

POWER FOR ALL

OBSIDIAN

POWER WITH BLING

HOVER

BACK TO THE FUTURE

SQUID INK CASTING CALL TATTOO ON THE OCEAN





IT'S TIME TO EXPERIENCE POWER FOR ALL

In the coming months we are delivering incredible content with a whole new sense of power for all our BAA Customers. Check out FK Irons new power supply that offers a new grasp on freedom with its upcoming LightningBolt Uni. Read about Jesse Smith's FK Irons Studio Visit, and check out the Special Edition Obsidian EXO and Flux. Discover Squid Ink - the first tattoo shop out in the sea, and check out some Collab Tips with Harlan Kantner & Kasey Gonzalez.

All jam packed in one issue.

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Collab Tips from Harlan Kantner and Kasey Gonzalez

Neotraditional vibrancy meets black and grey realism in a recent fusion tattoo by Harlan Kantner and Kasey "Gonzo" Gonzalez. The tattoo — a black and grey skull framed by a vivid orange tiger head — seamlessly blends Kantner and Gonzo's specialties. These two award-winning artists from Athens Tattoo in Riverside, Maryland, flexed their collaboration muscles on camera for PainfulPleasures and Peak Needles this past May. Here are some of their tips for a successful collab.

Tip 1: Balance Your Styles

Harlan Kantner: "There has to be balance in the composition between the color and the black and grey."

Kasey Gonzalez: "It's important to give each style room to breathe... especially with black and gray. If you don't have enough of it or the right portion, it just looks like part of the tattoo is unfinished."

Tip 2: Communicate

H: "With both styles, make sure [the design] is something you're both comfortable with. Have an even amount of feedback on both ends; communication is so important... it's a collaboration of ideas."

Tip 3: Create A Plan of Attack

H: "When we print the stencil out, we come up with a game plan. We'll bounce back and forth and alternate. But the goal is to get both of us on it at the same time as much as possible so we can get these big, full pieces done in a reasonable amount of time."

Tip 4: Get to Know Each Other

H: "It's important to be close with the other person. Kasey and I work next to each other every day. He's tattooed me [and I've tattooed him], so we know how the other works."



K: "Collaborating with the same person over and over, you learn how they work, what they need, what they do... it takes the guessing game out of it."

Tip 5: Stick to Your Strengths

K: "Do what you're best at. I'm trying to give [the piece] my best and [Harlan's] giving his best to it. That's what makes the whole piece so much better."

H: "Don't try to go and do something you can't do. Make sure the design is something you're both comfortable with."

Tip 6: Collab to Learn

K: "The main reason we decided we wanted to do [the collab] was because we wanted to learn from one another. There's no better way to do that than when [Harlan] is doing his thing two inches away from me — I've been able to watch his process through and through right here the whole time."

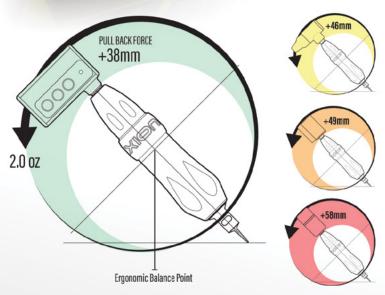
To check out the full collab in action, go to the @painfulpleasures YouTube page.



That's right - the LightningBolt Uni is almost here and it's ready to give power for all.

The LightningBolt Uni is a powerful and reliable wireless battery that provides a whole new sense of freedom. This revolutionary power supply can be connected to any RCA machine - as long as the RCA jack isn't blocked. It's compact design is great for easy travel, and it can last up to 10 hours of usage. That's power. It also has Bluetooth capabilities and can be paired with the Darklab app - and later the Wireless footswitch.





The LightningBolt Uni is designed to maintain the machine's Ergonomic Balance Point. The compact design allows the battery's weight to remain as close to the machines center point as possible. This helps to retain the original balance and performance while keeping it easy to control.







Two of FK Irons revolutionary machines just got a new look. Finished in black chrome and polished 24k gold plated body, the Obsidian Spektra Flux and EXO are sure to boost your collection.

Two powerful machines with a whole new look.





Add one - or maybe both - of these special edition machines to your collection, while they're still in stock.





Recently we had Newschool pioneer Jesse Smith come to share his 23-year journey within the industry, and how he implements his creativity behind every piece.

In 1998, Smith was in the military and had a side gig drawing characters at Busch Gardens. There he met multiple artists, and eventually found himself befriending a tattoo artist, who was at the time working out of his own home. Smith's friend taught him how to make his own 'ghetto gun,' which consists of a toothbrush, a ballpoint pen and a sewing needle. To make it work, Smith would glue the needle onto the tip of the pen, and use a Walkman motor to power it.

