

Interview with Tony R. Gorgon by Michael Erlewine

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Michael Erlewine: When and how did you get interested in art?

Tony R. Gorgon: I began drawing at a very early age and have been interested in art and creating images ever since. Interest in concert posters first piqued when I bought an old psychic TV gig poster. I became more interested in posters later on because it was a way to use my abilities and skills to get involved with the local music scene at the time, which was just starting to pull in some national acts of interest to me.

Michael Erlewine: What kind of art influenced you?

Tony R. Gorgon: Growing up, it was the art of Frank Frazetta, 70s sci-fi art, Giger, Bosch, Breugel, Iron Maiden and various Metal album artworks, Pushead, Manga. Recent favorites/influences/victims of theft: Albrecht Durer, Leonard Baskin, Aubrey Beardsley, Harry Clarke, Vaughn Bode, Ernst Fuchs, Max Ernst, Trevor Brown, Suehiro Maruo, Hans Bellmer, Georges Bataille, always Pushead, Tibetan Thangka, Ancient Babylonian and Mayan art, Austin Osman Spare, occult art in general, HP Lovecraft, on and on and on.

Michael Erlewine: What concert-posters artists influenced you?

Tony R. Gorgon: Art Nouveau and Art Deco posters. War propaganda posters. Revolutionary Chinese, Russian, Etc. art. 60s hippy-fied posters: Grateful Dead, Fillmore, Rick Griffin, Stanley mouse, etc., etc.

Michael Erlewine: What was your first concert-music poster?

Tony R. Gorgon: November 19, 1997, The Impala, Ft. Worth TX: Death In June, Boyd Rice, Scorpion Wind, Kapo!, Strength through Joy.

Michael Erlewine: What are the main venues you have done posters for?

Tony R. Gorgon: Music Dimensions (R.I.P.) and Green Door both in Oklahoma City

Michael Erlewine: What are the main bands you have done posters for?

Tony R. Gorgon: Favorites: Unearthly Trance, Sourvein, Electric Wizard, High on Fire, Death In June, Thrones.

Michael Erlewine: Please describe the media and size/formats you have most used?

Tony R. Gorgon: Media: Collage, traditional illustration, standard computer graphics tools. Format: digital fiery prints on 12x18 cardstock.

Michael Erlewine: What other poster artists have you collaborated with?

Tony R. Gorgon: None so far.

Michael Erlewine: Who are your favorite current poster artists?

Tony R. Gorgon: Fangs Anal Satan (japan). Not poster artists per se, but I admire the music related art/design of Stephen O'Malley, Jim Thirlwell (foetus), Steven Stapleton/Babs Santini (Nurse with wound), Peter "Sleazy" Christoperson (coil,throbbing gristly,psychic tv) , the Galakthorroee Label (Germany). The artist of the above-mentioned Psychic TV poster...Jason Austin I believe. I don't really keep up as much as I should with the poster "scene."

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Michael Erlewine: What are your favorite bands?

Tony R. Gorgon: Black Sabbath. Misfits/Danzig/Samhain. Burning Witch/Khanate/Sunn0, Legendary Pink Dots, Coil, Nurse With Wound, Metallica, Suicide, Haus Arafna etc (Galakthorroe), Velvet Underground, Celtic Frost, Iron Maiden, Inade, High on Fire, Sourvein, Electric Wizard, Cyclobe, NON/Boyd Rice, Death in June, Earth, Swans, AC/DC, Highway to Hell, Eno, Current 93, tons more....