

Legacy Business Registry Staff Report

HEARING DATE FEBRUARY 26, 2018

BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINTING, INC.

<i>Application No.:</i>	LBR-2017-18-022
<i>Business Name:</i>	Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
<i>Business Address:</i>	63 Bluxome Street
<i>District:</i>	District 6
<i>Applicant:</i>	Michael Lynch, Owner
<i>Nomination Date:</i>	October 26, 2017
<i>Nominated By:</i>	Supervisor Jane Kim
<i>Staff Contact:</i>	Richard Kurylo legacybusiness@sfgov.org

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. ("Babylon Burning") is a traditional plastisol screen printing shop specializing in bulk production. The business has one large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press. It was founded by Steve Patton in 1980; however, he started out in 1976 as a very small do-it-yourself setup in his garage at his house in Bernal Heights. Patton chose "Babylon Burning" as the business name after the song "Babylon's Burning" by The Ruts.

In 1980, Steve moved the business to a retail store at 21st and Valencia streets next door to Old Wives Tails Bookstore. There was a retail T-shirt shop in the front and print shop in the back. Nearby at 974 Valencia Street was Valencia Tool & Die, a music venue and art gallery founded by Peter Belsito and Jim Stockford that presented punk, new wave, and new music performances, as well as performance art, film, and visual art shows from 1980 through 1983. Babylon Burning made many shirts for VT&D, and printed many popular T-shirts for groups like Act Up!, Central American Solidarity Committee, Mother Jones magazine, the Women's Building, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, etc. Their work steadily improved, and they developed a reputation for quality and honesty. The business never advertised except for a Yellow Pages ad under T-shirts; the rest was word of mouth.

There was a big rent increase in 1987, so the business moved into a unit on the fourth floor of the Southend Warehouse in SoMa at 2nd and Brannan streets and quit the retail business. After another rent increase shortly following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, Babylon Burning moved to its current location at 63 Bluxome Street. The business finally acquired its first automatic 6-color press on a factory lease, increased production by at least threefold, and grew to 3/4 of a million dollars in sales. In 1999, Steve Patton sold Babylon Burning to his then employees Mike Lynch and Brian Von Bargen. In 2001, Mike bought Brian out of the business and has been running it ever since.

Under Mike's ownership, they survived the dot-com bubble, the Great Recession, and an ever-changing social climate. Their clientele includes hundreds of loyal well-known local businesses – from small cafes to tech companies and nonprofits – including 826 Valencia, Walk SF, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, SF Bike Coalition, and KALW Public Radio.



CRITERION 1: Has the applicant operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years?

Yes, the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years:

1017 Valencia Street from 1980 to 1987 (7 years)
625 2nd Street, Suite 408 from 1987 to 1989 (2 years)
63 Bluxome Street from 1989 to Present (29 years)

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community?

Yes, Babylon Burning has contributed to the identity of the SoMa neighborhood and to San Francisco's artist community.

The Historic Preservation Commission recommended the applicant as qualifying, noting the following ways the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community:

- Babylon Burning has contributed to the history and identity of the SoMa neighborhood and the artist community in San Francisco by serving as a screen printing service.
- The brick building at 63 Bluxome Street has been largely dedicated to the arts since the 1960s, and Babylon Burning has upheld this tradition since 1989. The building was constructed in 1907 and was for many years a car manufacturing plant. In the 60s it was converted to studio spaces for artists, including Ruth Asawa and Sam Shepard.
- In the 1970s and 1980s, Babylon Burning printed for many social activism groups. Located on Valencia Street during this time period, Babylon Burning proved that screen printing can be a powerful tool to spread messages to larger audiences. Many anti-war, women's rights, and gay rights T-shirts were produced during this time period and spread throughout San Francisco. In the 1990s and early 2000s, Babylon Burning played a role in the dot-com boom, printing for many startups and new businesses in San Francisco. Although many of these businesses failed, their presence laid the groundwork for the subsequent tech boom that has shaped so much of San Francisco's current social atmosphere. Many of these clients have remained loyal customers who prefer to support local small businesses, especially in the direct neighborhood.
- The property is not listed on any registers; however, it has been evaluated and found to be eligible for local designation as an individual property. Built in 1917, 53 - 61 Bluxome Street is a 1-story, brick masonry industrial building designed in a utilitarian industrial style. The rectangular-plan building, clad in brick, is capped by a double hip roof clad in built-up material. The foundation is not visible. Typical entrances include a metal roll-up door and partially glazed wood door. There are no windows. The primary façade features brick beltcourses and terminates in brick corbelling and a parapet. The building appears to be in good condition.
- The business has been cited in the following publication:
 - CBS SF Bay Area article titled "Best Screen Printing and Embroidery Shops in San Francisco."





SAN FRANCISCO

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms?

Yes, Babylon Burning is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the organization.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Historic Preservation Commission recommends that Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) and recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- Traditional plastisol screen printing practice specializing in bulk production.
- High quality custom hand-printed goods.
- One large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press.
- Environmentally-friendly printing.
- A small, highly-trained dedicated staff.
- The original wood sign.

CORE PHYSICAL FEATURE OR TRADITION THAT DEFINES THE BUSINESS

Following is the core physical feature or tradition that defines the business that would be required for maintenance of the business on the Legacy Business Registry.

- Screen printing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the San Francisco Small Business Commission include Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. currently located at 63 Bluxome Street in the Legacy Business Registry as a Legacy Business under Administrative Code Section 2A.242.

Richard Kurylo, Manager
Legacy Business Program



Small Business Commission Draft Resolution

HEARING DATE FEBRUARY 26, 2018

BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINTING, INC.

LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY RESOLUTION NO. _____

<i>Application No.:</i>	LBR-2017-18-022
<i>Business Name:</i>	Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
<i>Business Address:</i>	63 Bluxome Street
<i>District:</i>	District 6
<i>Applicant:</i>	Michael Lynch, Owner
<i>Nomination Date:</i>	October 26, 2017
<i>Nominated By:</i>	Supervisor Jane Kim
<i>Staff Contact:</i>	Richard Kurylo legacybusiness@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS APPROVING THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY APPLICATION FOR BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINTING, INC., CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 63 BLUXOME STREET.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; or

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for more than 20 years but less than 30 years, has had no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years, has significantly contributed to the history or identity of a particular neighborhood or community and, if not included in the Registry, faces a significant risk of displacement; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the neighborhood's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on February 26, 2018, the San Francisco Small Business Commission reviewed documents and correspondence, and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry application; therefore





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OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

BE IT RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission hereby includes Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. in the Legacy Business Registry as a Legacy Business under Administrative Code Section 2A.242.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission recommends safeguarding the below listed physical features and traditions at Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.:

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- Traditional plastisol screen printing practice specializing in bulk production.
- High quality custom hand-printed goods.
- One large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press.
- Environmentally-friendly printing.
- A small, highly-trained dedicated staff.
- The original wood sign.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission requires maintenance of the below listed core physical feature or tradition to maintain Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. on the Legacy Business Registry:

- Screen printing.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the Small Business Commission on February 26, 2018.

