

OLC

OUT IN COMICS 2001



SADOWSKI+VILLARRUBIA 2001



OUT IN COMICS 2001

A guide to openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered comic creators, plus listings for other resources for queer comics fans!

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FROM THE AUTHORS

Thanks for picking up a copy of the third issue of what we hope will be a long-continuing tradition. Why a guide to gay creators? Well, for as many advances as GLBT people have made in equality and visibility, there are still those segments of our population who discriminate in negative ways against queer creators. Some of these include comics readers, and almost more importantly, comics publishers.

By publishing *Out in Comics* we hope to accomplish a few things. We hope that comics readers, especially GLBT fans, will try out the work of queer creators when they consider how they spend their money on comics. Their dollars may make publishers and editors stand up and take notice, thereby giving queer creators—as individuals and as a group—a bit of a "boost" in a competitive marketplace. We also hope to provide an excuse for GLBT creators to come out of the comics closet and stand up as proud participants in an industry we all care so deeply about.

It's especially noteworthy that we release this free publication again at the Comic-Con International in San Diego, seeing as how it has long been the home of the "Gays in Comics" annual panel, and is growing each year as the gathering spot for GLBT fans from across the world. We thank The Gay League, one of the leading unifying forces in queer fandom on the web today, for making our 2000 Out In Comics booklet available online, and we're proud to be branching out onto the web ourselves with our new site at *OutInComics.com*, where you can find electronic versions of Out In Comics and links to the creators listed here.

Welcome to all readers with open minds! Support gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered creators when you can, and don't be afraid to be choosy. Life's too short for bad comics!

*Andy, zan, Kyle, Dawson, Joe and Dwayne
July 2001.*

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.

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When biography entries could not be approved by press time, they were compiled from public information.

MARC ANDREYKO

Marc Andreyko has been a comics fan all of his life and a comics writer since 1994 with his first published work *The Lost*, his infamous Harvey-nominated, cult comic series. Marc also worked on the Harvey and Eisner winning *Dr. Strange - What Is It That Disturbs You, Stephen?* with artist and friend P. Craig Russell, for whom he translated the Italian opera *Pagliacci/ The Clowns*. Other notable collaborations include a *Spider-Man* tale with Jill Thompson in *Marvel - Shadows & Light*, and *Torso* with Brian Michael Bendis.

In addition to comics, Marc makes his living as a screenwriter in Los Angeles. Past work includes a bio-pic on Armand Hammer and the *Torso* screenplay with Bendis for Miramax.

- Current/Upcoming: Marc is working on the *Blade* monthly for Marvel MAX, Marvel's mature readers line, an untitled Pacific Rim title for Wildstorm featuring a female cop in Hong Kong. He is also currently working on a feature script for Touchstone Pictures about the unsolved "Zodiac" serial killer case in San Francisco in the 1960's. Marc also promises that he will be finished with *The Lost* someday...he can tell you what happens if you're really interested.

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 three book collections. Order them from Palliard Press, 912 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

- Current/Upcoming: The third *Leonard & Larry* collection called *Excerpts from The Ring Cycle in Royal Albert Hall* is now available along with the two other collections, original art, and even T-shirts on Tim's website.
- Website: www.leonardandlarry.com
- Identification: Gay

ALISON BECHDEL

Alison Bechdel has been creating her award-winning bi-weekly comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For* since 1983. It currently runs in 70 lesbian/gay, feminist, and alternative publications. Nine collections of Alison's cartoons have been published by Firebrand Books. Her work has appeared in *Ms.*, *Strange-Looking Exile*, *American Splendor*, *Slate*, and many other publications and



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anthologies. Her most recent collection, *Post Dykes To Watch Out For*, has been nominated for a 2000 Eisner award in the "Best Humor Publication" category.

• Website: www.planetout.com/entertainment/comics/dtwof/

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



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: Most recently out are *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, editor and in the legal department for Dark Horse, from 1992-1997, editing such books as the award-winning *Cheval Noir*, and much of the *Comics Greatest World* line. After a legal secretary at Dark Horse was fired after e-mailing information to employees about a Gay Pride celebration, 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 e-mail. 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 sup-

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portive work environment. She is also the proud parent of a young boy named Kilian, with Robin, her partner of 13 years. Jennie is elated to report that since the 1999 "OHSU vs. Tanner" court decision, it is now illegal in Oregon to discriminate in the workplace based on sexual orientation, even in Milwaukee, OR, where Dark Horse is based.

- Identification: Lesbian

JENNIFER CAMPER

Jennifer Camper's book, *subGURLZ* from Cleis Press, follows the adventures of three women living in abandoned subway tunnels. Her previous book, *Rude Girls and Dangerous Women* from 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 comics anthology, *Juicy Mother*. Jennifer usually lives in NYC.

- Current/Upcoming: A trade paperback of *subGURLZ* is out from Cleis Press.
- E-mail: juicym@mindspring.com
- 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*, represents artists in comics through her company, 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, I'm an idealist," she says. "So, sue me."

- Current/Upcoming: *Nobody* is available in TPB from AIT/PlanetLar
- E-mail: sharon@SpitfireSvc.com
- Websites: *Nobody* - www.writerboy.com/nobody
Artists' Agency - www.SpitfireSvc.com
Writers' Site - www.ScribeSubscribe.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 at 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

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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."

- E-mail: 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*, *Blade the Vampire Hunter*, and briefly, *The Punisher*. He was assistant editor on *Alpha Flight* during the run that included the well-publicized issue 106, in which team member Northstar came 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 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*.