"The first machine I built," he said, "it would take seven passes to make one clean line."

Before Smith started tattooing, he lived in Heidelberg, Germany, known for its large graffiti scene, which he took part in. In fact, street art is what helped Smith develop characters and solidify his New School style.

In 2009, Smith found himself feeling bored of tattooing 'shallow' characters, and felt they needed a little more backstory.

"So I created this fictitious continent called Carkayous, which is located off the West Coast of the Galapagos Islands," he said.

Each character from Carkayous is connected in one way or another. Clients walk in his shop, Loose Screw Tattoo, located in Richmond, Virginia, and leave with a piece of his world.

Smith is one of FK Irons longest ProTeam artists, and he has had the opportunity to watch it grow into the successful company it is today.

"It's pretty crazy to see how far FK Irons has come over the years," he said, "and just knowing it started with one guy who had a passion to innovate new and better tools for artists."

Although Smith has witnessed, and used, most of FK Irons machines, the Spektra Flux seems to be his current go to.

"The battery pack has changed everything for me," said Smith. "I travel with less equipment now, and on top of that, when I tattoo I can move freely like it's no big deal." @iessesmithtattoos 7 to 2000



FOREVER

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MEET

Our latest hue created with Ink Master Finalist GIAN KARLE

This new, high-opacity, true yellow has just enough brown to be the perfect gold. Dreamed up with New Hampshire-based neo-traditional artist Gian Karle, Spanish Gold is great for coverups, an array of skin tones, creating metallic shades, and any design you can imagine.



WHERE IN THE WORLD IS TATTOO LOUP

WE LOVE SEEING THE DESIGNS YOU CREATE
USING WORLD FAMOUS TATTOO INK, ESPECIALLY
WHEN THEY'RE INSPIRED BY OUR FOUNDER AND

OWNER, TATTOO LOU!

"WHAT A GREAT HONOR TO SEE ARTISTS

FROM ALL AROUND THE WORLD POSTING

ART WITH MY PICTURE. THE PORTRAIT

OF ME, I WAS SHOCKED TO SEE.

BUT I AM SO HAPPY IT CAME OUT GREAT :]

WHAT A GREAT JOB!

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR

THE SUPER COOL ART."

- LOU RUBINO

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THE ENDOFTHE BEGINING

For over 10-years FK Irons has developed innovative products that have revolutionized the industry with each passing machine. That's why we're moving forward and not looking back. It's time to cut the cord - permanently.

We're saying good bye to what started it all, but our coils will not be forgotten. It's time for FK Irons to focus on the future of tattooing.

Each coil sold is a chance to enter our Gold Coil giveaway.

Own a piece of history and show off where it all

started. We will be giving away a Gold Chrome Exactor III, Galaxie III, and the Roswell.

Buy yourself one of these evolutionary coils the ones that started it all - and enter for a chance to win a one of a kind FK Irons Gold coil.







Passion, creativity and drive is something we strive for here at FK Irons, and we know you - the artists - do the same with all your work. That's why we put together a series of videos highlighting artists from across the globe, to get to know their story.

Introducing Shop Stories, a series of videos highlighting shops, and artists, from around the world, that have allowed our machines to elevate their craft. Listen to stories from all walks of life talking about their unique culture, tattoo style and more.

They all have one thing in common - the love for tattooing with FK Irons' machines.

Shop Stories is a continuous series, and we are always looking for more artists to talk about their journey within the industry. Wanna share your story? *Email us at shopstories@fkirons.com*

WHAT'S New

power Bolt

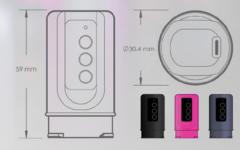
If you're not familiar with the name PowerBolt yet, you should get used to it and get to know this popular device. This beast is the brains and electric power behind FK Irons' EXO, Flux and FluxS.

The PowerBolt can power through tattoo sessions for up to 10 hours* of wireless freedom. With just a simple USB-C charging cable, artists can recharge the Powerbolt in just two hours. It can also connect to the Darklab app via Bluetooth, allowing artists to update to the latest firmware. With it's built-in voltage control, and easy to read LED voltage indicator, controlling is simple and user friendly.

Currently it's available in Black, Gunmetal and Bubblegum, and comes standard with the Flux and Flux S, or EXO double pack.

