

# STEVE BAILEY

DECEMBER 2001

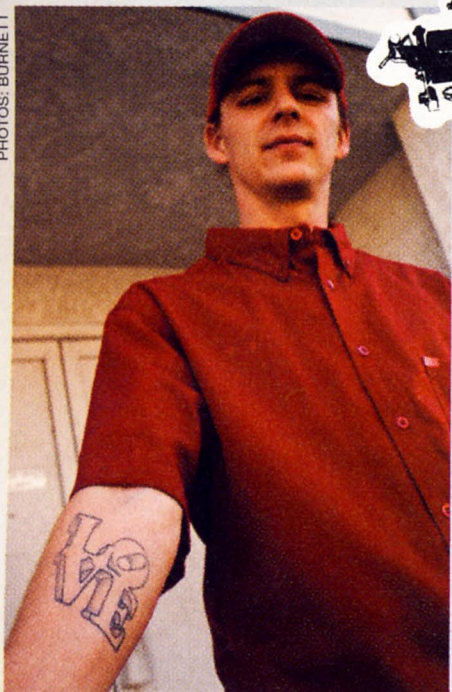
It was August 2001, right before September 11th. I first found out about the spot when I was in Japan on another trip. The people I was with were like, "There's supposed to be something to skate there—a cement park on the north island." That didn't mean anything to me. I thought it was probably shitty. But then we watched some video of dudes skating it and I was like, "Whoa, that looks fucking insane!" I sent a photo to you guys of the view looking down the pipe and that set it off. Peter Hewitt was going, you, Luke Ogden—it sounded totally awesome. Leticia at Consolidated got me a ticket on frequent flyer miles at the last minute. Then we had to take a 24-hour ferry ride with Tsuyoshi to get there. We pretty much sacrificed two days of our trip to ride a ferry up and back, and we were only on the island for, what, 32 hours?

**"We only had one tape—*Brujeria*"**

The night before I was on hardly any sleep. It was hella cold and we were all on the floor, sleeping in the bottom of the halfpipe with just an airplane blanket right on the ground. It was minimal, but it was pretty rad style—we got to barbeque a killer meal and start a fire. We only had one tape—*Brujeria*. I was pretty haggard the next morning but we just set it up, put the fuckin' tunes on the radio and were like, "Gotta make this go, you know." It was just a standard frontside ollie, dude. A little bit less flat than normal, but I was pretty hyped. The ladder is moveable—where I ollied it was at the bottom of the pipe, the steepest part. Pretty much got one kickturn on the flatwall and then ollied it. I was just so fuckin' stoked to be there and sessioning it with all you guys. The first time I went there I was just skating it with the local crew, and that thing hadn't even been grinded yet. I wanted to get back there and throw shit down! Take a photo or two and film a bit to remember. We were getting to do that.

People tripped on that cover a lot. When people saw it they were telling Jake, "It's computer-generated. You can tell it's fake." And I was always like, "Fuck, dude. Just go there yourself. It's obviously fucking rad." There's other shit out there in the world like that, just tucked away. It's so epic to have the far corners of the skate world be put on the map.

—As told to Jake Phelps ♠



PHOTOS: BURNETT

INK BLOT **JOSH KALIS**

**I GOT THE LOVE TAT** because it's pretty much the only thing I've gone through that I feel strongly about and love so much—my LOVE park days. My fondest LOVE park memories are probably of that second contest, whatever year that was, when all the T-dog dudes would come through to watch and John Puca and Forty were shooting piss on everybody. They'd piss in a cup and dump piss on all the kooks. That shit was pretty funny. That's my only skate tat. I got a little jailhouse tattoo of my wife's name, and I'm going to get a tattoo of my daughter's name sometime soon. Only the really important things. My LOVE tat, that's the only skate tat I'll get. I love skateboarding, and that's it.