



## TATTOO TEMPLE

# Unique Living Art

“Unlike any other” understatedly describes both premises and product of CHRIS ANDERSON’s unique establishment.

**T**he close ties between artist and patron have been responsible for some of the finest works in existence. This relationship is more pronounced when the patron himself is the canvas. Such a notion however is atypically afforded this respect and reverence, which is why Tattoo Temple has become the institution that it is today.

The one-of-a-kind purveyor of the time-honored, but often misunderstood art form produces some of the most elaborate and beautiful, bespoke creations for a worldwide client base. While the mainstream market is chock-full of fast, kitsch skin work, what regional manager Chris Anderson, with celebrated artist Joey Pang and their team of exceptional, highly trained talent offer is nothing less than truly inspired.

### A Lasting Mark

“In South East Asia, tattooing was associated with criminal subcultures,” says Anderson. “Pieces were repetitions of group-membership iconography. The tattoos, especially in Hong Kong, were outlined pieces for ‘shock and awe’ – covering the largest areas whilst using the least amount of detailing and shading; thereby the most popular tattoos were the biggest and cheapest.”

While the notion that only delinquents and deviants get tattoos still exists, greater public demand cannot be ignored. “When we started in 2006 there were approximately five to seven known studios throughout Hong Kong. Today, there are over twenty studios, ranging from single tattooists operating out of government subsidized apartments to our 3,000 square foot studio with numerous artists.”

Tattoo Temple however does not adhere to the cookie-cutter business model, but gives tattooing the higher regard it deserves. One look at any of its projects shows the distinction. “We are witness-



ing tattooing being viewed as an art form in and of itself rather than a fringe practice,” says Anderson, and with this as guiding philosophy, all Tattoo Temple works are made to be timeless and unique. “We are the only studio to have artists solely create single use, custom designs. Every tattoo is made just for one client and never repeated.”

### Resetting Standards

Apart from intricate, one-of-a-kind pieces, its work process and the overall experience Tattoo Temple affords its clients set the bar, providing a brand of service that is nothing less than impeccable. Among its boast-worthy features are its world-class facilities, concierge, and cadre of artists. These and the sheer quality of product have attracted an impressive number of foreign patrons, making up 80% of its client base.

“We have a service team handling every project with individuals dedicated to each client. Emails are responded to within 24 hours and we routinely speak with fifteen different countries per week, including remote video consultations for new commissions.

“The studio space, chosen and built to Joey Pang’s specifications, is a place of quiet comfort. Many feel that they are in an exclusive nightclub rather than a tattoo parlor. Calming music is played with every session taking place in the artists’ private rooms. Separate consultation areas allow privacy when discussing new commissions. There is a communal working area so artists can

paint and draw together. All clients have noise cancelling headphones and personal tablets loaded with movies during sessions. A range of drinks and amenities are also available throughout. Essentially anything that could be done to make the clients’ time more comfortable and allow the artists to focus only on the creation and application of their art has been put into place.

“Our artists foremost are specialists in a variety of mediums (i.e. sketching, painting, etc.) before training under Joey Pang for tattooing skill sets. They share a standard of application and technical capability in tattooing through their shared training while also having their own compositional aesthetic. Nowhere else do all resident artists share a single teacher.”

### Finishing Touches

The skills honed by Tattoo Temple artists have translated well to other services, as they have been sought out for several commercial projects and of collaborations. Joey Pang’s interior design collection is among many examples of tattoo-inspired functional art; companies line up to commission similar work for their products. Growing in popularity is Tattoo Temple’s permanent makeup service, JP eternal Beauty Art. With more patrons on the horizon, a new batch of artists is being trained to join the studio’s lauded roster. As with each of its creations, Chris Anderson adheres to an unhurried, deliberate and meticulous approach for the company.

“I believe that success can be achieved when any business is borne from passion and professionally managed. We have been lucky enough to guide our passion for the art through many of the right channels, as well as work with some amazing clients.” ■

For additional information please visit  
[www.tattootemple.hk](http://www.tattootemple.hk)