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Ayes –
Nays –
Abstained –
Absent –



**Legacy
Business
Registry**

Application Review Sheet

Application No.: LBR-2017-18-022
Business Name: Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
Business Address: 63 Bluxome Street
District: District 6
Applicant: Michael Lynch, Owner
Nomination Date: October 26, 2017
Nominated By: Supervisor Jane Kim

CRITERION 1: Has the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years? X Yes No

1017 Valencia Street from 1980 to 1987 (7 years)
625 2nd Street, Suite 408 from 1987 to 1989 (2 years)
63 Bluxome Street from 1989 to Present (29 years)

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community? X Yes No

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms? X Yes No

NOTES: NA

DELIVERY DATE TO HPC: January 11, 2018

Richard Kurylo
Manager, Legacy Business Program



Member, Board of Supervisors
District 6



City and County of San Francisco

JANE KIM

金貞妍

October 26, 2017

Regina Dick-Endrizzi, Director
San Francisco Small Business Commission
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 110

Dear Regina:

I would like to nominate Babylon Burning as a candidate for the Legacy Business Registry. In its 41 years as a screen-printing apparel business, Babylon Burning has established itself as the go-to place for local businesses and groups looking for custom screen-printed apparel to promote their businesses.

Steve Patton founded Babylon Burning in his Bernal Heights home in 1976. He moved into his first retail space in 1980 on Valencia Street in the Mission neighborhood. After years of printing shirts for groups like Mother Jones magazine, the Women's Building, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, their business grew.

They began as the only union T-shirt shop and the first green shop, never wasting their remaining ink and recycling it into an all-purpose black. They never advertised their business except for a Yellow Pages advertisement under T-shirts; the rest of their clientele came from word of mouth. A rent increase in 1987 forced them out of their Valencia Street location and they relocated to 2nd and Brannan, in the South of Market neighborhood. After getting another rent increase, they moved to their current location at 63 Bluxome Street.

Mr. Patton sold Babylon Burning in 1999 to his employee Mike Lynch who guided the business through the dot-com bubble and the Great Recession. Their clientele includes hundreds of loyal well-known local businesses, from small cafes to tech companies, as well as Walk SF and SF Bike Coalition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jane Kim", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jane Kim

Section One:

Business / Applicant Information. Provide the following information:

- The name, mailing address, and other contact information of the business;
- The name of the person who owns the business. For businesses with multiple owners, identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business;
- The name, title, and contact information of the applicant;
- The business's San Francisco Business Account Number and entity number with the Secretary of State, if applicable.

NAME OF BUSINESS:		
Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.		
BUSINESS OWNER(S) (identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business)		
Michael Lynch		
CURRENT BUSINESS ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:
63 Bluxome St. San Francisco, CA 94107		(415) 777-8244
		EMAIL:
		mike@babylontee.com
WEBSITE:	FACEBOOK PAGE:	YELP PAGE
babylontee.com	facebook.com/babylonburnir	yelp.com/biz/babylon-burning

APPLICANT'S NAME		
Michael Lynch	<input type="checkbox"/>	Same as Business
APPLICANT'S TITLE		
Owner		
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:
2646 21st Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116		(415) 845-5189
		EMAIL:
		mike@babylontee.com

SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS ACCOUNT NUMBER:	SECRETARY OF STATE ENTITY NUMBER (if applicable):
0342652	

OFFICIAL USE: Completed by OSB Staff	
NAME OF NOMINATOR:	DATE OF NOMINATION:

Section Two:

Business Location(s).

List the business address of the original San Francisco location, the start date of business, and the dates of operation at the original location. Check the box indicating whether the original location of the business in San Francisco is the founding location of the business. If the business moved from its original location and has had additional addresses in San Francisco, identify all other addresses and the dates of operation at each address. For businesses with more than one location, list the additional locations in section three of the narrative.

ORIGINAL SAN FRANCISCO ADDRESS:	ZIP CODE:	START DATE OF BUSINESS
1017 Valencia St.	94110	1980
IS THIS LOCATION THE FOUNDING LOCATION OF THE BUSINESS?	DATES OF OPERATION AT THIS LOCATON	
<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	1980-1987	

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
625 2nd Street, Suite 408	94107	Start: 1987
		End: 1989

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
63 Bluxome St.	94107	Start: 1989
		End: Current

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

Section Three:

Disclosure Statement.

San Francisco Taxes, Business Registration, Licenses, Labor Laws and Public Information Release.

This section is verification that all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses are current and complete, and there are no current violations of San Francisco labor laws. This information will be verified and a business deemed not current in with all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses, or has current violations of San Francisco labor laws, will not be eligible to apply for the Business Assistance Grant.

In addition, we are required to inform you that all information provided in the application will become subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Please read the following statements and check each to indicate that you agree with the statement. Then sign below in the space provided.

- ☒ I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the business.
- ☒ I attest that the business is current on all of its San Francisco tax obligations.
- ☒ I attest that the business's business registration and any applicable regulatory license(s) are current.
- ☒ I attest that the Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement (OLSE) has not determined that the business is currently in violation of any of the City's labor laws, and that the business does not owe any outstanding penalties or payments ordered by the OLSE.
- ☒ I understand that documents submitted with this application may be made available to the public for inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act and San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance.
- ☒ I hereby acknowledge and authorize that all photographs and images submitted as part of the application may be used by the City without compensation.
- ☒ I understand that the Small Business Commission may revoke the placement of the business on the Registry if it finds that the business no longer qualifies, and that placement on the Registry does not entitle the business to a grant of City funds.

MIKE LYNCH

Name (Print):

1/5/18

Date:



Signature:

BABYLON BURNING

Section 4: Written Historical Narrative

CRITERION 1

a. Provide a short history of the business from the date the business opened in San Francisco to the present day, including the ownership history. For businesses with multiple locations, include the history of the original location in San Francisco (including whether it was the business's founding and or headquartered location) and the opening dates and locations of all other locations.

Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. ("Babylon Burning") is a traditional plastisol screen printing shop specializing in bulk production. The business has one large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press. Founded by Steve Patton in 1980, Babylon Burning can trace its history to a house in Bernal Heights in 1976. The business started the same way almost every screen printing business does – a very small do-it-yourself setup in a garage.

One day in 1976 in his house in Bernal Heights, Steve Patton's roommate proceeded to print a batch of 1-color print T-shirts for his karate class and asked Steve to help. Steve was so excited about the process that he gave his roommate \$100 for his supplies. At the time, Steve – a local San Francisco surfer, art school dropout, and Vietnam War Veteran – knew little of the trade. His roommate said that Steve would never make it in this business.

Steve set up a little print shop in the utility room in the back. He jury-rigged a 4-color setup on a long table. It was very primitive, with a high reject rate. He would hang up the shirts to air dry, then take them down the street to the laundromat to heat set the ink in the dryer. He accumulated a few customers as he learned the business through his voracious consumption of trade journals and books from the library.

In the meantime, Steve was toying with various names for the new business. Since one of his new customers was a Bay Area reggae band called Obeah and he was so taken with the music, he decided to have a reggae name. He first picked "Crazy Baldhead Productions," after the term coined by Bob Marley in one of his early songs. Even though Steve was bald, he felt a little too shy to exclaim this fact. So he chose "Babylon Burning," named after the song "Babylon's Burning" by The Ruts.

In 1980, Steve moved the business to a retail store at 21st and Valencia streets next door to Old Wives Tails Bookstore. There was a retail T-shirt shop in the front and print shop in the back. Steve bought used silkscreens and 1-color and 4-color hand presses at blowout auctions around the city. He registered the business, got licensed, took accounting classes, made payroll and paid their taxes. It wasn't easy for sure. It was fun though. Steve's friend Jerry Biggs co-owned the business until 1983 when Steve bought him out.

Nearby at 974 Valencia Street was Valencia Tool & Die, a music venue and art gallery founded by Peter Belsito and Jim Stockford that presented punk, new wave, and new music performances, as well as performance art, film, and visual art shows from 1980 through 1983. VT&D consisted of a street level gallery/performance space and a subterranean cellar performance space that was insulated with sand to dampen the sound. The cellar space was reached through a trap door and a narrow staircase, and performances often took place on both levels simultaneously, often after hours. Babylon Burning made some great shirts for VT&D.

