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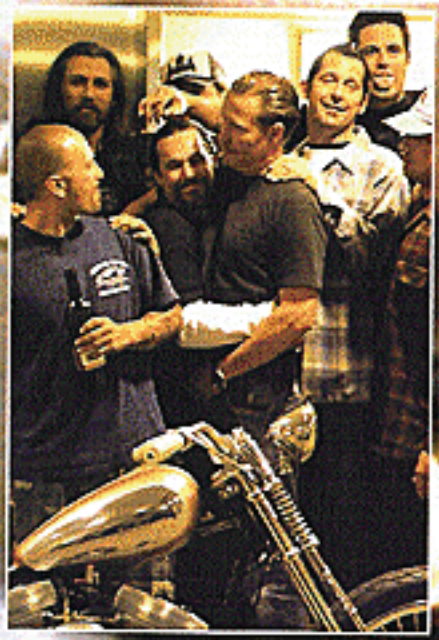
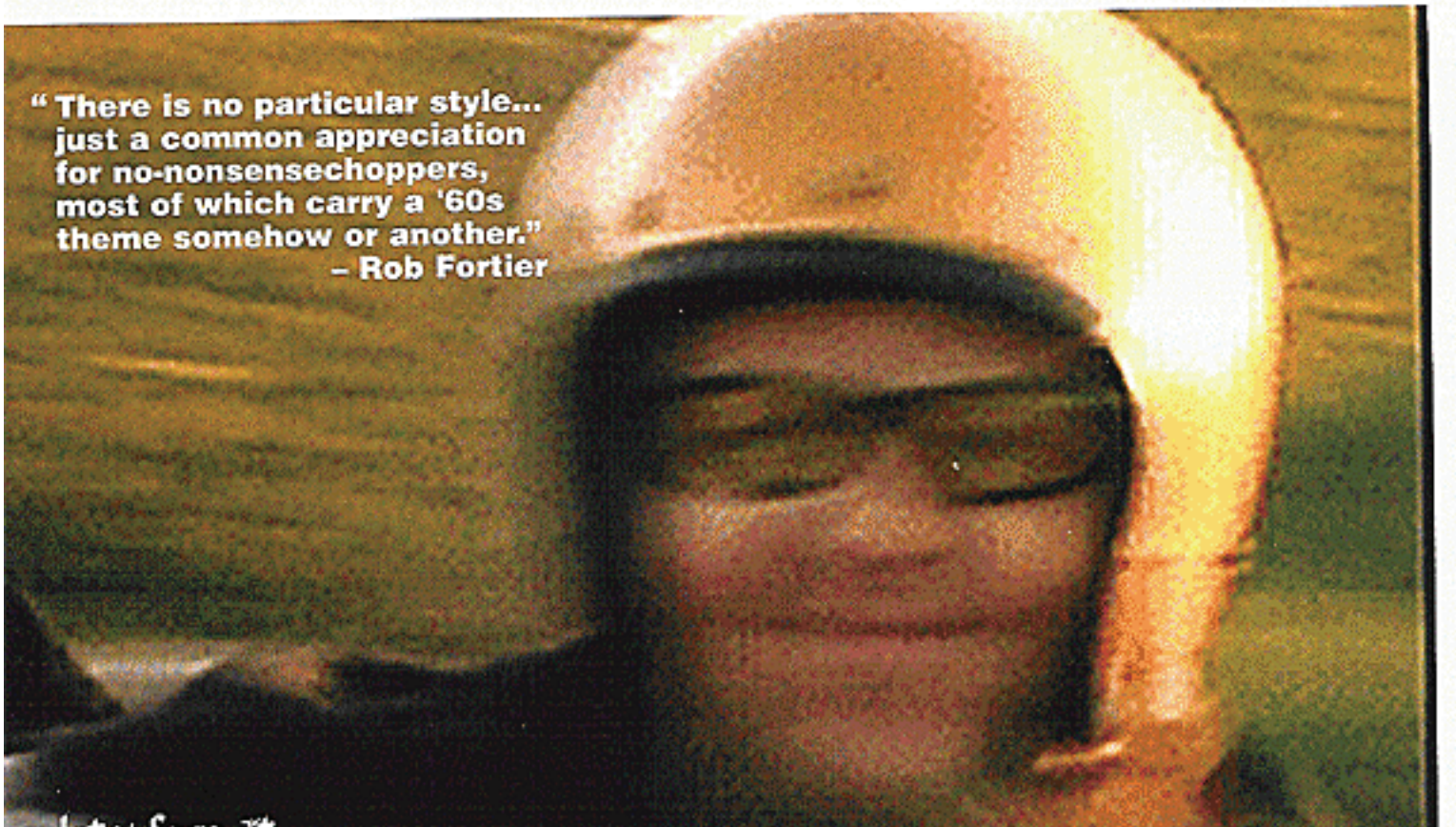
choppertown

