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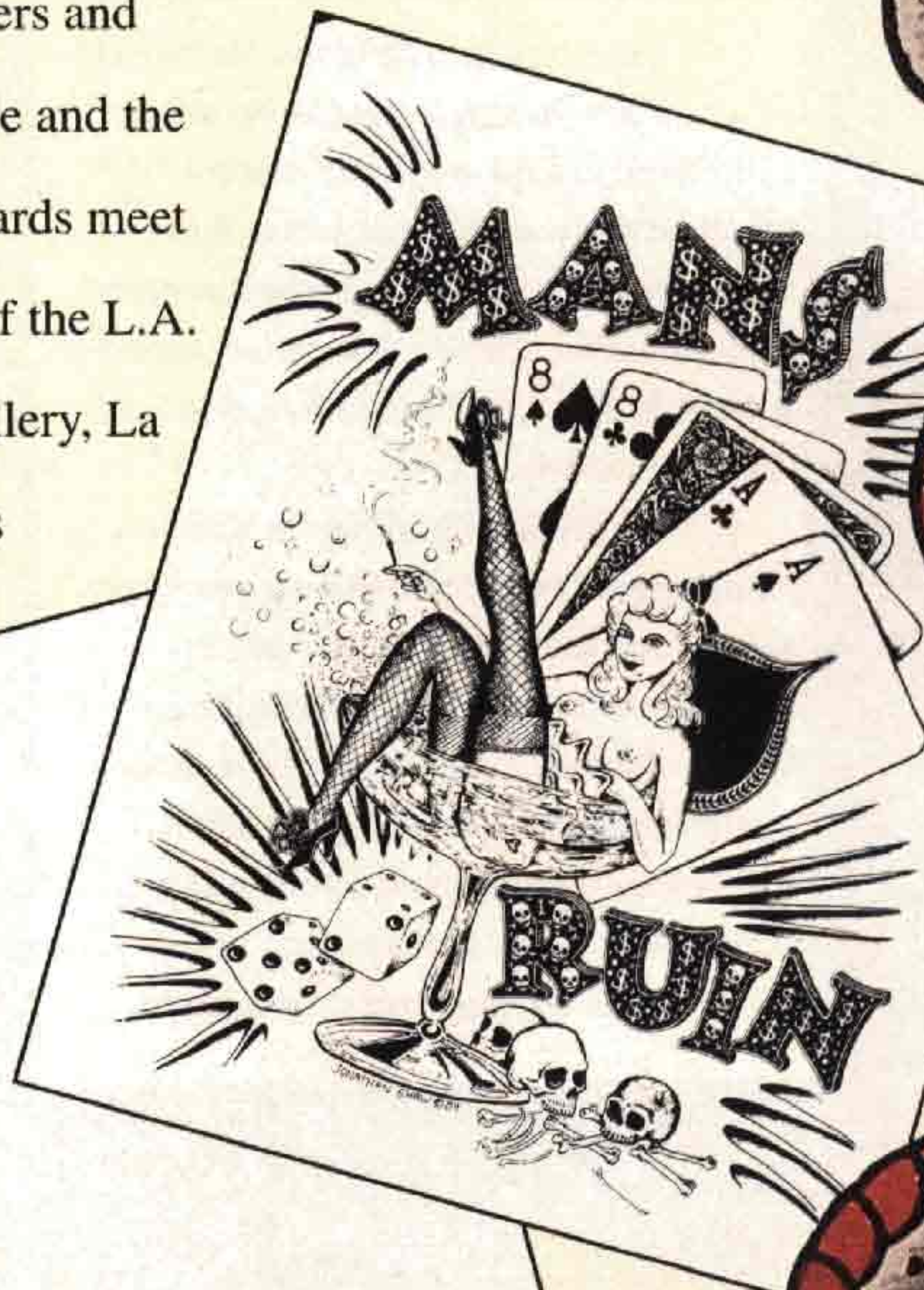


La Luz de Jesus gallery presents:

