



BODY OF WORK TATTOO CULTURE

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↗ ↖ 2,500–4,000 square feet
↘ ↙ of gallery space required

📅 Available:
Q4 2025 and onward

🕒 Rental Period:
Minimum of 13 weeks

🌐 Language: English + Various
digital guides (see back)

SYNOPSIS

Body of Work: Tattoo Culture explores the rapid growth of tattooing as a form of creative and artistic self-expression whose mainstream acceptance has been driven, in part, by pop culture.

Featuring photographs, artifacts, films, original artwork, interactives, and filmed interviews, the exhibition examines the rich history and artistry of tattooing, with its diverse expression in different cultures, and demonstrates the critical role that pop culture has played in bringing body modification to the mainstream. The intent of the exhibition is to create a broader dialogue that celebrates the tattoo culture and makes it accessible to a variety of visitors.

The exhibition examines the social history of tattoos using large-scale infographics, historical and contemporary photography, oral history interviews, short documentary films created specifically for this exhibition, text panels, and digital and physical interactives to ensure the highest level of inclusivity. Body of Work will feature large-scale, original works of art created by regional tattoo artists. The artists have been chosen to demonstrate the wide range of styles possible in tattoo art and to show the diversity of tattoo practitioners.

The exhibition contains 10 distinct sections, each having different elements and themes.

TARGET AUDIENCE

People of all ages who are interested in body art and alternative artistic expression.

THESE INCLUDE:

- Visitors already involved in tattoo culture – either as a collector or an artist.
- Pop culture fans – people who want to see different pop culture influence on tattoos.

LIST OF EXHIBITION ELEMENTS

ARTIFACT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Extensive historic and educational didactics on tattoo culture and practices.
- Original art installation created with West Coast based tattoo artists, indigenous artists, and other diverse contributors.
- Original portraits of artists, tattoo studios, and tattoos.
- Interactive: tattoo pain heatmap.
- Interactive: Discover your tattoo style.
- Tattoo chair photo op and interactive.



SPACE REQUIREMENTS

(CEILING HEIGHT, MINIMUM ACCESS DIMS, ENVIRONMENT)

- Ceiling height is a minimum of 10ft (size of the tallest exhibit component).
- Empty crates and shipping blankets required 400 sq.ft of clean, dry storage.

SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

- Trained museum security staff and/or professional guards must be present to provide security and crowd control during the exhibition.
- The exhibition gallery/galleries must be locked during closed hours.
- Alarm system/guards are required during closed hours.

POWER AND LIGHTING

- A minimum of eight (8) dedicated 20 amp, 110 volt circuits, and a minimum of two (2) dimmable circuits for the house artifact lighting (hosting venue to provide lighting fixtures)
- Dedicated full-power circuits for exhibit casework and AV hardware
- Sufficient outlets and/or power supplies to distribute exhibit circuits to components within exhibit
- Sufficient lighting fixtures with UV filters and a variety of lamps, lenses, and filters to adjust the beam spread and intensity
- Light fixtures require UV filters and a compliment of lamps, lenses, and filters to adjust the beam spread. Non-artifact items can have slightly higher light levels.
- A MOPOP technician/registrar will recommend light levels. Hosting venue is responsible for maintaining and monitoring light levels.

SHIPPING

One truck - Hosting institution is responsible for providing Certificate of Insurance prior to shipping.

INSTALLATION TIME

MOPOP recommends 7-10 days for installing this exhibition. 5 days are required for deinstall.

INCLUDED/NOT INCLUDED

INCLUDED:

- All exhibition graphics.
- Select screens for films and interactives.
- Mounts and light boxes.
- Art standalones.
- Interactives with graphics and films.
- Custom tattoo chairs with books and drawing inspiration.
- One large format film, two films with custom size placements, one touch screen interactive, one projected interactive, multi-channel soundtrack.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Vinyl graphic production and installation.
- Drawing table.
- MOPOP artifacts.
- Loaned artifacts.
- Projectors and film screens.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EXHIBIT VIDEO ELEMENTS:

- (1) Oral history film featuring West Coast artists and pop culture references.
- (1) Timelapse film of tattoo artists tattooing and designing tattoos.
- (1) Multi-track soundtrack from tattoo artist soundtrack locations and ambient tattooing experiences.
- (1) Single-track soundtrack for Stories section.

3D GALLERY TOUR

Inquire to request a link to the 3D gallery tour of the exhibit.

LANGUAGES

English, Large Print English Guide, Braille English Guide.

AVAILABILITY

Q4 2025 and onward.