



ART / FEATURED / INTERVIEW / MOVIES / STAR WARS

Interview with Eli Rutten a Belgian Artist

BY FABIENNE PAYET · NOVEMBER 1, 2017



Seniors can't get enough of this memory-boosting junk food



Constant Fatigue Warning Sign - He Simple Fix

SHARE



113



0



0

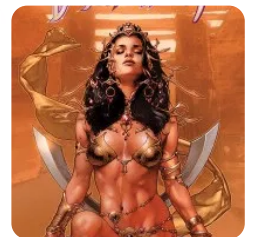
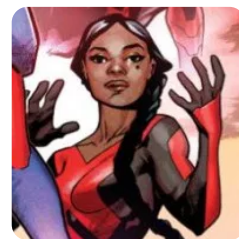


A little while ago I interviewed my friend Eli Rutten. He is a Belgian artist and tattoo artist. His work is amazing and should be discovered worldwide. I have genuine admiration for his boundless amount of talent. I hope that you will discover his work and how he started it all in this interview. If you are interested in discovering more, his social media is added. Honestly? You DO want to discover more!

Bio

My name is Eli Rutten, 29 years old, hailing from Antwerp and currently living in Zoersel.

TOP POSTS



Since 2002 I have been studying and improving my creative skills. After school I worked in a department store, pet store and a LEGO store before I found my way back to a more creative job.

And now I have been tattooing for almost a year.

How did you start with painting? And tattooing?

I started painting in high school, at first I used oil paints, but later on found out acrylics was more my kind of medium. I could get the desired effect of realism by building up layers and with acrylics this was easier because it dries much quicker than oil paint. And as for starting tattooing, well that's an unusual story. Most tattoo artists, almost all of them, know they want to become one really fast and set their mind to it. In my case I was asked if I would be interested. I never thought about it before they asked me. And then you have to make a decision if you want to actually do something you've never done before and hope you're good at it and you like it. Well, it was not an easy choice to make because it threw my life around. But to this day I enjoy every moment of it.

*Who or
what
inspires you
in your
work?*

I follow a
lot of great
tattoo
artists,
mostly
which
specialize in

portraits, that's something I have tried to master myself when I painted. Nikko Hurtado and Steve Butcher are two of the most well known portrait artists in the tattoo world. But there are a lot more. Also in our shop I get inspired by all of the artists there, in our breaks we always take a look at what the other ones are working on and every time I learn a bit more.



SUBSCRIBE TO OUTRIGHT GEEKERY VIA EMAIL

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,426 other subscribers

What is your ultimate dream to achieve with your art? To work for Disney, Marvel, DC,... Concept art for movies? Comics?

I kind of made a small dream come true when I worked on licensed trading cards from Star Wars, Marvel, the Walking Dead, etc... Those one of a kind cards are spread across the globe with collectors. I had fun painting them although they are super small, about 2,5 times 3,5 inch, so the portraits on those are tiny. But an ultimate dream, I like it when I can show my art to the world, so to tattoo a world famous star would be an awesome thing to achieve. That way a lot of people will see your art, and that is for me a dream come true. Also non related I would like to one day win an Academy Award, but that's a few steps above ultimate dream.

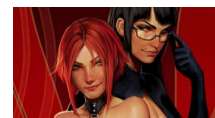
What is the main difference between painting and tattooing in the final execution of the work?

The way I paint is kinda similar to tattooing, and the overall way I apply shadow and color is the same. But the technique is very different. In painting you can easily apply a lighter tone on a dark tone, but in tattooing, when something is dark you can't make it light again. Also when I sketch I hold my pencil very lightly and apply the pencil strokes very fast. A tattoo machine is a lot heavier than a pencil and if you draw a line too fast it will not stay, so it was a real change to slowly draw my lines when tattooing. And as for the final look, a tattoo needs healing to see the final result, so you have to know how colors, shadow and lines will heal when you're applying them. That takes time and experience. A painting is done the moment the paint dries, in a matter of minutes.



