Donating Your Tattoo and skin for preservation

Donor's Consent

The procedures to donate your tattoo and skin for preservation after your death are as follows:

1. Complete and sign the Donor’s Consent form in duplicate and, sign the body donor ID card. Return the completed documents, the ID card, and any medical records you wish to submit to us. If your relatives object to your tattoo donation for preservation, you may wish to also have a lawyer witness your signature on both forms.

2. We will counter sign one of the forms and return it to you as confirmation. You should retain the countersigned copy with your personal files or give it to a relative or your doctor for safekeeping. We will also laminate your signed donor ID card and return it to you. You should carry this card with you at all times.

This consent does not constitute a contract but a declaration of intent, which can be revoked at any time, in writing. No reasons have to be stated.

I hereby wish and direct that, after my death, my tattooed skin can be made available to the Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing for the purpose of the preservation of my tattooed skin. By signing this document, I declare my consent.

I am aware that the Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing is a foundation, managed by Director, P. van der Helm. The foundation sees the tattooed skin as a work of art and will use the tattooed skins exclusively for research, educational, therapeutic and artistic purposes. This includes educational establishments such as universities, museums, and schools. The foundation is willing to give the specimens in loan to dependants of the donor, but will manage the tattooed skins as artistic collection of the foundation. The preparation of tattooed skin is associated with high costs. Therefore, I agree that certain costs have to be paid to make the preservation of my tattooed skin possible. These costs are non refundable.

I may withdraw my consent for my tattooed skin to be used for preservation at any time, in writing, without having to give a reason. The Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing also has the right to issue a statement withdrawing its agreement to accept a tattooed skin for preparation.

The following questions help us to reconcile our activities with the wishes of the tattoo donors. If you wish to express your views on issues that are often addressed by tattoo and body donors, interested parties, and experts, please check the appropriate boxes and sign in the space indicated below. We also look forward to your comments, questions, and suggestions in the space provided.
1. Do you have a relative or person you trust whom we can contact after your death if necessary? If yes, please give his or her contact details below:

   Last Name:  
   First Name:  
   Phone:  
   Address:  
   Nature of relationship (e.g. daughter, brother):

2. I am an organ donor.

   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No

(Organ donation for transplants is compatible with tattoo donation for preservation. It takes priority over tattoo preservation, but the tattooed skin can still be used for preservation once organs have been removed. If you wish to become an organ donor, please contact your local Organ Donation Register.)

3. I consent to having tissues of my body, such as ligaments, bone tissue, or the cornea, removed and being used for therapeutical and transplantation purposes

   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No

(Tissue donation for transplantation is fundamentally different from organ donation. Opposite organ donation, no completely functional organs are removed during tissue donation. The harvest can take place even though the cardiovascular circulation has stopped and irreversible brain death has occurred. Tissue donation does not compromise the suitability of the body for body donation.)

4. For educational and research purposes, it can be useful to access the medical records of the tattoo donor. Under certain circumstances, the results of preservation can also be significantly improved if the Foundation for the Art and Science of tattooing knows details about the nature and history of any medical conditions.

I authorise the The Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing to consult my medical records after my death.

   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No

5. I agree that my preserved tattooed skin may be used for the medical enlightenment of laypeople and, to this end, exhibited in public (e.g. in a museum).

   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No
6. I request that my donated tattoo remains anonymous. (Remaining anonymous means that, for example, in a public exhibit, the donors’ name, age, occupation, or reason for donating their body to Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing may not be cited.)

☐ Yes  ☐ No

7. Preserved tattooed skin specimens are occasionally interpreted as anatomical works of art. Hence, I agree that my tattooed skin may be transformed into an anatomical work of art.

☐ Yes  ☐ No

8. People often ask us, with a degree of admiration and respect, what prompts people to donate their tattooed skin for preservation. We would therefore like to know your own personal reasons and motivations. My motivations (please check all that apply):

☐ I would like to donate my tattooed skin to serve a good cause.
☐ I am fascinated by the thought of a part of me being preserved forever for posterity.
☐ I see my tattoo as a work of art.
☐ I want do preserve my tattoo for my dependants.
☐ My tattoo is made by an artist, en his/her work should be preserved.

Other comments, questions, or suggestions:

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9. My tattoo is made by (artist name) ........... (date) .............

10. Size of my tattoo(s):.................................................................................................................................

11. The reason for taking my tattoo: ........................................................................................................................................................................
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12. I agree to the publication of my comments.

☐ Yes  ☐ Yes but anonymously  ☐ No

Place, Date  Signature of body donor (Last and first name)

Print out, sign and send this form together with pictures of your tattoos to:

Foundation for the Art and Science of Tattooing, Kalkmarkt 1 1011BC, Amsterdam The Netherlands