

# ALL TOG ETH ER

EXHIBITION BROCHURE

# ENG



TOM OF FINLAND ©Tom of Finland Foundation

Curated by

*Tom of Finland*  
FOUNDATION

and

*The Community*

supported by



# A group exhibition from the collection of Tom of Finland Foundation.

A. J. EPSTEIN  
AL URBAN  
ANDRE  
ANNIE SPRINKLE  
ATTILA RICHARD LUKACS  
AURÉLIEN NOBÉCOURT-ARRAS  
BASTILLE  
BENOÎT PRÉVOT  
BOB MIZER  
BRUCE RAPP  
CARRINGTON GALEN  
CHRIS JOHNSON  
DAVE PIBEL  
DOMINO  
DON BACHARDY  
E.M.A. STUDIO  
EMMA KOHLMANN  
ETIENNE  
FLORIAN HETZ  
GEORGE QUAINANCE  
GIO BLACK PETER  
GOH MISHIMA  
GREGORY MASKWA  
HEATHER BENJAMIN  
HECTOR SILVA  
HIROSHI SHIMOYAMA  
JAY JORGENSEN  
JEAN FERRERO  
JESS SCOTT  
JIM FRENCH  
JIM SHAW  
JOHN WATERS  
JOHNNY SMITH  
KENNY KNUTSON  
KENNETH ANGER  
LINK  
MARCEL ALCALÁ  
MARCELLO LUPETTI  
MATT LAMBERT  
MICHAEL KIRWAN

MICHAEL REYNOLDS  
& MARTYN THOMPSON  
MICHEL LAGUERRE  
MIGUEL ANGEL REYES  
MIKE KUCHAR  
MINORU  
MR GRUTS  
NIGEL KENT  
OLAF  
ORSEN  
PALANCA  
PATRICK LEE  
PETER BERLIN  
PHILIP CORE  
PHUC LE  
R. DANIEL FOSTER  
REX  
RICK CASTRO  
RINALDO HOPF  
ROB CLARKE  
SAL SALANDRA  
SETH BOGART  
SHEREE ROSE  
SILVIA PRADA  
SIMON HAAS  
SLAVA MOGUTIN  
STANLEY STELLAR  
STEVEN REIGNS  
STUART SANDFORD  
SULTAN  
SUSANNA LUOTO  
SUZANNE SHIFFLETT  
TANK  
TEDDY OF PARIS  
THE HUN  
TOM OF FINLAND  
VALENTINE  
VICTOR ARIMONDI  
VIKTORIA RAYKOVA  
XAVIER GICQUEL

## *AllTogether*

How to survive  
in the memory?  
Writing down stories  
from the largest  
erotic art collection  
in the world.

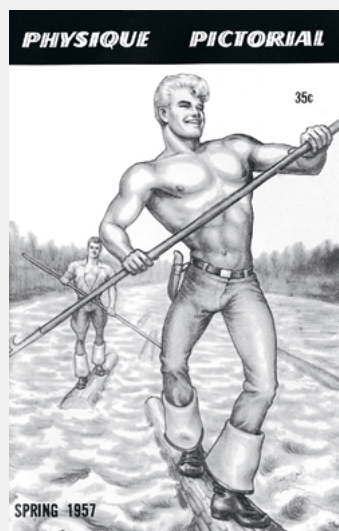
In February 1978, the artist Tom of Finland (born Touko Laaksonen, 1920-1991) arrived in Los Angeles, visiting the other side of the Atlantic for the first time in his life. Tom, who later became widely regarded as one of the twentieth century's most influential artists for his groundbreaking representation of the male figure and works in gay erotica, came to the U.S.A. for his first exhibition outside of Europe that took place in a small East Hollywood gallery called Eons. Upon his arrival, he was welcomed by Durk Dehner: the two knew each other only via correspondence by mail that had started years earlier. This chapter in Tom's life was life-changing: the meeting with Durk embarked Tom on a journey that marked the tone for the rest of his career, leading not only to a lifelong friendship with Durk but also to the creation of Tom of Finland Foundation thirty-seven years ago.

The interwoven stories and encounters, such as the one between Tom and Durk, are at the focus of the exhibition *AllTogether*. In the 1980s, the Foundation started to support and encourage other queer and erotic artists, giving legitimacy to a community of creatives who had previously been shunned by the collections, official narratives, and structures of fine art, and sometimes even by their own families. With the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, this expanded mission was crucial. How were these artists to be remembered, and how would they survive in the memory? By defining their own set of rules and creating a variety of supportive structures and programs, Tom, Durk, and the Foundation set off to define their own sensibility, writing down the stories that would otherwise be forgotten. The exhibition *AllTogether* provides a vast exploration of memories, images, and narratives and offers perspectives on the components of contemporary queer culture: without memory, there can be no future.

On the occasion of Tom of Finland's birthday (8 May), Tom of Finland Foundation and The Community curate *AllTogether*, an exhibition with works from Tom of Finland Foundation's permanent collection, presented to the public for the first time outside of Los Angeles. *AllTogether* comprises two parallel yet distinct exhibitions, the first opening in Venice on 23 April 2022 and the second in Paris on 8 May 2022. Both shows run through 26 June 2022.

The dialogue between The Community and Tom of Finland Foundation dates back to 2018, when members of The Community first visited TOM House in Los Angeles and discovered the Foundation's vast erotic art collection. Usually witnessed hung on the walls of TOM House, the two exhibitions highlight the stories of over eighty featured artists with more than two hundred works from the 1940s to the present day, encompassing diverse media and techniques.

The first part of the *AllTogether* exhibition gravitates around the early imagery of Tom of Finland, his artistic influences, and the relationships that the artist forged in the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s, when his work became internationally acclaimed. The turning point in his career was when *Physique Pictorial*, a magazine devoted to the male physique and its beauty, published Tom's drawing of invigorated and nature-loving Finnish lumberjacks on the cover of the 1957 spring issue. Next to this framed 1957 edition in the exhibition hangs a work by George Quaintance, whose technical immaculacy Tom admired and whose subjects reflect the treatment of male nudity before Tom, which was more on the historical and the suggestive side.



**BOB MIZER  
/TOM OF FINLAND**  
Untitled, 1957  
Graphite on paper  
8.25" (20.96cm)  
x 5.25" (13.34cm)

› Paris and Venice shows

*Physique Pictorial* was launched in 1950 by Bob Mizer, a physique photographer who ran a studio in Los Angeles called Athletic Model Guild (AMG). The studio focused on gay-oriented photo studies, often featuring models that were hustlers and street guys, further contributing to a certain class awareness and blue-collar type of the new forms of erotic masculinity. The formats of these 'beefcake' magazines were small to steer away from the attention of mail censorship: intended to be kept and cherished in clandestinity. Dramatic lighting and postures copied from classical sculptures were the signatures of this epoch's physique studies, as is demonstrated in the works of Al Urban and Jean Ferrero. This period marked a set of new codes with a distinctive and recognizable gay culture, moving away from the historical androgynous aesthete, marking a gradual liberation of gay men in the U.S.A., who received Tom's image of masculinity well. His vision fit perfectly with the

already existing iconography of masculinity: Finnish lumberjacks got along well with the all-American cowboys, visual codes often later embraced by the artist Tank, whose photo prints were available by mail order and at gay rodeo weekends.



**TANK**  
*The Barn*, c. 1990  
Colored pencils on paper  
29.88" (75.90cm)  
x 25.88" (65.74 cm)

› Paris show

Tom saw the limitations of 'beefcake' and set about to define his work with a genuine male-to-male gaze: his men were undeniably homosexual and not merely 'models.' His revolutionary shift was fundamental in the formation of a new gay male identity: it had now happiness, positivity, and pride attached to it.