For extra peace of mind you can buy an extra Powerbolt at Darklab.com.

*Depending on voltage.



Interested in picking one up - or maybe two?

Purchase yours now.





WWW.KUROSUMI.COM



Kuro Sumi has earned a reputation as the premiere tattoo ink for creating outlines and gray wash. For over 20 years, it has offered the absolute blackest pigment available to tattoo artists around the world. "Kuro," after all, translates to "black" in Japanese. "Sumi" which translates to "ink," honors the legacy of ink blends that have been cultivated, improved, and passed down from many generations of Japanese tattoo artists. Even the use of metallics on the ink' slabel is a nod to the history of Japan' s industrialization and the culture' s mastery of metalwork during the Yayoi period—one of the oldest historical periods in Japanese history—when rice farming was adopted, and craftsmen replaced their stone tools, weapons, armor, and trinkets with bronze and iron: advancements that helped to usher in an era of self-reliance and independence in Japan' s unique culture.



Dragons, too, have been a prominent part of East Asian culture for thousands of years. Adopting one as Kuro Sumi's logo honors that tradition as well. A symbol of strength and wisdom, it signifies that the brand remains inspired by the culture it came from when creating reliable inks.

With such an emphasis on heritage and tradition, it's not surprising that the brand's latest artist collaboration is with Kensho II, a traditional Japanese hand poke Tebori artist, who chose to name his new ink set Yūkyū, which means "continue endlessly over many years." Featuring colors that artists can use again and again with the same reliable results, the ink names and tones come from traditional Japanese colors. The white, in

particular, is an improved recipe passed down from the artist's master. Using red and white—which suggests the Japanese flag—as well as the asanoha pattern to complete the packaging, Kensho II's set honors the history of not only his art form but the brand's decades-long pursuit of innovation, consistency, and quality.

FOR MORE INFO AND TO PURCHASE KENSHO II YŪKYŪ INK SET, VISIT KUROSUMI.COM/INKS

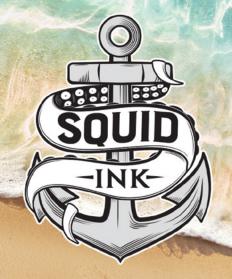
INTERESTED IN BECOMING PART OF TATTOO HISTORY?





VOYAGES

IN A FIRST-TIME COLLABORATION,
WORLD FAMOUS TATTOO INK AND VIRGIN
VOYAGES HAVE COME TOGETHER TO
BRING THE ART OF TATTOOING TO THE
OPEN SEA. SETTING SAIL IN 2021, SQUID
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TATTOO STUDIO, WILL BE HOME TO SOME
OF THE WORLD'S TOP ARTISTS.





GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

USE THE QR CODE AND FILL OUT THE ONLINE APPLICATION AT SQUID.INK

WWW.SQUID.INK



IS BRINGING TATTOOING TO THE HIGH SEAS ABOARD THE SCARLET LADY.

Introducing Squid Ink, the first tattoo studio on a cruise ship. This groundbreaking cruise introduces tattooing to a new kind of "cruising culture." Virgin has four ships that will set sail over the next three years,

each with a tattoo studio.

Be a Part of Tattooing History

"What attracted me to this opportunity was being a big part of history, since it was the first time this was happening," says Dennis Gensinger, body piercer from Soho Ink and Manager on Squid Ink's first voyage.

While tattooing on a cruise ship is new, the connection between sea voyages and tattooing is not. Virgin Voyages is reminding the tattoo industry of its nautical roots. With Virgin Voyages, you'll be a part of tattooing history, giving sailors their own maritime commemorative tattoos.

Network and Build Your Client List

Virgin Voyages offers an opportunity for artists to expand their client list and get additional exposure through social media.

"They were promoting Squid Ink a lot. And I know they will be in the future," says tattoo artist and Soho Ink studio manager, Jason Ackerman.

A big part of your customer base will be the crew themselves. With over 1,400 crew members rotating every 3-6 months, there will be no shortage of business.

A Balanced Workday and New Supplies

According to tattoo artist Michela Bottin-Ackerman, your workday is flexible. "There were no real issues. It was literally run just like a normal tattoo studio." You'll be able to enjoy a work-life balance.

Squid Ink is stocked with all the supplies you'll need, including the full line of FK Irons tattoo machines, inks from World Famous, and tattoo essentials from Recovery Aftercare.

Clients can tip cash or on a Venmo-like app, but all tattoos and piercings will be upcharged to compensate for any lack of tip. As for what you'll be tattooing? "Everything was kind of linked to the sea," says Michela Bottin-Ackerman.

