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2000

OUT IN COMICS GROUP

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GAY LEAGUE
OF AMERICA

THE PRIDE



**THE CROSSOVER
YOU'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR!**

OUT IN COMICS

A GUIDE TO OPENLY GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDERED COMIC CREATORS, PLUS LISTINGS FOR OTHER RESOURCES FOR QUEER COMICS FANS!

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...with production help from lots of
loyal fans!

On the cover (left to right): Northstar (Marvel), Jack Phantom (America's Best Comics), Midnighter (Wildstorm), Tasmanian Devil (DC Comics), Rainmaker (Wildstorm), Apollo (Wildstorm), Frostbite (DC Comics)

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(No, *The Pride* is not coming to a comic book store near you.)

FROM THE AUTHOR

Welcome to all readers with open minds!

Given the continued support of the San Diego Comic-Con International, and the ever-growing presence of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered creators in this industry, this booklet is offered to allow fans—and fellow creators—a chance to get to know one another better.

This guide showcases a variety of people who are proud of their lives and their careers. They are also encouraging examples for those who want to enter the comic industry as out and proud individuals, fans who may be exploring their own sexual identity, or straight fans who are interested in expanding their horizons of knowledge. A lot is said in the gay community about “family” and “togetherness.” This guide allows the fans to know who is “family,” and whose work they might be interested in and support with their pocketbook and their letters. Comic books are a small field, and we all need all the support we can get—and all the support we can give each other.

Please support gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered creators!

Sincerely,

Andy Mangels

Note: Gender identity and sexual orientation being as fluid as they are, we have included the “Identification” tag at the end of certain entries only when specifically asked to by the creators themselves.



Maggie Sawyer
©2000 DC Comics

CREATOR PROFILES

*Indicates that a complete bio could not be approved by press time.
Entry written from public reports.

MARC ANDREYKO

Marc Andreyko is best known as the co-creator and writer of the cult comic *The Lost*, for which he was nominated for a Harvey Award. He is also the co-writer and creator of *Torso* with Brian Michael Bendis. Marc has done work for Marvel, Dark Horse and Chaos!, including the Eisner- and Harvey-winning *Dr. Strange: What Is It That Disturbs You, Stephen?*, and translating "Pagliacci" for the Eisner-nominated *The Clowns*, both with fellow gay artist P. Craig Russell.

- Current/Upcoming: Recently, Marc finished co-writing the *Torso* screenplay for Miramax and created and wrote a TV pilot for Robert Zemeckis' company Image Movers. Also, watch for a new monthly series for Wildstorm and a spy thriller for new publisher Infinity Comics.
- Email: mandreyko@sprynet.com

TIM BARELA

Native Californian and avid motorcyclist Tim Barela began working professionally as a cartoonist in the mid-'70s. In the '80s, Tim's life and career took a turn out the closet door when he decided to give two minor gay characters from an abandoned project their own comic strip. *Leonard & Larry* was enthusiastically accepted by *Gay Comix*, and made its first appearance in 1984, appearing in several issues, and in a *Gay Comix Special*. Today the strip appears in the bi-weekly national news magazine *Frontiers*, was part of *Out of the Inkwell*, a four-segment play presented in 1994 by San Francisco's Theatre Rhinoceros and has been released in two book collections: *Domesticity Isn't*

Pretty and Kurt Cobain and Mozart Are Both Dead. Order them from Palliard Press, 912 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408 (\$15 and \$12 postpaid respectively).

- Current/Upcoming: A third *Leonard & Larry* collection from Palliard has just been released, called *Excerpts from The Ring Cycle in Royal Albert Hall*. Two *Leonard & Larry* t-shirt designs are forthcoming.
- Identification: Gay

ALISON BECHDEL

Alison Bechdel has been creating her award-winning bi-weekly comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For* since 1983, and it has become a cultural institution, running in over 65 lesbian/gay, feminist, and alternative publications in North America alone. In 1988, Alison created another strip called *Servants to the Cause*, about the staff of a queer newspaper. The strip ran in *The Advocate* for less than two years and was collected in *Gay Comix* 19. Eight collections of Alison's cartoons, and a regular annual calendar have been published by Firebrand Books. She has won numerous Lambda Literary Awards, and her work has appeared in *Ms.*, *The Washington Blade*, *Dyke Strippers*, *Real Girl*, *American Splendor*, *Wimmen's Comix*, and *The Village Voice*.

- Current/Upcoming: The next *Dykes* collection, *Post-Dykes To Watch Out For*, was published in the spring of 2000.
- Website: www.comicazee.com

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JOHN BLACKBURN

John Blackburn was an illustrator for some of the first gay publications, *Physique Pictorial* and *Physique Art Quarterly*. His work also appeared in *One* magazine and *In Touch*. He has recently illustrated for *FirstHand*, *ManTalk*, *Manscape*, and *Guys* magazines, creating over 200 published magazine illustrations. Since 1992 he has been writing and drawing the sexual adventures of his gay comic strip hero, Coley, for Fantagraphics Books erotic imprint, Eros Comix. These hardcore stories have been collected into three graphic novels, all still in print, with a fourth waiting to be published. A separate Coley storyline has been running in Leland Press's *Meatmen* series, from issue 13-24. Order the Coley books from Eros Comix/Fantagraphics, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 or call (800) 657-1100.

- Current/Upcoming: Recently out is *Coley Running Wild 4: Destiny Coast*, and *Meatmen 24* (with a highly censored Coley story).
- Identification: Gay

JENNIE BRICKER

Jennie Bricker had a brief stint in comics as an assistant editor and editor for Dark Horse, from 1992-1997, editing such books as the award-winning *Cheval Noir*, and much of the Comics Greatest World line. She also worked in the legal department during her final three years at the company. After a legal secretary at Dark Horse was fired (post his e-mailing information to employees about Gay

Pride), Jennie responded to what she felt was a firing based on homophobia. She gave two weeks notice to quit in protest over the decision, and made her reasons public in a company-wide email. The day she gave her two-week notice, she was fired on the spot. Jennie is now a lawyer, practicing natural resources law in Portland, Oregon for a large firm that offers domestic partner insurance benefits and a supportive work environment. She is also the proud parent of a young boy named Kilian, with Robin, her partner of 13 years.

- Current/Upcoming: Jennie is elated to report that since the 1999 "OHSU vs. Tanner" court decision, it is now illegal to discriminate in the workplace based on sexual orientation, even in Milwaukie, Oregon, where Dark Horse is based.
- Identification: Lesbian

JENNIFER CAMPER

Jennifer Camper's book, *subGURLZ* (Cleis Press), follows the adventures of three women living in abandoned subway tunnels. Her previous book, *Rude Girls and Dangerous Women* (Laugh Lines Press), is a collection of the best of her cartoons. Her work has also been published in comic books (*Gay Comix/Gay Comics*, *Wimmen's Comix*, *Real Girl*), magazines (*On Our Backs*, *Outweek*, *The Advocate*, *Out*), newspapers (*The Village Voice*, *The Washington Blade*, *Bay Times*, *Sojourner*), and various anthologies. She is currently editing the comix anthology, *Juicy Mother*. Jennifer usually lives in NYC.



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- Current/Upcoming: A trade paperback of *subGURLZ* is out from Cleis Press in late summer 2000.
- Email: juicyrn@mindspring.com
- Website: www.visi.com/~oprairie
- Identification: "Dyke"

SHARON CHO

Sharon Cho loves hats. Maybe that's why she wears so many of them in her work life. Sharon is a co-creator of *Nobody* (TPB coming out this summer), represents artists in comics (Spitfire Services), is webslave (as opposed to webmistress) to three different websites, and is constantly coming up with new ideas on how to better the world (Yes, she's an idealist. "So sue me," she says).

- Current/Upcoming: *Nobody* is available in TPB from AIT/PlanetLar
- Email to: sharon@spitfiresvcs.com
- Websites: *Nobody* - www.writerboy.com/nobody
- Artist's Agency - www.spitfiresvcs.com
- Writers' Site - www.scribesubscribe.com
- Pay to Surf Sites - www.moneymac.com
- Identification: "Weird, just plain weird."

KATHERINE COLLINS

The artist formerly known as Arn Saba, creator of *Neil the Horse*, Katherine Collins has been living outwardly as a woman since 1993. Katherine (as Arn) first published Neil in Canadian newspapers, in 1975. Starting in 1983, Deni Loubert (Renegade Press) published the characters in comic book form. Neil persisted in comic books until 1991. There remains a finished, unpublished 64-page Neil graphic novel, which could not find a publisher in 1993.