Babylon Burning printed many popular T-shirts for groups like Act Up!, Central American Solidarity Committee, Mother Jones magazine, the Women's Building, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, etc. Their work steadily improved, and they developed a reputation for quality and honesty. The business never advertised except for a Yellow Pages ad under T-shirts; the rest was word of mouth.

There was a big rent increase in 1987, so the business moved into a unit on the fourth floor of the Southend Warehouse in SoMa at 2nd and Brannan streets and quit the retail business. After another rent increase shortly following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, Babylon Burning moved to its current location at 63 Bluxome Street. The business finally acquired its first automatic 6-color press on a factory lease, increased production by at least threefold, and grew to 3/4 of a million dollars in sales.

In 1999, Steve Patton sold Babylon Burning to his then employees Mike Lynch and Brian Von Bargaen. In 2001, Mike bought Brian out of the business and has been running it ever since. Under Mike's ownership, they survived the dot-com bubble, the Great Recession, and an ever-changing social climate. Their clientele includes hundreds of loyal well-known local businesses – from small cafes to tech companies and nonprofits – including 826 Valencia, Walk SF, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, SF Bike Coalition, and KALW Public Radio.

b. Describe any circumstances that required the business to cease operations in San Francisco for more than six months?

Babylon Burning has been in continuous operation in San Francisco since its founding in 1980.

c. Is the business a family-owned business? If so, give the generational history of the business.

Babylon Burning is not a family-owned business.

d. Describe the ownership history when the business ownership is not the original owner or a family-owned business.

Babylon Burning was founded by Steve Patton in 1976 and registered as a business in 1980. It was sold to Mike Lynch in 1999. Mike Lynch is the current owner. Following is the ownership history of Babylon Burning:

1980-1983	Steve Patton and Jerry Biggs
1983-1999	Steve Patton
1999-2001	Mike Lynch and Brian Von Bargaen
2001-Present	Mike Lynch

e. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years, the applicant will need to provide documentation of the existence of the business prior to current ownership to verify it has been in operation for 30+ years. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

A Babylon Burning Brochure from 1983 is included in this Legacy Business Registry application.

f. Note any other special features of the business location, such as, if the property associated with the business is listed on a local, state, or federal historic resources registry.

The brick building at 63 Bluxome Street has been largely dedicated to the arts since the 1960s. Babylon Burning has upheld this tradition since 1989. The building was constructed in 1907 and was for many years a car manufacturing plant. In the 60s it was converted to studio spaces for artists, including Ruth Asawa and Sam Shepard.

In the last 10 years alone, a number of buildings on Bluxome Street have been demolished and re-built. A once quiet back street of San Francisco has become a major hub for new business. Babylon Burning has remained almost completely untouched the entire time.

CRITERION 2

a. Describe the business's contribution to the history and/or identity of the neighborhood, community or San Francisco.

As stated above, Babylon Burning is a long-standing entity of Bluxome Street. The surrounding neighborhood – a once desolate urban landscape – is now a highly developed part of San Francisco. Babylon Burning has witnessed the birth of many neighboring companies and directly contributed to their growth and expansion by consistently providing them with high-quality custom printed goods. Viewed as a staple of the community, Babylon Burning stands for the arts as well as a bond between old and new San Francisco.

Babylon Burning has always been committed to providing top quality products and services. Most of the business's clients are in the Bay Area, and most new clients come from referrals. The business's reputation is what has kept Babylon Burning in business for so long. Enjoying

what you do and loving the place you live makes the difference. The shop reflects the fun the employees have printing. Babylon Burning encourages customers to stop in to get a feel of what the company is all about. Today there are so many ad-specialty companies that don't usually print in-house. They farm business out of state (and out of the country) and take away from the local economy. Being local means most of the business's clients come in for press checks to make sure they are getting what they want before orders are run, and they can also get a chance to meet the people actually doing the work. Babylon Burning keeps it local, and clients feel good about supporting small businesses and good jobs in San Francisco.

b. Is the business (or has been) associated with significant events in the neighborhood, the city, or the business industry?

In the 1970s and 1980s, Babylon Burning printed for many social activism groups. Located on Valencia Street during this time period, Babylon Burning proved that screen printing can be a powerful tool to spread messages to larger audiences. Many anti-war, women's rights, and gay rights T-shirts were produced during this time period and spread throughout San Francisco.

In the 1990s and early 2000s, Babylon Burning played a role in the dot-com boom, printing for many startups and new businesses in San Francisco. Although many of these businesses failed, their presence laid the groundwork for the subsequent tech boom that has shaped so much of San Francisco's current social atmosphere. Many of these clients have remained loyal customers who prefer to support local small businesses, especially in the direct neighborhood.

c. Has the business ever been referenced in an historical context? Such as in a business trade publication, media, or historical documents?

Babylon Burning was featured in a CBS SF Bay Area article titled "Best Screen Printing And Embroidery Shops In San Francisco."

d. Is the business associated with a significant or historical person?

John F. Maillard, the building owner from 1950 until his death in 2012, was an architect, engineer, and loyal patron of the arts. A deeply rooted San Francisco man, John was a member of the Olympic Club, a life member of the Godfather's Club, an ex-Board member of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, as well as numerous other local organizations. John consistently went out of his way to ensure this building would be a center for arts.

Babylon Burning has had a handful of famous clients over the years including Patti Smith, Lee Scratch Perry, Matt Nathanson, Ferris Plock, David Choong Lee, and Dave Eggers.

e. How does the business demonstrate its commitment to the community?

Nearly all of Babylon Burning's clients are other local businesses or groups based in San Francisco. By consistently providing quality printed garments to our neighbors we maintain

strong bonds with our community, helping to ensure a healthy local economy for years to come.

Babylon Burning has printed for and donated to many San Francisco nonprofit organizations over the years including 826 Valencia, Enterprise for HighSchool Students, Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project, SF Bicycle Coalition, Stop AIDS Project, Watsi, The Women's Building, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Babylon Burning has been environmentally friendly since its founding. The business never threw away any ink – they recycled it and made all-purpose black. This practice continues to this day.

f. Provide a description of the community the business serves.

Babylon Burning caters almost exclusively to San Francisco and Bay Area clients. Countless small businesses, restaurants, startups, nonprofits, schools, tech companies, and local artists rely on Babylon Burning for quality printed garments.

g. Is the business associated with a culturally significant building/structure/site/object/interior?

As previously stated, the brick building at 63 Bluxome Street has been largely dedicated to the arts since the 1960s. Babylon Burning has upheld this tradition since 1989. The building was constructed in 1907 and was for many years a car manufacturing plant. In the 60s it was converted to studio spaces for artists, including Ruth Asawa and Sam Shepard.

In the last 10 years alone, a number of buildings on Bluxome Street have been demolished and re-built. A once quiet back street of San Francisco has become a major hub for new business. Babylon Burning has remained almost completely untouched the entire time.

h. How would the community be diminished if the business were to be sold, relocated, shut down, etc.?

The disappearance of Babylon Burning would signify a major loss to the artistic community of San Francisco. One of only a handful of screen printing businesses in San Francisco, Babylon Burning is the oldest shop remaining. If it were ever sold or shut down, hundreds of companies, organizations, and artists that rely on the business for fast turnaround and quality results would be forced to seek out new printing resources. The neighborhood itself would lose yet another piece of authentic San Francisco culture.

CRITERION 3

a. Describe the business and the essential features that define its character.

