

# › INKATERRA ‹

AUTHENTIC NATURE TRAVEL IN PERU  
SINCE 1975

## AN INTERVIEW WITH PHOTOGRAPHER BRIAN RASIC



Facebook Brian Rasic – Picture This

**You have photographed The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Paul McCartney and Led Zeppelin, among many other music icons. How would you describe your relationship with these legends who have performed in front of your camera?**

My most famous work is my live photography. That is why lots of bands used my services. Of course, with most of the bands that I have photographed, I do have some kind of relationship but it is based on being professional. I do not hang out with them. I meet them for work, on and off stage and spend as much time as needed. Especially in recent years, after those crazy times in music, most bands are very protective of themselves. More then, once I had to sign within my contract that I will not talk about what I saw and experienced. Name of the game. Maybe one day I'll put some things in my book. Maybe...

**Do you recall the first time you listened to The Rolling Stones?**

I've started listening to The Stones in late 60s and the first record I had was the *Big Hits (High Tide and Green Grass)* compilation. The first album was *Beggars Banquet*, then *Let It Bleed* and *Sticky Fingers*... they are still my favourite albums by them! If they only ever recorded those three, they'd still be the legends. Things were happening fast and in 1973 I

saw Stones live for the first time in Switzerland, promoting *Goats Head Soup* album. I better stop now... Memories are coming back. And yes, I do remember most of it. The pictures, songs, singles, albums... the lot as they became quite important in my life, as time will tell.



Facebook Brian Rasic – Picture This

**Having been on tour with The Rolling Stones since the early 80s, how would you rank their recent Ole Tour across Latin America? Did you attend their historic concert in Cuba?**

I photographed the Stones even back in 1976 as a fan and an amateur. In the 80s I started as a pro and it took some time to get closer. I covered lots of their gigs since then in US and Europe and England over the years, and then in 2006 I had the first assignment as their photographer. It was in Rio de Janeiro at Copacabana Beach. As it happens, it was their biggest ever gig and it will remain as such, I believe. Not bad for a start. From there on I covered lots of important shows for them over the past ten years. My pics are on DVDs and used for promotion. Last show that I covered was in Lima. It was great. Crowd was fantastic and Stones gave them a great show. They are always good, but sometimes it happens that it all becomes an event, a special event. Lima was like that. I did not go to Cuba, somebody else got it. We work depending where they play. I do not usually work in US as there's a photographer there who does it. I think that the Latin American tour was great. People really wanted to see them and they enjoyed it. Band did as well! It is obvious. Stones are amazing. Almost getting better with age. They are loving it and they are giving it all to the crowd. That is why both sides are loving it. The band and the crowd. It's magical.

# › INKATERRA ‹

AUTHENTIC NATURE TRAVEL IN PERU  
SINCE 1975



Facebook Brian Rasic – Picture This

## **What image would you consider your masterpiece? Is there a story behind it?**

I've been music photographer for 35 years now. That is a lot of pictures. Lots of stories, different times and different bands. I was always a 'photo objective' photographer and always wanted to see and capture lots of different people, bands... It's not all about Rolling Stones and the big ones. I take my pics, and people are enjoying them and liking them. They know more than me about my work, I believe. My pictures speak for themselves. I am lucky that I met and worked with so many musicians over the years, and I am proud of it.

Of course, when great ones like David Bowie recently, are not with us no more, it makes me think about the times I was around with him. Makes me sad and yet, proud to have been

there. Pictures are and will be telling the stories.

## **In your opinion, who is leading the music scene nowadays?**

Music scene today is so different from what I am used to. It is like dog eat dog. If you're given the chance by the big bosses... today you're here and yet, tomorrow you can be gone. It is not about hard work and fans recognising it slowly. It is all about now... They make them big and only the strongest survive. Of course, and I dare to say luckily, there are still the old warriors flying the flag and showing how it's all done. I'd be wrong not to recognise quality in some music today of course. There are always great artists around. But, I can't see anybody lasting as long as say The Rolling Stones did... over five decades. That makes the point that everything is different today. Life is much faster and so is the music business. Back in a day it wasn't really business. It became business with time when people realised there is money to be made. Today it seems the other way around.

## **What memories shall stay with you from your recent visit to Lima and Cusco? Did you enjoy the experience at Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba and Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel?**

Words cannot describe how amazing my stay in Peru was. Lima was great, my exhibition was really overwhelming success. I saw The Stones and met some beautiful people too. Always happy to make new friends and I did. Cusco is incredibly beautiful place and my visit to Machu Picchu was unforgettable. My stay at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel was incredible. Beautiful place and hospitality was immense. I was really happy and enjoyed every minute of it. Thank you so much to everybody I saw and dealt with and people 'in shadows' too. Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba is absolutely amazing. What a



place. I wish I had more time. Everybody and everything was great too. My memories of your places will stay with me forever! Thank you so much and I hope I'll visit you again.