

In Memorium



A colleague of ours, **Keith Alexander**, passed on in July 11, 2005. He was killed in a bike accident in New York City. Although he was a successful businessman and an accomplished rock star, those of who knew him will remember him as the Gauntlet, New York Manager, then later as the owner of his own Modern American

Body Arts. Keith was an East Coast piercer and brander, and we had many mutual clients when I worked in New York. Keith was a notorious shit talker, and never sugar coated his feelings...that's what I remember about him and respected. I remember taking joy when Gauntlet closed in New York, where he worked, and later heckling him for the "original name" of his new studio-Modern American Body Arts (I worked at Venus Modern Body Arts). You could call it the classic "love/hate" relationship. What I remember as well were Keith's fantastic brands...huge and keloided. I saw much of his work in person, and now his body art still lives on. Keith and I talked a grip of shit about each other in the mid nineties in New York, and I am told that if he didn't talk shit about you, he didn't respect you...I guess it

was mutual. I was just watching a video recently from back in the day which featured Keith and myself (called Second Skin) and reflecting...Keith once said: "...and in a morbid way, a record of my predilections that will hopefully live on after I die, on some server, somewhere. Grandiose? Maybe. Maybe I just had the balls to admit it...maybe one day in the year 2201 a relative of mine will see the zeroes and ones and say: 'Damn, He had fun!' That is, if we don't annihilate one another." I knew Keith personally and can say with assurance that he will be missed by many. Keith Alexander: 11-23-63 to 7-11-05.



Blake Perlingieri,
Nomad Piercing Studio

More information on Keith can be found at:

<http://www.bmezine.com/news/presenttense/20050807.html>

http://www.boingboing.net/2005/07/12/in_memoriam_keith_al.html

<http://www.nootrope.net/>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Alicia Cardenas
APP President

First off, I would like to say thank you to all the members who voted and contributed to the building of the new Board of Directors. I am very excited to be heading up such a talented enthusiastic group of professionals.

For those of you who missed this year's Conference, you truly missed out on the best one ever, with more highlights than I can even name. For all of you who don't know there are some key players in the success of the Conference that we have not yet gotten a chance to honor. First and foremost, the talents and skills of Caitlin McDiarmid deserve special mention. Caitlin kept us all organized and knowing exactly where we were supposed to be to serve you all the best. She led a small army of volunteers made up of Al D. Scholarship recipients and Board Members' employees. These are the diehard people behind the smooth running ship we call Conference. None of this is possible with out them and I want to acknowledge: Michael Hannan, Daniel Maldonado, Mitchell Adams, Shannon Ollis, Eric Houchin, Penelope Silverstein, Heather Donohue, Megan Sheldon, Cynthia Collins, Rosanne Jezerenac, Tiana McGuire, Josh Prentice, David Kelso and, Alejandra DeOlivera, Mike Green, Gus Diamond, Chris

Krahn and friend, That Guy that watched the Expo door a number of times (name unknown), Pat Pruitt for thinking on his feet, and Sean Christian for emotional support and sustenance. A special thanks to all of you. I would also like to acknowledge all of the past Board Members – the divine excellence of the Board I served with as International Coordinator for the last three years, and beyond them, all the Boards who have gotten us where we are today.

The next three years are sure to be productive and I am excited to watch what becomes of the organization. I would like to emphasize the importance of member participation in the organization. Each and every one of our members has a voice and we expect to hear it. That may mean representing the APP at a local health fair, writing an article for The Point, or just writing in a detailed comment card on ideas for the Board to help us improve what we do. Do whatever you can do to give back to a community and industry that has provided us with so many wonderful things.

We have created many strong alliances in the past few years and I know it will surely bring our community together. But there is plenty of work left to do and I am ready to do it -- with the help of the mega-brain Board I will be serving with. Again thank you to all who participate in the APP annual expo and conference. Keep on keeping on.