JONATHAN SHAW'S TATTOO FLASH SHOW



L.A.'s Melrose Avenue is the current hip haven of the city, the drag where Hollywood bikers and trendoids profile and the yuppie credit cards meet and greet. It's also the location of the L.A. underground's hottest art beat gallery, La Luz de Jesus. Over the years this showcase has presented a parade



of fresh
talent

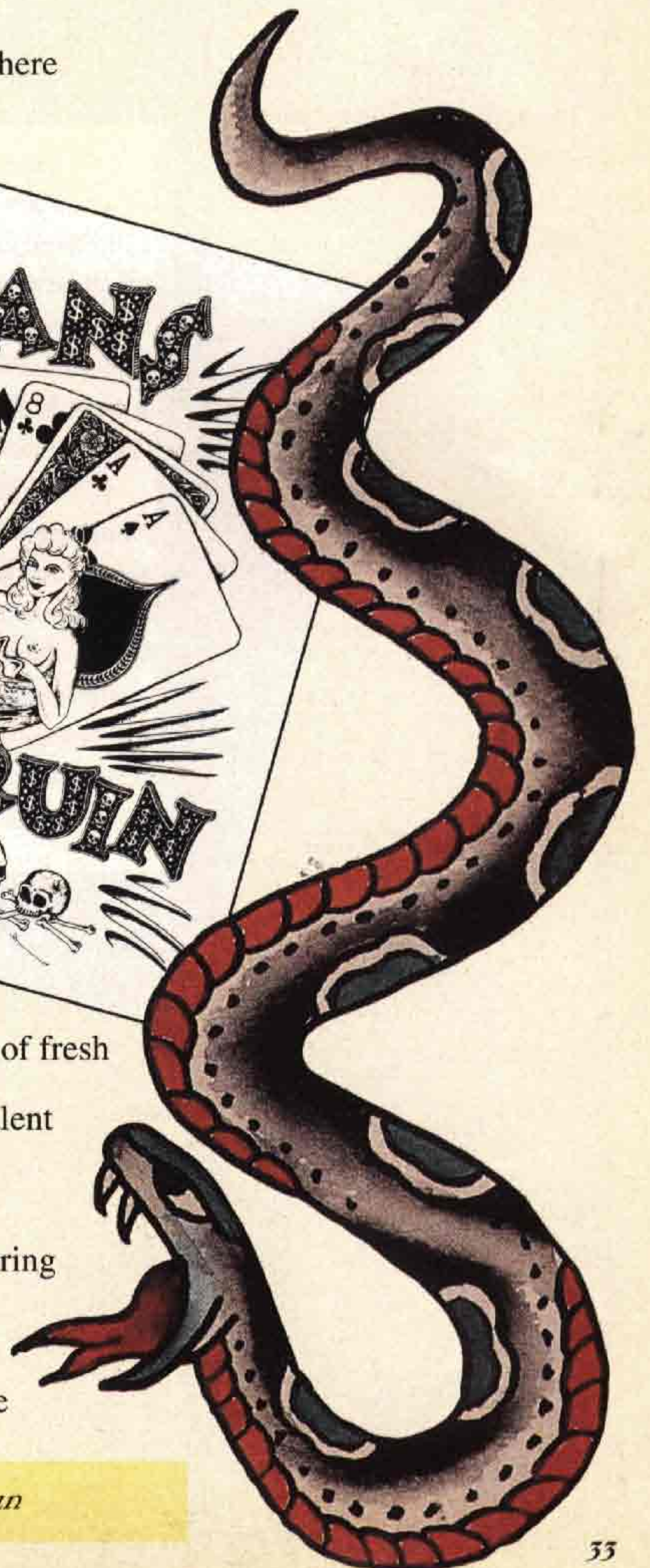
and energy from the

gritty underbelly of American art, featuring

work by artists like S. Clay Wilson, Mary Fleener, Robert Williams, R.K. Sloane, XNO, Gary Panter, Joe Coleman, The Pizz and others.

photography by Joel Holzman

La Luz de Jesus Gallery
proudly presents
"Tattoo Flash"
curated by Jonathan Shaw
September 11 through October 4, 1992
Opening Reception
Friday, September 11th, 8-11 p.m.
and
Special *Inkslinger's Ball* Reception
Thursday, September 17th, 8-11 p.m.
La Luz de Jesus Gallery
7400 Melrose Ave.
Upstairs
Los Angeles, Ca. 90046
213.651.4875

