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GRAHMATTER

STUDIO · A ·

THE COVID CHRONICLES 10-14 HTX

2020

EDITORS NOTE

I have lived in Houston my entire life. If, it's an "H-Town thang", I have probably done it (to an extent), I've never gotten into that "purp"! I have personally witnessed many highs and lows in the Houston art community. Right now, we are at the best point I think I have ever witnessed. Growth is always going to be tough, but the accomplishments thus far are astounding.

Our travels through Texas have shown some major differences in how artist associate in the major cities. Lets take for example Dallas. Dallas tattoo artist have something that Houston area artist were missing; a sense of community. Dallas artist do more than just work together, they support each other. After a long day of tattooing, you are guaranteed to find Dallas artist huddled up in a corner at Wit's End, or even teamed up for some board games at each others homes. The artist are one another's biggest fans. As usual there is always going to be some head-butting, but its more on a "my brother shrunk my favorite tee" level. Yes Dallas peeps we know there are true issues up there too, but today I chose to focus on the pretty side of things. Anyways, Houston tattoo shops have long been stand alone shops. The artist that work together may grab a drink, but for the most part they go on to live separate lives. This week however, we visited not only a shop but a building full of talented artist. These artist are proud of the little community they are building, and so are we.

Check out page (5-6) to see who's making these huge changes to the Houston tattoo community!

2021 will bring changes for us all, Texas Inked is not excluded. One of the biggest changes that you will see is our level of support. We strive to bring more content from artist in Texas. We are reaching out and visiting studios to meet more of YOU! We are also checking out businesses owned and operated by tattooed people.

One of those businesses fits this weeks issue because its located right here in Houston. Wet My Plant is a Houston based plant shop in the heart of Montrose. The shop is quaint and the vibes are great! Check out our little stop at this amazing plant shop on page (4)

Editors Note Background is the artwork of Houston Street Photographer Ivan Cardoso.




[@ivo.media](https://www.instagram.com/ivo.media)
www.itsivomedia.com
See why we featured him and how you can become a featured artist as well on page (8)

ACCEPTING DONATIONS

We can't wait to see the day the stores are stocked with our magazines and cash is flowing like it's 2018... **You could be part of keeping us alive!**

The loss of convention season in 2020 combined with the unfortunate events of 2019 have depleted our finances. We would love nothing more than to keep promoting the **Texas Art Community** but need a little help. If you are able to make a donation we would greatly appreciate it!

Two ways to donate:

www.texasinked.com/store/donations or  [@texasinkedmag](https://www.instagram.com/texasinkedmag)



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**ROBBIE
CARSON**

701 W. GRAY ST

WET MY PLANT

HOUSTON, TX

Houston has a new little plant shop, hold the horrors!

*Unannounced one day a couple weeks back we stopped in to **Wet My Plant**. With such a giggle worthy name, who wouldn't want to see what's inside?*

Conveniently located right off the beating path in Montrose this cute little shop is going to flourish. Approaching the front door you get the feel you are about to step into Grandmas house. Wet My Plants is one of a couple businesses nestled in a old home turned duplex at the corner of West Gray & Stanford. The owners had stepped out right before we arrived, but the gentleman behind the counter did an amazing job filling us in on everything they had in stock. This is not the largest shop in Houston, but the selection was stellar. WMP has all the most wanted exotics as well as a nice selection of some fan faves. You can see by our pictures they were definitely not hurting for inventory, and were expecting a huge shipment in a couple days. My guess is if they didn't already have what you were looking for, they probably do now.

We look forward to following the success and growth of Wet My Plant! Give them a follow and if you are in the Houston area, stop in and check them out for yourself.



IG [@wetmyplant](https://www.instagram.com/wetmyplant)
www.pleasewetmyplant.com





STUDIO "A"

The East side of downtown Houston commonly referred to as "EaDo" is home to many unique businesses. You can find anything from coffee shops to concert venues on the same block. When Tattoo Artist [@grahmatter](#) told us he was in a studio in EaDo, there was little surprise.

The shock came when we stepped through the doors.

We were told to look for Studio "A"... We passed an office with a number, another number, and another. There was a cool minute when we were about to run out the door we came in.

Then, out came a shirtless guy with plastic wrap over his chest, a telltale sign tattooing was going on in the building. With a renewed feeling of hope we ventured on. "Up the stairs and through the left door", were the following directions... BUT Where are the fucking stairs!!! Our adventure soon came to an end when we located the mystery stairs, at the top Studio A. We were finally there!

