



Psycho Artists



Nicolas Caesar
www.scary-art.com

Nicolas once was a shy child living in the California suburbs. The angst of his surroundings, horror comics, KTVU's Creature Features were all channeled into drawings, sculptures, and daydreams.

Nicolas not only taught himself art but he managed himself as well. Starting in bondage clubs, Halloween parks, goth/industrial/rock clubs to showing regularly in Sacramento's 2nd Saturday Art walk. In his own words, "I'd show in a Taco Bell if they'd have me". He has had 80+ shows and sold over 1,000 pieces of work. "I've turned into the girl who can't say no", he adds. "The art world is a very different place that it was, you have to adapt or die".

Nicolas Caesar has no intention of slowing down. He's helped charities such as CODA, ASPCA, PBS, The United Way, My Sister's House as well as had his work showcased on Late Night with Conan O'Brien, Livewire, and the Bay Area's Creepy Kofy Movie time. He lives in the Bay Area with his wife, photographer Sarah Karas.



Christine Benjamin

<http://cbillustration.squarespace.com>

As a painter and illustrator I create my own universe that is populated with characters of my own design. My paintings usually start with a character from my sketch books and then evolve into several characters interacting in an environment and telling a story. The characters often take on a life of their own, especially when I start to paint them on canvas with acrylics. My creatures often represent human emotions, desires, and habits.

These creatures are now among the elements that I often use not only in my paintings, but also in my illustration and design. After graduating from San Jose State with a BS in Graphic Design and illustration I worked for various design studios and then started my own graphic design and illustration business. Some of the companies I have worked with include Yahoo!, AMD, Hasbro, Addison-Wesley and Apple. My illustrations and designs are also used for children's products such as posters, books and clothing.

Along with illustration I now focus on painting and have solo and group shows in the bay area including San Francisco, L.A. and San Diego. I also create commissioned paintings for people's homes and restaurants.



Christian Cinder
www.cinderarts.com

The subjects and themes of my work are centered on a happily sarcastic sense of science-fiction and horror. A perspective earned after innumerable hours of sci-fi and monster movies, novels, comics, games and music. My imagination runs at critical mass with it all - all the time.

I paint in acrylics and enamel and sculpt mainly out of polymer clay, card and styrene plastic. These are the mediums I've used in my first passion: scale model building and hobby games. I know how to handle everything else; I just prefer these mediums for their unpretentious nature, speed and versatility.

I see my work on the whole as a story and every painting and sculpture is a scene and character out of that story's world. I see art as an extension of story telling and an investment in our culture, our history and our selves. It should entertain, ask and explain. It should never be just some other element in an interior decorator's scheme. It should never be "furniture". It should connect people to thought and emotion; make them smile and teach them that it is really all very silly...Or warn them that it is better to leap with the freaks than dance with fools. I create happy art for a mad world.



Temple Terkildsen

<http://temple.artistportfolio.net>

Collective dreams, arcane symbolism, shadow work, alchemy of the soul, ancient rituals, reconnection of the human with the divine, the sacred experience of living consciously within each moment: these are the themes that drive me to paint, collage, and sculpt.

I graduated from San Jose State University in 1996, with a BA in General Studio Practice where I focused on glass and metal sculpture. My process has grown out of metal and glass three dimensional work, and I now work primarily in two dimensional collage and oil painting.

The summer of 2006, I became a certified Bob Ross oil painting instructor, and it significantly shifted how I approach painting and my tools.

Major accomplishments include having two glass pieces in the Red Cloud Heritage Center Museum and two collage pieces in the permanent collection of International Museum of Collage, Assemblage and Construction.

I am a member of the Scary-Art Collective, American Craft Council, and IUOMA.

Current influences include Nicolas Caesar (lifelong friend and collaborator), Joseph Cornell, Aleph Kali, Jill Stanford, subversivejewelry, David Best, Sofia Coppola, Lustmord, Wes Anderson...



Beth Robinson
www.strangedolls.net

What are these strange creatures?

These odd dolls are not something you will find in a toy store. They are hardly something you would buy for a child. They are misproportioned, strangely dressed, and they have a story and character uniquely their own. Each doll is entirely hand made using polymer clays, vintage fabrics, acrylic paint, and sometimes real human hair or teeth. Each piece is one of a kind.

Beth Robinson is a self-taught New England artist who has been making and selling hand made dolls since 2003. Although she found success with her oil paintings, her life was transformed when a friend introduced her to Japanese balljoint dolls. From that moment she realized that taking her characters off the canvas and turning them into actual little people would be the best way to express herself. She is now a prolific artist with collectors across the globe.

Robinson's dolls have been featured in the magazines: Art Doll Quarterly, SPIN, "Stuff," "Maxim," "Rue Morgue" in Canada, "Nokia CP" in Turkey, "RIP" in Russia, and "Nordic Vision" in Norway.

Her dolls have appeared in galleries throughout the USA as well as in England, The Netherlands and Germany. She is currently represented in the Netherlands by cabinodd.com, in Berlin, London & NYC by [Strychnin Gallery](#), and in Vermont by [The Lazy Pear Gallery](#)

"Now here's a doll May Canaday would make if she watched The Brothers Quay Collection while listening to Nightmare Picture Theatre and hadn't slept in a week. Weird, misshapen and tortured, these unusual handmade dolls are...definitely not for children, unless you want them to have nightmares." -Rue Morgue, 2005



Jared Konopitski
www.jareko.com

I am Jared the Konopitski, raised by a pack of wild pencils I learned how to draw at an early age. Sacramento is my home location, this is where I paint, sleep, paint, eat, paint, work, paint, play and paint. I have been in a lot of galleries and group shows. More than I can count (mainly because of my poor math skills). I have done several murals, been featured in books, magazines, and metal jewelery even. My art is pretty much the product of me wanting to see what something looks like, so I draw or paint it, and say "oh, so that's what that looks like". I hope to inspire and therefore create a world around me that will inspire me back. Enjoy!!!



Gus Finkelstein
www.gusfink.com

Gus Fink was born and raised in the cold mountains of Pennsylvania where he grew up always drawing characters and ideas; he was fascinated with comics, video games movies and toys.

At the age of 20, he opened up his own strange Monster shop where he sold all the cool things he loved and this was his first place to sell his original works of art. At the age of 22 he would go on to make a living selling in galleries and on the internet. He worked hard and started getting gallery shows across the U.S. and abroad.

Now Gus designs toys for his own company - Gus Fink Studios – in conjunction with Toy Company Rocket USA.

His future goals are to work in animation and film, and he currently is pitching ideas and writing up concepts for animated series for TV and film. You may see his toys at fine shops all over the country or visit www.BoogilyHeads.com.