again by producing lifestyle videos for TV and the web. It's a good way for us to promote our sport to the mainstream. Right now I'm putting together a tour where we mix generations and sports. I'm also manager of several famous riders and help them negotiate to obtain a better salary, as well as help them find funding and realize their dreams.

**Do you do 21 Solutions by yourself?** Yes, I am the single owner of medvisual, 21solutions and 21lifestyles. But as you might know, to do well you need a reliable team. I am lucky because the team is made up of loyal riders, such as Matteo Attanasio, Cesar Andrade, Salim Sikha, Mihai Bivol, Anthelm Bizeult, and many other riders freelancing with us for different projects, whether it be medical or lifestyles related.

**What is GTK?** GTK is the best way to promote rollerblading. It is, in fact, just a tour; the main difference is the authenticity. Most tours are about promoting a product. But GTK is promoting the person by itself. (Can you imagine the Nike and the Adidas team training together?) In rollerblading it is possible because we are already more united. GTK should unite more riders from all over. Contests, demos, tours in the traditional industry are generally one team, one product, one brand. I know from experience that sells more skates. But it does not generate new riders. Want to generate new riders? Then fund riders to move together across the country (world) meeting and talking to locals and showing that it is possible to live your dream through skating.

**Tell me more about this tour; where and when will it happen?** The first GTK tour was in 2010. Twelve friendly rollerbladers—six new school, six old school—going across Europe, sharing intel and ideas. Ten days, 6000 km, 12 towns.

GTK 2011 will be 42 riders traveling across Spain, Morocco, France, and Switzerland in 10 days. GTK 2012 will be 50 riders and the rest is a surprise.

As for video production, we have tried to place rollerblading on TV and everyone worldwide told us, "No, we don't want rollerblading on TV." After two years' worth of trying we changed our strategy and proposed to a TV content distributor a deal where they gave us airtime in exchange for a social

documentary of 30 extreme athletes traveling, which was the GTK. So we showed this crazy lifestyle, and they loved it. No one even asked what sport it was.

Now GTK 2011 is going to be a 56-minute documentary of our lifestyles. I sent out invitations to all brands and many USA riders. They thought it was a European thing but it is not. TV worldwide is not something that comes along every day. Now, at the end of August, the first 26 minutes will air on TV in 22 countries on 230 channels.

Mission accomplished despite all the negativity from our industry friends. We placed rollerblading back on TV, and this time not for a monkey contest show but to finally place a clear image of who rollerbladers are and what our true lifestyle is about.

**What do you think has changed the most in the industry since you've been back in it?** First of all, I have never been away from the industry, since my heartbeat is glued upon it since I was 16 years old. I am still behind several skate businesses, mainly manufacturing. Nevertheless, many things have changed to me, yes, in a positive way. Before, we were a handful and the rest was spectators. Nowadays we are plenty and there are no spectators. That makes me really happy. There has never been so many rollerbladers, and never have so many still been so broke. The big brands cannot foresee what is coming or not. Riders becoming older, getting involved in skate parks, brands, products, events... more and more events are truly organized by rollerbladers and not those bloodsuckers that have been circling around us for years now. I love to dream that our sport will be one day driven only by riders because they deserve it, and they can do it, unlike 15 years ago when everyone was just too young.

**How do you feel about skating these days, now that you don't compete and only skate for fun?** I won my first French championship in 1990 at Lyon, riding the comp naked. I never skated for anything but the fun of it. That is why I know that the way it is going is not good. After doing so much hotel travel for contests across the world I realized that I would overdose doing the monkey show, like a clown in a circus; and that was just not me. In 1997 I got involved with manufacturing glue, plastic, PU, PE, molding... my mother kicked my ass to go to University, so that put riding as a hobby and not the sole focus.

I really love to be on the platform of a vert ramp and riding a contest, but my goal is not the same as when I was a kid. Now I just want to respect the other riders by doing the cleanest I can; that is why most of the time I am smiling while riding. When I was younger I wanted more to show what I could do. To be at a contest and take part at my age is very inspiring, and being among the new generation is really a privilege that I appreciate, LOVE.

**Anything else you want to say or talk about?** Yes, GTK is not 21lifestyles. The 21lifestyles project is to produce movies. GTK is to promote rolling, without "racism," while suggesting to riders to trust their crazy ideas and pursue them. To never give up on their ideas or dreams. Don't let anyone get you down. Riding taught you what they all want from you. **ONE**

*"If at first, the idea is not absurd, then there is no hope for it." —Albert Einstein*



# folio

robert lievanos

by mike "murda" johnson / portrait by keith wilson

Robert's been a pro skater for over a decade and has influenced many skaters in the industry today. The humility and charisma he carries makes it difficult for anyone not to like him. Even though he's constantly busy juggling his work, he still makes time to skate.