The instructions were accurate, it was the building that had us lost. Come to find out the mystery of where they are located is what all the artist love most. This building will remain nameless, we won't give out the address, or any landmarks out of respect. But if one day you get invited, or book with an artist in the building, you will see our confusion and then understanding.

Now lets talk Studio "A" specifics. Studio "A" is jam packed with talent.

We are talking some of Houston's most talented artist:

[@thejavialvarez](#)

[@asmir.tattoos](#)

[@rickfour5](#)

[@grahmatter](#)

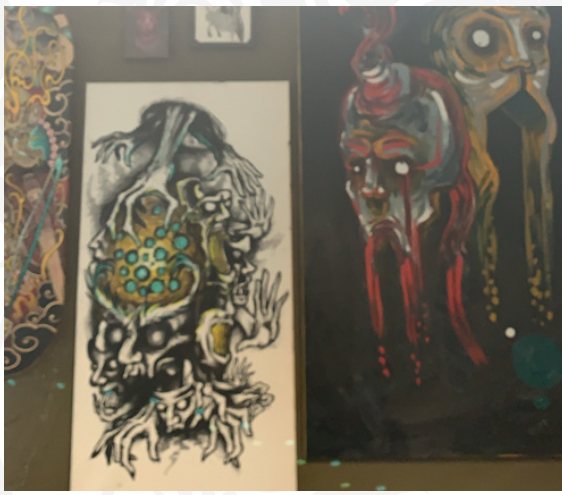
[@valentincolunga](#)

[@arkohs_guerrero](#)

Most all of these artist were hand picked to team up and build a creative empire. Remember we are just talking Studio "A" for right now. The walls are covered with huge paintings all done by the artists themselves. As you walk along, the floor stain turns into art too. There is not an empty crevice in this studio that has not been blessed with an artists touch.

Continued on next page

STUDIO "A"CONT.



Grahmatter was in the back "corner office", working on a clients tattoo. He was adding to a sleeve he'd been working on for a while. We chatted it up about all our plant babies, pets, and what the rest of the day would consist of. For Grah, He planned to finish this tattoo, walk the dogs, and then head back to the studio to hang out with the boys. "I just love to end the day drinking and hanging out with the guys". That prompted a discussion.

Houston artist tend to work and then head to the house. The artist tend to keep to themselves, and although they appreciate other artists work, they just don't spend the time on the relationship side. That's what makes this building so unique. These artist are working together to create a community similar to what has been growing in other places. Artist working together creating together, and supporting each other! It is a thing of beauty.

On our way out we were given a little "tour". So many other talented artist are in this building. I don't want to name them because I don't want to give up the location! But know, all of y'all are talented as fuck. We ended our day watching a few of the artist from Studio "A" and a couple others shoot hoops in the parking lot. I am pretty sure this was confirmation that Houston is growing in the right direction. Thank you Grahmatter for allowing us to come out and take a peak at you super cool spot!



Cover art by [@grahmatter](https://www.instagram.com/grahmatter)
Thank you for allowing us to visit
and blessing our cover with your
artwork



HOUSTON

STREET PHOTOGRAPHER

IVAN CARDOSO

@IVO.MEDIA

Like something out of a super hero movie, you can find Ivan scouring the rooftops of Houston. Ivan's photography soars to heights most of us never want to imagine. Many shots are with his Sony, but he also dabbles in drone photography. Ivan is able to capture images from hundreds of feet above his subject, giving him an edge on others.

We hope you have enjoyed his images this month and look forward to sharing our next featured artist with you in February.

To be featured use @texasinkedmagazine and/or #texasinked on IG. We also accept formal submissions through the "resource" tab on our website.



THIS MONTH'S
FEATURED
PRODUCT



TEXAS INKED "HUBBY" TEE
\$29.00+ S/H

If you know you know! We don't judge!

The Bella + Canvas t-shirt feels soft and light, with just the right amount of stretch. It's comfortable and the unisex cut is flattering for both men and women. We can't compliment this shirt enough – it's one of our crowd favorites. And it's sure to be your next favorite too! 100% combed and ring-spun cotton

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Let us help you reach the Texas Arts Community...

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\$500

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**Additional fees apply for ad design, 4 weeks = 1 month*

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