

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered
Comic Creators

Guest-Starring
39 SUPER CREATORS

Tim Barela
Alison Bechdel
John Blackburn
Jennie Bricker
Jennifer Camper
Sharon Cho
Katherine Collins
Chris Cooper
Howard Cruse
Samuel Delaney
John Dennis
Diane DiMassa
Devin Grayson
Roberta Gregory
Terrance Griep, Jr.
Craig Hamilton
Joan Hilty
Patty Jeres
Phil Jimenez
Jon Macy
Andy Mangels
Lee Marrs



Brad Parker
Joe Phillips
Rachel Pollack
Brad Rader
Kay Reynolds
Robert Rodi
P. Craig Russell
Stephen Sadowski
Bob Schreck
David Sexton
Eric Shanower
Christopher Taylor
Robert Triptow
Ivan Velez, Jr.
José Villarrubia
Reed Waller
Kate Worley
plus listings for
Gay League
APA That Dares Now Speak It's Name
Northstar
Gay Force Quarterly

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

Given the continued support of the San Diego Comic Con, and the ever-growing presence of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered creators in this industry, this list is offered to allow fans — and fellow creators — a chance to get to know one another better.

This guide will hopefully showcase a variety of people who are proud of their lives and their careers, and who may be 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. It will also allow the fans to know who is "family," and whose work they might be interested in and support with their pocketbook and their letters. A lot is said in the Gay community about "family" and "togetherness." 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 your Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered creators!

Sincerely,
Andy Mangels

Note: Gender identity and sexual orientation being as fluid as they are, some creators have chosen not to specifically label themselves in any one category, but have requested to be included on this list.

Tim Barela

A native Californian, Tim Barela began working professionally as a cartoonist in the mid-'70s. An avid motorcyclist, he contributed to *Cycle News*, *Biker*, *Cycle World*, *Choppers*, and *Biker Lifestyle*. In the '80s, Tim's personal life and career took a radical turn out the closet door. It was then that Tim decided to give two minor gay characters from an abandoned project their own comic strip. Initially rejected by *The Advocate*, Barela's strip was enthusiastically accepted by Robert Triptow for *Gay Comix*, and "Leonard & Larry" made its first appearance in 1984; it subsequently appeared in several issues, and in a *Gay Comix Special*. Today the strip appears in the biweekly national newsmagazine *Frontiers* and has been released in two book collections: *Domesticity Isn't Pretty* (\$15.00 postpaid) and *Kurt Cobain and Mozart Are Both Dead* (\$12.00 postpaid). Order them from Palliard Press, 912 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408. "Leonard & Larry" was also part of *Out of the Inkwell*, a four-segment play presented in 1994 by San Francisco's Theatre Rhinoceros.

- Current/Upcoming: A third "Leonard & Larry" collection from Palliard in fall '99 is 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 *Dykes to Watch*

Out For since 1983. Since then, her award-winning bi-weekly comic strip has become a cultural institution for lesbians, and discerning non-lesbians, all over the world. It runs in over 65 lesbian/gay, feminist, and alternative publications in North America. In 1988 Bechdel 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 Comics #19*. Eight collections of Bechdel's cartoons and a regular annual calendar have been published by Firebrand Books. Bechdel has won numerous Lambda Literary Awards! Her cartoons have also appeared in *Gay Comics, Ms., Washington Blade, Dyke Strippers, Real Girl, American Splendor, Wimmen's Comix, and The Village Voice*. Her most recent book is *The Indelible Alison Bechdel: Confessions, Comix, and Miscellaneous Dykes to Watch Out For*.

- Current/Upcoming: The next *Dykes* collection, *Post-Dykes To Watch Out For*, will be published in the Spring of 2000.
- Website: <http://www.comicazee.com>
- Identification: Lesbian

John Blackburn

John Blackburn began illustrating for some of the first gay publications, *Physique Pictorial* and *Physique Art Quarterly*. His illustrations have 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 to be published next year. A separate Coley storyline has been running in Leland Press's *Meatmen* series, from issue #13-23. Order the Coley books from Eros Comix/Fantagraphics, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 or call 800-657-1100.

