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# V-Twin

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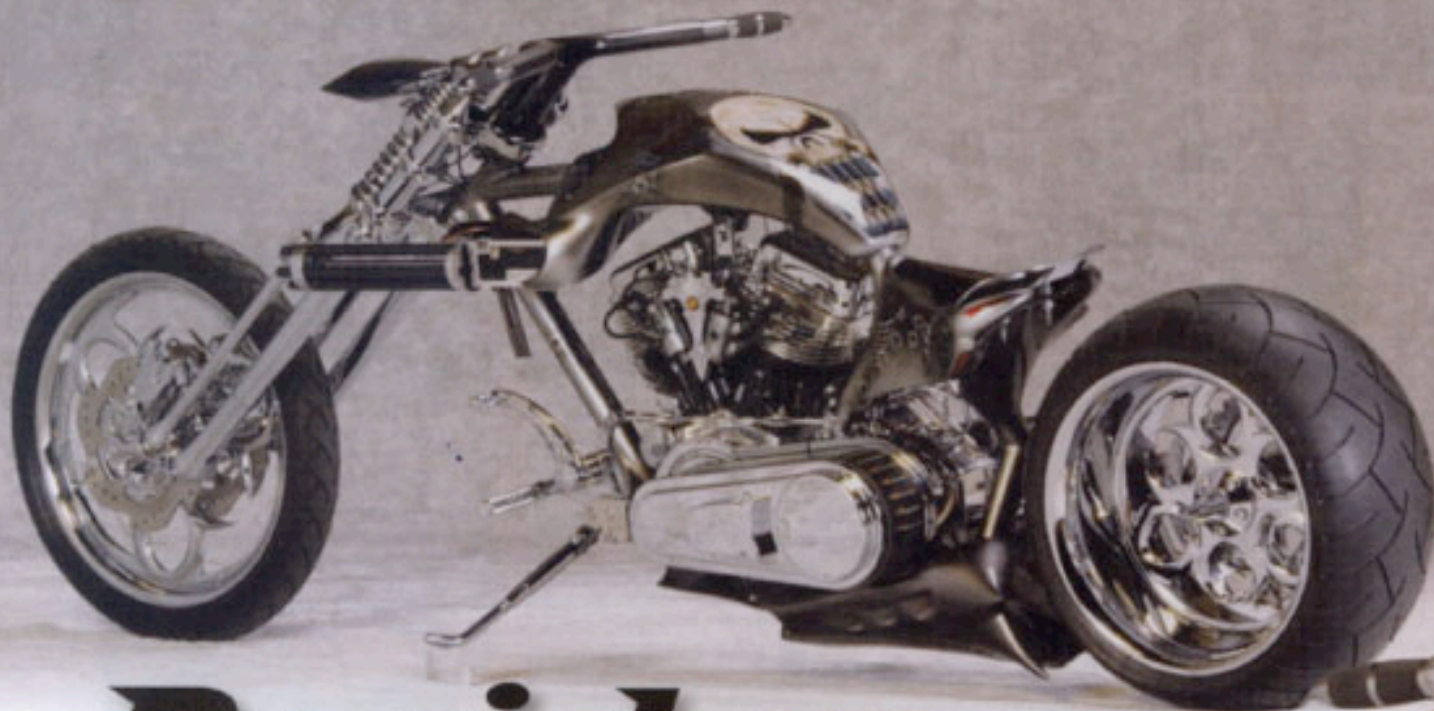
**MOTO ARTIST SARA RAY**

**BIG BEAR QUADRO/BIAGGIO**

\$6.99  
 Australia \$11.95 (incl. GST)

