

# INKED

Steven Tabor  
2019 (c)

# Inked

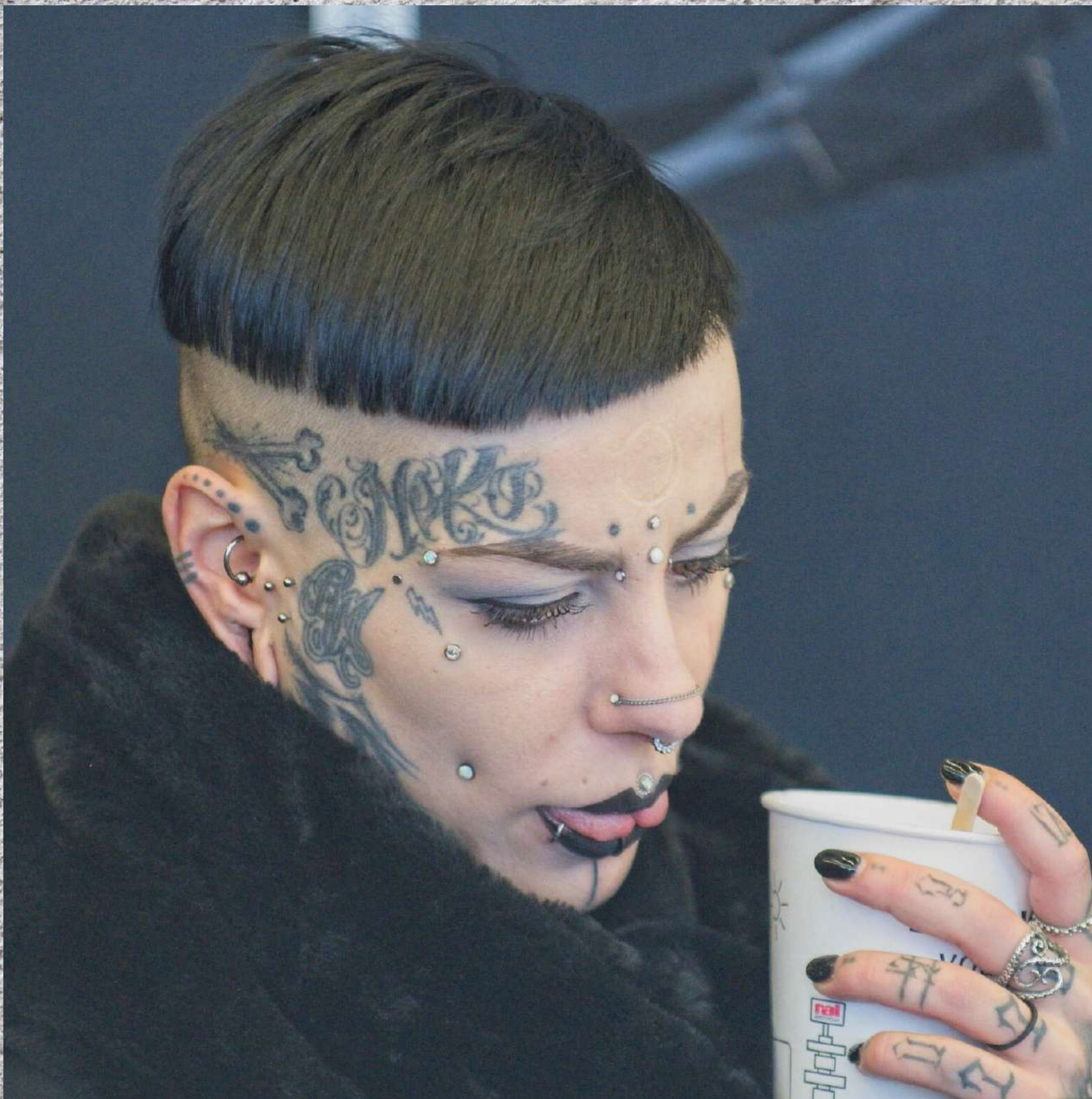
People have used their skin as a canvas from long before the time of recorded history. The first evidence of tattoos dates from the Neolithic period, with early tattoo traditions found in many parts of the world. The actual term "tattoo" originated in Polynesia. The traditional term for tattoo in Samoa was "tatau" and "tatu" in Tahiti. The modern spelling of tattoo first appeared in the West after the explorer, Captain James Cook, returned from the South Pacific to Europe. The Miriam Webster dictionary included the word "tattoo" in its 1777 edition.

