

Classic Posters Interview with Postergirl Press

Classic Posters Interview with Postergirl Press (Kristen Thiele)

by Michael Erlewine

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

Postergirl: When I was a teenager, I discovered music and art simultaneously. I knew then, ideally, that the two interests would merge.

Michael Erlewine: What kind of art influenced you?

Postergirl: Good art! There is no one genre that takes precedence.

Michael Erlewine: What concert-posters artists influenced you?

Postergirl: I learned the art of silkscreen printing after finishing school. I apprenticed Steve Walters of Screwball Press in Chicago in the mid-nineties. I really only discovered poster art at that point, so I would have to point to my peers, Jay Ryan / The Bird Machine, Steve Walters, and others.

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

Postergirl: I'm sure it was a Motorhome poster, my band in Chicago. I can't remember the venue, or even what the poster looked like!

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

Postergirl: Mostly Chicago venues: Double Door, Empty Bottle, Metro, The Note, Schuba's, and Nevin's Live in Evanston. Also, Churchill's Hideaway here in Miami.

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

Postergirl: My two favorites: Evil Beaver and Light FM. GBV was great for me too.

Michael Erlewine: What media do you work in?

Postergirl: I primarily use the 12x18" or 8 x 8" format. Film is expensive, so to keep it affordable for

the bands, I use those sizes, which also divide easily into the 24x36" format of the sheet size of the paper I use, which is generally 150 lb tag or index paper. I use speedball acrylic ink and, when I'm feeling fancy, I like to mix iridescent powder into overprint varnish.

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

Postergirl: None yet.

Michael Erlewine: Who are your favorite current poster artists

Postergirl: Jay Ryan, Tara McPherson, Charlie Doink Calderin, Steve Walters, Leia Bell,

and many more.

Michael Erlewine: What are your favorite bands?

Postergirl: Steven Malkmus, and the Jicks, my latest fave. Preston School of Industry a close second. I like the Bee Gees and Devo too.

Michael Erlewine: Any poster shows: Most recent posters show at Objex Art Space in Miami, FL. I'm proud to say that my show was followed up by a show of Mark Mothersbaugh's work. I have a show of my paintings in Chicago, June 13th at the David Leonardis Gallery. It's a 2 person show with Mike Zelenko, formally of Material Issue.

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