



COVER BY Nik Dudukovic

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND? I was born in 1985 in Belgrade, Serbia. My backgrounds is Serbian and Bosnian. My family moved to Canada in 1991 and we lived in Hamilton, Ontario (a couple of hours outside of Toronto) where I attended the 1st grade. My school burned down the following summer so we moved to Toronto and I've been here ever since, for the most part.

I like a bunch of different works, but always gravitate towards turn-ofthe-century cartoons, illustrated books about nature, really clean detailed draftsmanship (anything from architectural drawings to comics and ink drawings) etc. I studied printmaking in art school (I'm technically graduating next spring because of some administrative screw-ups), but I went back to drawing before my thesis year began. My teachers were pretty cool about it, and didn't mind that I only had drawings to exhibit for the final show.

ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING? I'm currently working on a solo show for June 2009, as well as an installation for Nuit Blanche in October (which means that I'm in hermit-mode and quickly losing any social skills I may have for the next 11 months). I'm also working on the art direction for Let's Go To War (Last Gang Records) as well as a line of prints/shirts for Omy Gallery.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY? Maybe Swift's "Gulliver's Travels", especially the animated version from 1939 (I think). Also older stories with really elaborate narratives about Faust and Vlad the Impaler and cool stuff like that.

I don't have too many interesting stories about myself. Most of them are pretty embarrassing if anything.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE, WHERE WOULD IT BE? I'm

going to be living in the UK this time next year, after the June show. I'm really excited to live there for at least half a year. Afterwards I'm going to go to either Madrid, Hong Kong, or Japan for work. Those are definitely the 4 places I'd like to check out.

Thanks again for the interview Geert. The magazine looks fantastic, keep up the great work!

WWW.PILOT5.COM



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NIK DUDUKOVIC / D.U.R.A / EE VENN SOH / JON BURGERMAN / ALEX PRAGER / JEREMYVILLE / LOCHER'S / LIMOON LAND / FRIENDSWITHYOU / JULIE WEST / EBOY / NATHAN JUREVICIUS / MCBESS





















My name is Jon Burgerman. I make pictures, drawings and salads. I am a man of average averageness, with the average amount of fingers and toes. I have two eyes for peeping with and a nose for sniffling out fun adventures.



WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND? I studied Fine Art in the city of Nottingham. My influences are many, at the moment I'm enjoying the music of Goldie, Chet Baker and 8bit Betty. Ilike the art of old men with the minds of children. I enjoy colourful images, clothing and cakes. We should all enjoy the excitingness of colourful things.



ARE YOUR WORKING ON SOMETHING?

Ihave anew book coming out in September called 'Pens are my Friends'. It features a lot of my work from the last seven years. It's a big book. If you dropped it on your foot it might hurt. Also in September I have a collection of toys coming out made by Kid Robot. The toys are called The Heroes of Burgertown. There are about 14 or so characters to collect in the series.



WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

At the moment my favourite tale is The Swimmer with Burt Lancaster in it. It's an amazing film, I wish I could live inside of it.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?

I'd like to live in a different country each month for the next year, starting in 2009. I'd need people in each country to look after me, take me for walks and make sure I'm well fed. If you'd like to help me with this project please get in touch via my website.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU LIKE TO SHARE?

I have nothing to share, I've already given all the good stuff away... oh, I do have some spare stickers knocking around...







ALEX PRAGER

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NOLI ABBI MOLI ABBI





WHO ARE YOU?

My name is Alex Prager. I'm a photographer. I grew up in Los Angeles, but I'm currently living in London. I dye my hair blonde, and I look more like my mom than my dad. My grandfather was a photographer, but I didn't find that out until I had already bought my first professional camera.

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

Heft school when I was 14 never to return. My influences are other's photography, paintings, movies, life. I took up photography when I was just turning 21, after seeing a William Eggleston exhibit at the Getty Center.

ARE WORKING ON SOMETHING?

My next show will be in New York in the Fall of 2009.. I am most likely going to release first book of pictures with that show (fingers crossed).

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

The Wizard of Oz.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?

