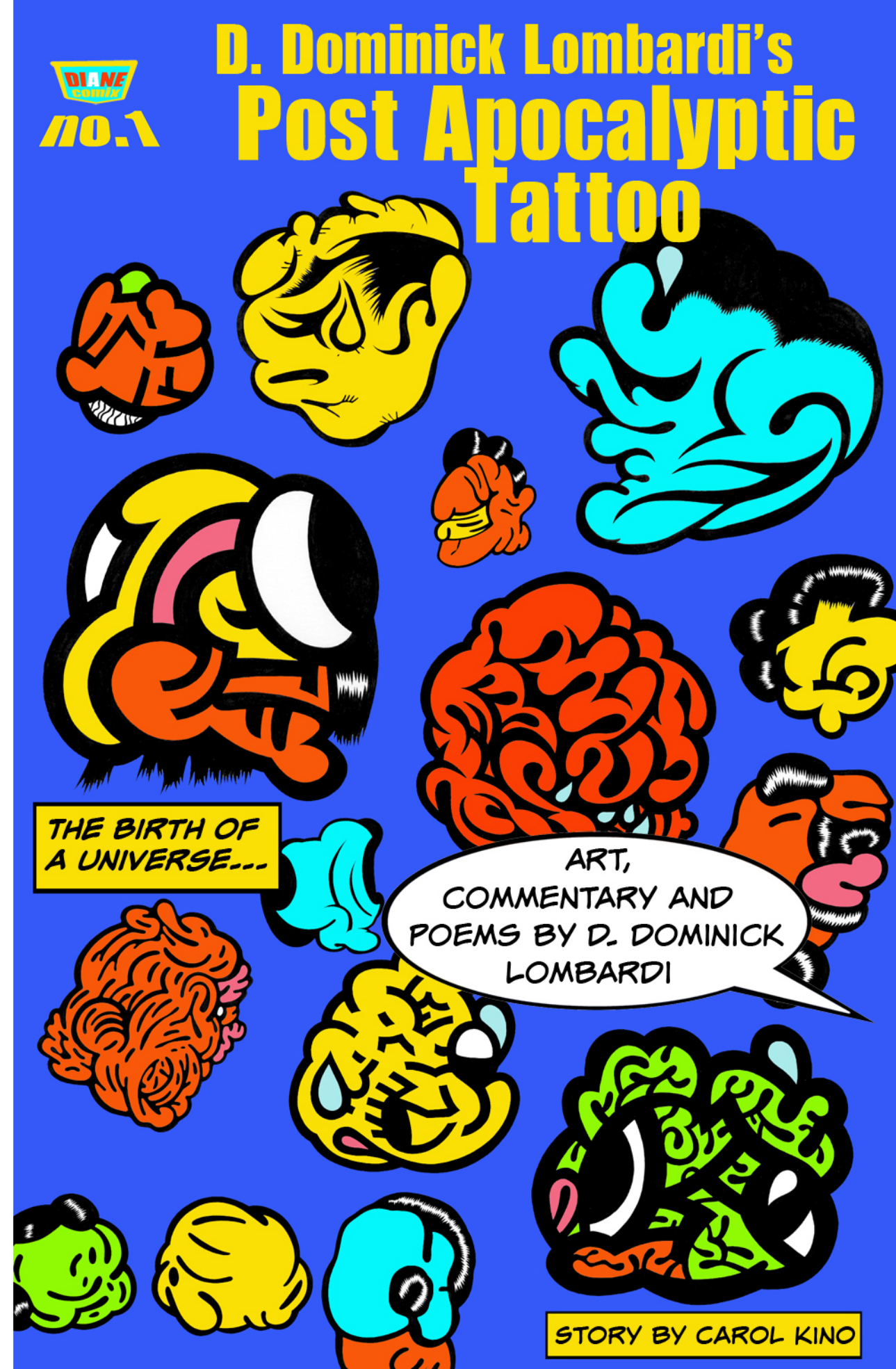


FRONT COVER ►



FOR THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS, D. DOMINICK LOMBARDI HAS BEEN WORKING OBSESSIVELY ON THE SERIES "POST APOCALYPTIC TATTOOS." IT BEGAN IN 1998 AS MANY ARTISTS' PROJECTS DO--WITH DOODLES IN A SKETCHBOOK.

QUICKLY, THOSE DOODLES CAME TO RESEMBLE CHARACTERS--AND AS DOMINICK FLESHED THEM OUT, THEY SOON DEMANDED THEIR OWN WORLD. OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS, HIS PROJECT MUSHROOMED TO ENCOMPASS DRAWINGS IN CHARCOAL AND INDIA INK; REVERSE PLEXIGLAS PAINTINGS; SILKSCREEN AND WOODCUT PRINTS; AND SCULPTURES AND BAS RELIEFS ASSEMBLED FROM PIGMENT AND PAPIER MACHE APPLIED OVER JUNKYARD DETRITUS. HE HAS ALSO GENERATED COUNTLESS WORKING DRAWINGS MADE WITH BALLPOINT AND FELT-TIP PEN ON SCRAPS OF PAPER, OR GRAPHITE ON NEWSPRINT. LATELY, DOMINICK HAS BEEN FOCUSING MORE INTENSIVELY ON THE CREATURES' ENVIRONMENT, EXPLORING IT IN THE SERIES-WITHIN-A-SERIES HE CALLS GRAFFOOS--GRAFFITI PAINTINGS MADE ON NEW AND OLD CANVASES.

CREATIVELY, THE PROJECT WAS BORN ONE NIGHT AS DOMINICK WAS WORRYING ABOUT THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE. ITS MUTANT CREATURES EMBODY HIS FEARS AND HOPES FOR A FUTURE WORLD, DISTORTED BY POLLUTION, TRANSGENIC MUTATION, AND APOCALYPTIC EVENTS. THESE NEW PEOPLE INCLUDE BLUE BOY, WHOSE INNARDS SPILL DOWN HIS LEGS; HIS SWEETHEART, THE RUBBERY-BONED, TURQUOISE-LIPPED TWISTER; BIG FOOT, WHO PERAMBULATES ON A SINGLE MASSIVE FOOT; AND CLOWN, WHO DIES EARLY ON IN THE STORY FROM AN ENLARGED HAIR FOLLICLE ON HIS TONGUE. CENTRAL TO THE TALE IS THE UNSEEN TATTOO ARTIST, A CHARACTER WHO CHRONICLES HIS WORLD BY PRODUCING ALL THESE DRAWINGS, PAINTINGS, AND SCULPTURES.

