

# FEATURE



OCTOBER 1991 \$1.00 COMPLIMENTARY COPY

## ESTHER'S FOLLIES GOES NATIONAL

STEVE GERASCI

MARIA EXCOMMUNIKATA

THE CHROMATICS

TONI PRICE

INTERDIMENSIONAL WIZARD:  
ZAMARATH TALKS HEALTHY LIVING,  
THINKING, MUSIC & MAGIC

A Look Into The NEW AGE

FALL FASHIONS  
FOR THE  
NOW MAN

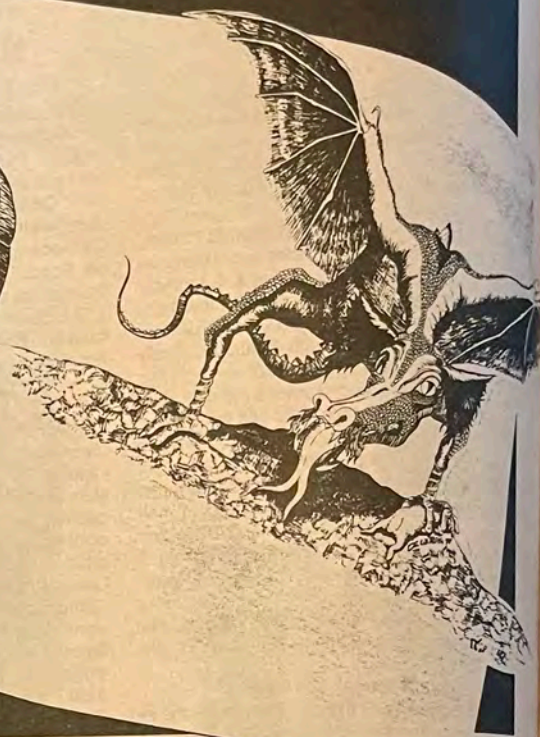
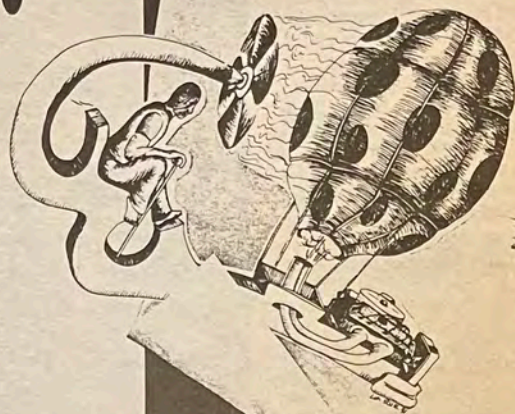
HAIRY SITUATIONS: TIPS, PICS

HOTEL DINING

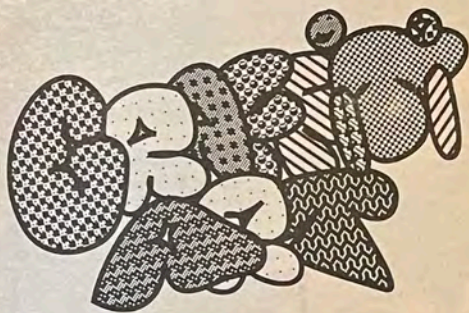
DESIGN '90'S: A MIXED BAG

no-90's

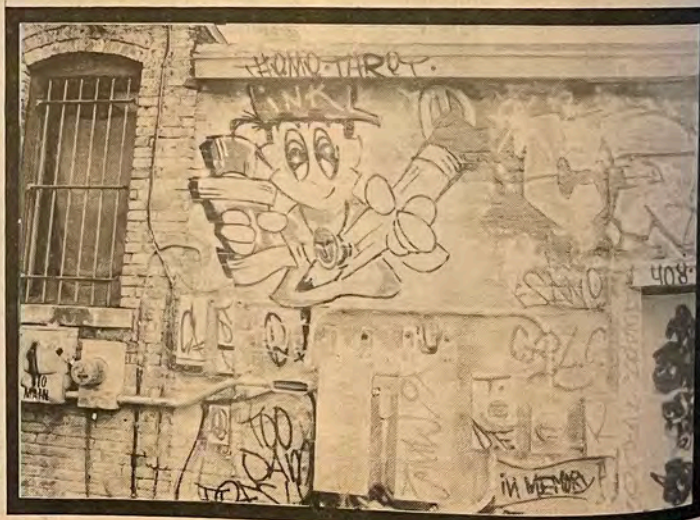
SHOWCASE  
GRAPHIQUE



# Douglas LaRue



"We're just getting paid for what we like to do. We'd be doing it anyway, so we might as well get paid for it"