- Current/Upcoming: Just out is *Coley Running Wild #4: Destiny Coast*, with volume #3 out in the year 2000.
- Identification: Gay

Jennie Bricker

Jennie Bricker had a brief stint in comics as an assistant editor and editor for *Dark Horse*, from 1992-1997. Prior to this, she taught college English and worked in the publishing industry. At *Dark Horse*, she edited 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 emailing information to employees about Gay Pride), Bricker 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

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

public in a company-wide email. The day she gave her two-week notice, she was fired on the spot.

- **Current/Upcoming:** Jennie Bricker is now a lawyer, practicing real estate 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 12 years. Bricker 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 Milwaukee, Oregon, where Dark Horse is based.
- **Identification:** Lesbian

Jennifer Camper

Jennifer Camper's new 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*, etc.), magazines (*On Our Backs*, *Outweek*, *The Advocate*, *Out*, etc.), newspapers (*The Village Voice*, *Washington Blade*, *Bay Times*, *Sojourner*, etc.), and various anthologies. Miss Camper usually lives in NYC.

- **Current/Upcoming:** A trade paperback of *subGURLZ* is out from Cleis Press late this summer.
- **Email to:** juicym@mindspring.com
- **Website:** <http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/>
- **Identification:** Lesbian

Sharon Cho

Under a deadline crunch for San Diego, Sharon says "For those of you expecting wit, I've procrastinated way too much for this piece to yield a lot, so bear with me. I'm Sharon Cho, agent to many comics professionals (with Spitfire Services). My secret identity, though, is that of a writer, that is, co-creator of *NOBODY*, from Oni Press. I am also a bowler, c/w dancer, joker and philosopher in my various guises."

- **Current/Upcoming:** Her recent 4-issue mini-series, *NOBODY*, will be available soon as a trade paperback from Oni Press.
- **Email to:** shair@ricochet.net
- **Website:** <http://www.writerboy.com/nobody>
- **Identification:** Lesbian

Katherine Collins

Who? She used to be known as Arn Saba, creator of *Neil the Horse* comics and of many other assorted things. Katherine has been living (outwardly) as a woman since 1993 (and inwardly since childhood). The Collins name is from her matrilineal family line. She lives in San Francisco, and was very recently widowed (in a lesbian marriage). Katherine has been many things, as well as several people. While

cartooning, she was always simultaneously working on writing journalism, plays, music and stories; she has also been a radio producer and presenter, and a clown for children. Katherine 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; but when the comics industry imploded, there was no room for a tap-dancing horse. 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 "transition," as the trans-sexual journey is known, and very little into conventionally "creative" work. However, she did compose a book of essays, written contemporaneously with the unfolding, tracing the spiritual and personal intricacies of the experience. The book remains virginally unpublished. Her five-year marriage to Dr. Bobbie Bentley also diverted Katherine's energy, into happy domesticity and couple-run small business. And she says, "yes, everything is much better when you're a woman."

- **Current/Upcoming:** Nothing much. "I do not have any career plans," she says. "I'm busy living all the life I missed before now." Still, she is pursuing jazz vocal performance, as well as contemplating a lesbian-romance-time-travel novel, and assorted graphics projects.
- **Email to:** KatieRC@aol.com
- **Identification:** California Driver's License.
- **Queerness Identification:** Femme Lesbian.

Chris Cooper

Chris Cooper is a freelance writer/editor who formerly worked at Marvel Comics for six years, where he edited titles such as *Cage* and *Blade the Vampire Hunter* (but 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, and can tell all sorts of stories about that! His writing credits include two gay firsts: Marvel's first lesbian lead character, Victoria Montes, in the pages of the short-lived horror 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 the independent cybercomic *Queer Nation: The Online Gay Comic* — part satire, part soap opera, and part superhero comic, in which he has a lot of fun exploring all those untapped gay archetypes and turning them into the superheroes we never seem to get anywhere else.
- **Email to:** queernation@nycnet.com

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

- Website: <http://www.queernation.com>
- Identification: Gay

Howard Cruse

Howard Cruse is the creator of *Barefootz*, an underground comic 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 Comic* (since 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. A French edition of *SRB* will be published this September.

