

## Symposium on “Comics, Creativity, and Culture: International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives” October 5-8, 2011

### Bio-bibliographies for Visiting Comics Authors-Artists-Educators:

**Jessica Abel** teaches at the School for Visual Arts in New York City. She began creating comics as a student at the University of Chicago before winning a Xeric Grant to publish her comic book *Artbabe*, eventually published by Fantagraphics. Collections of her *Artbabe* (and other) comics include *Mirror, Window* (2000, Fantagraphics) and *Soundtrack* (2001, Fantagraphics). She is also the creator of the graphic novels *La Perdida* (2006, Pantheon) and *Life Sucks* [with Gabriel Soria and Warren Pleece] (2008, First Second). With Matt Madden, she has published the handbook *Drawing Words and Writing Pictures* (2008, First Second). With Matt Madden she is also the general editor of the annual *Best American Comics Series* published by Houghton Mifflin.

**Phoebe Gloeckner** is Associate Professor in the School of Art and Design at the University of Michigan. After publishing comics in underground anthologies such as *Wimmen’s Comix*, *Weirdo*, *Young Lust*, and *Twisted Sisters*, her collection *A Child’s Life and Other Stories* (1998, revised 2002, Frog Books) was followed by the illustrated novel *The Diary of A Young Girl* (Frog Press, 2002), which was adapted into a play in 2010. She is also a notable illustrator (having earned a degree in Biomedical Communications), including for the RE/Search edition of J. G. Ballard’s *The Atrocity Exhibition* (1990) and many other publications. In 2008 she received a Guggenheim Fellowship, and her ongoing work examines the unsolved murders of young women on the United States-Mexico border.

**Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez**, “Los Bros Hernandez,” are the creators of the legendary independent comic book series *Love and Rockets*, which has to date appeared in three volumes and formats, and been collected in numerous volumes, all from Fantagraphics Books. In addition to his work on *Love and Rockets*, Gilbert Hernandez has published *Speak of the Devil* (2008, Dark Horse); *Chance in Hell* (2002, Fantagraphics); *Sloth* (2008, DC/Vertigo); *Luba* (2009, Fantagraphics); *The Troublemakers* (2009, Fantagraphics); *High Soft Lisp* (2010, Fantagraphics); *Love from the Shadows* (2011, Fantagraphics); *Yeah!* [with Peter Bagge] (2011, Fantagraphics). Jaime Hernandez’s artwork is also featured in Todd Hignite, ed. *The Art of Jaime Hernandez: The Secrets of Life and Death* (2010, Abrams ComicArts).

**John Porcellino** has written, drawn, and published (among other comics and zines) the legendary minicomic *King-Cat Comics and Stories* since 1989, as well as the *King-Cat* collections *Perfect Example* (2000), *King-Cat Classix* (2007) and *Map of My Heart* (2009, all published by Drawn & Quarterly). He has also published *Diary of a Mosquito Abatement Man* (2005, La Mano), which won an Ignatz Award, and is also the author of *Thoreau at Walden* (2008, Center for Cartoon Studies/Hyperion Books for Children). His work has been translated into various languages.

**Joe Sacco** was born in Malta and studied journalism at the University of Oregon. While working as a staff news writer for *The Comics Journal*, he edited the satirical anthology *Centrifugal Bumble-Puppy* and published his autobiographical comic book series *Yahoo*, which included early forays into comics journalism. Much of Sacco's early work is collected in *Notes from a Defeatist* (2003, Fantagraphics) and *But I Like It* (2006, Fantagraphics), the latter a chronicle of his travels with a rock band. His first major book, *Palestine* (1993-95, originally published in 9 issues) was published by Fantagraphics in 2002 and won the National Book Award. *Safe Area Gorzalde: The War in Eastern Bosnia 1992-1995* (2001, Fantagraphics) won an Eisner Award for Best Original Graphic Novel, and was followed by the related volumes *The Fixer* (2003, Drawn & Quarterly) and *War's End* (2005, Drawn & Quarterly): this work was supported by a Guggenheim Fellowship. His most recent book, *Footnotes in Gaza* (2010, Metropolitan Books), has been awarded the Ridenhour Book Prize.

