

# ONE



ISSUE 24

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2018



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# OVER ELEMENT

FEATURING  
**DEREK HENDERSON**  
100° IN LOS ANGELES SHOOTING FOR #24



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**PART OF**

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**FULL-LENGTH VOD FROM ONE**

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WARREN DIGNE, ADRIEN ANNE, AUSTIN PAZ, JUSTIN BRASCO,  
CHRIS COUTURE, JON ORTIZ, CARLOS BERNAL, EVERT LUBJA,  
MIKE TORRES, JAMES PEREZ, GARRET MITSCHELEN, & MORE**

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# K SKATE

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# LETTER



photo by Brian Weis

Do you get the feeling that blading is going places?

We do.

Maybe they're subtle, and maybe they're the result of a world full of bladers with cell phones, creating messaging that's parsed by powerful computers and fed back to us with algorithms and location-based accuracy. I mean, shit, that's happening anyway, but beyond that there are signs.

Indicators like so many more street skaters proudly acquiring and using big wheel skates to tear through their cities and towns with authority and style. And total visibility.

How about the explosion of blading media output from Lagos, Nigeria — fastest growing city in the world, where Daniel Ogbogu is inspiring a jaded audience of experienced skaters across the planet to view our sport and community in entirely new ways.

And it's been summer, so of course there's been the slate of regional blade events, which seem to have matured and begun to truly appreciate their role in energizing the blade "base" throughout the country — keeping those far from other skaters physically, connected to the energy and excitement that comes from attending a contest.

Thoughtful brands continue to show up on the scene, created to deliver an aesthetic that

add to our tapestry of styles and influences that go on to inform our global community... ever raising and expanding our potential.

This is to say nothing of the excitement created in the past four months by Jon Julio and his release of THEM.

While the news of a new, truly skater-owned brand for Jon, controlled lock-stock-and-barrel by skaters in the way Brian Shima and Jon Elliott did with Nimh, was itself a huge announcement. The ongoing enthusiasm and support from the community for THEM has been nothing short of extraordinary.

It was Jake Eley of Loco Skates who perhaps drilled into it more accurately in a post on Instagram that showed THEM shipping the 123 pairs that Loco had pre-ordered: "There's a lot of talk of things that are good/bad for 'the industry,' but no one has managed to create sales out of thin air in the same way that Jon has with this project."

That is so true. As a skater and observer/documenter of our culture for 25 years, I can not think of a truly comparable phenomenon in recent history where something showed up and everyone wanted it — then got it. And thanks to our current interconnectivity, every person showing their enthusiasm for a new pair of THEM is likely to encourage another blader or two to get their own.

If you want to think about all this from another angle, check out [oneblademag.com](http://oneblademag.com) where I have a post about a lesson we can learn from THEM and the Roces M12 and Razors Cult. I'll sum it up briefly here and ask: Did we waste a shit-ton of money on hardware "upgrades" for years and years when it may have never really mattered? Go check the article to share your two cents.

Where this leaves us, today, deep in 2018 with Issue #24 about to head off to print, is in a pretty good spot. More voices and outlets and influential brands emerging, proof of an energized scene that won't take no for an answer, and has years of hard lessons under their belts.

Maybe we're still working on finding and cultivating that next generation of kid bladers, but if we've reached a period in our history where the current generation of visionaries are about to put skin in the game, then we've taken a huge leap forward. And the future couldn't look brighter.

**JE**  
**San Diego**  
**August 2018**

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## CONNECT THE COMMUNITY

Others allows you to share photos and news with the community, tag spots, save skate spots, connect with other bladers, and so much more. More features coming soon!



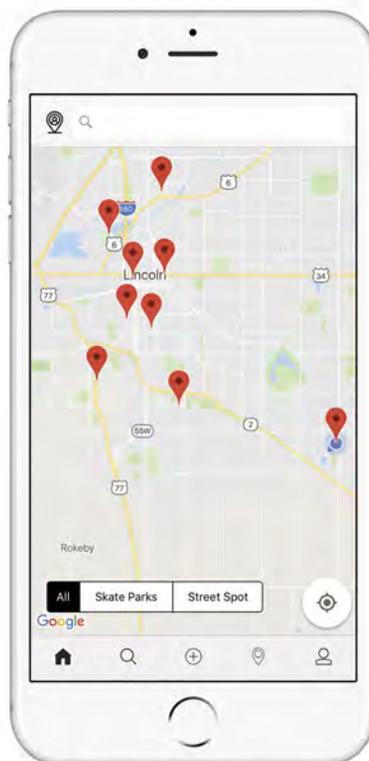
### INDUSTRY NEWS

Others is proud to serve the industry as a news resource and news aggregator. The app is your hub for everything happening within the industry.



### SPOT LOCATOR

Planning a trip? Looking for lesser known gems? Our spot locator will let you search by geolocation to find every tagged spot within your area or region.



### TAG A SPOT

Find a sick ledge? Want to share your favorite handrail? With Others, you can tag spots, save other users' spots, upload photos and notes, and much more.



### UPLOAD PHOTOS

At Others, we want you to share your favorite moments with the community. Upload photos for all to see, or simply to prove that you owned a spot.

[WWW.SKATEWITHOTHERS.COM](http://WWW.SKATEWITHOTHERS.COM)

# TAKE 5



photo by Mike Recitrilli

## JOHN LYKE

### **\*SEXTIONS\***

1. SK - *Opinions*
2. Intro - *Steal this Video*
3. Chris Haffey - *Leading the Blind*
4. AB - *Noir*
5. JC Rowe - *Killerboots*

### **DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT**

1. Watching the latest AB section
2. Blade Juice
3. Billion dollar idea
4. Banana
5. Rope to hold you up

### **DREAMTEAM**

1. AB
2. Haffey
3. Farmer
4. SK
5. Bolino

### **SONGS TO P-RAIL TO**

1. Beach Fossils - *Daydream*
2. Black Lips - *Raw Meat*
3. Wise Blood - *Solo (4 Claire)*
4. Iggy & The Stooges - *Search & Destroy*
5. Daedelus - *Fairweather Friend*

### **ENDERS**

1. Nick Taylor - *F2N II*
2. AB - *KFC3 Vibralex*
3. Mike Dempsey - *Dessert*
4. Casey Geraghty - *Breakfast*
5. Mark Rosen - *Buffalo*

# MOVE FREELY

PUSHING THE EDGE.  
THAT'S HOW WE ROLL.



SKATER: SEAN KEANE | PHOTO: DOWLING | LOCATION: ATLANTA



WITH A NEW DESIGN, FIT AND LEVEL OF  
VERSATILITY THE TWISTER EDGE IS THE  
BENCHMARK FOR URBAN SKATING



# GRIND



photo by Paul Seibert

## AUSTIN PAZ

**AGE:** 30

**LOCATION:** Staten Island, NYC

**HOMETOWN:** Staten Island, NYC

**OCCUPATIONAL STATUS:** Photography/Filmmaker

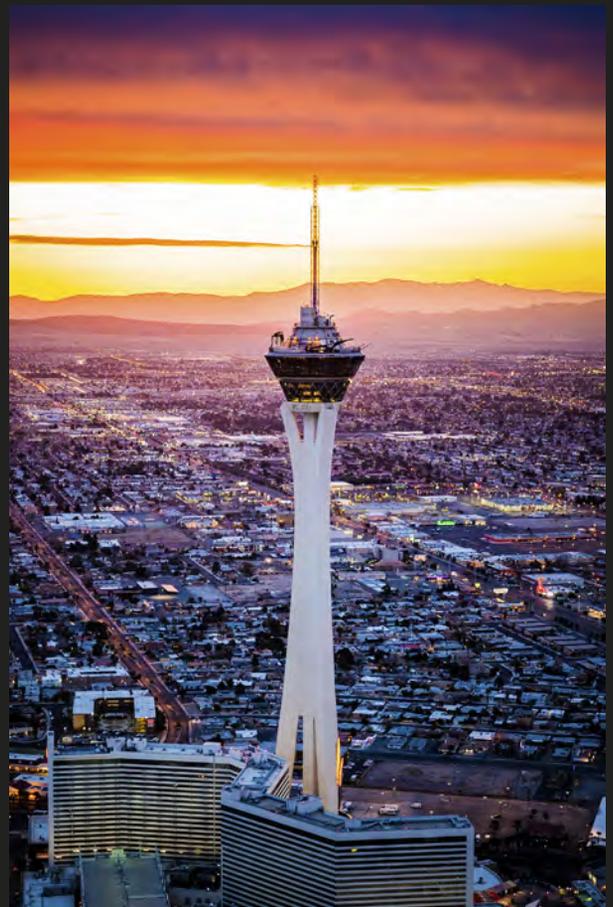
**YEARS BLADING:** 22

**INTERESTS:** Blading, Photography, Drumming, Travel

**FOR THE RECORD:** A lot of people who've been following me on Instagram have been wondering about me hanging out of helicopters over major cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Las Vegas. I have been working with FlyNYON, and open-door helicopter company, since 2016.



“After following aerial photographers like Vincent Laforet, I was inspired to give it a shot for myself. Cruising 1,000ft above people’s heads gives you a whole new perspective on a city. Flying with my camera in helicopters with no doors adds a bit of an adrenaline rush to my photography as well. Being able to look down on buildings like the Empire State and the Freedom Tower, instead of looking up on them, allows you to capture cities like New York in a unique way, and that’s what draws me to this line of work. As artists, we’re always trying to push the envelope a little bit every time we practice our craft, and this has been a perfect way for me to do exactly that.”



# TIDBITS

## PRESS PLAY



## UNCOMMON GROUND

Video by Neil Moreno

Review by Jeff Stanger

Shot entirely on 35mm film and the Sony 8mm CCD, this NYC classic contains many tricks that are still incredible by today's standards. Director (and non-blader) Neil Moreno took a chance on some street skaters from the five boroughs and made an epic video that takes you from sea to shining sea. Dropping the stars (Jon Ortiz, Joe Dedentro, Ray Mendez) in places like Chicago, Los Angeles, and Miami, they collected contest footage of an assortment of pros and then proceeded to go full rip on the local street spots.

While your typical, overstuffed blade flick could get tiresome at one hour and eight minutes, you don't even notice with this piece. There is so much progressive rollerblading, so much character, awesome moments that were caught on film, and the soundtrack is fantastic. With tracks from Erik B & Rakim, assorted metalcore bands, Queen Latifah, Walter Murphy, Beastie Boys, and KC and the Sunshine Band, there's a little something for everyone here. A good guy named Cory uploaded the entirety of *Uncommon Ground* and many other nineties gems to their YouTube channel. Blackhole ahoy!

## GEAR



## THEM SKATES

Review by Jeremy Spira

Photos by Brandon Smith

Back in February 2018, Jon Julio surprised us all with the announcement that Valo Skates was coming to an end. Online, the discourse was speculative edging on panic until Julio, aka Business Blade God, introduced the world to Them Skates only days later. A few more days and a couple veiled preview shots later, Them released an edit full of the boys and photos of the skate known as the 908's. If you've been hanging around the blade scene long enough, you may have recognized the boot design as something similar to a Bauer skate when in fact it was a mold used in an Ultra Wheels skate. Now, my memory isn't what it used to be, but I have never heard of Ultra Wheels. Many people's first reaction was to scoff at the prospect of a former, non "core" Ultra Wheels boot replacing Valo, the quintessential cool skate brand. However, after watching Robbie Pitts' edit of the new Them team ripping the new skates, there was no doubt that this was a serious venture with a focus on aesthetic and no frills skateability.