Chicago-native Etienne, also had a pivotal role in defining the new male erotica and played a significant role in introducing Durk to Tom. In 1976, in a Los Angeles leather bar, Durk encountered Tom's work via a small flyer. "That was the first time I saw a Tom of Finland drawing," Durk says. "It was like there was a message inside it, and I was reading the message." [1] After showing his interest to Etienne, the artist gave Tom's Finnish home address to Durk, which led to correspondence by mail between the two. The relationships resulted in a joint exhibition of the two artists organized by Durk at Stompers, a back room of a boot shop in Greenwich Village in 1979, and grew into lifelong friendship.

The works of Tom of Finland tell a story of their own through the development of his subject matter. From 1960 onwards, Tom produced interracial works influenced by his time spent in Los Angeles. He also significantly developed leather aesthetics in his drawings due to motorcycle apparel and other fetish items introduced in the popular culture around that time, and brown leather turned into black leather. Tom's role in instrumentalizing leather aesthetics is seen in the exhibition through works such as Silvia Prada, a contemporary artist who is strongly inspired by Tom's reference pages, including press clippings and Tom's own photography, as well as Bruce Rapp, a close friend to the Foundation, who became a significant artist in the gay-leather-scene.

In post-World War Japan, the gay underground scene started to develop alongside the appearance of the first gay publications. Artist Goh Mishima (born Tsuyoshi Yoshida), who was familiar with and admired the drawings of his Finnish contemporary, sought inspiration in his drawings of well-built males from

the so-called Japanese mafia, the Yakuza. Cropped haircuts, *irezumi* - elaborate body tattoos - and taciturn manliness later became signature attributes of Mishima's artwork. Furthermore, the artist contributed to the printed subculture by creating *Sabu* in 1974, after getting bored of the prevailing pretty boy imagery promoted by *Barazoku*, Japan's first gay magazine.



**GOH MISHIMA**  
Untitled, c. 1980  
Pastel, watercolor, ink  
and graphite on paper  
13.75" (34.93cm)  
x 9.75" (24.77cm)

› Venice show

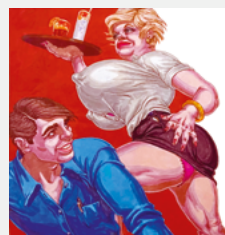
In 1984, Durk and Tom cofounded Tom of Finland Foundation with the aim to better preserve and promote Tom's work, for example, against illegal reproductions that were frequent within the circulation of erotic art imagery. The Foundation's role soon extended to promoting and archiving the works of other queer artists: the Foundation's early years coincided with the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the U.S.A.

"We took in collections that had no place to go because of the stigma attached to the subject matter. The artists' families normally didn't want it, museums and institutions didn't want it, and there was no viable commercial market," tells Durk. [2]

Many gay and erotic artists of the time, some working anonymously throughout their whole career, were concerned that their work would be forgotten or destroyed after their deaths, donated their life's work to the Foundation. Upon his death from AIDS, the Foundation received 24 original works by Tank and a significant selection of photo prints. Tank's partner, Stephen Worley, gave a mandate to the Foundation to preserve his legacy, knowing it would be carefully archived and the stories lovingly maintained.

The second part of the show looks into these formative years of the Foundation, and TOM House which is the physical embodiment of the Foundation and its spirit in Los Angeles. The works of many erotic artists of this time manifest the development of aesthetic codes paralleling the 'classic' idea of hypermasculinity and leather: the first-ever Artist-in-Resident at TOM House, Michael Kirwan, tells the adventures of his 'average' guys, finding joy and acceptance with his lusty gay and straight imagery, creating a unique aesthetic universe which represents more men of realities rather than fantasies. Domino (born Donald Merrick), a close friend to Tom and who exhibited

at the same galleries at the time, worked on extremely detailed drawings that feature the emergence of new masculinity known as bear aesthetics before it became a universal component of queer culture. It was only after his divorce from his wife that Donald revealed Domino to the rest of the world: unfortunately, the artist had destroyed many of his artworks before this.



**MICHAEL KIRWAN**  
Service with a Smile, 1995  
Markers on paper  
20.13" (51.13cm)  
x 25.00" (63.50cm)

› Venice show

Another artist that found his haven in Los Angeles and the community of TOM House was the Argentinian artist Marcello Lupetti. After surviving kidnapping and six months of torture by the Argentine secret police, Marcello started his artistic career in classical sculpture in Germany. Later settling in Los Angeles with Terry Turner, with whom he spent the rest of his life, Lupetti excelled as a sculptor, developing a large patron base that purchased his male erotic works in marble, soapstone, and resins. Lupetti and Turner left Tom of Finland Foundation works to sell, with the proceeds going to a fund to assist artists with materials, registration fees for classes and exhibitions, and aid them with documentation of their artwork. "He Also Serves Who Only Stands and Waits" is engraved on his sculpture, pondering the notions of suffering and patience. The phrase is also known as the closing line in one of the most celebrated sonnets by the seventeenth-century poet John Milton.



**GIO BLACK PETER**  
Untitled, 2019  
Mixed media and  
cigarette box  
10.50" (27.31cm)  
x 3.25" (8.26cm)

› Paris show

Since its inception, the Foundation's role has extended to promoting a space for artists and luminaries to be residents and guests at the House. The Foundation proactively nurtures the next generation of queer erotic art and culture in the wider community. The third part of the exhibition sheds light on the Foundation's contemporary artist-in-residence and exhibition programs, featuring artists such as Gio Black Peter, Phuc Le, Seth Bogart, Heather Benjamin, and Aurélien Nobécourt-Arras. Their works encompass a variety of techniques and motifs with



the expression of sexuality from the hyper-focused, visceral photographic oeuvre of Florian Hetz to the sweetly painterly characters of Marcel Alcalá. Looped in the exhibition space is Matt Lambert's *Pleasure Park*, a documentary portrait of a group of friends and adult performers shot over one summer day at TOM House, telling about intimacy that is humorous and celebratory, awkward and authentic. During their residencies and time at TOM House, artists are encouraged to explore the Foundation's archives. The resulting conversations often create a connection with Tom and his contemporaries and the Foundation's larger community. TOM House is rarely empty, and its communal and social spirit continues to respect the place to which Tom and Durk, and many others, have devoted their entire lives.

TOM House, originally built in 1911 and acquired by Durk Dehner in 1979, represents a Craftsman-style residence. Located on the palm tree-lined street of Laveta Terrace in Echo Park, it has kept many of its initial and extensive decorative features with its coffered ceilings, Art Nouveau fixtures, oak floors, and cabinetry that ornate the seventeen-room residence.



Tom's room  
at TOM House,  
Los Angeles.  
Photo by Evan Walsh.

TOM's room, preserved in its original state, is located upstairs in the House: pencils and chalk are carefully arranged on the drawing table, and next to that, a selection of his uniforms, boots, and motorcycle jackets narrates the origins of the world-famous iconography of this renowned artist who represents brotherhood and love. With its Angelino green foliage fertilized with lust, the *Pleasure Park* and gardens surround the House. Known for its decadent parties and TOM's Bar, the space has become a landmark, now known as a work and atelier space for artists-in-residence. Before these artists, it was Tom who had his morning coffee in *Pleasure Park* when starting his day of work. This was also where Carrington Galen, an artist, and a gardener, spent the final hours of his life, the botanical masterpiece he cultivated and left for his community. These parallels, creating continuity through history and today, make the space feel alive and unique, nothing even remotely like a museum. TOM House is a place where people live, work, and love: there is always a clatter, a group of TOM's Men sporting their leather jackets, enjoying their daily lives and tasks. After sharing a collective lunch, they secretly reach into the leather cap-adorned cookie jar while savoring their coffee from TOM branded mugs.