"ARE YOU THE TATTOO ARTIST?" I ASKED DOMINICK ONCE. "NO," HE SAID. "I'M THE VEHICLE FOR THE TATTOO ARTIST WHO'S SENDING THESE IMAGES TO ME."

YET DESPITE ALL THIS IMPENDING GLOOM AND DOOM, DOMINICK'S CHARACTERS PURSUE THEIR DISTORTED LIVES WITH SO MUCH SPIRIT AND JOIE DE VIVRE THAT THEIR UNIVERSE NEVER SEEMS BLEAK. AND DOMINICK HIMSELF HAS PURSUED THE PROJECT WITH A ZEAL, INTENSITY, AND JOY IN CRAFTSMANSHIP THAT SUGGESTS LIFE IS TRULY WORTH LIVING.

CAROL KINO

THE POST APOCALYPTIC TATTOO



THE HOUSATONIC MUSEUM OF ART

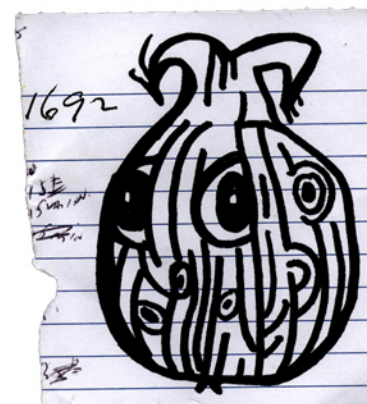
SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 23
2009

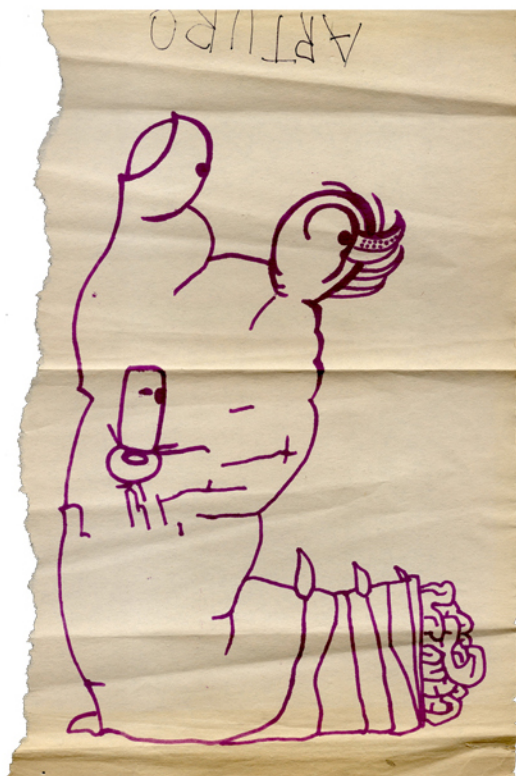


1998... DOMINICK IS SITTING IN HIS STUDIO IN VALHALLA, NEW YORK, WORRYING AS HE DOODLES WITH A BALLPOINT PEN IN HIS SKETCHBOOK.

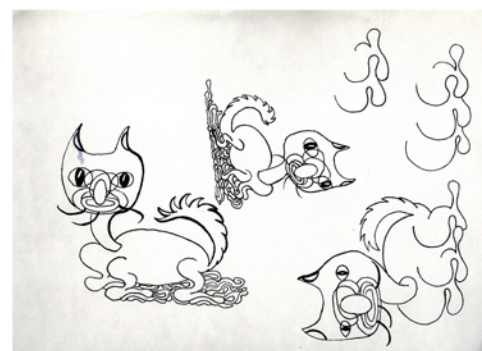


POLLUTION, GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD, THE FUTURE FOR HIS TWO-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, LORA, ASLEEP WITH HIS WIFE, DIANE, UPSTAIRS...





**SUDDENLY, HIS DOODLES
START TAKING ON LIVES
OF THEIR OWN,**



**TRANSFORMING
INTO FULLY FLESHED-OUT
CHARACTERS.**



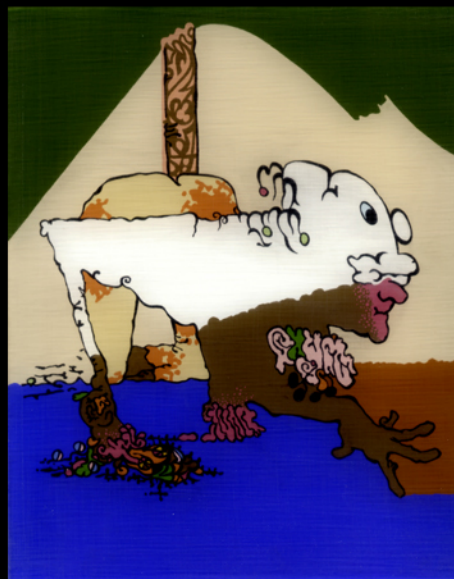
HE HAS NO
CHOICE BUT TO
PAINT THEM.



