

Skater Taxonomy - Jim Greco

Jim Greco has gone through a lot of phases in his career, from hollywood rocker, to glam-fueled blah, to cholo blah [rewrite these]. His video parts has evolved in tandem, moving from quick section parts, to 'hammer'-laced enders, up to representational, narrative driven skate videos. But throughout his seemingly constant sea of changes, one thing about Jim Greco has remained constant: his love for skateboarding. With a career and persona as diverse as his, I wanted to see if his skateboarding changed, and if so, to what extent. So without further ado, let's dive into the skateboard taxonomy of Jim Greco.

Trick Selection

Greco's trick selection reflects his 'hammer' philosophy: do a few tricks well, and do them down big shit.

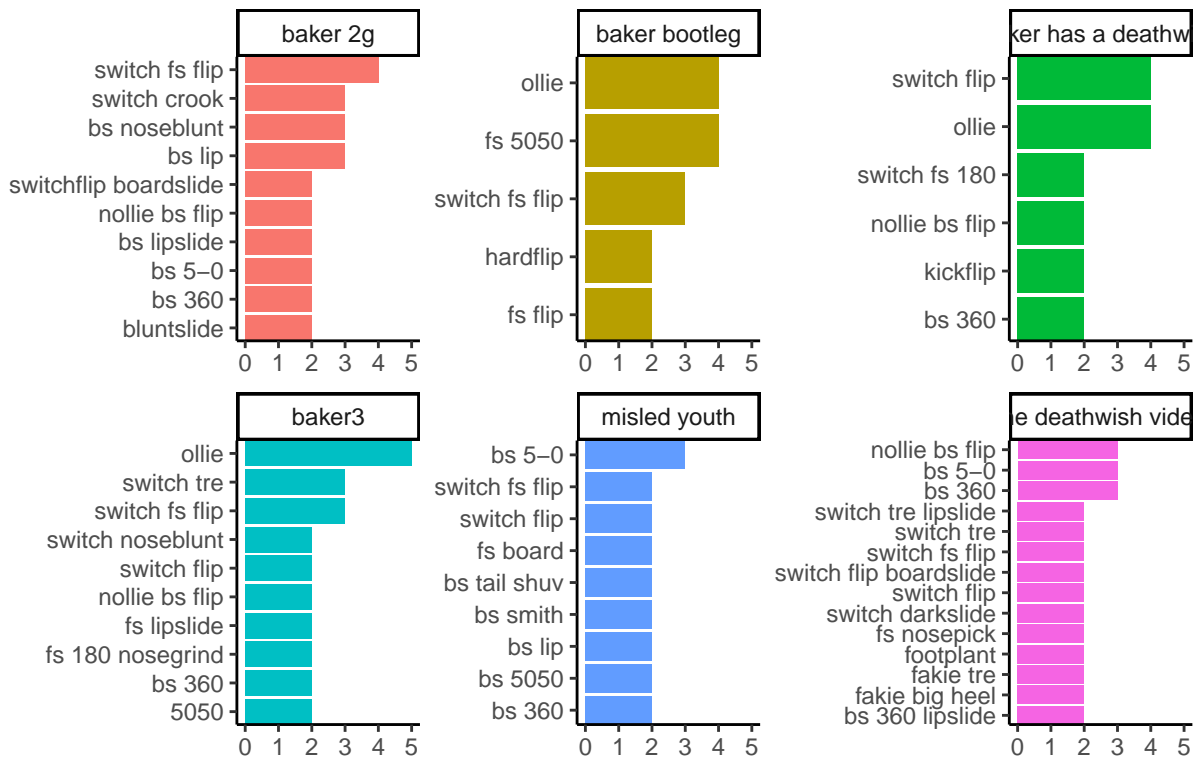
Perhaps no trick is more synonymous with Greco than the switch fs flip, a trick he did down Wilshire, HSU 14, and Carlsbad. It's no surprise, then, to see the trick so high on the list. In fact, if combined with its nollie counterpart (the nollie bs flip), the trick would come in at rank 1.