The 908 was soon available for preorder and was expected to arrive around June. I got to see them in person at Winterclash but a rabid and sweaty crowd had quickly descended, making access infeasible. I decided to pre-order a small pair of blacks after consulting the size conversion chart (I rode an 8 Valo V13). Upon arrival, my feet fit in the roomy liner and boot quite easily and the sizing seemed perfect for me with the addition of an extra foot bed. The cuffs and liners are higher than the V13 and the forward flex is considerable. So far, the cuff flex has not bothered me, but I have seen other, more industrious people mod theirs by screwing the cuff to the boot. The liner is comfortable, but it took me a few sessions to break in the tongue, which would do a deadly taco pinch on my shin due to my disgustingly skinny chicken ankles failing to fill out the circumference of the liner. This temporary pain quickly subsided and was soon forgotten due to the joy of actually riding these babies out on the course. My grinds were locked, my tucks were hyped, and my airs were dared, all necessary requirements of a good inline skate. Most importantly above all else, my feet looked impeccable. I am pleased with my purchase and swelling with pride that I was able to support something new and good as I enter the twilight years of my blade life where I now write skate reviews and share lofty opinions online.



# OTHERS

Interview with Andrew Tuzson  
Photo by Adam Schollmeyer

**Andrew, we know you've created OTHERS to help people connect, but you tell it better than anyone. So let's start at the beginning and get it all out there. Tell everyone who you are, and how long you've been strapping up your blades.**

Hey man, thank you so much for the opportunity; this is rad. I fell in love with our sport in the late '90s. I was in 7th grade when I first encountered skating and I was hooked. I skated for the majority of high school and took a break to pursue music for several years. I kept finding myself returning to the sport and I ended up taking ten years off the blades when my daughter was born. I decided it was time to really hone in on being a dad and my career. My career is bonkers and a little over a year ago I found myself having insurmountable amounts of work-related stress. I needed an outlet and once again, I returned to blading. I am more addicted now than ever!

**When you started blading, did you naturally assume you'd one day build an app about rollerblading? ;-) How did the two intersect? When was the "ah-ha" moment that "Hey, I can find someone to skate with!"?**

Haha, not even close. When I came back to the sport, I was mostly skating at obscure times. 6:00 or 7:00 in the morning were pretty common for me. I missed that feeling of skating with others and I also missed how that naturally pushes you to go harder and get better. I knew there were other skaters in the Eastern Nebraska area, but I didn't encounter them organically.

My day job focuses on technology; I own a web development and advertising agency. It was my passion for technology that led me to the "ah-ha" moment of using technology to help other people find like-minded individuals. That was when Others was born.

**Is there anything you've learned about rollerbladers that you may not have known when starting down the road of launching a product?**

I've learned a lot! The community is so closely interwoven, and having worked in advertising for most of my adult life, it has been an experience altogether new to me. The reception and support we received right out the gate were humbling. I remember telling my wife how things were going when we first launched. She was floored by how quickly things were picking up. Our community is truly an international family and that is my favorite aspect of our great sport.

**What's the first thing that happens once we've made our account and logged in?**

Upon logging in for the first time, you hit the feed. Think of this like your news feed in Facebook or Instagram. This is where you will see posts from other users. You can like and comment on these posts and connect with users directly from the feed by pressing on their username. We are really encouraging and pushing users to add spots, both street and park, to help build out the library of spots available to users.

**How about the data? What steps does OTHERS take to protect users – or, does it take steps like that?**

We have a super solid privacy policy. We will never sell or share a user's information. We will never spam you or hit you up for anything aside from a terms update. If you sign up for our mailing list, we will obviously keep you in the loop, but your data is safe and secure.

**Can you share any idea what else OTHERS has in store for everyone?**

Hell yes, I can. Our next update will include route tracking for big wheel and urban skating. This will allow users to map out their routes and skate paths, allowing them to be shared with their local community. We are also working on MPH tracking and things of that nature. We are trying to make Others all things rollerblading.

**Well we've asked plenty of questions, is there anything we missed that you want to make sure everyone knows? Go for it!**

I really need to thank the community for being so open to a new idea. The reception we have received has been overwhelming and humbling. I also want to thank our team riders. Josh Glowicki, Brian Freeman, Nicholas Swan, Jett Rennert, Chemi Simiuyu, and of course Alex O'Brien. Chemi was one of the first dudes I connected with on the project and he has gone to great lengths to help us get the word out there. Alex has been an integral player on the local level helping with content and promotion as well. We have a solid team of dudes who believe and what we are doing and we are blown away at the talent that they bring to the table. Much love for our team!

**All right then Andrew, we know things will work out for your mission and that's gonna be good for the community! So good luck and give those shout outs!**

Again, so much love for our team! Thank you all for being so open to a foreign and new idea. I want to thank all of the local homies for helping with content and promotion. Chris, Greg, Tiff, Greg, Corey, and so many more have supported this idea from day one and always make sessions a blast. I am surrounded by positivity and that helps with the perseverance required to bring something like this to market. I also want to thank Tom Hyser from Rollerblade. Thank you for taking my random ass call and for all of the support your incredible brand has extended to Others. We couldn't have done it without you!

## COOK



### CURRY CAULIFLOWER

Recipe by Zach Gutweiler  
Photo by Michael Watson

Vegetarian dishes such as this one can be substantial enough to serve as an entree, though this recipe is a good appetizer or side. Slow roasted cauliflower fits as well alongside a lightly poached late summer fish as it does heavier game meats or wild birds. Like everything you cook, using the highest quality products will result in the best finished product. Using recently picked cauliflower from your area and dairy from local cows or goats — goat butter adds an amazing funk — will push the dish to the proper level.

#### Slow Roasted Cauliflower in Curry

2 cauliflower heads (trimmed)

#### Curry oil

2 Tablespoons madras curry powder  
1 1/2 tablespoons coriander seeds  
1 1/2 teaspoons cumin seeds  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 1/2 turmeric powder  
5 whole dried red chili peppers  
6 fresh curry leaves  
3 tablespoons garlic paste  
2 teaspoons ginger paste  
1 cup grape seed oil

#### Brown butter sauce

8 oz butter (goat butter if possible)  
1/2 lemon juiced  
1 teaspoon curry oil  
1 tablespoon pickled onion (minced)  
1 teaspoon parsley

Preheat oven to 275 degrees Fahrenheit. Separate cauliflower into four "fans" the best you can. To do this, you only need a knife to cut the base a bit, then you can break it apart with your hands. There will be some small florets that fall off and that's okay. Alternatively, you can cut the head into "steaks" by cutting 1.5" cross sections, if that's easier for you (but you'll probably only get three "steaks" and more loose florets this way). Rub all cauliflower with curry oil — generously — and 1 tsp salt. Rub the seasoning in so that all the surfaces are lightly covered. Transfer the cauliflower to a baking dish, cover with aluminum foil, and roast in oven for two hours, covered. Take out and cool down until it can be handled without falling about.

For brown butter sauce, heat butter in skillet on medium/high heat, stirring until golden brown and nutty smelling. Remove skillet from heat and add your lemon juice, emulsify with spoon. Return to low heat, add curry oil, pickled onion, parsley, and cook for one minute.

To finish, put cooled cauliflower in skillet with brown butter sauce on medium heat, spoon sauce over cauliflower consistently until cauliflower is warmed through. Transfer to serving plate. We put ours with a house made walnut puree, pickled onions, some fresh watercress greens, and little more of brown butter sauce spooned over.

## PEOPLE



### JEFF LARETTO

By Adam Bender  
Photo by Jon Ortiz

How much of your life has been a product of luck? Opportunity? Skill? If you ask Jeff Laretto, his life has been equal parts of each.

Appearing out of nowhere, Jeff took a surprise 3rd Pace at Virginia Beach NISS in '96. It was the first of several solid outings that year, earning him the title of Rookie of the Year and a second place tour finish, behind only Jon Julio. Thanks to being scouted by Rawlinson Rivera, he was quickly picked up by Hyper Wheels. Like many opportunities in his life, Jeff didn't plan to be a pro blader, but he knew how to follow the gradient life had presented to him.

If you ever watched Jeff skate you'd know his style instantly. It was was iconic, made of equal parts compact speed and butter. He looked fast on video and, like a punk band, was even faster in person. He cut smooth lines on street, it always looked like he was skating transition.

I first met Jeff at a gnarly, Hardline-sponsored session at The Pit following SCRAP in '96. It would be a few years before Jeff and I really got to know each other during our summers at Lake Owen and on the Colorado Road Trip. Well after both our skating careers had peaked, Jeff and I would recapture our glory days, skating mini ramp for hours.

Of course '96 was a long time ago, and Jeff has lived a rich life. He found several other passions like computer programming, practicing law, and scuba diving. If you can find him, ask him to go out for a session, I know he will be down. One thing I can say, knowing Jeff for going on 20 years, is that he is an even better person than he was a blader, and that is saying a lot.

## BEER

### POWDERHAUS

Review by Mike Opalek  
Photos by Tyson Cardon



Founded in Boise, Idaho in 2015 by Tyson Cardon and Tyler Schmidt (Cardon has since left the company), Tyler has been skating for over two decades and is committed to his craft. Powderhaus focuses on using local ingredients, and because Idaho is now the second largest producer of hops in the country, and boasts one of the largest malting facilities in Idaho Falls (Great Western Malting), they use 97% Idaho-made ingredients. That is very impressive.

But let me tell you about one of their beers. The Evans Gate Scotch Ale (ABV: 7.5% IBU's: 24) is brewed with brown sugar and Zeus hops. This Scotch ale is easy drinking, dark in color with a light body. Not overwhelmingly malty as many of this style can be, but very well balanced, with hints of roasted barley, brown sugar and raisins.

Skater: Pascal Tan

IG: @tannaturnup



no quad skates

no fitness skates

no boards

no scooters

no speed skates

no bikes

Photographer: Maarten Albrecht

# THIS IS SOUL

INLINE SKATESHOP

# VID BIZ



## FORMOSA

Q&A WITH KARSTEN BOYSEN AND BENJAMIN BÜTTNER  
PHOTOS BY DOMINIK WAGNER



**From the top: Tell us all how you two met, and how the “Cayenne Crew” first came together?**

Karsten Boysen: I think we met at a contest in Germany sometime around 2009–10. We’d both made various blading edits as well as contest edits over the years, but never did a full length video. But that was something that I always wanted to do, and I think the same goes for Benni.

The Cayenne Project started because of the blading shows at Roskilde festival in Denmark, where most of our favorite skaters were invited. We used the opportunity to ask if these skaters would go on tour with us right after the festival to make a full length tour video. Still can’t believe people like Chris Farmer or Richie Eisler were down to come film with us!

**When was the plan created for the Taiwan mission? How about when the name *Formosa* came into focus?**

K: We set out to explore a country that except for Dominik, no one had been to. We wanted to skate new stuff and film where it’s visually interesting. Especially after the last tour in Greece, which was fantastic, we wanted to go to a place that was a lot different, so that the video would be different as well.

Benjamin Büttner: I think right after Greece everybody agreed on doing the next tour in Asia. And since this project has that documentary aspect, we always like to choose places that usually don’t get too much attention, but still have a blade scene. You can’t just go to a remote place with a bunch of foreign dudes and hope for the best. There’s a lot of pre-planning involved, where you hook up with the locals and check out places to skate, where to sleep, how to get from A to B, etc. “Formosa” is what Portuguese sailors used to call Taiwan, which basically means “beautiful island.” It simply represents our gratitude to the lovely bladers and Taiwanese people we met along our journey.

**The *Cayenne* videos and *Formosa* again showed how much fun the group has together, and expresses an overall congenial attitude. Is that a true representation of the trips, or is there any of the Rawlinson vs Fogarty type crossbeef that made videos like *Hoax 5*?**

K: That is definitely true. The group has a great dynamic with no drama involved, even when there are stressful situations sometimes.

