

Propaganda Magazine

 Parma

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Propaganda Magazine

29 June ·

BLOOD INTO WINE

By Fred H. Berger

(Pride Month Charitable Art Sale. See info. below.)

DONATION UPDATE:

The "Parma" illustration by Alex J. Murd was sold on June 30, 2018 for \$150 USD. The proceeds of the sale were donated to The Trevor Project. Our generous buyer/donor is Jessi Wilson, an American clinical psychologist and gender therapist. Thank you Jessi for supporting this worthy cause, for your acquisition of this beautiful work of art, and for the absolutely essential work that you do. (End of update)

Commence article ...

Reminiscent of Jonny Specimen of Batcave fame, Parma Ham is an androgynous goth from London, England where he curates art exhibitions and DJ's at The Coven goth club. About a month ago he sent me a Polaroid of himself wearing a Star of David mesh shirt that really caught my eye, especially since it evokes Siouxsie and the Banshees' promo photo for their 1980 single "Israel." The ear-to-nose rosary is also a nice touch, and mirrors the Cross necklace that Siouxsie wore in that iconic image. Mixing and matching religious iconography has always been a hallmark of the gothic sensibility, as has sexual and gender non-conformity and fluidity. As Siouxsie famously said in an interview, "A person's gender has nothing to do with whether or not I find them attractive." And being gay was nothing out of the ordinary on the scene, with luminaries such as Rozz Williams, Ollie Wisdom, Pete Burns and Douglas P. being out and about long before it received the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval.

Being that it's Pride Month, it occurred to me to contact renowned alternative artist Alex J. Murd to do a rendering of Parma's Polaroid photo, and she jumped on it like a famished alley cat gobbling up scraps behind a fish market. For 2017 Pride she did an illustration of Lou Reed and his transgender girlfriend Rachel, which was sold via the Propaganda Facebook page with the proceeds going to The Trevor Project, an organization for LGBTQ youth in crisis. This weekend we're aiming to raise money for the same group using her Parma Ham portrait. Alex is well known in underground art circles, and her gift for capturing the spirit and vitality of her subjects is quite uncanny. I know exceptional talent when I see it, and this is the third commission she has accepted for Propaganda's charitable art offerings over the past year. And with her flair for the gothic, and a touch of El Greco running in her veins, she's got what it takes to turn blood into wine.

THE PHOTO:

The photo appears in the comments column of this post.

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This Facebook page tells the long and fascinating history of the legendary Propaganda Magazine, the ...

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Model: Parma Ham
Photo by Dani Meija
Star of David mesh shirt made and sold by Descontrol Punk Shop, Los Angeles, CA

THE ARTWORK:

Price: \$150 USD - SOLD!

Title: "Parma"

Artist: Alex J. Murd

Item being sold: original artwork

Year created: 2018

Size: 11 x 17 in. (27.94 x 43.18 cm)

Medium: Ink and pencil on textured bristol board.

NOTE: To view the artwork in its entirety, see the full image in the comments column of this post.

The artist byline and year superimposed on the two digital images in this post are not on the original artwork, which only bears the artist's AJM initials.

Artist contact:

www.murdcomics.com

<https://www.facebook.com/alex.jane.1800>

THE CHARITY:

The charity selected to benefit from the sale of this artwork is The Trevor Project. This organization provides counseling, suicide prevention, and crisis intervention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning young people ages 13 to 24. It is the largest organization of its kind in the United States.

The Trevor Project website: <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUYER OF ARTWORK:

In order to acquire the artwork entitled "Parma", the prospective buyer should message Fred Berger, Propaganda editor and administrator, at the Propaganda Facebook page. The Send Message button is at the top of the main section of the page. He will confirm whether the artwork is still available, provide instructions for making the \$150 charitable donation to The Trevor Project, and process the order for the artwork. Postage and insurance for shipping the artwork is free of charge for residents of the United States and Canada.



Anne Rice

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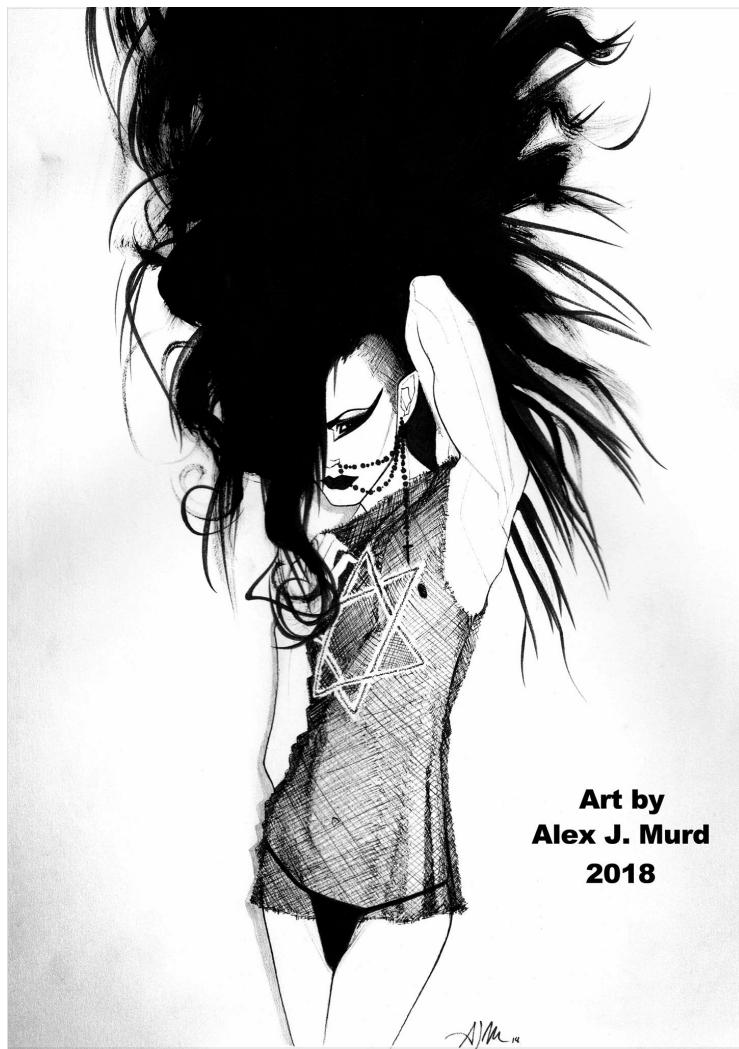


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**Art by
Alex J. Murd
2018**

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Propaganda Magazine This photo of Parma Ham was taken by Dani Mejia. As soon as the artist Alex J. Murd saw it, every pansexual bone in her body told her to draw it. And what a gorgeous illustration it is, worthy of its scintillating subject matter. Parma Ham contact:
<https://www.instagram.com/parma.ham/>



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