Born into a family of artists, Doug LaRue's works of art were race cars for his mates.

Today, as the artist for The Littlest Hobo, with some of the best in Texas, design concepts for books.


Busy, but still LaRue finds time for a small amount of graffiti cover, motion picture design projects.

was killed

This sometimes thought provoking acceptance in America the American In

The Peace Murders according to Ad people move through school the arts.

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**THIS PAGE:** Untitled. Doug LaRue's grandfather in a quiet moment.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Untitled. Wacky cartoon illustrations.

Born into a family of artistic people, Doug LaRue's first commissioned works of art were space ships and race cars for his third grade classmates.

Today, as the Art Director / Illustrator for The Littlest Book Co., Doug works with some of the brightest illustrators in Texas, designing & developing concepts for books.

Busy, but still young and hungry, LaRue finds time to schedule in a small amount of freelance album cover, motion picture and editorial design projects.



**raffiti art is one of the most unappreciated artistic forms in our society. People go to jail for it. New York artist Michael Stewart was killed because of it.**

This sometimes beautiful, sometimes angry, often times thought provoking means of expression has found great acceptance in Austin, thanks to some street artists and the American Institute of Learning (AIL).

The Peace Mural Project is sponsored by the AIL, which, according to Administrative Director, Dennis Borel, "helps people move from subsidy to self-sufficiency," either through schooling, job placement, health screening or the arts.

One person the AIL helped was street artist Martin Coronado, who goes by the tag NSANE. Coronado had been doing graffiti art, most of it with a violent message, since age 12. When he decided he wanted an education, he enrolled in the AIL's dropout recovery program and received his GED. To thank them, Coronado got some friends together and painted a mural behind the

AIL office on 4th and Congress St. He dedicated the artwork to the memory of his friend, Theodore Trevino, who had been gunned down in a gang-related incident.

The mural attracted some attention, including that of Leadership Austin, a group that was looking to sponsor anti-gang activity. The Travis County Commissioners and Financial Resources Management Inc. kicked in more support and the Peace Mural Project was formed.

Across the street from AIL, the air-brushed mural, titled, "Increase the Peace," is a plea by the artists for peace in the neighborhood and in the world. It is in response to last fall's gang shooting on 5th and Congress Street, and the Persian Gulf War. The figures in the mural are people who represent peace to the artists. These figures include: Brother Jim, who runs a Youth Center on 6th Street, a person with AIDS, a Mexican-American farmer, and artist Daniel Sevano's (THEME) grandparents.

Other artists on the project are Salvadore Zamarron (KRE8), Louis Trevino (SET), Jessie Zapata (JEZ) and Joey Guerra (TYPE2), who is currently in the AIL program. The project is coordinated by Austin area artist Jon Cobb.

Because of the substantial monetary support they received for the project, the AIL was able to hire a teacher to give the artists formal demonstrations on the air brush technique and pay the artists. The six young men will also be able to keep all the equipment they use so they can form their own business.

So far, things looks promising. During our interview, a construction worker stopped by to ask if the painters if they would do a mural for his truck. Coronado says they have also received a few other offers.

Everyone in the group is rightfully proud of their work and excited about their future. "This is the first air brush group in Austin, for sure, says Zamarron.

Says Coronado, "We're just getting paid for what we like to do. We'd be doing it anyway, so we might as well get paid for it."

It makes more sense than going to jail for it.

**By AL KAUFMAN  
Photograph by BOB CHALMERS**