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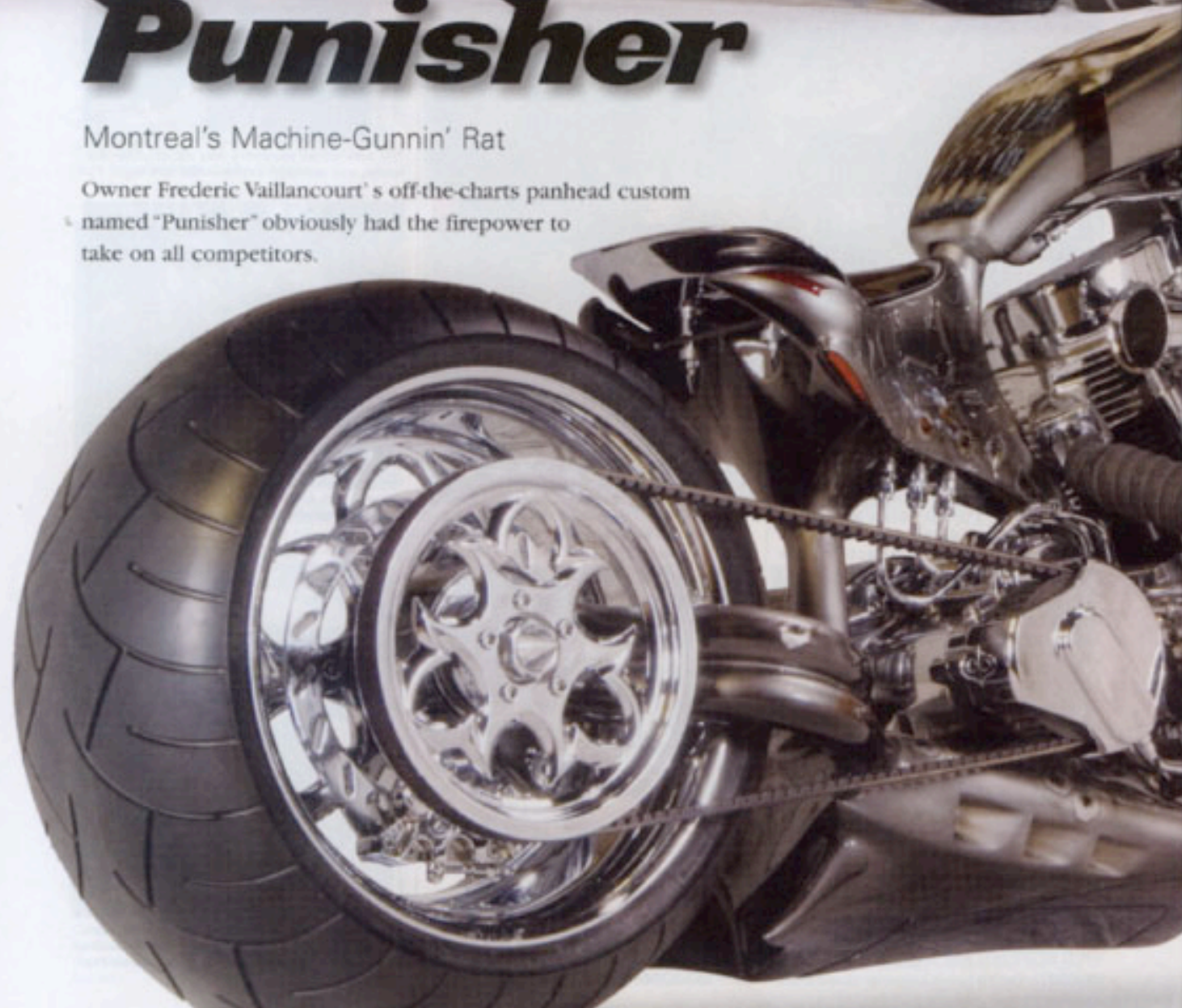




# ***Punisher***

Montreal's Machine-Gunnin' Rat

Owner Frederic Vaillancourt's off-the-charts panhead custom named "Punisher" obviously had the firepower to take on all competitors.





## 2007/Rat Shop/Punisher Chop

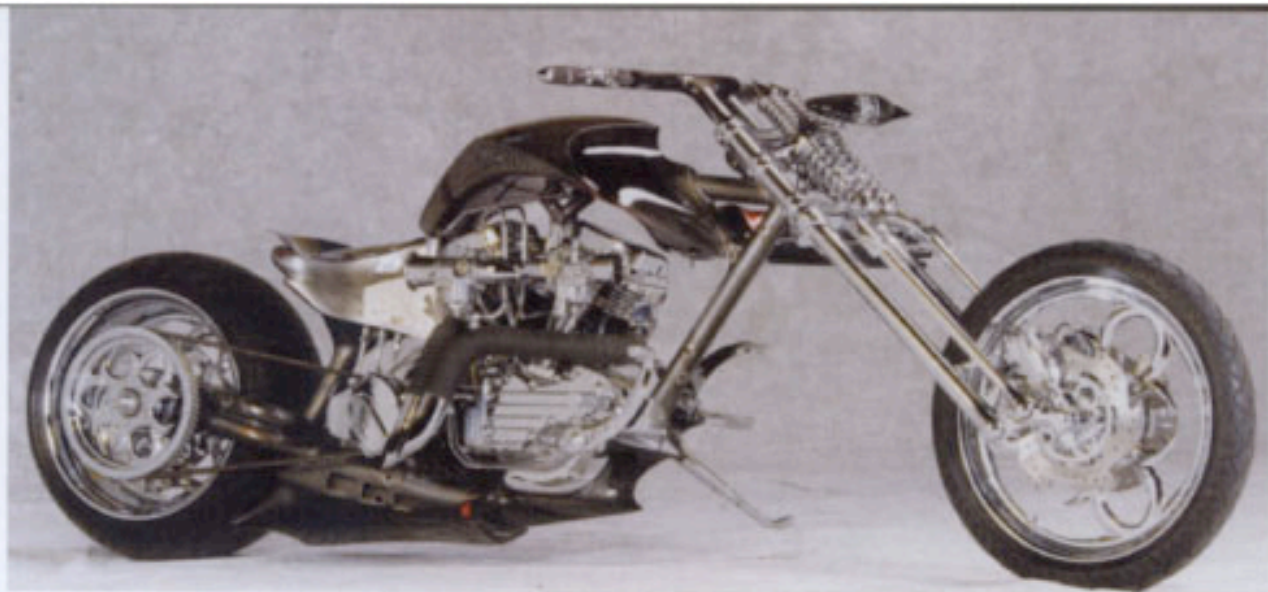
The French-Canadian builder has taken over two dozen awards including: Best Bike in the 2008 Toronto Spring International Bike Show; First Place in the Pro Builders Class; and has also won Special Awards for Best Plating, Best Bodywork and Best Detailing.

