

SARA LIBERTE'S FUSION SERIES

BUILDER AND MACHINE... HEART AND SOUL

You've heard about Sara Liberte, the female photographer whose photographic series *Woman and Machine* was featured in a previous issue of *Easyriders*. One look at her work and you'll know the unmistakable style that marks Sara's photographs. However, her work is not mere photography, but rather a style she calls "Image Fusion," blending different photographs into one telling image.





Kendall Johnson



Dave Perewitz



Mondo Porras of Denvers Choppers

Take a minute and stop by her Web site, www.saraliberte.com, and you'll see the difference between a regular photo and Sara's Image Fusion work. There are samples of the *Woman and Machine* series in addition to a wide array of her other imagery. But what brings us back to Sara's domain is an entirely new series called *Builder and Machine*, a sneak peek of which is listed on her site.

Where *Woman and Machine* began with fusing images of motorcycles with erotic nude portraits of women, *Builder and Machine* takes Image Fusion into the realm of the custom motorcycle builder and the machines they create (hopefully sans the nude part...). Sara's

quest is to capture images of bike builders that are the true craftsmen of the industry. To date, she has photographed the late Johnny Chop, Dave Perewitz, Randy Simpson, Russell Mitchell and Kendall Johnson among others. Sara tells us this work is still in progress and there are more builders she is arranging to photograph.

The completed series will be included in a book (also in progress) Sara hopes to finish this year. Where the images will fuse builder and machine into one entity, the book will fill in the details, telling the story of each builder and where they draw their inspiration. After all, each craftsman learned their trade from

someone they admire, or are inspired by and this is the thread Sara will elaborate on in her book.

Along with the *Builder and Machine* series and book, will also be high-quality posters of each builder which will be available through Sara's Web site and at select events where ya might even get to have them autographed. All said and done, Sara's Image Fusion tribute to the featured bike builders is a feat of technical craftsmanship in itself. If you like what you see here, keep an eye on her Web site and look for her at all the major events, and tell her you saw it here in the pages of *Easyriders*.

—Erik Falcone