Besides its residents' quotidian and domestic life, this address offers a rich artistic program, from drawing classes to art fairs and competitions with prizes, to the Tom of Finland Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award given to individuals for their commitment to art and community. Annie Sprinkle, sexologist and advocate for sex work and healthcare known for her unique way of being queer,

was awarded the prize in 2020. Every Wednesday, photographer Rick Castro has hosted his weekly Wednesday Tea Salon, serving tea and cakes accordingly to guests.

Many life-changing stories are present at TOM House, both in their pictorial, symbolic and physical formats: the hundreds of photo binders include documentation of marriage ceremonies and memorials. For this reason, a part of the exhibition is dedicated to TOM House, including ephemera, scrapbooks, and correspondence that portray the interwoven stories and relationships around Tom and his Foundation. There are as many stories as there are works of art in this home: the collection is the celebration of desire, featuring earnest, sometimes even devastating, expressions of want and love. Every work goes far beyond its artistic merits or symbolism, and they tell about lived life, honoring diversity and acceptance.

Today, the Foundation possesses a permanent collection of thousands upon thousands of works, some 150 of which are displayed in the residence at any one time, often in thematic exhibitions curated by the Foundation's Head of Community Development and Curator Marc Ransdell-Bellenger, S.R. Sharp, Vice-President and Curator, and Durk Dehner: the most inspiring and generous guides to their world of camaraderie.

*AllTogether* sets out to convey the individual stories of the artists. At the same time, the exhibition locates parallels, interactions, and influences between Tom of Finland Foundation, Tom's aesthetic impact, and the community of artists that have formed throughout the years around them. The selection of works considers and shows the treatment of sexuality throughout decades: from the years of censorship, the sexual revolution, the subsequent HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the explosion of information – the expressions have varied between hypermasculine TOM's Men and dandyish self-assertiveness and the motifs featured orgiastic celebration and diabolical queerness. The exhibition also highlights the historical context and the queer experience from mid-century to today, where erotic arts, the intimate encounter of art and pornography, is still navigating between the art world and gay subcultures. In *AllTogether*, the love of freedom transcends gender and sexuality and allows the elevation of the erotic to high art.

— Text by Sini Rinne-Kanto, Curator of The Community

1. Tom of Finland Foundation, The Community, and Diesel 2022, *AllTogether*, exhibition catalogue, April-June 2022, A Conversation with Durk Dehner, interview by K. Vistrup Madsen  
2. Reynolds M, Rus M, and Thompson M 2016, *TOM House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles*, Rizzoli

# Tom of Finland Foundation

Tom of Finland Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1984 by Durk Dehner and Tom of Finland. As Tom had established worldwide recognition as the master of homoerotic art, the Foundation's original purpose was to preserve his vast catalog of work.

Several years later, the scope was widened to offer a safe haven for all erotic art due to rampant discrimination against art that portrayed sexual behavior or generated a sexual response. Today, Tom of Finland Foundation continues to educate the public about the cultural merits of erotic art and promote healthier, more tolerant attitudes about sexuality.

## STEVEN REIGNS

*The Gay Rub Series:*  
*Tom of Finland*  
*Foundation, 2017*  
Wax rubbing  
on cotton paper  
18.88" (47.96cm)  
x 29.50" (74.93cm)  
(Framed)

› Paris show



# The Community

The Community is a Parisian multidisciplinary art institution established in 2016. It was founded for a long-standing need for shared space and a platform to stimulate ideas and create collaboration across cultures and different artistic disciplines.

In 2021, The Community opened its new permanent home, The Community Centre, in the neighborhood of Pantin, northeast of Paris, and continues supporting emerging and established artists through interdisciplinary programming.

Tuukka Laurila, S.R. Sharp,  
Benjamin Pöntinen,  
Sini Rinne-Kanto,  
and Durk Dehner  
at TOM House,  
February 2020



## THE ARTISTS

# Biographies



### A.J. EPSTEIN (B. 1949, AMERICAN)

Since the late 1960s, photographer and artist Andrew J. (A.J.) Epstein has documented LGBTQ+ communities and events in Chicago, IL; New York, NY; San Francisco, CA; and Los Angeles, CA. Also working under the name Art Daddy, his work has been shown at institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; SFMOMA, San Francisco, CA; and numerous galleries around the U.S.A. Epstein is a Tom of Finland Foundation Honorary Board Member.



### AL URBAN (B. 1917 D. 1992, AMERICAN)

Al Urban was a physique photographer whose work appeared widely in physical culture and physique magazines of the 1940s and 1950s. He was described as one of the "pillars of the postwar golden age of gay physique culture" by Scholar Thomas Waugh. Arrested and jailed in 1947 for violating the Comstock laws, Urban's career effectively ended with his final criminal conviction in 1960, resulting in a one-year sentence and the seizure of most of his work. Much of Urban's work was lost in police raids.



### ANNIE SPRINKLE (B. 1954, AMERICAN)

Annie M. Sprinkle, Ph.D. is an artist and activist whose feminist, sex-positive, and ecologically minded work – dating from the 1970s through the present – encompasses a variety of media, including photography, writing books, filmmaking, performance art, theater, and visual art. Sprinkle is America's first sex-positive feminist and was the first porn star in history to receive a Ph.D. from the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in San Francisco. With her wife and collaborator, Beth Stephens, they founded the Ecosex Movement. Sprinkle was the recipient of the 2020 Tom of Finland Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. Sprinkle lives and works in San Francisco, CA.



### ATTILA RICHARD LUKACS (B. 1962, CANADIAN)

Attila Richard Lukács gained international attention via his *E-werk* series that he created in the 1980s and '90s while living in Berlin, where he was part of the subculture Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice (SHARP). The *E-werk* series was a collection of large figurative paintings of male nude and semi-nude skinheads, depicted in heroic, classical, and erotic poses in chiaroscuro, reminiscent of Renaissance art.



### AURÉLIEN NOBÉCOURT-ARRAS (B. 1962, MEXICAN-FRENCH)

Photographer and researcher Aurélien Nobécourt Arras focuses on questions of men at the intimacy, relation, and self-representation in men, at the intersection of the social systems of gender and the aesthetics of analog photography. In 2019, he was a Tom of Finland Foundation Artist-in-Residence. Nobécourt Arras currently lives and works in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



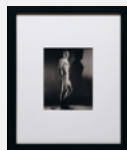
### BASTILLE (B. 1929 D. 1990, AMERICAN)

Bastille (born Frank Webber) studied illustration at Pratt Institute and, in 1955, moved to Paris, France, to study metal engraving. In the 1980s, he took the name Bastille because he was born on Bastille Day, 14th July, and lived near the Place de la Bastille. His artistic works are small in size and often present dark expressions of sexuality, yet they are spiritually based. In 1983 he sent his boyfriend Nigel Kent a series of love letters in envelopes he made into art, which are now part of the permanent collection of Tom of Finland Foundation. Bastille died in Dijon, France, from AIDS-related leukemia.