Babylon Burning is a traditional plastisol screen printing shop specializing in bulk production. There is one large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press. With fewer than 10 employees, Babylon Burning produces thousands of printed garments (mainly T-shirts) each week. Catering mainly to local businesses, the business creates custom hand-printed goods to the specs of their clients. Client art typically ranges from simple 1- or 2-color logos to complex digital illustrations, hand-drawn art, and photography. The small, tight-knit staff is dedicated to screen printing 40+ hours a week; they are truly obsessed with their craft.

b. How does the business demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the historical traditions that define the business, and which of these traditions should not be changed in order to retain the businesses historical character? (e.g., business model, goods and services, craft, culinary, or art forms)

Babylon Burning is a traditional screen printing business. They use the same basic techniques that were used 40 years ago when the business was established, only now they use computers for design work. The one automatic press must be operated by an experienced printer – everything else that leaves the shop is printed by hand. The employees hone this craft day in, day out, using knowledge that has been passed down from one generation to the next. There are other ways to print shirts, but screen printing is tried and true.

c. How has the business demonstrated a commitment to maintaining the special physical features that define the business? Describe any special exterior and interior physical characteristics of the space occupied by the business (e.g. signage, murals, architectural details, neon signs, etc.).

The original wood sign hand-painted by founder Steve Patton in 1981 hangs above the front doors. Some of the paint is chipped and the wood has a large split down the center, but it is generally in good condition. The preservation and display of Steve's original artwork is a testament to the company's ideals; commitment to the craft, history, and San Francisco culture.

d. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30years; the applicant will need to provide documentation that demonstrates the current owner has maintained the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

Documentation is provided in this Legacy Business Registry application.

BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

RENEW BY DATE
05-31-2018

EXPIRATION DATE
06-30-2018

FY 2017-18

BUSINESS ACCOUNT NUMBER

0342652

LOCATION ID

0342652-01-001

TRADE NAME (DBA)

BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINT

BUSINESS LOCATION

63 BLUXOME ST

BUSINESS

BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINT

THIRD PARTY TAX COLLECTOR

☐ PARKING TAX

☐ TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX

BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINT
63 BLUXOME
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94107-1605

**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR**



José Cisneros
Treasurer



David Augustine
Tax Collector

POST CLEARLY VISIBLE AT THIS BUSINESS LOCATION

Read reverse side. To update addresses or to close a business, go to www.sftreasurer.org/accountupdate.

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION
OF THE INCORPORATOR OF
BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINTING, INC.

The undersigned Incorporator, named in the Articles of Incorporation, for the purpose of recording actions taken to organize the Corporation, hereby certifies that:

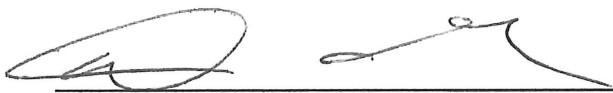
The original Articles of Incorporation were filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of California. A certified copy of the Articles of Incorporation with the filing date and corporate number thereon has been inserted in the Corporation minute book.

Bylaws regulating the conduct of business and the affairs of the Corporation were adopted as the Bylaws of the Corporation and the Secretary of the Corporation is authorized to execute a certificate of adoption of the Bylaws in the corporate minute book, and to keep a certified copy of the Bylaws at the principal executive office of the Corporation.

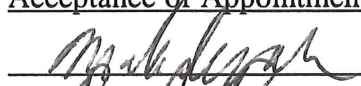

The principal executive office of the Corporation shall be located at 63 Bluxome Street, San Francisco, California, until changed by subsequent order of the Board.


The persons whose names appear below and who accepted their appointments by signing their names were appointed directors of the Corporation.

Dated: February 19, 2001



Douglas G. Murken - Incorporator

<u>Director</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Acceptance of Appointment</u>
MICHAEL LYNCH	2/19/01	 _____
BRIAN VON BARGEN	2/19/01	 _____





MIKE LYNCH (LATE 80S?)



sixty three bluxome

BAY

SMALL BAY

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BABYLON BURNING

SCREEN PRINTING



NO PARKING
IN
DRIVEWAY

WILLOW
VE

STALLAN '81

Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.



Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
OCT 2017



← Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.

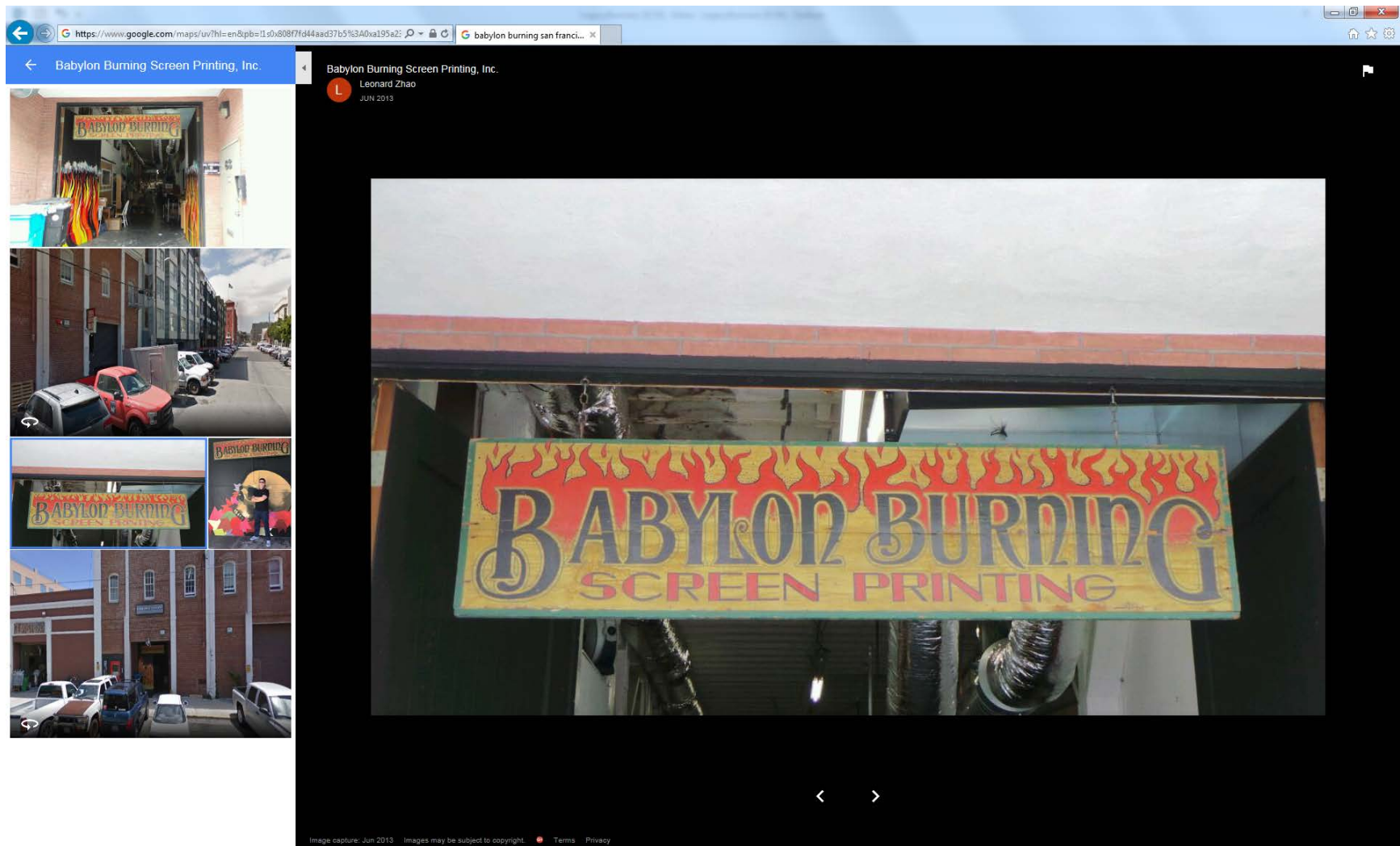
Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.