EAST MEETS WEST

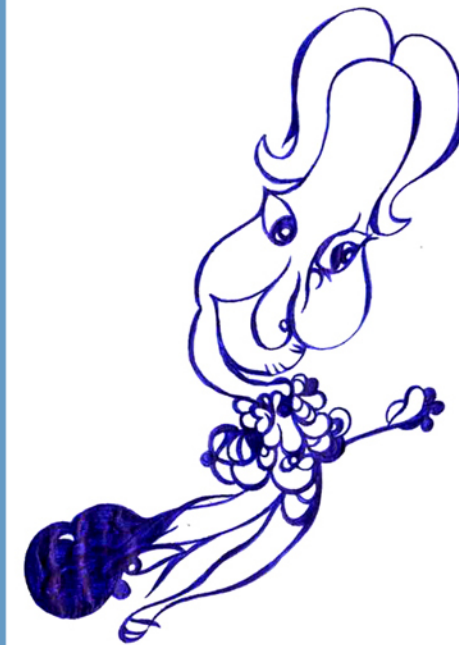


MSHE

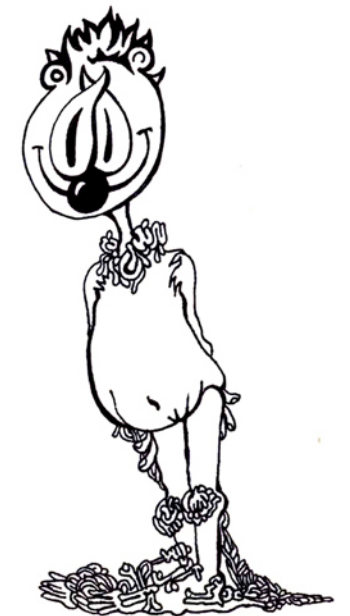


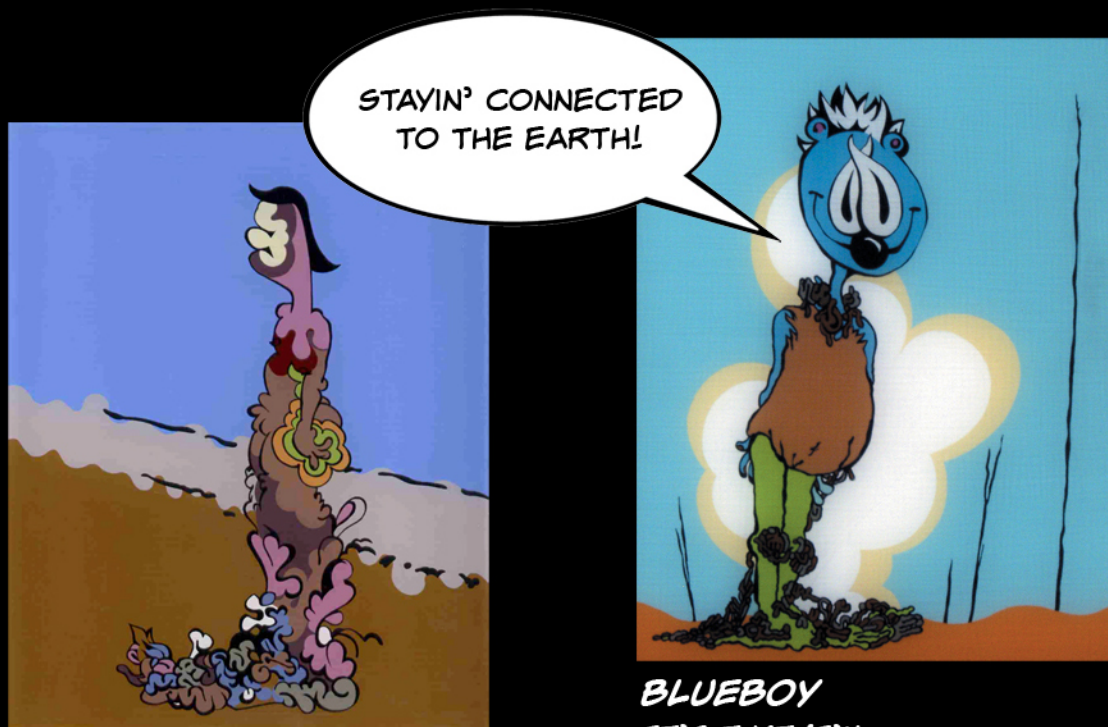
JOHNNY TWO HEADS

MEANWHILE...
THE DRAWINGS
ARE LOOKING
MORE AND MORE
LIKE TATTOOS..



IT'S AS THOUGH
AN UNSEEN HAND
IS CHANNELING
THROUGH HIM - THE
TATTOO ARTIST.





BIG FOOT
HE STANDS TALL-
NEARLY SEVEN FEET.
HEAVY BELOW
THE WAIST -
THICK MUSCLES
THAT LAUNCH
THAT FABULOUS
FOOT.

BLUEBOY
IT'S THAT 'I'M
MELTING'
APPEARANCE
HE'S AFTER.

1999... BY NOW, DOMINICK HAS PAINTED
MANY MORE CHARACTERS, AND AN ORDER
AND HIERARCHY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.



TWISTER

**THE ELITE
EIGHT!!!**



TUMOR HEAVEN
WE ALL LONG FOR
ONE SPECIAL TUMOR -
PORTAL IS A
BETTER WORD.
'BLUE HEAVEN.'
GATEWAYS TO
COLORFUL BLISS,
BUOYANT CALM,
THESE TUMORS
FROM HEAVEN ARE.

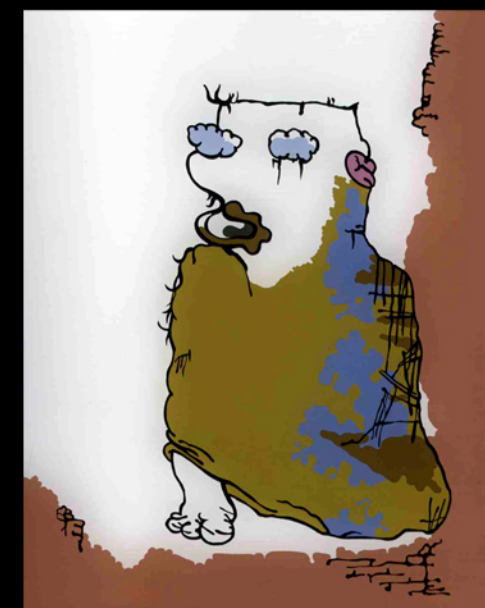
**EXOTIC DANCER
WITH TUMOR**

SHIMMERING IN THE
MOONLIGHT, SHE MOVES LIKE
A SNAKE IN SNOW -
A PATH SHE MARKS IN BLACK.

TUMOR HELL
UNGUIDED,
UNFRIENDLY
AND FOREVER
LOST.