B: If anything, there’s a lot of mutual respect throughout the crew. We’re all grown up and known each other for a while now. Of course, it can be intense to hang around together for 3–4 weeks, but I feel everyone approaches making these projects as something memorable rather than bitching out.

**“SINCE THIS PROJECT HAS THAT DOCUMENTARY ASPECT, WE ALWAYS LIKE TO CHOOSE PLACES THAT USUALLY DON’T GET TOO MUCH ATTENTION.”**

*Benjamin Büttner*

**Similarly, what are the group’s attitudes towards pushing themselves physically, thousands of miles away from home?**

K: Well, the risk of injury is always there, but the guys are very professional in estimating what’s possible and what isn’t. Still, Carson broke his wrist about halfway into the trip, but he handled it like a champ and never complained about it.

B: I mean, some of us will turn 40 in a few years, though somehow the motivation is always higher than the year before. I guess we all want to make the most out of the time we have. Hopefully this will go on forever...

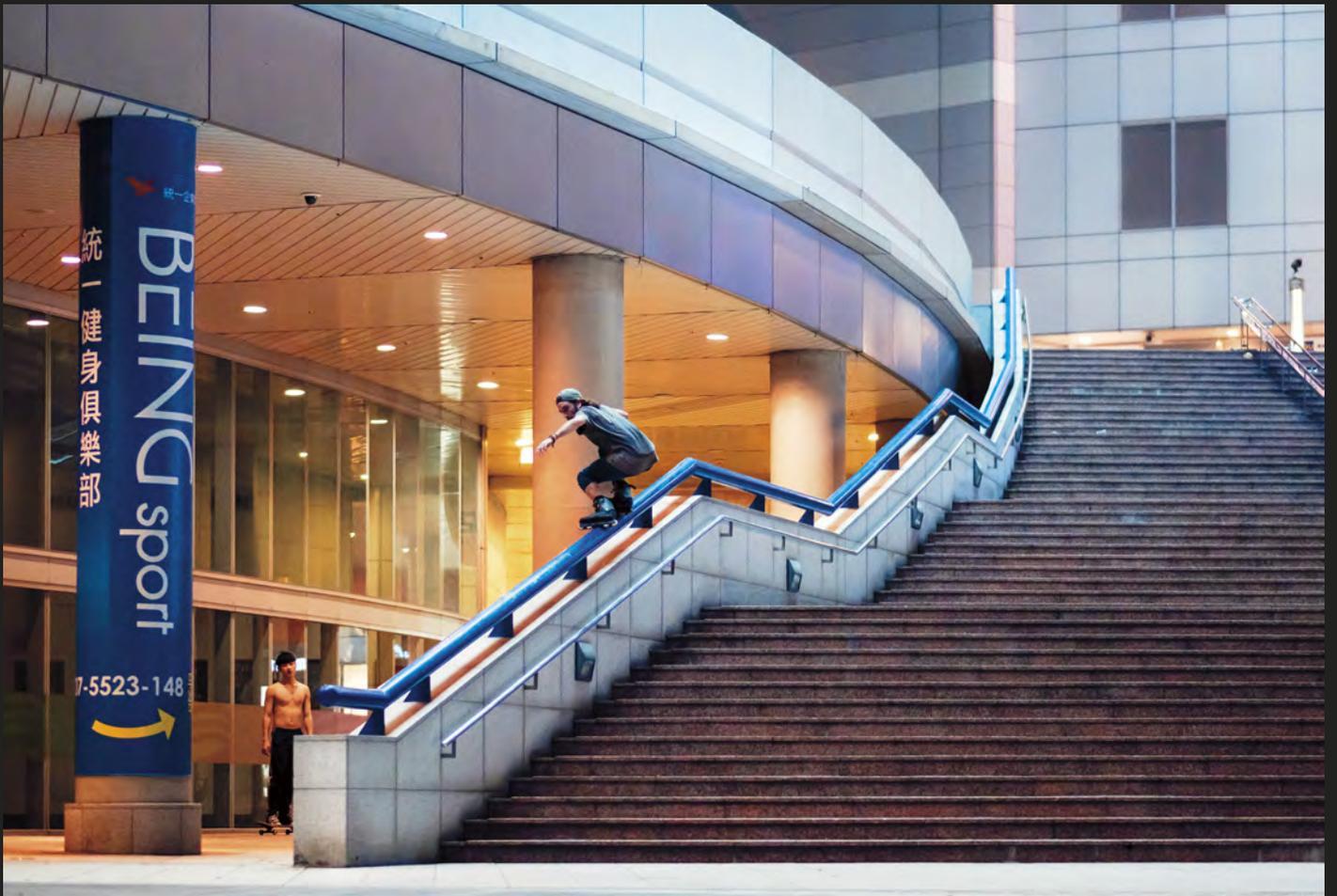
**How about telling us about some of the sketchiest things that you guys have encountered?**

K: Taiwan felt very safe in general, whereas in Greece, the year before, we had our van broken into and then chased the thieves into an abandoned university. In Taiwan nothing felt sketchy, but we had a few police encounters which were not so nice. Especially the time we started to film the intro. The very first take, a police guy on a moped stopped us and was very upset about the fact that we were, like, 15 guys skitching random mopeds, all dressed in black with black masks. Luckily we had Taiwanese locals with us that managed to keep us out of the police station.

**What was your equipment situation like?**

K: Everyone wants to shoot with the best gear possible, but that isn’t the always the easiest thing to do, lugging a bunch of equipment through the street.

K: Benni and I both upgraded to heavier setups this time, which was annoying at times, but worth it in the end when you look at the images. We



RICHEL EISLER / ROYALE



CHRIS SMITH / TRUE MISZOU

always bring a tripod too, which sucks to carry, but our crew is so big that someone can always be on tripod duty, even if they complain about it. It's teamwork in the end.

B: Yeah, everyone hates it and always tries to sneak away from it.

**How important is gear to a production? How would you rank the importance of production quality, 'visually striking subjects' and creative vision?**

K: I find it important to have good gear that you like working with. Obviously, you can create anything with cheap tools if you have the right vision, but it's really nice to work with a setup that is reliable and that you're pleased with how it looks in the end. To me, production quality is important, but it doesn't necessarily mean it's necessary to film in 4K or to have the sharpest image. It means to have a well rounded end product, and that has a lot to do with how it's filmed and put together and not so much with what it was filmed with.

**Some of the most visually striking shots in this video are the group skitching situations. Were those planned or did that happen organically? And what sort of challenges did you encounter**

**capturing all that energy and fun?**

K: The intro shots were all planned, but everything else happened organically, since it's so easy to hang on one of the millions of scooters there. Also, the locals had scooters that we would hang onto as a group, as you can see in the video. The people on the street don't freak out like in the western world, maybe because their traffic is more chaotic anyway. The police encounters like I mentioned earlier were a challenge, but other than that it was all fun.

**What are your favorite sequences or shots (or tricks) in the final video?**

K: One of my favorite shots is David's backslide gap onto the truck onto the street. I don't think many people would have seen this as a spot in the first place. Also, it was just a temporary spot, like if the truck moved, it wouldn't have been possible. The precision and execution of the trick were amazing — he had to land on the truck and immediately jump again, not to get stuck. I think everyone had moves on the tour which were surprising, even for themselves.

B: I love the Tai-Chi section. Soon after we finished filming the last trick on that spot, all these elderly people gathered around us and started their workout. To see them stretching in every possible position and



DAVID SIZEMORE / BACKSLIDE GAP TO TRUCK

then leaving in a wheelchair afterwards was quite amazing. Also, the way it was edited by Karsten really makes an impact. For instance, the rather long and exaggerated clip of Richie has that Monty Python feeling, which I dig a lot.

**How about photos that Dominik captured?**

K: Neither Dominik, nor us, expected that we would shoot so much during the darkness. We had an LED panel, but Dominik didn't bring any flashes, which was challenging. I'm amazed how many great night shots he still got. And other than that, I just like the spontaneous feel of Dominik's images. He did an amazing job capturing the mood and feel of the crew and the country.

B: Shout out to Aputure for illuminating those dark streets of Taiwan!

**You two have worked with a bunch of American dudes, and a trend for the past few years has been a sort of wanderlust as many bladers have been enchanted by Europe and sort of ended up relocating. Any thoughts on why that is?**

B: I see Europe as a melting pot of many various cultures which have a lot of history. Distances aren't too

great, the flights are pretty cheap, and you can make a living almost anywhere. So I guess it's that diversity that attracts a lot of people to come here.

**Care to shed any light on where the next project might be taking you guys?**

K: We haven't decided on when and where yet, that also depends on how many more videos we are going to sell. We would love to go to South America some time, and Africa too.

**Well thanks for talking with us - give those shout outs and thanks!**

B: Shout out to the crew - we miss you all! Thanks to Po-Tsang, Flower, Tien, Catell and everyone of the Taiwanese crew who helped us out in the making of this video.

K: Yeah, big thanks to everyone supporting us by buying the video and book to keep this project going! We'd like to make more of these! Also, shoutout to the whole crew, and Freddy, Jonas and Guy for working behind the scenes!

And thanks ONE for the opportunity to read this holding it in my hands rather than on a screen!



CHRIS FARMER / TOP SOUL

# AM HOUR



## LUKE NAYLOR

BY SEAN PATRICK QUINN  
PHOTOS BY BRIAN WEIS

Luke Naylor just turned a fresh twenty-three, his Jordan year. I don't recall how old he was when he rode with us to Pow-Wow for the first time; maybe sixteen or seventeen. Even at that age Luke had character beyond his years. While the boys and I wanted to crack cold ones, he was content with a Coke.

Since our first winter pilgrimage to the warm snake-runs of Kona, the lot of us have become kin. The bonds formed through miles, hardship and mayhem have fostered a robust ecosystem here in the midwest and beyond. It is within this environs that Luke has cultivated his talent in an era lacking in team

tours, rosters, hard media, so on and so fourth.

In an age of access, discussions of the past, present, and future of blading are rightfully ripe with contention. Without regard to debates on the why or how, or reasons and cures, Luke has side stepped banality with his capacity to do the damn thing. An undoubtable attribute when one is brought up under the wings of Brian Weis and Don Bambrick.

Luke's last few years have been marked with some major street and park contests achievements, as well as consistent quality content. Yung Skywalkeh is soft spoken but his

skating has enough attitude to make Danzig blush. He is smart, with a balanced lifestyle and admirable work ethic. Sic Urethane has taken stock, putting his first pro wheel under his skates. In the coming weeks Luke will have a full section in *Catfish*, a full-length blade flick by he and Kevin Lebeau.

He is neither a fresh face nor on the come up, he's been ripping for a minute. This moment is the start of something, though. Blading has an exciting future, it will be realized by him along with the next generation of rippers. One of the best unsigned free agents out right now, the game needs Luke Naylor.



GAP TO WALLRIDE TO FAKIE / DETROIT

# TOUR



## NOMADS IN SAN DIEGO

BY ADRIEN ANNE  
PHOTOS BY SEAN MACGOWAN & STEVE STEINMETZ



ANTONY POTTIER / FISHBRAIN STALL TO FAKIE / STEINMETZ

As has become a standard practice, each November when out-of-towners come to Southern California to travel and take in Blading Cup, there exists a few days on their agenda that allows for exploring the known and unknown spots of San Diego. This year we had the pleasure of guiding Antony Pottier, Adrien Anne, Warren Digne and Stephane Mosselmans to a few choice spots where they worked their magic. — JE



WARREN DIGNE / LAUNCH TO ROYALE GAP SAFETY AIR TO BANK / STEINMETZ

**Guys, tell us about your trip to Blading Cup — who all came, how long did you stay, and where all did you go?** AA: It all started with Nomadeshop's idea to make a cool video with Warren Digne and Antony Pottier anywhere around the globe. And because Antony won Blading Cup the year before, it seemed like a good idea to choose Cali again. Of course they needed someone to film, so they picked me and then everything started!

