

Classic Posters Interview with Mark Pedini by Michael Erlewine

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Michael Erlewine: When and how did you get interested in art?

Mark Pedini: I've been drawing all my life. I'm not sure why I started, but I can't stop. I started making flyers for punk shows in the late 80's, so I could get in for free.

Michael Erlewine: What kind of art influenced you?

Mark Pedini: Vincent Van Gogh, Wayne Thibau, Pop art, comics, and editorial illustration. It all started with a huge stack of vintage Mad Magazines (from the 60's and 70's) and continued into the likes of Robert Crumb and underground comic artists from the 80's and 90's such as Dave Cooper, Ward Sutton, Dennis Worden, Peter Bagge, Daniel Clowes, Julie Duoce, Jim Woodring, WWill Magazine, etc.

Michael Erlewine: What concert-posters artists influenced you?

Mark Pedini: Ward Sutton, Raymond Pettibon, Wes Wilson, Rick Griffin, Brian Chippendale, Matt Brinkman, Brian Ralph.

Michael Erlewine: What was your first concert-music poster?

Mark Pedini: My first flyer? Not sure. My first screen-printed poster was for a band called "The Neo-90's Dance Band" in Providence, RI. It was straight-up neo-psychadelic, very Wes Wilson.

Michael Erlewine: What are the main venues you have done posters for?

Mark Pedini: An art space called AS220 in Providence, RI and Emo's in Austin, TX.

Michael Erlewine: What are the main bands you have done posters for?

Mark Pedini: I've done a lot odd stuff for The Slip, a jam band from Boston, MA. I've enjoyed doing posters for bands that are appreciative.

Michael Erlewine: What media do you use:

Mark Pedini: These days I screen print all my posters by hand, and usually draw all of the content by hand. I'm not a purist by principle, but nothing else makes me happy.

Michael Erlewine: What other poster artists have you collaborated with?

Mark Pedini: I'm a loner, no real collaborations yet.

Michael Erlewine: Who are your favorite current poster artists?

Mark Pedini: Jay Ryan / The Bird Machine, Serigraphie Populaire, Jay Vollmar, Factor 27, Mike King, Nocturnal Showprint, Aesthetic Apparatus - Dan Ibarra, Michael Byzewski, Methane Studios, Dan Grzeca

Michael Erlewine: What are your favorite bands?

Mark Pedini: Neutral Milk Hotel, Polyphonic Spree, Songs Ohia, Okkervil River, Pixies, Pinback, Oneida.