DEATH OF A CLOWN
A FLOWER SPRANG
FROM HIS HEAD -
A SIGN OF PEACE....
OR WAS IT A CLEVER
TRICK?
A PARTING GIFT FROM
A TRUE CLOWN.



**BOY WITH CLUBFOOT
(POTATO EYES)**

FEW FIND COMFORT HERE..
IN THE OLD CITY.
MANGLED WALLS. BROKEN, BARE...

**"THEY'RE SPECIAL BECAUSE
THEY'RE THE FRIENDS OF
THE TATTOO ARTIST."**

OTHER CHARACTERS OCCUPY
SECONDARY AND TERTIARY ROLES...

THESPIS...

A CHARACTER WHO TELLS STORIES

THE PURVEYOR OF PUNS!
SIR TALK!
THE ELOQUENT ORATOR!

THESPIS
NO ONE ELSE
COMES CLOSE
YOU FEEL HIS STORIES
SMELL THE RAIN
THE FLOWER
THE PAIN AND THE JOY
IN ANY CHARACTER
HE EXPOUNDS

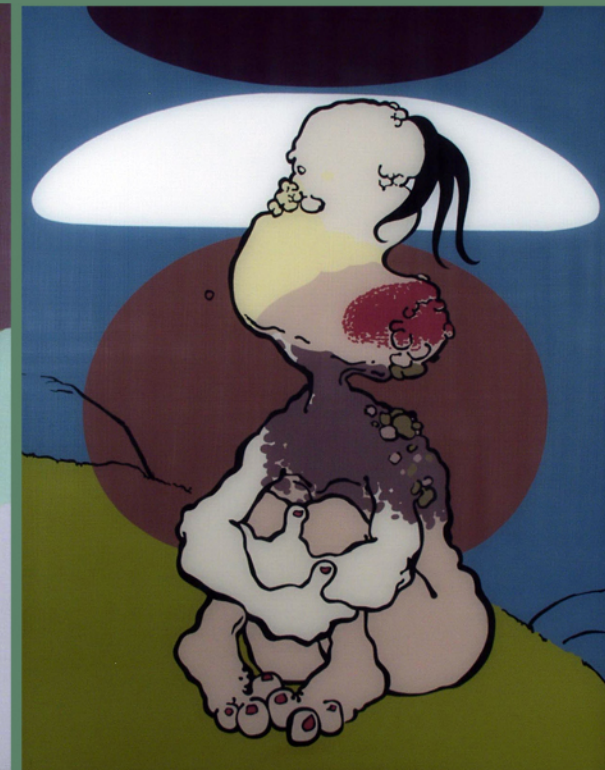
HE SPEAKS OF THE POPULARITY
OF THE KING, AND THE DEMISE
OF THE FAIR QUEEN.



THE KING

OUR KING
A LEADER... BRAVE... STRONG
AN EYE POPPING BEAUTY
YOU COULD SAY
ESPECIALLY WHEN HE WEARS
THAT SEE-THROUGH DRESS
ALL BLUE AND FANCY
IT REALLY SHOWS OFF
HIS MANHOOD

CLAD FOR LOVE
HE IS FIT FOR ANY BEAST
HE WALKS THE LAND FREELY
FEARLESS, AT TIMES
SHY...
HEAVY IN HEART
HE LONGS FOR PRAISE



THE QUEEN AT FIRST LIGHT

SHE WANDERED
DRAWN BY THE WARM SUN ON HER BACK
THE COOL GRASS BENEATH HER FEET

SHE SETTLED IN A FIELD
NOT HEARING HOW STILL IT WAS
SHE DID NOT KNOW TO STAY AWAY

A BOMB WENT OFF
FISSION, I THINK
IT VAPORIZED HER
SHE WAS INCHES FROM IT.

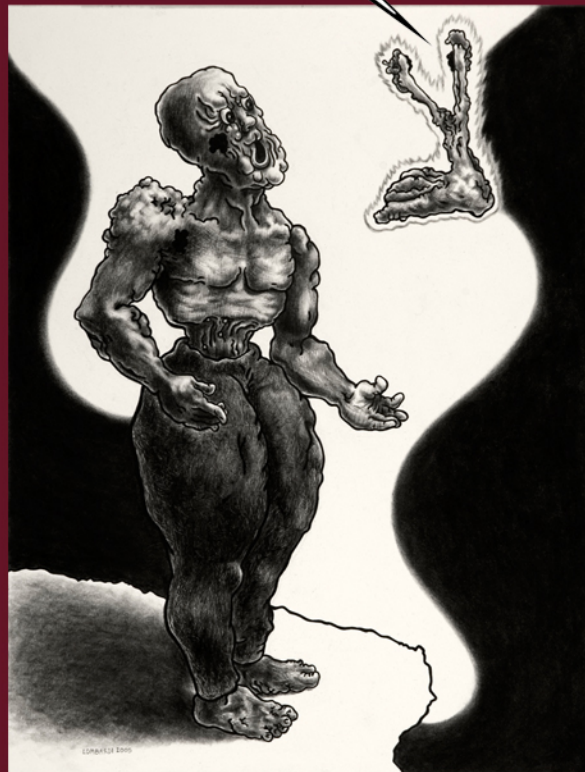
THE BLAST
HER DUST
SHE IS EVERYWHERE NOW
SHE IS IN US
AS ALWAYS

HE RETELLS THE TALE OF ROMEO AND JULIET, AND THE FOREVER FAVORITES HERCULES AND DIGITUS.

HERCULES AND DIGITUS

DIGITUS
A TRUSTED FRIEND
CONFIDANTE
PLEADED WITH HIM DAILY -

THINK FIRST,
HERCULES, THINK
BEFORE YOU ACT, SEE
IF THERE IS ANOTHER
WAY!
MUSCLES CAN'T CONTROL
MINDS.
USE THAT POUNDING PUMP
IN YOUR CHEST, YOUR
HEART.
IT TOO IS A
MUSCLE.



BUT IT WAS NO USE -
IT WAS THOUGHT BEYOND
HIS COMPREHENSION.