Take Advantage of Amenities

There are 20+ eateries on board, many are open 24/7. Relax at the swimming pool or sink into a daybed on the poolside oasis. At night, retire to your cabin in the crew area; WiFi is included.

Relish the Adventure

Whichever port your ships arrive in, the studio will be closed, and you'll be free to explore and enjoy as a guest.

"You're not slammed the whole time where you can't get up and go outside and look at the ocean or watch dolphins," says Jason Ackerman.

For \$15 a day, Virgin Voyages permits you to bring a friend or apprentice to join in the adventure. The fare covers your friend's lodging, board, food, and basic drinks.

Ready to Set Sail? Apply to step onboard and tattoo at Squid Ink by scanning the QR code on our ad for an online application. Guest spots are available starting

October 2021.

19 500



Microbeau strives to deliver innovative products to the PMU industry, so they can focus on what's important results. That's why we engineered a powerful battery that's not only sleek, but can be universally connected to any RCA machine in the current PMU market. It's the one battery to power them all.

That's right - the LightningBolt Uni is almost here and it's ready to give power for all your PMU needs.

The LightningBolt Uni is a powerful and reliable wireless battery that provides a whole new sense of freedom. This revolutionary power supply was designed to exceed standard safety regulations, and maintain the machine's Ergonomic Balance Point. It's compact design allows the battery's weight - which is only 2 oz - to remain as close to the machine's center point as possible. This allows PMU artists to retain the original balance and keep control during any procedure.

For more information - check out the Microbeau website, and sign up for the waiting list.





SMS microbeau

Here at Microbeau International, we make it our mission to keep our customers informed about any of our tools and how you can use them to succeed within the PMU industry. That's why we have SMS notifications so artists can keep up with everything Microbeau. Sign-up now and get 10% off your next order.





TRANSFORMATION IS COMING... Our story sets us apart and we're starting a new chapter. Subscribe to our newsletter so you don't miss any updates! PERMA BLEND.

The Power of Transformation: HOW PERMA BLEND

CHANGED
PERMANENT MAKEUP

When Anne-Marie Rubino opened a medispa next door to her brother Lou's tattoo supply and ink company, she had no idea she was about to become a part of changing the permanent makeup industry forever. "One of the services we offered was permanent makeup," the Perma Blend Brand Director and PMU artist remembers, "so I immersed myself in everything PMU. I was taking all these masterclasses and would share with Lou what I was learning. He didn't understand why there was so much emphasis on color correction."

Bringing the science and the art together was essential.

Anne-Marie's brother is, of course, Lou Rubino, founder and owner of World Famous Tattoo Ink, the brand that revolutionized the tattoo industry with its high-quality inks preferred by tattoo artists worldwide. "Lou knew that colors should not be shifting the way PMU artists were taught to anticipate," Anne-Marie explains. In fact, it's crucial that they don't."

After some investigation, Lou realized that the quality of the pigments being used for permanent makeup was very different from tattoo ink. It was his idea to start Perma Blend, to bring the two worlds together. Using the same superior quality and safety standards used to manufacture World Famous Tattoo Ink, Lou and his team decided to create what was more of a blend of permanent makeup pigments and tattoo ink: a result that revolutionized the PMU industry. "It changed the way most manufacturers are doing business now," shares Anne-Marie.



Anne Marie, Brand Director, Perma Blend

Working with top specialists in formulation and chemistry, who examined technical components like particle morphology, pigment density, and load, Anne-Marie's expertise as a PMU artist was also instrumental. "We really spent time considering everything that was going to make a difference to an artist as they were tattooing."

That was in 2014. Since then, Perma Blend has grown to become the world's leading permanent makeup pigment. With over 200 color options for treatments ranging from eyebrows to lip liner, scar camouflage to areola restoration, the brand is loved by artists around the globe. Praised for its superior performance and long-lasting results—namely that the colors never shift or change, they only lighten over time-the brand's team has continued in the spirit of merging art and science to collaborate with top artists like Tina Davies and Brow Daddy on unique sets of tones. "It's going to be the artists that determine how we move forward," Anne-Marie shares. "I want to know what they want and need, how the product shows up in their clients' skin. If I don't have that feedback, then I can't improve the product."

Currently developing a unique education platform and investing in a select team of sponsored artists and ambassadors worldwide, Perma Blend is committed to the future of the permanent makeup artist. "We want them to have great products that they can trust, so they can concentrate on the artistic part of their job," says Anne-Marie. "Our new logo—a rendition of a butterfly—is symbolic of that. It's a symbol of growth and evolution. Not just the company's transformation, but the customers' transformation, and the artists' who now have a product they can love and depend on."