Not only does he make skating look good with his smooth, nonchalant style, but also through the clothing you're wearing. Robert is the co-owner and lead designer of Jug footwear. He has done work for blade brands like Jug, Eulogy, USD, Razors, M1, Denial, SWS, CO, Vibralux, etc. I'm pretty sure he has created the graphic for any shirt you've purchased over the past eight years in the rollerblading industry.

Robert is one of the busiest and most talented dudes I know. He designs for many of the action sport industries such as inline, snowboard, skateboard, surf, ski, and many more. Some of his clients range from Obey, Dickies, Grenade, Tapout, and Famous Stars & Straps to name a few.

When I first met Robert, he introduced me to computers and digital art. Without him, I wouldn't have a career! Since I've known Robert he's been designing skates, sneakers, making videos, editing, and working in 3D as well as motion graphics.

He currently lives in Escondido, where he and his wife purchased their first home. I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing, because I can't seem to get him out the house to come party. All jokes aside, he's one of the most hard-working, genuine and gifted individuals I've ever met, and I'm proud to say I've met this guy.

Keep up all the good work, my dude. The sky is the limit.



# retail

## DOMESTIC

### ALABAMA

Guntersville  
Abrasion Sk8park  
Madison  
Insanity Skate Park

### ARIZONA

Chandler  
Revolution Skate Shop

### CALIFORNIA

Bakersfield  
Intuition Skate Shop  
Santa Monica  
Boys & Girls Club  
Chula Vista  
Chula Vista Skatepark  
Escondido  
SDSF  
Granada Hills  
KC Sports  
Lawndale  
Rollerskates of America  
North Hills  
Valley Skate & Surf

San Francisco  
Skates on Haight  
San Luis Obispo  
Inline Warehouse  
Stallion Springs  
Woodward West  
Sunnyvale  
Aggressive Mall  
Rocklin  
Rollerwarehouse

### COLORADO

Centennial  
TS Centennial  
Lakewood  
Woodward Skatepark

Fort Collins  
The Wright Life

### CONNECTICUT

Bristol  
CT Bike & Skate

### FLORIDA

Brandenton  
V Town Surf & Skate (3)  
Ft. Myers  
Ft. Myers Skatepark

Jacksonville Beach  
Skate Bomb  
Lake Worth  
Skates USA

Merritt Island  
Eastwood Board Supply

Sarasota  
V Town Surf & Skate

### GEORGIA

Lawrenceville  
Skatepile  
Woodward Skatepark

### IDAHO

Boise  
Newt & Harold's

### ILLINOIS

Glenview  
Grind Gear Skate Shop  
Lisle  
Skate Shack (2)

### INDIANA

La Porte  
Blazing Wheels

### IOWA

Des Moines  
Skate North

### KANSAS

Shawnee  
Freeride Bike & Skate

Wichita  
Adventure Sports

### KENTUCKY

Louisville  
Adrenaline Zone

### MICHIGAN

Bloomfield Hills  
Summit Sports  
Clarksotn  
Zero Gravity  
Clinton Twp.  
Landslide Skatepark  
Royal Oak  
Modern Surf 'N Skate

Portage, MI  
Lee's Adventure Sports  
Riverview  
Cheapskates

### MINNESOTA

Anoka  
Pinewski's Board & Ski  
Minneapolis

### MISSOURI

Joplin  
The Bridge Skatepark  
St. Louis  
Rampriders  
Woodward Skatepark

Springfield  
Springfield Skatepark

### NORTH CAROLINA

Brevard  
Zero Gravity Skatepark

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nashua  
Play It Again Sports  
Dover  
Philbricks Sports

### NEW JERSEY

Perth Amboy  
Spoiled Brat  
Flemington  
Shields Skatepark

Old Tappan  
Tri-State

### NEW YORK

Allegany  
Allegany Skate Park  
Buffalo  
Xtreme Wheelz  
New York City

Blades 6th Ave  
Blades 72nd st  
Blades Broadway  
New York Flatlines

Queensbury  
Halfpipe Thrills

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Brookpark  
Chenga World  
Columbus  
Bakerized Skateshop