Besides visiting Santa Ana for Blading Cup, we had the chance to be hosted by awesome people like Yuri in LA and Christian in San Diego. So thank you, guys!

**Has everyone in the group come to the US before?** Yes, we'd all been to the US before, and even a couple times together as a group.

**Was this time any better or worse? The same?** Different I guess. You know that rollerblading has become a smaller scene, and we can tell that only passionate people are still here. That makes it different from the way it used to be. But more than ever we are a big family now and there is less separation between differences crews, brands and styles.

**Besides Blading Cup, what were your**

**goals for the trip?** Have a lot of fun on blades and make sure to do that in front of a camera. Blading Cup is just the perfect excuse to get to see everyone together in California again.

**Got any best moments to share?** Too many to know where to start. The best moments were just sharing simple sessions with lots of fun people.

**Anything weird or scary happen?** Yes! During the contest in Santa Ana, we parked the car in front of a big supermarket. But when we went back to find the car after the comp, it wasn't there anymore! We thought



STEPHANE MOSSELMANS / ROCKET RISHBRAIN TO FAKIE / MACGOWAN

**“YOU KNOW THAT ROLLERBLADING  
HAS BECOME A SMALLER SCENE, AND  
WE CAN TELL THAT ONLY PASSIONATE  
PEOPLE ARE STILL HERE.”**



ANTONY POTTIER / BACKSLIDE TO FAKIE / MACGOWAN

“BLADING CUP IS JUST THE PERFECT EXCUSE TO GET TO SEE EVERYONE TOGETHER IN CALIFORNIA AGAIN.”



ADRIEN ANNE / MAKIO TO GAP / STEINMETZ



it got stolen! In fact we just couldn't park in the supermarket's parking lot while it was closed. So we had an unexpected mission to find the car. Thanks, Uber!

**How did it go in San Diego when we worked on this stuff?** Everything went really smoothly. On our side, we know each other well and all had the same expectations on spots, parties and schedule in general. That makes it easy for us to organize all the sessions with everyone else. We had a lot of fun, thanks for showing us around!

**Where was your favorite place to skate and chill?** There is not really any favorite place. In fact the best thing was to skate different spots every day — what a dream!

**So when are you guys going to come and do it again?** Ah, we don't know yet! Nothing is planned but there's a big world to explore. So stay tuned! Thanks for the opportunity to feature us! Keep rolling !

**Thanks, same to you guys. Good luck!**

15 MIN



# AZIKIWEE ANDERSON

BY TRACY WHITE  
PORTRAIT BY ERICK GARCIA

I spent a lot of time away from home when I was young. I wanted to be at the Santa Rosa skatepark. I wanted to go faster around the bowls, higher out of them. There was a promise of escape and accomplishment at the skatepark, of invention, ambition, risk. I was there most days, mostly all day when I could.

Azikiwee Anderson showed up at the park one day. I was thirteen. He was tall, muscular, gymnastic, older. He knew things I didn't, about how the body moves, twists, and falls. He showed me a front flip, I showed him a frontside. He was a vegetarian then—I didn't know what that meant. He made Indian and Thai food. I didn't know what Thailand was. He fed me sushi, Thai iced teas, giant burritos that weren't from Taco Bell. He showed me what it means to command and issue respect, and how to stand up for yourself when you're disrespected.

Before long, I started spending more and more time away from my second home, traveling around the world. My first trip away was with Azikiwee. He took me up to Seattle and Vancouver, then down to San Diego, for ASA competitions. I was exposed to a whole world of pro-level skating and saw clearly what I wanted to achieve. He looked after me, and I watched him. We continued in this way as we turned pro, invented and refined tricks, competed at the highest levels, started or promoted companies, and traveled the world several times over.

In some ways not much has changed. I still don't know what to call him: best friend, mentor, big brother. He's still cooking (better than ever) and now showing his own kids how to be as wonderful as he is. He still smiles, laughs, loves, and eats bigger than anyone I have ever met. He's still showing me how to take big bites.

—Nick Riggle

### **Tell us about how and when you got skates on your feet?**

Well, I started skating around 13 years old, while living in Chico, California. The cool thing to do was to go to our local skating rink called Cal Skate. My brother (Akil), my sister (Shani) and I used to go on Friday and Saturday nights, and we would skate on quad skates.

That was our weekly thing to do for a couple years, and I got pretty good. Then through that I started to race, and eventually joined the speed skating team for a short period. After spending time building endurance and strength to race, rollerblades exploded onto the scene and my interest shifted. I was mesmerized by them! You couldn't really ride quads everywhere like you could blades.

I had a good friend at that time whose name was Joel Passavoy\*, and he and his father happened to have had the first pair of Rollerblade Lightnings I'd ever seen. I wore the same size skates as Joel's father, and he was nice enough to let me use them. Joel and his dad purchased the skates for off season cross training in preparation for the upcoming winter in Tahoe. Joel was on the ski team and his father was a ski patrol, so they wanted to stay in shape for the season. Which consisted mostly of Joel and I mobbing around Chico State's campus jumping and riding stairs.

After falling in love with rollerblades I wanted my own pair, so I begged my mom, who was a single mother, to buy my first pair. I told her it could be all rolled into one birthday/Christmas/chores money present, because I knew how expensive they were. I wanted them so bad I felt like I would sell my soul... Ha Ha.

*\*R.I.P Michael Passovoy you're missed and always in our thoughts\**

### **How about about your first “sponsor me tape”? Who did you send it to, and did it create any partnerships or sponsors?**

I made my first “sponsor me tape” because AJ Jackson told me I was good enough to be sponsored and should make one. At that point I barely knew you should or could get sponsored. He, TJ Weber, and a few others came through Santa Rosa to film a video and called Get In Line skate shop (my local skate shop) to see if there were any good skaters to show them around. I got the call and took them to different local spots to film.

At the end of the night, AJ told me he thought I was good enough to be sponsored and I should make a “sponsor me tape” to send around. I made ten tapes and sent them off to Senate, Rollerblade, K2, Kryptonics, Harbinger Pads

and others. My first official sponsorship was K2. I wasn't Pro, or even Amateur for that matter, I was a glorified grown-up grom on flow, but it was my start. Getting hooked up here and there with small packages of goodies.

### **Can you speak on your music background and how it tied into your skating?**

My father was the drummer for The Neville Brothers Band, I sang in the San Francisco boys choir when I was young, I taught myself how to play the saxophone, I love percussion, and have been beat boxing since the '80s.

I've always been deeply into hip-hop, reggae and roots. I feel like it influenced my skating to a large degree and has been woven throughout the tapestry of my artistic self expression in every aspect of my life. From the songs I chose to represent me, to the way we made video sections both visual and harmonic.

### **What are all the soft/hard goods brands have you created and which one was your personal favorite?**

I've always had a vivid imagination and a ability to sketch out my ideas. I was going to school for art when I decided to focus on becoming a full time skater. I feel like the attribute I brought to the table that served me best was the ability to dream bigger than what we had in hand. Rather than talking about what I did myself, I would like to focus on the projects that I was a part of, weather it was me who spearheaded it, or a collaboration of many of us.

The reason that inline became my life was because I loved the family aspect of it. With that said, here is a list of things I'm proud of:

7 Suns Skate Park; Runners Project Backpacks; 7XL Frames and Hardware; Able Frames and Hardware; Empire Distribution; Production Manager (soft goods); Rollerblade (Designer); IMYTA (M.C.); ASA (Judge); Gravity Games (Judge); X-Games (Judge/Sport Reporter); Dstructure SF; Asian X-Games (Commentary); Eisenbergs (Head of Camp); skatepark consultant (construction/design); Eisenbergs and Zero Gravity.

### **Tell us about Able Frames, start and finish?**

Able frames started as a response of me leaving 7XL!

I had all the designs, but the prototypes that kept coming back from China had more things wrong than right, and our first several runs of grind plates didn't hold up due to the kinds of plastics used in production, even though I had made explicit instructions. So I wasn't happy.

# "I FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT AND I LOST, BUT AT LEAST I MADE A MARK WITH DESIGN!"

When I made the decision to split company with our businessmen associated with the brands we had started, they were not happy with this, so they decided they wouldn't allow me to keep the name I had created, so I developed a new name, Able, and turned it into a American made brand.

I designed them to be the strongest frames ever made in the market, and had prototypes machined to show and gain interest while traveling on tour. Shortly thereafter, we had CAD drawings and 3D printed prototypes to show and book orders. I was trying to pre-sell products and raise money for tooling of the molds which were very expensive. That's when I sold off part of the company to raise the money to take it to the next stage. Here is where I will stop.

## **When did you decide to create Empire Distribution, and who were the primary heads involved?**

To be honest I have hit my head a few too many times, so you will have to forgive me for I can't recall the when and where and how much of some of this. I was really just an artist/designer that turned into a "impromptu businessman" with drive and a "can do anything attitude" that wanted to change the world.

Without the following people, the behind-the-scenes business of Able, Empire and D-structure wouldn't have been what they were: Mike Opalek, Tory Treseder, Kennan Scott, Andra Maldovan, Dan LaRoche, Tamsen Plume, Matt Andrews, Darrin Treinen, Scott LaRockwell, Dave Bolt and Devon Chulick.

## **How did IMYTA come to be?**

I owned a skatepark in Santa Rosa and lived with Fabiola who was dating Jon Julio at the time, so we all hung out a lot and skated a lot. We played the game of S.K.A.T.E, where you had to match the other person's trick or get a letter, like the basketball game P.I.G. Right around then, X-Games was coming to SF, and a lot of the best street skating spots in NorCal were just a stone's throw away from the event venue. But most of the NorCal skaters couldn't compete in the X-Games because they didn't really skate park at all. They were true/real street skaters, and could kill a video section or

a street skate session, but they would never be in this televised event.

If memory serves me right, we talked about throwing a completely underground event, like a street race where you wouldn't even know where the spots were going to be until you showed up, and we would give you the plan so no one could stop us in advance. The idea was simple, and it was the right time for an event that was for us, by us, and celebrated us to our core. It was fun and exciting for all the right reasons. It was so amazing, how easy and naturally organic it became all at once.

## **What are some of your IMYTA highlights and best memories you hold onto from all of those comps?**

Now that I think back on it, the IMYTA was some of the best parts of my entire skating life! It was the ultimate cross section of love of our sport, unbridled excitement, rewarded hard work, beautiful play, graceful innovation, and pure-from-the-heart adoration of our sport! I can't even put into words what it meant to be a part of it, or to get to be the voice associated with it! I am humbled and beyond grateful to have shared it with Jon Julio.

P.S.... as the IMYTA grew, we would have never survived and thrived without the behind the scenes help of many important friends, but most importantly Mike Wilson, and the sponsor that believed in the vision.

## **Tell us about your time working with Rollerblade?**

Let's start off by saying I learned a lot! Cory Miller is my main man, and he helped me become way more than I knew I could be with his friendship and belief. At the time I was working with Rollerblade, it was owed by an Italian company based in Montebelluna, which is a town approximately 50 kilometers northwest of Venice, Italy. So the travel to and from for work was amazing.

I learned how to meet deadlines, and how to work within corporate confines, how to cover your ass, and to cross your T's and dot your I's. I started off solving problems and innovating, just trying to be a helping member of an amazing Rollerblade worldwide team. Then I was moved into full on design and brand

identity work. It was amazing!... until the industry started to slip in profitability. Then being in the meetings, and behind the scenes on who was going to be let go because we needed to cut cost, kinda broke my idealistic mind. Back then, when I could see total world sales numbers, and then hear them talk about cutting the pro skaters that I felt had a huge part of securing those sales, it made me furious. Looking back on it, I was a impetuous child bent on speaking my mind, and standing up for us as a whole, and I cost myself a really cool job. I fought the good fight and I lost, but at least I made a mark with design!