BRAIN STYLING (ROMEO AND JULIET)

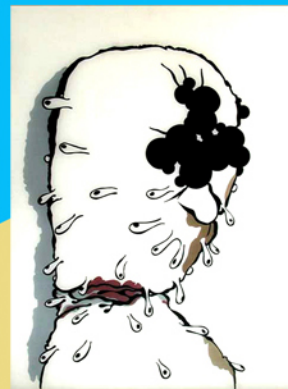
ROMEO AND JULIET IS ABOUT LOVE,
YES.
AND TRAGEDY,
ABSOLUTELY.
BUT MOST OF ALL, IT IS ABOUT THE
PRESENTATION.

BRINGING LOVE TO THAT FIRST
MOMENT
AN ELEGANT CLUSTER OF BRAIN,
WELL PLACED INTESTINE,
OR STYLISH TUMOR
CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

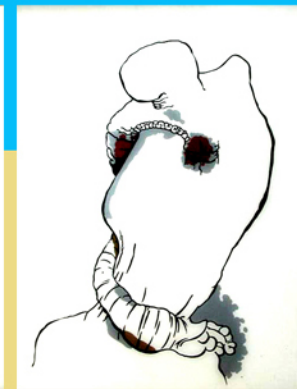
HE ALSO WEAVES STORIES ABOUT THE
SIGHTLESS ONES (THE BLIND PROPHETS
OF THE NEW AGE).



TASTE



TOUCH



SMELL



HEARING



#1



#2



#3



#4

AND THE UGLY SONS OF BITCHES
(THE NEW WORLD'S DISRUPTIVE FORCES).

PRE-RAPHAELITE PREEMIE...
A VERY IMPORTANT LIVING
SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND
ANSWERS. WITH HIS SEEING
SPIRIT, HE CAN DIVINE,
EXPERIENCE, AND DESCRIBE
FARAWAY LANDS ... EVEN THOUGH
HIS BODY CAN'T MOVE OR TRAVEL.

GO AHEAD,
ASK HIM - ASK
HIM ANYTHING.



BLOOD.
LUMPY THICK AND
SWIRLING,
TINY FLIES
CAUGHT IN ITS
STICKY MASS,
FINDING HEAVEN IN
HELL.

I WAS THERE!
I KNOW ALL ABOUT
IT!
I CAN TELL YOU
THINGS!
I CAN SEE IT.

HE SWEATS
ALL AT ONCE,
ONE DROP.
HOW CAN HE?
HE HARDLY MOVES
THOUGH HE TRAVELS
IN HIS MIND.

THE SPIRITS... GEORGE, JOE, CHRIS, NANCY, ALFRED,
LENNY, HENRY, AND ELVIS. THEY TOO PROVIDE ANSWERS
AND ARE OFTEN SOUGHT AFTER FOR ADVICE, BUT...



NANCY



LENNY



ALFRED



CHRIS



GEORGE



JOE



ELVIS

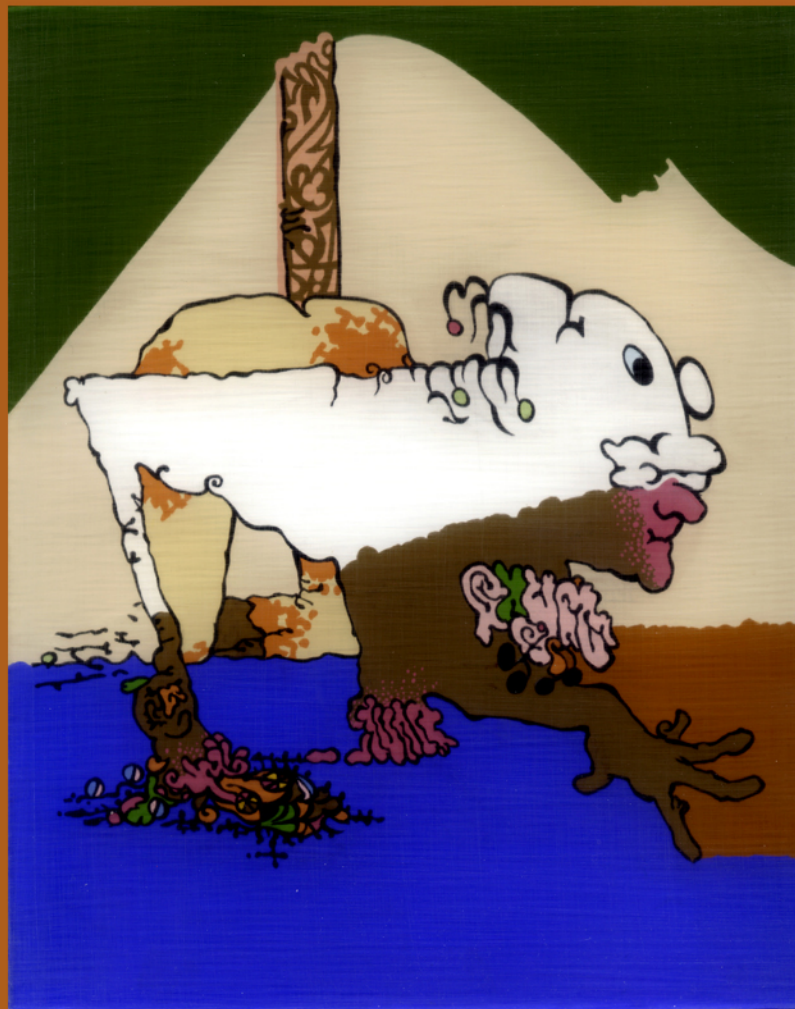


HENRY

YOU MUST
ALWAYS TAKE
THEIR ADVICE
WITH A GRAIN OF
SALT - TRY TO
GET A
CONSENSUS.

**JOHNNY TWO-HEADS...
A MISOGYNISTIC GOSSIP-HOUND.**

**AN INTOLERABLE
PERSONALITY BUT THE
BEST AT MAKING THE
SHRUNKEN HEADS.**



YOU DON'T WANT
HIM KNOWIN'
YOUR SECRETS,
POKING IN YOUR
PERSONAL LIFE.

NOT A GOOD
SOURCE FOR
ADVICE EITHER.

