

## Tind Interview

Tind! What up!?

Everything is going according to NO plan.

How's Athens?

A great place to be if you are a pirate, a ninja or a Gaulois

still a nice place to wonder at nights,  
still a place with little treasures hidden around,  
still a place when you can shamelessly drink beers and sing "Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum"  
Not a place to mix business and fun,  
Not a place to get the job done,  
Not a place to bitch about.

"After all every society gets the visual environment it deserves" DC

When did you get you start in screen-printing?

My mother breastfed me with pantone colors and fluo inks and my father sang lullabies in the darkroom while he developed film (true story) .

How often do you print?

I screen-print (among other things) with my father for a living, earning just enough money to experiment more; I'm always trying to print with new inks and different materials. So one could say not as often I want, but as often as I need to. After all, screen-printing is just the medium, it's the process and the randomness of it, the little mistakes that occurs which are always far more superior than art itself.

What's the most rewarding aspect of the screen-printing process for you?

Cleaning up and taking care of my tools. When all work has been completed and you know it's a job well done you have to prepare your tools for the next print. Clean them well, treat them well and keep them handy where they belong. It's like sharpening your pencils or your knives!

Do you have any technical training?

Nope... just 15 or so years on the job itself. Like Obelix I fell into the pot of Magic Potion when I was little - but instead of potion there was ink (true story).

Do politics play a role in your work?

When you bring your work into the public eye - be it a canvas in an art gallery or a file on a social networking site, you are an active political being whether you admit it or not.

So a matter of moments ago I stumbled upon your "Keep Calm and Print On" screen-printing workshop streaming live via Ustream, care to share a bit about what's going on there?

It started out as an idea and has now grown into something with a life of its own. How can people and ideas be combined with designs and prints? It's an ongoing project without an end in sight: one result introduces the idea of another. Tune up in [www.keepcalmandcarryon.com](http://www.keepcalmandcarryon.com) for more.

Is this the first workshop?

Yeah, kind of. It's the first planned workshop, but we always share our

knowledge/experience when people stop by our place. We also make the best filter coffee in town, served with love and always hawt - just like our ideas!

How many folks are involved?

It ended up involving 28 designers (encompassing students, professional graphic designers and artists) as well as 4 speakers under the patronage of the Greek Designers Association. We also had 3 key sponsors who provided some of the materials used.

What is the goal of "Keep Calm and Print On?"

As Master Yoda said to young Luke: "Do or do not, there is no Try"

I'm really feeling the space theme of your "Die Rakete" posters, now are all of the 50 limited edition prints unique, one of a kind pieces?

Yeah, almost every print I do ends up limited and unique. I like mixing colors and materials and still can't fix my mind to specific color combinations, so while printing I always have this urge to mix it up a bit. It doesn't always work but it's still very fascinating.

The gold/silver leafing really pops on each of those posters. Did you go in with a predetermined theme for each poster chosen ahead of time, or did you simply flip the script mixing colors and techniques with each and every go around?

I always want to try new materials with screen-printing and, just like an ant, I gather stuff to try. I also use my gut feeling. I find it's the best way to deal with the process, screen printing, all between and outside of it. Screen-printing requires, above all else, curiosity. Mix, experiment, take a step back and repeat.

Is safe to say the we can expect to see more and more funky prints from you soon?

I have things and themes I wanna try out. Spoiler: Next print will involve glow-in-the-dark ink.

How does your typographic work differ from your screen-print design?

Actually at the moment they're becoming more alike - both more about experimentation. Lately I haven't been working under many deadlines so I'm taking the opportunity to explore different approaches as much as I can.

I also caught a slick video of yours boasting a lensbaby experiment where all the taillights from cars passing by were made to say TIND, fresh. What's up with that?

Just experimenting (or procrastinating, if you like!) The technique is called bokeh, the aesthetic quality of the blur. It's customizing your aperture so it can form shapes with light through the out-of-focus areas in the image. It's based on stenciling the origins of silkscreen.

Are you doing what you love?

Well, I love what I am doing. It's both creative and technical, it gives time to experiment more so when the moment comes I'll know what I can best use for a project.

Do you have any upcoming art shows?

Not at the moment but I've a few collaborations coming up. Tune into [www.tind.gr](http://www.tind.gr) for more.

Which came first the chicken or the egg?

What would Darwin say?

What do you do for fun?

I screen-print stuff - what else? Heh ok, I enjoy listening to music loud, I spend countless hours on the internets, and drink cheap

beer with my partners in crime in the smallest Athenian joints.  
I love doing the dishes, eating fish soup and over-complicating things.  
I lure people into collaborations, I challenge and like being challenged to take things a baby step further.

**Where do you see screen-printing headed in the future?**

When I grew up in the 80s there were books in the local supermarkets that depicted pictures of the future which seemed totally mechanical and automated. Now where's that future ? One can only speculate what it may hold and it's kind of silly. The only thing for sure is that even if an EMP hits Earth and all the electronics are gone you can still screen-print !!

**What's next?**

Designing and producing custom, handmade small-medium-large scale portable and personal silkscreen printing tools, just for the love of it. After the workshop will be the homework: take what you learnt and do it yourself. Print the world / spread the word.

**Any shout-outs?**

To my partners in crime and to all people out there who keep doing stuff "for the love of the game".