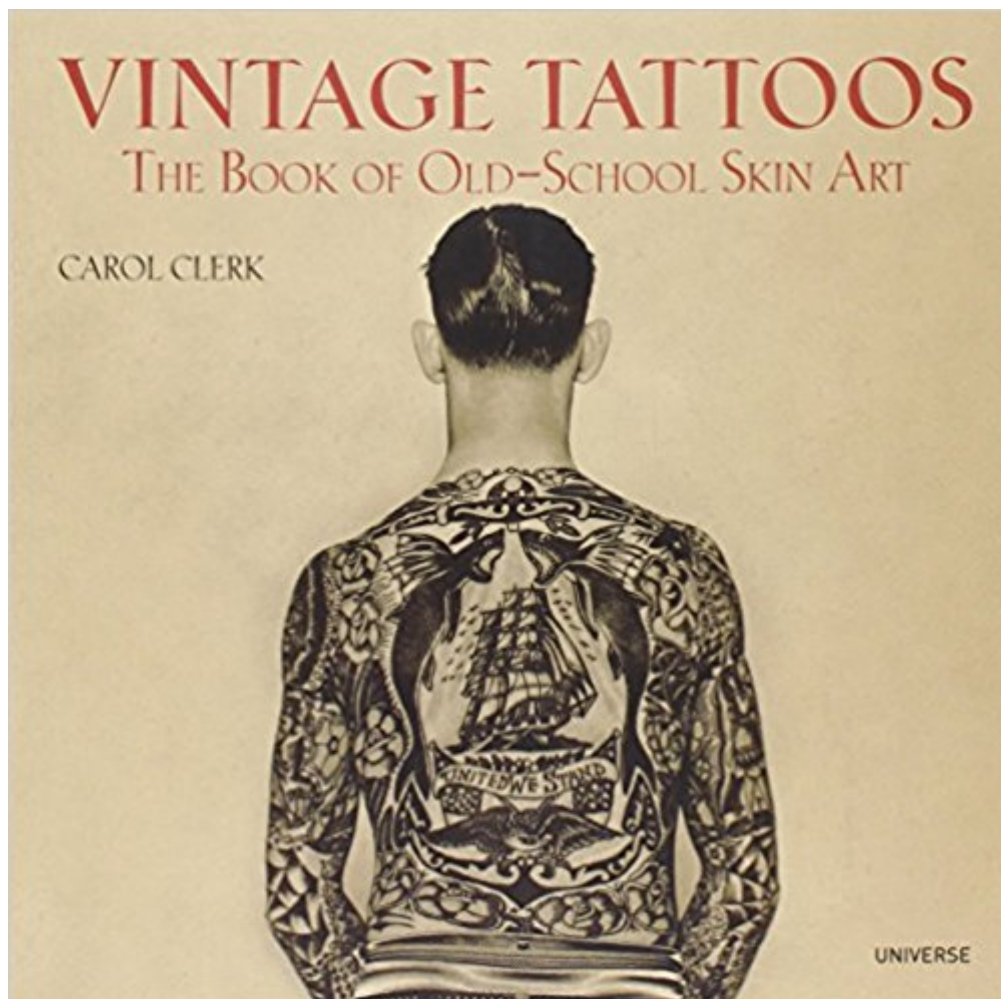


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Vintage Tattoos: The Book Of Old-School Skin Art



Synopsis

Tattoos have gone from badges of rebellion to fashion statements fully absorbed into mainstream culture. They are enjoying a renaissance, with graphic designers and artists creating specialty tattoos for a growing audience, unleashing a revival of interest in the bawdy vintage tattoo. Old school tattoos are being rediscovered (sometimes ironically, sometimes not) by a new generation. Originally embraced by rebels, sailors, and gangsters, these tattoos—broken hearts, naked girls, floral motifs, and maritime emblems—are now showing up on the fashion runway and in music videos. This book chronicles vintage motifs in thematic chapters interspersed with profiles of influential tattoo artists and their distinctive designs: Sailor Jerry Collins, Don Ed Hardy ("the Godfather of Tattoos"), Mike "Rollo Banks" Malone, Bert Grimm, Japan's Horiyoshi III, and Shanghai's Pinky Yun.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Universe (February 17, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0789318245

