



NEED TO KNOW

NAKED PILOTS KUBI & LUKI JACISIN

We are Kubi and Luki Jacisin, 25-year-old first-generation American identical twins. We grew up just outside Boston, Massachusetts, and are now full-time nomads, artists, and paraglider pilots.

We always had a lifelong dream of flying. When we were young, we shared this dream about flying – we'd watch birds and planes and long to be up in the sky. Since then, we've tried everything from hang gliding to skydiving. But it wasn't until we graduated college that we found paragliding.

We've only been flying a few years. We're taking it slow with progression and learning the skills we need to fully and safely manage our gear in all conditions. We want to fly safely for our whole lives.

This year we took our first international flying trips – to Morocco and Ecuador – and attended our first competition, the Applegate Open, in Oregon. All these experiences have been amazing and immensely educational. Plus we've met so many wonderful people in each of these communities.

Our first XC flight turned out to be pretty epic. Not only did we get to share the experience, which is a huge priority for us, but it happened to be our first time at the site. We launched at Inspiration Point in Utah, benched up, and flew over the impressive terrain of Mount Timpanogos. It was an extraordinary flight and completely surreal.

Learning to fly completely changed us. After learning to paraglide we re-evaluated how we lived and the things we did. This new mindset opened us up to thinking about how we take risk and make decisions. We started thinking about how we live, and began to consider how we could bring the same energy to the rest of our lives.

Everyone always asks if we can read each other's mind. When we fly together, coring a thermal, it feels like we can. We're good at observing and sensing what the other one is doing and what the next move is. It's a beautiful experience to feel you can communicate with someone through flying.

We've been living the nomad life for over two years. We travel around the American West in our camper trailer, visiting new places, meeting new people, and flying new sites.

It's opened our eyes to how much you can learn by flying new places and different air. The pilots are welcoming everywhere we go.

Paragliding inspired us to start Warn The West, our art and adventure business. The goal is to bring more colour to the world and inspire people to express themselves. We believe colour can make you friendlier and happier.

All of our gear matches. We now both fly Gin Explorers and proudly fly matching bright orange BogdanFly pods. The combination makes an excellent lightweight hike-and-fly kit. Plus, it looks awesome!

In pursuit of our art, we love trying new techniques and styles. We enjoy painting large murals, from walls to people's adventure rigs. We've transformed everything from trailers to vans and even muralled up a school bus.

We have met so many incredible adventurers – but they all live in these off-white homes. We want to inspire people to have a beautiful piece of art they can live in.

It makes us feel good when we live in a piece of art, and we want to share that with

others. Currently, we're prepping to paint our new home, a 27-foot camper trailer. It's going to be our biggest art project to date.

We also customise paragliders. Wing customs are for everyone, not just the pros. It's a great way to express yourself and be easily identified while flying. Everyone looks the same in the air, so we want to bring unique styles to pilots' wings. We use lightweight permanent nylon materials to customize new and used gliders with your favourite images, designs, and logos, both big and small.

We love tie-dye. It inspires most of our artwork. We're always dyeing new materials and clothes, as well as trying new styles of tie-dye, including ice dyeing – creating a unique style you can't get any other way. Nature, paragliding, and nomad life all inspire our creations.

Over last summer we were in Oregon, Washington then Montana and Idaho – flying every site along the way. We're excited to explore these new sites, meet the local pilot communities and find inspiration for our art along the way.

We love to collaborate with other pilots. Check out our art and flying adventures around the world and get in touch! 📧

Interview by Liz Dengler. Find Warn The West at warnthewest.com



◀ ◀ COLOUR CODED

Kubi and Luki in the Sahara Desert in Morocco, and camped out at Point of the Mountain, Utah
Photos: Dagmar Jacisinova / Jake Dombek

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