IN FACT,
DON'T TALK WITH
HIM AT ALL
IF YOU CAN
AVOID HIM.

BUT HE MAKES
THE BEST
SHRUNKEN HEADS -
KICK ASS ONES -
ONES TO BE
REMEMBERED BY -
EVEN BETTER
THAN A TATTOO.

**THE SHRUNKEN HEADS ARE THE EFFIGIES THAT
EVERYBODY WANTS MADE AFTER THEY DIE...**

SHRUNKEN HEADS

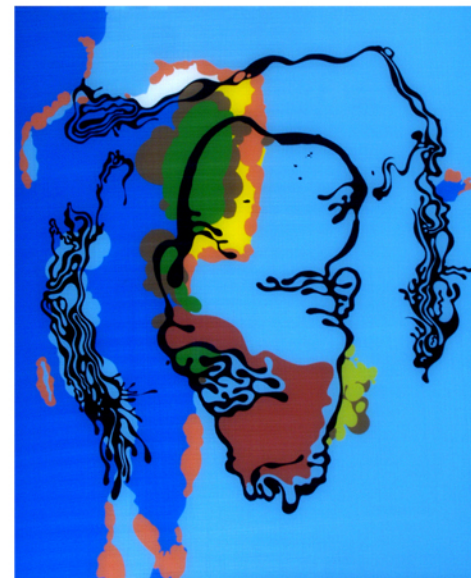
IN THE HANDS OF AN ARTIST
THESE SKULL-LESS
STUFFED, CROWNING KEEPSAKES
TAKE ANY POSE.
FRIGHTENING, FUNNY, MAJESTIC
THEY DECORATE, COMMEMORATE, ILLUMINATE.
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED?
PLACE YOUR ORDER WITH THE BEST -
JOHNNY TWO HEADS WILL DO YOU RIGHT.



SHRUNKEN HEAD #1



SHRUNKEN HEAD #2



SHRUNKEN HEAD #3



SHRUNKEN HEAD #5



SHRUNKEN HEAD #11



SHRUNKEN HEAD #10



SHRUNKEN HEAD #9



SHRUNKEN HEAD #8

2000... THE TATTOO ARTIST'S WORLD GROWS LARGER AND MORE ELABORATE.

TRUFFLER... WHO USES HIS HYPER-SENSITIVE PROBOSCIS TO TRUFFLE OUT TIDBITS OF FOOD.



TRUFFLER
PROBING WITH THAT LONG ARTICULATE SENSOR,
STONE WALLS, THICK BRUSH -
FINDING FOOD
WHERE LITTLE OR NOTHING IS EXPECTED.

HIS SMALL BRAIN KEEPS HIM FOCUSED
"ALWAYS ON TASK," WE LIKE TO SAY.



MICROBE



KITTEN

THE ATOMIC FELINE.
FRAIL,
BUT NOT DEFENSELESS.

WHISKERED CHIN,
HARMONIC, HYPNOTIC PURRS,
AND A MESS IN THE BELLY.

BUT SHE SURVIVES -
PROTECTED BY THAT SPIKY
CLUB-LIKE TAIL.

AND SHE IS LOVED -
EVERYONE LOVES WHITE,
FLUFFY, LITTLE KITTEN.

A BALL OF COTTON
IN A ROSE BUSH.

FEED HER,
PET HER HEAD,
RUB HER EARS,
DON'T BE AFRAID...

BUT DON'T TRY TO
TAKE HER,
LIFT HER,
THERE'S TOO MUCH THERE
- BENEATH HER -
THAT COULD GO HORRIBLY
WRONG.



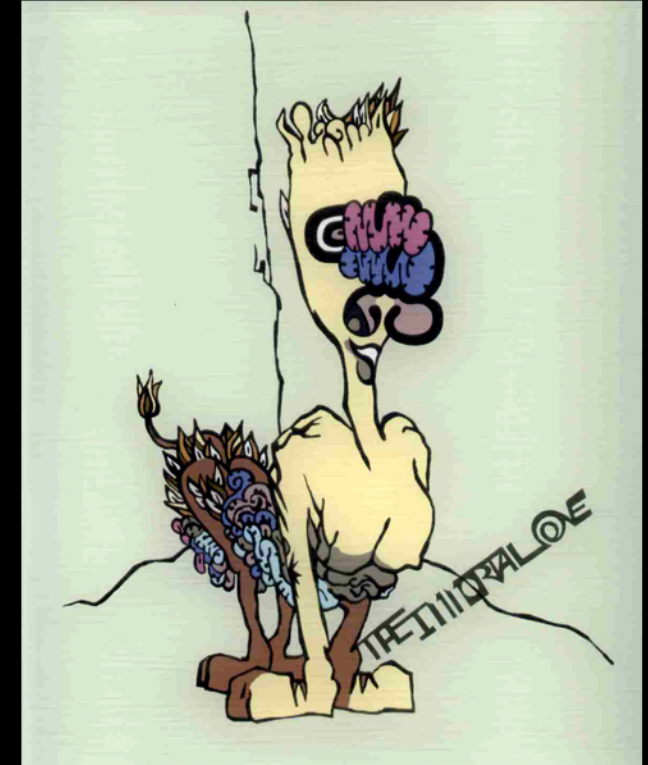
HEADLESS SOLDIER

HALF MAN, HALF PLANT -
A TRANSGENIC FREAK.
SOMETHING BETWEEN
FLESH AND FOLIAGE.

THE SUN FEEDS HIM.
WATER,
ABSORBED THROUGH THE
SOLES OF HIS BOOTS
MAINTAINS LIFE.

AUTUMN COMES -
HE GOES DORMANT.
SLOWLY,
TURNING FROM GRAY -
TO ALIZARIN -
TO BROWN.

SOMETHING THEY DID
NOT PREDICT -
THE MAKERS OF THIS
FREAK DID NOT SEE
THIS LAW OF NATURE.
THIS PASSAGE.
THE WINTER WAR HE
COULD NOT WIN.