True to his 'hammers' philosophy, Greco likes to skate big shit, and it's no surprise that he has many ollie clips doing exactly that. variations of the ss fs flip, bs 360s, and ollies.

trick	num
ollie	22
switch fs flip	15
switch flip	12
bs 360	11
nollie bs flip	10
bs 5-0	9
bs lip	7
switch tre	6
bs noseblunt	5
fs 5050	5
switch crook	5
bs 360 lipslide	4
bs 5050	4
heelflip	4

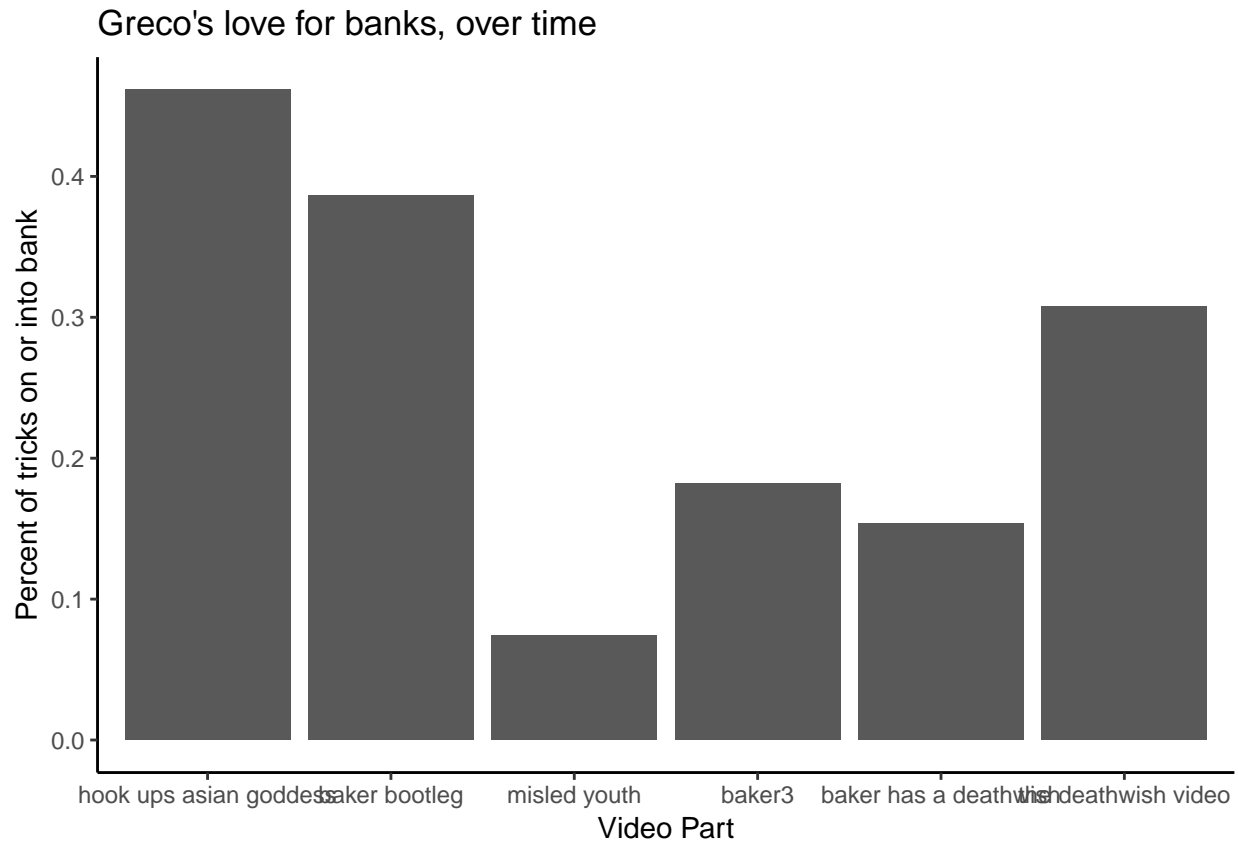
Counting the tricks he did more than once in each video gives us a better idea of how Greco's trick selection has changed over time. His part from the Hook Ups video was omitted, as all thirteen tricks were unique.

Jim Greco, Top Tricks by Video



Greco Loves Banks

Greco is often pigeonholed as a gap skater. This is fair, especially in light of his whole 'hammers' catchphrase, but the man really loves to skate sloped surfaces. Banks-to-ledges, banks-to-banks, roofs-to-banks - he's even skated banks-to-cars in three separate clips. [insert quip about Klein friendship/influence?].