- Current/Upcoming: Cruse currently contributes satirical strips and illustrations regularly to *Harpoon*.
- Email to: HCruise1816@aol.com
- Website: <http://www.howardcruse.com>
- Identification: Gay

Samuel Delaney

A noted science fiction author, Samuel Delaney (whose nickname is "Chip") published his first novel, *The Jewels of Apor* (1962), when he was 20. He has since written dozens of highly-respected SF novels — including the *Neveryon* series — and has taught at a handful of universities. His comic book work includes an early original graphic novel: *Empire: A Visual Novel*, written by Delaney and fully-painted by Howard Chaykin in 1978. Delaney 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. The story is an autobiographical work chronicling how Delaney came to meet and live with his current life-partner, Dennis. The story is somewhat unusual in that when they met, Delaney 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 *QueerNation* with Chris Cooper. John has penciled and/or inked for nearly every major comics publisher in North America, and says, "if you're into back-issue quarter boxes you might find my work from 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*." Dennis was a contributor to *Gay Comics* #24 and #25 as well. 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: <http://www.queernation.com>
- Identification: Gay

Diane DiMassa

(Note: A complete bio could not be approved by press time. The following bio is written from public reports.)

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 (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 to: Firebutt@aol.com
- Identification: Lesbian

Devin Grayson

Devin Kaille Grayson spent her formative years in the San Francisco/Bay Area, where she began writing at the age of eleven, prompted by an existential crisis. Although she studied creative writing in college, and later at UC Berkeley, she has been stuck on page 364 of her first novel ever since channel-surfing past the *Batman Animated Series* in 1992, an experience which changed the faces of her archetypes forever. Don't get her started on Bruce and Dick's relationship unless you've got a few hours! A few years after that fateful encounter, Grayson left a steady day job and a great volunteering gig at the Pacific Center for the wild unknowns of New York, where she now resides as a full time freelance comic book writer. Some of her most recent comic book credits include *The Titans* (ongoing series for DC), *Black Widow* (miniseries for Marvel Knights), *Catwoman* (issues 54-71, DC), *Nightwing/Huntress* (miniseries for DC), and the "Fear of Faith" storyline in the "No Man's Land" *Batman* books (begins in *Legends Of The Dark Knight* #116, and continues through *Shadow Of The Bat* #84, *Batman* #64, and *Detective* #731).

- Current/Upcoming: Devin is most excited about the creator-owned *Relative Heroes*, (formerly *The Weinbergs*, a 6-issue DC mini-series, coming in December 1999, with artists Yvel Guichet and Aaron Sowd), which will introduce a Jewish, gay team leader. She's also thrilled about *Batman: Gotham Knights* (ongoing series for DC, with artist Dale Eaglesham); and *User* (formerly *Mun*, a 3-issue Vertigo Prestige format mini-series, with artists John Bolton & Sean Phillips).
- Website: <http://www.2KComics.com>
- Identification: Bisexual

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

Roberta Gregory

Roberta Gregory has been creating her own unique blend of comics for over twenty years now. Her first major work was the self-published *Dynamite Damsels* (1976), which never really answered the question, "Is the women's movement really a lesbian plot?" She appeared in MANY issues of *Gay Comix/Gay Comics* during the '80s and '90s, self-published *Sheila and the Unicorn* and *Winging It*, the latter title a look at gender issues, among MANY other things. She is best known in the comic world for her long-running *Naughty Bits* series, starring the unforgettable *Bitchy Butch*, still coming out quarterly from Fantagraphics Books. That company has just published the fifth trade paperback collection of *Naughty Bits* stories. Also, Roberta self-published two of the three issues of *Artistic Licentiousness*, a sort of Bisexual love story. Roberta plans on many more issues of *Naughty Bits*, and now she is involved in animation development, which, though challenging, is taking up lots of her time. Creativity is her way of life, so what the future holds is anybody's guess, including her own!

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.

- Current/Upcoming: Issue #29 of *Naughty Bits*, the new trade paperback from Fantagraphics, *Bitchy Butch- World's Angriest Dyke*, which collects the "Bitchy Butch" stories from *Naughty Bits* and *Gay Comics*, as well as new material; and the second volume of *Winging It*, which Roberta published herself earlier this year.
- Email to: roberta@drizzle.com, rgregory@scn.org
- Website: <http://www.robtagregory.com/> or <http://www.drizzle.com/~roberta/>
- Identification: Fluid

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. Griep 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), *Johnny Cosmos* and *The Skulker* (writer/creator; Thorby), and *Cartoon Network Presents* (contributing writer; DC). He lives, writes, and very occasionally sleeps in Minneapolis.