You could save \$782

Ad Liberty Mutual Insurance



Five NSFW Webcomics on...

outrightgeekery.com



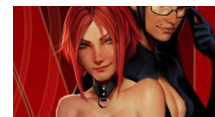
Our Interview with 'Four Eyes'...

outrightgeekery.com



Interview with DARK FANG...

outrightgeekery.com



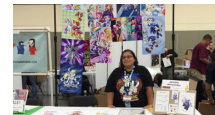
NSFW Archives

outrightgeekery.com



Overcoming Obstacles: An...

outrightgeekery.com



An Interview with Jennifer...

outrightgeekery.com



CosPlay Profile: Sonny Whyte

outrightgeekery.com



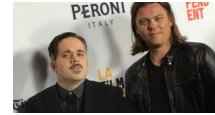
Q&A with Stjepan Sejic

outrightgeekery.com



An Interview with Misfit City's Kiwi...

outrightgeekery.com



An Interview with Kyle Sherrod:...

outrightgeekery.com



An Interview with Meredith Finch

outrightgeekery.com



Get Valiant! Episode 63 - An...

outrightgeekery.com

Can people buy your art? If so where?

Currently I don't have anything for sale anymore, my last painting I had was one of avatar and in storage something fell on it and put a large tear in the canvas, so that was a bummer, would have very much liked to see it displayed in someone's living room. Another painting of Star Wars I donated to the Rancho Obi-Wan in California, it houses the biggest Star Wars collection in the world. And with my busy schedule I can't find the time to paint anything new, nowadays I paint on skin.

Do you have any advice for people wanting to be a tattoo artist?

I would say that you have to work really hard, it's a fulfilling job, but it requires a whole lot of effort. Keep drawing and keep trying, you will probably hit a lot of walls, but if you work hard you will achieve your goal.

Do you have plans on teaching others?

No, my girlfriend has said several times I should teach, but I feel I have not yet mastered any skill yet to the extent of teaching. Every day I learn more myself and eventually I might choose to teach and impart my wisdom. I do give advice once in a while when I'm asked.

What is the most exciting thing about your work and what is the hardest?

The most exciting thing about tattooing is also the hardest, that is putting permanent art on people. The more time that passes, the more confident I get. You're working on live skin and you have to treat it and the client with the utmost respect. Always stay on



your feet because every single piece has to be perfect. What's also fun is to meet new people all the time, most of which I would never have known if I hadn't chosen the tattoo world.

What are your next projects?

I don't really have any next projects in painting, but everyday I'm working on next projects in tattooing. I try to draw a couple of weeks in advance, a couple of cool ones I'm working on are a Harry Potter themed sleeve, a Yoda portrait and a very cool extinct animals sleeve in black and grey.

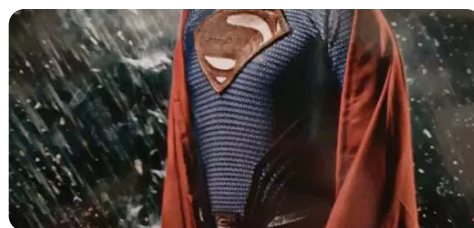
Is your work exhibited anywhere?

Almost all of my paintings are located around the world, most in the States, Europe, Australia, the UK. But not at galleries or anything, I like that my work is appreciated by fans who display it in their homes. I did have an exhibition once in Boston, but that turned out to be a scam, the gallery owners sold all of the paintings, which I donated two of them for a good cause, and kept the money and disappeared never to be heard from. That was a bummer, so if anyone spots a Darth Vader or Yoda on the black market with my name on it, let me know. And as for tattooing, our shop is also a gallery where the shop owner's wife displays her art, and as for us we display our art on people walking around Belgium and maybe a little further.

People can follow my latest tattoos on the facebook page of our shop T-ink & L-art in Mol

And occasionally I post something on my instagram and facebook page but again, keeping up social media

COSPLAY SHOWCASE



CosPlay Profile: Sonny Whyte



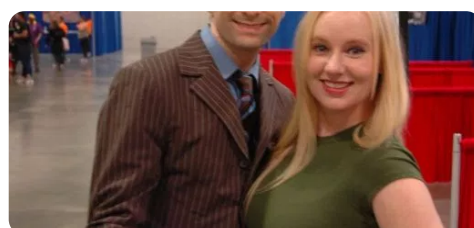
CosPlay Profile – Matches Malone



Salt Lake Comic Con Photo Gallery



Salt Lake Comic Con 2017 Press Conference, Interviews, and Photo Gallery



OG Goes to Wizard World Nashville

is hard and
a lot of
work. Find
T-Link here
T-Link

Follow Eli
on
Instagram
here
Instagram
Art By Eli
Rutten and
Facebook right here Facebook Art By Eli Rutten



RECENT PODCASTS



Get Valiant! episode #66



GEEK SAVZ Episode 91: "Toy Stories"



WhoDooTV Live! NCBD 1/10/17 with Special Guest Ryan Winn



This Geek in Comics Previews for March 2018

Share this:



Related



An Interview with Jennifer Hernandez



Interrogations Into Indie Creators: Troy Vevasis



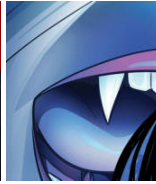
Interview With Street Angel Gang Writer Jim Rugg



Casa Nostra will Prove that Blood is Thicker Than Water



NSFW Archives



Interview v FANG Writer Gunter



ComicCast Issue #73 "Kickstarter, Comics and the Return of the Ultimate Universe!"