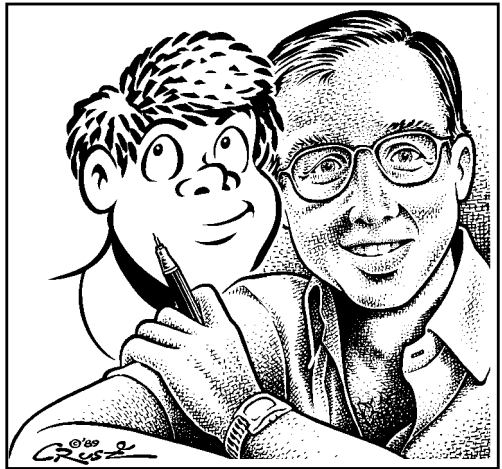
- Current/Upcoming: His current comics project is *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic* — part satire, part soap opera, and part superhero comic.
- E-mail: queernation@queernation.com
- Website: www.queernation.com

HOWARD CRUSE

Howard Cruse is the creator of *Wendel*, a long-running comic strip about a circle of gay friends that was featured in *The Advocate* during the 1980s and has just been collected in its entirety in a new book from Olmstead Press called *Wendel All Together*. His 1995 graphic novel *Stuck Rubber Baby* won both Eisner and Harvey Awards in 1996, as well as awards in England and Germany.

An Italian translation of *SRB* was recently published by Magic Press, and a French edition is expected from Editions Vertige in the fall. Many of Howard's underground comics were compiled in the earlier books *Early Barefootz* and *Dancin' Nekkid With The Angels*. Howard was the founding editor in 1980 of *Gay Comix*.

- Current/Upcoming: Howard is currently working on Flash animation projects while contributing humorous illustrations to assorted publications, including *The Advocate*. Many of his comic strips, both old and



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recently drawn, are archived on his extensive website, Howard Cruse Central.

- E-mail: HCruse1816@aol.com
- Website: www.howardcruse.com

ADAM DEKRAKER

Adam DeKraker's art has appeared in a number of different titles. His penciling work for DC includes *Superboy*, *Secret Files*, *Legionnaires*, *WildC.A.T.s*, and *The Titans*. Last year he inked many Rugrats stories for Nickelodeon, including the *Rugrats in Paris* movie adaptation. He hopes to launch his creator-owned title, *Underland*, sometime in 2002. Adam loves rock 'n' roll, kung fu movies and Mike, his boyfriend of eight years. They live together in Brooklyn.

- Current/Upcoming: Adam's inks will appear in Nickelodeon's *Jimmy Neutron*, *Boy Genius* movie magazine, and pencils and inks in both *Force 7 #7* from Lonestar Press, and *The Big Book of Wild Women* from Paradox Press/DC.
- E-mail: AdamDek@aol.com



SAMUEL R. DELANY

A noted science fiction author, Samuel R. "Chip" Delany published his first novel, *The Jewels of Aptor* in 1962 when he was 20. He has since written dozens of highly-respected SF novels, including the *Nevérjon* 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 *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

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major comics publisher in North America, such as Malibu's *Night Man*, Marvel's *West Coast Avengers Annual* and *Savage Sword of Conan*, Impact's *Comet* and DC's *Wonder Woman Annual*, plus Caliber's original series *The Realm* and Caliber Presents. John was a contributor to *Gay Comics* 24 and 25, and his work also appears in Marvel/Fleer's Metal baseball card series, a number of Fleer's non-sports cards, and Marvel's Creative Services action figures.

- Current/Upcoming: John continues art chores on *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic* with writer Chris Cooper
- Website: www.queernation.com
- E-mail: 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*
- E-mail: Firebutt@aol.com
- Identification: Lesbian



Stitch & the Skelebunnies

"Ahem. Don't worry if you can't find the collected *Stitch* series at your local purveyor of printed material, or if you can't seem to locate the debut issue of *Skelebunnies*. You can order them directly from Slave Labor Graphics by connecting your computing machine to www.slavelabor.com."

"And don't miss the upcoming *Skelebunnies Spanktacular!* All the clever doodlings and witty dialogue you'd expect from creator Tommy Kovac, plus *Woobies*, *Satan*, and a whole lot more than you'd ever—"



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CATHERINE DOHERTY

Born in Toronto in 1965, Catherine Doherty became interested in comics when she discovered the unpublished work of her father's 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 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 printed by his own company, *Blokhed Comix*. *The Young Caucasians* follows the adventures of Bud and Gunther, two gay teens and their adventures in the Suburbia Universe. Perry wrote from a very early age, 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*.

PATRICK FILLION

Patrick Fillion has been drawing his entire life, and realized at an early age that comics were the best medium for him. In the mid 1990s, he began to self-publish many of his original erotic strips under his own small press company, *Class Enterprises*. He is perhaps best known for his own adult comics such as *Satisfaction Guaranteed* and *Cube*. Over the past few years, he has created homo-erotic adult strips for the website *Chisel.com* and for several Canadian gay publications. Patrick also does work for *Avatar Press* with characters such as *Razor* and *Avengelyne*. Through his work, Patrick endeavors to prove that adult comics can be intelligent, artistic and contain entertaining and well thought-out characters and plots.

• Current/Upcoming: Patrick's own character, *Camili-Cat*, a sort of sexy stud were-cat, will be featured in *Meatmen 25*. Patrick continues to produce his own



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gay titles and makes them available through his website. In an upcoming issue of *Raw Media*, Patrick was asked to write and illustrate a short story, also featuring Camili-Cat.

- E-mail: diablo@infinet.net
- Website: www.patrickfillion.com
- Identification: Gay

ANDREW "AETHAN" FRENCH

Andy French's published writing career coincides with his decision to come out. Coincidence? Actually, it's because his first professionally published work was in an anthology of gay erotica, and he wanted to tell his parents that he had been published. That story, "Full Moon Fever", can be found in the anthology *Wired Hard* from Circler Press. After this came a number of "anthropomorphic animal" stories, on the internet, via the website he shares with his husband of three years, Steve Domanski.