- Current/Upcoming: A 10-Page story in a soon-to-be solicited *JLA 80-Page Giant* (DC); Griep says, "my story features Superman, Batman, and Green Lantern, with pencils by Val Semeiks. Of interest to gay readers, I am working on a youth-oriented biography for Ryan White, the hemophilic kid who had to go to court to attend classes when he got AIDS in

the mid-'80's; I've also being a novel featuring a very gay, very sexy protagonist."

- Email to: Tgriepjr@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

Craig Hamilton

Craig Hamilton was the artist for DC's spectacular *Aquaman* mini-series (1986) and *The Sea Woman Portfolio* (1992). He's recently done some work on DC's *Starmen* (#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 the quirky home town of 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, he cranks out a few comics in his spare time.

- Current/Upcoming: Sketchbook artist in premier issue of *International Studio* magazine (Copperville, on sale NOW at Bud Plant!); short horror story with Mike Carey for an upcoming *Flinch* (DC/Vertigo).
- Identification: Fluid

Joan Hilty

Joan Hilty is an associate editor with DC/Vertigo, who has edited *Finals*, *Flinch* (ongoing), *Witchcraft: La Terreur*, *Uncle Sam*, and others. She's also a cartoonist whose work prior to DC appeared in a range of indie comics, including *Gay Comix/Gay Comics*, *The Village Voice*, *The Advocate*, *Girjock*, *Real Girl*, *Dyke Strippers*, and Oh... She's originally from Northern California, but has been almost completely absorbed into Brooklyn.

- Current/Upcoming: As an editor, she's overseeing the *Swamp Thing* relaunch (ongoing), *Sandman Presents Petrefax*, *User*, and others.
- Email to: joan_hilty@dccomics.com
- Identification: Lesbian

Patty Jeres

Gifted with a good sense of humor, Patty Jeres is the Manager of Marketing & Communications for DC Comics. She's always ready with a smile at San Diego, so see her at the DC booth.

- Email to: DCOPattyJ@aol.com
- Identification: Bisexual

Phil Jimenez

Born and raised in southern California, Phil Jimenez

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

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. Having worked steadily ever since, 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 died of AIDS (and, incidentally, hired him). He has worked with Grant Morrison on *The Invisibles* and Devin Grayson on *JLA/Titans*, and with Warren Ellis on an issue of *Hellblazer* (since pulled by DC Comics before publishing because of the controversial material).

- Current/Upcoming: Phil's upcoming projects include the *Planetary/Authority* crossover with Warren Ellis, the *Legion/Titans* crossover with Dan Jurgens, a *Batman/Wonder Woman* crossover with Marc DeMatteis, and a personal project still in development.
- Email to: PJ813@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

Jon Macy

Jon Macy is best known for his independent comic book series *Tropo*. He is now a full-time pornographer doing hard-core gay sex comics for such illustrious magazines as *Meatmen*, *Wilde*, and *Bunkhouse*. He is the set designer for the Nesting Dolls dance company, and, in true renaissance style, he is the personal pornographer to a secret diaper fetishist. Eight issues of his "gender bending" comic book series *Nefarismo* were published by the thoroughly debauched Eros Comix (Fantagraphics, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 or call 800-657-1100). Jon's work has also appeared in *Gay Comics*.

- Current/Upcoming: More magazine illustrations.
- Identification: Gay

Andy Mangels

Andy Mangels is the past editor of *Gay Comics* (#14-25 and Special #1) and has written for many comic publishers, including such diverse series as *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*. His *Quantum Leap #9* (Innovation, 1993), set during the week of the Stonewall riots, created a national stir. He tries to include gay and lesbian characters in every comic he writes. He has written two books: *Star Wars: The Essential Guide to Characters* (Del Rey) and *Beyond Mulder and Scully: The Mysterious Characters of The X-Files* (Citadel Press). He has more recently written the on-line interactive comic series *RE-Man* for Microsoft and has co-written (with Mike Martin) *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* and other *Star Trek* projects for Marvel, introducing

lesbian characters into the *DS9* series. He writes a weekly Hollywood gossip column, "Hollywood Heroes," which is soon to announce a new website home. Finally, Mangels is publisher and editor of an erotic publication called *IN UNIFORM The Magazine*.

