

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHEN ADVERTISING FALLS APART, ART EMERGES: BYRON BECK CAPTURES THE POETRY OF TORN PARIS POSTERS

*One Night Only Studio Exhibition Reveals Hidden Street Art Across Paris and Beyond
Plus the Debut of a New Fashion & Accessories Collection by Michael Merrill*

Torn Posters of Paris... and Beyond

A Study in Street Photography & Street Fashion

By Byron Beck

Thursday, June 4, 2026 | 5–8 PM

Falcon Art Community, Studio 12

5415 N Albina Ave, Portland

[tornposters.com](https://www.tornposters.com)

What if destruction is where art begins?

For one night only, Portland-based photographer and journalist Byron Beck presents *Torn Posters of Paris... and Beyond*, a studio exhibition revealing unexpected beauty in the fractured surfaces of city life.

Captured across Paris, London, Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Portland, Beck's photographs focus on *affiches déchirées*—torn advertising posters transformed by weather, time, and human interaction into layered, abstract compositions. What was designed to sell becomes something more elusive: accidental street art.

Over the past decade, Beck has documented hundreds of these fleeting urban fragments, tracing a visual language that exists at the intersection of art, commerce, and decay. His work reframes familiar city surfaces as evolving palimpsests—images rewritten by chance and circumstance.

Writer Susan Sontag once noted that posters “claim attention—from a distance.” Beck's work challenges viewers to move closer, where meaning breaks apart and reforms in unexpected ways.

“They have been tearing down posters in Paris for as long as they have been putting them up,” Beck says. “A poster is an advertisement—but when it's torn, it becomes something else. At first, I collected fragments as souvenirs. Eventually, I realized the photograph itself is the souvenir.”

The exhibition will also debut a new fashion and accessories collection designed by Michael Merrill, inspired directly by the imagery and textures of Beck's torn poster photography. The collection transforms the layered visual language of the streets into wearable art, featuring scarves, track pants, shirts, skirts, bags, and accessories that merge street culture, fashion, and contemporary graphic design.

Byron Beck is a journalist, commentator, and early social media influencer whose work spans Oregon's cultural, media, and civic communities. He is currently based in Portland and will relocate to Paris later this summer.

EVENT DETAILS

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PRESS PHOTOS & INFO

<https://www.tornposters.com/press>

I'd be happy to provide images, preshow studio visits, interviews, or additional details.

Contact: Byron Beck, 503-490-7697