

SKY CITY

Music & Cocktails / 1157 Broad Street Downtown Augusta GA

every WED night	Wednesday Night Conspiracy DJ KNIGHTMARE Wednesday Night Conspiracy 10pm \$5-\$15 Admission	FRI MAR 10	VILLAGE STICKS + GNOSTIC GOSPELS + JAYCIE & THE BEARDS 9pm \$5 Admission
THU MAR 2	SUNWELL + GLOOM COCOON + DEA + LOST BOY American Heart Assoc. Benefit 8pm Free Admission	SAT MAR 11	(((Improvational Experimental Rock!!!)) Sure Eel 8pm Free Front Bar Show!
FRI MAR 3	THE WHISKEY GENTRY wsg BETHANY & SOUTHSIDE BOYS + Late Night Set by DJ HARDKNOCKS 8pm \$7Adv - \$10Door	THU MAR 16	(((Indie Rock From Charleston SC!!!)) HIGH DIVERS with guest MOTEL RADIO 8pm \$5 Admission
SAT MAR 4	(((Vendors + DJs + Collectors!!!)) I LOVE VINYL with LADY MARAUDE + DJ MIKEY + MATTO PORTER + BRUCE PHILLIPS + DJ RICHARDS + special guests???	FRI MAR 24	CRACKER wsg SHAUN PIAZZA BAND 8pm \$15Adv - \$20Door
THU MAR 9	(((Funky Progressive Rock-n-Roll!!!)) UNIVERSAL SIGH 8pm \$5 Admission		3-17 / ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY 3-18 / THE BONAVENTURES 3-23 / DOC OTIS BAND + VILAI H. 3-31 / LEGOOSE + TUNDE + DIGIGOST 4-6 / FLAMING LIPS AFTER PARTY 4-13 / JOJO'S SLIM WEDNESDAY 4-20 / MAGGIE KOERNER 4-21 / STEPPIN' STONES 4-22 / ENOCH + CLASH OF THE TITANS 4-29 / SIMO + PHILLIP LEE BAND 5-19 / LITTLE TYBEE

www.skycityaugusta.com



Creases

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Submission Editor

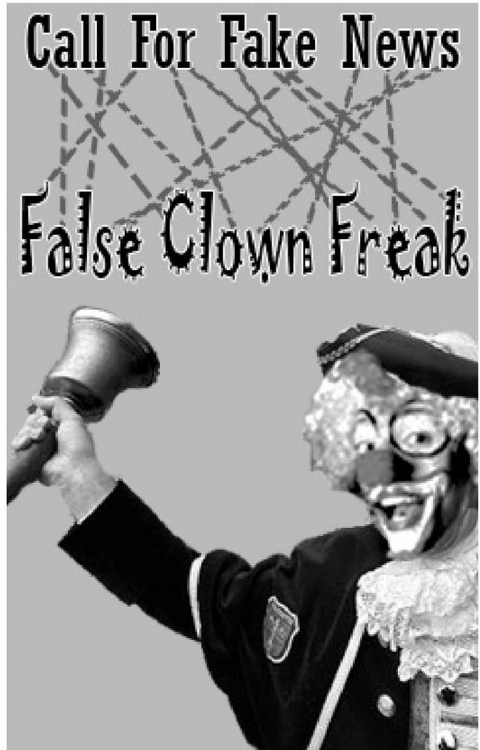
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Contributor

Joshua Smith
Contributing Artist

Jason Walter
Contributing Artist



YOUTH ART SHOWCASE

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ARTUS - 1155 BROAD STREET, AUGUSTA, GA

WWW.ARTUSARTS.COM



Jason Walter



Instagram @declankonesky and @illuminatty_ice for updates on everything I ever do, as well as my website declankonesky.com. You can get a sense of all the different things I do, where I will be and when as I move into doing more workshops and maybe traveling with my band (if metal type stuff). Check out my buddy Deece at id4rounds.com every Friday for his webcomic. That dude is a big inspiration to me because [he is] one of a few people I know who gives me a run for being so tirelessly busy. Come by the Antique Market to see Steve Fiegenbaum's and my paintings, as well as 4P Studios, which I helped open, and That Place Coffee for exhibitions - I have one in August. I have to thank my mom, Staci Swider. We work together all the time, keeping each other sharp and focused. She just had a book published. Look her up. She is a bad ass.