- Current/Upcoming: Mangels' third book, tentatively titled *From Scream to Dawson's Creek: The World of Kevin Williamson* (Renaissance Books, Feb. 2000), is a behind-the-scenes look and biography of Hollywood's hottest screenwriter, who is also gay. He has proposals in to DC and other companies, works on Atlas Editions' large-format *Star Trek Universe* cards, and is doing development work for Hollywood's Platinum Studios.
- Email to: AMangelsSW@aol.com
- Website: <http://www.teleport.com/~uniform>
- Identification: Gay

Lee Marrs

Lee Marrs' career has spanned the range of modern media, but around 1972 her concentration narrowed to two fields she continues to pursue: comic books and animation. One of the founding mommies of the *Wimmen's Comix* collective, the majority of her work has appeared in the underground and alternative press, with such series as *Gay Comix/Gay Comics*, *Unicorn Isle*, *Pudge: Girl Blimp*, *The Compleat Fart*, and *Wimmen's Comix*. She received comicdom's Inkpot Award in 1982. Her mainstream work includes humor and horror stories for *Plopl*, *Crazy Magazine*, *Epic Illustrated*, and *Heavy Metal*. More recent work includes scripts for a DC graphic novel, *Viking Glory*, as well as *Wonder Woman*, *Legends of the Dark Knight*, and *Zatanna*. For Dark Horse, she wrote two *Indiana Jones* mini-series, and two years ago she wrote the Vertigo mini-series *Fault Lines*. Today she still scripts comics, as well as working for software game companies and her own audio-visual and animation company, Lee Marrs Artwork. To top it off, she won an Emmy Award for her work as a TV art director!

- Current/Upcoming: A *Heartbreakers* short story with Paul Guinan and Anina Bennett.
- Email to: LeeMarrs@aol.com
- Identification: Bisexual

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 he worked on *Marvels: Code of Honor* for Marvel Comics, he created several special covers and pin ups as well as a short story for Chaos Comics, and he has recently created the artwork for the graphic novel *Green Lantern: Fear Itself* for DC Comics. Most recently, Brad painted the first official portraits in fifteen years of the Rock group KISS for a special issue of *Famous Monsters of Filmland*.

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

- Current/Upcoming: a new cartoon series for Liberation Publication's magazine *Fresh Men*, and possible unannounced projects with a large comic book publisher. Aside from writing and painting his own graphic novel, Brad has been picked as one of 15 filmmakers to create a sequence for Seraphin Film's "Love and Taboo." This is a film featuring 15 shorts about taboo love, all set to music created by gay composers. Other talent working on the film are filmmaker and novelist Clive Barker (*Hellraiser*, *Nightbreed*) and Bill Condon (*Gods and Monsters*).
- Email to: BPParker13@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

Brad Rader

Brad Rader has wanted to draw comics since he was twelve, but life works in mysterious ways. 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 got the opportunity to do comics back in 1992-93, such as *The Batman Adventures* (# 4-6, DC Comics), and *The Mark* (Dark Horse). His primary influences are: Adams, Kirby, Kubrick, Toth, Eisner, Caniff, Hitchcock, Kurtzman, Miyazaki, Los Bros. Hernandez, Otomo, and Lubitsch. He says, "I don't think of myself 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. 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.

Joe Phillips

(Note: A complete bio could not be approved by press time. The following bio is written from public reports.)

Joe Phillips is a comic artist whose work has been seen in *Aliens* (Dark Horse), *Speed Racer* (Now), *Green Lantern*, *Legion*, *Mister Miracle*, *Superboy*, *Timber Wolf*, and *Wonder Woman* (all DC), *Silver Surfer* (Marvel), and *WildCATs Adventures* (Image). His recent work includes the series *The Heretic* (Dark Horse). Phillips publicly came out at the 1997 Gays in Comics panel at the San Diego Comic Con.

- Current/Upcoming: The *Body Doubles* mini-series (DC).
- Email to: ibisstudio@home.com
- Website: <http://www.joephillips.com>
- Identification: Gay

- Current/Upcoming: Animation Director of *Roswell Conspiracies* (premiering August 1999 on UPN), *Spawn* (episode 12, HBO), and *Space Monkeys* (still running on UPN).
- Email to: jscallahan@earthlink.net
- Identification: Gay

Kay Reynolds

Kay Reynolds is a former Senior Editor at Donning/Starblaze. While at this job in the late 1980s, she was the driving force in introducing graphic novels into the mainstream bookstore market. For that company, she wrote *Robotech Art 1 & 2*, and edited and marketed the original color volumes of *Elfquest*. She 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 a staff write for the *Virginian Pilot*.

