

THE UK'S BEST SELLING TATTOO MAGAZINE



Tattoo Magazine

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# SKINDEEP

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## Skin Shows

The 1st Tattoo Boat Show, Finland.  
Cardiff, Wales.  
Vianden, Luxembourg.

## Artist Interview

Dan Trocchio from Saved Tatoo, New York.

## Profiles

Valerie Baldozier, a 'dainty' tattoo collector.

## Band Interview

Talking 'tunes and' tatts with The Plight.

**Elayne Angel**  
'Piercing Pioneer'

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# London Calling...

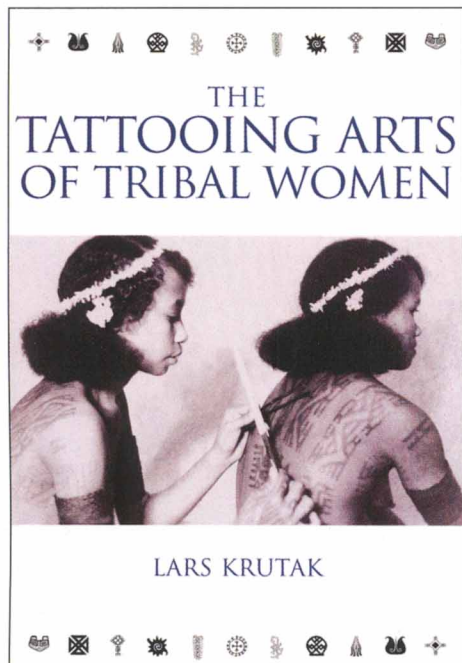
Part one of the 3rd London International Tattoo convention

**REGULARS:** Fall Out 'News & Reviews' | Inking 'Letters' | Tattoo Tour 'Conventions, Personals, Jobs, For Sale'

# BOOK REVIEWS

## THE TATTOOING ARTS OF TRIBAL WOMEN

By Lars Krutak



As a trained cultural anthropologist, Lars has spent the past ten years travelling the globe in search of indigenous tattoo practices. This is his masterwork, documenting the amazing women who have applied tattoos to members of their respective tribes in traditions stretching back thousands of years. The book is beautifully detailed and contains over 250 images (both black & white and colour), many of which coming from Lars' own personal collection. The pages are filled with comprehensive information about each tribe's spiritual beliefs and how they believed tattooing affected every aspect of their life.

The people represented range from the Chukchi in the far-flung corner of North East Russia to the heavily adorned Peruvian Chimú. The detailed nature of the research Lars presents is astounding, and he delves as deep into the religious significance of the tattoos as he does the actual process. He goes to great lengths to ensure that ethnic terms are utilised and explained, and manages to maintain a good flow to his writing without getting too bogged down with the particulars.

The book is also much more than a celebration of the women who were held in such high regard by their respective societies; it's a poignant reminder of how colonisation and Western influences have modernised and tarnished the customs of these people who were once known so ignorantly as 'savages'. It does become (albeit unintentionally) depressing in parts when you realise how much damage the West has caused to such vibrant cultures, but the amazing folklore and artwork on display soon dispel any gloom.

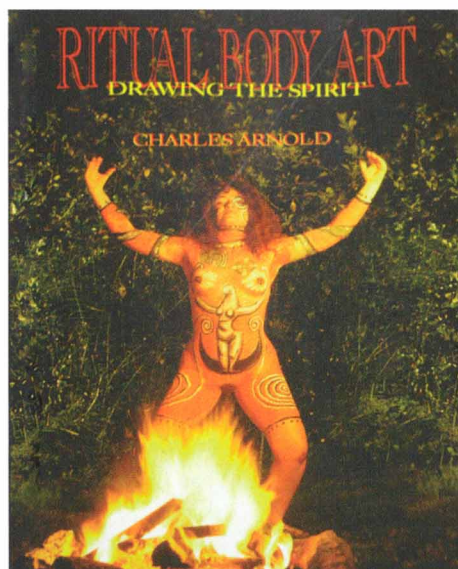
Well-written and wonderfully detailed, this is an

absolute must for anyone seeking knowledge of the real roots of ethnic tattooing practices.

