

Classic Posters Interview with Moxie Gusto by Michael Erlewine

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Michael@Erlewine.net

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

Moxie Gusto: I've always been an artist, from when I got my first crayons. I got turned on to poster art as a result of digging comic book art during the Marvel Comics early days. Then album cover art really got me interested even more. When I first saw the psychedelic posters from the Grande Ballroom, the Fillmore, and the Avalon Ballroom, I was mesmerized.

Michael Erlewine: What kind of art influenced you?

Moxie Gusto: Comic book art, psychedelic poster art, album covers, posters from the sixties.

Michael Erlewine: What concert-posters artists influenced you?

Moxie Gusto: David Singer, Wes Wilson, Carl Lundgren, Gary Grimshaw, Jim Blashfield, Stanley Mouse, Alton Kelley, and Bonnie MacLean.

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

Moxie Gusto: The One Night Stand Experimental Band. The United Methodist Church in Mt.Clemens, MI. 1966 or 1967.

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

Moxie Gusto: Tradewinds in Cotati, California, Phoenix Theater in Petaluma California, The Luther Burbank Center for the Arts in Santa Rosa California.

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

Moxie Gusto: The Pulsators, Neville Brothers, Meters, Moody Blues, King Crimson.

Michael Erlewine: What about favorite media/formats:

Moxie Gusto: I started off doing stuff by hand with magic markers and poster board, later switched to cut and paste and xerox copies. 8-1/2 x 11, mostly. Did lots of collage pieces in early 90's using shrink/enlarge copiers and colored ink cartridges on Astrobright papers. At that point I moved along to include 8-1/2 x 14 and 11 x 17 sizes. I now do mostly 13 x 19 inkjet prints

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

Moxie Gusto: I did a poster show with Lee Conklin.

Michael Erlewine: Who are your favorite current poster artists?

Moxie Gusto: Nocturnal Showprint, Jason Goad, Tara McPherson, Frank Kozik, Bird Machine, Randy Tuten.

Michael Erlewine: What are your favorite bands?

Moxie Gusto: Mink Deville, Love with Arthur Lee, Blasters, Los Lobos, RL Burnside, Etta James, Dr, John the Night Tripper, Jeff Beck, Ministry, Nine Inch Nails, Delbert McClinton, Lucinda Williams, Lyle Lovett, Luce, Paul Thorn, Little Feat.

Michael Erlewine: Have there been any shows of your work

Moxie Gusto: Awesome Art Gallery. Petaluma CA, with Lee Conklin. August and September 1993. Sonoma Futon

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