

Beat: Lifestyle

VEGAS SHOWGIRL SABINA KELLEY CALLS AUSTRALIA HOME

STAR OF BEST INK NAILS HER BRANDING

Perth , Western Australia, 15.09.2015, 08:45 Time

USPA NEWS - Thousands lined up in Perth to get “Get Inked” by artistic talents said to be the best throughout the Asia Pacific Rim but were blind to the beauty of the world’s most sought after Ink model “Sabina Kelley” at this week’s 2015 Australian Tattoo and Body Art Expo.

So who is “Sabina Kelley” for the un-inked and how has she developed such a following of millions of fans all over the World? Establishing her as a true, modern day, pinup and icon. She has graced dozens of magazine covers as well as major ad campaigns, television, music videos, calendars, and so much more with her international presence. She is highly respected in her field and has been sought out by some of the top photographers in the business including David La Chapelle and the legendary, Bunny Yeager. Sabina has been modelling professionally for over 12 years and dancing since the age of two. She is professionally trained in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, and pointe. She went from a small town ballerina to a big time Las Vegas showgirl performing in “Jubilee”^[1], for 2 years at Ballys Hotel. She is currently guest headlining in the show “PinUp”^[2], on the Las Vegas strip at the Stratosphere casino.

While modelling with a lot of tattoos goes against the industry norms, Sabina has been very successful in the mainstream-modelling world. Standing at a statuesque 5’10”³ with platinum blonde hair, gorgeous features, and tattoos, she has gained the respect of many in the industry. One of the amazing things I noticed when working with Sabina behind the camera was her ability to simply turn her ‘Model Game face’ on instantly. With each click of the camera her pose changed from amazing to simply amazing. I asked her about her views on ‘Social Media Models’ and to hear her so supportive towards the culture of “One Shoot Models” (girls who have done a shoot with anyone with a camera and now consider themselves ‘Models’). “If your claiming to be a professional model you should look like your pictures, everyone Photoshop’s but keeping true to your figure and looks is paramount. My eldest daughter is now 13 and constantly being asked by amateur photographers on Facebook to pose in bikini’s and underwear. As a mother I feel parents needs to have a little more access to what is going on out there on facebook and be involved if their daughter wants to do a photoshoot.” Said Sabina

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“I would close my Facebook if I could,”^[3] said Kelley “I find Facebook confronting and very unsociable, gossip, stories, people lives destroyed, relationships broken and if it wasn’t for the fact I need it for my business I would not have Facebook”^[4] she sighed. And what advice can you give to aspiring models who want to follow in your footsteps and who inspired you? “Think hard about getting Tattoos as harsh as it sounds. I lost so many opportunities because of tattoos so I have “branded” myself differently, Pinup models don’t have to have tattoos for example my friend Dita Von Teese is a clean skin “ she smiled. “Be selective with your tattoo if you want them. Remember they are part of your image. I was inspired by Betty Page a 1950’s pin-up model and one of the first sex icons in America.”

Sabina owns her own laser tattoo removal business called Bombshell Tattoo Removal. She is also a permanent judge on the new TV show “Best Ink”^[5], which has aired 3 seasons so far but in Australia life at the Gold Coast could become home for this International model as her now partner NIXX, owner of “United Supply Company” which is referred to as “Australia’s link to the West Coast.” Develops his business further with Model Sabina. Who wears the pants and this relationship with two captains and two ships? , I asked. “I do,” said Sabina and partner Nixx at the same time smiling.

NIXX worked with Sabina at the Australian Tattoo and Body Art Expo this week, a famous tattoo artist himself he loves living the lifestyle of the people behind brands he promotes such as Mister Cartoon, Estevan Oriol and Bobby “Tribal” Ruiz.

Sabina has worked hard at her marketing and image branding. “Punctuality and loyalty is everything in modelling and I want to see more model mums like myself working through pregnancy where she contacted every pregnancy magazine for work and was kept very

busy and financial at the same time. I modelled right through to my last two weeks before the birth of my youngest who is now six. Never give up on your dreams, never let people slow you down. I have some amazing things happening in the future and can't wait to let everyone know as soon as contracts are signed." said Sabina. We all wish you the best of success I replied to this truly inspirational model.

I guess it's true that we, for whatever reason like or dislike tattoos on people, some will look down on those with tattoos others look up and admire you. Your ink is your fashion statement, it's your life. Not one person on Earth will ever appreciate what each line means to those who are inked but those who wear their ink with pride and know every meaning. Kat Von D once said, "I am a canvas of my experiences, my story is etched in lines and shading, and you can read it on my arms, my legs, my shoulders, and my stomach." [?] ...Namaste

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-5315/vegas-showgirl-sabina-kelley-calls-australia-home.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Robbie Merritt

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483 Green Lanes
UK, London N13NV 4BS
contact (at) unitedpressagency.com
Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619