

WIN A FLUX!

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ISSUE.11 TATTOO TIMES™

FROM THE TATTOO TIMES TEAM,

Let's keep it fresh through a classic medium that everyone loves: print.

Each page of Tattoo Times that you flip through is an exciting experience; whether it's one of your favorite artists passing along their **expert tips**, an update on the **newest and most advanced** products or the rush from the chance to **be featured** alongside top professionals. (see page 10)

You're passionate about staying on the pulse of trends, developing your art and profession.

Tattoo Times will be proud to be a part of your journey.

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Cover Photo: Michela Bottin - Ackerman by Alberto Moschini @albertomoschini



It's not every day that tattoo artists are called "heroes."

Look out for a CNN Heroes feature on Gallery X Art Collective! For free, two tattoo shops are making headway on a huge database of people who have let go of hate or were victims of sex trafficking and need to cover a distressing tattoo. Opportunity: Billy White, owner of Red Rose tattoo shop in Ohio, who has been "covering the hate" for years, and Gallery X Art Collective still have guest spots available for talent.

Answer the call and join #CoverTheHate ! Reach out at coverthehate@gmail.com

TATTOO ARTISTS TAKE ON A GOLIATH DURING COVID

Three tattoo shop owners in LA sued California governor, Gavin Newsom in September for damages and the right to reopen. They cite the first amendment as well as objections to the fact that while malls, barber shops and beauty salons with comparatively weaker hygiene standards were allowed to open, tattoo shops were arbitrarily banned from opening. Don't the state requirements of Blood Borne Pathogens certification and much stricter sanitation standards by default make tattoo parlors more hygienic than many places that were already open? The plaintiffs have received word that the state will not fight the lawsuit and the state announced tattoo shops can open under stricter social distancing guidelines. Congrats, California artists!



#LONGLIVETATTOOING JAPAN LEGALIZES TATTOOING

In a pivotal case, Japan's Supreme Court took unusual care to explain why they ruled against previous norms and concluded that tattoo artists do not need a medical license. Weeks later, we asked Brazilian-born **Wellington Soares (aka Yoshi)**, who has been in Japan since March 2016, how the tattoo community is reacting.

No longer regulated by a medical governmental agency, a **tattoo artist association** was quickly organized to maintain client safety and trust in the tattoo industry through certifications and sanitation standards.

Yoshi notes that while "prejudices are far from being overcome," the tides are slowly changing. There is a loved tradition of artistic tattooing and that is carried on by artists, such as Sacred Cartel in-house artist, Akashi.

"In my studio I have three Japanese apprentices: Genta, Aru and Irie. All young, in their 20s, and tattooing with their family's consent. This is a positive sign because not long ago it was difficult for any family to accept that their child pursue a career as a tattoo artist." Yoshi remarks.



TATTOO TIPS

@TattoosByLaineyBee

Become intimately familiar with color mixing and color theory. What really helped me was: using primary colors (red, yellow, blue, black and white) and trying to create a realistic image based on a photo of an object.

@mRoyTattooArt

Aftercare was a eureka moment. I would hang out at a convention and see some of my heroes' healed work and scratch my head thinking: "how the hell did they get that smoothness, saturation and crispness?" I then happened to start using a particular brand of tattoo bandage films on my clients in my aftercare routine and when the first piece came back healed - there was the answer. "Ohhhhh that's how they get those results!" Simple and fast healing.

@MichelaBottin.Ackerman

My path develops slowly every day but a friend of mine recently taught me how to saturate color using: a powerful machine, magnum with a long needle depth and with the machine at a steep slant! It was a real blast!!!! So easy and so efficient.

@LukeCormierTattoo

Everything changed for me when I stopped running a tattoo shop and started running a business. I took cues from dentists and lawyers. How would you feel if your attorney or dentist posted something extreme, or cursed and played heavy metal while you were consulting with them?

@Javi_TattooedTheory

Here's what I wish I knew 15 years ago. Tip #4. Don't be afraid to try new techniques. Even if the advice comes from someone that has been tattooing for less time than you, try it. You may be surprised how useful a little piece of advice can be!



Read the rest of the master tips on the **FK Irons blog!**

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TATTOOER OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 2001.

MICHELLE BOTTIN





Name: Michela Bottin-Ackerman

Age: 31

Birthplace: Angera, Italy

Do you have a nickname? I don't :)

How long have you been tattooing?

I've been tattooing for 7 years.

You recently moved to the US. Why did you decide to make that move?

I've moved to the states last November 2018, I had been planning the thing for more than one year, I felt like I was a little bit stuck in Europe, chained to the big amount of requests and appointments that I had, which is a good thing, of course, but at the same time I couldn't find the time to brainstorm, evolve or just live a personal life anymore. I didn't know how to move on from that situation, I was grateful and stressed at the same time that's why when Lou offered me the chance to come here I jump into it.

Current Shop: Soho Ink

To book an appointment with Michela, email: appointments@soho.ink

What is your favorite FK Irons machine and why?

The Flux. Definitely. I've had it since July and I love it because the Flux is consistent in whatever it does. I use it constantly, every single day for every tattoo and I never had a hiccup. The battery has never died on me, even just using the one battery.