In some manner, this affinity for skating banks catalogues his journey in traditional skate videos full-circle. Forty-six percent of his tricks in his premiere part featured banks, with Forty-six percent of the clips in Greco's premiere video part involved sloped surfaces, and the number steadily until, until shooting back up to thirty percent for his final 'traditional' video part.

Probably a latent influence from his friendship with Jeremy Klein?

Which Greco is the Best Greco

Of all the Greco's, which is the best? Not in terms of flash, blah, blah, blah - but in terms of pure skating ability? One way to answer is to look at how productive are each of his video parts in terms of trick selection.

[change x-axis to video part, not year]

Greco Got Better With Age

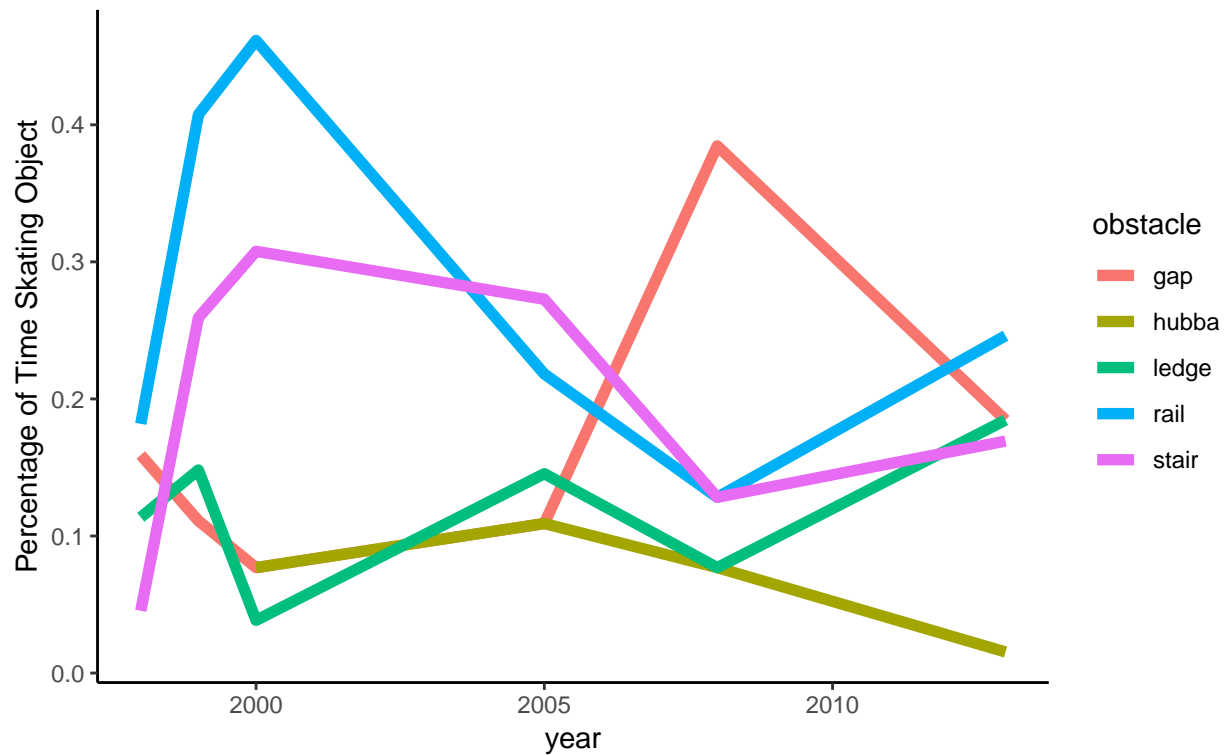
Number of Tricks Over Time (Black: Total, Red: Unique)



Greco's 2013 part in the Deathwish video blah, blah, blah. Not only did this part have the largest amount of new (that is, not previously done in other video parts) tricks, it gave us the tech Greco, with a whopping (but confusing) five darkslide variations. I don't know either, but tech Greco is rare, and blah, blah, blah.

This video part also saw Greco [talk about skating different objects with roughly the same frequency] in graph below

Current Greco is Well-Rounded Obstacle Selection Over Time



Did greco leave at his prime, or at his peak? Unfortunately we may never know what peak Greco, as his last two releases serve more on the art side than full-on parts. blah, blah, blah. Still, we'll take what we can get.

Bonus: Weirdest Trick

Gif of his Switch Hardflip FS 180 on the bank