What's Problem with

ULTRAVIOLET FLUX S

Craving some color in your PMU collection?

Introducing the Ultraviolet Flux S. This special edition limited time offer is not only beautifully designed, but it's also universally

capable to take on any PMU procedure. Grab one before it's gone, and don't forget to pick up an extra Flux Powerbolt.



B₂B

Designed by Lulu Siciliano, Blonde 2 Brunette was designed as a pre-modified set for zero guesswork. This color packet is perfect for all skin tones and Evenflo Colours worked with the structure until the organic and inorganic pigments were balanced with the intention for the color to fade to neutral tones. With a higher pigment load and no

mixing necessary, use any of the four pigments straight with needle cartridges or with manual devices.





Microbeau Xfoliazer

If you discover your client's skin is improperly primed for their cosmetic tattooing treatment, the concentrated formula of glycolic and hyaluronic acids in Xfoliazer can save the day! Specially prepared for on-the-spot exfoliation, Xfoliazer removes dead cells on the skin's surface

for better pigment absorption and improved healed results. Penetrating deep into the skin's layer, Xfoliazer also provides outstanding hydration. Register for updates and release dates.

















It's been a little over a month since we released our highly loaded white pigment formula, AlterWhite. So, we decided to ask a few of our Evenflo Colours Masters their thoughts on this fluid pigment, and how they like to mix it with their favorite tones.



One of our NewYork City Evenflo Masters, Savannah Kondratyev, has a nice simple recipe by adding two to three drops of AlterWhite to our Neutralizer and Lulu's Rose. This little blend allows her to give her neutralizing lip clients more of a pink nude tone healed result.

"I noticed my healed results have more pow behind them," she said. "I feel like I'm able to get more coverage in fewer sessions with AlterWhite."







For Lynn Peca, our Evenflo Master from Canada, AlterWhite has been a game changer for her dark lip neutralizing procedures. - "It creates opacity which helps lift and saturate the lips," she said. "The difference in using AlterWhite is I can do less passes and get better results."

Peca also has her own little concoction for clients with hyperpigmentation. She mixes Evenflo Colours' Colorizer, Illume and AlterWhite.

"This is such a great formula for any lips that show hyperpigmentation with an ashy grey, purple and brown melanin rich lips," she said.







Evenflo Colours Masters' Australian artist, Anna Ocko, loves to use AlterWhite to create a topical mask for freshly done blond brows. With just eight drops of AlterWhite, and a drop of your procedure's main tone, such as Oak or Illume, allows for lighter results.

"Topical application of this mask allows me to saturate the epidermis with the pigment of lighter value," she said. "It won't be absorbed by the dermis, however, this technique helps me disquise the darkness of fresh brows and creates a more subtle, elegant and natural look."

Ocko has found that her blond clients can easily accept their freshly done brows, and pass through the healing process always loving them.





This is just a few ways on how our **Evenflo Colours Masters** love to use our highly loaded white pigment AlterWhite, and we're excited to see what more they'll use it for. If you're interested in picking up a bottle yourself, come check it out on our website.





Submit and if your image is chosen, it will print alongside the world's leading artists. Use #BAAZINEPIC





Xion S Gunmetal Elite Set

The Xion S Gunmetal Elite Set not only includes the revolutionary Hover Touchless Power Supply, but it also includes the Spektra Xion S, two Darklab RCA straight cords, and a Darklab Footswitch. This set is great for starting PMU artists that are looking for a machine that's universally compatible with any PMU specialty.



Bellar Red Bottom Elite Set

The Bellar Red Bottom Elite Set comes with the Hover Touchless Power Supply, The Bellar, two RCA straight cords, a Mini DC cable and a Darklab Footswitch. Ideal for hair stroke and shading procedures, the Bellar is a PMU device that's designed for precision.



Apollo Gold Elite Set

The Apollo Gold Elite Set is a great bundle for PMU specialty artists that are searching for pixel precision, while also properly depositing pigments to achieve the precise color retention you're looking for. This set includes the Apollo, the Hover Touchless Power Supply, Mini DC Cable and a Darklab footswitch.

Colors! You can customize any of our sets with your choice of machine and foot pedal color.



Check out our machine comparison page and find out wich of our machines best fits your needs!





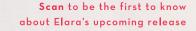
PERMANENT MAKEUP MACHINE



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