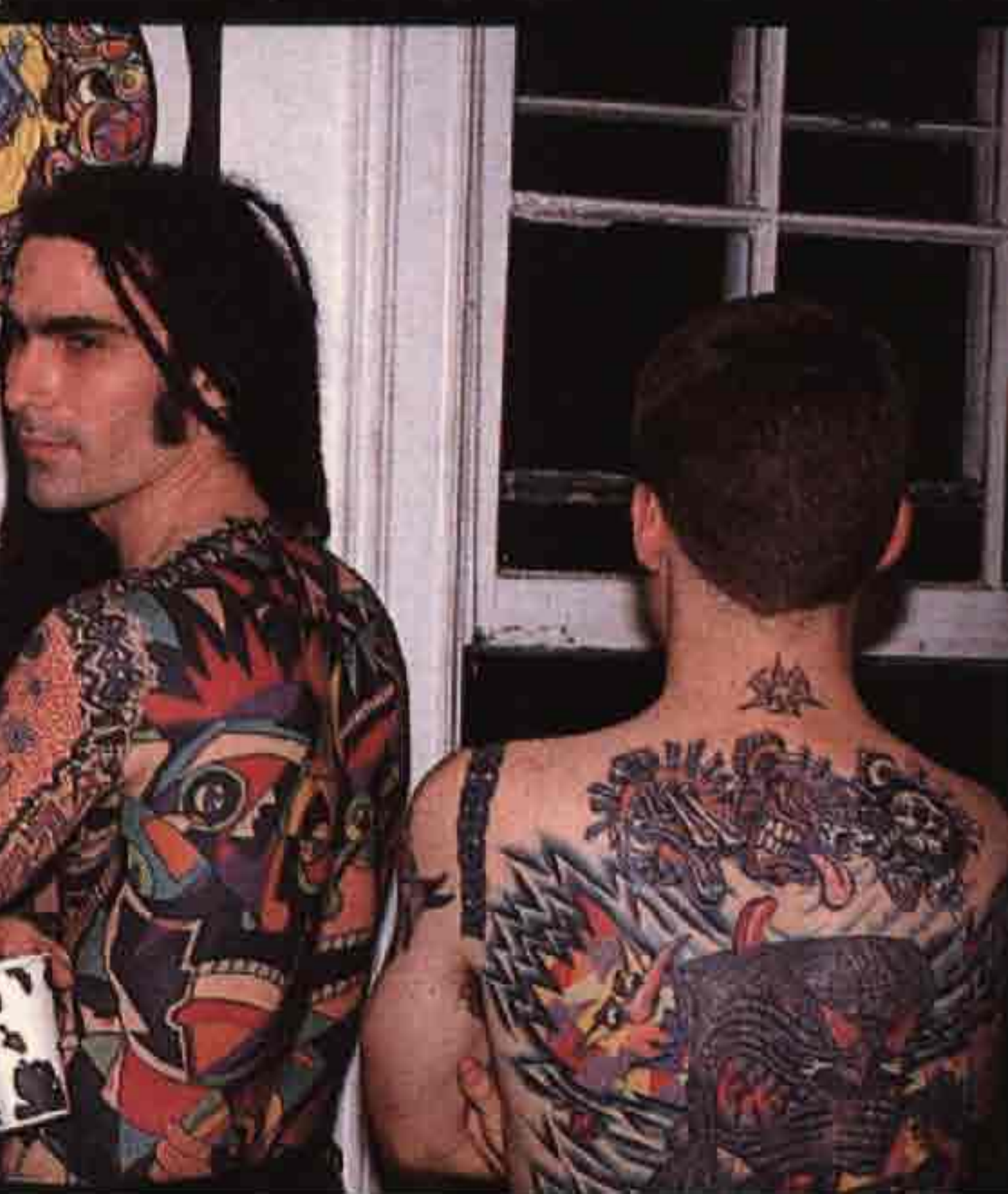




In keeping with his visionary and adventurous showings, La Luz's owner, Billy Shire, asked renowned tattooist Jonathan Shaw to curate a tattoo flash show much like Shaw's now historic flash exhibition that opened to overflow crowds at New York's Psychedelic Solution Gallery in 1991.

With the Ink Slinger's Ball looming on the horizon, Shaw once again eagerly fell to the task of assembling examples of cutting edge tattoo design from a diverse cross section of the tattoo world, lacing the line-up with a wide array of traditional tattoo lore from his extensive personal collection.

The opening party coincided





with the full moon on a Friday night just before the opening of the Inaugural Ink Slinger's Ball. The crowd was a mixed bag of L.A. style and culture. With attendees like underground icon Robert Williams, actor Judge Reinhold, actor Johnny Depp, Anthony Kiedis of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, David Lee Roth and local art heroes like Pam Roberts and The Pizz, legendary publisher Ron Turner and tattooists like Good Time Charlie Cartwright, Leo Zulueta and Amsterdam's Hanky Panky.