## **Need to know your top 3 places visited through skating and the best road trip story?**

Top 3 places visited are: Japan; Stockholm, Sweden; Australia.

Best Road trip story is: While on the "All or Nothing Tour" in Japan, exhausted and without a place to stay, our entire crew took over a large portion of a train station platform, laying all of our bags down in the middle and then sleeping around them. Vinny Minton put up his camera to record us as we all slept. You could see the passersby looking at us, laughing, not knowing what to do. Everyone was so polite, they didn't want to tell us we couldn't be there, or that we would have to leave, so instead they politely walked around us and let us sleep. When we awoke, we all talked about how if we were in NYC, all of our stuff would've been stolen. Especially the cameras we left up to film. This was yet another thing that made Japan so amazing, and one of the best rollerblading tours of my life.

## **You were a big personality that commanded RESPECT on the mic/megaphone or judges stand. Was it because of the long dreads, big voice or tall stature, or was it the martial arts ass kicking ability?**

I have no idea really. To be honest, I have never really given it much thought. I feel lucky to have been given the respect I was for the time I was in the industry, and allowed to show how much I cared about our sport.

## **You are a dad now, what lessons have you learned from your skating career that you**





# SOICHIRO KANASHIMA

BY MIGUEL RAMOS  
PHOTOS BY CHIHIRO AZUMA & TAKAAKI ONISHI





# S

**oichiro, do you remember your first time on skates? Can you tell us about it?**

The very first time I skated was when I was 10 years old. I went to DIY Skate Park and jumped on a ramp for the first in my life. I remember having so much fun. Ever since, I got into skating and have skated, like, almost everyday.

**How about explaining MFT – what is it? What does it mean?**

MFT stands for “My Feet.” MFT promotes a message that, “With your own feet, you can go wherever you want and you can do whatever you want. Possibility is unlimited.”

Back in 2008, I felt like the skating scene in Japan was isolated, that there were less chances to interact with skaters from other countries. So I felt like someone needed to connect them. That’s when I established MFT BRAND, mainly working for broadcasting and clothing.

The purpose of MFT is to demonstrate the skating scene in Japan by creating connections with other people by sharing skating videos and photos.

**Do you work at a skatepark?**

I own and run a skatepark called “Yamada Green Park” (aka YGP), located in my hometown, Okayama City.

There used to be a huge skatepark called “Action Sports Park” (ASPO) in Okayama, but it closed down in 2011. Many kids quit skating because there were no other skateparks nearby. I would get asked a lot if there was somewhere to skate, because all kids really love skating. Unfortunately I had to tell them that there was no skatepark in Okayama anymore. Of course they’d be sad and that would make me feel bad too. Since no one was doing anything about it, I decided to run my own park.

YGP used to be a small park with only a few obstacles, but thanks to my friends we’ve expanded and improved the park, and it has even more sections to skate now.

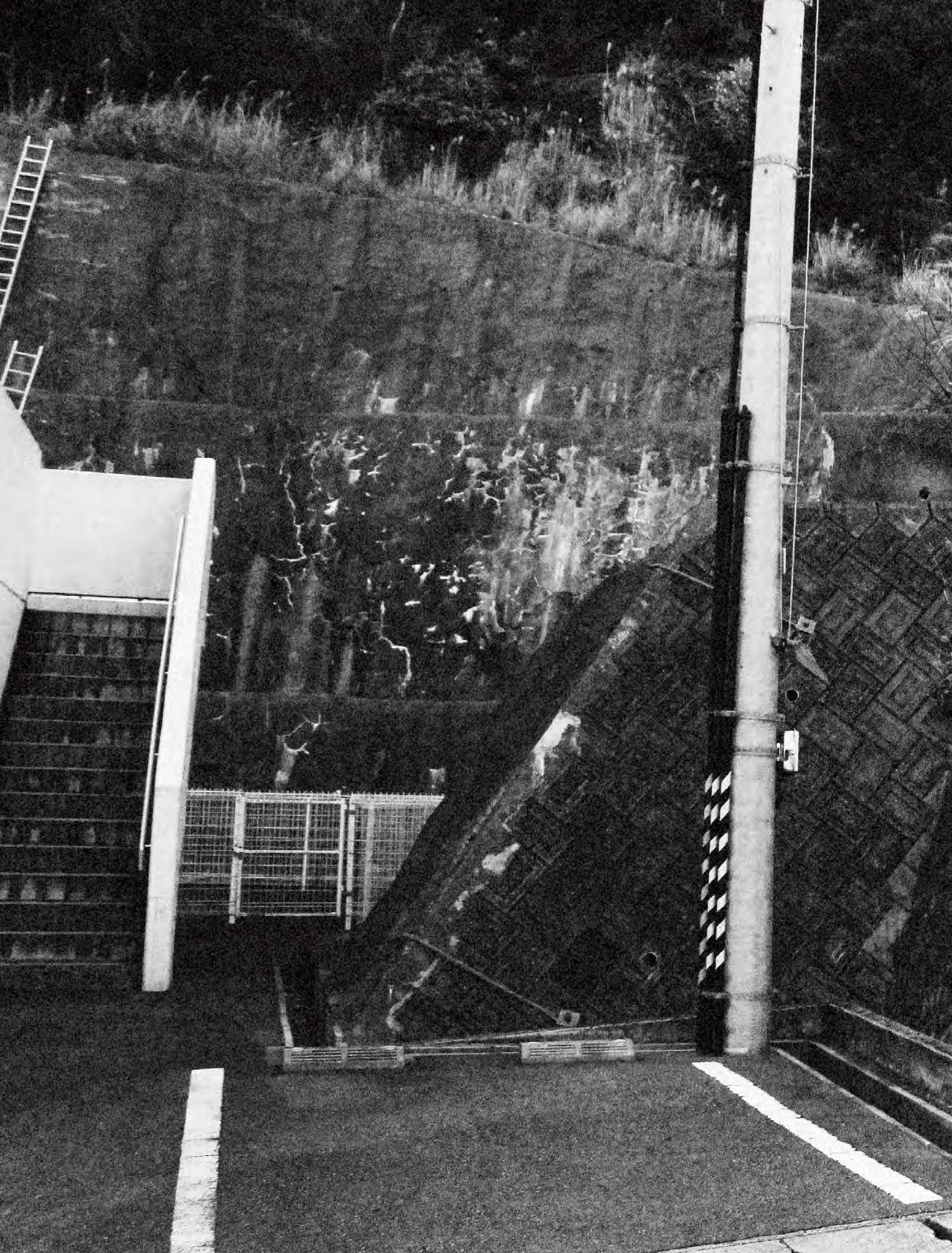
**How about the Chimera Event?! How did it come together?**

Chimera Games is an organization that runs events with extreme sports and music where you can enjoy live performances (musicians), showcases (extreme sports) or even try extreme sports for yourself. They also host many competitions, too. After the event started, inline skating became more popular. So I hope people from all over the world come to Japan and enjoy Chimera Games.



SWITCH BACKSIDE TO FAKIE / YOSHIMA / PHOTO BY AZUMA

FRONTSIDE TO FAKIE / HIMEJI / PHOTO BY ONISHI





# ONE

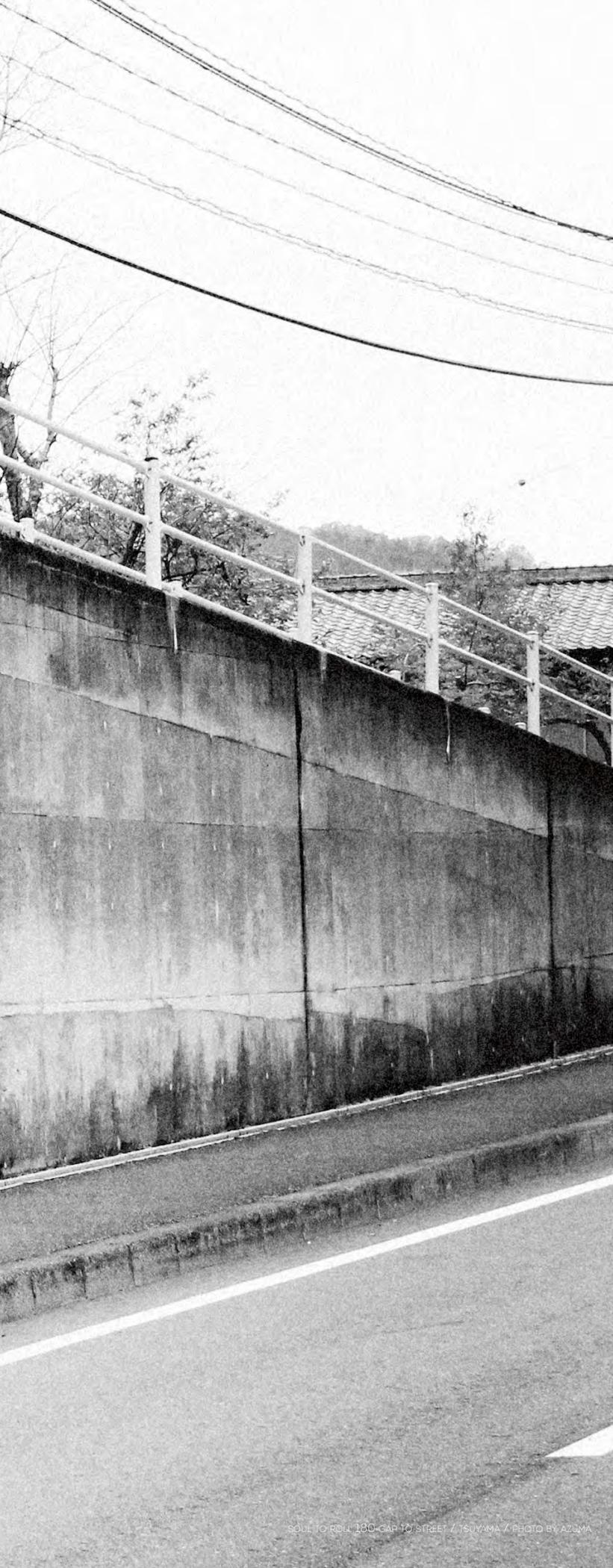
ROLL TO SAFETY AIR TO BANK / HIMEJI / PHOTO BY ONISHI

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**“MY PARENTS ARE  
THE ONLY ONES THAT  
SUPPORTED ME.  
THEY TOLD ME,**

**‘ DO WHATEVER YOU LIKE.  
IF YOU LIKE SKATING, DO  
AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.’ ”**

**When did you take your first trip to America?**

The first time I visited the US was back in 1999, participating in ASA Amateur Finals in Florida. I was shocked and excited because there were so many skilled skaters.

**Who were your heroes when you were growing up?**

Chiaki Ito is my hero! I always wanted to be like him. (He’s still my hero!)

**How do you see the skating scene in Japan?**

The one word to describe the skating scene in Japan is “style.” I think it’s because of Chiaki’s influence. Each skater has their own style. Most Japanese skaters won’t be satisfied with their tricks if the style is not cool or good enough for them. I really like this about the Japanese skating scene, because they are keen on the small details of skating, even like small movement/position of a finger. This is the most important part for me when I skate.

**Who do you think have been the five most influential bladers of all time?**

Chiaki Ito, Toru Shirai, Jon Julio, Alex Broskow, and Chris Farmer.