- Current/Upcoming: This past year, Andy co-created and scripted *Circles*, a gay, anthropomorphic animal slice-of-life comic, the first issue of which has just been released by Another Rabco Disaster. This series is ongoing, and Andy is very pleased with the reception it's receiving. It is his first work in comics.
- E-mail: paullie@rabco.org
- Website: www.rabco.org/circles
- Identification: Gay

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). She created a one-woman, multi-media reading/performance based on her book, toured the show in nine US cities in 1999, and will be performing again at this year's XI Salão Internacional de Banda Desenhada do Porto in Portugal. *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: There are several places Ellen's work appears regularly. *How D'ya Do That?*, a monthly full-page comic is featured in Seattle's *The Stranger*, *I Was Seven in '75*, a weekly comic, in Minneapolis's *City Pages*, and she is also published in *Out*, *Pulse!*, *Bust*, and *Nickelodeon Magazine*. Ellen is currently working on a project called *Big Paintings of Sexy Women*.
- E-mail: 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 seven gay publications across North America, including *Genre* magazine, as well as



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online. Gay newsmagazine *The Advocate* recently named *Kyle's Bed & Breakfast's* web home as one of their "Hot Websites."

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*.

- 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* is available for purchase through his website.
- E-mail: KylesBnB@aol.com
- Website: <http://members.aol.com/KylesBnB>
- Identification: Gay

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* and the more recent *User* from DC's Vertigo imprint. Devin works regularly on *Batman: Gotham Knights* and has just finished a six-part *Ghost Rider* miniseries for Marvel Knights. She's pretty sure that the pictures of her on



CIRCLES.

A slice-of-life, anthropomorphic comic about living life as a gay man in today's society. We want to touch on all the issues, virtues, and vices that we feel are important to being gay—relationships, love, sex, fear, truth, courage, grace, and a damned good sense of humor.

Whether you're gay, straight, bi, male, female, or one of those charming in-between folks who refuses to be classified, we hope that you'll find something here that you'll enjoy, and we hope you'll let us tell you our stories.

Created by: Stephen "iyu" Domanski
Scott "K-9" Fabianek
Andrew "Aethan" French

For more information, go to:
<http://www.rabco.org/circles/>

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the back of an ex-girlfriend's Honda roaring through the SF Pride parade with Dykes on Bikes helped cinch the job.

Devin is particularly excited about recent interviews she did with *The Advocate* (June 2001) and *Curve* (to be published this fall), in which she discusses bisexuality, the comics industry, and of course, her opinion on what the hell is up with Batman and his comely young wards.

- Current/Upcoming: Devin continues her work on *Batman: Gotham Knights* and is having a blast time talking to hot biker babes about *Ghost Rider: The Hammer Lane*. She's currently busy working with Wildstorm on a project she's still not supposed to talk about, and hopes to do more work with DC's Vertigo line.
- Website: www.2KComics.com
- E-mail: 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* and self-published *Sheila and the Unicorn* and *Winging It*, both of which studied gender issues. She also self-published two of the three issues of *Artistic Licentiousness*, which she describes as "a sort of bisexual love story."

Roberta is best known in the comic world for her long-running *Naughty Bits* series, starring the unforgettable Bitchy Bitch, still coming out quarterly from Fantagraphics Books. The latest of five *Naughty Bits* trade paperbacks, *Bitchy Butch: The World's Angriest Dyke*, is available, along with most of her other books from Roberta herself. Send a SASE to her at PO Box 27438, Seattle WA 98125 for a catalog, or check out her website for all the details.

- Current/Upcoming: Roberta has just published *Bitchy Strips* a collection of the *Bitchy Bitch* weekly newspaper strips. The *Bitchy Bitch* animated cartoons for Oxygen Network have expanded into a second season of 11-minute shows. Roberta is the script consultant and model designer. They are shown on the *X-Chromosome* show weekend nights on Oxygen Network, or can be seen on the Oxygen.com website.
- E-mail: roberta@drizzle.com or rgregory@scn.org
- Website: www.robertagregory.com

TERRANCE GRIEP, JR.

Terrance Griep, Jr., has no roommate, no nickname, and no pet. He's a loner; a rebel. For DC Comics, he contributes stories to *Scooby-Doo*, as well as other Cartoon Network books. For Image Comics, he contributes stories to *Big Bang Comics*. He also writes for several comic book companies you never heard of.

Terrance has written for magazines, major corporations, a nationally syndicated radio station, the stage, and exactly one city. Terrance also works as an actor, when such work is to be had. In his spare time, Terrance is an amateur detective, scientist, shaman, and plumber.

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He proudly describes himself as a Cretan and claims to be the first man to have visited Uranus. His cloaked silhouette can often be seen bounding across the Minneapolis skyline.

- Current/Upcoming: Terrance's stories will be showing up in *Scooby-Doo* 48, 49, and 51 over this summer, and several others in the fall and winter, as well as an as-yet-unscheduled issue of *Big Bang Comics*. In November, Dead Dog Comics will publish *From Heaven To Hell* 4, where Terrance's character *The Skulker* returns to print. He also does lots of things which have nothing to do with writing, comics, or being gay.
- E-mail: tgriepjr@aol.com

CRAIG HAMILTON

Craig Hamilton was the artist for DC's 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 also did a short story with Mike Carey for an issue of Vertigo's horror title, *Flinch*.

Craig 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, does commissioned works and freelance, commercial, and corporate illustration, and cranks out a few comics in his spare time.

JOAN HILTY

Joan Hilty has worked in many capacities at DC Comics. She began as an editor in the Trading Cards department and moved to the Vertigo imprint, where she worked on projects including the Eisner/Harvey-nominated miniseries *Uncle Sam* and the Harvey-winning graphic novel *You Are Here*. She also edited the *Finals* miniseries 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*. Somewhat ironically, she currently edits the DC Kids line. Joan is also a cartoonist and illustrator whose work prior to DC appeared in *Gay Comix/Gay Comics*, *Girljock*, *The Village Voice*, and *The Advocate*.