From 1992 through 1994, Katherine put a lot of creative energy into her transsexual "transition." She composed an as yet unpublished book of essays tracing the spiritual and personal intricacies of the experience. She lives in San Francisco, and was widowed from a lesbian marriage in July 1999. Despite all difficulties, she says, "Yes, everything is much better when you're a woman."

- Current/Upcoming: Katherine is currently the Art Director of *Transsexual News Telegraph* (TNT) magazine. She is also putting together a jazz/rock band for her new cabaret act; and is researching for a planned lesbian-romance-time-travel novel.
- Email: KatieRC@aol.com
- Identification: "Femme Lesbian; Canadian; former transsexual"

CHRIS COOPER

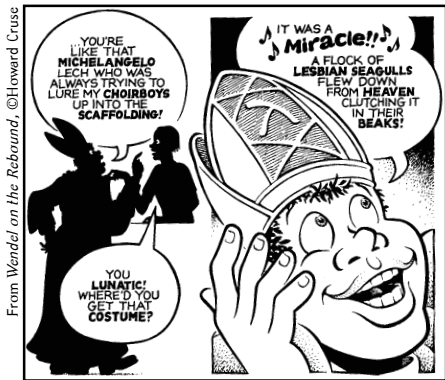
Chris Cooper is a freelance writer/editor and worked at Marvel Comics for six years. There he edited titles such *Cage* and *Blade the Vampire Hunter* (not just because he's black), an evangelical Christian superhero comic (despite the fact that he's gay), and, briefly, *The Punisher* (despite the fact that he's an ardent gun-control advocate and committed foe of the death penalty). He was assistant editor on *Alpha Flight* during the run that included the well-publicized issue 106, in which Northstar comes out of the closet.

His writing credits include two gay firsts—Marvel's first lesbian lead character, Victoria Montesi, in the pages of the series he created and wrote, *Darkhold: Pages From The Book Of Sins*, and Star

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Trek's first openly gay human character, Yoshi Mishima, in the pages of *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy*, which was nominated for a 1999 GLAAD Media Award. He also wrote the 1998 *Hulk/Sub-Mariner Annual*, and two short stories for *Llewellyn's 2000 Magical Almanac*.

- Current/Upcoming: His current comics project is *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic*—part satire, part soap opera, and part superhero comic, in which he turns untapped gay archetypes into the superheroes we never seem to get anywhere else.
- E-mail to: queernation@queernation.com
- Website: www.queernation.com



From *Wendel on the Rebound*, ©Howard Cruse

HOWARD CRUSE

Howard Cruse is the creator of *Barefootz*, an underground comix series from the 1970s, and *Wendel*, a long-running strip that was featured in *The Advocate* during the '80s. He was the founding editor in 1980 of *Gay Comix* (subsequently renamed *Gay Comics*). He has published five books, the most recent being his 1995 graphic novel *Stuck Rubber Baby*, winner of both Eisner and Harvey Awards, as well as awards in England and Germany.

French and Italian editions of SRB are presently in production.

- Current/Upcoming: Howard is currently working on Flash animation projects while contributing humorous illustrations to assorted publications, including *The Advocate*. Several of his comic strips created since *Stuck Rubber Baby* was completed, as well as many examples from his early comics work (including a number of long-out-of-print *Wendel* strips), are archived both on his extensive website, Howard Cruse Central.
- Email to: HCrusel816@aol.com
- Website: www.howardcruse.com

ADAM DEKRAKER

Adam DeKraker has pencilled and inked for various companies. His most recent work includes a four issue pencilling stint on *The Titans* for DC Comics. He's also pencilled issues of *Superboy*, *Legionnaires*, *WildC.A.T.s* and *What If?* Currently Adam is keeping busy inking the *Rugrats in Paris* movie adaptation for Nickelodeon. He lives in Brooklyn with his boyfriend.

- Email: AdamDek@aol.com

SAMUEL DELANEY

A noted science fiction author, Samuel "Chip" Delaney published his first novel, *The Jewels of Aptom* in 1962 when he was 20. He has since written dozens of highly-respected SF novels, including the Nevéryon series, and has taught at a handful of universities. His comic book work includes writing an early original graphic novel, *Empire: A Visual Novel*, which was fully-painted by Howard Chaykin in 1978. Chip also scripted

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Wonder Woman for two issues in the early '70s, and he did a story with Chaykin for *Epic Illustrated*. He's written about comic books in his published criticism, and has been interviewed in *The Comics Journal*.

- Current/Upcoming: *Bread & Wine*, a 48-page graphic novel drawn by Mia Wolff, out now from Juno Books, is an autobiographical work chronicling how Chip came to meet and live with his current life-partner, Dennis. The story is somewhat unusual in that when they met, Chip was a tenured professor, and Dennis had been homeless for six years and was selling books from a blanket on New York City's 72nd Street.
- Identification: Gay

JOHN DENNIS

Fans can find the most recent comic work by John Dennis online in *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic* with Chris Cooper. John has penciled and/or inked for nearly every major comics publisher in North America. You can find his work in books like Malibu's *NightMan*, Marvel's *West Coast Avengers Annual* and *Savage Sword of Conan*, DC/Impact's *Comet* and DC's *Wonder Woman Annual*, plus Caliber's original *The Realm* series and *Caliber Presents*.

John was a contributor to *Gay Comics* 24 and 25. For those into baseball cards, non-sports cards and action figures, you might also find his work in Marvel/Fleer's Metal baseball series, a number of Fleer's non-sports cards, and Marvel's Creative Services action figures.

- Current/Upcoming: *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic* with Chris Cooper

- Website: www.queernation.com
- Email: Skitch1054@cs.com
- Identification: Gay

DIANE DIMASSA*

Diane DiMassa is the creator of the comic 'zine *Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist*, which has been appearing quarterly for seven years from Giant Ass Publishing. Besides the first 20 issues, there are also two paperback anthologies published by Cleis Press. *Hothead Paisan* was also part of *Out of the Inkwell*, a four-segment play presented in 1994 by San Francisco's Theatre Rhinoceros, and DiMassa's work has been featured in *Gay Comics*, *Strange Looking Exile*, *Frighten the Horses*, *The Advocate*, and *Oh...*

- Current/Upcoming: More *Hothead Paisan*
- Email: Firebutt@aol.com
- Identification: Lesbian

CATHERINE DOHERTY

Born in Toronto in 1965, Catherine became interested in comics when she discovered the unpublished work of her father in a metal file box in the basement. Her first published work appeared in Vancouver's *A Room of One's Own* and London's *Diva Magazine*, and she later appeared in Toronto's *Siren*, and in *Gay Comics*. Her first graphic novel, *Can of Worms*, was recently published by Fantagraphics Books. It is a thinly veiled autobiographical story about growing up adopted and her search for

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her birth mother. You can order it from Fantagraphics at 800-657-1100.

- Current/Upcoming: Doherty is working as a production designer in Hollywood.

PERRY ERWIN

Perry Erwin is the creator, writer and publisher of an independent comic book published through his publishing company, BLOKHED COMIX. *The Young Caucasians* follows the adventures of Bud and Gunther, two gay teens and their adventures in the Suburbia Universe.

Ever since he can remember, Perry has been writing, even creating dramatic plays for his Bionic Woman and Batman dolls. He has held editorial and reporter positions on high school and college newspapers, and sold out a theater with his professional written works of *Queer Hearts* and the stage version of *The Young Caucasians*.

- Current/Upcoming: Along with writing a theatrical puppet show, two feature film length screenplays and advice column and film review duties on MadeInHell.net, Perry is premiering BLOKHED's new title, *BLACK.A.T.S.*, an operatic spy thriller mini-series in august 2000.
- Email: Joblokhedd@aol.com
- Website: <http://members.aol.com/joblokhedd/joblokhedd/index.htm>

ELLEN FORNEY

Seattle cartoonist and illustrator Ellen Forney has recently compiled her weekly comic strips into the Harvey- and

Eisner-nominated *Monkey Food: The Complete I Was Seven in '75' Collection* (Fantagraphics Books, 1999). She created a one-woman, multi-media reading/performance based on her book, toured the show in nine US cities last fall, and will be performing again at this year's San Diego Con on Friday, July 21. *Tomato* from Starhead Comix was her solo comic book back in the mid-nineties, and she's contributed to anthologies such as *Savage Love* and *Dyke Strippers*.

