

Six pages of the sexiest alt.models, freakiest art and best body mods!

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Forget masked balls, these photos are about masked muffs

Masker mind!

These scorching shots are from a series of images called *Naked Girls With Masks*, by London photographer Ben Hopper. He got the idea after snapping pics of stunner Cat Chapell and her girlfriend last July. "We were at a friend's house, and there were costumes and masks lying around," explains Ben. "Cat's got an amazing tattoo by Xed Le Head, who's famous for inking hypnotic geometrical patterns, so I persuaded her to show it off by stripping and sticking a mask on her head. I loved the effect; her perfect figure reminded me of the nude supermodels in Helmut Newton's black-and-white photos. I found other models via social networking sites, although Hana Mokrisova - who I snapped wearing a grotesque rabbit head and a Venetian mask - bumped into me at Torture Garden. She was wandering around topless with a mask on, so she was made for the job."

Ben sourced the masks from different places: "I borrowed an octopus-shaped monstrosity from performer Tom Baker, which was still soaked with his sweat; artist Skot Reynolds (AKA Grave Industries) transformed an Ikea lampshade into a spooky skull headpiece, and Canadian mask-maker Douglas Witt gave me three custom-made creations," he explains. "I wanted the girls' bodies to be separate from their brains, so I made sure the masks covered their faces."

Ben's also been working on a fashion shoot with Cirque du Soleil-style acrobats 7 Fingers, and another project involving beautiful women with armpit hair. We're sure that the resulting photographs will blow us away when they're unmasked.

See more at Therealbenhopper.com and Xedtattoo.com

PICTURES: BEN HOPPER