### BENOÎT PRÉVOT (B. 1968, FRENCH)

Benoît Prévot is a graduate of EMSAT, Paris, and worked at various design and advertising studios before receiving formal training at the C.F.T. Gobelins to work on several animated television series. His body of work includes comic books, fanzines, book covers, and promotional posters. Prévot's work has been shown at Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, New York, NY, and has been seen regularly at the Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals. Prévot lives and works in Paris, France.



### BOB MIZER (B. 1922 D. 1992, AMERICAN)

Robert Henry Mizer was a photographer and filmmaker known for pushing the boundaries of male homoerotic content with his work in the mid-century. He is probably best known for his groundbreaking magazine *Physique Pictorial*: a publication that mixed photographs and illustrations with Mizer's vitriolic political meanderings. Mizer established the influential studio, the Athletic Model Guild (AMG), in 1945, a film and photo studio specializing in handsome natural-bodied boy-next-door talent. The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA (2013), presented *Bob Mizer & Tom of Finland*, the first American institutional exhibition devoted to the two artists.



### BRUCE RAPP (B. 1954 D. 1990, AMERICAN)

Born into a devout Catholic family, Bruce McDonald Rapp's attraction to the gay-leather scene and his artistic ability in several media helped him become an outstanding artist for the genre. He produced work for *Drummer* magazine and worked on safe-sex-themed posters and various commissioned works. He also worked on a complete comic book in Spanish called *Chicos Modernos*, a little comic book novella that showed young Latinos dealing with and learning about HIV and AIDS.



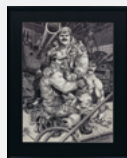
### CARRINGTON GALEN (B. 1965 D. 2016, AMERICAN)

Carrington (Carr) Galen was closely involved with TOM House and remade the garden known as *Pleasure Park*. He planted many of its trees, including the Brugmansias (Angel's Trumpets) found throughout Tom of Finland Foundation's gardens. In 2015, he received the Tom of Finland Foundation Inspiration Award and participated in Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals.



### DAVE PIBEL (B. 1934, AMERICAN)

Before undertaking a primary career as a teacher, librarian, and archivist, Dave Pibel was part of the U.S. Marine Corps (1953-1956) and U.S. Peace Corps (Nigeria, 1963-1965). Pibel has been exploring two-dimensional and three-dimensional wood relief carvings since 1966 and started carving gay erotica circa 1992. Many vignettes emphasize gays in various situations, mainly in an effort at humor. For nine consecutive years, he participated in the Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival. Pibel has been surviving HIV since 1981.



### DOMINO (B. 1920 D. 1990, AMERICAN)

Under his birth name, Domino (born Donald Merrick) spent years teaching and writing about the visual arts at the fine arts department at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey. Privately, the artist Domino was hard at work dreaming up his erotic fantasies. It was not until after his divorce from his wife that Donald exposed Domino to the rest of the world. A close friend of Tom of Finland, Domino sought to match his ability to create rough, raw, aggressive workingmen into sexual objects of desire. Stomper's Gallery, New York, NY (1978) mounted Domino's debut exhibition *Domino: Original Drawings and Prints*.



### DON BACHARDY (B. 1934, AMERICAN)

Born in Los Angeles, CA, portraitist Don Bachardy studied at the Chouinard Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA, and Slade School of Art, London. With a career spanning sixty years, his works reside in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; Princeton University, NJ; Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; and the National Portrait Gallery, London. In 2019, Bachardy was inducted into the Tom of Finland Foundation Artist Hall of Fame. Bachardy lives and works in Santa Monica, CA.



**E.M.A. STUDIO (B. 1950 D. 2009, AMERICAN)**

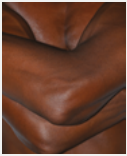
Ed McAndrews (E.M.A.) was a Los Angeles photographer whose subject of choice was Latino and Native American young men. E.M.A. created amazingly erotic, sexy, lust-filled, and classic images. His photographs conveyed traditional, playful innocents like his predecessors, Bob Mizer, Bruce of Los Angeles, Mel Roberts, and David Hurler. Although his photos were contemporary, his usage of lighting and sepia toning created the aura of another era. In 1997, E.M.A. was a winner in the Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Competition and was a Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival participant.

**EMMA KOHLMANN (B. 1989, AMERICAN)**

Emma Kohlmann evokes contemporary feminine mythology in her lush ink washes and watercolors, positioning images of plants, butterflies, and birds alongside enigmatic faces and figures. Kohlmann has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including a solo exhibition at Jack Hanley Gallery, New York. In 2021, she participated in Tom of Finland Foundation's charitable auction *Sexology 101*. Kohlmann lives and works in Florence, MA.

**ETIENNE (B. 1933 D. 1991, AMERICAN)**

Domingo "Dom" Francisco Juan Esteban Orejudos, Secundo, also known by the artist names Etienne and Stephen, was an artist, ballet dancer, and choreographer, best known for his groundbreaking masculine gay male erotica beginning in the 1950s. Like Tom of Finland, Etienne's leather-themed art promoted an image of gay men as strong and masculine, as an alternative to the then-dominant stereotype of weak and effeminate. He has been honored with three separate panels in the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

**FLORIAN HETZ (B. 1975, GERMAN)**

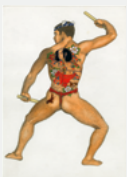
Photographer Florian Hetz closes in on those seemingly everyday moments and the bodies in their state at the time, elevating them and translating them into his hyper-focused, visceral language. In 2017, during an artist residency at Tom of Finland Foundation, Hetz introduced landscapes and still-lives into his work and engaged with natural light. Hetz lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

**GEORGE QUAINANCE (B. 1902 D. 1957, AMERICAN)**

Regarded as a master painter of the male physique, George Quaintance was an artist famous for his intensely homoerotic depictions of men in mid-twentieth-century physique magazines. Using historical settings to justify the nudity or distance the subjects to modern society, his artworks featured strongly idealized muscular, semi-nude or nude male figures. Quaintance's work for magazines such as *Physique Pictorial*, *Demi-Gods*, and *Body Beautiful* inspired later homoerotic artists.

**GIO BLACK PETER (B. 1979, GUATEMALAN)**

Gio Black Peter is an artist who, since the late 2000s, has made a name for himself as an underground performance artist, actor, and painter. Often representing members of the queer community and historically underrepresented figures, the artist contextualizes his subjects within present-day issues like the Black Lives Matter movement or censorship discrimination. In 2019, Peter was an Artist-in-Residence at Tom of Finland Foundation and has participated in Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals. Peter lives and works in New York, NY.

**GOH MISHIMA (B. 1924 D. 1988, JAPANESE)**

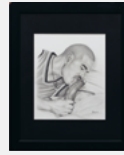
Goh Mishima (born Tsuyoshi Yoshida), was a homoerotic fetish artist and founder of the magazine *Sabu*. Noted for his illustrations of "macho-type" men, often in bondage and with yakuza-inspired *irezumi* tattoos, he is regarded by artist and historian Gengoroh Tagame as a central figure in the first wave of contemporary gay artists in Japan. During the late 1950s, Mishima discovered the art of Tom of Finland, who came to influence his work.

**GREGORY MASKWA (B. 1953, CANADIAN)**

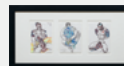
Gregory Maskwa is an artist and art editor whose clients include Buckingham Palace and famed beat poet Allen Ginsberg. During his twenty-five-plus years in New York, his works were exhibited in various galleries, most notably at Visual Aids.