- Current/Upcoming: Joan currently edits *Powerpuff Girls*, *Scooby-Doo*, *Looney Tunes*, *Dexter's Laboratory*, *Cartoon Cartoons*, *Gotham Adventures*, and the upcoming *Samurai Jack* comic adaptation.
- E-mail: joan.hilty@dccomics.com

PATTY JERES

Gifted with a good sense of humor, Patty Jeres is the Director of Sales and 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*



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Post Bros. and *Savage Henry* for Matt Howarth. In between, she wrote most everything from business journals to song lyrics to menus.

- E-mail: Patty.Jeres@dccomics.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. He first gained recognition for his work on *Tempest*, which he dedicated to his first boyfriend, Neal Pozner, who first hired him 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*.



Phil has been attached to a host of projects, received nominations for both Eisner and GLAAD awards, was listed as one of Entertainment Weekly's 101 Gay Movers and Shakers, and has been featured in *The Advocate*, *Out*, and *Joey Magazine*. He has crafted art for CD covers, wall murals, Gameboy boxes, and the first permanent AIDS awareness exhibit in the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

- Current/Upcoming: Phil is both writing and drawing the critically acclaimed *Wonder Woman* for DC Comics. He also recently had the good fortune to be Peter Parker's hands, working in a scene as a hand double for Toby Maguire, in the upcoming *Spider-Man* film.
- E-mail: PJ813@aol.com

CHUCK KIM

Chuck Kim writes the occasional story for DC Comics. His latest work is an upcoming issue of *Superman*, but don't bother asking him when it's coming out, because he doesn't know. In the past, he's written for the *Justice League Showcase Giant*, *Dexter's Lab*, *Powerpuff Girls* and a *Secret Files* entry in which he made a joke about Starfire's boobs that made Phil Jimenez giggle. Chuck also works for E! Online as a reporter and editor, and you can look for him the July 17th issue of *The Advocate* in an article called "Sixteen Gay Lives" that accompanies the cover story "Why Are We Gay?"

- Current/Upcoming: Chuck wrote the aforementioned *Superman* story, entries for the *Our Worlds at War Secret Files*, and other projects which he can't mention because he doesn't want to jinx them.
- E-mail: boygotham@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

CREATOR PROFILES

TOMMY KOVAC

Tommy Kovac, a self-described "queer champion mud wrestler to the stars," is author and illustrator of two books published by Slave Labor Graphics. *Stitch* is 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. *Skelebunnies* is an irreverent romp about a duo of laughing, giggling bunnies who have had their skin burnt off by a demon's acid vomit. But don't worry! They're still laughing! *Skelebunnies* also includes other short comics such as *My Little Penis*.



Tommy is also co-author of the independent 'zine, *Library Bonnet*, which is jam-packed with fascinating and bizarre visuals, poetry, personal essays, and interviews. You can order it for \$2.00 per issue by writing 1315-I N. Tustin Avenue #259, Orange, CA 92867.

- Current/Upcoming: Tommy is working on the follow-up to the first *Skelebunnies* comic. The new comic will be called *Skelebunnies Spantacular*, and should be out in November 2001. It will include the original *Skelebunnies* appearances from the *Stitch* series, plus some all-new *Skelebunnies* material, and guest artist pin-ups. Tommy promises that, "once you've seen the infamous 'octopenis bunny,' you'll be begging for more...."
- E-mail: heenie@juno.com
- Website: lambieland.tripod.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*.

- E-mail: jonmacy@altavista.com

ANDY MANGELS

Andy Mangels is a past editor of *Gay Comics* (14-25 and *Special 1*) and has written for such comics as *Bloodwolf*, *Justice League Quarterly*, *Child's Play*, *Annie Sprinkle Is Miss Timed*, *Badrock & Company*, *UltraVerse Premiere*, and the best-selling *Boba Fett: Twin Engines of Destruction*. He tries to include gay and lesbian characters in every comic he writes.

Andy has written four books, including *Star Wars: The Essential Guide to Characters*, *Beyond Mulder and Scully: The Mysterious Characters of The X-Files*, and *From Scream to Dawson's Creek: The Phenomenal Career of Kevin Williamson*, a biography of the gay screenwriter. He also writes regularly for entertainment publications such as *SFX*, *Comics Buyer's Guide*, *Alter Ego*, and *Comicology*. Further, Andy is the publisher and editor of an erotic web 'zine, *IN UNIFORM*.

- Current/Upcoming: With Michael A. Martin, Andy co-wrote a novel released this summer, *Star Trek: The Next Generation Section 31: Rogue*, which features the outing of a previously established Trek character. Both he and Michael are currently contracted to write two more Star Trek books. Andy also looks forward to possible Hollywood development work.
- E-mail: AMangelsSW@aol.com
- Websites: www.andymangels.com and 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 *Martians: Code of Honor*, created several special covers and pin ups and a short story for Chaos Comics, and did the painted art for the graphic novel *Green Lantern: Fear Itself* for DC Comics. Brad did an ongoing cartoon series for *Freshmen*, *Ace's Adventures in the Year 2000*, featuring his infamous gay character from many adult strips, Ace Moorcock, and painted the first official portraits in fifteen years of the rock group KISS in a special issue of *Famous Monsters of Filmland*.

- E-mail: BPParker13@aol.com

JOE PHILLIPS

After years of drawing such comics as *Mr. Miracle*, *Superboy*, *Silver Surfer*, *Wonder Woman*, *Superman*, *Body Doubles* and the creator-owned *The Heretic*, Joe Phillips is now turning his full attention towards products aimed at the gay community. He creates calendars, cards and magnets for 10% Productions and Xodus USA. His work is also often seen in magazines like *XY*, *Odyssey*, and *Instinct*. Joe also creates



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adult online cartoons as the head of Adult Visual Animation Inc.

- Current/ Upcoming: Joe is working on a comic novel called *Arthur*, a modern re-telling of Arthurian legend set in a publishing house called Excalibur – a re-telling with a gay twist. In Spring 2002, he will be releasing a book collecting his work. Currently in stores are Joe's calendars for 2002, *Boys Will Be Boys* and *Girls Rule*.
- Website: www.joephillips.com www.toonplugin.com



RACHEL POLLACK

Comics are a lifelong love, but a side profession for Rachel Pollack, who has authored 22 books. A 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, her run on DC/Vertigo's *Doom Patrol* stands out very strongly. "I tried to explore people's anxieties about their bodies, their sexuality, and their identity," she said.

- E-mail: RGPollack@aol.com

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*. He finally got the opportunity to do comics back in the early 1990's

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working on DC's *The Batman Adventures* (4-6), and *The Mark* for Dark Horse. Brad was also Animation Director of *Roswell Conspiracies* and *Space Monkeys* on UPN. His work with the team that produces *Spawn* for HBO was nominated for a primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Animated Program. 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."

- Current/Upcoming: Brad will be pencilling DC's *Catwoman*, starting with issue 5, to be published in March 2002.
- E-mail: bradrader@earthlink.net

KAY REYNOLDS

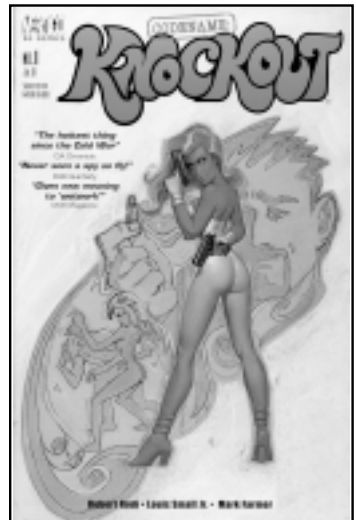
Kay Reynolds is a former Senior Editor at Donning/Starblaze, writing *Robotech Art 1 & 2*, and editing and marketing the original color volumes of *ElfQuest*. While at this job in the late 1980s, she was the driving force in introducing graphic novels into the mainstream bookstore market. Kay wrote one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

- E-mail: kayrey@pilot.infi.net

ROBERT RODI

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

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 scripts the creator-owned Vertigo monthly *Codename: Knockout*, which stars secret agent Angela Devlin and her gay sidekick Go-Go Fiasco. His next novel, *Bitch Goddess*, is due in early 2002 from Penguin/Plume.

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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's "Ramadan" for Vertigo, 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.

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

- Current/Upcoming: 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, and he continues work *The Ring of the Nibelung*, a four-opera 424-page adaptation for Dark Horse.
- 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



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un-credited), *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: Steve is the regular penciller for DC's *JSA*.
- Website: clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/sadowskiappreciationdivision
- E-mail: 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 a student at Columbia University
- E-mail: als94@columbia.edu
- Website: www.slavelabor.com
- Identification: genetically determined homosexual

BOB SCHRECK

Bob Schreck is the Group Editor of all of the *Batman* titles in 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 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 and 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*, *Detective Comics*, *Green Lantern*, *Batman: Gotham Knights* and *Green Arrow*, among many others.
- E-mail: Bscheck0609@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"

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for *Taboo* from 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, annerice.com), and The Wonderful Tarot of Oz based on the Oz books for Llewellyn 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 seventeen years.

Eric was the writer and artist of the Oz graphic novels published by First and Dark Horse, as well as the illustrator of many different projects for DC, Marvel, Dark Horse and others., including *An Accidental Death*, *The Elsewhere Prince*, *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*, and the Promethea story in the *America's Best Comics 64-Page Giant*. He lives in San Diego with his partner David Maxine, where they maintain their publishing company, Hungry Tiger Press, as well as a dog named Road.

- Current/Upcoming: Eric is writing and drawing the massive retelling of the Trojan War in the critically acclaimed *Age of Bronze* from Image, which includes the relationship between the two young warriors Achilles and Patroklos. *A Thousand Ships*, a trade paperback collecting the first nine issues of the series, was recently released. Eric also has a story in the Paradox Press recent release *The Big Book of Wild Women*, a double-page spread in Vertigo's *Transmetropolitan: Filth of the City*, and has illustrated the children's book *The Rundelstone of Oz* from Hungry Tiger Press.
- E-mail: Linearbcom@aol.com
- Identification: "Three-dollar bill"

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



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issues *The X-Files*, for which she received an Eisner Award nomination in 1996. She recently completed *The Confession of Gabriel Winters*, a DC project, with artist Doug Wheatley.

- 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.
- E-mail: colorist@canada.com
- Website: www.mts.net/~comicart/portfolio.html
- Identification: Bisexual

HOWARD STANGROOM

Howard Stangroom's first professional comics writing appeared in *Scary Tales 37*, during the dying days of Charlton Comics. Since then, his work has appeared in many titles, almost all of which have ceased publication (whoops). His credits include stories in such varied titles as *Gay Comics*, *Meatmen*, *Buddies*, *Meanwhile...*, *Avalon*, *Boy Crazy Boy*, *Masters of the Universe*, *She-Ra Princess of Power*, *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Sideshow Comics*, *Joy of S*x*, *My Little Pony*, and Donna Barr's *The Ersatz Peach*. He also writes news and reviews for both the comics and gay press in the USA and his native UK, and can frequently be found behind the counter at 30th Century Comics in beautiful suburban London.

- Current/upcoming: Endless articles about "Ensign Cannonfodder" and "Yeoman Tricorderchick" for the *Star Trek Fact Files*, a loose-leaf encyclopedia that builds up, week by week, into a heap of discarded paper because people forget to buy the binders. "Hey, don't knock it," says Howard. "It's gotten me debt-free for the first time in fifteen years..."
- E-Mail: AmazonBoy@Bigfoot.com

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 *Alien³* 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*.