- Current/upcoming: Ellen's comics appear online and in print, regularly in Oxygen.com's *The Read*, Minneapolis's *City Pages*, and Seattle's *The Stranger*, and occasionally in such places as *Out*, *Ms.*, *Bust*, and *Nickelodeon Magazine*. Ellen is currently casting an eye at a few animation projects.
- Email: ellenforney@halcyon.com
- Website: www.ellenforney.com
- Identification: Bisexual

GREG FOX

Greg Fox is the creator of *Kyle's Bed & Breakfast*, a comic strip about a gay B&B in the suburbs, that is currently running in 7 gay publications across North America, and online as well. It has also appeared in *Genre* magazine.

Greg has done work for comics publishers as well, including *Doctor Chaos* for Triumphant Comics, *Baseball Superstars* and *Rock 'N' Roll Comics* for Revolutionary. He did one job for Marvel, *NFL Quarterback Club*, a story Greg calls "simply frightening." "I wanted to get at least one job from Marvel or DC before I bid farewell to comic books," he said, "and that was it."

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- **Current/Upcoming:** In addition to creating new episodes every 2 weeks for *Kyle's Bed & Breakfast*, Greg is also creator of *An Angel's Story*, a comic strip about a gay angel, that runs in every issue of *Creations* magazine. He also does a strip called *Rock the House*, about a rock band. *The Kyle's Bed & Breakfast Collection: Year One* has recently been released, and is available for purchase through his website.
- **Email:** KylesBnB@aol.com
- **Website:**
<http://members.aol.com/KylesBnB/index.html>

DEVIN GRAYSON

Devin Kalile Grayson is having a wonderful time sneaking queer subtext into mainstream superhero comics, and sometimes she does it outright, such as the creator-owned miniseries *Relative Heroes*. Devin works regularly on *Batman: Gotham Knights* and, until very recently, on *The Titans*. Though unable to attend this year's San Diego Comic-Con, Ms. Grayson would like to send a special shout-out to the gorgeous young women at Cheetas, who were kind enough to entertain her last year with such warm, Californian hospitality that she just plum failed to get to the Lulu awards...

- **Current/Upcoming:** Devin is most excited about the creator-owned *User* (formerly *Mun*), a 3-issue Vertigo Prestige format mini-series, with artists John Bolton & Sean Phillips, due out (and we do mean out!) in November 2000. It features cyber role-playing, knights in shinning armor, tons of gender ambiguity, and too many jokes about lube.
- **Website:** www.2KComics.com
- **Email:** DKGrayson@aol.com
- **Identification:** Bisexual

ROBERTA GREGORY

Roberta Gregory has been creating her own unique comics for over twenty years. She appeared in many issues of *Gay Comix/Gay Comics* during the '80s and '90s, self-published *Sheila and the Unicorn* and *Winging It*, which took a look at gender issues. She is best known

Bitchy Bitch, ©Roberta Gregory



in the comic world for her long-running *Naughty Bits* series, starring the unforgettable Bitchy Bitch, still coming out quarterly from Fantagraphics Books, which has just published the fifth trade paperback collection of *Naughty Bits* stories. Roberta also self-published two of the three issues of *Artistic Licentiousness*, a sort of bisexual love story. Creativity is her way of life, so what the future holds is anybody's guess, including her own!

- **Current/Upcoming:** Issue 31 of *Naughty Bits* should be available in time for the San Diego Comic-Con. Fifteen 3-minute Bitchy Bits (not Bitch) are being shown on the X-Chromosome show on the Oxygen TV network (www.oxygen.com), and also on Comedy Network Canada in the fall of 2000. "We are keeping our fingers crossed for a second season," says Roberta. All of the Fantagraphics titles are available from the publisher, and all the self-published works mentioned are still available from Roberta. Send a SASE to her at PO Box 27438, Seattle WA 98125 for a catalog, or check out her website.
- **Email:** roberta@drizzle.com or rgregory@scn.org
- **Website:** www.robertagregory.com or www.drizzle.com/~roberta

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TERRANCE GRIEP, JR.

Terrance Griep, Jr., has been a published writer since 1993. His professional credits include numerous magazine articles, short stories, and radio plays, but his most-recognized work is on DC Comics' *Scooby-Doo* to which he currently contributes. Terrance has written dozens of comic book stories for large companies and small, within the genres of children's literature, science fiction, mystery, and that old familiar staple, super-heroes. Titles include *Big Bang Comics* (frequent contributing writer and editor; Image), *Cartoon Network Presents* (contributing writer; DC) and notably *Black Vesper* (writer/creator; Kat Butt Komix), about a young gay superhero who takes his name from Shakespearean verse.

Terrance lives, writes, and very occasionally sleeps in Minneapolis.

- Current/Upcoming: *Black Vesper* is set for release in spring 2001. Terrance also has some stories coming up in *Scooby-Doo* and is talking to several DC editors about myriad super-hero projects. Also, if *Big Bang Comics* 32 is still on the stands, look for Terrance's rendition of the Pink Flamingo. Says Terrance, "I invite readers to draw their own conclusions..."
- Email: Tgriepjr@aol.com

CRAIG HAMILTON

Craig Hamilton was the artist for DC's spectacular 1986 *Aquaman* mini-series and *The Sea Woman Portfolio* in 1992. His other comics work includes *Starman* (28 and 54), *Green Lantern* (50 and 55), and *Sandman* (50 and *Gallery of Dreams*), as well as other pin-ups, posters, and short stories for DC and

Marvel. He produced covers for *Gay Comics* 18 and 25.

He lives in Macon, Georgia, where a 100-year-old house serves as his home and studio. He's been drawing from the age of three and began taking private classes from accomplished artist and mentor, Houser Smith, at the age of twelve. He now teaches private drawing classes, and does commissioned works and freelance, commercial, and corporate illustration and cranks out a few comics in his spare time.

- Current/Upcoming: Craig was a sketchbook artist in premiere issue of *International Studio* magazine (Coppervale, available at Bud Plant) and did a short story with Mike Carey for an issue of Vertigo's horror title, *Flinch*.

JOAN HILTY

Joan Hilty is an editor in the DC Universe editorial group, and has worked in many capacities at DC. She began in the Trading Cards department and moved to the Vertigo imprint, where she worked on projects including the Eisner/Harveynominated *Uncle Sam* and the Harvey-winning *You Are Here*. She also edited *Finals* and the 1999 re-launch of *Swamp Thing*. She and co-editor Axel Alonso won the 1999 International Horror Guild Award for the horror anthology *Flinch*. In January 2000, she was promoted to editor of the DC Kids Line.

Joan is also a cartoonist and illustrator whose work prior to DC appeared in *Gay Comix/Gay Comics*, *The Village Voice*, and *The Advocate*, and was featured in the recent show "Picturing The Modern

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Amazon” at the New Museum in New York City.

- Current/Upcoming: Joan currently edits *Powerpuff Girls*, *Scooby-Doo*, *Looney Tunes*, *Dexter’s Laboratory*, and the *Cartoon Network Starring...* anthology.
- Email: joan.hilty@dccomics.com

PATTY JERES

Gifted with a good sense of humor, Patty Jeres is the Manager of Marketing Communications for DC Comics. She’s been at DC since 1991, having worked as a freelance writer and editor. Patty also wrote a weekly newspaper column critiquing comics, and edited *Those Annoying Post Bros.* and *Savage Henry* for Matt Howarth. In between, she wrote most everything from business journals to song lyrics to menus.

- Email: dccopatty@aol.com
- Identification: Bisexual

PHIL JIMENEZ

Born and raised in southern California, Phil Jimenez moved to Manhattan to attend NYC’s School of Visual Arts, and was hired to pencil his first work for DC Comics two years later. Phil has been attached to a host of projects, received nominations for both Eisner and GLAAD awards, and has also crafted art for CD covers, wall murals, Gameboy boxes, and the first permanent AIDS awareness exhibit in the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

Phil is best known for his work on *Tempest*, which he dedicated to his first boyfriend, Neal Pozner, who hired him for DC Comics and later died from AIDS.

He has worked with Grant Morrison on *The Invisibles*, Devin Grayson on *JLA/Titans: The Technis Imperative*, and with Warren Ellis on *Planetary/Authority: Ruling the World*.

- Current/Upcoming: Writing and drawing DC Comics’ *Wonder Woman*, starting with 164.
- Email: PJ813@aol.com



From *Stitch* ©Tommy Kovac

TOMMY KOVAC

Tommy Kovac is the author and illustrator of Slave Labor Graphics’ *Stitch*, an eerie comic nightmare where children have been turned into dolls and trapped in an old house full of renegade marionettes, foul-smelling teddy bears, and other creatures. Kovac is also co-author of the independent ‘zine, *Library Bonnet*, which is distributed by Tower Records, Pander Zine Distro, and Slick Figure Zine Distro.

- Current/Upcoming: Tommy is currently working on the first issue of *The Skelebunnies*, an irreverent yet humorous tale of a cute brother and sister duo of dead bunnies who have had

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their flesh burnt off by a demon's acid vomit. It will be released by Slave Labor Graphics in December of 2000. During that same month, watch for the *Stitch* collected edition, which will include all four issues of the original series, along with four short Skelebunnies stories from before they were given their own comic.

- Email: heenie@juno.com
- Website: www.slavelabor.com

JON MACY

Jon Macy first started doing comic books with an alternative series called *Tropo*, which ran eight issues until 1996. He then began doing erotica with a goth series for Eros Comix named *Nefarismo* which also ran eight issues. Since then Jon has worked on magazines such as *Steam*, *Wilde*, *Bunkhouse* and *International Leatherman*, as well as the anthologies *Meatmen* and the infamous *Gay Comics*.

- Current/Upcoming: Jon is working on an adaptation of the 1893 erotic novel *Teleny*. Although technically anonymous, it is widely thought to have been written by Oscar Wilde and his circle. Jon's version will be a black and white graphic novel of 120 pages, and he is exactly half way through.
- Email: jonmacy@altavista.com

ANDY MANGELS

Andy Mangels is a past editor of *Gay Comics* (14-25 and Special 1), and has written for many comics publishers, including *ElfQuest: Blood of Ten Chiefs*, *Bloodwulf*, *Justice League Quarterly*, *Friday the 13th*, *Child's Play*, *Nightmares on Elm Street*, *Annie Sprinkle Is Miss Timed*, *Troll*, *Badrock & Company*, *UltraVerse Premiere*, and the best-selling *Boba Fett: Twin Engines of Destruction*.

Andy tries to include gay and lesbian characters in every comic he writes. His *Quantum Leap* 9 (Innovation, 1993), set during the week of the Stonewall riots, created a national stir, and his work on Marvel's *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, co-written with Mike Martin, has introduced lesbian characters into the series.

He has written three books; *Star Wars: The Essential Guide to Characters* (Del Rey), *Beyond Mulder and Scully: The Mysterious Characters of The X-Files* (Citadel Press), and *From Scream to Dawson's Creek: The Phenomenal Career of Kevin Williamson* (Renaissance Books), a behind-the-scenes look and biography of Hollywood's hottest gay screenwriter. Andy is also the publisher and editor of an erotic publication called *IN UNIFORM The Magazine*.

- Current/Upcoming: Andy and Michael A. Martin have co-written a story for Wildstorm's *Star Trek 80-Page Giant*, and recently turned in a *Star Trek: The Next Generation* novel, *Section 31: Rogue* (Pocket Books). Andy promises that the novel, due out in June 2001, will contain many surprises for fans.
- Email: AMangelsSW@aol.com
- Website: www.inuniform.net
- Identification: Gay

BRAD PARKER

Brad Parker is an illustrator who has created cartoons for several gay publications such as *In Touch*, *Skin*, *Stroke*, *Friction*, *Advocate Men*, *Male Review*, and others. His work has been reprinted in two collections and *Gay Comix/Gay Comics*. More recently, Brad worked on *Marvels: Code of Honor*, created several special covers and pin ups and a short

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story for Chaos Comics, and the painted graphic novel *Green Lantern: Fear Itself* for DC Comics. Brad painted the first official portraits in fifteen years of the Rock group KISS a special issue of *Famous Monsters of Filmland*.

- Current projects: Brad is doing an ongoing cartoon series for *Fresh Men*, *Acé Adventures in the Year 2000*. He also working on storyboarding, production illustration, and original creature design for *Jeepers Creepers*, a horror film being produced by Francis Ford Coppola, and written and directed by gay film maker Victor Salva (*Nature of the Beast*, *Rites of Passage*, *Powder*).
- Email to: BPParker13@aol.com

JOE PHILLIPS

Joe Phillips has been a comic artist for his entire adult life. His work has been seen in *Aliens* (Dark Horse), *Speed Racer* (Now), and *WildC.A.T.s Adventures* (Image), *Silver Surfer*, *Hulk*, *Captain America*, *Spider-Man* (Marvel), *Green Lantern*, *Legion*, *Mister Miracle*, *Timber Wolf*, *Wonder Woman*, *Body Doubles* and his favorite, *Superboy* (DC). Joe has also done hundreds of trading cards, painted covers and uncredited fill-ins.

Joe's own creation *The Heretic* (Dark Horse) will resurface later in 2000 with a collection of the mini-series and an online comic. You can also watch for his boy art for *XY Magazine*, *Xodus USA*, or *10% Productions*, and he promises much more of it in the future.

- Current: Joe has recently been working on *Superman* for DC, as well as on-line comics for RBJ Telecom.
- Email: ibisstudio@home.com

- Website: www.joePhillips.com
- Identification: "Evil—approach with extreme caution. Cute boys will be bitten on sight."

RACHEL POLLACK

Comics are a lifelong love, but a side profession for Rachel Pollack, having authored 22 books. The most recent novel, *Godmother Night*, won the World Fantasy Award. A contemporary story based on *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, it featured two generations of lesbians, and Death, who is pictured in the story as a short middle-aged woman attended by five young women on motorcycles.

Rachel has also written extensively on Tarot cards, including the book for *The Vertigo Tarot*. Among her favorite projects in her career, *Doom Patrol* stands out very strongly. "I tried to explore people's anxieties about their bodies, their sexuality, and their identity," she said of the DC title.

- Current/Upcoming: Rachel is currently working on a mystery novel, in which the detective changes sex halfway through the book.
- Email: RGPollack@aol.com



Midnighter
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NEAL POZNER

(DECEASED)

Neal Pozner was an award winning art director who worked with DC Comics during two stints in his professional career, first as a design director and later as Senior Editor/Creative Editor. In this capacity, among a large number of tasks, he was responsible for recruiting new talent. Stuart Immonen, Travis Charest, Gene Ha, and Phil Jimenez are among the pencillers Neal discovered and worked with.

Having graduated from NYC's exclusive Cooper Union, Neal would go on to work with a number of famous illustrators, designing the first gay-themed bus ad for NYC as well several posters for Lincoln Center theatre. He wrote the 1985 *Aquaman* miniseries, designed the character's famous blue "camouflage" uniform, and was responsible for incorporating DC Comics characters into a series of AIDS awareness house ads printed in the comics themselves. Neal died in 1994 from complications of AIDS, his family and boyfriend Jimenez at his side.

BRAD RADER

Brad Rader has wanted to draw comics since he was twelve, but most of his career has been spent doing storyboards on series such as *Batman: The Animated Series*, *Gargoyles*, and *Men In Black*. In recent years, he has switched to directing Saturday morning cartoons. He finally got the opportunity to do comics back in 1992 & '93, such

as *The Batman Adventures* (4-6, DC), and *The Mark* (Dark Horse).

Brad has been Animation Director of *Roswell Conspiracies* and *Space Monkeys* on UPN, and *Spawn* (episode 12) on HBO. His primary influences are Adams, Kirby, Kubrick, Toth, Eisner, Caniff, Hitchcock, Kurtzman, Miyazaki, Los Bros. Hernandez, Otomo, and Lubitsch.

Brad doesn't think of himself as a gay artist, but as an artist who happens to be gay. "I've spent most of my career anonymously helping other people tell their stories," he says. "Now, as I approach 40, I find my priority is telling my own stories." Just recently, Brad was part of the team nominated for a Prime Time Emmy Award for *Spawn* in the category of Outstanding Animated Program.

- Current/Upcoming: Brad is a staff storyboard artist on the forthcoming *Tarzan* TV series for Disney Television, and he is pencilling at least one inventory issue of *Batman: Gotham Adventures*.
- Email: bradrader@earthlink.net

KAY REYNOLDS

Kay Reynolds is a former Senior Editor at Donning/Starblaze, writing *Robotech Art 1 & 2*, and editing and marketing the original color volumes of *ElfQuest*. While at this job in the late 1980s, she was the driving force in introducing graphic novels into the mainstream bookstore market. Kay wrote one graphic novel called *Fortune's Friends*, which featured a gay detective. She has

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had many short stories published in the horror, detective, and spy genres, for Tome, Barnes & Noble, and other publishers. Reynolds currently lives in Virginia, and is an assistant editor and staff writer for the *Virginian Pilot*.

- Email: kayrey@pilot.infi.net

ROBERT RODI

Born in Chicago in 1956, Robert Rodi still lives there, in an ongoing Victorian rehab with his partner Jeffrey Smith and two Shetland sheepdogs. He has published five novels: *Fag Hag* (1992), *Closet Case* (1993), *Drag Queen* (1995), *Kept Boy* (1996) and the hilarious comics industry satire *What They Did To Princess Paragon* (1994).

Robert wrote comics criticism for years in the pages of *The Comics Journal*, then jumped to the other side of the fence with a gay-themed story in Vertigo's *Heart Throbs 1* with art by Phil Jimenez. Contributions to other Vertigo anthologies followed, including *Flinch*, *Strange Adventures* and *Weird War Tales*, as well as his first miniseries, *Four Horsemen*.

- Current/Upcoming: Robert is currently completing a new novel and working on several TV and film projects. He is now developing a monthly series for DC/Vertigo that should debut before the end of 2000.
- Email to: RbtRodi@aol.com

P. CRAIG RUSSELL

Phillip Craig Russell is a 28-year comics veteran, one of the comic world's most

respected and award-winning artists, and the most high-profile, openly gay creator in the business. Some of Craig's favorite work includes *Sandman 50 "Ramadan,"* his first in a series of works with Neil Gaiman — the second is "One Life Furnished in Early Moorcock." Other favorites include "Isolation & Illusion" in *Epic 14* (1981), and "Human Remains," included in Clive Barker's *Tapping the Vein 1* from Eclipse Comics. Recent work has included stories in various *Batman* titles for DC and *Star Wars* titles for Dark Horse.



P. Craig Russell's *Salomé*. ©P. Craig Russell

Craig is in the midst of a career-long project, which is set to include adaptations of 12 operas into graphic story form. Six have been completed, including *Salomé* and *The Magic Flute*. He

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has also been adapting *The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde*. Five of the nine have been completed in three award-winning volumes from NBM.

A winner of a Harvey Award, many Eisner Awards, and the Inkpot Award for Career Achievement, Craig came out to the industry in a 1991 interview in *The Comics Journal* 147, where he referred to himself as “just another left-handed, night-dwelling, gay libertarian cartoonist.”

- Current/Upcoming: Craig continues work *The Ring of the Nibelung*, a four-opera 424-page adaptation for Dark Horse. The four-part *The Rheingold* has been published and the three-part *The Valkyrie* starts soon. Look for his inking on upcoming stories in the *Star Wars Tales* anthology.
- Website: www.lurid.com
- Identification: Gay

STEPHEN SADOWSKI

Born and raised in British Columbia, Canada, Stephen Sadowski grew up collecting everything comic-related he could. He has been publicly “out” for about 15 years or so, and he’s recently realized his boyhood dream of working for DC Comics, as penciller for the one of DC’s biggest new successes, *JSA*.

Steve’s work includes Malibu Comics’ *Firearm* 13 (10 pages uncredited), *Jestercrow* 1 from Castle Rain, *Bob Burden’s Mystery Men* 1 and 2 from Dark Horse, and for DC, *Starman* 56 and *Starman 80-Page Giant*, *Smash Comics* 1, *All Star Comics* 2, and *JSA Secret Files*. He says, “I can’t remember NOT drawing, and hope to keep doing it ... for as long as I can hold a pencil!”

- Current/Upcoming: Steve is the regular penciller for DC’s *JSA*.
- Website: <http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/sadowskiappreciationdivision>
- Email to: sadowski3@hotmail.com

ARIEL SCHRAG

Ariel Schrag is the creator of the comic books *Awkward*, *Definition*, *Potential*, and *Likewise* published by Slave Labor Graphics. They chronicle her 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade experiences respectively. During the ‘80s, Ariel was attending elementary school and wrote two comic books titled *Life with Lucy Hound*, about a girl who wants a dog, and *Tracker*, about a dog that escapes from the farm.

- Current/Upcoming: Ariel is currently a sophomore at Columbia University where she is studying disease and inking *Likewise*.
- Email: als94@columbia.edu
- Website: www.slavelabor.com
- Identification: genetically determined homosexual

BOB SCHRECK

Bob Schreck is a Senior Editor in the *Batman* group of the DC Universe editorial department. He began his career in marketing, promotions and administration, working for Creation Conventions, Marvel Comics, and Comico, and rose to the position of Marketing Director at Dark Horse Comics in 1990.

At Dark Horse, Bob changed gears and became Senior Group Editor, where he edited such projects as *Sin City* by Frank Miller and *Madman* by Michael Allred, and won two consecutive Harvey

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Awards as editor of the groundbreaking anthology Dark Horse Presents.

Bob left Dark Horse in 1996 to co-found Oni Press with Joe Nozemack. There he developed such projects as *Clerks: The Comic Book* and *Jay & Silent Bob* with screenwriter/director Kevin Smith, as well as the Harvey Award winning anthology *Oni Double Feature* and the critically acclaimed *Whiteout* by Greg Rucka and Steve Leiber.

- Current/Upcoming: Bob currently edits *Batman, Nightwing, Batman: Gotham Adventures, Green Lantern, and Green Lantern/Superman: The Legend of the Green Flame* written by Neil Gaiman, among many others.
- Email: DCOSchreck@aol.com
- Identification: Bisexual

DAVID SEXTON

David Sexton's professional comics career began when he met his idol, P. Craig Russell, at the Chicago Comic Con. The two collaborated on the story "Satan and the Savior" for *Taboo* (Kitchen Sink) and on two stories in *Gay Comics*. His Tarot deck *The Winged Spirit Tarot* was released last fall by USGames Systems. David is a regular contributor of articles and illustrations for *Genre* magazine. He currently lives in Miami Beach, where he owns Ironworks Gym.

- Current/Upcoming: David is currently working on two new Tarot Decks; one for Anne Rice based on characters from her novels, (t-shirts with his artwork are available on her website <http://www.annerice.com>), and *The Wonderful Tarot of Oz* based on the Oz books for Llewelyn Publications.
- Website: www.davidsexton.com.

ERIC SHANOWER

Eric Shanower says he is a cartoonist, a term that confuses some people, until he informs them that he writes and draws comic books. He's been creating comics since he was a child, but has been getting paid only for the last sixteen years.

Eric was the writer and artist of the *Oz* graphic novels published by First and Dark Horse, as well as many different projects for DC, Marvel, Epic, and Dark Horse, including *An Accidental Death, The Elsewhere Prince, Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*, and inks on *Star Wars: The Last Command*. He lives in San Diego with his partner David Maxine, where they maintain Hungry Tiger Press, their publishing company, as well as a dog named Road.

- Current/Upcoming: Eric currently produces the massive retelling of the Trojan War in a black-and-white comic series called *Age of Bronze* from Image. He has also pencilled a six-page section inked by Art Adams in special project for DC titled *Green Lantern/Superman: The Legend of the Green Flame*, written by Neil Gaiman due for release in 2001. His recent work also includes a story in *Paradox's The Big Book of the 70s*, illustration and prose for *Oz*-story 6, and illustration for the children's book *Paradox in Oz*.
- Email: Linearcbcom@aol.com

LAURIE E. SMITH

Laurie E. Smith is a colorist with many prestigious projects under her belt. Her portfolio includes 22 issues of *Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight*, 4 issues of *Black Orchid*, and 15 issues of *The X-Files*, for which she received an Eisner Award nomination in 1996.

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- Current/Upcoming: Laurie is a regular colorist on *RaceWarrior*, a NASCAR tie-in comic from Custom Comics in Charlotte, North Carolina. With her husband George Freeman, she is also producing various project proposals for the comic industry.
- Email: colorist@canada.com
- Website: www.freeman-smith.com
- Identification: Bisexual

CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR

Christopher Taylor decided by high school that he wanted to design and illustrate for a living. While attending the Art Institute of Philadelphia, he further refined his interest and focused on comics. Christopher went on to become a mainstream comics penciller who has illustrated the *Alien*³ movie adaptation for Dark Horse, and *Legion of Super-Heroes*, *Darkstars*, and the *BloodPack* mini-series for DC.

In the mid-1990s, Christopher dropped out of comics to pursue a “real” job. Nevertheless, he went on to contribute illustrations to various gay adult publications such as *American Bear*, *Bulk Male*, and *IN UNIFORM The Magazine* as well as designing Hot Ash NYC’s current cigar fetish t-shirt.

Currently online both at the EuroBear and Bearpress sites are samplings of Christopher’s realistic and anime inspired Bear artwork. His work has also been featured in Les Wright’s Bear Icons art exhibit and in *Les Wright’s Bear Book II*.

- Current/Upcoming: When not freelancing Christopher continues to diligently work

(albeit slowly) on his self-published comic venture entitled *Mark Nemesis: The Avatar*.

- Website: www.eurobear.com, www.bearpress.com
- Email: neocmt@hotmail.com

RICK TAYLOR

A member of the first class at the Kubert School, Rick Taylor entered the comics industry in the 1980s as production manager and colorist for First Comics, later taking the job as art director and colorist for Comico. There he worked on such books as *Jonny Quest*, *Gumby*, and *E-Man*. He began working for DC in the late 1980s as a production manager and colorist, later became Director of Graphic Services uniting him with the characters he loved: *Batgirl*, *Captain Marvel*, and *Wonder Woman*, among others.

As Senior Editor for Collected Editions, Rick was responsible for much of the work on DC’s great *Archives* series as well as many other trade paperbacks and hardcovers, like *Batman: The Long Halloween* and *Batman In The 60’s*. He lives in Philadelphia with his lover of twelve years, Bill and their dog, Dolly. He is often seen on eBay with cool collectibles under the name of dianarinceww.

- Current/Upcoming: Rick is working on various projects for Archie Comics.
- Email: cttacandy@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

IVAN VELEZ, JR.*

Ivan Velez, Jr. is the creator of *Tales of the Closet*, a ten chapter graphic novel

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that depicts the lives of eight gay teenagers in Queens. Raised in the South Bronx, Ivan was heavily influenced by the Spanish-language soap operas, chopsocky karate and blaxploitation films and that filled his free time. His work has also been seen in several issues of *Gay Comix*, magazines *Details*, *NYQ*, and *HX*, and he has sold scripts to HBO and the Hudlin Brothers.

Ivan also wrote several Milestone titles, including the award winning *Blood Syndicate*, and a year long run on the acclaimed series, *Static*. Ivan also scripted the last two years on *Ghost Rider*, plus *Abominations*, a *Venom* mini-series, and other books for Marvel. At DC Comics, he wrote a few short stories for their Kids and DC Universe lines, including an *Eradicator* mini-series, and some work for Vertigo's *Flinch*.

- Current/Upcoming: His future projects include the long-anticipated tenth and last issue of *Tales of the Closet*. Existing chapters are posted regularly on the web, alongside *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic*.
- Website: www.queernation.com
- Email: mrpapo@worldspy.net

MAURICE VELLEKOOP

Maurice Vellekoop was born in 1964 in the suburbs of Toronto, where his mother created bullet-proof hairdos for local women and his father blasted the neighborhood with opera records. Encouraged to draw from an early age, he later attended the Ontario College of Art, and has been illustrating for magazines, books,

and advertising ever since, including *Vogue*. You can see his strips in the anthology *Drawn & Quarterly* and his collected work in the *VelleVisions* trade paperback (published by Drawn & Quarterly). His small-sized X-rated *Maurice Vellekoop's ABC Book: A Homoerotic Primer* is out of print, but will be available again by Christmas, 2000.

- Current/Upcoming: A series of books called *Men's Room* is forthcoming from Pas de Chance, PO Box 6704 Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1X5. The first of them, *Artists & Models* is now available.
- Identification: "just plain old Gay."

JOSÉ VILLARRUBIA

Born in Madrid, Spain, and living now in Baltimore, José Villarrubia is best known for his fine art photographs which have been featured in the books *The Homoerotic Photograph* (Columbia University Press), *Lust* (Liberation Publications), *The Male Nude* (Taschen), *Uniforms* and *Male Bonding II* (FotoFactory Press). In comics he is best known for his digital artwork in *Promethea 7*, and his collaborations with Jae Lee (painted colors for *Hellshock*) and Stephen John Phillips (digital art for *Veils*).

- Current/Upcoming: Look for José's painted colors for Marvel's *The Sentry*, painted covers for the America's Best Comics collections (Wildstorm) and painted colors for *Promethea 12* (Wildstorm).
- Email: JoseVillar@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

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DUFFY VOHLAND (DECEASED)

Duffy Vohland was an artist in the early 1970s for Marvel and Charlton. He was one of the members of the “Marvel Bullpen,” and helped bring John Byrne into the Marvel fold. Vohland passed away sometime in the 1980’s.

REED WALLER*

Reed Waller created the immensely popular, critically acclaimed, anthropomorphic, adults-only series *Omaha, The Cat Dancer* with his then-wife, Kate Worley. They publicly came out as bisexual in their letters column in 1988, making them the first openly bisexual creators in comics. They have had characters of all sexual orientations in their series, which moved from Kitchen Sink Press to Fantagraphics Books, which has several volumes of *Omaha* in print. Reed’s work has included stories in *Gay Comics*, *Strip AIDS USA*, *Critters*, *Grateful Dead Comix*, and *Real Girl*.

- Current/Upcoming: Reed is currently developing an interactive CD-ROM project, and working on a computer-animated pop band called *Nellie and the Drummers*.
- Email: rwaller@winternet.com
- Website: www.winternet.com/~rwaller

ELIZABETH WATASIN

Elizabeth Watasin has self-published the ‘zine *Adventures of A-Girl!* since 1993. Her work has also appeared in the anthology, *Action Girl*, with such character creations as Flying Girl, Susanoo the Brawler, The Go-Go Gang, and

Bunny the Good Teen Witch. For absolute fun and no profit, she also writes Babylon 5 fan fiction with the characters Ivanova and Talia Winters under the handle “metis.”

- Current/Upcoming: Elizabeth is currently doing the book *Charm School*, published by Slave Labor Graphics. It’s a comic about Bunny, her girlfriend, vampire biker Dean, and the dilemma of a really intriguing, drop-dead gorgeous faerie who enters their lives.
- Website (fanfic): www.angelfire.com/ks/morpheusfff/friend.html
- Email: flyinggirl1@netscape.net
- Identification: “Lesbian space cadet”

KATE WORLEY*

Best known for her writing on the successful, adults-only series, *Omaha, The Cat Dancer*, Kate Worley has recently worked on projects as diverse as *Gay Comics*, the 1995 *Wonder Woman Annual*, the Universal Horror Movie trading card set, John Jakes’ *Mullkon Empire* for Tekno Comics, *Roger Rabbit Adventures*, and the new *Jonny Quest* series for Dark Horse. Kate publicly came out as bisexual in the *Omaha* letters column in 1988, making her and her then-husband Reed Waller the first openly bisexual creators in comics. She now lives in Tulsa with her husband, writer James Vance, and their baby son.

- Email: Kate.Worley@gratisnet.com

RESOURCES FOR GLBT FANS

THE GAY LEAGUE

The Gay League is an online federation of queer comics fans from all over the world. The Gay League website is quickly becoming the definitive source for information on gay characters, storylines and creators in comics. It's also home to a lively group of fans who interact and share art, reviews, and stories. The League holds a weekly chat for AOL members on Wednesdays at 10 pm ET. The chat link can be found on the site's home page in the Online section, or by emailing JPalmer567.

A great deal of the member's interaction takes place via it's Emailing lists at eGroups. The regular list, called simply the GLA, is a great way to get to know other gay fans. Join in on the fun among the hundreds of GLA members currently subscribing. Digest delivery and Web Only access cuts down or eliminates email volume for those concerned about excessive messages. To subscribe, go to www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/GLA.

The GLAFiles is a companion list for members to share photos, drawings, etc. Digest version will not deliver file attachments though. Due to some adult content, you must be of legal age in your locality to join the GLAFiles. To subscribe, go to www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/GLAFiles.

For more information:

- Website: www.gayleague.com
- Chats and GLA email list:
JPalmer567@aol.com or Orcll100@cs.com
- GLAFiles email list: Protyl1@aol.com

ATDNSIN

(THE APA THAT DARES NOW SPEAK ITS NAME)

ATDNSIN, an Amateur Publishing Association (APA) for lesbians, gays, bisexuals & transgendered people, was begun by Andy Mangels and Roger Klorese in response to the 1989 San Diego Comic Con "Gays in Comics" panel. It has recently begun its twelfth year of continuous publication. The APA has discussions on comics of all genres, how they relate to queer people, and the varied lifestyles we live.

Amateurs and professionals have interacted over the years, sending in their individual 'zine sections which may have art, cartoons, stories or personal discussion to the Central Mailer who collates the sections and sends the completed magazine to each member. As of August 2000, *ATDNSIN* will have published 64 issues on a bimonthly schedule. *ATDNSIN* contains adult content; you must be of legal age to join. For a sample issue, please send \$5.00 with your name and address.