THE IMMORTAL ONE



GLOWWORM



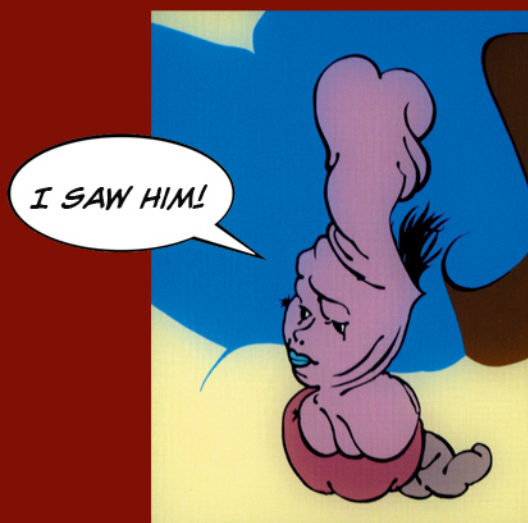
SUPER MAN/BOY SURFER
YOUR BEST CHANCE TO SEE HIM?
REALLY WINDY DAYS.

SEE HIM CROSS THE HORIZON,
SKIMMING RIVERS,
CONQUERING OCEANS.

TWISTER WAS THE ONLY ONE
WHO ACTUALLY SAW HIM -
WORKING ONE OF HIS WATER
BOARDS.
SAILING ALONG.

AN URBAN LEGEND.
A FLEETING FIGURE.

BELIEVING
IS SEEING.



THE STREETS ARE LITTERED WITH FRAGMENTS....
BODY PARTS, DISEMBODIED HEADS THAT RETAIN
THE ABILITY TO SPEAK AND MOVE.

FRAGMENTS

THE HEADS YOU NOTICE FIRST.
REMAINS, PIECES OF ANATOMY
SCATTERED ALONG ROADWAYS, IN FIELDS,
YOU WALK BY THEM ALL THE TIME.

VICTIMS OF AGGRESSION.
THE RESIDUE OF CONFLICT.
PAWNS IN PURGATORY.
YET, THEY DO MAKE SUPERB TATTOO DESIGNS.
ESPECIALLY THE HEADS.
A TIDY SHAPE FIT FOR AN ARM OR SHOULDER,
OR MAYBE AROUND A SHOULDER BLADE -
OR ON THE CALF.



FRAGMENT #1



FRAGMENT #3



FRAGMENT #11



FRAGMENT #4



FRAGMENT #14



FRAGMENT #6



FRAGMENT #9



FRAGMENT #15



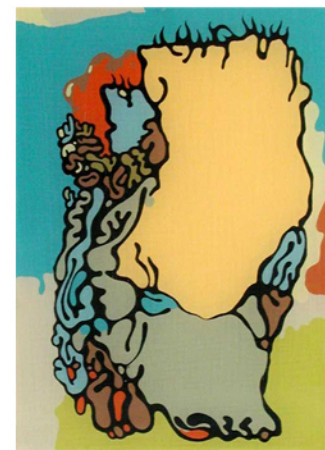
FRAGMENT #12



FRAGMENT #2



FRAGMENT #8



FRAGMENT #16



FRAGMENT #7



FRAGMENT #13



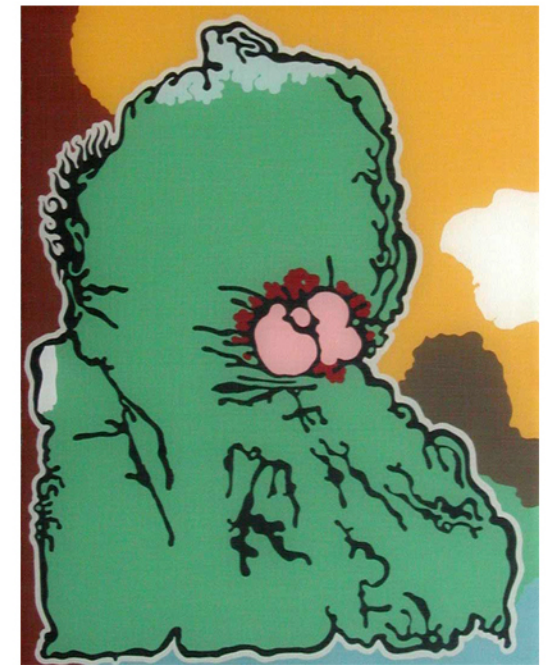
FRAGMENT #10



FRAGMENT #18



FRAGMENT #17



FRAGMENT #5



MID-2001... DOMINICK MAKES HIS FIRST WALL SCULPTURE, OF BLUE BOY AT GROUND ZERO. (AFTER 9/11, HE DECIDES TO DROP "GROUND ZERO" FROM BLUE BOY'S NAME --- AND THE FRAGMENTS TAKE ON NEW RESONANCE.)

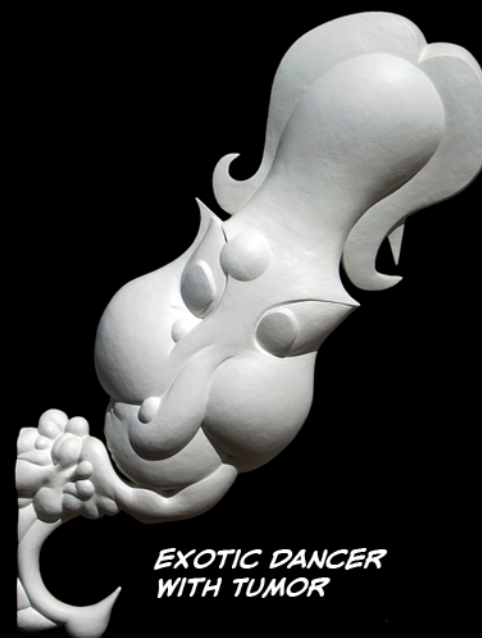


BLUE BOY AT GROUND ZERO



BLUE BOY

OVER THE NEXT 13 MONTHS... HE MAKES SCULPTURES OF THE REST OF THE ELITE.



EXOTIC DANCER
WITH TUMOR



BOY WITH CLUBFOOT
(POTATO EYES)



BIG FOOT



TUMOR HEAVEN



TUMOR HELL



DEATH OF A CLOWN



TWISTER

IT WAS A MEANS OF SEPARATING THEM OUT FROM THE SECONDARY AND TERTIARY CHARACTERS.