You can feel when a machine gets tired. My other machines, because I used them so much, they got tired and slower.

How long have you been using FK Irons machines?

It's been almost 4 years.

What type of artwork inspires you?

Definitely anime and manga style. Most of the time if I need inspiration I read mangas and ideas drop in my brain.

What do you look for when choosing good inks?

Good consistency: not too pasty, not watery and that it stays true through time. I've learned that some colors are harder for me to use than others. Some nuances turn brownish faster in the sun. From the beginning, World Famous Inks were really good; they stay bright and rich and don't turn patchy. Their consistency is easy to handle and whip while tattooing.

What is your current favorite tattoo piece that you have gotten done?

On me? I'm almost all black but I have a Rem tattoo from Death Note that I love, as she dies to protect another character and Mamoru from Sailor Moon, also because of the true love romance behind the characters.

Favorite band? Oasis

Now that conventions are cancelled, what are you working on?

Tattooing! Just pushing to get better and better. Before the quarantine, I plateaued a bit because I was tired. I took learning and working on my art for granted. Quarantine gave me time to reflect.

Do you have any pets? Two kitties that mean everything to me.

Favorite movie? Sailor Moon even if it's not a movie? Otherwise, I would say one of the Avengers. I love them all and can't wait to see the others.

Be sure to check out Michela's Flux review video, now on the FK Irons YouTube channel

YouTube





E-Give™

What if you could give "give" to your direct drive machine?

The future is here and the impossible is now possible with an innovative push from FK Irons. Using the Hover touchless power supply, you can electronically get give out of your non-give machine.

What you'll need to use E-Give

1. Bluetooth-enabled Hover touchless power
2. RCA cable
3. Your favorite machine

"The way E-Give works is actually by dynamically controlling the amount of current that is being drawn by the power supply. We are allowing the skin to be the 'give'. The combination of reducing the speed of the motor and dropping the torque at the same time is what's going to give you that 'give' effect," explains FK Irons founder, Gaston Siciliano in the YouTube E-Give reveal video.

Expect another game-changer with the Darklab mobile app. You'll be able to add flexibility to your machine and take advantage of features that will help you organize your business for growth.



Check out the video for screencasts of the much anticipated Darklab app. Javi demonstrates E-Give using the non-give Direkt2 crossover tattoo machine.



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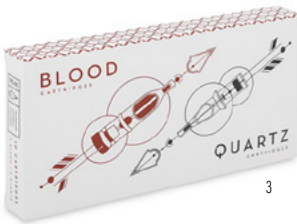


1. Wireless Spektra Flux Chromium, \$999.95
| fkirons.com

2. A Pound of Flesh Arm w/ Stand, \$179.98
| painfulpleasures.com

3. Blood Cartridge Needles 20 pk, \$20
| peakneedles.com

4. Recovery Tattoo Lotion 3 oz, \$7.50
| recoveryaftercare.com



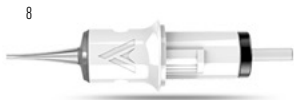
5. World Famous Primary Ink Color Set #1, \$111
| ultimatetattoosupply.com

6. Firm Fluid Solidifier 8 oz, \$14.95
| darklab.com



7. World Famous Ink Blackout 8 oz, \$27.50
| ultimatetattoosupply.com

8. Vertex Nano PMU Needles 20 pk, \$80
| microbeau.com



9. Evenflo Pinker 1/2 oz, \$28
| microbeau.com



10. Ink Cap Rings 100 pcs, \$29.95
| darklab.com



11. Top Marks SMP Aftercare 50 mL, \$31.95
| darklab.com



12. Lust Lip Collection \$225
| ultimatetattoosupply.com



13. Red Bottom Bellar \$1,499.95
| microbeau.com

Survey

Enter to WIN a FLUX!



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Answer the survey... and you're entered to win!

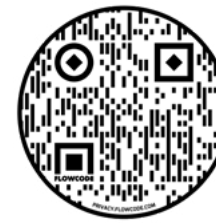
Always striving for better, this tattoo industry survey will help us answer your needs. As a thank you for your input, we're offering a chance to win a Flux or Flux S - your choice!

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations to Kuro Sumi inks on their upcoming 20th anniversary. They say the secret to their longevity and success is twofold: firstly, embracing their roots and, secondly, committing to offering bold, reliable and pure inks. Kuro Sumi's original formula is based on an authentic formula in Japan.



Look out for their brand new anniversary sets! Great Wall and Marble Stone Tone, available at UltimateTattooSupply.com



ARTISTS AROUND THE WORLD, CHOOSE KURO SUMI INK



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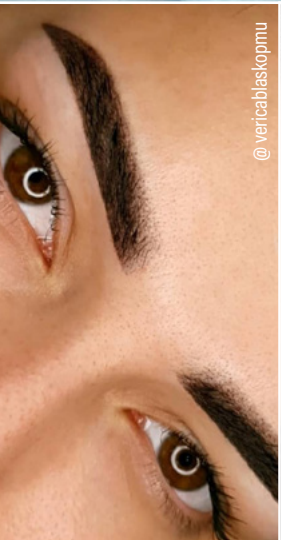
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THE LIFE OF PERMANENT MAKEUP ARTISTS

Considering offering more services? Learn more about the permanent makeup industry from artists who have made major progress when they decided to specialize. Because of the nature of facial skin, cosmetic tattooing necessitates special machines, needles and pigments... the rest is talent and dedicating the time.



