



Lana Crooks spent her formative years in South Florida. During high school she was deemed most likely to become a pirate, and began to amass a seaworthy crew. The crew sailed to Savannah and attended the Savannah College of Art and Design. Lana pilfered herself a BFA in Illustration in twenty ought two. One day, on a whim, she made an expedition to Chicago and made it home, trading the ocean for a giant lake. Originally an illustrator, Captain Crooks eventually took to sewing and began work as a freelance costume designer. In what seems like a natural progression, plush became her main focus in 2007 with her Octoplush series; a series based on her love of cephalopods.

In 2008, Lana became the resident curator at A.Okay Official Gallery. In 2009, she partnered with the OhNo!Doom collective and opened a new gallery space. Her work has been seen at Munky King, Rivet, DVA, Rotofugi and Gallery 1988 to name a few. She has also worked with other artists to create crazy collaborations. And yes, Lana Crooks is her real name.

Lana will be working with Missmonster for *Ladies and Gentlemonsters*, an exhibition of pieces by the two artists, based around the idea of dapper monsters and creatures. *Ladies and Gentlemonsters* will open on June 19th, 2010 at Chicago's **Revolution Tattoo and Gallery**, and closes at the end of July.

White Rabbit