I believe in the saying "home is where the heart is", so if that's true, then right now my home is in London, but a piece of me will always be calling me back to Los Angeles.

Thank you for including me :) xo





WWW.ALEXPRAGER.COM



JEREMYVILLE.COM



WHO ARE YOU?

I'm Jeremyville. I grew up in Wonderland Avenue Tamarama, which is just on a hill above Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia. I skated as a kid, hung out at the beach, never went to art school. At the age of 18 l painted some skatedecks and surfboards, screenprinted some tees, began drawing editorial cartoons at the Sydney Morning Herald, then in 2004 I wrote the first book in the world on designer toys called Vinyl Will Kill, interviewing people like Kinsey, Fafi, Kidrobot, Colette, Kozik, Baseman, Biskup, STRANGEco, Bill McMullen. Later I collabed with people like Beck, Geoff McFetridge, Miss Van, Baseman and Biskup on my sketchel custom bag project, and just started getting commissions from companies like Rossignol, 55 DSL, 2K, Upper Playground, Zoo York, and getting my art in mags like Vapors, Faesthetic, Swindle. Guess it just grew from there.







WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

I didn't go to art school, I have an architecture degree from Sydney Uni, and began drawing cartoons at the Sydney Morning Herald at the age of 19. That was my first real art job, and I haven't worked in any other field, I've just always made a living from drawing and art. I think you have to throw yourself into the deep end, and find a way to survive.

Since I've always worked for myself, the motivation at the age of 18 that got me out of bed each day, was being able to keep a roof over my head, and to buy my next meal. Nowadays the motivation is more about doing really innovative projects, and book projects such as my first 2 books Vinyl Will Kill, and Jeremyville Sessions, and collabs with people like Beck, Geoff McFetridge, Miss Van, and Converse. My influences are: The Fluxus movement of the 60's. The very early 80's in New York. But more and more, I believe in being my own influence, that is, making all the ideas in my head come true. My dreams and aspirations are the biggest influence on me these days.

My motivation comes from getting up every day and having a full intray of cool projects to complete. I don't do any jobs I don't really, really enjoy.









ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING?

A new toy of mine is coming out through Kidrobot in Fall 08, plus the Rossignol snowboards I designed are out now, they came out sweet. I've just done some graphics for Upper Playground, and some for Zoo York, plus some stuff with Super Rad Toys in LA, a Dr Seuss project, and the Darth Vader helmet I painted is still touring with the Vader Show, curated by Dov Kelemer in LA. I also have 6 new designs for 2K t-shirts coming out.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

200 ruginones

An unknown thing about me: I've never driven a car in my life. I have always lived in the inner city, so I guess I've never really had to have a car, like a lot of New Yorkers I guess, which is maybe why I feel so at home there. I've ridden bicycles since I was a kid, that's my mode of transport. I prefer the energy of bicycles and skateboards way over cars.

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from the author of Vinyl Will Kill !





IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE? Jeremyville





WHO ARE YOU?

Hi, my name is NICOLE LOCHER I live in Paris, France and I am a fashion designer.

I grew up in the swiss mountains in a village with about 2000 people living there and everybody new everybody's name and what kind of color their bed sheets were.

My label is a small Parisian fashion label for the woman that have come to terms with the little dirty pervert that resides within her. The deviant statements are beautifully embroidered with sweet delicate flowers on fine cotton tops in subtle colors. You should be very curious about the woman behind the LOCHER'S fashion line......

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

Since I worked for a long time as a passionate graphic designer I always wanted to combine this skill with my other great interest which is fashion and since I am a big perv (and tired of looking like a "a goody two shoes") I didn't had to think far to create my shirts and everything around it. The ideas came quite naturally to me. I just wanted to bring back the much needed self irony to this world which seems to have been forgotten for quite a long time ago. I like the idea of girls putting on one of my tops and to sort of "slip into a role" and act it out a little...... My inspiration comes in so many forms that its impossible to say. I love watching people. Love watching women when they sit in cafes with their friends talking "shit" and having a good time.



I wish I could be as talented with my stitching hands as my grandma.....







ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING ? You will just have to wait and see. I like to surpised people.....

