

It's All 2 Much Art Gallery
124 Cheltenham Road
Montpelier
Bristol BS6 5RW

It's all 2 Much

Email: art@itsall2much.com
Web: www.itsall2much.com
Telephone: 0117 924 7522

PRESS RELEASE

“Tit for Tat”

In this show, artist Neil Roberts hosts a gathering of tattoo-oriented art in celebration of the "Tattoo Renaissance" and examines the metamorphosis of this art form.



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The ‘Tit for Tat’ exhibition provides an insight into how the art of tattooing has perfused all levels and classes of modern society. Just as the graffiti covering our buildings reflect the dreams, fears and frustrations of our cultures, so too do the tattoos covering our skin.

We live in an era where the inner realities of mankind have bled through the skin and adorn the human temples, reflecting the style of the eternal soul or inner self. This exhibition examines the metamorphosis of this art form and celebrates the "Tattoo Renaissance", a period marked by technological, artistic and social change.

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Copyright JAMES COOPER



Copyright ZOE THOMAS

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This phenomenon is apparent on the hand-crafted bodies of the Curious Boudoir Dolls by Zoe Thomas, beautifully adorned with tattooed decoration, and in paintings by Chris Guest of tattoo-clad rock chicks lit like paintings by the Dutch Masters. James Cooper reminds us of the 'Old School' style of tattooing with his flashy dapper signs providing humour under the needle. Neil Roberts paints a decaying Marilyn Monroe adorning the slender arm of an iconic lady, while the photography of Anthony John Byrne is in the spirit of 'Sin City'. An LED-lit stencilled piece with luminous tribal by street artist Lemak renders a new level in this genre. These are but a few of the featured artists who will be showing their highly collectable works in this exhibition.



Copyright MATT KAYE

Creation Custom Tattoo will be making an appearance to bedeck the gallery in tattoo tradition. Featured artist and tattooist Michael Piper will be covering the back of a brave soul with a marvellous full colour, realism piece while Matt Kaye, owner of Creation Custom, will be demonstrating his well-honed skills attained over many years, specialising in Oriental and Black and White works.

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And last but not least... in the spirit of Mrs. M. Stevens Wagner, one of the earliest Tattooed Ladies who performed in the circus sideshows as a "freak" in 1907, join the vivacious Sophia Disgrace on the opening night for an abstract journey through sideshow and tasteful striptease revealing tattooed splendour and then watch her unleash a wanton hell of frenzied desire - not an act for the fainthearted! The live sound track to her show will be provided by the band Benign Plausibility.



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Grotesquely beautiful, extremely colourful; the show aims to persuade the viewer to see life through the eye of a needle.

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The "Tit for Tat" exhibition starts on Friday 8th August (private viewing night) and runs until Sunday 7th September at It's All 2 Much Art Gallery, 124 Cheltenham Road, Montpelier, Bristol BS6 5RW.

On Saturday 9th August, we plan to host a 'live' tattooing event by Matt Kaye and Michael Piper of Creation Custom Tattoo (subject to a successful application for the appropriate licence from Bristol City Council).

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For more information, please contact the gallery by telephone on 0117 924 7522 or by email at art@itsall2much.com.

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