- Contact information:
Michael Phillips, Central Mailer
1032 Irving Street, PMB - 614
San Francisco, CA 94122-2200
- Email: MFilip@aol.com

NORTHSTAR

NORTHSTAR is the nation's fastest growing APA for GLBT comics fans, and was founded in 1989. Members submit self-made 'zines on comics and popular culture to the Central Mailer, who distrib-

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utes the collected issue to the membership. Nominal membership fees cover the cost of postage. *NORTHSTAR* members celebrated the publication of their 50th Anniversary Issue in January of 2000, with an issue topping 600 pages!

'Zines often include stories, art, reviews, discussion, adult content, and provide a depth of personality that is hard to find online. Sharing our creative juices and building lasting friendships are the focus of *NORTHSTAR*. Issue 53 came out in July 2000, just one week before the San Diego Con, and the deadline for submissions for 54 is Friday, September 15th. Why settle for chat rooms and e-mail lists—join in the fun! We love comics—and we love new members even more. Find out why we say it's *NORTHSTAR*—now more than ever!

- Contact information:
Kyle Minor, Central Mailer, 1407 Grant Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94133
- Email: northstarapa@yahoo.com
- Website: <http://welcome.to/northstarapa>

QUEER NATION: THE ONLINE GAY COMIC

This website is not only home to the super-powered meta-queers of Queer Nation, but also the on-line home of the much beloved *Tales of the Closet*, and includes information on how to purchase the actual comics themselves from the Hetrick-Martin Institute in New York City. QueerNation.com also boasts an active mailroom, where comics fans of many stripes react to the stories posted there.

- Website: www.queernation.com

QUEERCOMICS MAILING LIST

Another online mailing list for Gay and Lesbian comic fans; unfortunately, it's not always very active.

- <http://QueerNet.ORG/lists/queercomix.html>

GAY & COMIX GAY COMICS

BACK ISSUES STILL AVAILABLE!

There are still copies of some issues of this groundbreaking series available, though some are nearly sold out.

—◆◆◆—
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Gay Comix Special 1

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(80-page final issue!)*

—◆◆◆—
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For Issue 25 only: \$7.50 (US),
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GAY COMICS
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Please include a signed statement
that you are 18 years or older.

THE GAYS IN COMICS PANELS

A TWELVE YEAR HISTORY OF THE GAYS IN COMICS PANELS AT THE SAN DIEGO COMIC CON

All panels have been moderated by writer/editor Andy Mangels.
All credits listed reflect projects from that time period.

PANEL 1 SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1988

"Creators join in a discussion of homosexuality as a legitimate subject in comics."

- Max Allan Collins, straight writer (*Ms. Tree*, *Wild Dog*, *Batman*) - was replaced halfway through by *Ms. Tree* artist Terry Beatty
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Gay Comix*, *Winging It*)
- Mike Grell, straight writer/artist (*James Bond*, *Green Arrow*, *Jon Sable*, *Starslayer*, *Warlord*)
- John Ostrander, straight writer (*Suicide Squad*, *Manhunter*, *Grimjack*, *Firestorm*, *Hotspur*)
- Kay Reynolds, editor/writer (*Starblaze*, *Fortuné Friends* GN)
- Robert Triptow, writer/artist/editor (*Gay Comix*, *Strip AIDS USA*)
- Kate Worley, writer (*Omaha The Cat Dancer*)

PANEL 2 SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1989 CHARACTER PORTRAYALS

"Creators talk about portraying Gay and Lesbian characters in comics: Moving beyond the stereotypes or laughing at them?"

- Donna Barr, straight writer/artist (*The Desert Peach*, *Stinz*, *Gay Comix*)
- Howard Cruse, writer/artist (*Wendel*, founder of *Gay Comix*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Gay Comix*, *Winging It*)
- Craig Hamilton, artist (*Aquaman*, unpublished *Peter Pan & Wendy*)
- Trina Robbins, straight writer/artist (*Women in Comics*, *Wonder Woman*, *Strip AIDS USA*)
- Eric Shanower, writer/artist (*Oz* graphic novels, *Justice League Secret Origins*, *Nexus*)

A Con party for Panel attendees was held in a nearby hotel room.

Elsewhere at the Con, Roger Klorese appeared on a panel about APAs, representing the gay *APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name* (ATDNSIN).

PANEL 3 SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1990

The Panel was not planned as part of Con programming, but recollections of a last-minute Panel are in a number of people's minds.

A pool party was held at a nearby hotel, and same-sex couples "dance-crashed" the Seduction of the Innocent party. ATDNSIN also organized several dinners.

PANEL 4 SATURDAY, JULY 6TH, 1991 ROLE MODELS: LESBIANS AND GAYS

"Have comics moved beyond stereotypes to present positive images or fully rounded homosexual characters?"

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (award-winning *Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip)
- Donna Barr, straight writer/artist (*The Desert Peach*, *Stinz*, *Gay Comics*)
- Flower Frankenstein, cartoonist (*Public Chaos*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Naughty Bits*, *Gay Comix*, *Winging It*)

Also, ATDNSIN held a party in a nearby hotel room.

PANEL 5 FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1992 THE CREATORS AND THE CHARACTERS

"The creators talk about how gay characters have been portrayed in recent comics. How much have things changed, and has it been for the better?"

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (award-winning *Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip)
- Chris Cooper, editor/writer (Marvel Comics, *Darkhold*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Naughty Bits*, *Artistic Licentiousness*, *Gay Comics*)
- Scott Lobdell, straight writer, outed Northstar (*X-Men*, *Alpha Flight*)
- Lee Marrs, writer/artist (*Pudge*, *Girl Blimp*, *Gay Comix*, *Viking Prince* GN, *Vamps*)

THE GAYS IN COMICS PANELS

- Bill Messner-Loebs, straight writer/artist, outed Pied Piper (*Journey, Wonder Woman, Flash*)

A *GAY COMIX* signing was held with Daerick Gross, Brad Parker, Donna Barr, Roberta Gregory, and Tim Barela.

A Jem theme party was thrown in a nearby hotel room, guest-starring Brinke Stevens as Jem.

PANEL 6 SATURDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 1993 DEALING WITH INTIMACY

"The issue of intimate relations between gays in comics is discussed. How much contact should be shown? What are the ramifications of this in mainstream comics?"

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip and TPB)
- Nancy Collins, straight writer/novelist (*Swamp Thing*, horror novels *Tempter, Sunglasses After Dark*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Naughty Bits, Artistic Licentiousness, Gay Comics*)
- Brad Rader, artist/animation storyboards (*Batman Adventures, TV's Batman, Mighty Mouse*)
- P. Craig Russell, writer/artist (*Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde, Killraven*, various opera comics)

PANEL 7 SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1994 MOVING BEYOND THE STEREOTYPES

"How are gays portrayed in comics? Are gays in mainstream comics just cardboard tokens designed to appease the gay community, or are they allowed to develop into realistic characters?"

- Sharon Cho, agent (*Star Reach*)
- Steve Englehart, straight writer (*The Strangers, Millennium, Avengers, Detective Comics*)
- Chris Taylor, artist (*Legion Annual, BloodPack*)
- Mercy Van Vlack, artist (*Evolutionary Times*)
- Ivan Velez Jr., writer/artist (*Blood Syndicate, Tales of the Closet*)



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PANEL 8 SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1995 EIGHT YEARS ON

"A lively discussion of gay issues and characters in comics."

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip and TPBs)
- Sharon Cho, agent (*Star Reach*)
- Mark Phillips, Central Mailer for *NORTHSTAR*
- Martha Thomases, straight publicity manager for DC Comics (promoting Howard Cruse's *Stuck Rubber Baby*)

PANEL 9 SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1996 OUT IN PRINT

"One of the Con's most popular panels returns for its ninth year."

- Sharon Cho, agent (Spitfire Services)
- Howard Cruse, writer/artist (*Stuck Rubber Baby, Wendel*, founder of *Gay Comix*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Naughty Bits, Artistic Licentiousness, Gay Comics*)
- Jimmy Robinson, straight writer/artist (*Cyberzone*)
- Earl Storm, cartoonist (*Such Is Life*)
- Ivan Velez Jr., writer/artist (*Ghost Rider, Blood Syndicate, Tales of the Closet*)

THE GAYS IN COMICS PANELS

PANEL 10

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1997

"A lively discussion of gay issues and characters in comics."

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip and TPBs)
- Sharon Cho, agent (Spitfire Services)
- Phil Jimenez, writer/artist (*Team Titans*, *Tempest*)
- Joe Phillips, writer/artist (*The Heretic*, *Superboy*, *Timber Wolf*)
- Jimmie Robinson, straight writer/artist (*Cyberzone*)
- P. Craig Russell, writer/artist (*Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde*, *Killraven*, various opera comics)
- Eric Shanower, writer/artist (*Age of Bronze*, *Star Wars*, *Oz* graphic novels)

PANEL 11

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 1998

"Are homosexual themes aimed only at homosexual readers? Hetero girls and boys are curious too, but are they part of the intended audience of these books?"

- Colleen Doran, straight writer/artist (*A Distant Shore*)
- Terrance Grieb Jr., writer (*The Skulker*, *Scooby-Doo*)
- Pat McGreal, straight writer (*Chiarascuro*, *Fighting American*, *Veils*)
- Joe Phillips, writer/artist (*The Heretic*, *Superboy*, *Body Doubles*)
- Eric Shanower, writer/artist (*Age of Bronze*, *Star Wars*, *Oz* graphic novels)
- Jose Villarrubia, artist (*Veils*)

PANEL 12

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1999

"Openly gay and lesbian creators from the world of comic books, animation, cartooning, and book publishing speak on their involvement in the industry, the growing ranks of gay and lesbian creators, and the state of gay characters in the comic book field. Questions from the audience will also be welcomed."

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry* cartoon strip and TPBs)

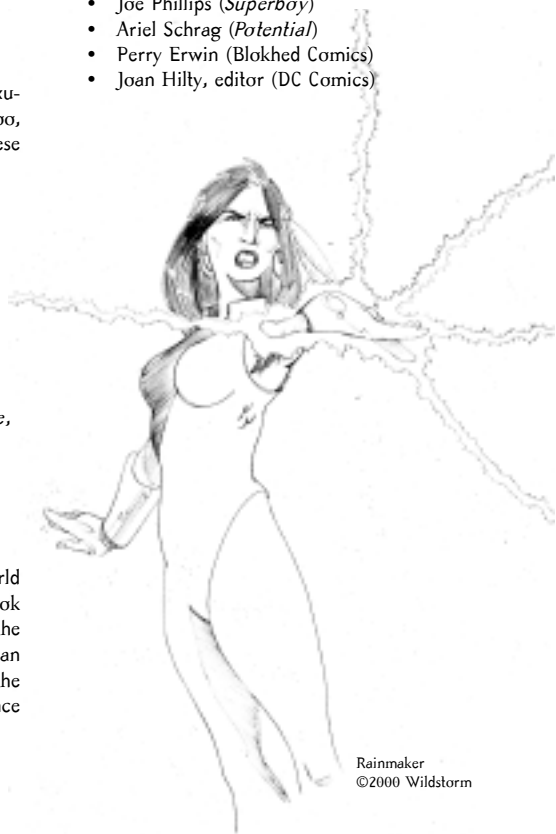
- Sharon Cho, co-writer/agent (*Nobody*)
- Terrance Grieb Jr., writer (*The Skulker*, *Scooby-Doo*)
- Brad Parker, artist (*Green Lantern: Fear Itself*, *Code of Honor*)
- Brad Rader, artist/animation director (*Batman Adventures*, *The Mark*, TV's *Spawn*, *Roswell*)
- Stephen Sadowski, artist (*JSA*)
- Bob Schreck, editor (DC Comics)

PANEL 13

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1999

"The popular roundtable returns for its thirteenth year, spotlighting openly gay and lesbian comic professionals, and featuring discussion about queer themes in comics."

- Phil Jimenez (*Wonder Woman*)
- Joe Phillips (*Superboy*)
- Ariel Schrag (*Potential*)
- Perry Erwin (Blokhed Comics)
- Joan Hilty, editor (DC Comics)



Rainmaker
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TIMELINE

- 1957 *Physique Pictorial* - Tom of Finland premieres
- 1964 *Drum* begins running A. Jay's Harry Chess strip
- 1972 *Wimmen's Comix 1* - the first lesbian comic story
- 1973 *Come Out Comix* - Mary Wings
All Canadian Beaver Comix - first gay comic story
- 1976 *Gay Heart Throbs 1* - lasts to #3
Dynamite Damsels - Roberta Gregory
Barefootz Funnies 2 - Howard Cruse
- 1977 *The Advocate* begins publishing Donelan's cartoons
- 1978 *Dyke Shorts* - Mary Wings
- 1980 *Gay Comix* premieres in September, the first major queer comic book anthology
The Hulk Magazine 23, featuring the infamous YMCA rape scene.
- 1981 *Gay Comix 2* released
- 1982 *Gay Comix 3*
In Touch begins running Jerry Mills' Poppers
- 1983 *Gay Comix 4*
Alison Bechdel begins syndicating *Dykes To Watch Out For*
- 1984 *Gay Comix 5*
- 1985 *Gay Comix 6*
- 1986 *Gay Comix 7 - 9*
Meatmen volume 1 is released - 23 volumes to date
Watch Out! Comix - Vaughn Frick
- 1987 *Gay Comix 10 and 11*
Strip AIDS (UK)
Tales of the Closet I, written and drawn by gay creator Ivan Velez, Jr., is released by the Hetrick-Martin Institute
- 1988 *Gay Comix 12*
AARGH! (Artists Against Rampant Government Homophobia) forms in the UK
Strip AIDS USA is released
"Out of the Closet and into the Comics" by Andy Mangels published in *Amazing Heroes* 143-144. It is the first major article on gay creators and creations.
First "Gays In Comics" panel at San Diego Comic-Con International
- 1989 *Gay Comics* (Plume), a trade paperback looking at *Gay Comix* and strips, is released.
The APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name (ATDNSIN) is founded.
NORTHSTAR is founded.
- 1991 *Gay Comix 13 and 14*
Gay Comix Special 1 is released
Buddies 1 (UK) - lasts to #4
- 1992 *Gay Comix* changes name to *Gay Comics*, issues 15 - 17 are released
Oh... 1 - lasts to #22
- 1992 Canadian hero Northstar comes out publicly in Marvel's *Alpha Flight* 106
GLAAD awards it's first Media Award to a comic book, DC's *The Flash*, which featured Pied Piper, a gay reformed villain.
- 1993 Four issues of *Gay Comics* are released, 18-21
Gay Comics wins Comic Creators Guild Best Anthology Award
Dyke Delight 1 (UK) - lasts to #2
Quantum Leap 9 is released, featuring a story where the main character "jumps" into the body of a person at the Stonewall Riots.
- 1994 *Gay Comics 22*
Hands Off! is released, a Washington pro-gay benefit book
Out of the Inkwell, a series of four gay comic-based one-act plays, premieres in San Francisco
- 1995 *Dyke Strippers: Lesbians Cartoonists A to Z* is released
Stuck Rubber Baby - Howard Cruse
- 1996 *Gay Comics 23 and 24*
GLAAD gives a Media Award to DC title *Metropolis: S.C.U.* for it's depiction of Maggie Sawyer, a lesbian cop, marking the first time the award was given to a comic.
- 1997 *BAGAL Comic Connection* (gay comic news 'zine) 10th Anniversary Gays In Comics panel at San Diego Comic Con International
GLAAD's Media Award for Comic Books given to Vertigo title *Death: The Time of Your Life*
- 1998 *Gay Comics 25* (final issue)
Gay and Lesbian characters introduced in Marvel's *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*.
GLAAD's Media Award for Comics goes to Lynn Johnson's syndicated strip *For Better or For Worse*, for it's depiction of Laurence, a friend of a main cast member who comes out as gay.
- 1999 Gay Day at San Diego Comic Con, including the "Gays in Comics" Panel and a reception for gay fans and creators
The first *Out in Comics* published
GLAAD's Media Award for Comic Books goes to DC's *Supergirl* for its depiction of Andy, a lesbian in love with Supergirl's alter ego.
- 2000 *NORTHSTAR*, an APA for gay comics fans, publishes its 50th issue
San Diego Comic Con coincides with San Diego's Gay Pride celebration
Wildstorm characters Apollo and The Midnighter outed by writer Warren Ellis in *The Authority*
GLAAD gives two Media Awards to comics, one to Terry Moore's *Strangers in Paradise* and one to Gary Trudeau's strip *Doonesbury*.

WANT TO SEE SAMPLES OF COMICS ART FROM PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS?

MAYBE EVEN COMMISSION AN ORIGINAL PIECE?

Come check out *SpitfireSvc.com* for hundreds of samples from over 15 international comic artists.

See published and unpublished art, browse around and enjoy.

For a small fee, artists can submit art for review.

The logo for Spitfire Services features the word "Spitfire" in a large, red, cursive font with a yellow and orange flame-like trail extending from the top of the 'i'. Below it, the word "Services" is written in a smaller, red, sans-serif font.

Batman Copyright 2000 DC Comics. Artwork by Brian Aporhp



For VERY GAY



COMICS READING