**HEATHER BENJAMIN (B. 1989, AMERICAN)**

Heather Benjamin received her B.F.A. in Printmaking from the Rhode Island School of Design. Benjamin makes figurative works that revolve around a mystical feminine protagonist, who simultaneously serves as an avatar for her personal experiences of the traumas of womanhood and a manifestation of power, resilience, and self-embodiment. Benjamin participated in the group exhibition *Heaven and Hell* at Tom of Finland Foundation, Los Angeles, CA (2020), curated by Seth Bogart and Jess Scott. Benjamin lives and works in New York, NY.

**HECTOR SILVA (B. 1955, MEXICAN)**

Hector Silva is a self-taught artist who has been producing work for more than twenty-five years. With Los Angeles' rich Latino and Chicano culture, Hector draws from the Latino tradition, exploring themes of cultural identities, eroticism, and beauty. In 1997, Silva was a Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Competition winner, and in 2018 was inducted into Tom of Finland Foundation's Artist Hall of Fame. Silva lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**HIROSHI SHIMOYAMA (JAPANESE)**

A Tom of Finland Foundation member in 2004, the artist, who also works under the names Gorilla, Monster, and Shimo Himo, entrusted the Foundation with his artwork so that they may share it with the world.

**JAY JORGENSEN (B. 1964, AMERICAN)**

Jay Jorgensen is a writer, photographer, film and fashion historian, and collector. He has authored three books on Hollywood history. In 1999, Jorgensen was a winner of the Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Competition Grand Prize. His photographs have been published in magazines such as *T.V. Guide* and *People*, and *Shades of Desire*, a monograph of his photography work, was published by Bruno Gmunder in 2006. Jorgensen lives and works in Palm Springs, CA.

**JEAN FERRERO (B. 1931, FRENCH)**

Jean Ferrero is a self-taught photographer who has produced 20,000 photographs using 150 or more models. Photographing his athletically-built friends in natural landscapes from 1950 through the 1970s, Ferrero sold "cartes postales" (postcard size prints), color slides, and 8mm black and white or color films by mail in Europe and the U.S.A. Ferrero lives in Nice, France.

**JESS SCOTT (B. 1984, AMERICAN)**

Jess Scott is a self-taught artist working across different media and has developed projects like the arts publication *Quinto Quarto Quarterly* (Q.Q.Q.). Scott has led rock and roll groups based in San Francisco, CA, and sometimes curates the gallery project, "The Staircase," showcasing like-minded artists in and around Los Angeles, CA. Scott co-curated with Seth Bogart the group exhibition *Heaven and Hell* at Tom of Finland Foundation, Los Angeles, CA (2020). Scott lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**JIM FRENCH / LÜGER (B. 1932 D. 2017, AMERICAN)**

Jim French was an artist, illustrator, photographer, filmmaker, and publisher. In 1966 under the business name Lüger, French published several series of erotic drawings of the male figure. He has also produced work under the names Rip Colt and Arion and is best known for his association with Colt Studio, which he, with business partner Lou Thomas, created in late 1967. Thomas parted from the endeavor in 1974, leaving French to continue to build what would become one of the most successful gay male erotica companies in the U.S.A. French was inducted into the Tom of Finland Foundation's Artist Hall of Fame shortly after his death in 2017.

**JIM SHAW (B. 1952, AMERICAN)**

The practice of contemporary artist Jim Shaw spans a wide range of artistic media and visual imagery. Since the 1970s, Shaw has mined the detritus of American culture, finding inspiration for his artworks in comic books, pulp novels, rock albums, protest posters, thrift store paintings, and advertisements. His ever-growing collection of found artworks has been the subject of its own exhibition on several occasions. Shaw lives and works in Los Angeles, CA, and Milford, CT.



**JOHN WATERS (B. 1946, AMERICAN)**

Over a career spanning four decades, visual artist John Waters has also been a film director, writer, actor, and journalist. Themes and motifs of provocation – race, sex, gender, consumerism, and religion – are unapologetically central to his practice and presented with a brand of wit and cynicism that is uniquely John Waters. He was named the 2016 Tom of Finland Foundation Cultural Icon. John Waters lives and works in Baltimore, MD.

**JOHNNY SMITH (B. 1979, AMERICAN)**

Actor, writer, producer, and artist Johnny Smith attended the Performing and Visual Arts High School in Houston, TX, studying theater. Smith makes short films, comedic videos, and digital collages. His digital art blends the themes of surrealism, sex, silliness, and stupidity. Smith lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**KENNETH ANGER (B. 1927, AMERICAN)**

Kenneth Anger (born Kenneth Wilbur Anglemeyer) is a pioneer of avant-garde film and video art, actor, and cult author. His iconic short films are characterized by a mystical-symbolic visual language and phantasmagorical-sensual opulence that underscores the medium's transgressive potential. Anger's work fundamentally shaped the aesthetics of 1960s and 1970s subcultures, the visual lexicon of pop and music videos, and queer iconography. Anger lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**LINK (B. 1928 D. 2010, AMERICAN)**

Professor, avid photographer, and accomplished musician, Link was an artist from America's Midwest who wished to remain anonymous even when he contacted Tom of Finland Foundation before his death to donate his works.

**MARCEL ALCALÁ (B. 1990, MEXICAN-AMERICAN)**

Marcel Alcalá is a multidisciplinary artist whose work encompasses painting, sculpture, and performance. Alcalá's work finds personal expression in exuberant cultural and aesthetic intersections. Alcalá is directly influenced and responds to their lived experience as a queer artist of Mexican American heritage growing up in Southern California. In 2020, they were an Artist-in-Residence at Tom of Finland Foundation. Alcalá lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**MARCELLO LUPETTI (B. 1952 D. 2001, ARGENTINEAN)**

Marcello Lupetti survived kidnapping and six months of torture by the Argentinian secret police before moving to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where he directed his talents toward computer science, art, and political activism. Lupetti migrated to Germany, where he began his career as a sculptor, focusing on classical works. In 1995, he traveled to the U.S.A. and finally settled in Los Angeles, CA, with Terry Turner. Lupetti exhibited at Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals for several years. Lupetti and Turner left Tom of Finland Foundation works to sell with the proceeds going to a fund to assist artists with materials, registration fees for classes and exhibitions, and to aid them with documentation of their artwork.

**MARTYN THOMPSON (B. 1961, BRITISH)**

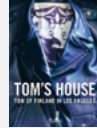
Martyn Thompson is a photographer based in New York City who specializes in still life, interior, beauty, accessory, fashion, and travel photography. He collaborated with Michael Reynolds as the photographer for the book *TOM House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles* (published by Rizzoli, 2016), an immersive glimpse into the private, domestic world of Tom of Finland.

**MATT LAMBERT (B. 1982, AMERICAN)**

Matt Lambert is an acclaimed filmmaker, visual artist, photographer, and cofounder of queer, xxx content-studio called Vitium, whose gripping, sensual work across narrative film, experimental documentary, music, video, fashion, and porn fuses the worlds to tell stories of queer intimacy. In 2019, Lambert contributed many of his photographs to *The Body Is An Instrument* benefit exhibition at Tom of Finland Foundation. *Pleasure Park* (2019) is an artifact from the film of the same name, shot at Tom of Finland Foundation. Matt Lambert lives and works in Berlin.

**MICHAEL KIRWAN (B. 1953 D. 2018, AMERICAN)**

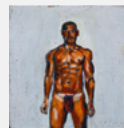
Michael Kirwan was an artist known for his distinctively stylized erotic illustrations and comics, published in over 650 magazines and exhibited worldwide. Although he focused primarily on homoerotic themes, he also produced substantial work for the heterosexual and fetish markets. Kirwan was the first Artist-in-Residence at Tom of Finland Foundation, and the room he inhabited at TOM House is now officially named The Kirwan Solarium. In 2004, he was inducted into Tom of Finland Foundation's Artist Hall of Fame.

