

The Life of Joseph Kaliher

The life of the eclectic artist JWK could be the perfect screenplay for a film.

He was born on the 30th of November, 1970, from a fifteen year old runaway teen, who had joined a religious cult in California to follow her revolutionary ideals.

Led by the self proclaimed endtime doomsday preaching prophet Moses David.

Joseph came to the world in the middle of a desert in Texas. Inside of a caravan without any door, nor any doctors... just a handful of young hippies armed with faith.

Joseph's umbilical cord was severed by his own mother amidst these youngsters fervidly praying to their saviour Jesus Christ... under the strict and paranoid scrutiny of their guru Moses David.

All this occurred on an abandoned ranch, that this group baptized as: "The Texas Soul Clinic ". Which would later come to be known as the infamous cult: "The Children of God", (aka:"The Family").

At the tender age of two, his mother moved along with this group to Europe. Where she soon met and married the Italian Duke, Emanuele Canevaro di Zoagli. Joseph however did not remain at his parent's side for long.

Instead he gets separated (as this was one of the many control factors utilized by the sect to manipulate its member's personal lives).

Thus Joseph grew up along with a group of children that roamed Europe... singing and dancing, all merrily dressed up like little clowns. Set out to beg along the streets just as gypsies often do, to raise funds for the sect.

This form of begging was promoted by the sect as a form of proselytism. The children would hand out pamphlets of literature written by the sect's leader and ask for a free donation in return.

One of these children that he grew up alongside with, later became a reknown actress who goes by the name of Rose McGowen. She also happens to be the ex girlfriend of the rockstar MaryIn Manson.

Joseph spent his youth travelling the world, living an adventurous life with many ups and downs. "Amidst the stars and the stables", as one could say. This type of lifestyle brought him to mingle with all types of people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Including many famous celebrities of the international jetset, a lot of which are his clients.

Just to name a few of these people; we have the actors Dustin Hoffman, and the late River Phoenix, (who also grew up in the same cult). The rockstar MaryIn Manson, as well as Jeremy Spencer, (ex drummer of the 70's band: "Fleetwood Mac"), who spent some time in the cult as a close sympathizer. Along with many other world famous individuals.

In the 90's Joseph collaborated with Paloma Picasso, designing leather goods for her brand. He also handpainted bags, jackets and other such items for some of the most important stylists in the fashion industry.

He spent some time in his youth as a showroom model for Ferragamo, at their headquarters in Palazzo Feroni, Florence. As the Ferragamo family got to know him and his incredible talent; they wisely commissioned some artwork from him.

Joseph received training in the classical fine art tradition from the Master Maurizio Martelli, professor at The Fine Arts Academy of Florence.

He then attended the world reknown: "Institute Superieur de Peinture Van Der Kelen et Logelain", in Bruxelles. Where he specialized his painting technique in the art of "Trompe L'Oeil", under the guide of Master Clemente Van der Kelen.

He has been working as a professional artist since more than twenty years. Exhibiting his art worldwide and attracting the attention of many important appraisers.

His work may be found in many prestigious private art collections, as well as in foundations and museums. For example the Coveri Foundation in Florence, the Museum of Villa Demidoff just outside Florence, as well as the MDM Museum in Porto Cervo, on the island of Sardinia.

In the year 2007, he held an important exhibition at the "Museo delle Regole", in Cortina. The world famous Italian ski resort, frequented by international VIP's.

In the spring of 2016 several of his works are showing in the group show titled : "MAGICAL DREAMS". This show brings together some of the most talented names in the worldwide panorama of art dedicated to the genre defined as : "MAGICAL REALISM ".

This show shall be hosted in several major cities across Europe.

Still in the spring of 2016, the artist has also been invited to show his work at the "Museo Michetti", during The Carneval of Abruzzo. An important event that in the past has hosted some of the most significant contemporary artists on a global scale.

Shortly afterwards he shall expose his work in yet another very important group show hosted at Palazzo Medici Ricciardi, right in the heart of the beautiful city of Florence.

JWK currently works and lives in Milano, Italy.