Leonard Zhao
JUN 2013



< >









NOT ALL
TEES ARE
CREATED
EQUAL.

BE DIFFERENT

FIRE
EXTINGUISHER

DANGER



BABYLON BURNING®

screen printing



...gives more complete
relief.

March 1983

Dear Customers—past, present & future:

We * appreciate your business with us. You ** an important part of our growth. Your support, patience, encouragement, sympathy, recommendations, satisfaction and compliments * mean a lot to us. Despite the great odds we **** survive this depression and expect 1983 to be a good year. Our hard work, talent, integrity, technical proficiency, ingenuity, quality, perseverance, dedication to our work, our principles, and our customers, good prices, service and humor, and the love from our friends and for each other *** how and why we do it. It *** not for the money, so far, but it **** soon come. Ferr surr, ferr surr.

We * continue to develop new designs—several ** on the drawing boards this very instant. Flyers * be sent out as soon as they are ready, eventually.

We * buy T-shirt artwork and ideas.

We **** print your custom orders, too.
May you * yourself a good year!

*** yours,

Steve Patton & staff

1017 Valencia St.

San Francisco

CA 94110

phone: (415) 641-1793

* have, do & will

** have been, are & will be

*** has been, is & might be

**** have, can, & better



one-liners: (no illustrations)



- P-1. Unemployment Compensation Procurement Engineer.
F-2. I Just Said No and I Don't Feel Guilty.
F-3. When You're a Jet You're a Jet All the Way.
F-4. If You Think The System Is Working Ask Someone Who Isn't.
P-5. Women Who Want To Be Equal To Men Lack Imagination.
P-6. I May Not Be Good Looking But I Sure Am Hard To Please.
F-7. Even If You Win The Race You're Still A Rat.
P-8. There Are No Strangers, Only Friends Who Haven't Met (& The Stranger The Better).
P-9. Lick-A-Dee Clit!
P-10. **Sexism begins at home, but proliferates in bars.**
F-11. Why Settle For Crumbs When You Can Have The Whole Cake Factory.
F-12. I'll Not Should On Myself Today.
P-13. I Wear This Therefore I Am.
P-14. I'm training to be tall & blonde.
P-15. Sexism is a Social Disease.
F-16. To be thought half as good as a man, a woman has to do twice as much. (Luckily this is not difficult.)
F-17. Better to have loved & lost than to have spent your whole damn life with him.
P-18. Love is a many gendered thing.
F-19. Existentialism is a contraceptive to be used when the mind is being fucked.
F-20. Fuck survival—I want the whole thing!
P-21. It's not kosher to be a male chauvinist pig.
F-22. Today's pig is tomorrow's bacon.
F-23. Don't fake orgasms or he'll never be able to give you one, and you'll hate him for being so easy to fool.
F-24. It's easy to be humble when you're great, but it takes a lot of class to be arrogant when you're a complete failure.
F-25. A woman's place is every place.
P-26. I am a lesbian but too shy to do anything about it.
F-27. It hurts so much since you're gone. It's almost like you're still here.

\$5.00 EACH

P = pocket print. F = full front print.

One Liners available in Crew—neck + Muscle shirts in all colors with White Black Red Pink + Blue ink
Pocket prints also on V—necks.



**BAN
NUCLEAR
ARMS**

①

**Anti-
WARZONE**

②



IF YOU JUDGE THAT
YOUR IQ IS LIMITED BY
REAGANOMICS



BOMZOs
...gives more complete
relief

③

**NO U.S.
INTERVENTION!**



④

READY,

**AIM...
FIRE!**



*War is
menstruation
every*

⑤

**BE ALL YOU CAN BE
THIS IS THE ARMY.**



⑥

Minimum Order: 2 Dozen Total. Assorted Designs, 1/2 Dozen Per Design, per Shirt Color & Style.

Sizes:

- 1/2 Dz. Ratio 1 - Small
2 - Medium
2 - Large
1 - Extra Large
1 Dz. Ratio 2 - Small
4 - Medium
4 - Large
2 - Extra Large

(Unless Otherwise Requested)

Printing on non-stock items requires a 3 dozen+ order.

Terms:

5% Off on Orders Over \$250.00
C.O.D. With Cashiers Check or Cash Only.
Company Check With Credit Approval.



WE USE :

Hanes
STEDMAN

Wright's

Healthknit

BANTAMS

ECT.
ECT.
ect.

Note: Designs pictured are not necessarily in proportion to shirts.



Allow 2 - 4 Weeks For Delivery U.P.S.



Cover Designed and Printed by Tim Victor
Interior Design: Steve Patton and Tim Victor
Printing: Womens Press Project
Typesetting: Bay City Graphics

For additional catalogs send \$1 to:

BABYLON BURNING
1017 Valencia St.
San Francisco, CA. 94110



hand printing. If you're new at this, just ask questions. As an apparel wholesaler, they'll supply you with organic or non-organic American Apparel, Alternative Apparel, Hanes, Fruit of the Loom, Gilden or a host of other brands for T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies and the like. Check online for the price break when you're printing quantities.

Related: [Best Places To Buy A Hat In The Bay Area](#)

Babylon Burning Screen Printing

63 Bluxome St.
San Francisco, CA 04107
(415) 777-8244
www.babylontee.com

This business is proud to be a longtime Bay Area fixture with only one change of ownership since 1976. The automatic screen printer handles job beautifully, so everything is done on-site. A few clicks on the website provides color photos of all the items you can choose to print on, including caps, bags, outerwear, activewear, pants, kids apparel and the usual T-shirts, sweatshirts and polo shirts. See the prices online for one-sided printing, or bring them your specialty orders.

Barbara's Embroidery

421 Arkansas St.
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 235-0305 www.barbarazembroidery.com

For things like embroidery or monograms on your backpacks, scout badges, sports award badges, merit badges, bridesmaids gifts, towels and linens, sweatshirts, caps and more, this one-woman Potrero Hill shop can do it all. Barbara is an artist with a great eye, so talk to her about color and design. She'll execute it for you on a state-of-the-art computer programmed Tajima embroidery machine for a very professionally stitched result.

DCL Productions Embroidery And Silkscreen Services

1284 Missouri St.
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 826-2200
www.dclproductions.com

Make it stand out when you get a logo on a uniform work shirt, hair salon cape, apron, chef's coat, team polo shirts, team trivia T-shirts or whatever you require. DCL does screen printing and patches as well as embroidery, and can also help to brand thousands of promotional items, from flash drives to skateboards, with your logo. The office, art production and production teams are well coordinated, so your order is properly managed from placement to delivery.



Eat.See.Play

From dining at the hottest Bay Area spots to shopping at the trendiest boutiques, you'll find it all at Eat.See.Play!

[Click Here >](#)

LATEST PHOTO GALLERIES



Photos: Family And Colleagues Pay Tribute To Late SF Mayor

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS



YOUR WEATHER PHOTOS



SPORTS FAN PHOTOS

[SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS HERE >](#)

Home * Pricing * Samples

* Artwork Guidelines

Babylon Burning has been screen printing in the Bay area since 1976 after being founded by Steve Patton (read Steve's story [here](#)). In 1999 Mike Lynch bought Babylon Burning after working for Steve the previous four years. Babylon Burning has gone through numerous changes since, but has always been committed to providing top quality products and services. Most of our clients are in the Bay area and most new clients come from referrals. Our reputation is what has kept us in business for so long.