**MICHAEL REYNOLDS (AMERICAN)**

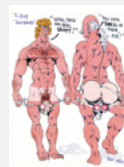
Michael Reynolds is a creative director, working as an editorial stylist, exhibition and set designer, advertising director, curator, visual brand consultant, and book editor. Today, he serves as *Wallpaper's* U.S. director and is Editor-at-Large of *Architectural Digest*. Reynolds is the co-author of *TOM House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles* (published by Rizzoli, 2016), an immersive glimpse into the private, domestic world of Tom of Finland. Reynolds lives and works in New York, NY.

**MICHEL LAGUERRE (B. 1953, FRENCH)**

Michel Laguerre is a painter whose works got first recognized, rewarded, and published in the 1980s. He continues his career with embroidery and collage works, appropriating Tom of Finland's characters from the 1990s in his art.

**MIGUEL ANGEL REYES (B. 1964, MEXICAN-AMERICAN)**

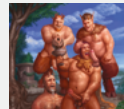
Miguel Angel Reyes is a portrait and figurative painter, muralist, printmaker, illustrator, and professor of art. Reyes is an instructor of model drawing in the Fashion Department of the Otis College of Art and the coordinator of Drawing Sessions at Tom of Finland Foundation. In 2009, he received a Tom of Finland Special Recognition Award.

**MIKE KUCHAR (B. 1942, AMERICAN)**

Mike Kuchar is an underground filmmaker, actor, and artist. In 1993, he was the recipient of the United States Artist award and, in 2017, received the Guggenheim Fellowship. With his twin brother George, Kuchar became an iconic figure in the New York underground film scene in the 1960s with their no-budget 8mm films that sent up Hollywood epics, romances, and sci-fi B movies, such as *Sins of the Fleshapoids* and *The Craven Sluck*. Kuchar lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

**MINORU (B. 1948, JAPANESE)**

Minoru attended Asia University in Tokyo. He had his first show in the U.S.A. at the 2003 Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival. In Los Angeles, CA, where he sold his first signed original work and other various prints. In 2003, he entered the Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Competition, and has regularly attended Foundation's Drawing Sessions, and shown at numerous Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals both in Los Angeles and New York. After his partner died, in Japanese tradition, Minoru renounced drawing. Minoru lives in Los Angeles, CA.

**MR GRUTS (B. 1983, NEW ZEALANDER)**

Figurative artist Mr Gruts first forayed into a career in animation and later genre painting consisting of fantasy, science fiction, and horror before developing a career in erotic art. Channeling Tom of Finland, Mr Gruts realized that the social good could be attained by showing men in acts of affection instead of acts of destruction. The scenes often feature thickly proportioned men in working-class professions or activities. In 2020, Mr Gruts won the Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Contest Grand Prize. Mr Gruts lives and works in New Zealand.

**NIGEL KENT (B. 1933 D. 2017, AUSTRALIAN)**

Painter, illustrator, and sculptor Nigel Kent studied art in Sydney before leaving for England in 1959 to build a career as an artist. Kent's works feature gay S&M fantasies. Starting in 1978, Kent's works have been placed in many private collections. His work also appeared in leading S&M magazines such as *Drummer*, *Toy*, and *Mr. SM*. Kent is regarded as one of the most influential artists working in the leather and S&M genre and he spent the last part of his career in Amsterdam.

**OLAF (B. 1938 D. 1997, AMERICAN)**

Olaf Odegaard's contributions to the homoerotic community date back to the late 1970s. He was a fellow artist of Tom of Finland, Etienne, Domino, and a slew of other greats whose works were featured in the American magazine *Drummer* from early on. Olaf was, in a sense, adopted by Foundation in the mid-1990s. He was on his way to becoming homeless and, having led a monastic life for many years, had lost the confidence to go anywhere. The Foundation got him an apartment across the street from Tom of Finland Company in Silver Lake, Los Angeles, CA, and everyone contributed to finding buyers for his works.

**ORSEN (BRITISH)**

Orsen (born Mark Haddon) was a costume designer better known for his erotic art and cartoons. Active in the 1960s and '70s, his artist name was inspired by the William Shakespeare *Twelfth Night* character Orsino.

**PALANCA (B. 1968 D. 2014, PERUVIAN)**

Palanca (born Pedro Saltillana) was an artist known for his homo-fetish art, which centers on the bare male foot. In 2001, Palanca went to Los Angeles, CA, where he met everyone at Tom of Finland Foundation. He showed at Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals, LA Pride's Erotic City, and TOM's Bar. In 2007, he was honored with a Special Recognition from Tom of Finland Foundation. His drawings were published in the American magazines *FootScene*, *Sneerzine*, *Honcho*, and *Inches*, and also in European magazines.

**PATRICK LEE (B. 1969, AMERICAN)**

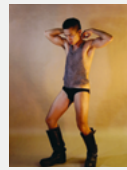
Patrick Lee is a portrait artist and photographer working mainly with pencil. In 1993, Lee was a winner of the Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Competition. His work can be found in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Huntington Museum of Art, Huntington, WV; and Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH. Lee is the recipient of the Walter Gropius Master Artist Fellowship (2016), the Peter S. Reed Foundation Achievement Award (2006), and the Nikon 200 Grand Prize (2000). Lee lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**PETER BERLIN (B. 1942, GERMAN)**

Peter Berlin (born Armin Hagen Freiherr von Hoyningen-Huene) is a photographer, artist, filmmaker, clothing designer, model, and gay icon. Berlin started taking self-portraits of himself in the 1970s. By modifying his clothes, choosing various props and settings, and sometimes using double-exposure to create a second image, Berlin would photograph himself in ways that create a hyper-sexualized, overtly masculine image. His two films, *Nights in Black Leather* (1973) and *That Boy* (1974), revolutionized homoerotic film by bringing gay male erotic films artistic legitimacy. He was named the 2015 Tom of Finland Foundation Cultural Icon and in 2021, he participated in Tom of Finland Foundation's charitable auction *Sexology 101*. Although he retreated from the limelight in the 1980s, he continues to make videos of himself. Berlin lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

**PHILIP CORE (B. 1951 D. 1989, AMERICAN)**

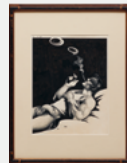
Philip McCammon Core was an artist and writer who spent most of his life in England. A figure painter and draughtsman, Core was well-known as a broadcaster of arts and a photographic critic in the British national press. He became the photography critic for *The Independent* and wrote a number of obituaries for the newspaper, including those for Robert Mapplethorpe and Jean-Michel Basquiat. His work is in the collections Arts Council of Great Britain, London, and Tom of Finland Foundation, Los Angeles, CA.

**PHUC LE (B. 1985, VIETNAMESE/AMERICAN)**

Phuc Le works mainly with photography, utilizing analog and digital processes. Focusing on social structures, mainly human connections and relationships in his multi-faceted consciousness, Le makes chromogenic prints through a performative approach to portraiture. Though his work is ever-evolving in ideas and media-of-practice, he is presently fixated on technology concerning sub-communities, the collective formation of a New-American identity, and trending culture in mainstream and underground media. In 2018, he was a Tom of Finland Foundation Artist-in-Residence. Le lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**R. DANIEL FOSTER (B. 1957, AMERICAN)**

R. Daniel Foster is a video artist and writer with visual work featured by Los Angeles' art institutions such as LA Opera, Hammer Museum, and Center Theatre Group, as well as Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN. His short films and documentaries have received nominations and awards, including Best Experimental Film for his short "Airborn" at the International Festival of Cinema and Technology.