GET THEIR FULL STORIES AND ADVICE ON MICROBEAU'S BLOG!

FORMER CAREER

Ekaterina Dvoeriadkina: Government Customs

Henna Hamidi: Studying to be a Nurse

Jeni Hart: Nurse, Graphic Design and e-Commerce

Savannah Messenger: Hair stylist specializing in color

Shay Danielle: Flight attendant

WHY DID YOU GET INTO PMU?

Ekaterina Dvoeriadkina: Political situation forced a career change and PMU went from "hobby" to "full-time."

Henna Hamidi: It was love at first sight!

Savannah Messenger: Got hooked instantly when I saw the beautiful PMU results.

Shay Danielle: Wanted to fulfill my artistic need and suddenly had so much work.

THE UNEXPECTED

Ekaterina Dvoeriadkina: The number of low quality, unprofessional training courses.

Shay Danielle: Lifelong bonds with other artists. I have PMU friends all around the world.

TOP ADVICE:

Unanimously, all Microbeau Elite artists advise: learn, put your heart into it and work hard! Jeni Hart specifies that you shouldn't try to learn all procedures at once. Instead, she suggests to start with brows before learning lips and liner and *"Choose a trainer that cares more about you."* Shay Danielle offers some encouraging words for those whose current jobs are unfulfilling: *"Take the leap. Life is so short."*



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When Lulu met Gaston Siciliano, designer and a major manufacturer of tattoo machines used by top artists all over the world, it was Kismet! They met and "it's just been 'us' ever since."

As a permanent makeup artist already training under world-class professionals, it followed that she would want to try her styles using her husband's products – the renowned and much coveted FK Irons tattoo machines.

Impressed with the quality, consistency and strength of the Spektra Edge body tattoo machine, she knew that the manufacturer was more than capable of

adapting machines to the delicate skin of the facial area.

Microbeau International was then founded to cater to permanent makeup artists. The game-changing, super-versatile Xion S machine was born and later the slim and light Bellar. And this year, once again, FK Irons' technology is revolutionizing the cosmetic tattooing industry.

Microbeau's **Flux S**, released in 2020, is the first **Bluetooth-enabled** machine on the PMU market. Wireless, lightweight, no-fuss and with a user-friendly, color-coordinated voltage display, it has become the machine of choice for many PMU technicians.

Q: How did you arrive at the specifications for the cordless Flux S?

Lulu Siciliano: I tested at least a dozen Flux S prototypes and the 3mm stroke was just perfect to work on clients with different types of skin and for versatile techniques. We created it for any skin type.

Q: What is the Flux S specialized for?

LS: For all procedures! I know that a lot of European artists love a long stroke for refined, precise work, such as lip contour or eyeliner tips. If the machine has a big cam, it's stronger, allowing you to work on a variety of skin types that might be more challenging.

This is especially true for lip color correction, a procedure I do every day. We need extremely well-crafted needles and a powerful, consistent machine that will implant the pigment quickly, yet not traumatize the skin.

A machine with a weak motor will scratch the skin, without implanting the pigment. This is especially damaging to dark lips because it will cause hyperpigmentation.

At Microbeau we test endlessly until we have a useful product that we are proud to offer.





THE REVOLUTION IS HERE



Microbeau International's most exciting development, the wireless Flux S, is a marvel of engineering that is liberating permanent makeup artists. The beauty is in the removable, wireless battery pack and Bluetooth connectivity – the first in the industry. Extend the capabilities of your Flux S through firmware updates.

- Charges in 2 hours with standard USB-C cable
- Longest lasting battery on the market (up to 10 hours)
- Lightweight, only 6 ounces
- Cartridge compatible
- Bluetooth connectivity, app-controllable
- Easily change the battery with a twist
- User-friendly voltage control

AMBER HARRISON, OWNER OF BROW ENVY

"It's all I've been using. I've tried the other wireless machines and they're not worth it. Cleanup is easier... it's just cleaner... It doesn't slow down as the day goes on. It's got a really long battery life... You need a quality machine. The Flux S will pay for itself!"

SMP GURU, MATT IULO

"The Flux S is by far my favorite machine in 10 years of doing scalp pigmentation - no joke! Absolutely love it, as do all of my students. The needle hit has been very smooth and consistent. There's not a lot of vibration or recoil. I also love the battery. It comes out easily... The weight is distributed through the machine. Loving it!"

SPANISH ARTIST SPECIALIZED IN HAIR STROKES, LUCÍA H. DÍEZ

"The weight is strategically placed... add the fact that there is no cord and it's the perfect combination so that your stroke doesn't look interrupted... my strokes are more stable and continuous... I like how silent it is. In sum: it's silent, the ergonomic design is perfect, it gives you incredible movement. I'm happy."

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