The foundation of our business has not changed, but as technology has changed so has Babylon Burning. In 2007 we purchased a new automatic screen printer which has increased our production capacity immensely without increasing costs. This allows us to continue having one of the quickest turn arounds in the city at 4-5 days (10 days are standard). We also maintain state of the art graphics software and computer systems to handle all of your design needs.

Enjoying what we do and loving the place we live makes the difference. Our shop reflects the fun we have printing and we encourage you to stop in to get a feel of what we are all about. Today there are so many ad-specialty companies out there that don't usually print in-house. They farm business out of state (and out of the country) and take away from the local economy. Being local means most of our clients come in for press checks to make sure they are getting what they want before orders are run and they can also get a chance to meet the people actually doing the work.

So remember, KEEP IT LOCAL, press check your shirts in San Francisco, see the San Franciscan printing your shirts, and feel good about supporting small businesses and good jobs in San Francisco.



RECENT PRINTS



NOVEMBER '17 - KALW



JUNE '17 - EFF



Home * Pricing * Samples

* Artwork Guidelines



PRICING FOR 2017

Please read through to understand costs associated with setup and garments. Please contact us if you have any questions.

SHIRT CATALOGS

We supply apparel from major wholesale dealers. Please view their online catalogs below to find the garments you want. Pick your style and we'll give you a full quote including all charges.

**LOS ANGELES
APPAREL**



BELLA+CANVAS.

* Other Brands *

* If you don't see the garments you want contact Mike Lynch for more choices.

PRINTING PRICES

Printing prices are for standard single sided t-shirt printing. Additional costs for specialty printing are also listed.

garment prices not included

Pieces	Dozens	1 Color	2 Color	3 Color	4 Color	5 Color	6 Color	7 Color
72	6	\$1.95	\$2.15	\$2.35	\$2.55	\$2.75	\$2.95	NA
144	12	\$1.50	\$1.65	\$1.80	\$1.95	\$2.10	\$2.25	\$2.40
300	25	\$1.30	\$1.45	\$1.65	\$1.80	\$1.95	\$2.10	\$2.25

504	42	\$1.15	\$1.30	\$1.45	\$1.60	\$1.75	\$1.90	\$2.05
1,008	84	\$1.00	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$1.30	\$1.40	\$1.50	\$1.60
3,000	250	\$0.90	\$1.00	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$1.30	\$1.40	\$1.50
6,000	500	\$0.75	\$0.85	\$0.95	\$1.05	\$1.15	\$1.25	\$1.35
12,000	1,000	\$0.65	\$0.75	\$0.85	\$0.95	\$1.05	\$1.15	\$1.25
24,000	2,000	\$0.60	\$0.70	\$0.80	\$0.90	\$1.00	\$1.10	\$1.20

Additional Costs:

Add "flash cures" charge (under misc. charges) for colored shirts.

Add 85% for second side or placement. - Add 20% for sweats, caps, aprons and totes. - Add 50% for jackets -
*Additional \$25.00 setup charge

SCREEN CHARGES

Screen Type	Price	Film Size	Price
Spot Color Screens	\$25.00	8.5 x 11 Positive	\$10.00 per color
4 Color/Simulated Process Screens	\$35.00	14 x 16 Positive	\$15.00 per color
Automatic Press Screens	\$35.00		

FILM CHARGES

ART CHARGES

Charge Type	Price	Size	Price
Separations	\$60.00 per hour	8.5 x 11 Original	\$15.00
Typesetting	\$35.00 per hour	11 x 17 Original	\$20.00
Custom Design	Call for quote	Oversize	Call for quote

SCANNING CHARGES

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

Item	Price
Flashcures	\$0.20 each
Ink Changes	\$10 each
PMS Match (Custom Ink)	\$12.50 per color

RUSH CHARGES

Time	Price
4-6 Days	add 25%
2-3 Days	add 40%
24 Hours	add 50%
Same Day	add 100%

Screens are stored for one year from the last order. - Call for a quote on larger film sizes. - 1/2 hour minimum for typesetting.

* Press Checks are recommended on designs over 1 color and required on process work.

* Press Time is \$55.00 an hour. The first hour is free. Please be punctual.

* Handling charges **ONLY** apply to customer supplied goods. - Normal Turnaround is 10-14 Work Days.

PAYMENT

50% Deposit required on all orders to cover the cost of garments. Balance is due upon completion of the job. We accept MasterCard, Visa and American Express.

Terms and Prices subject to change without notice. Quotes are subject to change upon review of the submitted artwork.

Email Mike Lynch or call 415.777.8244 for garment prices and printing quotes.

For billing and invoice questions contact Shawn Johnson at 415.777.8244.

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Home * Pricing * Samples * Artwork Guidelines

63 BLUXOME ST
SF, CA 94107

P: 415.777.8244

SINCE
76

LOYAL CUSTOMERS

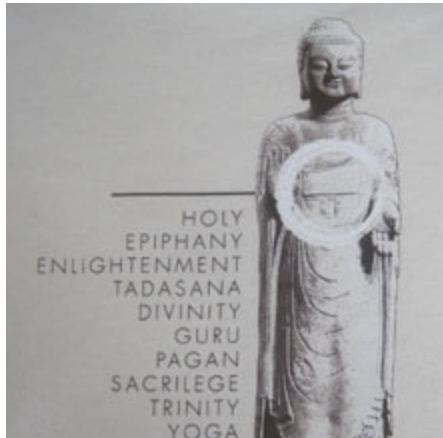
826 National
826 Valencia
99 Designs
Able
Aces
Aquarius Records
Bacon Bacon
Bare Escentuals
Brainwash
Bugcrowd
Burgerjoint
Burma Superstar
Butler, Shine, and Stern
California Choppers
Campo Santo
Carve Designs
ChefsFeed
Chrome
Chronicle Books
Columbus Cafe
Curran SF
Dolores Park Cafe
Doug Walker
EFF
Electric Works
Engine Yard
Evernote
Farley's
Frameline
Github
Holy Grill
Instacart
Iron.io
Jawbone
KALW
KUSF 90.3
Livable City
Local Brewing
Lowcard Magazine
Lucky 13
Martin Clothing
Mashery
Matt Nathanson
McSweeney's
Mekanism
Mojo Bike Cafe
Monkey Ink
Mooloolaba
Nice Collective
Office of Letters & Lights
Pandora
Pizza Orgasmica
Prometheus Design Werx
R Bar
Samba TV
Say Media
SF Bike Coalition
SF Weekly
Skates on Haight
TAD Gear
Toronado
Tree Frog Treks
Walk SF
Workday
Xtranormal

