



ART ADVENTURE SAM DALKILIC-MIESTOWSKI

Artist finds niche in horror world

Christopher Hinkle is a Valparaiso artist who's been inspired by the great classic horror movies. In his own words, he explains how his love of movies has inspired his art:

My name is Christopher Hinkle, and I was born on March 31, 1983. All my life I've studied art and art theory.

My first memories as a small boy are of me drawing in my bedroom and sneaking out of my room in the middle of the night to watch horror films and TV programs. I have a huge love for the classic Universal horror movies. Some of my personal favorites of the horror genre include Boris Karloff, Bela Lugosi, Lon Chaney. I also very much enjoy George A. Romero's films, as well as Evil Dead 1 and 2, Army of Darkness, Bram Stoker's Dracula, The Alien series, Texas Chainsaw Massacre, Friday the 13th, Nightmare on Elm St., Rosemary's Baby.

Music has also played an important part in my imagery as well. I always enjoyed the punk influences of The Misfits, Black Flag, Iggy Pop, The Dead Kennedys, The Cramps, and Social Distortion. The heavy metal genre, including Marilyn Manson, Behemoth, Alice Cooper, Black Sabbath, Pantera, Slayer, The Masses, Henry Rollins and many more have been equally influential.

Growing up, I continued my pursuit of art. In school I joined all art clubs and took as many extra art lessons as I could get my hands on. Slowly my art became my identity.

I drew on my clothes and my skin, which got me into trouble with my schools and a few "closed minded" classmates. I was an outcast a lot of my life. I only had a few close friends who understood what I was doing.

To this day I have never been a dangerous or evil person. Nor have I have never been arrested or in trouble with the law. My art is my release from the stresses of my everyday life. It's been the best therapy I have ever experienced.

In high school I took up a mortician job. I did everything from grounds work to embalming to driving the families to gravesites for services. This is where I learned that I could do anything. My first college was a private college where once again I was a out-



Christopher Hinkle with a mask molded from his face. He sculpted from his lifecast with a fiberglass skull, sculpted teeth and a baked a poly/foam airbrushed skin. He also made the eyebrows moveable. The mouth of the mask is operated by his mouth, and vaccum forms from the lifecast fit the mask perfectly to Hinkle's face. | PHOTO PROVIDED



This is a rendering by Christopher Hinkle of the late actor Vincent Price. | PHOTO PROVIDED

cast. I was studying mortuary science and art.

Then one day, a professor told me I would be a idiot to continue my interest in funeral business. After that conversation, I was watching some movies and I asked myself "How the hell do they do that?"

That, being the cuts, bruises, gunshots, and life size monsters. I did some research and found out about special effects make-up. That brought me to finding out about the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and their Industrial Design program. The school offered special effects classes, mask making, make-up, life casting, and design.

So I moved to Pittsburgh and for the first time I was not an outcast. I was surrounded by all walks of life, including, punks, metal heads, poets, Christians, geeks, nerds, high class to the low class. The best part was that everybody I hung out with was an artist. The best years of my life were at that school.

I worked on several short films and music videos in Chicago, and one full-length movie in Alabama (still waiting for its release.) I had an art show and sale at the Ghost Hunters Conference in Chicago. Now I am working on a short film I have written and continue my study in art, mainly portrait work these days.

If you would like to view Christopher Hinkle's work in person call him at (419) 551-0806 or email him at muteproductions213@yahoo.com.

Pair will restitution from C.P. scammer

BY TERESA AUCH SCHULTZ
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A Crown Point businessman who admitted two years ago to swindling hundreds of thousands of dollars from his friends and associates has agreed to pay two of his victims \$250,000, according to attorneys in the case.

David Wickland, who represented plaintiffs Corby and Bonnie Sanders, said that Dan Swift signed the civil judgment May 10, which is in addition to criminal restitution he is already paying to them.

"Of course, who knows if and when it will all be paid," Wickland said.

The Sanders claim in their lawsuits that they, like other

victims of Swift, gave him \$250,000 in 2002 to invest for two years. Swift told



Swift

them he would invest it in securities, giving them monthly statements to show how their money was supposedly growing, the lawsuit says. Instead, the supposed investment was a fraud, and the Sanders never got their money back.

Swift, who also owned High School Sports Publications, pleaded guilty in 2009 to eight counts of securities fraud and was sentenced to

eight years in a work-release program.

He was also ordered to make a one-time payment of \$31,000 to be split among his victims, and then \$2,000 every month, also to be split. Wickland said that Swift testified he is working in data entry for \$30,000 a year.

Mark Thiros, Swift's attorney, called the agreement "fair and equitable" and said that Swift is working on making restitution, though the criminal order is his first priority.

Thiros said he paid all the criminal restitution payments so far but it's "uncertain" whether he will ever be able to pay off the \$250,000 agreement with the Sanders.

2 arrested for West St. break-in

BY KITTY CONLEY
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CROWN POINT — Two men were arrested on charges of breaking and entering at a house in 800 block of North West Street around 8:45 a.m. May 10.

A resident told police that she and her boyfriend were asleep when they were attacked.

Christopher Nolan and Robert Pitlik were arrested after allegedly breaking into the house and accusing the residents of breaking into Pitlik's house the night before.

When the male victim told the two intruders to leave, Pitlik allegedly punched him in the face. According to the victims Nolan and Pitlik then ran outside and began to damage property around the house and smashed the

woman's cell phone when she tried to call police.

According to the police report, the men fled the area and were captured after a short foot pursuit by officers Airren Nylin, Lloyd Eldridge and Eldridge's K-9 partner

Buddy.

Both Nolan and Pitlik were charged with residential entry and interference with reporting a crime, both felonies. Pitlik was also charged with battery and resisting law enforcement.



Nolan



Pitlik

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