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY? I love the science fiction film "THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF THE SHRINKING MAN" and TARANTULA and all the good old MISS MARPLE stories.....

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE? My life here in Paris is certainly idyllic and I do count myself very lucky living here in this very inspirational place and having the luxury of sleeping in every day and have the time to drink my tea every morning before starting work.....My heart is here and there is nowhere else I could see myself living except maybe New York good I love New York too.....damn

WWW.LOCHERS.COM





Limoon

illustrator and I live in the south of France in Marseille.

WWW.LIMOONLAND.COM

My artist name is Limoon (Nadia D.), I'm an

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

I have always been fascinated by visual concepts and I'm entirely autodidact. I started taking pictures around the age of 17 to then get a job in a audio-visual company. My curiosity, slowly but surely brought my to graphic design and illustration. Today I focus all my time and efforts on illustration for children. I started working graphic design in a multimedia agency called GAFMEDIA, I love the creations made by this studio and working with them, in such a great atmosphere is very inspiring. In parallel, illustration slowly became the logical choice for me, I created some posters that are, for the most part, sold online and now I love making illustrations for different domains such as stationary and decoration.

Concerning illustrators, I really like the universe of Yoshimoto Nara, Shinzi Katoh, Gary Baseman, Mary Blair and Benjamin Lacombe among others.

Since 2005 my dream is becoming reality, I sometimes still need to pinch myself to make sure everything is for real ;) and I'm so happy, after all to be able to live from your passion is something a lot of people dream of, so I make sure to enjoy every second of it.

ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW?

These past few months I've been very productive, I've been contacted by an editor called "La Marelle en Papier", and there again it's a dream come true since I'm a big fan of the products this editor makes, they're specialized in stationary, post cards and decoration. This is a little scoop, I haven't posted anything about it on my blog and website yet ;)

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

With no hesitation, a story/movie that I love is "The Wizard of Oz" directed by Victor Fleming with judy Garland and of course the song "Over the Rainbow". There's a kind of magic in this story that i find no where else...





IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?

I would say anywhere as long as I have the people I care about close to me. But it's true I'd like to leave France in the future, where is to be determined (maybe Montreal, Canada). I have to admit it's not a good time to live in France right now... perhaps things will be better in about 4 years from now... (laughs)

ANYTHING ELSE YOU LIKE TO SHARE?

Well first of all I'd like to thank you for this interview... it's rare that I talk about myself, not to be mysterious it's just that I find it quite hard when it comes to talk about me. Thanks for this little exercise, and who knows I might even end-up to like doing this. (laughs)


FriendsWithyou.com



WHO ARE YOU?

Sam Borkson and Arturo Sandoval III. we are the FriendsWithYou.

FriendsWithYou (FWY) was founded in 2002 by Miami based artists Sam Borkson and Arturo Sandoval III. Since its conception, FWY has developed into a fully established multidisciplinary creative studio with the ability to create everything from initial strategies and concepts, to products and packaging, pos, print elements, full motion media (i.e. live-action, animation, stop-motion, etc.), and events. As a one stop shop for clients and creatives alike, FWY continues to produce innovative, award-winning works time and time again

FWY is a culturally spreading a happy virus that is infecting all facets of modern living, touching many people's lives in the process. From entertainment, fine art galleries and major art happenings, to playgrounds, toys and interactive art products, FriendsWIthYou offers a positive message that is accessible people form every demographic as it promotes its own message of Magic, Luck, and Friendship.



WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

Studied life and adventure. Our influence is the world, the future, all the worlds religions and the human heart. It all started at the beginning of our lives and our collective experiences have led us hear on this sacred journey. ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW? Yes like one million things. Huge commercials, art, art products, licensing deals, and making magic come to life.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

Hmm that is a really tough one cuz there is so many great ones out there. We really love everything put our form tezuka and miyazaki. They are the grandest story tellers of our life.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?

Yes we have many favorite places. Tokyo, Buenos Aires, New York, and many more to be discovered. But Miami is a wonderful home for right now.



ANYTHING ELSE YOU LIKE TO SHARE?

We are happy to spread magic luck and friendship of the entire world! We are FriendsWithYou.