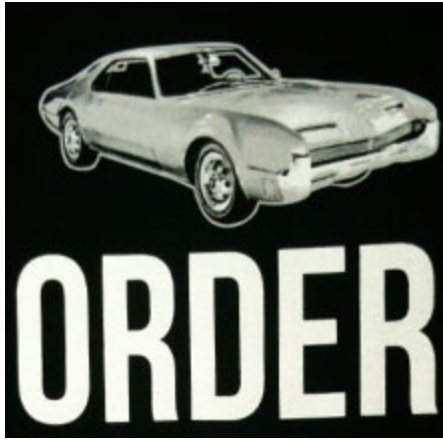




Yammer
Zendesk

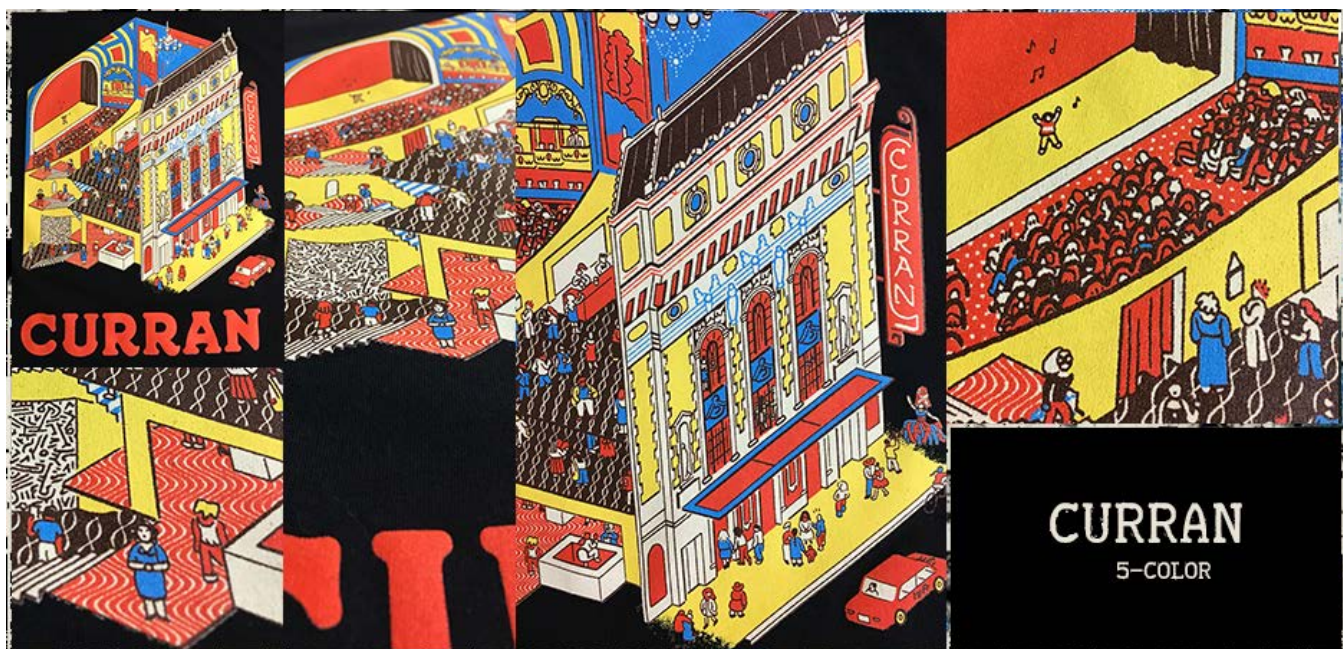






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Home * Pricing * Samples

* Artwork Guidelines

BABYLON BURNING - ARTWORK GUIDELINES

VERY IMPORTANT, Files must be sent at 100% print size. If not, the print size must be specified by the customer. Mock-ups are good for placement and reference but there is no way for us to determine the actual print size.

We are a Macintosh based shop but files created in Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator on a PC compatible computer are acceptable.

We do not accept files created in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel or Microsoft PowerPoint. We are not able to create separations from any files created with these programs.

Images created for the internet are generally unacceptable as image resolution is generally TOO LOW (72 dpi) to correctly reproduce the image on a t-shirt.

Adobe Photoshop files must be at **300 DPI** at final print size.

To alleviate confusion all type should be created in Adobe Illustrator and converted to outlines.

When placing images created in Photoshop into Illustrator do not enlarge the placed image. Resizing the image changes its resolution. Even though the original

63 BLUXOME ST
SF, CA 94107

P: 415.777.8244

SINCE
76

CONTACT INFO

If you are interested in
a custom design or illustration
- or -
have any other questions
send an email to:

The Art Department

or call:
415.777.8244

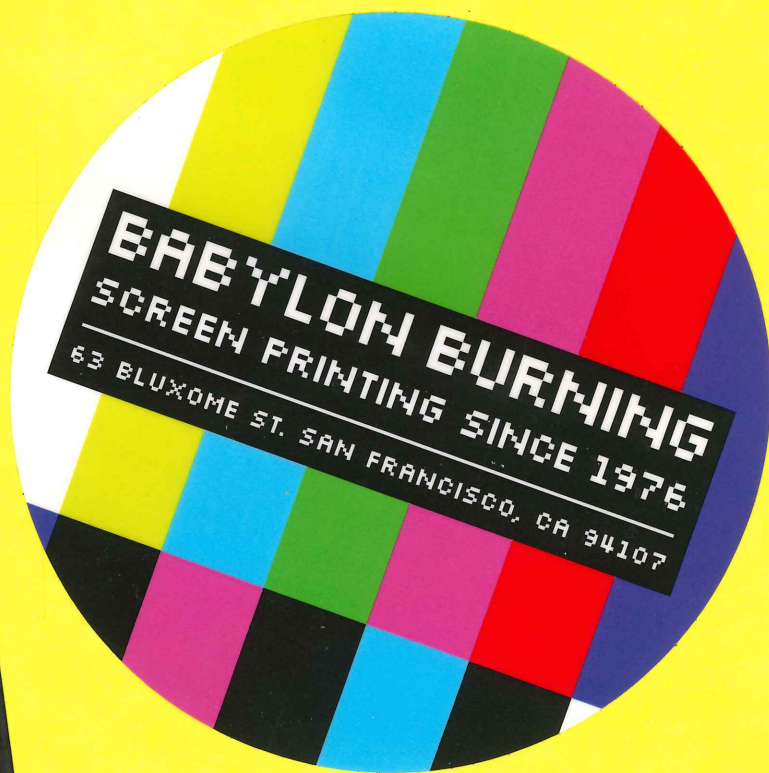
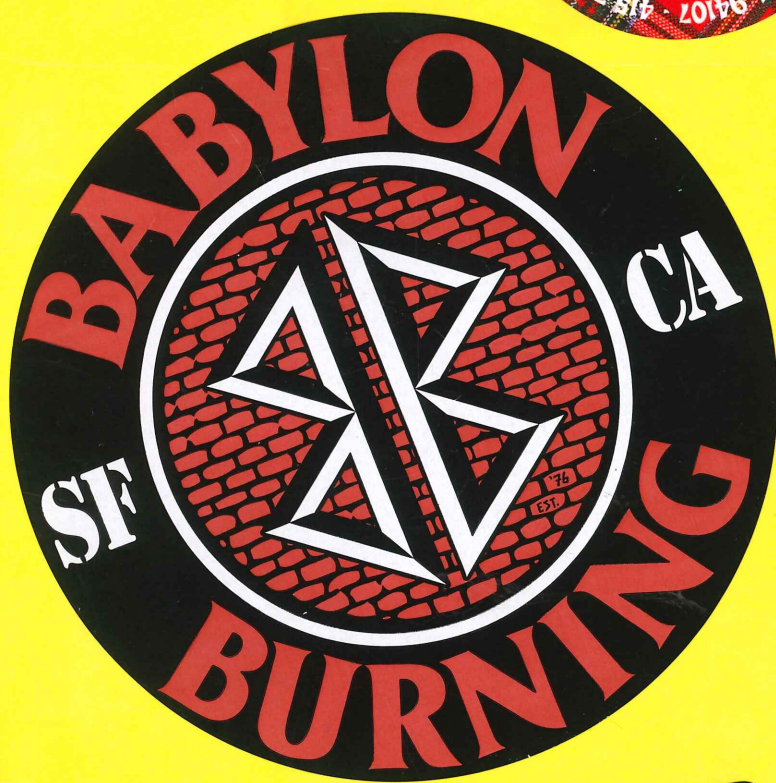


Photoshop file is 300 dpi, if you enlarge it 300% in Illustrator the resolution becomes 100 dpi.

All PANTONE colors must be specified using solid, coated colors. A color copy of the artwork is extremely helpful for matching purposes. A proof is required for all 4 color process and simulated process jobs.