Dayton  
180 Skatepark

### OKLAHOMA

Yukon  
Rec-n-Roll

### PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Neglected Truth  
Woodward Skatepark

Pittsburgh  
Lost Existence

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Greenville  
Ximeno Sports  
Inman  
Inman Skatepark

### TENNESSEE

Nashville  
Asphalt Beach  
TEXAS  
Grapevine  
Woodward Skatepark  
Katy  
Adrenaline Skatepark

Laredo  
Exodus Skateboards  
Plano  
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Retail Concepts  
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Retail Concepts

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Layton  
Roll Mart

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Beckly  
Xtreme Sports

### WASHINGTON

Renton  
Skatebarn West

### WISCONSIN

Cable  
Lake Owen Camp  
Eau Claire  
Eau Claire Bike & Sport

Janeville  
Pipe Skatepark

Madison  
Focus Snow & Skate

Eroling Skate Shop  
Wausau

Dwellers Skateshop  
Warrens

The Neighborhood Skatepark

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### HOLLAND

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### AUSTRALIA

Bayside Blades

### BRAZIL

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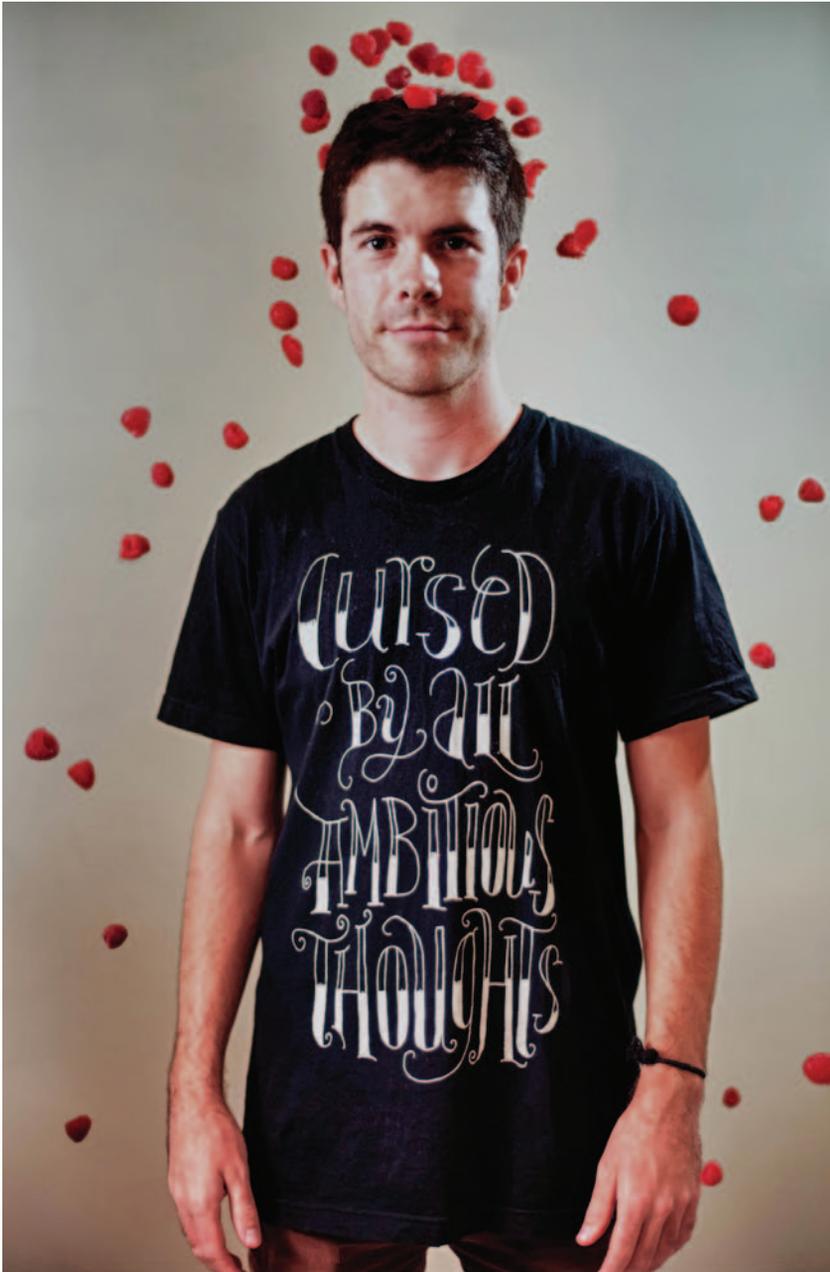
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Editorial Director  
**Justin Eisinger**