**Talk to us some about skating with these four shredders: Yuto, Toru, Chihiro and Chiaki.**

I’ve known Yuto and Chihiro since they started skating in elementary school. They are like my little brother and sister. They both are cool, sick, and very stylish. I want you guys to check them out more. I’ve been skating with Toru ever since we were little kids. We’ve been to many comps, events, and tours — both domestic and international. I think Toru

is the one who I've skated with the most. His style is so sick and powerful that it motivates me. He's one of my best rivals and friends.

But biggest influence that I've gotten is from Chiaki. I've learned a lot of things by spending time with him through skating, jobs, and just hanging out. As I said above, he is my all-time hero since I started skating.

#### **What was it like growing up skating in Japan?**

Growing up skating in Japan was not easy because there was little or no understanding of inline skating. However, skating has become more recognized these days.

Back then a lot of people would tell me to study more, or do some other popular sports, but my parents are the only ones that supported me. They told me, "Do whatever you like. If you like skating, do as much as you want." I appreciate this support from my parents so much. If I had chosen another sport, or spent more time on studying, I would not be what I am today. I wouldn't be making homies all over the world, getting a chance to tour in so many countries.

#### **Speaking of traveling, the last several years you've done a lot of it! Which has been your favorite tour? What made it so great?**

I went to Thailand for a tour in 2017 with Ivan Narez, Richie Eisler, and Worapoj Boonnim. I spent most of my days either skating or swimming. Nothing can beat this tour, it was just fantastic. Every street spot was new to me, too.

#### **What's the worst injury you've ever taken?**

This just happened at Winterclash 2018. I messed up landing 360 and got my right knee twisted badly. It caused damage on the front and outer ligaments. But it's nearly 100% again now.

#### **What are your five favorite tricks?**

Soul, AO fish, backslide, soul grab 360, and parallel grab 540.

#### **How did you get teamed up with Eulogy?**

Back in 2009 the distributor handling Eulogy wheels introduced me to the crew, then we teamed up. Since I didn't have any wheel sponsors, I was so happy!

#### **What are the top three best – or your favorite – spots in Japan?**

Kibi Kogen Highlands City, Neo Sanyo City, and Research Park.

#### **How about in the US?**

Lafayette Square in Oakland, Lincoln High School in San Francisco, and Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

#### **Give three pieces of advice to young bladers.**

Try all different kinds of tricks and spots, check how other skaters do, and the most important – ENJOY BLADING!

#### **As Valo slips into the past, tell everyone how you got on the team and partnered up with Jon?**

The first time I meet Jon was at the Asian X-Games in Thailand in 1999. Well, I watched his videos literally almost everyday lol. Valo's distributor in Japan told Jon about me, that I won 1st prize at the Asian X-Games in Malaysia in 2006. Then I got supported by Valo Japan and started to roll on Valo.

I reunited with Jon again at the Hoedown in 2006. After that, I accompanied the Valo team for filming and touring many times. I joined the Pro team in 2010. At that time, no one else in Japan was on the Pro team for a skate brand. I was jumping with joy! I still remember when it happened – I am really, really thankful to Jon for giving me a super great opportunity!

#### **Well thanks for sharing everything, Soichiro – so take us out with some words about your new video "Katana." Hype it up!**

It features Eiji Sakihara, Yuto Goto, Chihiro Azuma, Koichi Iguchi, Takeshi Yasutoko, Soichiro Kanashima, Toru Shirai and more. Check it out! You won't be disappointed!!

**“TRY ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF TRICKS AND SPOTS,  
CHECK HOW OTHER SKATERS DO,  
AND THE MOST IMPORTANT –  
ENJOY BLADING!”**





# CAMERON TALBOTT

BY JUSTIN EISINGER / PHOTOS BY ERICK GARCIA / PORTRAIT BY BRANDON SMITH



## **“GROWING UP IN MONTANA WAS GREAT, I WAS JUST ABLE TO BE A KID IN THIS WILD WORLD.”**

**Cameron, it's great to have you here getting a feature in the new issue — thanks for your hard work shooting the photos. Let's see, we've done a few online Q&A things before but since this is for the print deal we may as well start at the top. Please tell everyone your name, age, and where you're from.**

My name is Cameron Talbott, I'm 32 years old, and I'm from Missoula, Montana, currently residing in San Francisco, California.

**Even though Missoula is in Montana, which seems like a conservative place, in fact it's a krusty kind outdoor hippie town, right?**

Haha, yeah, I can see how some people might think that, it definitely has a sort of “hippie mountain town” thing going on. Missoula is rad though, it has a lot to do if you're willing to explore your environment and the possibilities within. Lots of beautiful places to explore!

**Is that why you've got that SF connection down pat?**

SF is an interesting place to say the least, it is very liberal like Missoula but a much bigger animal. I've always felt a connection to this city, being born here and spending much of my life bouncing back and forth between

here and Montana, it's always carried a sense of home to me. I've got family here still, and also have my skate family here that I've known for nearly 20 years. So there's lots of love and support!

**What was it like growing up there? Was it a good place to be a kid?**

Growing up in Montana was great, I was just able to be a kid in this wild world. We lived near the river, which provided hours of entertainment for me and my buds. Also, every season brought its own activity, allowing me to explore different interests like snowboarding, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing or backpacking and camping. I'm grateful for my youth in Montana as well as my younger days here in the Bay Area, it's been a healthy balance of two different worlds.

**So how did you end up blading as a kid from Montana? Who were early influences within blading?**

Ya know, I went to the the local YMCA skatepark with my skates, and there were a bunch of other guys on blades, and I just got hooked. So I grew up skating with some great guys that still skate today, people like Howie Bennett, Kellan Zinkgraf, and Justin Barr to name a few — even Brandon Mateer in his

later days living there. We all shared a love for skating and continued to have fun with it, love those guys!

**How about the first time you bladed with a “pro” — do you remember who it was?**

In 1998 the Diversity Tour came to the Missoula YMCA skatepark and along with it was Chris Edwards and a super young Franky Morales! Haha, I was blown away!

**At what point did you either realize you had a talent for skating or decide that you were going to develop skills for skating?**

I really just liked hanging out with my friends when I was young and we all happened to rollerblade. As time went on, everything just kinda unfolded as it did. I enjoy the freedom of skating and the high you gain by pushing your own limits, seeing what's possible. Over the years it just became an extension of who I am, and naturally you get good at a thing or two in the process.

**You mentioned to me in a message about the old *Daily Bread* “Coming Up” feature and that I reached out to you about making it happen. That's awesome! How long had you been blading when that all came together?**

Oh man that was an exciting moment! Being



SOUL TO ROLL TO GAP OVER RAIL TO ROLL / SAN FRANCISCO





CROSS ROCKET 180 OVER FENCE / OAKLAND

## “WORKING A FULL TIME JOB TAKES AWAY FROM TIME THAT COULD BE SPENT SKATING, BUT AT THE SAME TIME CREATES A HEALTHY BALANCE.”

a kid from the northern rockies and hearing you had the next “Coming Up” was huge. I grew up on *Daily Bread* and was more than excited to be apart of it, and I had probably only been skating for three years or so at the time.

### **What series of events was going on that led to that happening? Like, what was going on in your life then?**

I was spending my summers with friends and family all over the Bay Area during my teen years. Naturally, I always brought my skates, and ended up meeting lots of like-minded folks that shared the same passion for skating as I did. Think I was on a trip in San Louis Obispo and happened to do a soul grind at the right time, haha. Mike Graffigna, who was shooting a lot of photos for *DB* at the time, was there and got a good shot. Couple months later you hit me up and offered the “Coming Up” spot and my 16-year-old self was beyond hyped!

### **When and how did you become an adopted part of the NorCal scene?**

Haha! Ever since I started skating I was bouncing back and forth between the Bay Area and Montana. That meant I grew up skating with a lot of the guys around here in a way. All these years later, many of us still

skate, and continue to create and contribute to skating in our own way as the years pass.

### **How long have you been living in San Francisco, like, permanent resident status? And also tell us more about that house with the crazy ramp in the backyard.**

I’ve been here in SF a little less then three years now. And yeah, the bowl was rad. I got super lucky moving into a new place that happened to have a backyard bowl. Just a few months back it was taken out, but the year I got to enjoy it was great! RIP backyard bowl.

### **Have other personal factors influenced your skating or travels beyond what anyone might know about? I guess I’m asking, how does real life impact blade life?**

Real life and the daily grind that comes with it definitely has a huge impact on skating as I grow older. Working a full time job takes away from time that could be spent skating, but at the same time creates a healthy balance so that I’m not oversaturated with skating, haha. Too much of one thing can become not such a good thing sometimes.

### **How has blade life impacted your real life? Is there a difference?**





ROOF ROLL TO TOPSOUL 540 OUT / SAN FRANCISCO



LEDGE ROLL TO TRUE SOUL / EMERYVILLE

Skating is just a part of my life and it fits itself here and there and provides a great time.

**Who all are you sponsored by these days, and what sort of support do they provide for you to pursue your passion?**

I skate for Rollerblade, SIC Urethane and Brigade Clothing. They all provide support in their own way, not just through their products but also the people who stand behind them. Stefan, Kevin, Tom and Erin all are people I have tremendous respect for, and am grateful for their support over the years.

**Who's the best sponsor you've ever had? What set them apart from the rest?**

Ahh man, haha, putting me on the spot – I'd have to say Rollerblade. They offer travel and the opportunity to grow through that travel, on and off the blades. Growing up that's all I ever wanted to do: travel and skate.

**So 2019 is almost here – what direction are you riding the wave? What's on your horizon for projects or travel or just regular life stuff?**

Just taking things day by day and trying to have fun with skating. There are lots of dudes around here killing it, and it's fun to be around. Been working with Taylor Kobryn on his project over the winter and now

through the summer. He's putting together a flick with the likes of Vossoughi, Phil Moore, Danny Malm, Joey Lunger and myself. Lots of other rad dudes involved as well, so it should be a good one! Also a few trips Keane and I have been talking about doing with RB, so we'll see how the year unfolds. Other than that, just trying to enjoy time with friends and family when I can!

**What do you want to see more of in blading?**

More youth!

**How about less of?**

Less uncertainty.

**Thoughts, thanks, or shout outs for the homies?**

Much love to my family and friends, Bianca and Pete! My Montana tribe, JSF, all the Bay Area and Sac fam. Tom, Erin, Kevin and Stefan. Thank you all for just doing you! And thank you, ONE, for the opportunity to be part of something tangible in our ever evolving world of blading.

