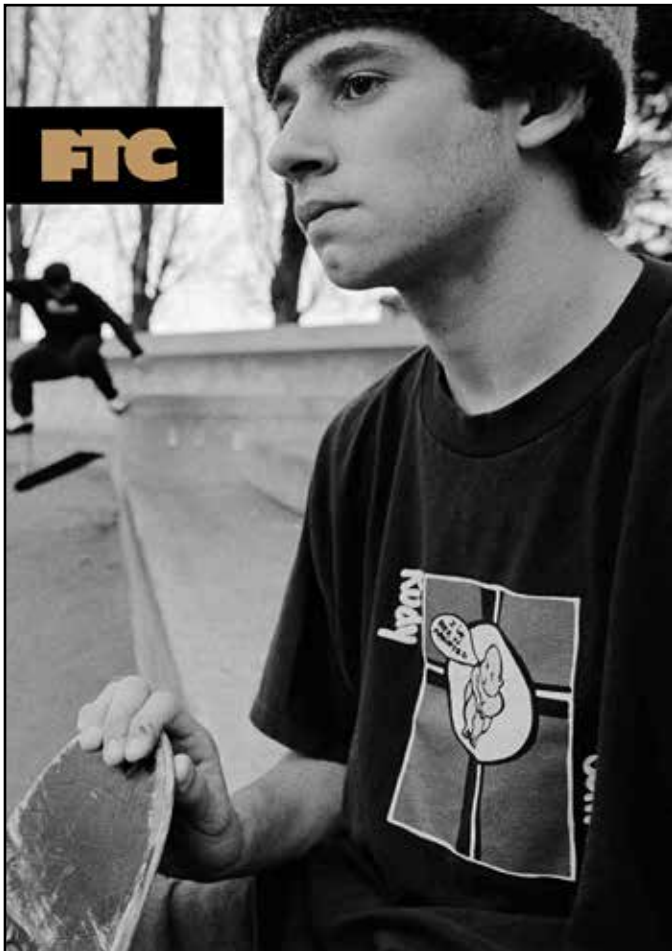


FTC

“Sure, there are a few legendary skateshops in the world, but how many can honestly claim themselves synonymous with an entire era in skateboarding history? Just one, really, and its name is FTC.”



FTC

By Seb Carayol

Edited by Chris Long

Introduction by Dave Chappelle

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Over 400 full color and black & white photographs and illustrations

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FTC lore has reached quasi-Masonic proportions over the years, mostly passed down from one eyewitness to another through oral records. For the first time, Seb Carayol has embarked on a journey to collect these stories, along with over 400 classic and never-before-seen photographs, illustrations, and images to depict the odyssey.

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What made FTC stand out to you?
 Everybody was very kind. People saw the FTC dudes were doing, but I always thought, "Oh yeah? You work in the Heights and have people try to steal from you, and cars and shit in the street. You'd be short with people, too, and quick." I thought FTC was the best, and cool usually, the way the boards are on the wall. I have a lot of my new clothes from it. I have my sneakers, cash, from that's awesome. As long as I don't die soon, if I forget to bring a hoodie to Height Street, I know I can get one.

I heard you bring sushi, stickers, and soap to FTC?
 Maybe I got it from my family. I just think of this thing like FM. I always had jobs, when people come in they use your toilet paper and stuff, that's not cool. When you're stuck somewhere all day working, it's nice to get a gift.

"When you're stuck somewhere all day working, it's nice to get a gift."
 —Brian Anderson



Original interviews with classic and never-before-seen photos of professional skateboarders and FTC affiliates including Jovontae Turner, Rick Ibaseta, James Kelch, Mike Carroll, Brian Anderson, Nick Lockman, Scott Johnston, Bobby Puleo, Marcus McBride, Lavar McBride, Stevie Williams, Josh Kalis, Karl Watson, Lennie Kirk, Nick Tershay, JB Gillet, Chico Brenes, Mike Cao, Ben Sanchez, Mike York, Rob Welsh, Drake Jones, Del Tha Funkee Homosapien, Aaron Meza, Kent Uyehara, Ando, Ian Johnson, Big Joey, Thunder, and John Vidaver.



FTC
EASTERN DEPARTURE

"Some dudes in *Final Girls* are from the East Coast, but to me, Huf or Robbie Gargani were doing what we were doing, just on the East Coast. Full-on urban skating."
 —Steve Huf



In the early '90s, San Francisco skateboarding was reigning supreme, Embarcadero was its Mecca, and FTC skateboard shop was spreading the street skating revolution...



Photography by Lance Dawes, Dennis McGrath, Mike Blabac, Bryce Knights, Tobin Yelland, Gus Duarte, Gabe Morford, Gerhard Stochl, Jacob Rosenberg, Ando, Ken Goto, Luke Ogden, Theo Hand, Patrick O'Dell, Ben Colen, Lino Gonzales, Tucker Glasow, Iseki, Richard Hart, Aaron Meza, and Seb Carayol.

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COLLABORATION DECKS

Starting its collaboration program in 2001 with a set of decks by Doze Green, Bigfoot, Evan Hecox, Damon Soule, and Greg "Pnut" Galinsky, FTC has since worked with many acclaimed artists within and outside the skateboard world—including, but not limited to, legends from the contemporary art milieu (Keith Haring), and veterans of the tattoo scene (Mike Giant), just to name a few. The following pages feature an exhaustive list of the resulting boards, inspired with interviews of Bigfoot, Matsu, and Jeremy Fish, explaining how it all came to fruition.



Three Questions With Bigfoot

How were you approached by FTC for your deck?
I think I was working on a mural outside of FTC and Kent asked if I wanted to do a deck. Around that time I became friends with Mario Flores, who helped me take my drawings and put them in Illustrator.

What does FTC mean to you?

To me, FTC is the ultimate symbol of a true-minded pop skater. It has set many traditions and standards, and provided a formula that many have followed. It's what I believe every skater should be, a place where you can get out of a town, meet your friends, and go on a skating journey. FTC could be called the crucible of civilization for street skating establishments in the universe as a whole.

Why did you choose those specific designs?

Back then, I had a whole book of different unique faces. For my first one, I wanted to cover a deck in a multitude of those faces and my tags. With heat transfer, it was easier to color the design with unlimited colors, so all the different faces could be colored differently, too. Mario and I spent a lot of time on that deck.

Coming from New Jersey, Bigfoot moved to San Francisco in order to become a graffiti artist. Feeling like a loner at times, he was naturally attracted to Bigfoot and its mission to establish a Pop culture to graffiti and artists share the same awareness but it had to clearly seem to be viable.

www.ftc.com



Artwork and illustrations by Bigfoot, Jeremy Fish, Damon Soule, Doze Green, Bigfoot, Esow, Keith Haring, Sean Sheffey, Ian Johnson, Robert Orduno, Haze, Evan Hecox, Michael Leon, Horvath, Shun Kawakami, Mario "Mars" Martinez, Sandro "Misk" Chikovani, Mike Giant, Yoshitomo Nara, Usugrow, Greg "Pnut" Galinsky, Alex Trochut, and Tomokazu Matsuyama