- Current/Upcoming: When not freelancing Christopher continues to diligently work (albeit slowly) on his self-published comic venture entitled *Mark Nemesis: The Avatar*, which he has recently submitted to Image.
- Website: marknemesis.homestead.com/page1.html
- E-mail: neocmt@hotmail.com

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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, and 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 "dianaprinceww."

- E-mail: ettacandy@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

IVAN VELEZ, JR.

Ivan Velez, Jr. is the creator of *Tales of the Closet*, a ten chapter graphic novel 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 that filled his free time. His work has also been seen in several issues of *Gay Comics*, magazines *Details*, *NYQ*, and *HX*, and he has sold scripts to HBO and the Hudlin Brothers.

Ivan also wrote several titles for DC's Milestone imprint, 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 DC Kids and DC Universe lines, including an *Eradicator* mini-series, and some work for Vertigo's *Flinch*.

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 also published by Drawn & Quarterly. Of special note is his small-sized X-rated *Maurice Vellekoop's ABC Book: A Homoerotic Primer*.

- Current/Upcoming: A series of books called *Men's Room* is available from Pas de Chance, PO Box 6704 Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1X5.
- 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*, *Lust*, *The Male Nude*, *Uniforms*, *Male Bonding II* and the upcoming *New Male Nudes*. His digital artwork made a splash in comics in last year's *Promethea 7*, and he also had collaborations with Jae Lee on painted colors for *Hellshock* and *Sentry* and with Stephen John Phillips on digital art for *Veils*, *Flinch* and *20/20 Visions*. This year José wrote a book about the fine art paintings of Jon J. Muth and Kent Williams titled *Koan*, which will be published by Allen Spiegel Fine Arts.



- Current/Upcoming: Look for José's painted colors for Marvel's *Fantastic Four: 1 2 3 4*, painted covers for the *America's Best Comics* collections, *Our Worlds at War*, *Wolverine*, *Incredible Hulk*, and *The Exiles*.
- E-mail: JoseVillar@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

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 some time in the 1980's.

REED WALLER

Reed Waller created the immensely popular 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*.

- E-mail: 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 Comics*, published by Slave Labor Graphics, with such character creations as Flying Girl, Susanoo the Brawler, The Go-Go

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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, about a witch, Bunny, her girlfriend the vampire biker Dean, and the dilemma of a really intriguing, drop-dead gorgeous faerie named Fairer Than who enters their lives. "Issue 4 begins the storyline where we find out who is more butch; Dean or Fairer Than," says Elizabeth.
- Website www.a-girlstudio.com
- E-mail: flyinggirl1@netscape.net
- Identification: "Lesbian Space Commandant"



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.

- E-mail: Kate.Worley@gratisnet.com

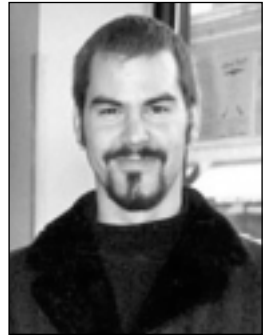
ZAN

This multi-talented fella is probably best-known for his web presence online, having created the superhero gaming resource site "zan's Super Home"; AlterWorlds, the Gay and Lesbian Roleplaying Game Association; and the Northstar APA website.

Soon, he'll be branching out into comics proper, with a four-issue series about Captain Kinetic, a hokier-than-thou hero from the forties transplanted to present day Chicago. The series satirizes the squeaky-clean superhero image of a bygone era while using it to make a dramatic point about public and private personae and the importance of defining one's own morality. Previews of the comic are available on his website.

Maybe after publishing his first comic book he'll start spelling his name with a capital "z."

- zan's Super Home: <http://zap.to/zans>
- AlterWorlds: <http://www.alterworlds.com>
- Captain Kinetic: <http://www.captainkinetic.com>
- E-mail: zan@rabunda.com



THE GAYS on COMICS PANEL

A Fourteen Year History of the Gays In Comics Panels at the Comic Con International, San Diego. All panels have been moderated by writer/editor Andy Mangels. All credits listed reflect projects from that time period.

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*) - 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, Fortune's Friends* graphic novel)
- Robert Triptow, writer/artist/editor (*Gay Comix, Strip AIDS USA*)
- Kate Worley, writer (*Omaha The Cat Dancer*)

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*)
- 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 APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name (ATDNSIN).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1990

The Panel was not planned as part of Con programming, but did occur, though records are scarce.

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 (*Leonard & Larry*)
- 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*)
- ATDNSIN held a party in a nearby hotel room.

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*)

COMIC CON PANELS

- Scott Lobdell, straight writer (*X-Men, Alpha Flight*)
- Lee Marrs, writer/artist (*Pudge, Girl Blimp, Gay Comix, Viking Prince* graphic novel, *Vamps*)
- 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.

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*)
- 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: The Animated Series, Mighty Mouse*)
- P. Craig Russell, writer/artist (*Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde, Killraven*, various opera comics)

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*)

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1995

Eight Years On: "A lively discussion of gay issues and characters in comics."

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry*)
- Sharon Cho, agent (*Star Reach*)
- Mark Phillips, Central Mailer for NORTHSTAR
- Martha Thomases, straight publicity manager, DC Comics

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*)

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1997

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

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry*)
- 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)

COMIC CON PANELS

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 Soil*)
- Terrance Griep Jr., writer (*The Skulker, Scooby-Doo*)
- Pat McGreal, straight writer (*Chiaroscuro, 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*)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1999

- Tim Barela, writer/artist (*Leonard & Larry*)
- Sharon Cho, co-writer/agent (*Nobody*)
- Terrance Griep 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 (*USA*)
- Bob Schreck, editor (DC Comics)

SATURDAY, JULY 22 2000

- Phil Jimenez, writer/artist (*Wonder Woman*)
- Joe Phillips, artist (*Body Doubles*)
- Ariel Schrag, writer/artist (*Potentials*)
- Perry Erwin, writer/artist/publisher (Blokhed Comics)
- Joan Hilty, editor (DC Comics)

GAY DAY AT THE CON 2001

GAYS IN COMICS PANEL: YEAR 14

Saturday, July 21 2001 5-6:30 pm, Room 16A/B

The popular panel returns again for a roundtable discussion by some of the most cutting-edge gay and lesbian comic professionals (and one straight guy!) working in the field. Discussions will range from queer themes in comics and the state of gay characters in the comic field to the growing ranks of openly gay creators.