a film by One World Studios

Images by Dan Gilday and One World Studios
Story by Fred Klinshaw





"There is no particular style... just a common appreciation for no-nonsensechoppers, most of which carry a '60s theme somehow or another."
– Rob Fortier

lets face it, to a degree, the popularity of our kulture has grown in the past few years. Hints of this range from popular car and bike reality television shows to A-list Hollywood types wearing the latest fashions by Von Dutch. God bless them all. I'd bet that most of our bro's don't own a $100K chopper or even paint on their cars, for that matter. Maybe someday, but in the mean time, for most of us it's still about hand-me-downs, early morning deals at the swap meet and running what you built. Above all, I do think it's safe to say that with all the media attention lately, none of it has really tapped into the core of who we are..... until now.

We recently had the privilege to attend a private screening of "Choppertown: The Sinners" – a One World Studios documentary film by Scott Di Lalla and Zack Coffman. This is a film of cars, choppers, and the unconditional brotherhood of the Sinners Brotherhood of Love and Friendship. The documentary takes you into a real Hot Rod and Motorcycle way of life through the Sinners.

The film begins with member Kutty Noteboom pulling up to fellow Sinners bro Rico Fodrey's shop with an old bike frame in the trunk of his custom '54 Chevy. Immediately you can feel the admiration between the two members and the other Sinners as they begin to pull up one at a time to begin the inspection of the soon to be reborn chopper frame each with beer and hugs for all. This film is built upon the creation of one beautiful bike and the introduction to the Sinners way of life. From all the late night beer drinking, wrenching, and club shenanigans to the history of the club told by founding members, Rico and James Intveld.

Unbelievable cinematography captures some of their rides through towns and highways throughout California on the club's quest to fabricate and find parts for Kutty's chopper-to- be. A trip to Jimmy White's shop delivers beautiful pipes built by Kutty and Jimmy himself in Orange County, CA. From there it's north to pro skater and Sinner Nomad Jason Jessee's place: Automodown. Jessee gives Kutty a tank with an unexpected twist, fitting of his twisted humor, dubbed "The Baby Tank."

Jason Jessee is genius and his part of the film can be summed up as hilarious, but a bit disturbing. His costumes, explanations of his possessions and most of all, demonstration of "The Distracter" will instantly win you over as a fan of his unique antics.

After a live musical performance by The Highway Murderers in Jessee's shop, the boys head out for yet another part of the journey. The tank is taken to Salinas, CA where fellow Sinner Nomad member ,Cole Foster, puts his renowned touches on it before taking a chopper joyride with the boys through his neck of the woods.

The bike finally comes to life back in Rico's shop after a few final touches and a couple of kicks to turn it over. The emotion can be felt through the screen as the engine runs for the first time and you actually feel like you have been part of the whole experience.

The Sinners keep the cars and bikes they build real and original with heart, soul, and imagination. With the old school themes of their builds, the highly talented club demonstrates that fine rolling works of art can come to life on a blue-collar budget. I think, unlike any other film, "Choppertown: The Sinners" definitely captures a true sense of our culture through the club.

After the film, Kutty's work of rolling art was unveiled in the lobby of the studio. Although I had just met Kutty a few hours earlier, I, along with everyone else in the room, was proud at what he and the club created. There was an unmistakable sense of bonding and a feeling of togetherness as all looked over the bike and chatted with the club and film creators. The Sinners, along with many other clubs, customizers, musicians, filmmakers, and everyone else in our culture out there doing what they do, are keeping the hot rod and kustom culture together and alive. God Bless em' all! g

www.choppertown.net