**James Sturm** is the co-founder of The Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction, Vermont and founder of the National Association of Comics Art Educations (NACAE). Among other comics, he is the author of *The Golem's Mighty Swing* (2001, Drawn & Quarterly); *James Sturm's America* (2007, Drawn & Quarterly), and *Market Day* (2010, Drawn & Quarterly). He has also created [with Andrew Arnold and Alexis Freckerick-Frost] the workbook *Adventures in Cartooning* (2009, First Second) and wrote the Eisner Award winning Fantastic Four mini-series *Unstable Molecules* (2003, Marvel Comics) and *Satchel Paige: Striking Out Jim Crow* (2007, Hyperion/Jump at the Sun). James also co-edited *Denys Wortman's New York: Portrait of the City in the 30s and 40s* (2010, Drawn & Quarterly).

### **Bio-bibliographies for Visiting Editors-Publishers:**

**Peggy Burns** is Associate Publisher, Marketing and Sales, for Drawn & Quarterly in Montréal, Québec, Canada. She previously worked for DC Comics. Drawn & Quarterly publishes work by contemporary comics artists ranging from Chester Brown, Julie Doucet, Joe Matt, Joe Sacco, Adrian Tomine, and Seth, and also reprints the classic comics of John Stanley, Tove Jansson, Lynda Barry, Frank King, and Yoshihiro Tatsumi, among many others.

**Gary Groth** is Editor in Chief of *The Comics Journal* and co-founder of Fantagraphics Books. He is known for his strong criticism of the mainstream comics industry and strong support of independent comics published by Fantagraphics such as *Love and Rockets*, *Eightball*, as *Hate*, as well as for reprinting classic comics such as *Peanuts*, *Prince Valiant*, *Krazy Kat*, *Popeye*, and the work of Robert Crumb, among many, many others.

**Craig Yoe**, an Iowa native, previously worked for Jim Henson's Muppets and Nickelodeon, and his companies YOE! Studio and YOE! Books have produced books, toys, and other material for clients ranging from MTV to Disney. As book editor and designer, Craig's many publications include: *Secret Identity: The Fetish Art of*

*Superman's Co-creator Joe Shuster* (2009, Abrams Comicarts); *The Great Anti-War Cartoons* (2009, Fantagraphics); *Boody: The Bizarre Comics of Boody Rogers* (2009, Fantagraphics); *Felix the Cat: The Great Comic Book Tails* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); *The Complete Milt Gross Comic Books and Life Story* (2009, Yoe Books/IDW); *The Golden Collection of Klassic Krazy Kool Kids Komiks* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); *George Herrimann's Krazy + Ignatz in "Tiger Tea"* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); *Barney Google* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); *The Art of Ditko* (2009, Yoe Books/IDW); *Dan DeCarlo's Jetta* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); Dick Briefer's *Frankenstein* (2010, Yoe Books/IDW); *Popeye: The Great Comic Book Tales of Bud Sagendorf* (2011, Yoe Books/IDW); *Archie: A Celebration of America's Favorite Teenagers*; *The Best of Archie's Mad House* (2011, Yoe Books/IDW); *Krazy Kat & the Art of George Herriman*. He also maintains and writes for the I.T.C.H. (International Team of Comics Historians) website.

### **Bio-bibliographies for Visiting Scholars:**

**José Alaniz** is Associate Professor of Slavic Language and Literatures and Adjunct Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Washington. In addition to many essays on post-Soviet Russian film and culture, and in disability studies, he is the author of *Komiks: Comic Art in Russia* (2010, University Press of Mississippi).