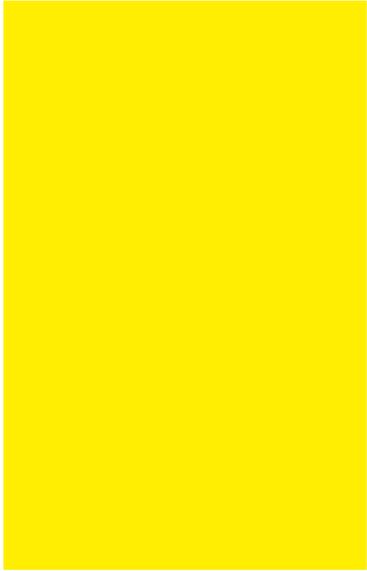
**Well damn, Cam, it's always great to work with you. Thanks again for all the time and effort – best of luck with everything coming your way!**



TOP MISTRIAL / SAN FRANCISCO

# BROSKOW





WORDS AND PHOTOS BY BRIAN WEIS

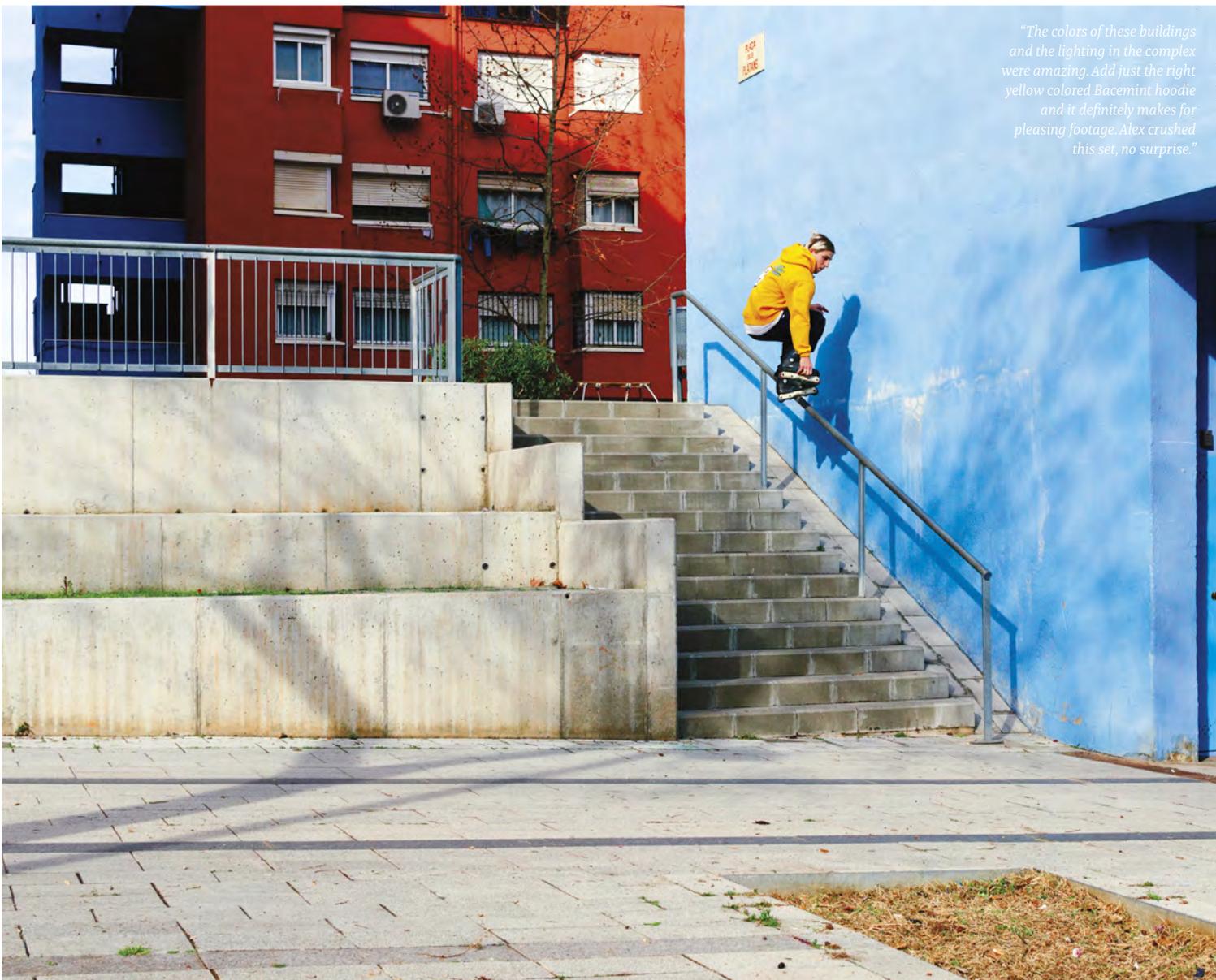


# IN BARCELONA

**“GO TO SPAIN WITH ME?” AJ ASKED.**

**I THINK ANYONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND SAYS YES.  
ESPECIALLY WHEN THE MAN ASKING IS AJ.**





*"The colors of these buildings and the lighting in the complex were amazing. Add just the right yellow colored Bacemint hoodie and it definitely makes for pleasing footage. Alex crushed this set, no surprise."*

**I BELIEVE IT ALL STARTED A FEW WEEKS PRIOR BECAUSE OF MY USUAL "MONEY'S NOT REAL, ONLY DRUGS" TALK. AJ AND I BECAME A LOT CLOSER THAT NIGHT.**

**FATE WOULD HAVE IT, FRESH INTO THE NEW YEAR, THE VX BOYS AND I EMBARKED ON A JOURNEY TO BARCELONA. SKATING MAY GO THROUGH ITS TRANSFORMATIONS, BUT OUR PASSION IS WHAT KEEPS THE FLAME BURNING. THESE DUDES ARE THE REAL DEAL.**

**SOMETIMES YOU JUST FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND DO WHAT YOU LOVE. THAT'S WHAT WE DID. THAT'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING AND THAT'S WHAT WE WILL DO.**



*"Only thing I can remember is a dude with an OPP hat passing us right after Alex laced."*



▲  
*"What you see here is Marc just doing it. What you don't see is one of the worst/best graffiti recreations of the Nike logo on the ledge on the right hand side of this photo. Ask AJ for the shot."*

◀  
*"People are realllly friendly around here ("Ace voice"). We were bombarded by these little rugrats in no time. They were showing off, flipping off the ledges, and just plain being wild. Alex stepped into character and made the best of it. One of them gave us a joint, too. I swear he had a beard though."*



◀  
"One thing that always comes to mind when I think of Esmeralda is how Marc can parallel park that ole gal anywhere. Should've filmed a VOD on that. True player way."



▲  
"Marc directly after assisting a very nice older lady with opening a security door for her shop. No questions asked, just a straight gentleman. Also snagged him a free pass on this down bar."

# DEREK HENDERSON



**AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT**  
BY MATT MICKEY / PHOTOS BY SEAN MACGOWAN





GAP TO SOUL TO GAP / SANTA ANA

There's a resurgence occurring in rollerblading, and it's been gaining momentum for several years now. From a noticeable increase in inliners cruising along beaches, carving bowls at skate parks, and skating in the streets – to more foot traffic, phone calls, and online orders on the retail front. There continues to be a steady rise in interest and participation in blading across the board.

Leading the “Back to Blading” pack is Derek Henderson. A man who, simply put, looks like he shouldn't be able to do what he does. One glance his way, and you can't help but wonder, “What is his finishing move?!” – as opposed to his signature trick. As blading's strength rises, Derek is a beacon. A bastion of raw talent, stubborn determination, and palpable grit.

So how did he become one of rollerblading's most captivating current personalities? It's almost as if he was predestined to be a pro skater, although not necessarily built like one. From a young age, Derek followed his passion, his skates becoming an escape in more ways than one when adversity offered him two options – bridge or burden. He soon learned that success isn't instantaneous, and nothing noteworthy comes easy. And so it appeared that all his hard earned and building momentum was leading him to the dream. But in a twist of fate, Derek Henderson quit skating.

And he wanted to quit! Without hesitation he put blading on hold in 2014 so he and his wife could focus on raising their new baby daughter. It was a skating sabbatical, if you will, and there was nothing anyone could say to convince him otherwise. Derek is a proud and doting father to Avery, a dedicated family man to his wife Erika, and he's made it his mission to give a better childhood than he had.

But it wouldn't be long before rollerblading came calling his name again.

I say it often, and I'll continue to remind y'all that rollerblading will always be there waiting for you – like a loyal dog, ecstatic to see you return home! And Derek literally has a portrait of his beloved Golden Retriever, Woodrow, emblazoned on his chest.

In 2016, around the time that Avery turned two, Derek quietly began skating again. Razors welcomed him back on the team, and he was humbled by that second chance. Couple that with finally conceding to riding his true size 10 skates, and Derek was more comfortable than ever on his Razors. And since then, he's fully embraced the “Back to Blading” movement.

But what if he got hurt skating and couldn't work to provide for his family? Then he wouldn't be fulfilling his promise to give Avery a better upbringing than he had. Derek saw that the real world can serve up more serious concerns than simply where and when the next session is going down.

Real life worries like that were a world away when Derek was a scrawny little kid growing up in Fresno, California, where the streets were often as unforgiving as the sweltering summer heat. He started skating at 8 years old, back in the Senate “Angry Youth” days of the mid '90s – when literally everyone and their brother had blades. He hated nothing more than to be left behind when his older sibling, Andy, and friends went blading without him. Subsequently, when he was able to make it to the session, he loved nothing more than to emulate his favorite rollerblader, Josh Petty! He would spend hours pouring over the latest issues of *Daily Bread Magazine*, and afternoons watching and rewinding *VideoGroove* VHS skate videos, studying JP's every move like there'd be a test at school the next day.

Always the self-starter, Derek began mowing lawns at age 11 to earn money, and it wouldn't be long before he began to carve out a name for himself. With his brother Andy and other members of their Sec-9 skate crew old enough to drive, and San Francisco just two hours away, road trips to the Bay Area afforded Derek exposure to the bigger outside world of blading. And by the age of 13, Derek had his first feature profile in the underground video *NO* by Michael Decker from Visalia. (This section is on YouTube, and a must watch!)

Growing up in Fresno wasn't all fun sessions and adventures on the road. Over the years, the Sec-9 crew saw it's numbers shrink as distractions came into play. Just like anywhere else in Central California, some kids ended up in gangs, falling into patterns of crime and incarceration, or dependent on drugs. But not Derek. For some reason he





FAKIE OUTSPIN BACKSLIDE 270 OUT / SANTA ANA

**“HE STARTED SKATING AT 8 YEARS OLD, BACK IN THE SENATE ‘ANGRY YOUTH’ DAYS OF THE MID ‘90S – WHEN LITERALLY EVERYONE AND THEIR BROTHER HAD BLADES.”**

**“DEREK REMINDS US THAT NOT ONLY IS IT POSSIBLE, BUT IT IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE TO JUST SKATE WHEN LIFE ALLOWS YOU TO FIND TIME.”**





AO FISH 360 OUT / SAN DIEGO

instead became increasingly addicted to skating, and that became his identity.

It is true that he found his fair share of trouble, and even earned a reputation as a feared fighter, defending himself and fellow skate friends, but it was never just for show, nor enough to derail him from his dream of becoming a pro skater. If anything, these rough encounters strengthened his determination, and gave pause to anyone who might have otherwise wanted to throw paws with the now less scrawny and more scrappy young buck.

Fast forward to present time, where a typical day for Derek begins with him waking up at 9pm. He'll then get ready to head in to work the 10pm to 6am shift at Western Trade Printing in Fresno. When he's not "night dreaming" about skating, Derek literally runs the print press where the annual Intuition catalogs come down the line! He gets off the clock and back home before his wife Erika goes to work at 7am. Then he spends time playing with Avery, now 4 years old, until Erika comes home after 4pm. Then it's a long blink as Derek catches some sleep before the routine repeats all over again.

Usually, one day out of the weekend, while Erika is working, Derek will get out to a session for a few hours. Often times Avery comes along for the adventure. She has her own roller skates, you know, and is her Dad's biggest fan! Derek affectionately refers to these as "Me and Avery days," and she makes candid appearances in his pics and clips.

So, why are we so enthralled with Derek Henderson?

Derek is 30 now, and a full on Dad blader. He's able to juggle a family, a mortgage, a full time job – and still keep rollerblading as an integral part of his life. Hell, he even owns and runs @s9bearings, named after his childhood Sec-9 skate crew that he still shreds with to this day!

Perhaps this is why so many people are captivated by Derek. Being shown by example that you can balance real life responsibilities, and still find the time to shred – albeit not on his level. But there is still something to be said for getting together with your crew and cruising a local skate park or ledge spot a few times a month, right?! Derek reminds us that not only is it possible, but it

is perfectly acceptable to just skate when life allows you to find time.