Please consider the color of your selected garment when submitting artwork. For your own reference place your artwork on a background color of your selected garment color. Artwork is separated differently for different color garments.

Please label your artwork with your NAME, PLACEMENT (front, back, left chest, sleeve, etc) and COLORS.





AD IN JUXTAPOZ



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Legacy Business Registry Case Report

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Filing Date: January 11, 2018
Case No.: 2018-001173LBR
Business Name: Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc.
Business Address: 63 Bluxome Street
Zoning: WMUO (Western SoMa Mixed Use-Office)
65-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3786/019A
Applicant: Michael Lynch, Owner
2646 21st Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116
Nominated By: Supervisor Jane Kim, District 6
Staff Contact: Shelley Caltagirone - (415) 558-6625
shelley.caltagirone@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822
tim.frye@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

Babylon Burning Screen Printing, Inc. ("Babylon Burning") is a traditional plastisol screen printing shop specializing in bulk production. The business has one large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press. It was founded by Steve Patton in 1980; however, he started out in 1976 as a very small do-it-yourself setup in his garage at his house in Bernal Heights. Patton chose "Babylon Burning" as the business name after the song "Babylon's Burning" by The Ruts.

In 1980, Steve moved the business to a retail store at 21st and Valencia streets next door to Old Wives Tails Bookstore. There was a retail T-shirt shop in the front and print shop in the back. Nearby at 974 Valencia Street was Valencia Tool & Die, a music venue and art gallery founded by Peter Belsito and Jim Stockford that presented punk, new wave, and new music performances, as well as performance art, film, and visual art shows from 1980 through 1983. Babylon Burning made many shirts for VT&D, and printed many popular T-shirts for groups like Act Up!, Central American Solidarity Committee, Mother Jones magazine, the Women's Building, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, etc. Their work steadily improved, and they developed a reputation for quality and honesty. The business never advertised except for a Yellow Pages ad under T-shirts; the rest was word of mouth.

There was a big rent increase in 1987, so the business moved into a unit on the fourth floor of the Southend Warehouse in SoMa at 2nd and Brannan streets and quit the retail business. After another rent increase shortly following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, Babylon Burning moved to its current location at 63 Bluxome Street. The business finally acquired its first automatic 6-color press on a factory lease, increased production by at least threefold, and grew to 3/4 of a million dollars in sales. In 1999, Steve Patton sold Babylon Burning to his then employees Mike Lynch and Brian Von Bargaen. In 2001,

Mike bought Brian out of the business and has been running it ever since.

Under Mike's ownership, they survived the dot-com bubble, the Great Recession, and an everchanging social climate. Their clientele includes hundreds of loyal well-known local businesses – from small cafes to tech companies and nonprofits – including 826 Valencia, Walk SF, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, SF Bike Coalition, and KALW Public Radio.

The business is located on the south side of Bluxome Street between 4th and 5th streets in the South of Market neighborhood. It is within the WMUO (Western SoMa Mixed Use-Office) Zoning District and in a 65-X Height and Bulk District.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Review Criteria

1. *When was business founded?*

The business was founded in 1980.

2. *Does the business qualify for listing on the Legacy Business Registry? If so, how?*

Yes, Babylon Burning qualifies for listing on the Legacy Business Registry because it meets all of the eligibility Criteria:

- i. Babylon Burning has operated continuously in San Francisco for 38 years.
 - ii. Babylon Burning has contributed to the history and identity of the SoMa neighborhood and the artist community in San Francisco by serving as a screen printing service.
 - iii. Babylon Burning is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the organization.
3. *Is the business associated with a culturally significant art/craft/cuisine/tradition?*

The brick building at 63 Bluxome Street has been largely dedicated to the arts since the 1960s, and Babylon Burning has upheld this tradition since 1989. The building was constructed in 1907 and was for many years a car manufacturing plant. In the 60s it was converted to studio spaces for artists, including Ruth Asawa and Sam Shepard.

4. *Is the business or its building associated with significant events, persons, and/or architecture?*

In the 1970s and 1980s, Babylon Burning printed for many social activism groups. Located on Valencia Street during this time period, Babylon Burning proved that screen printing can be a powerful tool to spread messages to larger audiences. Many anti-war, women's rights, and gay rights T-shirts were produced during this time period and spread throughout San Francisco.

In the 1990s and early 2000s, Babylon Burning played a role in the dot-com boom, printing for many startups and new businesses in San Francisco. Although many of these businesses failed, their presence laid the groundwork for the subsequent tech boom that has shaped so much of San Francisco's current social atmosphere. Many of these clients have remained loyal customers who prefer to support local small businesses, especially in the direct neighborhood.

5. *Is the property associated with the business listed on a local, state, or federal historic resource registry?*

No, the property is not listed on any registers; however, it has been evaluated and found to be for eligible for local designation as an individual property. Built in 1917, 53 - 61 Bluxome Street is a 1-story, brick masonry industrial building designed in a utilitarian industrial style. The rectangular-plan building, clad in brick, is capped by a double hip roof clad in built-up material. The foundation is not visible. Typical entrances include a metal roll-up door and partially glazed wood door. There are no windows. The primary façade features brick beltcourses and terminates in brick corbelling and a parapet. The building appears to be in good condition.

6. *Is the business mentioned in a local historic context statement?*

No, the property has not been listed in any historic context statements.

7. *Has the business been cited in published literature, newspapers, journals, etc.?*

The work of the organization has been referred to in several newspapers including:

- CBS SF Bay Area article titled "Best Screen Printing and Embroidery Shops in San Francisco."

Copies of articles are included in this Legacy Business Registry application.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

Location(s) associated with the business:

- 63 Bluxome Street (1989 - Present)

Recommended by Applicant

- Traditional plastisol screen printing practice specializing in bulk production
- High quality custom hand-printed goods
- One large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press
- Environmentally-friendly printing
- A small, highly-trained dedicated staff
- The original wood sign

Additional Recommended by Staff

- No additional recommendations



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Historic Preservation Commission Draft Resolution No. XXX

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Case No.: 2018-001173LBR
Business Name: Babylon Burning Screen Printing
Business Address: 63 Bluxome Street
Zoning: WMUO (Western SoMa Mixed Use-Office)
65-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3786/019A
Applicant: Michael Lynch, Owner
2646 21st Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116
Nominated By: Supervisor Jane Kim, District 6
Staff Contact: Shelley Caltagirone - (415) 558-6625
shelley.caltagirone@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: Tim Frye - (415) 575-6822
tim.frye@sfgov.org

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415.558.6377

ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY NOMINATION FOR BABYLON BURNING SCREEN PRINTING, INC, CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 63 BLUXOME STREET, (BLOCK/LOT 3786/019A).

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the SoMa neighborhood's and City's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on February 7, 2018, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed documents, correspondence and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry nomination.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends** that Babylon Burning Screen Printing qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) as it has operated for 30 or more years and has continued to contribute to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends** safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions for Babylon Burning Screen Printing.

Location (if applicable)

- 63 Bluxome Street

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

- Traditional plastisol screen printing practice specializing in bulk production
- High quality custom hand-printed goods
- One large 10-color automatic press, three 6-color manual presses, and a single 1-color press
- Environmentally-friendly printing
- A small, highly-trained dedicated staff
- The original wood sign

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission's findings and recommendations** are made solely for the purpose of evaluating the subject business's eligibility for the Legacy Business Registry, and the Historic Preservation Commission makes no finding that the subject property or any of its features constitutes a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs** its Commission Secretary to transmit this Resolution and other pertinent materials in the case file 2018-001173LBR to the Office of Small Business.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the Historic Preservation Commission on February 7, 2018.

Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: