

CONTENTS

PAGE 1 CORNELIUS ARMSTRONG in "OFF SEASON" by Kyle Windle **PAGE 2 & 3** TEN QUESTIONS WITH M.S. HARKNESS PAGES 4 MEET THE PEOPLE OF COLUMBUS - COREY WILLIAMS by Jack Wallace, Brent Bowman, and Chris Allen BUB AND SOL by Ash D. Pierce PAGE 5 THE MANY BIRTHS OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS REPORTER PAGE 6 by Brian Canini **MITTENS** by Mitch E. Vicieux PAGES 7 BEE A GOOD NEIGHBOR by Winifred Kehl PAGE 8 PAGE 9 **COMIC STORE PROFILE: FLYING MONKEY COMICS PAGES 10 & 11** THE COMIC LIFE OF ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER **PAGE 12 KID STARFISH** by Brian Canini **TOP FIVE** by Jenny Robb **PAGE 13** KID'S KORNER by Rosie M. PAGE 14 **SYMPHONY OF THE SPARROW** by Xan Mof **PAGE 15 PRO TIPS** by Kate E. Lore **PAGE 16** THE UNDERGROUND MUSCLE AUGMENTERS by Steve Steiner **PAGE 17 HE LOVES ME, HE LOVES ME NOT** by D'Angelo Jackson **SCRIBBLER SHOUT-OUTS COMIC REVIEWS** by Jack Wallace PAGE 18 **TEN QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)**

PAGE 19

UPCOMING EVENTS THE FUNNIES PAGE 20 by Seth Troyer, Daniel Gerdeman, Tom Williams, John Brady, and Drew B. Hall

CENTRAL OHIO WELCOMES A NEW COMIC BOOK STORE

INSIDE BACK COVER

CONTRIBUTORS

THE MANY BIRTHS OF THE WORLD'S **MOST FAMOUS REPORTER** (CONTINUED)

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Columbus Scribbler.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SCRIBBLER

elcome to the ninth installment of your local Columbus Scribbler! As usual, we have another fantastic issue lined up for you, starting with our feature interview of cartoonist M.S. Harkness, who also graciously illustrated the cover art. We'd also like to thank the local cartoonists who have contributed their comics and cartoons. Be sure to check out all of these incredible artists at your local comic book store (see page 19 for a store near you).

In appreciation of M.S. Harkness's love of weightlifting, as well as the impending Arnold Classic happening in our fair city (March 4 - 6), we were inspired to highlight and explore a theme of physical fitness throughout the issue. This includes Jack Wallace's choices of comic reviews (page 18) and a look at Arnold Schwarzenegger's many appearances in comic form (center spread).

Columbus is an amazing city and offers so much to the world of comics, from some of the nation's greatest comic shops and conventions, to the largest comic collection on display in the world. And that's not even accounting for the astounding talent our city is bursting at the seams with. The Columbus Scribbler continues to be impressed by the level of creativity and range of styles our creators have on display. We all bring something to the table, whether you're a comic creator or a comic fan, superhero enthusiast or indie comic explorer. Let's work together to nurture our creative community by supporting one another to cultivate a greater love and admiration for comics as a whole. Together we will continue building up Columbus.

As always, you can help the Columbus Scribbler keep the scribbles coming by donating to our Patreon account or by PayPal via the link on our website (columbusscribbler.com). Never worry about missing an issue of the Columbus Scribbler and become an active supporter of the arts for as little as \$1 per month. When you join our Patreon you will receive your own copy mailed directly to your home.

Thank you for your continued support and remember... Scribble on!

- Brian Canini



THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Buckeye Comic Con

Cartoon Crossroad Columbus

Laughing Ogre

Seventh Son Brewing

Dragon's Lair **Comics & Fantasy** **Small Press and Alternative Comics Expo (SPACE)**

Kafe Kerovac

Whitney & Ventola

World's Greatest Comics

AND TO OUR PATREON SUPPORTERS

Heather Yomboro Don Unger Jennifer Shenberger

Bob Bummer Cynthia Lowe

see more of his work.

Dan Gearino Bearded Comic Bro Alexandra Titus James Allanson

Thomas D. Fellrath Jared Wenzel Megan Tiffany Babb James Thomas

THE MINDS BEHIND THE COLUMBUS SCRIBBLER



BRIAN CANINI

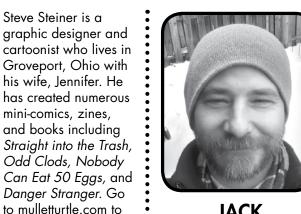
briancanini.com

Brian Canini is a cartoonist that lives with his significantly better half, Amy, and his three amazing kiddos in Sunbury, Ohio. Through his efforts in self-publishing, he has created the awardwinning autobio graphic novels Fear of Flying and The Big Year, the critically acclaimed scifi comic Plastic People, and is one half of the duo that produces the award-winning webcomic Drunken Cat.



STEVE STEINER

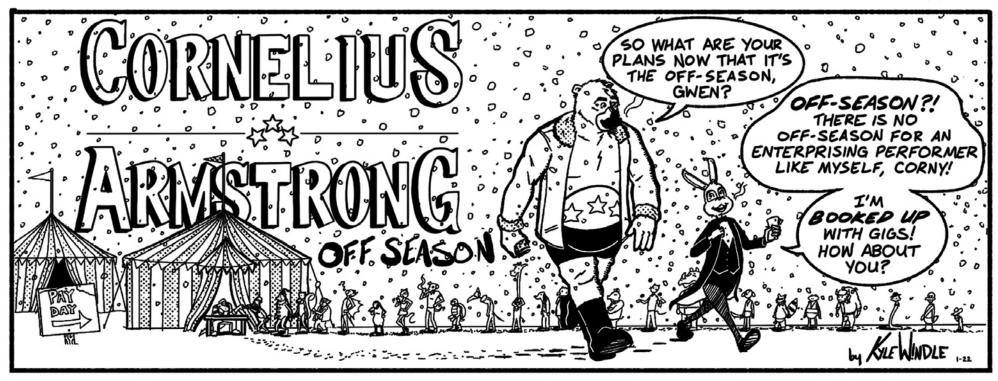
mulletturtle.com



JACK WALLACE

disposable fiction comics.com Jack Wallace is a writer from Columbus. Ohio. He's 30-something, happily married to his wife Katie, and finds himself inexplicably working in finance. Disposable Fiction Comics started as a group of short stories and grew into a website and small press. His work includes the graphic novel, Frankenstein for Mayor. Jack currently works as a script writer for two animation studios, Essence Cartoon and Ownage Animation.

KYLE WINDLE





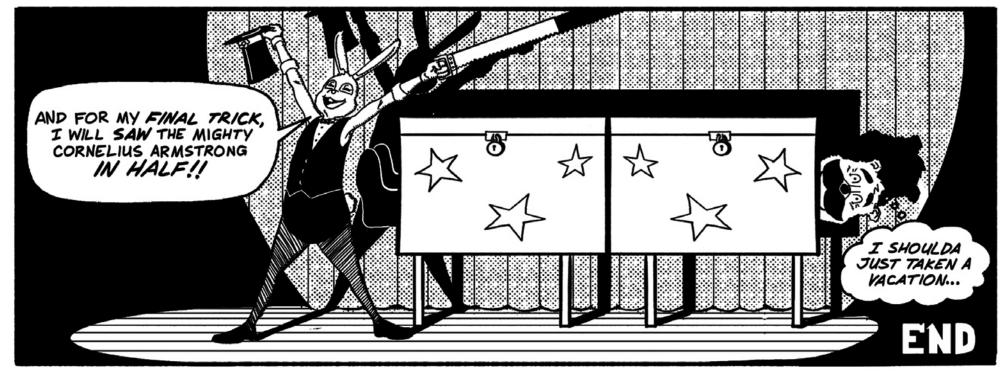












10 QUESTIONS WITH MISS. HARKNESS

M.S. Harkness is a graduate of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and a relative newcomer to Columbus, moving here in 2020. She is best known for her black and white autobiographical comics, such as self-published Dope Dealer and Rotten, as well as her first graphic novel Tinderella, originally published by Kilgore Books in 2018 and recently reissued by Uncivilized Books. Sometimes humorous, sometimes uncomfortable, sometimes heart wrenching, Harkness's comics offer a fearless look into the world of online dating, sex work, selling drugs, and physical fitness. Her second memoir, Desperate Pleasures, (also published by Uncivilized Books), depicts her search for fulfillment and forces her to deal with her own past trauma. Her forthcoming book, Time Under Tension, is due out from Fantagraphic Books in 2023. Besides her comic work, Harkness also works as a personal trainer. Columbus welcomes this fresh voice in the cartooning world.

1). In reading through past interviews, it sounds like you've been making comics in one form or another as far back as childhood. Can you tell us who inspired you and what kind of comics you read growing up?

A pretty typical hash of global comics. When I was really little it was strips and such, but I read superhero and manga stuff when I was a teenager. I don't think I was really aware of autobiographical comics until I read *Blankets* in high school. Me and my friends would buy different comics and trade them to read amongst each other, or do the thing where you go to half price books and pick up a big bag of stuff.

2). You moved here from Minneapolis fairly recently. What was that experience like and were there any particular reasons you chose to relocate to Columbus? What about Columbus' comic community do you find exciting?

Moving sucked, but it was made easier by the pandemic because I had the money to do it. I got all that stimulus, so I was able to invest in a lot of things I couldn't really afford previously, so all of a sudden I had all these belongings to shuttle across the country.

Columbus has always been an amazing place to visit and it's the state where I did my first comic show. Everything is cheaper here, and it's closer to a lot more spots on the east coast that do comic shows, so there are more opportunities. It's more traditional and less progressive than Minneapolis, but if you're poor, it's an easier place to live. Because there aren't a lot of state grants and government help with things, people are a lot more inclined to actually give others a hand.

I like to visit bigger cities, but I like to live where it's cheap and simple. OSU football is fun to watch. What more could I want?

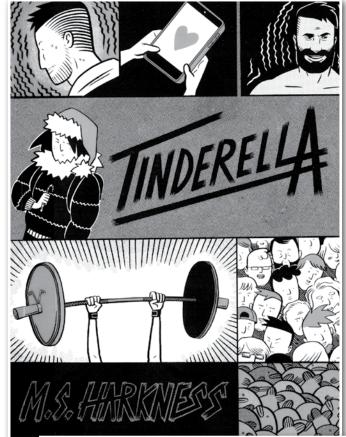
3). In your autobiographical comics, you pen tales based on actual experiences from your life. As time goes on, do you ever reflect on your past work at all and does it ever conflict with your memory of events? Is there a difference between the "real" you and the comic depiction you present to readers, or do you feel they're one in the same?

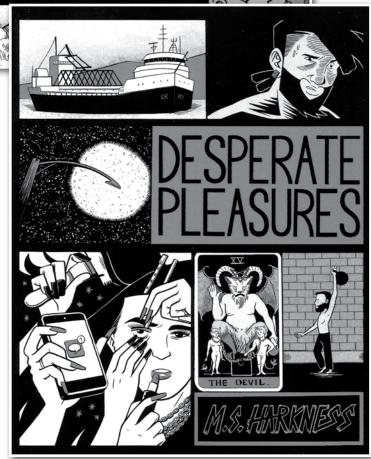
They're the same and they're not the same. Everything is subjective and personal, and I'm the only authority over myself. Does it matter anymore? Nobody ever has anything to say after I answer this question because my work is so uncomfortable most of the time, people just nod and we move along, almost sorry that they asked. I always wonder if it really makes it better for people to know or not. A long time ago in some TCJ (The Comics Journal) article, Phoebe Gleockner chewed out Gary Groth for asking her this same question and I'm starting to kinda agree with her to a point. I tabled in Philly a little while ago and some guy opened one of my comics, specifically to an explicit panel and just asked me "Uh, is this you?" sort of laughing.

I think what people are asking me when they ask me this question most of the time is "WHY are you making autobio comics." Because that's the real meat of it right? Which one is it? Are you the ego

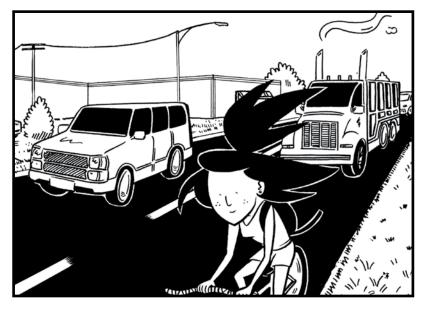








Harkness's memoir graphic novels Tinderella and its sequel Desperate Pleasures both offer unflinching looks into her personal life. You can find them at your local comic store or at uncivilizedbooks.com.







maniacal person that wants to be some kind of celebrity and really you're just insecure and annoying? Or are you really awkward and weird and looking for community, but really you're just insecure and annoying? I think I'm mostly the first one, but also I never want to waste the time of anyone who's trying to read my work. If I have your attention, you won't be mad I've held it.

4). Your work can jet back and forth between being darkly humorous and self deprecating, to sordidly depressing, to inspiring. How do you balance the tone of your work? Is it even a consideration in telling an honest tale?

Absolutely it's a consideration. It's all about knowing all the modes of communication you're putting forward in a comic. You have everything at your disposal, assuming you can draw, so you just have to learn what's acceptable and what will actually hit. I think with my last books it was about trying to edit down and be more reserved, considering I was talking about a lot of depressing stuff. With this next book I'm trying to stretch more and show a bigger world within the comic, with a lot more breathing room that actually has a lot of energy showing more ordinary moments. Small things that you forget about if your power of observation isn't there.

5.) Many of us would consider the stories you share to be deeply personal and perhaps reluctant to share them with a wide audience. Does being open about yourself come naturally? Have you ever caught any flack from friends and other figures you insert in your comics?

Being open is weird and really I'm just bad with secrets. Seriously, just don't tell me stuff if you don't want me to say it out loud.

My whole childhood I had to hide the fact my dad was molesting me and so I had this alternate reality where I was sort of saving my family from poverty by holding this secret. It ended up coming out eventually, but not because I said anything. I think the fact that I held it in as long as I did and ultimately had no control over the rest of my family finding out really messed me up. My mom ended up making a blog online where she basically thoroughly explained our intimate family secrets and the subsequent court proceedings when I was like 16, and then you throw on whatever growing up online does to you... Yeah. I don't know.

Literally the only power I had over that situation was my ability to tell/not tell and that completely got away from me and sort of shattered any notions I could hold for being able to keep the family together by just bearing this abuse. If you don't have control over your own narrative, you don't have any sort of self esteem or idea about who you are. So I guess I've sort of over-corrected where I'm just putting everything on blast in my work. There's a lot of ways this can all go wrong and I'm sure I'll make a horrible mistake at some point.

I've definitely changed things to be more respectful/cover people's butts where I can. Comics aren't worth ruining relationships.

6). Can you tell us about your process? Do you spend hours fine tuning a script before moving on to the other steps like thumbnailing panels? How do you decide which snippet of life would make a great comic?

A good story is a good story. I'm the 'main character' and I'm very attached to people and the material world and although I have these life experiences that are beyond the pale of normal life at times, I'm pretty grounded in that I'm telling stories about wanting love and intimacy and finding failure and doubt inside myself. I make messy thumbnails with a loose script about the general idea for the book I'm going to make. As I work through pencils, I'm making sure that the dialogue and framing follows the logic of the scene. There's always a couple of things going on (on the page) and I try to format it in such a way that everything is so well balanced it feels like this steady line.

People don't all look for the same things in autobio comics, but I'm trying to format the story in such a way that even if it isn't your cup of tea, you understand it and feel like you were considered as a reader.

7). At times, you incorporate both minimalistic and more detailed styles to your work, such as in your recent book Desperate Pleasures. Can you explain the reasoning behind switching styles?

I think it just cues your thinking to shift in such a way that as a reader you know you have to pivot. Whatever internal logic or structure you've grown accustomed to has to shift and some assumptions may need to change. Generally, it's like a construction sign on a highway where your attention span is a little boosted. With the graphite bit in *Desperate Pleasures* where I'm showing a story about my mom, it's sort of like saying "Hey, this is something else, there isn't any dialogue here, etc."

You can also make some connection, I guess, where there's a lot more shades of grey too, right? I'm not doing my black & white comic thing where it's about me, this is someone else's experience and it's not perfect or easily defined. Also, with each book I want to challenge myself and try something new. I don't want people to think that it's easy to just call me some autobio artist and call it a day, I'm really good at drawing and I have different modes I can work in

8). During Labor Day of this past year, you organized a "cartoonist retreat" and pop-up comic venue in downtown Columbus at Blockfort, bringing together creators from Pennsylvania, Illinois, Minnesota, and other nearby states. Are there similar events brewing? Do you think there should be a more cohesive "Midwest Comic Scene?"

More cohesive certainly. There's totally other events in Chicago and the like, but Columbus needs to stop resting on the prestige of the Billy (Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum) and actually go out and take part. I want to do more, and at least right now it's looking like it'll become more possible with the state of the world. I don't know. I made a retreat and a pop-up event because I missed my friends, so I just invited the people I thought were cool and would

JACK WALLACE, BRENT BOWMAN & CHRIS ALLEN

MEET THE PEOPLE OF COLUMBUS: COREY WILLIAMS

IN 1992, 14 YEAR OLD COREY WILLIAMS AND HIS FAMILY MOVED FROM INDIANA TO DUBLIN, OHIO FOR HIS FATHER'S JOB IN MARYSVILLE.
PAT THACKER, THE THEATER TEACHER AT DUBLIN SCIOTO HIGH SCHOOL, HELPED COREY GET A SCHOLARSHIP TO UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI. HE MOVED BACK AFTER HIS FATHER'S HEART ATTACK AND ENROLLED IN OSU ONLY TO DROP OUT TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM.



HE MOVED BACK TO COLUMBUS IN 2000
AND ENROLLED AT OSU, BUT WAS LOOKING
FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM. COREY'S
FRIEND, VIRGINIA WEST, TALKED HIM INTO
TRYING OUT FOR "MS. UNION STATION", A
DRAG CONTEST. COREY LOST AND SWEARS
IT WAS RIGGED, BUT MADE ENOUGH MONEY
TO PAY HIS RENT IN ONE NIGHT.



HE GOT A JOB AT KINGS ISLAND PERFORMING
IN A ROCK AND ROLL REVIEW IN 1998. THIS
ACCELERATED COREY'S CAREER. HE WAS SOON
WORKING FOR ROYAL CARRIBEAN CRUISE LINES,
WENT ON TO A NATIONAL BROADWAY TOUR, AND
PERFORMED IN THE FESTIVAL OF THE LION
KING AT DISNEY.



IN 2002, COREY AUDITIONED AND WAS ACCEPTED INTO THE COLLEGE LIGHT OPERA COMPANY IN CAPE COD. HE WAS THE ONLY BLACK PERSON AMONGST ALL IVY LEAGUERS. HE LEARNED AND PERFORMED IN NINE DIFFERENT SHOWS IN TWELVE WEEKS INCLUDING DIE FLEDERMAUS, WEST SIDE STORY, AND H.M.S. PINAFORE. COREY SOON BECAME BOTH PART OF THE CAST AND THE LEAD CHOREOGRAPHER FOR TWO YEARS.



COREY'S FATHER DIED IN 2004. HE SPENT SIX MONTHS WITH HIS MOTHER AND A LABRADOR HIS FATHER HAD BOUGHT HIS MOTHER AS A VALENTINE'S DAY PRESENT. THEY SPENT TIME WATCHING LAW AND ORDER SVU. COREY THEN FOCUSED ON HIS DRAG PERFORMANCE TO HELP HIM ESCAPE HIS REALITY. THUS, ANISA LOVE WAS BORN AS AN AMALGAMATION OF THE STRUGGLING BLACK WOMEN HE KNEW.



COREY GRADUATED OSU TWO MONTHS LATER.
HE CONTINUED TO PERFORM DRAG AT THE
UNION, AXIS AND HAVANA VIDEO LOUNGE.
OVER THE NEXT TWO DECADES, COREY
BECAME AN INFLUENTIAL PART OF THE DRAG
SCENE, BECOMING BEST KNOWN FOR HIS
SHOW "SUNDAY CHURCH" AT AXIS NIGHTCLUB.
HE ALSO HELPED CHOREOGRAPH DANCES
FOR NINA AND VIRGINIA WEST, MARY ANN
BRANDT AND LORAINE LOVE.



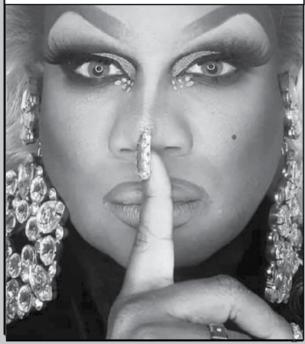
IN 2007, COREY HAD THE IDEA TO PUT ON HIS
OWN SHOW. SOMETHING LIGHTHEARTED AND FUN
FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY, BUT WAS DENIED BY
MANAGEMENT. IN 2012, HE MET BRIAN, HIS
FUTURE HUSBAND. IN 2019, HE DECIDED TO
MOVE FORWARD WITH "ANISA'S BLOCK PARTY"
AT AXIS NIGHTCLUB REGARDLESS OF APPROVAL.
HOWEVER, 2020 HAD OTHER PLANS.



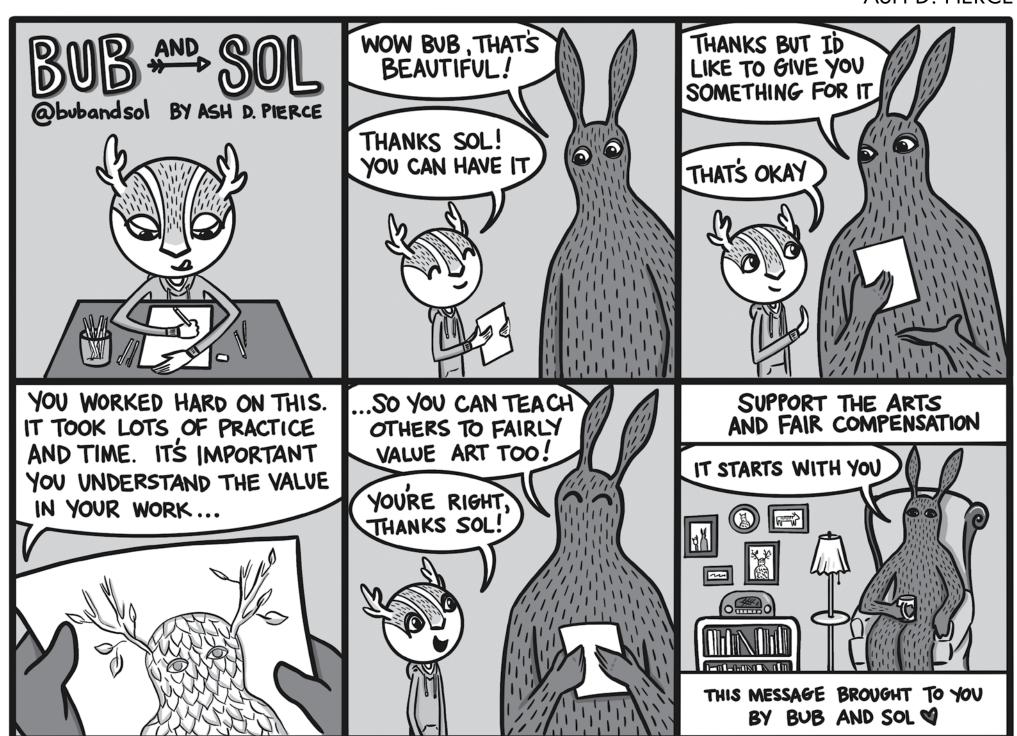
NOW WITH A WEDDING TO PAY FOR, BUT UNABLE TO PERFORM, COREY STARTED PERFORMING HIS ACT ONLINE. WITH HELP FROM HIS SAVINGS, COREY WAS ABLE TO PAY FOR HIS WEDDING WITH MOSTLY \$1 BILLS. IN TRULY SERENDIPITOUS FASHION, DISTRICT WEST OPENED IN SEPTEMBER 2020 AND VIRGINIA WEST ASKED COREY TO PERFORM "ANISA'S BLOCK PARTY" THERE. 140 TABLES SOLD OUT IN TWO DAYS.

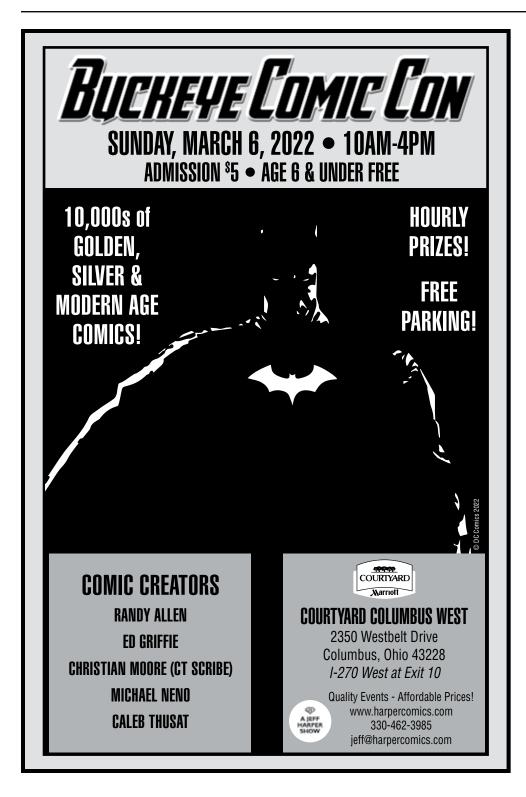


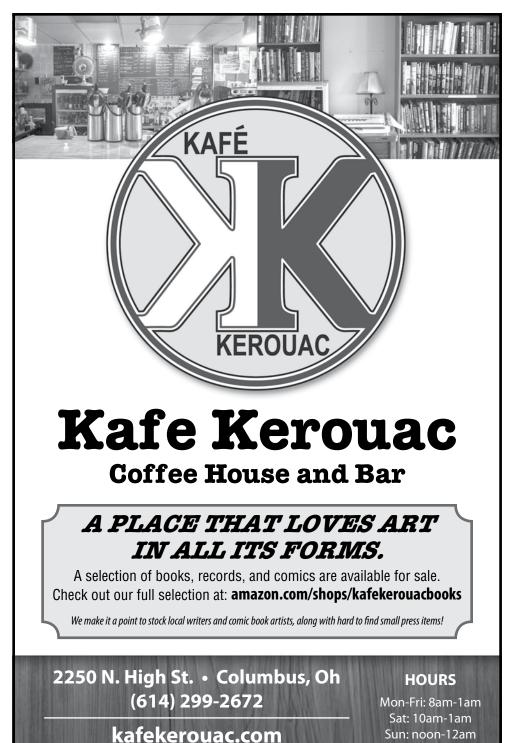
COREY WILLIAMS HAS PERFORMED ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY AND HAS LEFT A DEEP IMPACT ON OUR
COMMUNITY AND ABROAD. HE'S SINCE CAST,
DIRECTED, AND PERFORMED IN THREE MORE
SHOWS AT DISTRICT WEST INCLUDING 2020 WTF
AND EXTRAORDINARY PLAYLIST. HE'S SINCE
TAKEN A STEP BACK TO SPEND HIS SUNDAYS
WITH HIS HUSBAND AS NEWLYWEDS,
BUT IS PLANNING BLOCK PARTY 2 IN MAY
OF 2022. WE'LL SEE YOU THERE.

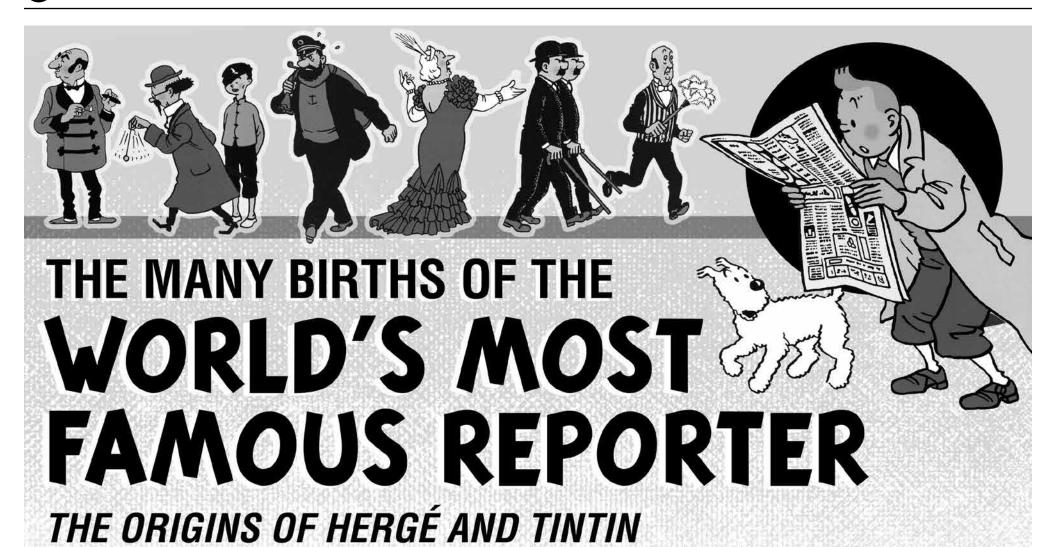


ASH D. PIERCE









By Brian Canini

he platforms on Gore du Nord train station were overcrowded by hundreds of eager faces, all excitedly awaiting the return of a reporter from the "land of the Soviets." The reporter was a young boy with a cheerful sounding name composed of just two simple syllables, Tintin. His exploits had been appearing in the weekly comic newspaper supplement, Le Petit Vingtième, for a little over a year. As a way to rally readers, the editorial staff dreamed up the welcome home event for their daring fictional foreign correspondent. They hired 15 year old Boy Scout Lucien Pepermans to play the comic strip character. Tintin arrived home in Brussels on May 8, 1930. Nothing could have prepared the young boy for the crowd that awaited him.

As Pepermans stepped off the train, dressed in Russian garb and accompanied by a small white dog, he was instantly consumed by the crowd. Amidst greetings and attaboys, Pepermans had a baby placed in his arms by a young mother to be kissed by the returning hero. No sooner was the baby handed to Pepermans, the crowd overtook them, the baby's mother vanishing among a sea of excited fans. It was like a gag right out of a Tintin adventure. Eventually, Pepermans succeeded in heroically reuniting mother with child, leaving the train station to cheers and applause. It was a scene that seemed a million miles away from the character and his creator's humble beginnings.

George Remi was born on May 22, 1907 to a bilingual house in Etterbeek, a suburb of Brussels, Belgium. His father, Alexis, was a French speaking Walloon factory worker with an identical twin brother which would eventually provide inspiration for two of Tintin's future supporting cast members. His

mother, Elisabeth, was a Flemish housewife suffering from mental illness and clinical depression which would provide one of the recurrent themes in Remi's work

As a boy growing up during World War I, Remi would draw constantly, scribbling on anything and everything he could get his hands on, from scrap paper to the margins of textbooks. Ironically, the boy who would one day be an internationally acclaimed artist often received below average grades in his art classes. He would spend his time trying to escape

from his day to day life into worlds of fantasy.

Remi would get swept up in adventure stories
that would no doubt one day inspire his

onally acclaimed
grades in his art
trying to escape
orlds of fantasy.
n adventure stories
e day inspire his
own tales,
reading and

rereading

books like *Huckleberry Finn* and *Treasure Island*. Perhaps his two favorite means of escape, however, were the movies, where he fell in love with Gertie the Dinosaur, Charlie Chaplin, and Buster Keaton, as well as scouting, where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout and was given his first opportunity to be a published artist.

Remi's Scoutmaster, René Weverbergh, would be the first to publish one of his drawings in the newsletter of the Saint-Boniface Scouts, *Jamais Assez* (Never Enough). When Weverbergh later got involved in publication of *Le Boy-Scout Belge (The Belgian Boy Scout)* he brought along Remi.

The monthly newsletter would become Remi's testing ground. There he would see the publication of his first cartoon, cover drawing, woodcut, and editorial illustration. *Le Boy-Scout Belge* would also be the location of Remi's first signed work which would appear in the fifth issue dated 1922 and signed as "G. Remi."

The "G. Remi" moniker would disappear less than two years later, transforming into "Jérémie." This would soon morph into "Jérémiades" as the young Remi sought out a proper artist pseudonym. As Remi saw it, "A self respecting artist needed a pseudonym." Remi found his initials (G.R.) uninspiring, but when he reversed them and pronounced them in French, something magical happened. Hergé first appeared in the December 1924 edition of *Le Boy-Scout Belge*, it would be the name that would come to define Remi for the rest of his life.

Feeling confident in his abilities and in need of a job after finishing school, Remi met with the director of the catholic newspaper Le Vingtième Siècle (The Twentieth Century) in hopes of landing a job as an illustrator. Unfortunately, the paper already had a regular illustrator. Remi did, however, snag a vacant position in the subscriptions department and started working at the paper on September 1, 1925. Remi would find his new job dull, copying and recopying lists of names and addresses all day. He'd spend most of his time at work doodling and fantasizing about life as an investigative reporter.

Come 1926, things would turn around for Remi in his cartooning career when *Le Boy-Scout Belge* commissioned him to create his first ongoing comic strip series, *The Adventures of Totor, Chief Scout of the Cockchafers*. Remi would craft a story that followed a Belgian Boy Scout patrol leader named Totor who travels to visit his aunt and uncle in the far off land of Texas, United States. Once there, he finds himself in various misadventures involving hostile Native American tribes and gangsters before finally returning to Belgium. Totor was extremely fragmented as its basic goal was not plot so much as to string together gags and as many fight scenes as possible. It was clear that Remi was learning his craft on the job, but the series was a clear precursor to Tintin.

Unfortunately, Totor wasn't enough to drown out the boredom and disenchantment he felt at his day job. This led Remi to enlist in the military, reporting for duty on August 16, 1926. Remi's hope was that the army would be a sort of extension of the Boy Scouts. He was deeply saddened to find the same boredom and disenchantment waiting for him.

However, as Remi's military service neared its end, he would have a chance encounter with the director of the Societe

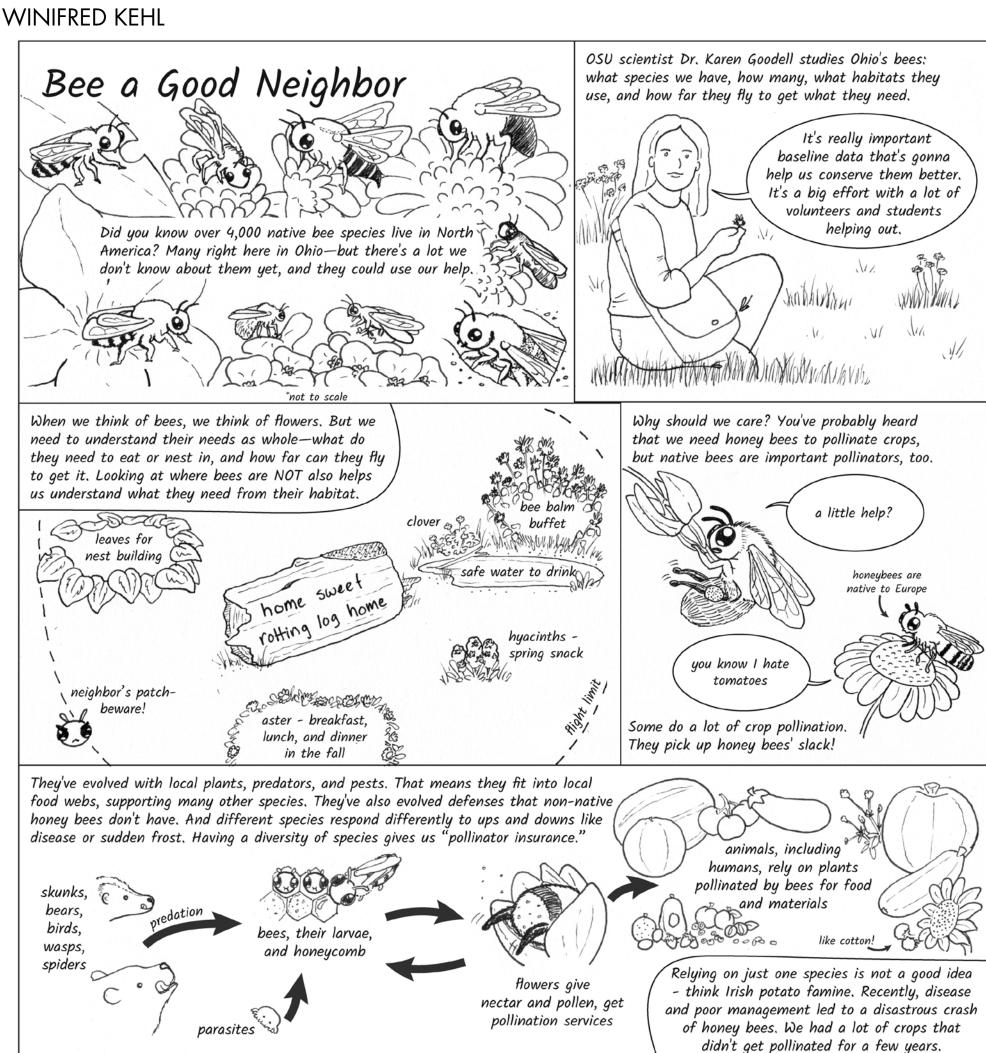
Nouvelle Presse et Librairie (New Society of Publishers and Bookstores), Norbert Wallez, who published *Le Vingtième Siècle*. It was a meeting that would soon change the young twenty year old's life forever.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

MITCH E. VICIEUX

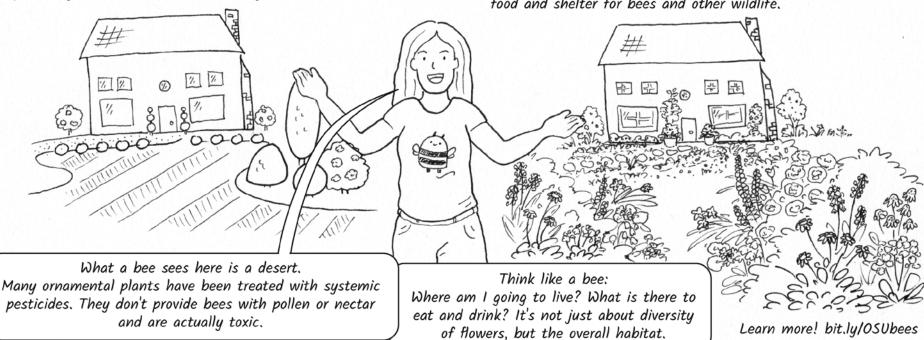






YOU can help bees right in your neighborhood! The single best and easiest thing to do is to just stop using pesticides. Pesticides weaken and kill bees and other pollinators. Try to convince your neighbors, too!

Making your yard pollinator friendly means doing LESS work! Stop fussing with a lawn and demanding ornamental flowers. Plant native flowers and shrubs instead and let them grow wild! Don't clean up in the fall. Fallen leaves, rotting logs—it all provides food and shelter for bees and other wildlife.



COMIC STORE PROFILE

FLYING MONKEY COMICS

Flying Monkey Comics and Games stocks a wide selection of collectible comics, a great variety of the coolest tabletop games, as well as fun to play current and retro video games! For owner Stefan Bridges, his hobby has become a passion.

1. What was the first comic you remember buying?

My first comic was *Spectacular Spider-Man #197* - Purchased off a spinner rack at the local pharmacy in Ripley, OH!

2. Where did you get your comics growing up and what made you want to run your own comic shop?

Growing up my local shop was Comic Central on Beechmont Ave. in Cincinnati, OH, though I also picked up comics at the Red Barn Flea Market in Batavia, OH from a great guy that had a booth there!

3. How did you choose the name of the shop?

I have always thought that monkeys were funny. Once while setting up at a local convention, before I actually had a store, I was asked what the name of the store was and, after very little thought, I blurted out "Flying Monkey" and everyone that stopped by to shop that weekend said how much they loved the name so it stuck!

4. What is the most interesting part of owning a comic shop?

Getting to read and talk to all the awesome fans about the HUGE variety of comics that come out each week from publishers and creators of all sizes!

5. What is the prized comic of your collection? Is there a comic you would love to own, but don't?

The last comic I would ever sell from my collection would be my copy of *Uncanny X-Men #266*! My number

one want right now is a copy of Adventure Comics #247 - the first appearance of the Legion of Super Heroes! Along with the X-Men, they have always been favorites!

6. What changes have you seen in the comics world over the years, both on the production and fan side of things?

Having collected in the early 90s, I got to live through the early variant cover boom, cover gimmicks like holograms and chromium covers, Bad Girls era, and more. The most important change that I have seen especially over the last 5-10 years is the increased quality, diversity of creators and story topics, and acceptance of different art styles, especially in nonsuperhero titles! It is such an amazing time in comics. There is a creator to identify with, a comic with subject matter, and a story for EVERYONE!

7. Who are some of your favorite national artists? Local artists?

I currently love the covers being done by J. Scott Campbell, Shannon Maer, John Royle, Jon Boy Meyers and Artgerm. I will read pretty much anything drawn by Rob Guillory, Babs Tarr, Billy Tucci, JH Williams III, Matias Bergara, Fiona Staples, Matthew Roberts - man this list could go on for years! Locally - Sean Forney did our awesome Red Sonja/Vampirella store variant cover and my all time favorite sketch cover, and I think Natalie Haines has a huge future - her Sonic The Hedgehog covers have been GORGEOUS!

8. Who is your favorite character?

Gambit of the X-Men. I have loved him ever since I

started reading comics after watching the X-Men Animated Series

9. What comic series/graphic novel/etc. would you recommend to someone who was just starting to get into comics and why?

I would recommend heading to your favorite shop with a list of three things you are passionate about - any three things that you LOVE or CARE DEEPLY about. They will be able to point you to a GREAT comic that will make you want more!

10. What has you most excited about the future of comics?

I believe that storytelling in the comic medium is the greatest it has ever been and continues to get better and better each and every year! Eventually, it feels there will be a plateau, but, until then, I am along for the ride! I am extremely interested to see how the self publishing world continues to grow and how things like Substack will push storytelling and also the impact the model will have on collectibility of comics!

Flying Monkey Comics is located at 1778 Columbus Pike in Delaware, OH. Check out flyingmonkeycomics.com for more information.

GOOD VIBES & GREAT BREWS

Check out our 3 breweries, all with...
Locally crafted beers • Inspired cocktails • Killer patios





ANTIQUES ON HIGH 714 S. High St. (Brewery District) Cantiquesonhigh



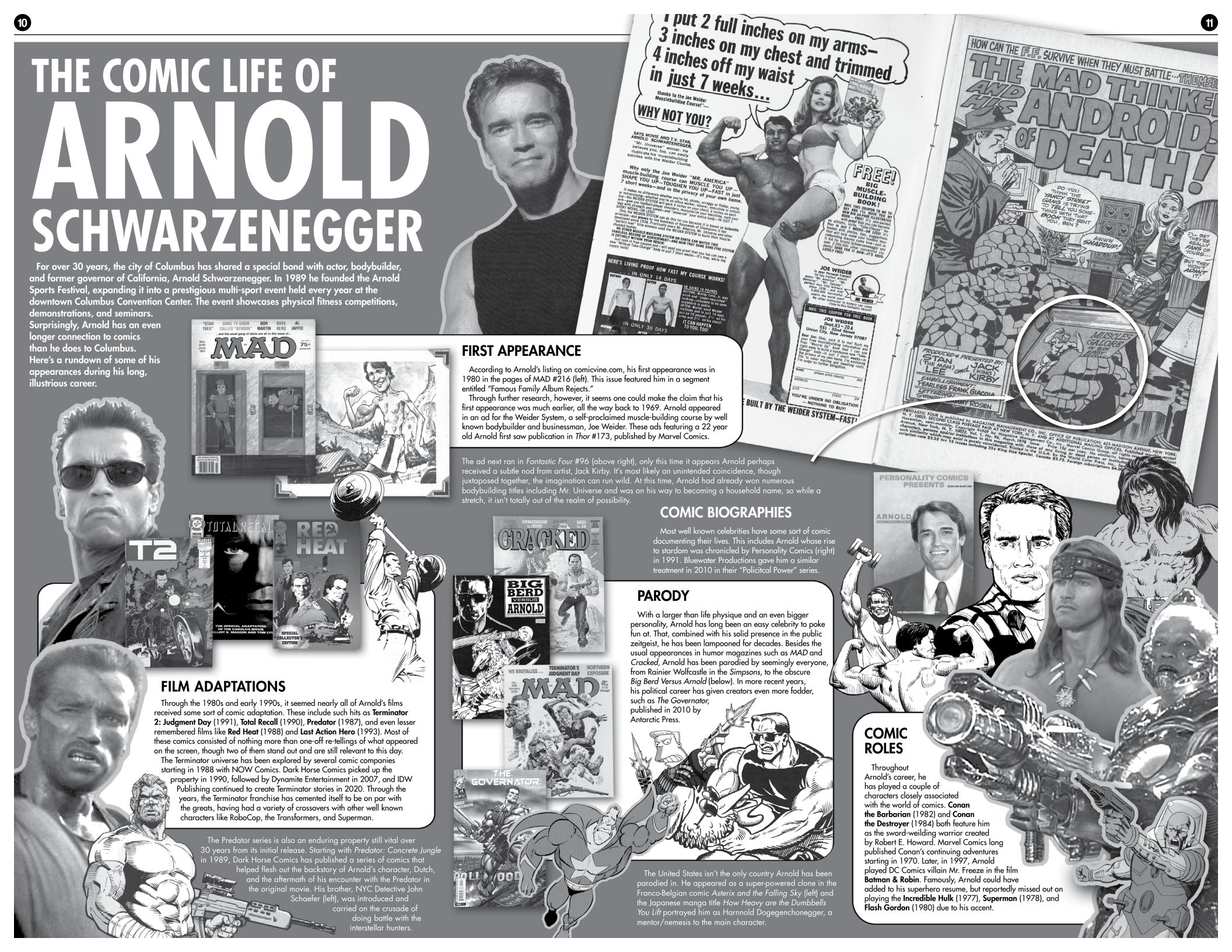
SEVENTH SON BREWING 1101 N. 4th St. (Italian Village) @seventh_son_brewing





GETAWAY BREWING COMPANY 108 N. High St. (Dublin) @getawaybrewing





BRIAN CANINI













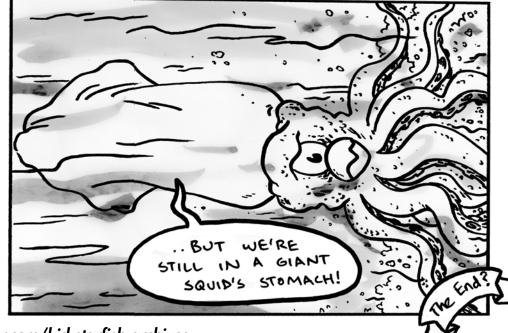












TOP FIVE



with Jenny Robb

What are your top 5 comics EVER?

Jenny Robb is a curator, archivist, librarian, historian, and fan of cartoons and comics. She is honored to serve as Head Curator of The Ohio State University's Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, which houses the world's largest collection of comics and cartoon art materials.

5). MAUS

Art Spiegelman

Spiegelman's Pulitzer-winning memoir about his parents' experiences in the Holocaust is brilliant, ground-breaking, and genre-defining. But it's particularly on my mind now because a school board in Tennessee just voted unanimously to remove it from the 8th grade curriculum. It's a difficult, but riveting – and essential—read.

4). HUMAN BODY THEATER

Maris Wicks

The explosion of fantastic graphic novels being published for the youth market is great for kids,

parents, educators, and librarians alike! I chose this one because it manages to be both enormously entertaining and remarkably informative, regardless of your age. Parents often end up reading books over and over again – my son and I laugh and learn from this book every single time.

3). DARK LAUGHTER / BOOTSIE

Ollie Harrington

Harrington's work has had a profound impact on me even though I was never the intended audience. He created this satirical single-panel feature for the Black community from 1935-1974. The cartoons, featuring exquisite artwork and darkly funny captions, expose the difficult reality of living under the oppressive thumb of institutional racism and injustice. Many are unfortunately still relevant today.

2). KENT STATE: FOUR DEAD IN OHIO Derf Backderf

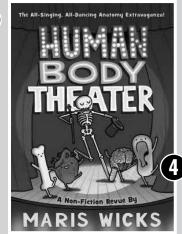
Kent State is a tour de force combining history, journalism, and storytelling. I'm in awe of Derf's commitment to exhaustive archival research, all of which is documented at the end of the book. His ability to build suspense while conveying important historical and contextual details is remarkable. I couldn't put it down. This is graphic history at its absolute best.

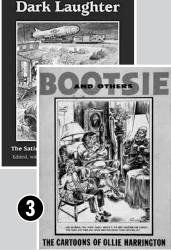
1). CALVIN AND HOBBES

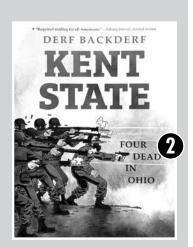
Bill Watterson

I experienced the magic of Calvin and Hobbes in my daily newspaper and through the collected editions when it first appeared between 1985 and 1995. Since then, I've reread it in two different capacities: as the curator of a 2014 retrospective Watterson exhibition and as a parent introducing it to my 9-year-old. From a curatorial perspective, the strip is remarkably strong: engaging characters, beautiful draftsmanship, creative layouts, compelling visual storytelling, and insightful and humorous writing. From a parental point of view, it's amazing how well it holds up for a new generation. The strip remains delightful to look at and a joy to read.

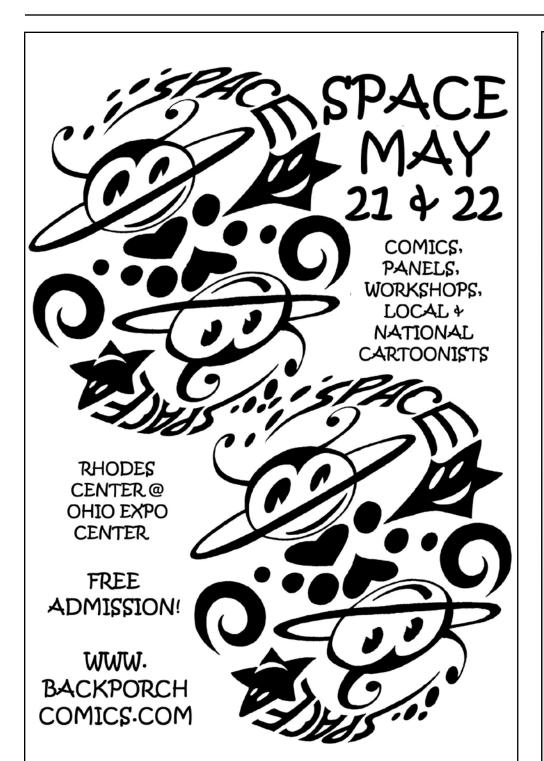












World's Greatest

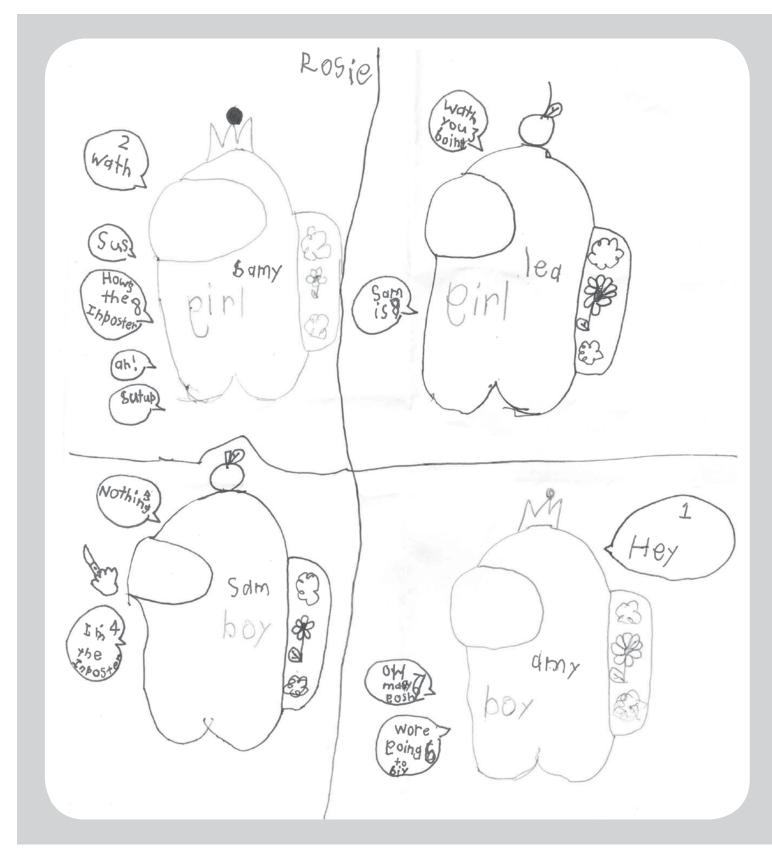
Comics

5974 Westerville Rd. • (614) 891-3000
Glengary Shopping Center
next to Cushions Billards

WE BUY COMICS!

We are ALWAYS buying Comic Books from the 1940's to present day!

Call Jeff or Keith today at (614) 891-3000



KID'S KORNER

By Rosie M. Age 7

Hey kids! Do you like to draw comics?

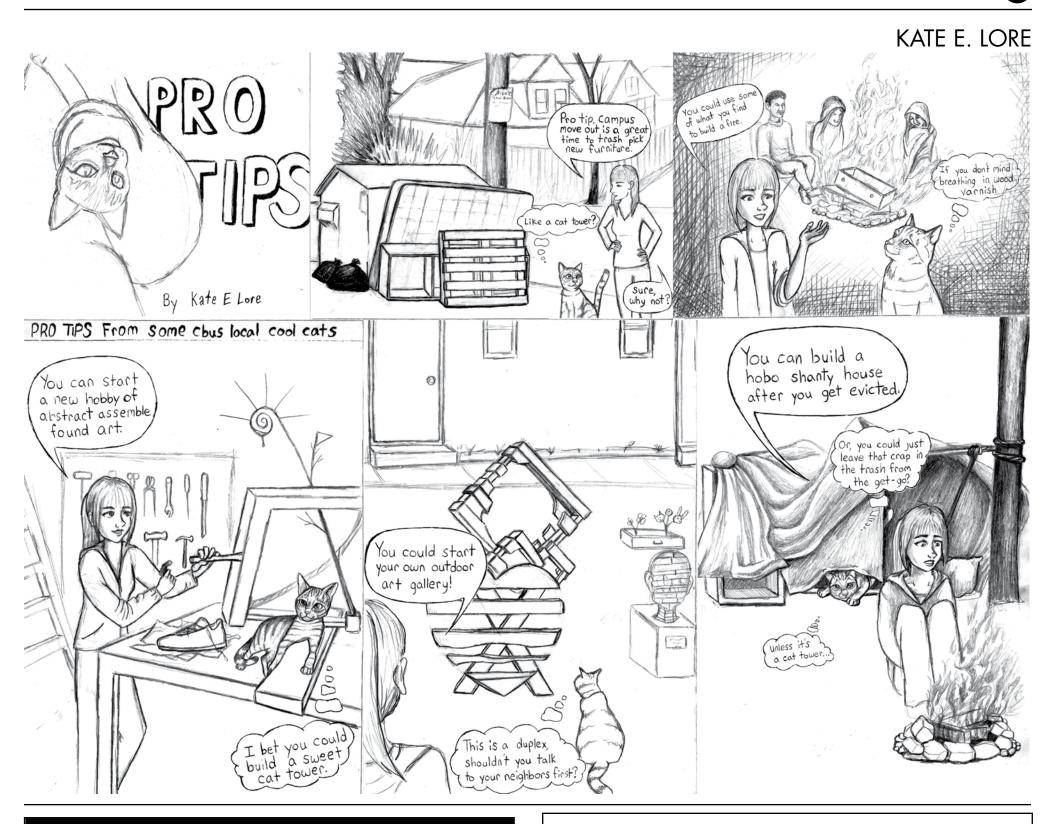
You may get your work published in the Scribbler!

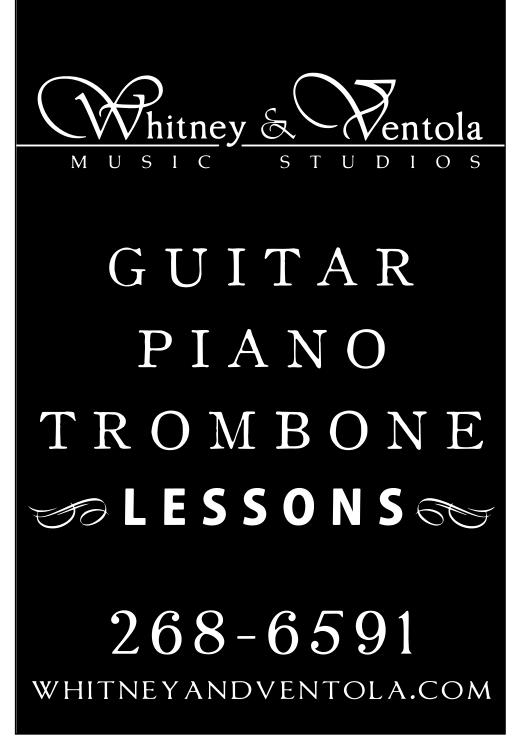
Here's what you do:

- 1. Draw your comic 8.5" x 11" (the size of a piece of regular copy paper on its side).
- 2. Scan your comic in at least 200 dpi.
- 3. Send your comic to cbusscribbler@gmail.com
- 4. Please include your name, age, and e-mail address.

XAN MOF







ON SATURDAY, MARCH 5, JOIN THE LAUGHING OGRE FOR A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT Star House

STAR HOUSE IS CENTRAL OHIO'S ONLY DROP-IN AGENCY FOR YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. STAR HOUSE PROVIDES FOOD, CLOTHING, HYGIENE ITEMS, LAUNDRY AND SHOWER FACILITIES, AND A SAFE PLACE TO STAY FOR PEOPLE AGES 14-24 AND THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN, AS WELL AS OTHER SERVICES.

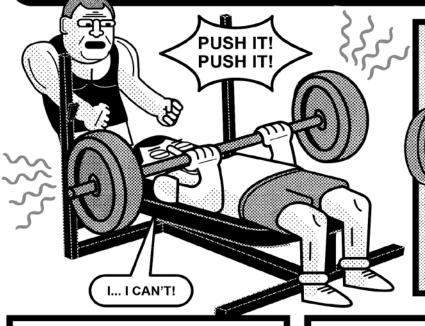
RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AND ARTISTS FROM AROUND CENTRAL OHIO WILL BE PROVIDING SKETCHES FOR EVERY DONATION TO THIS AMAZING ORG!

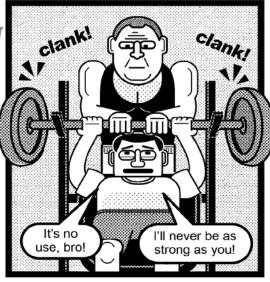
FOLLOW US
ON FACEBOOK
FOR EVENT
UPDATES AT
"LAUGHING
OGRE
COMICS-HIGH
STREET"



STEVE STEINER

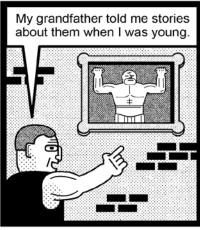
the underground muscle augmenters

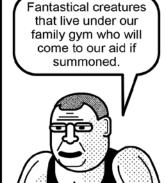


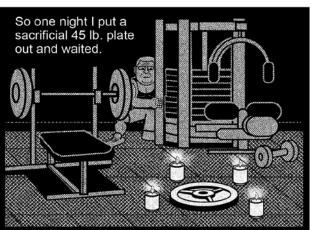


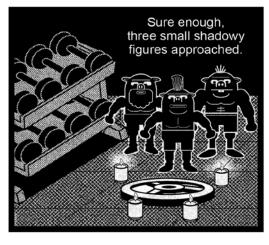


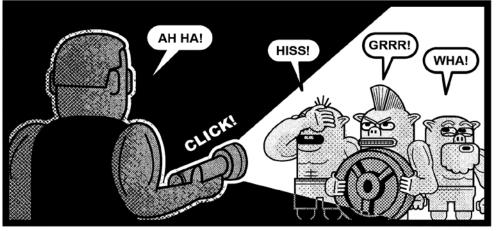




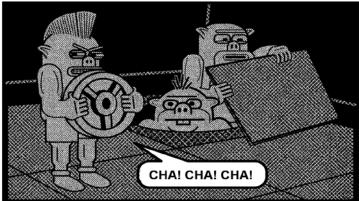


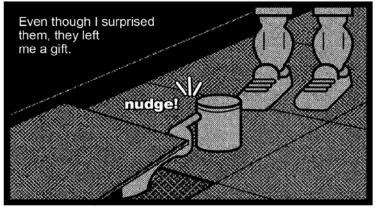


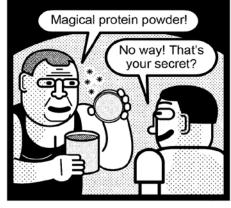








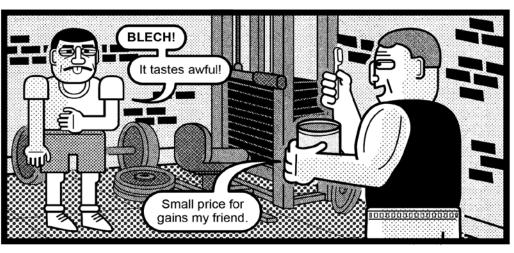


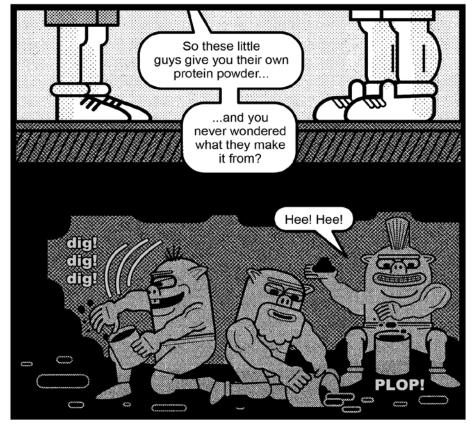












D'ANGELO JACKSON

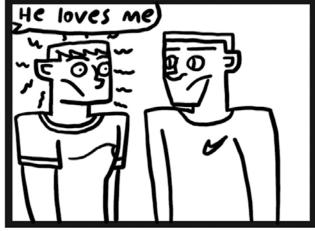


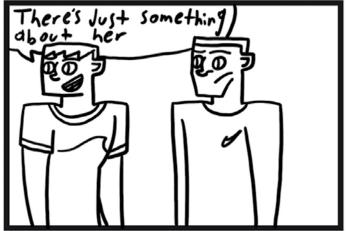




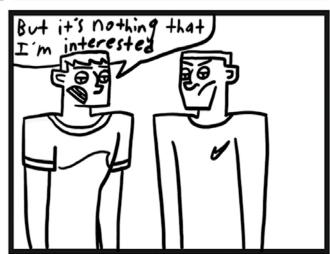






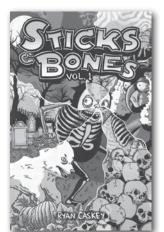








SCRIBBLER SHOUT-OUTS



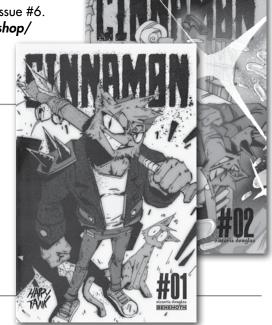
STICKS & BONES VOL. 1

Ryan Caskey, 2021

Eerie Valley is the home of all manner of things that go bump in the night, least of which are Boris the boy, Elra the witch, and Kane the

dog. Check out the continuing adventures of these characters who first appeared in the pages of the *Scribbler* issue #6. Available at *etsy.com/shop/*

The Spooky King Shop



CINNAMON

Victoria Douglas, 2021 - Current

Another *Scribbler* contributor, Victoria Douglas, has launched *Cinnamon*, an ongoing comic published by Behemoth Entertainment. It follows Cinnamon, a kitty with a giant imagination and an overwhelming lust for catnip! Pick up the newest issue at your local comic store or *allhailbehemoth.com*.



TUKI: FIGHT FOR FIRE

Jeff Smith, 2021

Jeff Smith's newest graphic novel, *Tuki: Fight for Fire*, transports us to the dawn of humanity. Tuki must protect three lost children from all manner of perils on his quest to find the Motherherd of all Buffalo. You can learn more about Jeff from our interview with him in the *Columbus Scribbler #5*. Available at *boneville.com*.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JAY KALAGAYAN

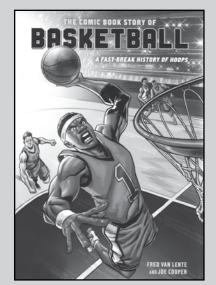
Earlier this year, Jay
Kalagayan was named the new
Executive Director for Cartoon
Crossroads Columbus, taking
over the position from interim
director Jerzy Drozd. Cartoon
Crossroads Columbus (CXC) is
an annual 4 day celebration
of cartooning, graphic novels,
animation, and all things comics
that takes place in Columbus. Jay
is the second official executive
director, following the untimely
passing of Tom Spurgeon
in 2019.

Jay brings a wealth of experience to the position and will eventually give up his current job as Corporate and Advanced Giving Director at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati to relocate to Columbus permanently. Besides his fundraising expertise, he is also a comic creator himself, writing and publishing MeSseD (right). MeSseD follows Liliput, our tour guide to a fantastical sewer world beneath our feet. You can check out his series at messedcomics.com

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for CXC's return October 6-9 and stay tuned for updates on guests and events.



COMIC REVIEWS BY JACK WALLACE



THE COMIC BOOK STORY OF BASKETBALL

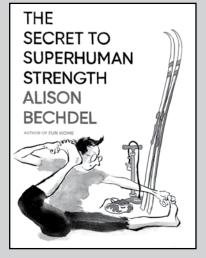
Joe Cooper & Fred Van Lente - 2020

Sports and comics have not always gone hand in hand. They seemingly sit at different lunch tables, one celebrating the victories of the Cleveland Cavaliers, while the other laments the death of Wolverine. This book unabashedly declares its love of both subjects.

The Comic Book Story of Basketball tells the long storied history of the sport from the cradle to its current domination of sports arenas across the globe. It chronicles the many failures of predecessors to the NBA and the legends that rose to stardom throughout the decades. You'll learn about how the rules have changed over time, the inspiring tale about the formation of the WNBA, and how basketball took over the world.

Fred Van Lente and Joe Cooper work together to make a book that is truly one of a kind. Van Lente does an incredible job at breaking all of these huge movements in the sport into engaging storytelling. Cooper is able to draw the players as the stars you've come to know, but with an added comic book flavor. Together, they are able to visually bring to the page very difficult, nebulous concepts. For example, to describe how well the "Buffalo Germans" worked as a team, they showed them all with long necks connected to the same oversized brain.

I can count on two hands the number of basketball games I've watched. The majority of my scant knowledge comes from the video games representing the sport, however, I can't express what an absolutely fantastic ride this book was. Sports fan or not, you can't put this book down.



THE SECRET TO SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH

Alison Bechdel - 2021

Alison's Bechdel's new graphic novel is billed as a book about exercise, but reaches far beyond that theme into the deep question of why we bother to exercise at all.

She has broken her life down into the different decades and reflected on all the exercise fads she's seen over the years, including running, biking, skiing, and karate. She also analyzes the many obstacles that her personal life would often lay in her path to superhuman strength. Each personal problem is met with a bucket of sweat when learning to rock climb or losing one's self in the transcendence of yoga.

Bechdel manages to seamlessly incorporate the lives of past romantics including Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jack Keroauc, and Margaret Fuller to help illustrate past hardships and to find common ground with those bygone writers. Part exercise manual, part personal memoir, part historical look at the lives of famous writers, the real superhuman strength comes into play as Alison is able to pull these ideas and concepts together without losing the narrative thread. The book pushes the autobio genre to new heights.

Alison is hailed as being one of the greatest cartoonists of her generation and she lives up to that title in this new memoir. Her writing is cradled warmly by her artwork and each page gives you the lasting impression that you are reading something profound. But it still doesn't make me want to exercise.



THE BIG RED MACHINE, GRANDMA, AND ME

Terry Eisele & Brian Canini - 2021

In 1972, Terry Eisele's parents divorced. While that is tragic in itself, it was a benefit to readers as, without it, we would never have got this heartwarming book. The book reads like a thank you letter to his grandmother, Mary Newman, and is a nostalgic look at the weekends that Terry spent at her house.

The duo of Eisele and artist Brian Canini (a Scribbler founder) expertly craft their world together. Readers are transported to the time period and can connect with the characters, like when Terry's grandmother cares for him after cutting his leg. You become part of the scene, breathing in the cigarette smoke in the living room, trying on a new pair of Groucho mustache glasses, and listening to the Cincinnati Reds on the radio.

Eisele gets so many things right in this book. For example, he documents the details that get lost in the fog of memory at not remembering his grandmother's funeral. Canini's artwork, while not hyperrealistic, makes each character feel unique and his textures and expressions make the page a true pleasure to drink in.

TEN QUESTIONS WITH M.S. HARKNESS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

mesh well. My people are great and it was great. I don't know how it would have run if I just tried to net a bunch of non-vetted or entitled artists that thought they deserved to table just because they hadn't in 2 years.

Every cartoonist I've met is astonished by how great Columbus is, but we don't have enough Ohio folks getting off their ass and spreading the gospel to the other territories. If you're some college kid who makes comics and you're reading this, go to Chicago, Detroit, Ann Arbor, or Pittsburgh and go to the indie shops there and drop off your minis. If you only table at SPACE and CXC, you're only going to sell stuff to your friends. Go to weird shows 4 hours away and meet people. Sleep in your car. It's the best.

9). You mentioned in a sit down with columbusalive.com that you might be making a change away from autobio work, perhaps to try your hand at fiction. What excites you the most about changing things up? Does it intimidate you at all? Any initial ideas you can share with us?

