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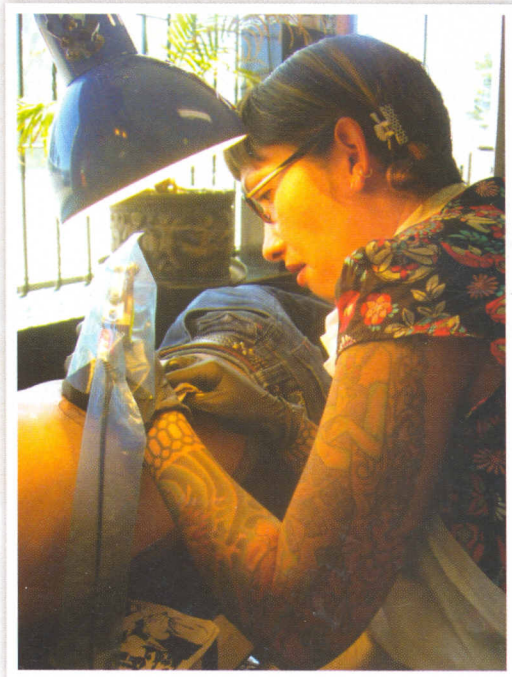
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tattoos *For Women*



By Beverly Yuen Thompson



# REBEL INK

*Rebel Ink Grrrls*—a documentary movie about heavily tattooed women and female tattoo artists—is currently being filmed at tattoo shops, conventions, roller derby practices, and Gypsy Queen gatherings across the United States. It captures the voices, artwork, and

social history of women who have crossed the line of socially acceptable female tattooing practices. While a revolution of women getting inked has transpired over the past few decades, it remains somewhat objectionable for women to be *heavily* tattooed. This







# GRRRLS

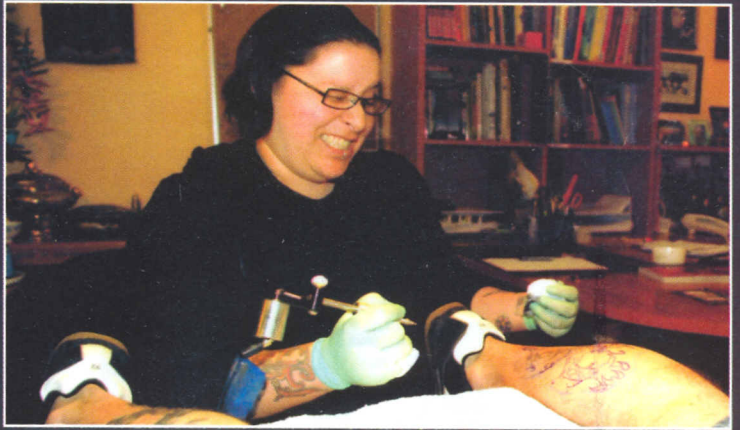
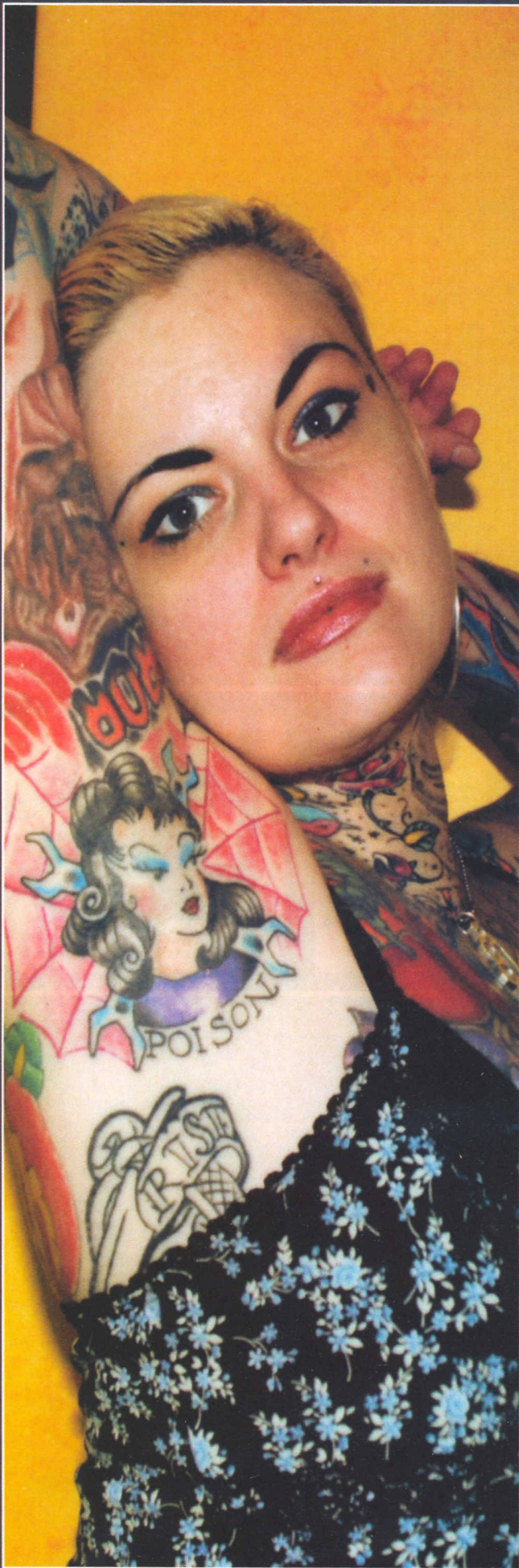
movie is about them—the women who have crossed the line and rebelled against this social norm and recreated their own individualized definition of beautiful.

While images of inked women abound on the pages of tattoo

magazines, they are rarely included in the history of the profession, both as artists and as collectors. The tattoo industry is a male-dominated industry that is currently experiencing an historic influx of female artists, finally moving up the ranks past the level of “shop







. CA

. NY





# REBEL INK GRRRLS

girl." What are the experiences of female tattoo artists, both historically and contemporarily? How have female artists experienced this shift? *Rebel Ink Grrrls* asks such questions of prominent women that have weathered the industry for decades, such as Vyvyn Lazonga, Kari Barba, and Constance Eller. *Rebel Ink Grrrls* visits female apprentices beginning their careers in the industry, such as Jennifer Wilder and Suzy Todd. And serious tattoo collectors from across the country provide a choir of voices about public reactions to their tattoos, contrasted against their love of ink.

For more information, go to [www.snakegirl.net](http://www.snakegirl.net). If you would be interested in participating, you can mail in your own photos and send in your stories through the website. Don't forget to become friends with Snakegirl Productions on Myspace and Inked Nation!