**Bart Beaty** is currently Department Head of English at the University of Calgary. He is the author of *Fredric Wertham and the Critique of Mass Culture* (2005, University Press of Mississippi), which was awarded the Gertrude Robinson Prize, and *Unpopular Culture: Transforming the European Comic Book in the 1990s* (2007, University of Toronto Press), and *David Cronenberg's A History of Violence* (2008, University of Toronto Press). *Comics vs. Art* is forthcoming in 2011. Bart (with Nick Nguyen) has translated Jean-Paul Gabilliet's 2005 *Of Comics and Men: A Cultural History of American Comic Books* (2010, University Press of Mississippi) and Thierry Groensteen's 1999 *The System of Comics* (2007, University Press of Mississippi): a translation of Thierry Smolderen's 2009 *The Birth of Comics: From William Hogarth to Winsor McCay* is forthcoming. His column "Euro-comics for Beginners" ran in *The Comics Journal* and his column "Conversational Euro-comics" appears at [comicsreporter.com](http://comicsreporter.com). He serves on the editorial boards of *European Comic Art*, *The International Journal of Comic Art*, the *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics*, and *Studies in Comics*. He also co-edits the book series *Canadian Cinema* for the University of Toronto Press.

**Craig Fischer** is Associate Professor of English at Appalachian State University. In addition to work in Film Studies, he has served on the Executive Committee of the International Comics Arts Forum (ICAF), and published many articles and reviews in *The Comics Journal*, *The International Journal of Comic Art*, and elsewhere: he (with Charles Hatfield) maintained the comics blog *Thought Balloonists* and is now a member of the blog team *The Panelists*. In 2010 he was a judge for the Eisner Awards and he is on the editorial board of the *Comics Culture* series for Rutgers University Press.. He is planning books on Eddie Campbell and the Jack Kirby issues of *The Fantastic Four*.

**Charles Hatfield** is Associate Professor of English at the University of California, Northridge, where he teaches classes on comics, children's literature, and popular culture. He is the author of *Alternative Comics: An Emerging Literature* (2005, University Press of Mississippi) and the forthcoming *Hand of Fire: The Comics Art of Jack Kirby*. Also the author of many academic and non-academic essays and reviews, he (with Craig Fischer) maintained the comics blog *Thought Balloonists* and is now a member of the blog team *The Panelists*. Charles was long associated with the International Comics Arts Forum (ICAF) and is a founding member of the Modern Language Association (MLA) Discussion Group on Comics and Graphic Narratives, and is on the editorial board of the *Comics Culture* series for Rutgers University Press.

**Jeet Heer** is a journalist based in Toronto who regularly writes on politics, popular culture, and comics for various newspapers, magazines, and websites. With Ken Worcester he has edited *Arguing Comics: Literary Masters on a Popular Medium* (2005, University Press of Mississippi) and *A Comics Studies Reader* (2008, University Press of Mississippi). He also edits (with Chris Ware) the ongoing series reprinting Frank King's *Gasoline Alley* (for *Drawn & Quarterly*), and has provided critical and historical introductions for recent reprint editions of George Herriman's *Krazy Kat*, Milton Caniff's *Terry and the Pirates*, Cliff Sterrett's *Polly and Her Pals*, and all 7 volumes (to date) of Harold Gray's *Little Orphan Annie*, for which he is a contributing editor. He is on the editorial board of the *Comics Culture* series for Rutgers University Press.

**John A. Lent** earned his Ph.D. in Communications at the University of Iowa in 1972. He is Professor of Communications in the School of Communication and Theatre at Temple University, but has held visiting professorships and positions at leading universities around the world, especially throughout Asia. The author or editor of over 45 books and many more essays, Professor Lent is a pioneer in the study of international mass media and popular culture, including comics. Since 1999 he has been the founder, publisher, and editor in chief of *The International Journal of Comic Art (IJOCA)*, and since 1995 he has been editor in chief of *Asian Cinema*.

**Frenchy Lunning** earned a B.A. in Speech and Dramatic Art at the University of Iowa in 1972, and her doctorate in Design Communications and Cultural Studies from the University of Minnesota, and is Professor of Liberal Arts at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. She is co-founder (with Barbara Schulz) of the annual workshop "SGMS: Schoolgirls and Mobilesuits: Culture and Creation in Manga and Anime," and she has edited the annual book series devoted to studies of manga and anime *Mechademia*, which to date includes: *Mechademia 1: The Emerging Worlds of Anime and Manga* (2006); *Mechademia 2: Networks of Desire* (2007); *Mechademia 3: Limits of the Human* (2008); *Mechademia 4: War/Time* (2009); *Mechademia 5: Fanthropologies* (2010), and *Mechademia 6: User Enhancement* (2011), all published by the University of Minnesota Press.