The bike's theme is based on the Punisher, a crime-stopping vigilante character first introduced in the February 1974 issue of *The Amazing Spider-Man*. The character often appeared riding a motorcycle, but in the 1989 film version sat behind the wheel of a '67 Dodge Charger. About 20 years later, Frederic aka "Rat," working from his Montreal area-based Rat Shop Custom Bikes, unleashed his own new, improved version. Rat tells us that the machine-gun "accessory" on the front of the bike is fully functional and spits out 25 rounds per second. You can actually fire it while the bike is in motion. "Every time I cross the border, I think I'm going to jail, but I took out a couple parts so you can't shoot it, so they let me pass."

Frederick gained the "Rat" rep when he first started appearing with his







beastly bikes. "I lived out in the woods with no electricity and had to haul the bike through the muddy roads to get to the city and would show up at the bike shows with everything covered in mud. Everyone would say 'Here comes the Rat.'" Recently he's spiffed up his image by moving to town and a larger shop because his young children are getting ready to start school, but he kept the moniker Rat and Rat Shop.

Originally into building muscle cars, it's easy to see that "muscle" is still part of Frederick's two-wheeled creations—or should we say "creatures." "Rat Mutant," one of his previous bikes, garnered

all kinds of attention and awards when he unleashed it a few years ago. When he was invited to take part in a major Toronto bike show, he wanted to design something wild and crazy and very aggressive looking.

"*The Punisher* comic was one of my favorites, so I wanted to build a bike that was like a weapon, something he would really ride," says Rat. His first call went to his friend Sam at Rolling Thunder for a single-sided rigid frame to get the ball rolling, and then he opted to bolt in a new 88-inch panhead matched to a Rivera tranny and a springer front end from American Suspension. And

while that's a 21-inch Extreme Machine rolling up front, the rear is smoking its Metzeler off, a 10.5 x 8 inch, all of it topped off by show-stopping *Punisher* paintjob and graphics by Air Design.

Of riding the monster, Frederick says, "Here the roads are so bad, the whole bike could disappear in one of the pot-holes, but when I rode it in Daytona and Sturgis, it was like being in heaven. For sure, every place I stopped, people went crazy." The judges took a shine to it as well. At the Rat's Hole, *Punisher* won 6th Place in the Radical Class and then scored a 3rd Place in Sturgis.

—Paul Garson





**Owner:** Rat Shop  
**City:** Saint-Combe, Quebec, Canada

**General**

**Designer:** Rat Shop  
**Fabrication:** Rat Shop  
**Year/Make:** 2007 Rat Shop  
**Model:** Punisher  
**Assembly:** Rat Shop  
**Time:** 5 months/20,000 hours  
**Chroming:** M&M

**Engine**

**Year:** 2007  
**Rebuilder:** Pandonium  
**Displacement:** 88 cubic inches  
**Cam:** S&S  
**Ignition:** Crane  
**Pistons:** S&S  
**Heads:** S&S  
**Lifters:** S&S  
**Carb(s):** S&S  
**Pipes:** Rat Shop

**Transmission**

**Make:** Rivera  
**Year:** 2007  
**Shifting:** foot

**Painting**

**Painter:** Air Design  
**Special paint:** Air Design

**Frame**

**Year:** 2007  
**Builder:** Rolling Thunder/Rat Shop  
**Type:** single-sided rigid  
**Rake:** 44 degrees  
**Stretch:** 6 inches

**Accessories**

**Bars:** Classic Steel/Rat Shop  
**Handlebar controls:** Rat Shop  
**Headlight:** Accutronix/Rat Shop



**Pegs:** Accutronix  
**Electrics:** Rat Shop  
**Gas tank:** Synergy  
**Oil tank:** Rat Shop  
**Oil system:** S&S  
**Seat:** Rolling Thunder/Rat Shop  
**Grips:** Classic Steel

**Forks**  
**Type:** springer  
**Extension:** negative 2 inches  
**Builder:** American Suspension  
**Wheels**  
**Size:** 21-inch front/  
10.5 x 18-inch rear

**Wheels:** Extreme Machine  
**Tires:** Metzeler  
**Brakes:** PM/American Suspension  
**Photos:** Michael Farabaugh  
**Contact:** The Rat Shop:  
450-883-7944,  
[www.ratshopcustombikes.com](http://www.ratshopcustombikes.com)