ISBN-13: 978-0789318244

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.7 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #99,308 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Body Art & Tattoo #47 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > History #188 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Fashion Design

Customer Reviews

"It seems like everyone and their mother has been inked. Carol Clerk's new tome, *Vintage Tattoos, The Book of Old-School Skin Art*, tracks the evolution of old-school pin-up girl pieces—as well as classic floral, nautical, death memorials and heart designs. ~Nylon Magazine "We've read our fill about tattooed circus acts and indigenous people, but we'll always make time for the scalawags who revolutionized tattoo art. The best chapters in Carol Clerk's *Vintage Tattoos: The Book of Old-School Skin Art* detail the history of nautical and patriotic tattoos and their superstitions. ~Inked Magazine "The

lavishly displayed wealth of brightly colored old-school flash is the heart of Vintage Tattoos, and the main reason you'll find yourself flipping through it again and again. (Clerk's) ruminations on these designs and their cryptic meanings are enlightening." ~Playboy.com "Vintage Tattoos is as much a tat history for tat lovers as it is for anyone into pop culture and art. Gems of tattoo lore transport us to the traveling circuses of the turn of the century (which kick-started America's tattoo fascination) and hidden backroom parlors which popped up once state governments started banning tattooing in the 1960s. It's a history lesson worth its ink." ~ModernTonic.com "Vintage Tattoos...is 256 pages of art and anecdotes. Salty stories of tattoo times when shotguns, not art school degrees, hung on the walls behind the parlor counter. When tattooists traveled with the circus, not metal bands. And when the art went underground because of tattoo bans." ~Needled.com "...an entertaining and informative title that should be in every tattoo enthusiast's book collection." ~Skin Art Magazine "Somehow quaint and sexy at once, this opus of the epidermis will stimulate smiles, winces, and perhaps more." ~Passport Magazine

Carol Clerk is a veteran music writer and author who has written for a number of underground newspapers and magazines like the weekly Melody Maker.

Ditto on the favorable reviews -- this gives a great history of influential artists and themes over the years, from early 1800's up through the 1950's. Focused mainly on American artists and old-school themes, but also includes a little on some of the great Brit, Nordic and Japanese artists as well. Nice balance of historic photos, flash and text, and well organized thematically. Very informative for those looking for a bit of background or researching their next ink.

This book is awesome...plenty of "olde tyme" tattoo flash for reference. People talk about "old school" all the time and don't really know what they're talking about...this book is entirely compiled of the original old school style flash and not awkward modern reinterpretations of it. The drawings contained in this book were created by self-taught untrained artists who only had a limited range of subject matter to emulate and execute. Many of the drawings may seem a bit rough and primitive but remember the art of tattoo has only recently been adopted by the fine arts community and this book represents the traditional artwork of tattooists in the early part of the twentieth century...in its completely unadulterated form without the self consciousness of modern art. This book is a must for the serious collector or general enthusiast of classical European/American tattoo traditions.

Got this for my mom!

This is a great book. It's that simple. If you're at all interested in classic or vintage tattoos then let this be your first book on the subject, or if you have other tattoo topic books, then you need to add this to that collection. I was interested in a book on old school or vintage tattoos. My main purpose was to learn a little bit more about Sailor Jerry Collins and his influences. I thought maybe there would be some other interesting tidbits of information on the history of what we now consider "vintage tattoos" and maybe some cool pictures - what I got was an amazing surprise. There is so much fantastic and detailed information - none of it boring. The book takes you on an incredible journey through time, style, artists and even equipment. Even if you don't know how to read, the pictures and old flash of these vintage tattoos are worth the price of admission ... ok, the price of the book, but you get the point. Whether you're looking for tattoo ideas, a tattoo history lesson or want to have a unique perspective on vintage tattoos - this is a must add to your bookshelf.

like it. not quite what I expected, but good none the less.

I bought this book for a burgeoning Ukrainian tattoo artist in zaporozhye oblast- he really appreciated it!

I got this for my granddaughter who is getting back into tattoo work. She was really thrilled. I wanted her to have examples of work outside of what she had done in the past. I was afraid she would be disappointed at the simplicity of some of the work, but she found that very valuable. It gave her what I wanted to give her. George H.

A nice addition to my library. Thanks

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