- P. Craig Russell, artist/writer (*The Ring of the Nibelung, Sandman*)
- Judd Winick, straight writer/artist (*Pedro and Me, Green Lantern*)
- Stephen Sadowski, artist (*JSA*)
- Joan Hilty, editor (DC Comics)
- Elizabeth Watasin, writer/artist (*Charm School*)
- Aman Chaudhary (*Double Image, Whisper*)

GAY FAN RECEPTION & PARTY

Saturday July 21, 2001 6:30-8 pm, Room 16A/B

Your chance to socialize with other gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or open-minded fans and creators. Sponsored in part by The Gay League, the reception will include fabulous door prizes, munchies, and dozens of comic pros in attendance!

ARTICLE

We all know at least one; maybe you were one: an obviously-gay male who's not quite ready to come to terms with who he really is, inspecting every insincere corner of a Penthouse with the fervent, fussy enthusiasm of Alfred dusting the Wayne Manor.

But what about super-males? They're not Ken-dolls; they get laid... at least, the cool ones do. So, as a service to them and to the general public, the GLA proudly presents...

THE TOP 10 NOT-SO-LATENTLY GAY SUPER-HUMANS!

by Terrance Griep, Jr.

10) THE RED BEE. Oh, I know you think you had this one nailed because of the pink sleeves, but you're buzzing up the wrong hive. See, the Apis Avenger keeps a swarm of trained bees—including his favorite, named Michael, unnaturally enough—in his belt. His *belt!* Accessorizing like this says two words, my little drones: *wayyy gayyy.*



9) WHIRLWIND. He started his Marvel career of super-crime as the Human TOP. 'Nuff said.

8) ELECTRO. Okay, perhaps he's not strictly gay, but do you know anyone else in the entire Marvel Universe who openly brags about being AC/DC? Maybe someone should give him the number of the Bi-Beast. *Excelsior!*

7) BLACK CANARY. Yes, you read that right. This one's so obvious, even Doctor Mid-Nite could see it (or should). "She" spent all that time dating a Queen... that's Queen with a capital "Q". And the lace stockings...? The proof is as sharp as a pre-Crisis Canary Cry: clearly, Black Canary is a gay transvestite.

6) SUPERMAN ONE MILLION. No need to look up in the sky: you need look no further than *DC One Million 2*. Who else, I ask you, can in one breath blow an entire city crowded with rioters needing discipline? Up, up, and away, indeed!



ARTICLE

5) THE BLACK TERROR. Actually, I don't think for one picosecond that the Black Terror's gay, but Chris Sprouse's recent rendering of Terror Twin One within the pages of *Tom Strong* 11 made me more gay, if such a thing is possible, and caused me to dry-hump my first comic book. And I needed to tell someone. Thanks for being there. Oh, and Bob, in case I'm wrong: call me "Tim." Or better still, call me "Timmy."



4) THE ABOMINATION. Hey, Yasha... put down the remote control and read Leviticus—preferably with someone you love.

3) WALT SIMONSON'S THOR. Forget Jane Foster; forget the Enchantress. In Thor, we have a super-bear who takes his beard with him, yea, where'er he doth go. ('Tis not Odin who wouldst disapprove; nay, 'tis his mother whose wrath yon Thunder God wouldst taste... verily!)

2) THE SCARLET SPIDER. He's a clone! He's a clone, and he, like, admits it!

1) KID ETERNITY. No need to summon the ghost of Liberace on this one. Nor is there any need to mention the fact that he spends most of his time in the company of a bald eunuch in a horsehair dress. No, no... do you remember the Kid's origin? He went down on a ship full of seamen! Hel-LO? It wasn't his idea, true, but that still makes him the gayest in *my* book! And I wonder if there's another reason he's called—ETERNITY!



VISIT

OUTINCOMICS.COM!

RESOURCES

THE GAY LEAGUE

The Gay League (or GLA) is an online federation of queer comics fans from all over the world. The GLA 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.

A great deal of the members' interaction takes place via its e-mailing lists at Yahoo! Groups. The regular list, called simply the GLA, is a great way to get to know other gay fans through the lively e-mail discussions they hold. Digest delivery or Web Only access cuts down or eliminates e-mail volume for those concerned about excessive messages.

The GLAFiles2 is a companion list for members to share photos, drawings and more discussion (The digest edition cannot deliver file attachments). Due to some adult content, you must be of legal age in your locality to join the GLAFiles2.

To subscribe to either list, use the links provided on the main page of the Gay League website. Note that these lists are for people over the age of 18.

- Website: www.gayleague.com
- GLA e-mail list: groups.yahoo.com/group/GLA
- GLAFiles2 e-mail list: groups.yahoo.com/group/GLAFiles2

ATDNSIN

THE APA THAT DARES NOW SPEAK ITS NAME

ATDNSIN, an Amateur Publishing Association (APA) for lesbians, gays, bisexuals & transgendered people, was begun in response to the 1989 San Diego Comic Con "Gays in Comics" panel. It has recently begun its thirteenth 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. 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
- E-mail: 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 distributes the collected issue to the membership. Nominal membership fees cover the cost of postage. NORTHSTAR mem-

RESOURCES

bers celebrated the publication of their 50th Anniversary Issue in January of 2000, and have reached almost 60 bi-monthly published issues since then.