Creative Director  
**Wes Driver**

Contributing Photographers  
**John Haynes  
Jeff Stockwell  
Brandon Smith  
Drew Amato  
Corey Oringderff  
Greg King  
Sam Cooper  
Hayden Golder  
Ivan Narez  
Michelle Gerard  
Grayson West  
Anna Dobbs  
Keith Wilson  
Matteo Attanasio**

Contributing Writers  
**Mike Opalek  
Ben Karris  
John Haynes  
Al Dolega  
Drew Bachrach  
Adam Johnson  
Jimmy Shuda  
Mike Johnson  
Billy Kostka  
Mike Rios  
Collin Martin  
Alonzo Simon**

Illustrations  
**Chris Piascic**

Copy Editing  
**Adam Morris**

Retail Sales/Distribution  
**Jenn Eisinger**  
*jenn@believeinone.com*

Ad Sales  
**Jamie Murrett**  
*jamie@believeinone.com*

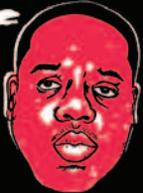
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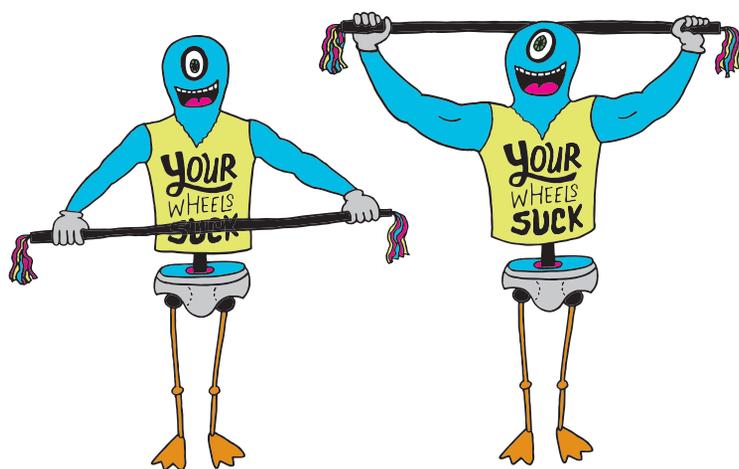
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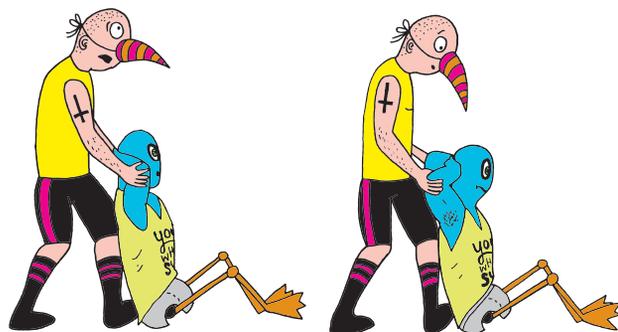
# DON'T BE A CHEST!

Illustrations by Chris Piascik



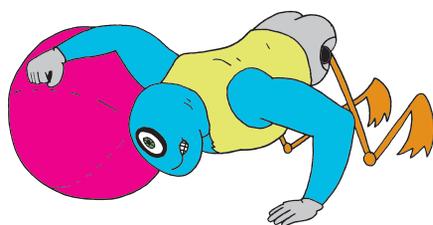
## Chest and front shoulder stretch

Start this one off standing with your legs together, holding a bar or broomstick. Position your grip so it's slightly wider than shoulder width, and hold it with palms down in front of you. Careful to avoid whacking yourself in the face/forehead, lift the pole up and behind your head. Paying attention to your lower body alignment, keep your stomach muscles tight and, while contracted, keep your lower back from arching.



## Behind head chest stretch

For this one you need a buddy. Have that person behind you while you sit upright on the floor. With hands behind your head, push your elbows back as far as possible. Now have your buddy hold your elbows. This is the starting position. Now try to pull your elbows forward, hands still behind your head, while your buddy prevents you from moving. Do this for 10-plus seconds. Relax. Have your buddy pull your elbows back until it becomes too uncomfortable. Be sure to prevent overstretching.



## Chest stretch on stability ball

Find an exercise ball or something about the same size. From a push-up position, keep one arm and elbow on the ball for balance. Do a push-up-like movement, keeping your elbow on top of the ball. Hold the stretch for 20-plus seconds, then switch arms and repeat.

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