Or maybe it's his ability to jump on absurdly high ledges, grind, spin out, land, and roll away with such poise and precision that his skating can only be described as "freight train finesse." Or more likely that his proclivity to remain productive and visible via InstaVids, pics, and YouTube sections proves to further stoke the fire of his fan base. It's as if Derek is the Walter White of rollerblading, consistently cooking up batch after batch of blatantly addictive skate edits – leaving us to fiend for future doses!

Regardless of why we can't get enough of Derek's skating, it's essential to note that he is rollerblading's greatest defender. Despite his brash outward appearance, and his tough guy meets teddy bear image, Derek is the first one to step up and help a beginner blader working on the basics. He's also quick to hand out hi-fives after someone laces a proper trick. Even after he's done skating, or has gotten broke off himself, you can find Derek, behind the camera, catching clips of others at the session to keep the juices flowing. Hell, he'll probably even have his signature white t-shirt draped over his bald head, because he can get sun burnt in the time it takes him to light up a smoke. "Hey Pops, how about some sun block?! And quit smoking those God damned cigarettes, my inhaler is almost out!"

Speaking of Pops, fellow Intuition team rider and also Dad to a daughter, Josh Petty recently declared that Derek Henderson is his new favorite rollerblader. So skating dreams can come true?!

So there you have it. A self-made working man-blader, with Viking warrior blood pumping through a heart of gold, surrounded by a suit of ink armor, destined to climb the ranks of rollerblading royalty.

Although his legacy is already cemented as one of the baddest motherfuckers to ever put on blades, we cant help but clamor for what's next. Will his body of ink, pics, and edits continue to grow? We should be so lucky! According to Derek himself, "I've got a big 'ole list, and I've already started checking stuff off." And so, as fate would have it, Derek's greatest masterpiece remains unfinished. For now...





# PICKS

**JOEY CHASE**

TRICK: SOUL GRIND  
LOCATION: ATLANTA  
SKATES: ROCES  
FRAMES: GROUND CONTROL  
WHEELS: EULOGY  
PHOTOGRAPHER: WEIS



**OLLIE JONES**

TRICK: SOYALE  
LOCATION: WORCESTER  
SKATES: REMZ  
FRAMES: GROUND CONTROL  
WHEELS: BHC  
PHOTOGRAPHER: COOPER



## SEAN SALAZAR

TRICK: TOP SOUL  
LOCATION: EL SOBRANTE  
SKATES: REMZ  
FRAMES: GROUND CONTROL  
PHOTOGRAPHER: GARCIA



**JOSH NEILSEN**

TRICK: NEGATIVE MAKID  
LOCATION: VICTORIA  
SKATES: USD  
FRAMES: KIZER  
PHOTOGRAPHER: GOLDER





## CHAD TANNEHILL

TRICK: TRUE TOP PORN INSPIN  
TOP ACID TO FAKIE  
LOCATION: BAKERSFIELD  
SKATES: RAZORS  
FRAMES: GROUND CONTROL  
GEAR: INTUITION  
PHOTOGRAPHER: MACGOWAN



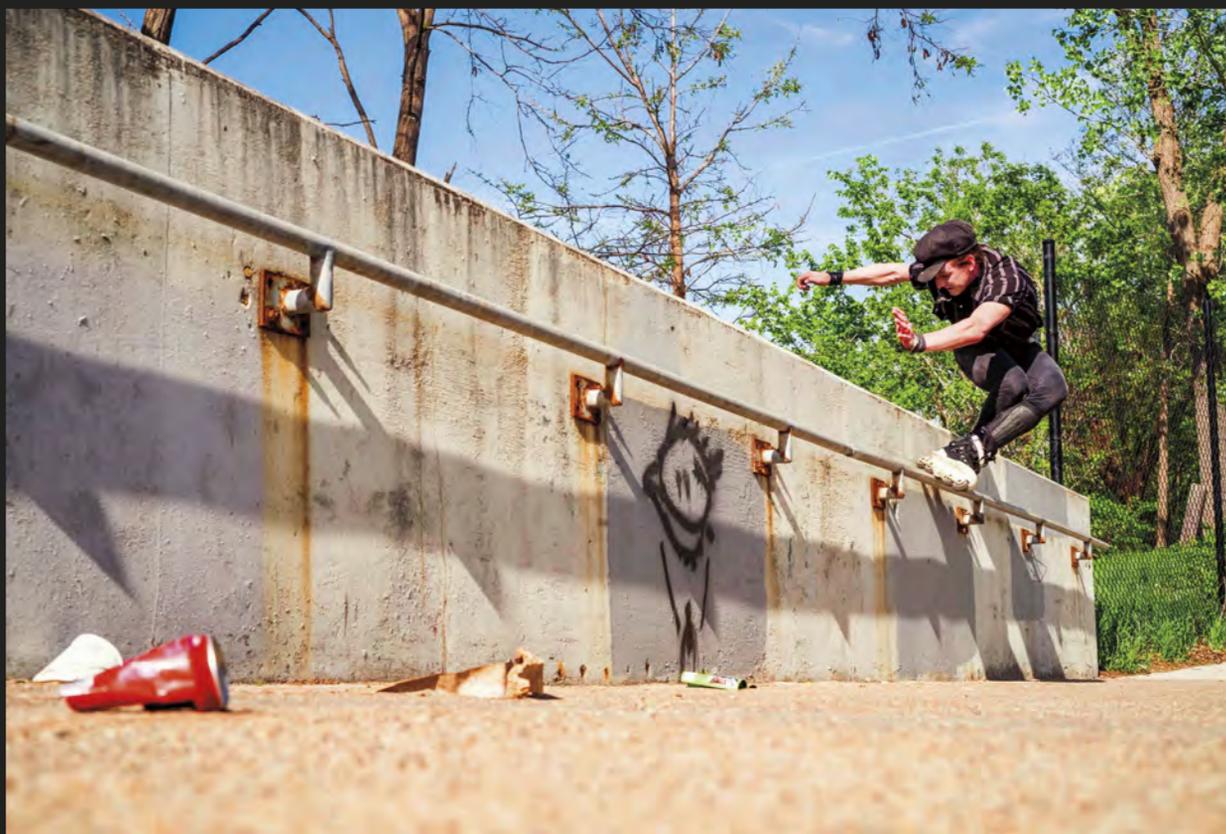
## CARLOS BERNAL

TRICK: SWEATSTANCE UP TRANSFER  
SWEATSTANCE TO FAKIE  
LOCATION: SAN DIEGO  
SKATES: USD  
FRAMES: KIZER  
WHEELS: UNDERCOVER  
PHOTOGRAPHER: MACGOWAN

## MATT OSANTOSKI

TRICK: AD FISH  
LOCATION: DETROIT  
SKATES: VALD  
FRAMES: CREATE  
WHEELS: HAUNTED  
PHOTOGRAPHER: WEIS





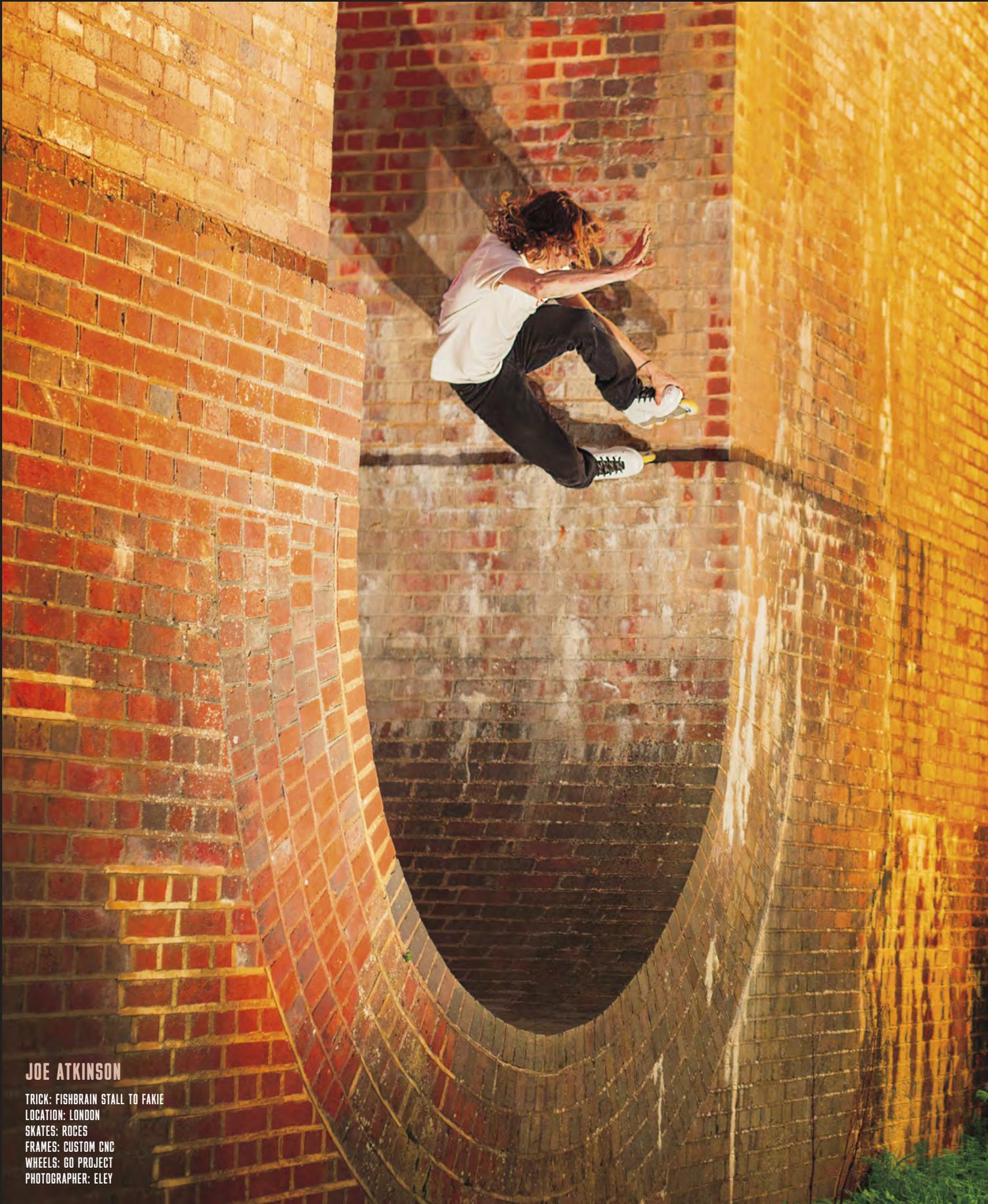
**CHRIS FARMER**

TRICK: AD NEGATIVE TOP ACID  
LOCATION: MINNEAPOLIS  
SKATES: USD  
FRAMES: USD  
WHEELS: DEAD  
PHOTOGRAPHER: LUFHOLM



**BRENDAN TIDDS**

TRICK: UNITY TO DARKSIDE BS UNITY  
LOCATION: OAKLAND  
SKATES: VALD  
FRAMES: GROUND CONTROL  
WHEELS: SIC URETHANE  
PHOTOGRAPHER: GARCIA



**JOE ATKINSON**

TRICK: FISHBRAIN STALL TO FAKIE  
LOCATION: LONDON  
SKATES: ROGES  
FRAMES: CUSTOM CNC  
WHEELS: GO PROJECT  
PHOTOGRAPHER: ELEY



# ONE

Volume 11 Issue 1  
published by Molotov Media, LLC.

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ONE rollerblading magazine is available at the most open-minded sporting goods outlets and newsstand agents in this and every other country on Earth. If you still have difficulty finding ONE or would like to carry it in your shop please email [jenn@oneblademag.com](mailto:jenn@oneblademag.com).

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ONE rollerblading magazine is published 1-2 times annually. Printed in South Korea.



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Photo: Josh Steinhauer

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