So many people showed up that many had to be turned away at the door—so a second opening party was held the next evening to accommodate the

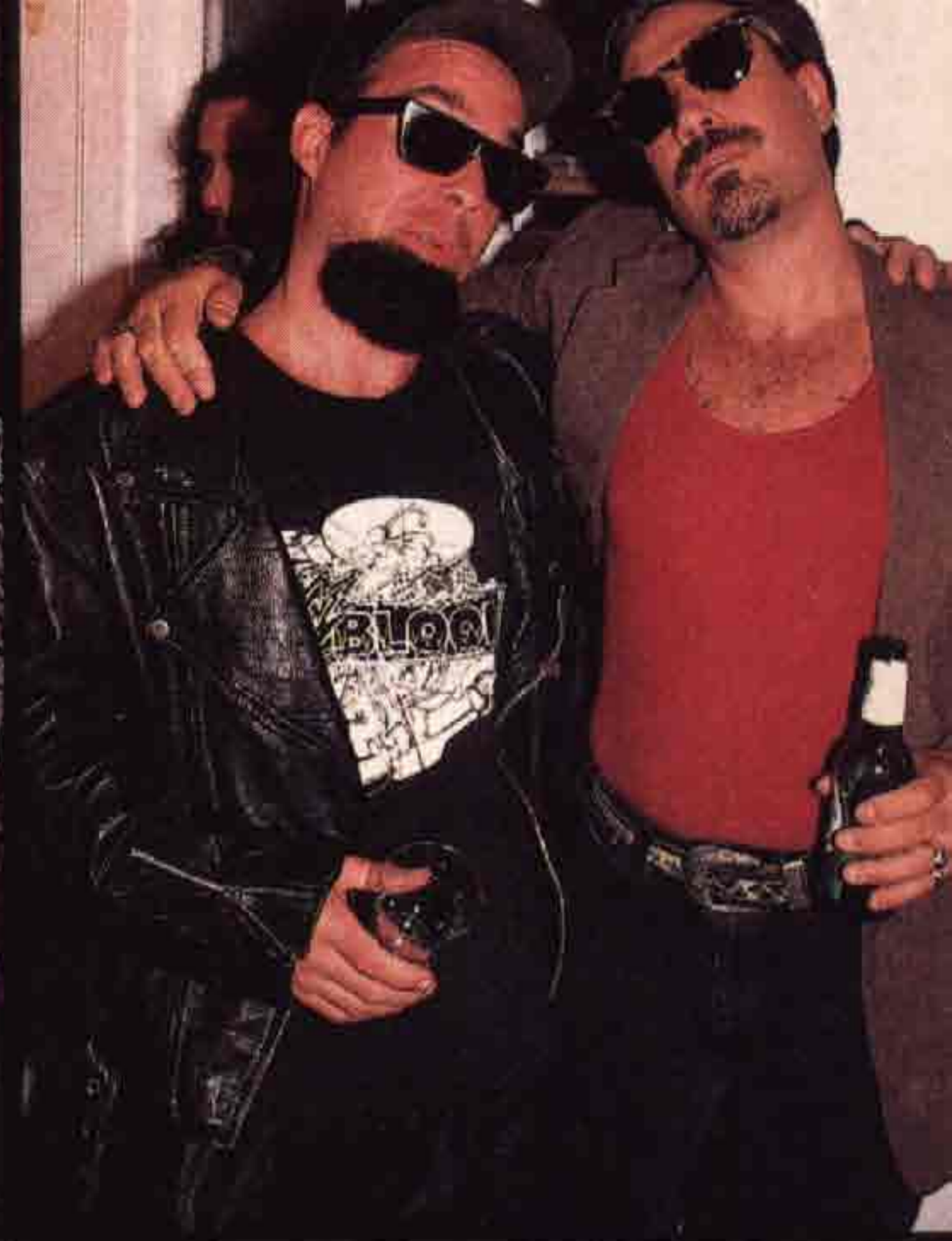




overflow crowds, who also attended a tattoo-related photo exhibition and signing at another part of the gallery.

A third "opening" party was held in the same space a few days later on the eve of the Inkslinger's Ball and many of the out of town artists whose work was on display were present. These artists and their work will have a strong influence on art trends in the years to come. The presence of tattoo influence is already evident in many areas, especially fashion. The so-called "folk arts" have always expressed and reflected the popular sentiments of their time, and modern tattooing, more than any other art, draws from a cross-cultural stew of





historical, mystical, and creative sources, producing a chaotic and colorful spread of apocalyptic mythological totemic imagery and voodoo/hoodoo-like graffiti which stands on its own against the sterile cold metal and concrete of today's computerized turn-of-the-millennium world.

The show's curator, Jonathan Shaw, is currently compiling a book on the art and history of tattoo flash to be released by Last Gasp Press in the spring of 1993. Much of the work on display at La Luz de Jesus will be included in that book.