Since the 1970s, tattoos have experienced a resurgence in popularity in Europe, Japan and America. For many young people, the tattoo has taken on a decidedly different meaning than for previous generations. It has shifted from being a symbol of deviance or rebellion to an acceptable form of artistic expression. This growth in tattoo culture has seen an influx of new artists to the industry, many of whom have technical and fine arts training. While tattoo's roots are in the tribal practices of the Polynesians, Native Americans and Japanese, tattoo art has evolved in dozens of different directions in recent years.

People get tattooed for many reasons: to pay tribute to a loved one, for attention, to express their creativity, as part of a spiritual tradition, identification with a group, or sometimes just as a spontaneous act. Tattoos are a way for people to create their own identity, to tell their story, and to make themselves feel a little more unique. The tattoos raise their confidence and make them feel more comfortable in their own skin.

These images were taken at the Amsterdam Tattoo Convention 2019. The Convention featured more than 350 tattoo masters from all around the world, plus food trucks, a piercing studio, standings selling clothes, jewelry and books, classic rock bands, and even adult cabarets. Large numbers of tattoo enthusiasts came to get inked, to admire the tattoo artists, to display their own tattoos and piercings, and to mingle with their peers.





























































































































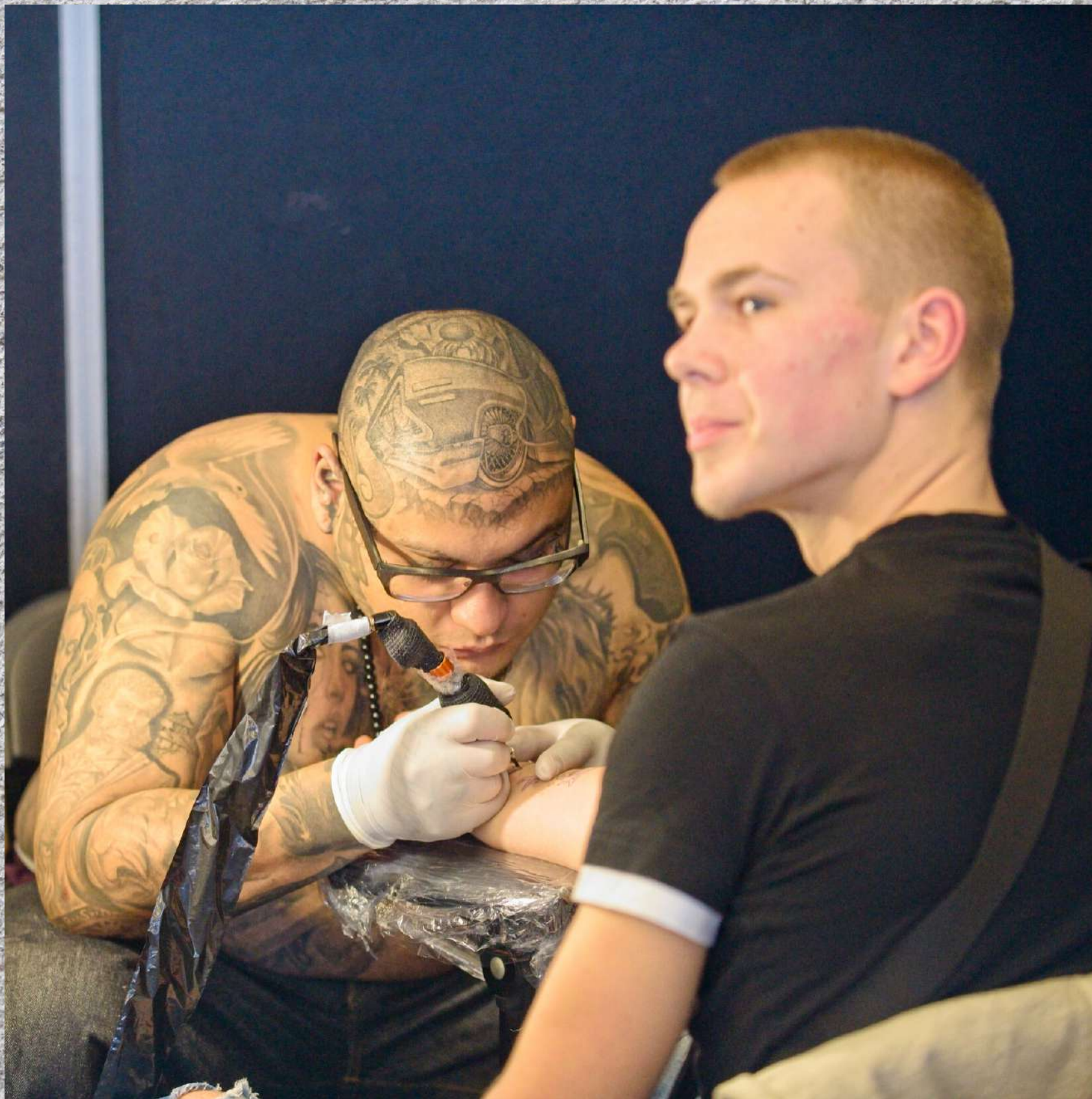
















































































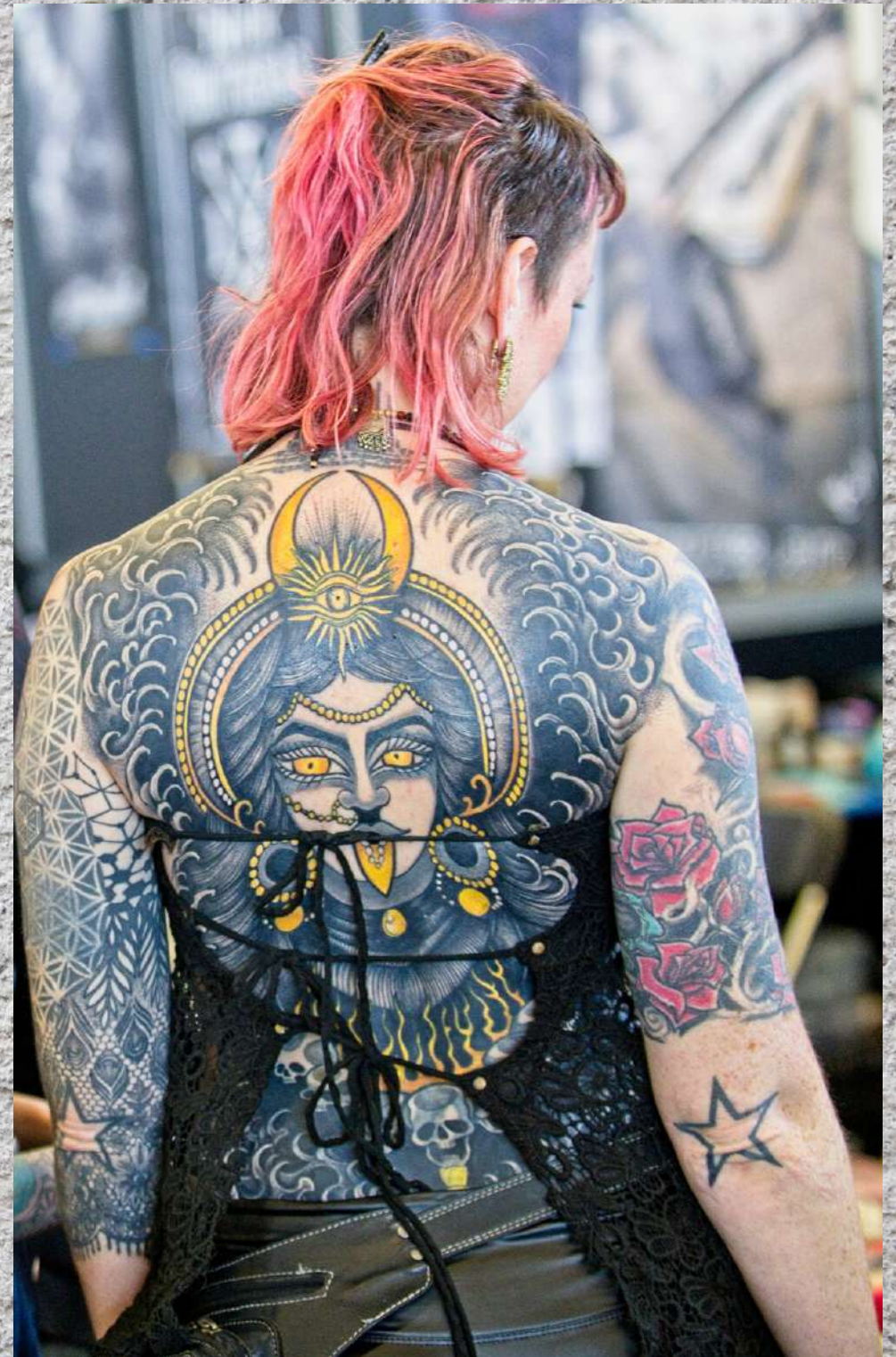








































































Am Anfang an  
über Dir  
glaub an Dich  
Lissie.  
Für immer  
meinem Herzen

AAMA!!!

BOOM!













































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