**The Tattooing Arts of Tribal Women** is published by Bennett & Bloom priced at £24.99 available from [www.bennettandbloom.com/tattooingarts.htm](http://www.bennettandbloom.com/tattooingarts.htm) or through all good bookshops (ISBN 9781898948759). A hardback edition is also for sale at £45.00 (ISBN 9781898948742). For readers in the USA, the only outlet is directly through Lars' own site [www.larskrutak.com](http://www.larskrutak.com) from which the paperback edition can be ordered.

## RITUAL BODY ART: DRAWING THE SPIRIT

By Charles Arnold



Charles Arnold is a Wiccan priest and has spent 20 years investigating the use of body art as a form of "magic" or empowerment. He has looked back and drawn on information and reference found in archaeological evidence and even uses biblical references.

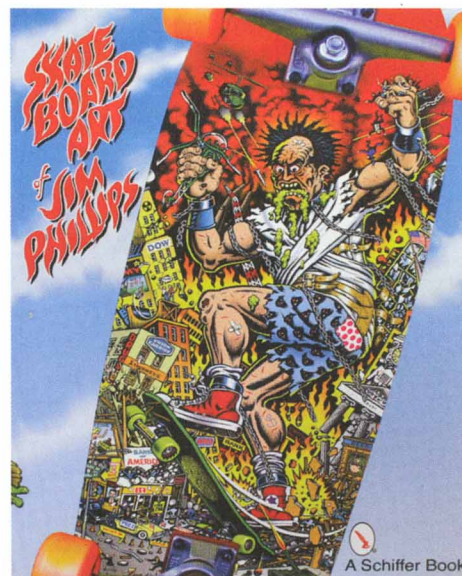
This book considers why historically we, as a species, have decorated our bodies for ritual purposes and also explores why in today's modern world some of those reasons are as strong as ever. He also provides details of the meanings of colours in body art, scents, as well as various sources of symbology and several alphabets (including my favourite Ogham script). He then goes on to discuss and describe how these symbols, masks and magic can be used.

How does this relate to tattooing and why is this book appearing here? Tattooing is a form of body art, although more permanent than the majority of the examples in this book. It does make you question your own motivations for getting tattoos, not in a popular TV type of way but in a "rites of passage" sort of way. Do we have rituals we go through when preparing to go and get a tattoo? Or as per popular TV are you marking a life event (childbirth, death, victory).

This book may not be to everyone's liking. I found it an interesting read (and it is a read, as there are only a few pictures) and did make me think about my own spirituality. If you are looking for reading material outside of your normal tattoo library this one is well worth the time and effort.

Available from Robert Hale Ltd, 01892 837171. [borders@combook.co.uk](mailto:borders@combook.co.uk). £9.99

## SKATE BOARD ART OF JIM PHILLIPS



You do not have to be a skater boy or girl to appreciate Jim Phillips' work. For those of you who are not familiar with Jim's work he is best known for his rock posters and skateboard art. Those of you with no skating background will be surprised at how many of these images and graphics you recognise.

This is a big bright book and on initial glance you could be fooled into thinking that this book is just graphics and pictures but you would be wrong. This book traces the roots of skateboarding and 50 years of the authors involvement in it's evolution. The book gives an insight into the creative process and Phillips studios. There is also commentary from studio artists as they consider the graphic assignments they have had and their relationships with Jim Phillips and the studio.



For example in 2006 a young artist, Matt French, worked with Jim Phillips on several projects and the story is told from both sides. Jim explaining how he must have come across as "seeming crusty and disgusted with the industry" and Matt expressing how scary it was approaching someone he held in such high regard. But it does contain shed loads of graphics and pictures as well! Cartoon strips, adverts, and catalogue pages are there among the fantastic decks. Also included are many photographs of the "team" at play...oh yes and at work as well. This is a great read and a great source for skater orientated inspiration. A real must have for those of you into skateboarding and or pop art. The book is primarily about the art and artist but does contain some interesting facts about decks and their evolution.

The book is available from Bushwood Books Ltd, 6 Marksbury Ave, Kew Gardens, Surrey. TW9 4JF. Tel: 020 8392 8585 or from website [www.bushwoodbooks.co.uk](http://www.bushwoodbooks.co.uk). The price is £24.95 and P&P free within the UK. ISBN 978-0-7643-2807-7