'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 59 came out in July 2001, just one week before the San Diego Con.

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, President
1407 Grant Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94133
- E-mail: northstarapa@yahoo.com
- Website: welcome.to/northstarapa

QUEER NATION: THE ONLINE GAY COMIC

This website is home to the super-powered meta-queers of Queer Nation, a group of fantastic characters who all gained powers at the passing of a strange comet that granted extra-normal abilities only to homosexuals. The colorful cast of characters and the story's mix of adventure and soap opera has developed a loyal following. QueerNation.com also boasts an active mailroom, where comics fans of many stripes react to the stories posted there.

- Website: www.queernation.com

GAY COMIX & GAY COMICS

BACK ISSUES STILL AVAILABLE!

THERE ARE STILL COPIES OF SOME ISSUES OF THIS GROUNDBREAKING SERIES AVAILABLE, THOUGH SOME ARE CLOSE TO SELLING OUT.

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GAY COMICS 20 - 24
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PLEASE INCLUDE A SIGNED
STATEMENT THAT YOU ARE 18
YEARS OR OLDER.

GAY COMIX & GAY COMICS

TOME ONE

A few important events in the history of gays and lesbians in comics and cartooning.

- 1957 Tom of Finland premieres in *Physique Pictorial*
- 1964 *Drum* begins running A. Jay's Harry Chess strip
- 1972 *Wimmen's Comix* 1 is published, the first lesbian comic story
- 1973 *Come Out Comix* by Mary Wings is published
All Canadian Beaver Comix is published, featuring the first gay comic story
- 1976 *Gay Heart Throbs* 1 is published, lasts to issue 3
Roberta Gregory's *Dynamite Damsels* is published
Howard Cruse's *Barefootz Funnies* 2 is published
- 1977 *The Advocate* begins publishing Donelan's cartoons
- 1978 *Dyke Shorts* by Mary Wings is published
- 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 released
In Touch begins running Jerry Mills' *Poppers*
- 1983 *Gay Comix* 4 released
Alison Bechdel begins syndicating *Dykes To Watch Out For*
- 1984-5 *Gay Comix* 5 and 6 released
- 1986 *Gay Comix* 7-9
Meatmen volume 1 is released
Watch Out! Comix by Vaughn Frick is released
- 1987 *Gay Comix* 10 and 11 released
Strip AIDS is released in the UK
Tales of the Closet 1, written and drawn by gay creator Ivan Velez, Jr., is released by the Hetrick-Martin Institute
- 1988 *Gay Comix* 12 is released
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, the first major article on gay creators and creations, is published in *Amazing Heroes* 143-144
First "Gays In Comics" panel at San Diego Comic-Con International
- 1989 *Gay Comics* (Plume), a trade paperback looking at gay comics and strips, is released
The APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name (ATDNSIN) is founded
NORTHSTAR is founded.
- 1991 *Gay Comix* 13 and 14 released
Gay Comix Special 1 is released
Buddies 1 is published in the United Kingdom, and lasts to issue 4
- 1992 *Gay Comix* changes name to *Gay Comics*, issues 15 – 17 are released
Oh... 1 is released, and lasts to issue 22
Canadian hero Northstar comes out publicly in Marvel's *Alpha Flight* 106
GLAAD awards its first Media Award for Outstanding Comic Book to 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's Delight 1 is published in the UK
Quantum Leap 9 is released, featuring a story by Andy Mangels where the main character "jumps" into the body of a person at the Stonewall Riots.

TOME ONE

- 1994 *Gay Comics 22* is released
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
Howard Cruse's *Stuck Rubber Baby* is published, and receives much critical acclaim
- 1996 *Gay Comics 23* and *24* are released
GLAAD gives its Media Award for Outstanding Comic to DC title *Metropolis: S.C.U.* for its depiction of Maggie Sawyer, a lesbian cop.
- 1997 BAGAL Comic Connection, gay comic news 'zine, is published
10th Anniversary Gays In Comics panel at San Diego Comic Con International
GLAAD's Media Award for Outstanding Comic Book is given to Vertigo title *Death: The Time of Your Life*
- 1998 *Gay Comics 25* is released, the series' final issue
Gay and lesbian characters are introduced by Chris Cooper in Marvel's *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*
GLAAD's Media Award for Outstanding Comic Book goes to Lynn Johnston's syndicated strip *For Better or For Worse*, for its depiction of Laurence, a recurring teen character who comes out as gay.
- 1999 The first "Gay Day" at Comic-Con International San Diego, including the "Gays in Comics" Panel and a reception for gay fans and creators
The first *Out in Comics* is published
GLAAD's Media Award for Outstanding Comic Book goes to DC's *Supergirl* for its depiction of Andy, a lesbian in love with Supergirl's alter ego.
- 2000 NORTHSTAR publishes its 50th issue
The Comic-Con International San Diego coincides with San Diego's Gay Pride celebration
Out in Comics is published by a new team in a new format
Wildstorm characters Apollo and The Midnighter outed by writer Warren Ellis in the popular title *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*
Judd Winick's graphic novel *Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned*, an account of Winick's friendship with the late AIDS activist Pedro Zamora, is published by mainstream publisher Henry Holt, and is soon nominated for a Pulitzer Prize
The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay by Michael Chabon, a novel about two young men writing superhero comics in the 1940s, one of whom is gay, is published by Random House. It, too, is nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.
- 2001 *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* wins a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction
GLAAD gives their Outstanding Comic Book Media Award to *Pedro and Me*
The Gay League sponsors another Gay Day at the Comic-Con International San Diego, featuring the 14th Annual Gays in Comics Panel, Gay Fans' Reception, and other events; *Out in Comics 3* is released to immense fanfare and critical acclaim. [Excelsior!](#)

Finally, a hero for
the old millennium.



OH...
HECK!

PARDON MY
LANGUAGE.

www.CaptainKinetic.com