**REX (B. 1947, AMERICAN)**

Over the past four decades, the artist has meticulously detailed pen-and-ink drawings that have delighted and outraged a worldwide audience with their homoerotic subject matter, sometimes sweet and sometimes raw. Rex began homoerotica in the 1960s. In 2017, Rex was inducted into the Tom of Finland Foundation Artist Hall of Fame. Rex lives and works in Amsterdam.

**RICK CASTRO (B. 1958, AMERICAN)**

Rick Castro is an artist working in photography, writing, and filmmaking whose work focuses on fetish and BDSM. Castro began his early career working as a fashion stylist and costume designer. Castro first became a freelance photographer in 1988, with his work appearing in *Drummer* magazine and *The Advocate*. His photographs are characterized by rich and visceral tableaux tinged with S&M, leather, and sexual pleasure. Castro has hosted his weekly Wednesday Tea Salon and monthly book club at TOM House. In 2015, Castro was inducted into the Tom of Finland Foundation Artist Hall of Fame. Castro lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**RINALDO HOPF (B. 1955, GERMAN)**

Rinaldo Hopf is an artist, curator, and editor. Hopf studied art, religious studies and ethnology in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany; San Francisco, CA; and Bremen, Germany from 1974 to 1981. Parallel to his artistic work, Hopf curates exhibitions and, together with the journalist Axel Schock, has been the editor of *My Gay Eye – Mein Schwules Auge* since 2003. In 2020, he was a Tom of Finland Foundation Artist-in-Residence. Hopf lives and works between Berlin and Freiburg, Germany, and Tuscany, Italy.

**ROB CLARKE (B. 1964, AMERICAN)**

Artist Rob Clarke pokes fun at masculine ideals and his own sexual obsessions in his art. His subjects include a menagerie of daddies, twinks, trolls, gymbunnies, adult babies, and dog slaves. Clarke has exhibited in the U.S.A. and Canada since the early 1990s and published his work in porn magazines and anthologies of erotic artists. Clarke's images pay homage to and parody Tom of Finland. Parallel to his art, Clarke is an illustrator and animator for children's educational software.

**SAL SALANDRA (B. 1945, AMERICAN)**

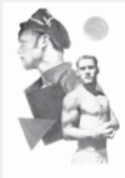
Sal Salandra is a self-taught artist with parents from Italy. After a long career dressing hair in New Jersey, NJ, his passion for his favorite pastime, needlepoint, has taken center stage. His large-scale, embroidered canvases – what he calls "thread paintings" – are now intricate and explicit tableaux of distinctive sexual scenarios. Salandra draws inspiration from his life experiences, religion, and sexual subcultures. Salandra lives and works in East Hampton, NY.

**SETH BOGART (B. 1980, AMERICAN)**

Seth Bogart is an artist and musician who has been a central figure in the queer and punk art scenes of the West Coast. His work spans a variety of media, including ceramics, painting, music, and clothing design. He is known for his solo career and bands *Hunx* and *Hi Punx* and Gravy Train!!!!. He also runs the streetwear line Wacky Wacko. Bogart co-curated with Jess Scott the group exhibition *Heaven and Hell* at Tom of Finland Foundation in 2020. Bogart lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**SHEREE ROSE (B. 1941, AMERICAN)**

Sherree Rose is an American photographer and performance artist. Rose's personal journey and transformation from the mid-thirties divorced Westwood housewife into an underground documentarian and participant as she chronicled BDSM partnerships, disability advocacy, and LGBTQ+ partnerships and identity, contextualize her multimedia work. Free love, radical feminism, and mortality contextualize her photography in addition to what was, and continues to be, spiritual to her: her camera, her performances, and her chosen family. In 2018, Rose received the Tom of Finland Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. Rose lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**SILVIA PRADA (B. 1969, SPANISH)**

Silvia Prada is an artist whose figurative drawings celebrate gay iconography and popular culture. Her work as an illustrator and decorative artist has been described as monochromatic and geometric documentation of pop culture. In collaboration with Tom of Finland Foundation, Prada released the book *TOM* (published by Capricious, 2018). Prada created drawings in conversation with Tom's personal collages and archives – opening the narrative to understand new nuances of sexuality from a woman's perspective. Prada lives and works in New York, NY.

**SIMON HAAS (B. 1984, AMERICAN)**

Simon Haas pursues his passion, primarily inspired by Tom of Finland, for gay erotic artwork in pencil and through digital media. With his twin brother Nikolai, he is one half of the studio The Haas Brothers, noted for their sculptural works that blur the line between art and design. In 2021, Haas participated in Tom of Finland Foundation's charitable auction *Sexology 101*, and in the same year was a participant in the Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival. Haas lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**SLAVA MOGUTIN (B. 1974, RUSSIAN/AMERICAN)**

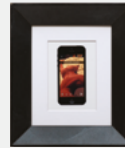
Slava Mogutin is a multimedia artist and author exiled from Russia for his outspoken queer writing and activism. A third-generation writer and autodidact journalist and photographer, he became the first Russian to be granted political asylum in the U.S.A. on the grounds of homophobic persecution. He's the winner of Andrei Bely Prize for poetry, the oldest independent literary prize awarded in Russia. In 2018, Mogutin received the Tom of Finland Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award and, in 2021, participated in Tom of Finland Foundation's charitable auction *Sexology 101*. Mogutin lives and works in New York, NY.

**STANLEY STELLAR (B. 1945, AMERICAN)**

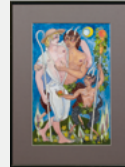
Stanley Stellar was educated at Parsons School of Design, where he focused on graphic design and photography. Stellar photographs the male visual culture, creating depth and humanity in his photographs. Stellar's photography has been shown in galleries in the U.S.A. and Europe, presented and discussed in over a dozen anthologies, and featured on the covers of twenty-six international magazines. *The Beauty of All Men*, Photographs 1976-2011, a monograph, was published by All Saints Press (2011). Stellar lives and works in New York, NY.

**STEVEN REIGNS (B. 1975, AMERICAN)**

Steven Reigns is a poet, artist, and LGBTQ+ activist. Reigns created the first-ever autobiographical poetry workshop for LGBTQ+ seniors, lectured and taught workshops to queer youth and people living with HIV. Known for his poetry publications, he has edited four anthologies and authored the collection of autobiographical poems, *Inheritance*. Reigns is an Anais Nin scholar and is the first appointed Poet Laureate of West Hollywood. A regular Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival performer, Reigns lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

**STUART SANDFORD (B. 1978, BRITISH)**

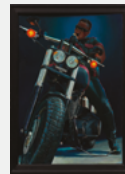
Stuart Sandford is a Sheffield-born multidisciplinary artist. Working across different media, including photography, sculpture, painting, moving image, and installation, he has exhibited his work widely in galleries and museums worldwide, most notably at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, MI, and Centre de la Photographie, Genève. In 2014, Sandford was an Artist-in-Residence at the Tom of Finland Foundation. Sandford lives and works between London, Los Angeles, CA, and Mexico City.

**SULTAN (B. 1923 D. 2003, BRITISH)**

Sultan (born John Darcy Nobel) created erotic artwork and was an early activist in the early gay rights movement in New York in the 1960s. He assisted Robert Clement in founding The Church of The Beloved Disciple, which was the first church to reach out to the gay and lesbian communities in New York. He is known for his pioneering work as curator of dolls and toys at the Museum of the City of New York. Sultan's Salon's library at TOM House is named after him.

