

# **Death Metal Summer**

## **Deanna Templeton & Ed Templeton**

### **Artwork Labels**

## Wall text

# Death Metal Summer: Deanna Templeton & Ed Templeton

When does the *Death Metal Summer* begin?

When we first hear the chug of a seven-string detuned guitar floating above the waves, waves whose crashing is newly deepened by the guttural growl of a Viking-bearded lead singer?

Sounds that accompany, too, the spirit of Jonathan Livingston Seagull leaving to follow the eternal promise of a shrink-wrapped K-Pop Spring whose remains choke those animals who can't take cosmopolitan flight with him.

It's strange to think about these cultural forms nudging out those we're used to associating with summer, with the beach. In the American context Deanna and Ed Templeton work in, it's like Gidget and her perky crew of nose-riding health freaks are locals no more; the beach deflowered. The luminous liminal gone; no transcendence to be found.

In truth, though, there never was: the beach is the symbolic end of the western frontier, the last lapping line in a long and bloody march of buckshot, wagons and suburbs, where settler destinies manifest

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ocean-backdropped psychodramas about acceptable behaviour, acceptable exposure of flesh.

And in *Death Metal Summer* it's at lava-level boiling point as the married couple present 142 works made between 1995 and 2022. Many are shot on their doorstep at Huntington Beach California where they've lived for decades.

Chaos ensues.

Is ensuing.

Without any paradox at all, this whirling energy holds a kind of collapse in continual motion.

At the meta scale, it's a collapse of an Imperial and a national idea that, in reality, had no room for so many, within which, at the micro scale there are countless collapses of individuals...from the sun, from drugs, poverty, desire, wealth, from the worst part of their natures...collapse of suburban dreams and ideals, of religious belief...collapse of efforts to contain people who don't want to be contained...collapse of people's efforts to continue doing what they're told.

Yet!

Fuck!

Truly!

Just so much beauty!

And positivity.

People doing what they can with the day.

And with the night.

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Making out.

Jumping between trains.

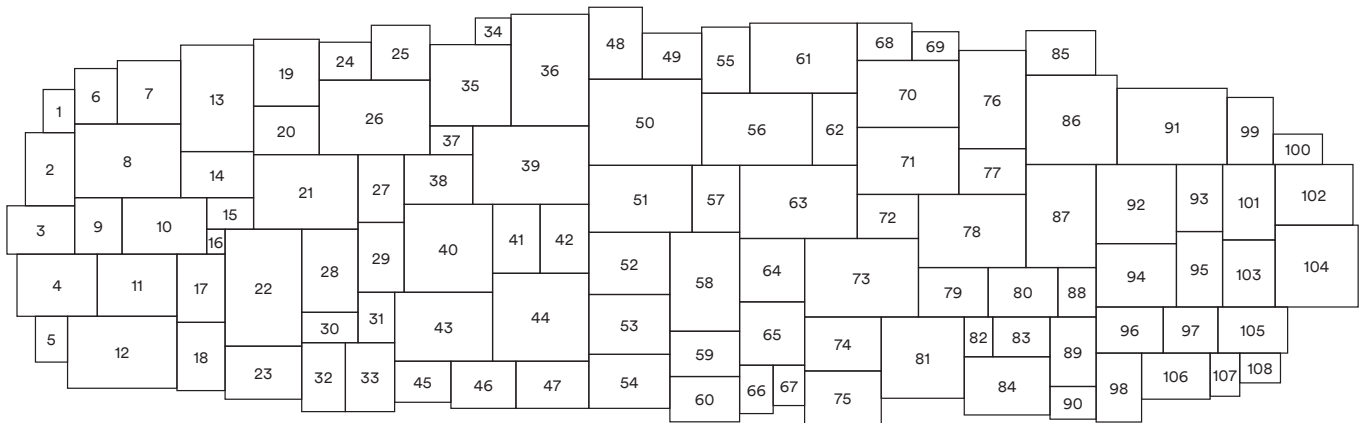
Falling in love.

Diving into:

pools, lakes, oceans,  
concrete pipes, subcultures, music,  
art, friends.