I still have a lot of autobio in me. The stories I'm telling right now are all building towards something that will take a few years. It's just fun to think about what I'll do after that. Really, I'll probably make a family or something while it's possible. It's hard to say. The things I care about now may not interest me once I get to actually sitting down to planning a book. Me and my friends are always talking about what constitutes some good nonfiction comics and what stories would be amazing to read in the format. I'm not really intimidated by it. People can say whatever they want, but I'll be more interested to see what remains "me" even when I'm not drawing myself all the time.

10). It's no secret you have a passion for weightlifting, something you showcase prominently in Tinderella and your other work. Are there any of your cartoonist peers you feel could keep up with you in the gym?

Probably. I lost like 5+ pounds of muscle during the pandemic when I lost gym access, so I'm the skinniest I've ever been, but people still come up to me when I table and gush that I could out deadlift them or whatever. There's plenty of cartoonists that could run for longer than me. Really at this point I'm just spending a lot of time in the gym, so I don't destroy my back drawing. Everything is just in service to that.



WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS REPORTER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Remi would start his career as a professional illustrator in August, 1927, just days after entering civilian life again. He would be put to work drawing everything from educational cards to stopgap illustrations, usually unsigned. Later, he would recall that at this point in his career he was learning on the job and would draw "anything and everything" for the paper.

During his off hours at Le Vingtième Siècle, Remi would continue to create Totor comics for Le Boy-Scout Belge. The comic would last until 1929 when Remi was recruited by Wallez to help produce a new 8-page children's supplement, like a mini magazine only filled with comics. Le Petit Vingtième (The Little Twentieth) would appear every Thursday within the pages of Le Vingtième Siècle starting on November 1, 1928. Wallez would commission Remi to create a comic about an adolescent and his dog that was "imbued in the spirit of catholic virtues."

Utilizing a character concept he had originally intended to use for Totor's younger brother and remembering his youthful aspirations of becoming a reporter, Hergé dreamed up Tintin. Joining him on his globetrotting adventures would be his faithful white fox terrier, Snowy or Milou in French, named after Remi's first girlfriend.

Tintin and Snowy first appeared among the pages of Le Petit Vingtième on January 10, 1929 under the title "Adventures of Tintin, the Petit Vingtiéme Reporter, in the Land of the Soviets." This debut story saw the young reporter bound for Moscow to expose the "Evils of

Bolshevism." Tintin's popularity was instant. Doubling the main newspaper's circulation on Thursdays, then tripling, then sextupling.

Tintin and Snowy's adventures would take them far and wide, from the Congo, America, Egypt, and even all the way to the Moon. Eventually, Remi's work was published in 24 volumes (one unfinished) and received countless awards and adaptations. Tintin would become his life's work and would make him just as famous as his creation. The two would become so synonymous that when Remi died in 1983 from leukaemia, newspapers around the world adopted Tintin to make tributes to his late creator. One French daily, Libération, even gave over

> its whole front cover to a black framed image of Tintin with Snowy howling by his side "WAAOOOUUU!! Tintin is dead..." with the label "The Final Adventure of Tintin." Additionally, inside every page surrounding the articles was a geographically or politically relevant image from a Tintin adventure. It was a reverent nod to the creator of one of the most famous reporters the world has ever known.

• The Art of Hergé: Inventor of Tintin 1937-1949 by Philippe Goddin

- Hergé, Son of Tintin by Benoît Peeters
- The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

• Hergé: The Man Who Created Tintin by Pierre Assouline

References:

- Tintin: The Complete Companion by Michael Farr
- Masterful Marks: Cartoonists Who Changed the World by Monte Beauchamp

CENTRAL OHIO WELCOMES A NEW COMIC BOOK STORE

A dragon has been sighted on the north end of town! Rumors say the beast is seeking a lair to store its favorite treasures: comic books, roleplaying games, miniatures, board games, and lots and lots of shiny, shimmery dice.

Local geek Phil Siewert has been working hard to open the latest Dragon's Lair Comics and Fantasy® location, a store dedicated to gamers and geeks of all stripes, where they can discover new hobbies, enjoy old hobbies, and find new friends to share the fun with.

Raised on the original Star Trek and the very first Star Wars movie, Phil has been fascinated by the epic and the fantastical since a young age. His favorite storybook as a kid was A King with Six Friends by Jay Williams. "It is a story about a deposed prince who assembles a campaign and their adventure to find themselves as individuals, bond as friends, and meet their potentials together," says Phil. "I believe this story became my foundation for the love of heroes, adventures, and the fellowship of good friends."

Phil still treasures the power such stories have. "I believe 'geek culture' has very much shaped my worldview and character. So much of this culture (comics, games, and related movies/shows) is about doing what is right in the face of adversity, being inclusive, accepting constructive challenge, and relying on friends to accomplish more than any individual could."

This in part explains his goals for the store: "I very much hope that Dragon's Lair Comics & Fantasy® Columbus North will be a "second home" to many of our customers. I've no doubt they will love our products, but I also want them to love our space. Our space will be inclusive, warm, and welcoming and our events are intended to be social experiences." Of course, a store isn't just the owner and the staff; it's also a community made of diverse people with varied and often overlapping experiences and interests. "I'm excited to see where our various store communities take us and watching them grow," says Phil.

Dragon's Lair Comics and Fantasy® is a chain of comics and gaming stores founded by David Wheeler in 1986, dedicated to creating welcoming and fun spaces. Dragon's Lair Comics and Fantasy® North Columbus is located at 1222 E. Powell Rd., Lewis Center, 43035. Come check out Columbus' newest comic and gaming shop!



LOCAL COMIC BOOK STORES

- FLYING MONKEY COMICS AND GAMES
- 2 DRAGON'S LAIR COMICS AND FANTASY
- 3 COMIC TOWN
- 4 WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS
- **5** KRAZZY COMICS
- 6 LAUGHING OGRE
- PACKRAT COMICS
- **8** HEROES AND GAMES
- **9** CAPITAL CITY COMICS
- **11** SKYLARK TOYS AND COMICS

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

BUCKEYE COMIC CON 2022 Sunday, March 6 Courtyard by Marriott Columbus West/Hilliard 2350 Westbelt Drive, Columbus, OH

FANTASTICON

Saturday, March 12 - Sunday, March 13 **SeaGate Convention Centre** 401 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH

WILDWOOD MICRO CON Saturday, March 26 Wildwood Cultural Center & Park 7645 Little Mountain Road, Mentor, OH

ANIMARATHON 2022 Saturday, April 2 – Sunday, April 3 **Bowling Green State University** Bowling Green, OH

CANTON-AKRON COMIC BOOK, TOY & NOSTALGIA CONVENTION Sunday, April 3 St. George Social Center 4667 Applegrove Street NW, North Canton, OH

> **RATHA CON 2022** Saturday, April 9 **Athens Community Center** 701 E. State Street, Athens, OH

FAN EXPO CLEVELAND Friday, April 29 - Sunday, May 1 **Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland** 300 Lakeside Avenue E., Cleveland, OH

> FREE COMIC BOOK DAY Saturday, May 7

SMALL PRESS ALTERNATIVE COMIC EXPO (SPACE) Saturday, May 21 – Sunday, May 22 Rhodes Center at Ohio Expo Center & State Fair 717 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH

The Francisco









JOHN BRADY



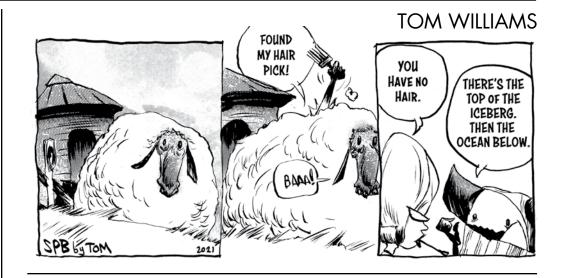






IN COMMON ... FOOD IS

SO ZEN!



DREW B. HALL







DREWBHALL 2022

CONTRIBUTORS



BRENT BOWMAN

facebook/ The-Art-of-Brent-Bowman



JOHN BRADY

instagram.com/jb_toonist



DANIEL GERDEMAN

gerdyart.tumblr.com



DREW B. HALL

dontbeupset.net



D'ANGELO JACKSON

dangelojackson.com



WINIFRED KEHL

instagram.com/sciencecomix



KATE E. LORE

instagram.com/
kate_e_lore_comics/



XAN MOF

instagram.com/xanmofofficial



ASH D. PIERCE

instagram.com/bubandsol



JENNY ROBB

cartoons.osu.edu



SETH TROYER

sethtroyerfilms.tumblr.com



MITCH E. VICIEUX

instagram.com/mvicieux



TOM WILLIAMS

drawrobotdesigns.com

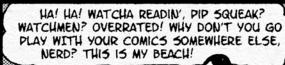


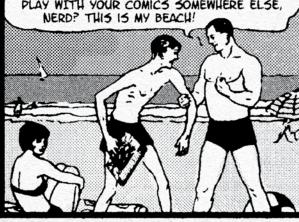
KYLE WINDLE

saturdaymorningcartoonist.com

MAC BECOMES A SCRIBBLER PATRON





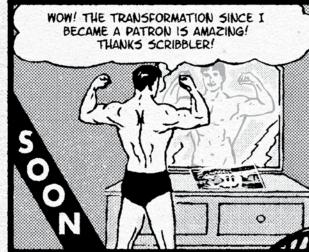


I'D LIKE TO
GET BACK AT
THAT BUILLY!

AMAYBE YOU
CAN FOR ONLY
ONE DOLLAR A
MONTH!







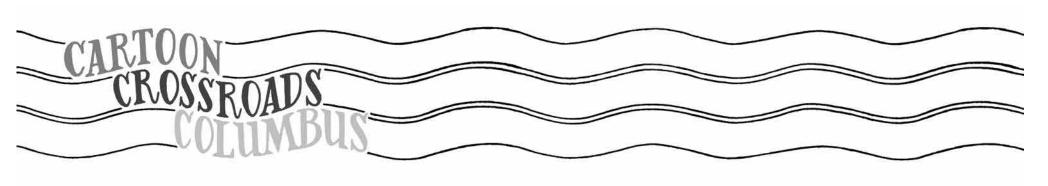












CXC returns OCTOBER 6-9, 2022

A free four-day Columbus wide festival celebrating Cartoons and Cartoonists for everyone who loves cartoons (which is everybody!)

For more information, visit: cartooncrossroadscolumbus.org

