

# Rich Cahill

*Painter, Tattoo Artist, Musician*

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New Jersey painter and tattoo artist Rich Cahill is constantly making, thinking and doing. Whether it's through tattooing, making work in the studio, performing music or political activism, Rich is constantly seeking truth and subverting the mainstream media matrix. The narratives put forth by the multi-national media corporations push Rich to make work: work that is particularly influenced by the current events and development in his community of rural NJ. Last year, Rich founded Rich Cahill Studio, a solo tattoo shop hybrid art studio and gallery.



With the inception of the shop Rich began aggressively painting and tattooing as a simultaneous organic practice, after exclusively tattooing since 1993. Rich's work demands a dialogue, a conversation, an active participant; it is largely dominated and driven by pictorial symbolism, often suggesting a type of narrative that Rich constructs internally, but is not transparent to the viewer. These works are also reflections of a type of wisdom or lack thereof in our culture, with the work acting as a lens through which Rich can explore and express these themes. He is largely influenced by outsider artists, apocalyptic artists like Nobert Kox and Frank Bruno, and Japanese art, particularly Horiyoshi III.

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2009 - present Owner, Artist Rich Cahill Studio, Frenchtown NJ: solo tattoo studio, art studio, gallery.
- 2009 - present Guest Artist Hand of Glory Tattoo, Brooklyn NY: guest tattoo artist.
- 2010 - present Guest Artist Rising Tide Tattoo Emporium, Boulder CO; guest tattoo artist.
- 1999 - 2009 Founder, Owner, Head Artist Immortal Ink Tattoo, Clinton & Flemington, NJ: established the most successful tattoo shops in Western NJ.
- 2010 - present Editor, Publisher Knuckle Dragger: political and cultural zine.

## SELECTED SOLO & GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Countdown Begins, The End Is Near, Brooklyn NY; group show.
- 2010 Charity Show, Gasket Goons, Phillipsburg, NJ; group show.
- 2009 Charity Show, Gasket Goons, Phillipsburg, NJ; group show.
- 2007 In Mind, Hetzel's Gallery, Clinton, NJ; solo show.

## SELECTED COMMISSIONS

- 2010 Album Cover, Just Surrender, Phoenix.
- 2009 Album Cover, Top Soil, S/T.
- 2006 Album Cover, Dave Cahill, The Huddled Masses.

## AWARDS & ACCALADES

- 2004 Philly Tattoo Arts Convention, 2nd Place Medium Color.
- 2003 New York City Tattoo Convention, 3rd Place Best Back or Chest Tatoo.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cooper, Warren, "Frenchtown's New Tattoo Parlor Shows Outsider Artwork, Too," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, January 6, 2010.
- French, Paul, "Your Skin Could Be This Artist's Next Canvas," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, July 24, 2003.
- Gryphon, "Ensuring Immortality," *Tattoo Review* # 83, 2000.