Deanna was born in 1969 in Huntington Beach, California. She started taking photographs at the age of 15, documenting her friends and the Los Angeles music scene. Deanna met Ed, born 1972 in Orange Grove, California, at a Red Hot Chili Peppers gig in 1987. They married four years later. Ed was a professional skateboarder from 1990–2012. Inspired by the work of Larry Clark, known for the *Tulsa* series of 1971, Ed began taking photos in 1994. In the same year, he founded Toy Machine Bloodsucking Skateboard Co. They have each held major exhibitions around the world. Deanna's most recent show is *What She Said*, staged at Gallery Fifty One Too, Antwerp, Belgium, 2023. Her work featured in *Kinship: Photography and Connection* at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 2023. Both her and Ed's works are held in major public collections such as MoMA and LACMA. Ed's exhibitions include *Hairdos of Defiance*, 1998, Roberts and Tilton Gallery, Los Angeles and the *The Golden Age of Neglect* in 1999. The pair were featured in Aaron Rose's *Beautiful Losers* exhibition, book and film project, and were the subjects of the Mike Mills' short film *Deformer*, 2000. Book and zine making is a central part of their practices. Amongst their most well-known are Ed's iconic *Teenage Smokers*, 1999, and the recently-released *Wires Crossed*, Deanna's *The Swimming Pool*, 2016, and *The Moon has Lost her Memory*, 2017, as well as the pair's co-produced work *Contemporary Suburbium*, 2017. Deanna and Ed live in Huntington Beach, California, where they operate out of their separate home studios and shared darkroom. Famously, the couple are teetotaling vegans: no alcohol, no drugs, no animal products.

# Roomsheet



## Central wall, front

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1. Ed: London, England, 2013
2. Ed: Lance Jr., Santa Ana, California, 2004
3. Ed: Teenage Kissers, Huntington Beach, California, 2013
4. Deanna: Ed and Jamie Hart in drag, Huntington Beach, California, 1995
5. Ed: London, England, 2016
6. Ed: London, England, 2009
7. Deanna: Moon Beam, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
8. Ed: Erik Ellington, San Diego, 2002
9. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2017
10. Ed: Teenage Kissers, Encinitas, 2002
11. Deanna: Andrea, Huntington Beach, California, 2008
12. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2006
13. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2011
14. Ed: Snake Kisser, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
15. Ed: London, England, 2013

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16. Ed: London, England, 2011
17. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
18. Ed: Arrest, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
19. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2009
20. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
21. Ed: Huntington Beach, California
22. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2013
23. Ed: Teenage Kissers, Birmingham, England, 2007
24. Ed: Diego Bucchieri, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2010
25. Ed: Deanna in Car, Texas, 1998
26. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2008
27. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2015
28. Ed: Vinny and Tara kissing, Huntington Beach, California, 1996
29. Ed: Asia Argento, Los Angeles, 1996
30. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
31. Ed: Girl with hat, London, England, 2009
32. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
33. Ed: Surfer, Huntington Beach, California, 2015
34. Deanna: Fugazi, Tucson, Arizona, 2002
35. Deanna: Jesus Girls, 2006
36. Ed: London, England, 2011
37. Ed: London, England, 2012
38. Ed: Staz Lindes, Huntington Beach, California, 2013
39. Ed: Teenage Kissers, Birmingham, England, 2007
40. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
41. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
42. Deanna: Skater Kid, Huntington Beach, California, 2013

