

# SHAWN SHAWN

REVOLUTIONARY ART SINCE 1993



He grew up moving from city to city, state to state and finally country to country. He has learned new accents, new languages, new cities and new friends every few years. He is home everywhere and nowhere.

In 1989, he saw the Berlin Wall fall behind the Iron Curtain in Poland, seeing the destruction of communism into true market capitalist freedom. The fall of fear had finally defeated the police state terror. He also studied surrealist theatre posters, which reflected the horror of the Holocaust, multiple border wars and the division of Poland geographically between the great powers.

From the Communist statues, architecture and propaganda he learned fierceness in design, the power of lies and false idealism leading to impoverished grey life for all the people. Freedom is a major theme in his work as well as focusing on turning points in history.

In the 1990s, he got his start painting academically at Indiana University. He had the chance to study his late professor Tom Thomas do his latest abstracts right in class, which greatly influenced his first styles and stretched him to redefine art -- the true purpose of an artist.

In Spain, he studied masters like El Greco, Bosch, Velasquez and Goya in the world renowned Prado a full year and studied Islamic art on site in various medieval cities as well as classic Roman ruins. In Germany, he partied in the lively techno scene after the euphoria of the fall of the Berlin Wall. In Belgium, he witnessed the birth of the Euro, which is now unraveling.

In 2000s, he relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area and witnessed the continual growth and death of new companies in constant motion. It leaves a mark of constant change, thin family ties and immigrant culture he has been familiar with his whole life.