**SUSANNA LUOTO (B. 1961, FINNISH)**

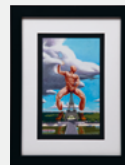
Susanna Luoto has a Masters of Arts in Journalism and works today as an independent agent in arts and communications for clients from the U.S.A. and Europe. She has been collaborating with Tom of Finland Foundation since 1990. Luoto is the author of *Salaisuksien suljettu - Kirjeiden Tom of Finland* (Sealed with a Secret – Correspondence of Tom of Finland, published by Like, 2017), examining the extensive correspondence between the years 1940–1991 of Touko Laaksonen.

**SUZANNE SHIFFLETT (B. 1965, AMERICAN)**

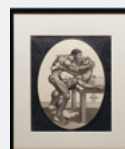
Suzanne Shifflett is an academically trained painter and a tattoo artist. Shifflett's work depicts gender non-conformity and aims to represent experiences, people, and communities that are invisible in society. She wants to express that which has little to no language, which is ignored in society, law, community, and art. In 2021, Shifflett received the Tom of Finland Foundation Life Achievement Award.

**TANK (B. 1949 D. 1995, AMERICAN)**

Tank (born Paul Tankersley) was an artist who paid homage to the male form with a focus on the American cowboy. In 1986, when he started TANK Graphics in Dallas, he produced high-quality photo prints that he offered through the mail and at gay rodeos. Tank's exhibition history includes solo shows in Chicago, IL; Seattle, WA; Long Beach, CA; and Dallas, TX. In 1992, the artist passed away due to complications resulting from AIDS. His longtime friend and companion of fourteen years, Stephen Worley, donated over twenty Tank originals, numerous prints, and negatives to Tom of Finland Foundation, Los Angeles, CA.

**TEDDY OF PARIS (B. 1961, FRENCH)**

Teddy of Paris has been creating images of handsome, well-built men caught in various situations, from pin-up to S&M, since the 1990s. Having studied French and art history at Sorbonne Université in Paris, France, the self-taught artist developed his unique style over a long period by simply observing the classical paintings of Michelangelo, Tintoretto, and Caravaggio, as well as photos, comics, and the works of other erotic artists such as Tom of Finland, Etienne, Brad Parker, The Hun, and Rex. He has participated in Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals. Teddy of Paris lives and works in Paris, France.

**THE HUN (B. 1938 D. 2019, AMERICAN)**

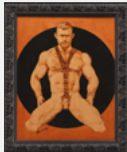
The Hun (born Bill Schmeling), was an artist known for his explicit, homoerotic fetish illustrations and comics. The Hun began producing work in the 1960s, creating work for *Physique Pictorial* and other beefcake magazines, initially under the artist name Torro. The Hun had a wonderfully rich relationship with Tom during the 1980s when they lived in Los Angeles, CA. They set up artist salons in each of their homes, and it was a wonderful coming together, full of sharing their practices and their own life experiences. Later after Tom had passed, Tom of Finland Company proceeded with a book on a collection of The Hun's works, *The Hun Book*. In 2002, The Hun was inducted into Tom of Finland Foundation's Artist Hall of Fame.





#### **TOM OF FINLAND (B. 1920 D. 1991, FINNISH)**

Tom of Finland (born Touko Laaksonen) is widely regarded as one of the twentieth century's most influential artists for his groundbreaking representation of the male figure. A master draughtsman whose passion for both his medium and his subject matter enabled him to become a powerful cultural force. Tom gave form to an imaginative universe that helped fuel real-world liberation movements and enabled gay men to access their strength in new ways. Tom of Finland has recently been the subject of numerous solo and two-person exhibitions worldwide, including *Tom of Finland: Pen and Ink 1965 – 1983*, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2021); and *Tom of Finland – The Darkroom*, Fotografiska, Stockholm, Tallinn, Estonia, and New York, NY (2020–2021).



#### **VALENTINE (B. 1943, AMERICAN)**

Valentine (F. Valentine Hooven, III) is a freelance writer and artist. In the years leading up to Tom of Finland's death, he wrote Tom's biography, tracing the evolution and impact of his art on the world, with the book *Tom of Finland - The Official Life and Work of a Gay Hero* (published by Cernunnos, 2020). In 2015, Valentine received the Tom of Finland Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. He lives and works in Palm Springs, CA.



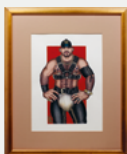
#### **VICTOR ARIMONDI (B. 1942 D. 2001, ITALIAN)**

Victor Arimondi was a photographer and model who lived and worked in Europe before moving to the U.S.A. in the late 1970s. His early fashion photography, his portraits of Grace Jones and other artists, and his male nudes photographed in New York and San Francisco captured the pre-AIDS culture of the 1970s and early 1980s. Arimondi's later work documented homeless individuals in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood and the toll of the AIDS epidemic on the city. In the summer of 2001, Arimondi succumbed to HIV disease.



#### **VIKTORIA RAYKOVA (B. 1984, BULGARIAN)**

Viktoria Raykova is a photographer and cinematographer. The magic of existence and the burning desire to remain present for every moment generated her passion for adventure and focus on documentary work. She has completed documentaries for organizations such as the Los Angeles Homeless Housing Association, UNICEF, and Planned Parenthood. Raykova lives and works across the U.S.A., Europe, and Asia.



#### **XAVIER GICQUEL (B. 1965, FRENCH)**

Artist Xavier Gicquel specializes in male erotic drawings. Previously an accessories creator for Pierre Balmain and menswear designer for Nina Ricci Monsieur, Gicquel also did illustrations for *Honcho Gay Adult Magazine* for more than a decade. Involved in minority support, he did illustrations for a variety of AIDS and gay rights associations. In 2006 he released his first book, *Rough n' Queeny* (published by Bruno Gmuender GmbH). Since 2012, he has developed his fashion brand JEKL. He has participated in Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festivals. Gicquel lives and works in Paris, France.

# Credits

## *AllTogether*

### **Curated by Tom of Finland Foundation and The Community**

#### EXHIBITION COMMISSIONERS

**Benjamin Pöntinen  
Sini Rinne-Kanto  
Tuukka Laurila**

#### CURATORS

**Benjamin Pöntinen  
Durk Dehner  
Marc Ransdell-Bellenger  
S.R. Sharp  
Sini Rinne-Kanto  
Tuukka Laurila**

#### COMMUNICATION

**Annabel Fernandes**

#### GRAPHIC DIRECTION

**Faye and Gina**

#### SUPPORTED BY

**Glenn Martens and DIESEL**

On the cover:

**TOM OF FINLAND**  
Untitled (preparatory), 1989  
Graphite on paper  
17.00" (43.18cm)  
x 14.75" (37.47cm)  
(Framed)  
©Tom of Finland Foundation

# Information

## VENICE

**23 April  
to 26 June  
2022**

**Studio Cannaregio  
Calle de le Conterie, 1345/D  
30121 Venezia VE, Italy**

**Free entry  
Tuesday to Sunday  
10 am to 6 pm**

## PARIS

**8 May  
to 26 June  
2022**

**The Community Centre  
9 Rue Méhul  
93500 Pantin, France**

**Free entry  
Thursday to Saturday  
12 pm to 8 pm**

**Sunday  
12 pm to 6 pm**

**#AllTogetherShow  
alltogether.diesel.com**

**@tomoffinlandfoundation  
@thecommunityparis  
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