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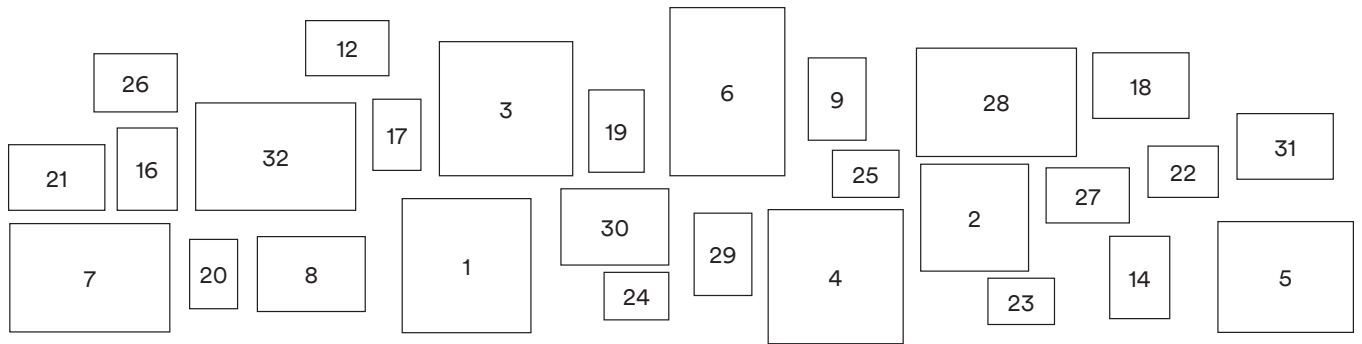
43. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2011
44. Deanna: Evil Cunt, San Bernardino, 2005
45. Deanna: Sandi, Huntington Beach, California, 2015
46. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
47. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2000
48. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
49. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
50. Deanna: Tina, Huntington Beach, California, 2012
51. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
52. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2010
53. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2013
54. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 1996
55. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
56. Ed: Teenage Smoker, Huntington Beach, California 1996
57. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2012
58. Deanna: Men in drag, London, 2014
59. Ed: Portrait of Deanna, New Mexico, 1999
60. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
61. Ed: Leo Romero, Iowa, 2006
62. Ed: Portrait of Deanna, Norway, 1998
63. Ed: Teenage Kissers, Boulder, CO, 1997
64. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2016
65. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2006
66. Ed: Girls walking, London, 2011
67. Ed: London, California, 2016
68. Ed: B. McGee & M. Kilgallen, San Francisco, 2000
69. Ed: London, 2011
70. Deanna: Orange County Fair, 2010
71. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014

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72. Ed: Jamie Thomas poops, Michigan, 1996
73. Ed: Make Up Girls, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2007
74. Ed: Kerry Getz kissing girl, New Hampshire, 1997
75. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2011
76. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2013
77. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2013
78. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2011
79. Ed: Girl with BB gun, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1998
80. Ed: Teenage Kissers, South Africa, 1998
81. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2012
82. Deanna: Fugazi, Tucson, Arizona 2002
83. Deanna: Ed recovering in hospital, Prague, 1999
84. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
85. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
86. Deanna: Signed boy, Spokane, Washington, 2005
87. Ed: Louisville, Kentucky, 2003
88. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
89. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2013
90. Ed: London, England, 2009
91. Deanna: Barry McGee, Margaret Kilgallen & Ed, 2011
92. Deanna: Autograph girls, Huntington Beach, California, 2009
93. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
94. Ed: Caswell and Josh in ice box, Phoenix, Arizona, 2002
95. Ed: Teenage Smoker, Helsinki, Finland, 1999
96. Ed: Karolina and Silva share smoke, Huntington Beach, California, 2004

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97. Deanna: Tree, Huntington Beach, California, 2016
98. Deanna: Bike Flip, Huntington Beach, California, 2012
99. Ed: Huntington Beach, California, 2014
100. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2014
101. Deanna: Kristen, Huntington Beach, California, 2017
102. Deanna: Go Away, Huntington Beach, California, 2012
103. Deanna: St. Petersburg, Russia, 2007
104. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California, 2013
105. Ed: Arto and Karolina, Big Bear, California, 2001
106. Deanna: Huntington Beach, California 2014
107. Ed: London, England, 2019
108. Ed: Bread Boy, Canada, 1996



