

"The Unrefined Collection"



Michael Mucker

Visual Artist

Reception: Friday, March 31, 2017 | 12-2 P.M.

Exhibition: March 1-April 28, 2017

Michael "Ol Skool" Mucker knew from the early age of five that he wanted to create. As the son of an artist, Mike possesses a natural talent and passion for fine art. Despite the fact that he routinely failed art classes while in school, Mike continued working on his craft, using graffiti as a means to express his creativity. While in high school, Mike transitioned from spray cans to airbrushing, using his previous experience with spray cans to hone his airbrushing skills.

Amazingly, Mike is self-taught and has no formal artistic training. His perseverance and love for art pushed his desire to learn. From this dedication, he was able to build a career for himself, working and owning airbrush shops in several cities where he's resided.

After completing a Tour of Duty overseas, Mike relocated from Kentucky to Tennessee in 1995 and continued to diversify his experience working with mediums, such as:

- Graphic design and animation
- Automotive painting
- Commercial and residential murals
- Textured artwork on canvas
- Body art and tattooing (most recently)

Mike's work has been featured in many art displays located in and around Nashville:

- the larger-than-life mural of Bruce Lee that remained on the side of Kung-Fu coffee for many years, (the most well-known)
- A Dr. Seuss-themed mural -- located in the Woodbine area on Glenrose Avenue that still remains today.

Mike has participated in notable art exhibits with well-known local artists such as:

- James Threallkill,
- Michael McBride

- Joe Love
- The Art of the Lost Boys of Sudan
- The Norf Wall Fest.

As fiercely dedicated to teaching art as he is doing it himself, Mike has taught in numerous art programs around Nashville including:

- Amun-Ra Performance Arts Camp
- Boys and Girls Club
- Beech Creek Baptist Church -- after school art program
- Resident airbrush instructor at Plaza Artist Materials -- teaches beginning and intermediate airbrush workshops (19 + years).

A devoted partner and father of three, one son and two daughters, Mike can be found most days perfecting his craft at One Drop Ink Tattoo Studio and Gallery. For more information on Michael "Ol'Skool" Mucker, click on www.worksofmike.com.

Artist Statement

"The Unrefined Collection"

Out of the mouth of babes... & A Tribe called Quest lyric...

There has always been an interest of mine to understand the words from children, since they see things so differently than adults. The very act of identifying the terms "Children" and "Adult" implies an unavoidable collision of values. Our experiences in these conversations are never free of cultural, historical, or personal mythologies. These multiple perspectives are in constant battle, resulting in an understanding and relationship to past, present, and future self. The youth is eagerly looking forward to gaining knowledge of the future, while the elders look back and share wisdom from the past.