- Email to: kayrey@pilot.infi.net
- Identification: Bisexual

Rachel Pollack

Comics are a lifelong love, but a side profession for Rachel Pollack. Her primary work has been books, of which she's written 22. 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 middleaged woman attended by five young women on motorcycles. As well as her novels, she's 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. She says, "In it, I tried to explore people's anxieties about their bodies, their sexuality, and their identity." Recently she read on a web site that way back in 1972, her flat in London (she lived there for a year) was "trannie central." She jokes that it "Can't get much better than that."

- Current/Upcoming: Currently she has no comics projects in the works (though she does have some ideas). She's working on a mystery novel, in which the detective changes sex halfway through the book.
- Email to: RGPollack@aol.com
- Identification: Transsexual Lesbian

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), the hilarious comics industry satire *What They Did To Princess Paragon* (1994), *Drag Queen* (1995) and *Kept Boy* (1996). He is currently working on two new novels and several film and TV projects. He also wrote comics criticism for years in the pages of *The Comics Journal*. Rodi recently jumped to the other side of the comics fence with a gay-themed story (drawn by Phil Jimenez) in DC/*Vertigo's Heart Throbs* #1.

- Current/Upcoming: Upcoming stories in *Flinch*, *Strange Adventures* and *Weird War Tales*, as well as

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

a millennium-themed miniseries, *Four Horsemen* — all from DC/Vertigo.

- Email to: RbtRodi@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

P. Craig Russell

Phillip Craig Russell is a 27-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. The Ohio-born creator began working in comics with artist Dan Adkins, who was Wally Wood's assistant and collaborator. He thinks of Wally Wood as his "grandfather." Today Russell is known for his gorgeous adaptations of classic operas, as well as his versions of books such as *Michael Moorcock's Elric* and *Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book*. Russell continues to work in mainstream comics, as well, bringing his own brand of classical artistic sensibilities to them. Recent work has included stories in various *Batman* titles for DC and *Star Wars* titles for Dark Horse.

He 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 has also been adapting *The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde*. Five (of nine total) have been completed in three award-winning volumes from NBM. Some of his favorite work includes: *Sandman* #50 "Ramadan" - First in a series of works with Neil Gaiman. The second is "One Life Furnished in Early Moorcock."; "Isolation & Illusion" in *Epic* #14 (1981); and "Human Remains," included in *Clive Barker's Tapping the Vein* #1 from Eclipse Comics. Russell has won the Harvey Award, 4-5 Eisner Awards, and the Inkpot Award for career achievement. He came out to the industry in an interview with *The Comics Journal* (#147, Dec. 1991), where he referred to himself as "just another left-handed, night-dwelling, gay libertarian cartoonist."

- Current/Upcoming: *The Ring of the Nibelung* - A four-opera 424-page adaptation for Dark Horse (200 pages are now complete).
- Identification: Gay

Stephen Sadowski

Born and raised in British Columbia, Canada, Stephen Sadowski grew up collecting *everything* comic-related he could; he's recently started to try to get all his Mego action figures back. He has been publicly "out" for about 15 years or so, and he's recently realized his boyhood dream of working for DC Comics! His work includes *Firearm* #13 (10 pages uncredited, Malibu Comics), *Jestercrow* #1 (Castle Rain), *Bob Burden's Mystery Men* #1-2 (Dark Horse Comics), and for DC, *Starman* #56 and *80-Page Giant*, *Smash Comics* #1, *All Star Comics* #2, and *JSA Secret Files*. He is the regular penciller on the *JSA* book at DC. 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: Continuing on the *JSA* book at DC.
- Email to: sadowski3@hotmail.com
- Identification: Gay

Bob Schreck

Bob Schreck is a Senior Editor in the DC Universe editorial group. 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, Schreck 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*. Schreck left Dark Horse in 1996 to co-found Oni Press with Joe Nozemack where he developed such projects as *Clerks: The Comic Book and Jay & Silent Bob* (with screenwriter/director Kevin Smith), the innovative, Harvey-nominated *Oni Double Feature* and the critically acclaimed *Whiteout* (by Greg Rucka and Steve Leiber). When he was hired at DC, Schreck said, "I look forward to working closely with the many friends and associates I've made over the years at DC, and am eager to help them to continue publishing great comics reading for all ages."

- Current/Upcoming: Schreck currently edits *Legends of the DC Universe*, *Legends of the Dark Knight*, *Green Lantern*, and various upcoming projects.
- Email to: DCOSchreck@aol.com
- Identification: Bisexual

David Sexton

David Sexton currently lives with his lover Doug in Miami Beach, where he owns Ironworks Gym. 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 other published work has appeared in *IN UNIFORM The Magazine*.

- Current/Upcoming: His *Winged Spirit Deck* (tarot deck) recently came out from U.S. Game Systems. He is currently doing artwork for Anne Rice, and t-shirts with his artwork are available on her website (<http://www.annrice.com>).
- Email to: davidsexton@aol.com
- Website: <http://members.aol.com/davidsexton/index.html>
- Identification: Gay

Eric Shanower

Eric Shanower says he is "a cartoonist, a term that confuses some people until I inform them that I write and draw comic books." He's been writing and draw-

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

ing comics since he was a child, but has been getting paid only for the last fifteen years. He was the writer and artist of the Oz graphic novels published by First and Dark Horse, as well as many series for DC, Marvel, Epic, and Dark Horse, including *An Accidental Death*, *The Elsewhere Prince*, *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*, and *Star Wars: The Last Command* (inks only). He lives in San Diego with his partner David Maxine, where they maintain a small publishing company, and a dog named Road.

- Current/Upcoming: Shanower produces the massive retelling of the Trojan War in a black-and-white comic series called *Age of Bronze* (Image). He has also produced the art for "Small Time" in *Gangland #3* (DC/Vertigo), and a six-page section in a *Superman/Green Lantern* special project for DC.
- Email to: Linearbcom@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

Christopher Taylor

Christopher Taylor, born in Philadelphia in 1966, and raised in South Jersey. He 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. Taylor went on to become a mainstream comics penciler who has illustrated the *Alien3* movie adaptation (Dark Horse), and *Legion of Super-Heroes*, *DarkStars*, and the *BloodPack* mini-series (all for DC). In the mid-1990s Taylor dropped out of comics to pursue a "real" job. Nevertheless, Taylor went on to contribute illustrations to various adult Gay publications such as *American Bear*, *Bulk Male*, and *IN UNIFORM The Magazine*. Currently online at the *EuroBear* site (<http://www.eurobear.com/>) is a sampling of Taylor's realistic and animé inspired Bear artwork.

- Current/Upcoming: Christopher Taylor returns to comics this winter with the self-published venture entitled *Mark Nemesis: The Avatar*.
- Email to: neocmt@hotmail.com
- Identification: Gay

Robert Triptow

San Franciscan Robert Triptow edited *Gay Comix* from issue #5 in 1984 through to issue #13 in 1991. Triptow co-edited *Strip AIDS USA*, a 1988 trade paperback anthology from Last Gasp which featured 121 cartoonists donating strips and one-pagers. He notated and edited the book *Gay Comics* (Plume, 1989), a history of non-pomographic queer cartoonists. Triptow's cartoons have also appeared in *Bizarre Sex*, *Young Lust*, *Naughty Bits*, *Real Girl*, *Filth*, and *Spastic Culture*. His first solo collection, "Class Photo," is pending.

- Email to: rtriptow@pacbell.net
- Website: <http://216.103.209.217>
- Identification: Gay

Ivan Velez, Jr.

Raised in the South Bronx, Ivan Velez, Jr. was heavily influenced by the chopsocky karate flicks, blaxploitation films and Spanish soap operas that filled his free time. So far, that hasn't changed. Ivan is the creator of *Tales of the Closet*, a ten chapter graphic novel that depicts the lives of eight gay teenagers in Queens. Number ten will be finished once the seemingly endless negotiations over the copyright are over. His work has also been seen in several issues of *Gay Comics*, *Details* magazine, *NYQ*, and *HX*. He has sold scripts to HBO and the Hudlin Brothers. He has been reviewed in *The Advocate*, *Edge*, *The Village Voice* and *New York Times*. Velez has also written several Milestone titles, including *Blood Syndicate* (which included his character design for some of the cast), *A Man Called Holocaust*, and a year long run on the acclaimed series, *Static*. Both *Blood Syndicate* and *Static* have won awards during his run on them. Ivan has also written for the mainstream, scripting 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 kiddie and superhero divisions which included an *Eradicator* mini-series, and some work for Vertigo's *Flinch*. All in all, not too shabby for this self-described "Boricua boy from the Bronx."