Julie West My name is Julie West. I draw pictures and make things.

WWW.JULIEWEST.COM











WHAT IS YOUR **BACKGROUND?**

I studied at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design where I received a BFA in illustration. However, I did not immediately go into illustration - I went on to do a number of different things including working at Harley Davidson and doing web design. It took me a number of years before I decided that illustration was what I actually wanted to do (professionally at least.) I am glad that I did because I'm not sure I could see myself doing anything else at this point.

ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW?

I have been working on my own toy with Strangeco, as well as having two solo shows coming up: one at Myplasticheart in NYC and one at Bluebottle art gallery in Seattle. Lots of shows coming up!



WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY?

A story my husband told me when we first met about a mouse that lives in a wardrobe.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?

I am not 100% sure I know the answer to that yet, need to visit more places first :)













WHO ARE YOU? EbOY is Steffen Sauerteig, Svend Smital and Kai Vermehr. We create reusable pixel objects and take them to build complex and extensible artwork. And we make toys. Steffen and Svend grew up in Eastern Berlin and Kai grew up in Venezuela, Guatemala and Germany.

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND? We all studied graphic design at German artschools. eBoy was founded in 1997 in Berlin.







ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW?

Our new eBoy toy Blockbob is due later this year. We are working on a new poster, on our eCity book and on many more small projects.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY? Snowcrash, Yip Yips meet the telephone, ...!

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE? In the cloud, on a boat ... but home sweet home is the best.

Nathan Jurevicius



WWW.SCARYGIRL.COM



WHO ARE YOU?

My name is Nathan Jurevicius and I'm an Australian artist working with various companies and galleries around the world. Possibly my most notable project to date is the Scarygirl universe which first began a number of years ago as a designer toy line and online comic. I'm now living in Toronto, Canada.

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

Did a degree in design and illustration from the University of South Australia. I'm influenced by a lot of the old school modern artists like Miro and Picasso as well as sculpture and architecture. My father is a potter/ painter and was a big influence on me getting into a similar career...i didn't really know anything else.

ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW?

Yes, lots of stuff coming up in the Scarygirl universe including a graphic novel and big online game... plus we are writing the film version of her life/journey.







WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY? I've always loved James and Giant Peach....



IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE? Australia is such a beautiful place but if I had to choose somewhere else I'd maybe live in Italy or Spain.... I do love Paris as well (does that sound too cliche?)



mcbess



WHO ARE YOU? My name is Matthieu Bessudo, but I'm also known as mcbess. I'm a illustrator, but I do 3D animation for living. I draw a lot and play music a lot. I eat a lot... I'm french but I live in London and I don't know how to speak about myself.

WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND? I studied 3D animation at Supinfocom in France for four years. I'm influenced by guys like Kid acne, Dave cooper, Chris ware, and old cartoons like Isadore Friz Freleng's, Grim Natwick's and the Merrie melodies. It all started when I was in school, I'm not really interested into technical stuff so I really got into the graphical side of things, illustrations is great because it's quick unlike 3D.

ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING NOW? I'm working on a series of big black and cream canvas (A1 and bigger), I want to have more physical things than computer files. And on the side I'm working on a short movie, I'm doing the pre-production right now. I don't think any of this is really exclusice, sorry :). Oh I'm trying put together 10 songs, so I can make my first album I guess that's kind of exclusive, ahahah.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STORY? That's a difficult one, there's way to much choices. I really like that story about this robot that comes back from the future to protect Sarah Connor son from another robot that can turn himself into liquid. Oh and quite like that old tale about this guy who's friend with a crazy scientist that got a car who can travel in the future so he can have really cool sneakers and skateboards.







IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE? Ahah, hum, at my place with my guitars and my pencils. I guess the perfect place would be some kind of a big loft, with lots of music instruments and lots of place to do big big drawings, and in the center of a big city like London, or New York. I like big cities, it gives a lot of inspiration.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU LIKE TO SHARE? Hum, if you read all this, well thanks for your interest, it took me like 8 hours to answer those questions so actually the least you can do is read it you bellends. Cheers, your truly, Matthieu Bessudo.







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