Netflix Series THE TOYS THAT MADE US to Premiere on...



An Interview with Misfit City's Kiwi Smith and Kurt Lustgarten



Five NSFW on Everyone List

Tags: art Artist Belgian Eli Rutten Interview Painting Tattooing

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE...



Marvel Confirms the Black Panther Movie and Thor Sequel
OCTOBER 28, 2014

Pathfinder
Worldscape: Red Sonja One-Shot Review
NOVEMBER 28, 2017

The Steel City Files #024- Pitt Ends 3-Game Losing Skid Over Rice
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

LEAVE A REPLY

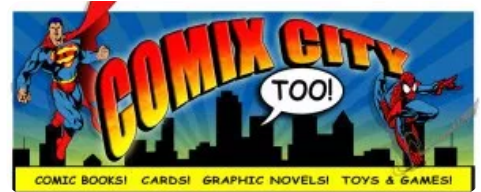
Comment

Name

Email

Website

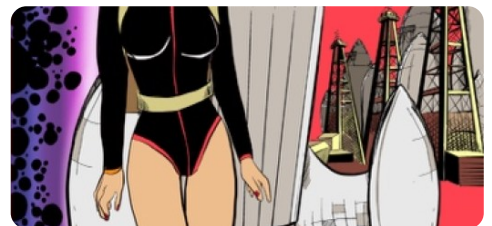
Post Comment



LATEST INTERVIEWS

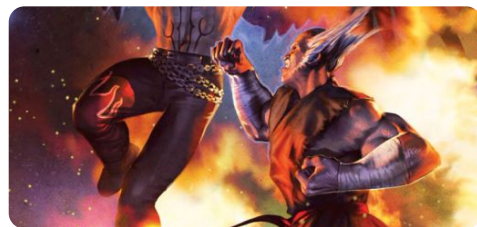


An interview with charity Little Heroes Anthology



Overcoming Obstacles: An Interview of Indie Creator Lonnie Webb of Thru

- Notify me of follow-up comments by email.
- Notify me of new posts by email.



On Devil Genes and Flower Dresses with Cavan Scott and Andie Tong of Tekken: Blood Feud



A Kickstarter That Will Put You on the Nice List



Kickstarter Campaigns & Comics Rewards: An Interview with Michael Watson



The Nerd Hub

News | Reviews | Podcasts | Original Shows | Gaming | Comics | Cinema

RECENT REVIEWS

RECENT PREVIEWS

RECENT NEWS

It's the Dark Ages in Space in the Sword of Ages #2 Review

▶
The Warriors of Wakanda Take Center Stage in the Review

Marvel Comics Gets CONAN Back in January 2019

Latest BLACK PANTHER
Trailer



Seniors can't get enough
this memory-boosting jun
food

Tonight Alive –
Underworld – album
review



Gabrielle Union is a Badass
Mom in the BREAKING IN
Trailer

Diamond Top Products for
December 2017; DC
Comics Takes Market
Share but the Sales Slump
Continues



Constant Fatigue Is A
Warning Sign - Here's Th
Simple Fix



The Ironic Genetic
Disaster: A Review of
Team 8's Genetic Disaster



Jason Momoa is a Dad
Against Drug Dealers in
the BRAVEN Trailer

John Cena Cast in 'Rise of
the Teenage Mutant Ninja
Turtles'



Divorce rumors are flying
about the Clintons. Is it
because Bill found out ab
this huge secret?

James Bond: The Body #1
Review

ARROW and THE FLASH
Extended Mid-Season
Trailers

Writers Guild Awards 2018
Nominees in Video Games

Bloodshot Salvation #5
Review

Action Lab Releases
Miraculous Tales of
Ladybug and Cat Noir Vol 7
De-Evilize

Image Comics ISLAND
Becomes THE PERVERT;
Graphic Novel to Hit Stores
this April