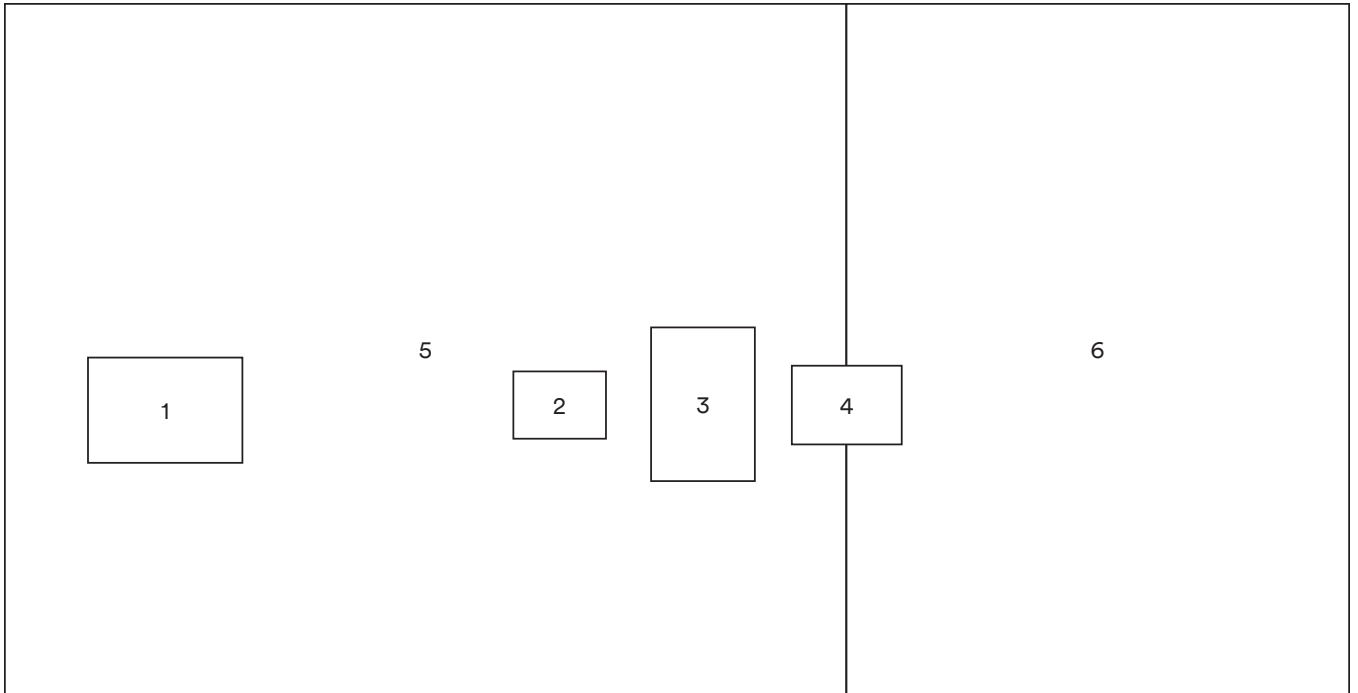
## Blue end wall

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1. Deanna: Alexa and Briana, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
2. Deanna: Bitch bracelet, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
3. Deanna: Jaclyn, Death Metal, Huntington Beach, California, 2017
4. Deanna: Megan, Huntington Beach, California, 2016
5. Deanna: Yellow sunglasses, Huntington Beach, California, 2017
6. Ed: Self portrait with bloody hand, Huntington Beach, 1997
7. Ed: Brian Anderson, Dortmund, Germany, 1999
8. Ed: Deanna with me in the hospital, Fountain Valley, California, 1998
9. Ed: Elissa Steamer, Laconia, New Hampshire, 1997
12. Ed: Justin Regan with biopsy scars, San Diego, California, 2001
14. Deanna: 666, Huntington Beach, California, 2006
16. Deanna: Olive, London, England, 2017

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17. Deanna: Feed me, Huntington Beach, California, 2012
18. Deanna: Cutting, Huntington Beach, California, 2017
19. Deanna: Goth girl, Milan, Italy, 2013
20. Deanna: Moonbeam, Huntington Beach, California, 2014
21. Deanna: Morgan, Huntington Beach, California, 2017
22. Deanna: Shay, safety pin in nose, Newport Beach, California, 2020
23. Deanna: Two girls, Huntington Beach, California, 2012
24. Ed: Austin Stephens, Paris, France, 2003
25. Ed: Brian and Elissa, Czech Republic, 1999
26. Ed: Erik Ellington, San Diego, California, 1998
27. Ed: Jim Greco, Huntington Beach, California, 1998
28. Ed: Josh Harmony, Denver, Colorado, 2004
29. Ed: Josh Harmony arrested by Russian Police, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2007
30. Ed: Go Skateboarding Day rally, Vancouver, British Columbia, 1999
31. Ed: Leo Romero, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2010
32. Ed: Mike Maldonado, Davenport, Iowa, 1998



## Central wall, back

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1. Ed: Geoff Rowley, Long Beach, California, 1998
2. Deanna: Barbara, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2007
3. Ed: Andrew Gordon, Huntington Beach, California, 1999
4. Deanna: Untitled, New York, New York, 2018
5. Ed: Matt, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2017
6. Deanna: from *What She Said*, 2021