

## BARRY MCGEE

It's a great pleasure to write a few words about an extraordinary artist. I met David in my formative years at the San Francisco Art Institute. We were studying there in the early 1990s. We both attended a relaxed Friday evening life drawing class. I always sat across or at an angle from him, so I could see David working away in the frame with the model. David's strong features, along with a crisp button-down shirt with the sleeves rolled up, always made for a better composition. Often I would crop out the model and just go straight into drawing David. He is a generous, kind and stylish man.

What drew me to David's work decades ago and still draws me today is its bold yet simple graphic approach, using stencils cut by hand with all the elements of problem-solving and chance still intact. We made a connection through our mutual love of simple line drawings, whether on a fruit carton found in the street or a cartoon by Mad Magazine artist Don Martin.

David's iconic symbols were a badge of authenticity in the underground scenes across the globe in the pre-internet era, recognizable at 65 mph on the back of a squatter punk meandering down an alleyway at four in the morning. What symbol has even come remotely close to so immediately showing one's allegiance to an ideology or attitude?

An immediate link forged by graphics.

# GRAPHIC SENSIBILITY