Read the full interview & see more pieces from the art-ist at creasessaugustaweekly.com

How do you know if a piece is complete?
 At this point, I think my experience helps. That's about 18 or so years, a bachelor's in fine arts and 7 or so years of practical experience "in the field," so to speak. Usually, I just have to let the piece go. Sit on it, if I have to, and let it stew and see how it strikes me later. Painting-wise, it's about a balance. It's like having the munchies or a craving, except instead of salt and spice it's color. But I try not to get bogged down in pickiness, which has now translated into my very own style - loose and abstract, and embracing an amount of "wrongness." If you will, I just let things be as they are; another nice Zen principle I got from watercolor. Rather than overworking, which is beneficial to understand, that sort of "get in and get out" practice is extremely important to my art making.



Anything else you think is worth mentioning?
 At this point, I think I have exhausted myself and just want to shamelessly self promote. Find me on



or multi-talented local artist Declan Konesky, stoner metal band The

Sword serves as one of the main sources of inspiration for his work. The other?

"Swans," he says. "They're perfectly up my alley. They're mind blowingly loud and noisy, heavy and insane, delicate and artsy. They're everything I aspire to portray."

Although he boasts a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and drawing, Konesky didn't always see the value of higher education. After failing out of college, he was selling paintings out of the Antique Market in 2010 and working on commissions when he realized that he could use education to further his intended artistic career.

"I mean this very seriously, to any other artists who might read this," he says. "I got lucky my family is very supportive, but if you want to be a better artist, take advantage of that education. Your degree doesn't mean much to other people, so you have to make the most of that education. Those are two different things,

at bay and I can listen to my music. I also might be a little vain so I appreciate trying to look good. Beyond that, I really try to keep my fingers in as many outlets as possible. Is that the proper phrase? That sounds dangerous... Oh, speaking of danger, besides music and exercise, a lot of my inspiration comes from good old fashioned hanging out. I try to make note of conversations and jokes and themes that we all like, which translates quite naturally into my work.

Do you ever experience artists' block, and if so, how do you work through it?
 NONSTOP. Fear is a big part of it. My mantra is to make bad work worse and then go fix it. Just jump in despite the fear. But when that is failing me, I just work on one of my other outlets and try to just make the leap with them. Besides fear, it's just exhaustion. I paint hundreds of paintings a year, take into account the hundred plus pages of a story, the sketches, all of it and then sometimes the block feels like a well-earned vacation. That is, until I look at my bank account and the bills being due and how my fridge still doesn't have any beer and there is an awesome show coming up.



degrees and education. Educate yourself. Soak it all up. Everything you can. If you're doing it right, you'll find a use for all of it. DIY motherfuckers."

Fast forward to the present: Konesky has been working on a 128-page graphic novel titled "Illuminatty Ice," his first book that he considers largely to be a labor of love.



Tell us about your upcoming graphic novel.

This particular story started title first. I like to think the title speaks for itself, but it is a combination of Illuminatty and Natty Ice. This evolved into a sort of "Legion of Doom" meets "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" story based on politicians and celebrities secretly working to make Doctor Doomf the president (Donald Trump/Drumpf meets the super villain Doctor Doom). I call it a faux epic parody and absurdist dark humor story because it has a whole lot of elements to it, but the main point is for the story to just feel absurd and ridiculous.

What drove you to create "Illuminatty Ice"?

I quickly learned what it meant to work full time as an artist. You have at least 40 hours a week to fill. Long story short, comics and graphic novels (a love of mine) seemed attractive. You work 10 hours a day on one project, which is actually attractive to me. I created a year's worth of work for myself, entirely based off of several passions of mine. So then, after several experiments and half started projects, I began coming up with story ideas. This is the one that stuck. I brainstormed with some friends about what "Illuminatty Ice" would be about and it started coming together.



What else are you working on?
 While I am working on finding a publisher for [the graphic novel], I am working on two more stories. One is the follow up to "Illuminatty Ice," "Big League," "Baby Hands," and the other "Brotherhood Uprising," which is an epic Broadway. Besides that, I am making T-shirts and other merchandise for income as well as creating a workshop I can take on the road to teach. **What helps you keep your creativity flowing?**
 I exercise constantly. It lets me keep the murder-