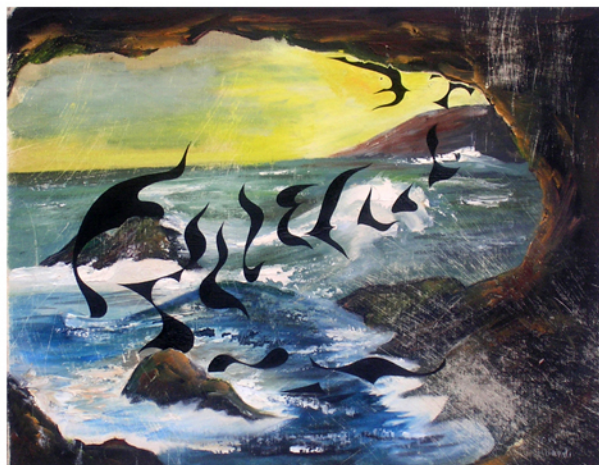
2002-2006... THE ERA OF FACES IN THE CROWD.
DOMINICK MAKES 1,088 INDIA INK DRAWINGS.

YOU CAN'T HAVE AN ELITE EIGHT
WITHOUT FACES IN THE CROWD. THEY'RE
PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T YET ACHIEVED THEIR
FIFTEEN MINUTES
OF FAME.

DOMINICK SCULPTS SOME OF THE FACES
TO GIVE THEM DIMENSION.



2006-2008... THE TATTOO ARTIST STARTS TAKING OVER THE WORLD, AND PAINTS OVER DOMINICK'S OLD PAINTINGS!!!



TATTOOED SEASCAPE #1



TATTOOED CLOWN



TATTOOED STILL LIFE #1



TATTOOED LANDSCAPE #2



TATTOOED LANDSCAPE #6



TATTOOED LANDSCAPE #4



TATTOOED WARRIORS



TATTOOED MULTI-VISUAL MARTIAN



TATTOOED BOY



TATTOOED LANDSCAPE #37

A NEW DIRECTION...

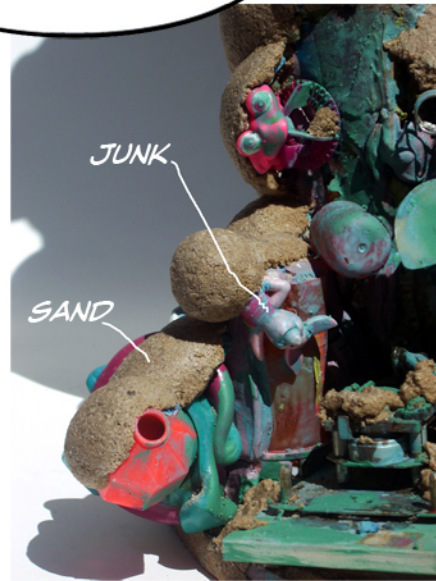


1999



2005

BORN OF OLD JUNK
AND GRITTY SAND - THE NEW
BEACHCOMBER.



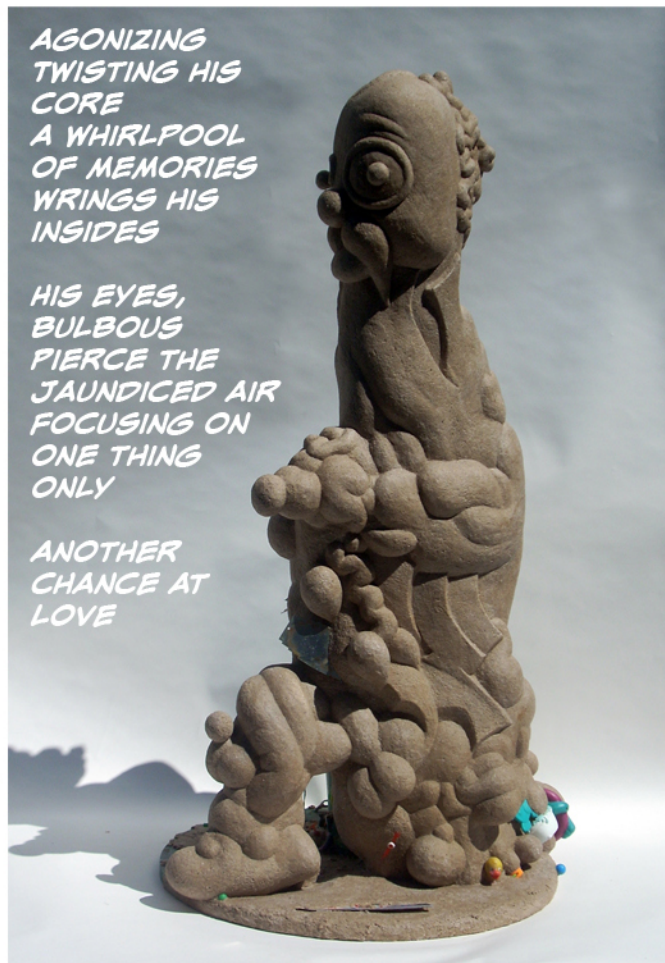
THE FINAL PIECE
OF THE POST APOCALYPTIC
TATTOO PUZZLE.



AGONIZING
TWISTING HIS
CORE
A WHIRLPOOL
OF MEMORIES
WRINGS HIS
INSIDES

HIS EYES,
BULBOUS
PIERCE THE
JAUNDICED AIR
FOCUSING ON
ONE THING
ONLY

ANOTHER
CHANCE AT
LOVE



2008

BEACHCOMBER,
WHO SEARCHES FOR HIS
LOST LOVE --- FOR A
REPLACEMENT THAT CAN
NEVER BE FOUND.

coming next issue

the URCHINS



ALL NEW!

Plus!!!



Graffoos go Digital!



◀ BACK COVER

TATTOOED TOKYO #7

2009

ART, COMMENT BALLOONS & POEMS BY
D. DOMINICK LOMBARDI

STORY BY CAROL KINO

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