- Current/Upcoming: His future projects include the last issue of *Tales of the Closet* (although he's not holding his breath), and a one shot special due out before December called *The Big Millie*.
- Email to: Adamvega@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

José Villarrubia

Born in Madrid, Spain, but living in Baltimore, José Villarrubia is best known for his fine art photographs which have been featured in the books "The Homosexual Photograph" (Columbia University Press), "Lust" (Liberation Publications), and "The Male Nude" (Taschen), plus "Uniforms" and "Male Bonding II" (FotoFactory Press). He has produced digital artwork with photographer Stephen Jon Phillips for the recent *Veils* graphic novel (Vertigo) and the cover of *Flinch #4* (Vertigo). With artist Jae Lee, he has produced painted colors for covers for *Glory* (Awesome) and *Tellos* (Image).

- Current/Upcoming: Digital art and photography in *Promethea #7* (America's Best Comics); a lithograph of Wolverine (with Jae Lee for Marvel/Dynamic Forces); the cover for *Flinch #8* (with Jae Lee for Vertigo); and colors on a Marc hemp story for *Flinch #5* (Vertigo).
- Email to: JoseVillar@aol.com
- Identification: Gay

Reed Waller

Reed Waller created the immensely popular, critically acclaimed, anthropomorphic, adults-only series

OUT IN COMICS

A Guide to Openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Creators

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. That latter publisher 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 to: rwaller@winternet.com
- Website: <http://www.winternet.com/~rwaller>
- Identification: Bisexual

Kate Worley

(Note: A complete bio could not be approved by press time. The following bio is written from public reports.)

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' Mulikon 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 to: Kate.Worley@gratisnet.com
- Identification: Bisexual

DECEASED CREATORS

Neal Pozner

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 Editors, where, among a large number of tasks, he was responsible for recruiting new talent. Stuart Immomen, 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" suit, 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.

Duffy Vohland

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 died some time in the 1980's.

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.

- Gay Comix #6, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14
- Gay Comix Special #1
- Gay Comics #15, #16, #17, #18, #19
- Gay Comics #20, #21, #22, #23, #24
- Gay Comics #25 (80-page final issue!)

please include a signed statement
that you are 18 years or older

\$4.00 each postpaid
\$4.50 (Can)
\$6.00 (Overseas)

For Issue #25 only
\$7.50 (US) \$8 (Canada)
\$9.50 (Overseas)

GAY COMICS
395 Ninth St.
SF, CA 94103

OUT IN COMICS

Resources for Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Comic Fans

As of August 1999, there are several resources for fans to enjoy, in which they can interact with openly Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered (hereafter GLBT) comic professionals and other fans. Here are a few of the resources!

Hope you have fun!
Andy Mangels

The Gay League

The Gay League website is located at <http://members.aol.com/GayOLeague/outpost.html>. There's lists of GLBT characters in comics, creator profiles, fan profiles, and much more! While some of the website is not updated very regularly, don't let that discourage you from exploring it all.

The Gay League also does online chat sessions on AOL, on Wednesday evenings (10 ET, 9CT, 7PT).

Gay League moderators can be reached with questions at GayOLeague@aol.com, RoyGBivGUY@aol.com, and JPalmer567@aol.com.

The Gay League Mailing List is for GLBT comic readers and creators to discuss what they love most..... COMICS!! It's also a great way for members of the Gay League of America to get to know one another. Come join in on the fun amongst the hundreds of GLA members currently subscribing.
Note: Digest version cuts down on the mail, and sends 25 messages in one daily bulk mailing. To subscribe to the Gay League mailing list (individual messages or digest), go to <http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/GLA>

The GLAFiles is a sublist of the Gay League. Its members trade pics ranging from comic book images to adult images containing nudity, and same sex relations. You MUST be of legal age in your locality to join the GLAFiles.

Note: Digest version will not contain any of the photos. You must subscribe to individual list.

To subscribe to the mailing list (individual messages or digest), go to <http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/GLAFiles>

ATDNSIN - The "A.P.A. That Dares Now Speak Its Name"

An Amateur Publishing Association (APA) for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals & Transgendered People, begun by Andy Mangels and Roger Klorese in response to the 1989 San Diego Comic Con "Gays in Comics" panel, has recently begun its eleventh year of continuous publication! The APA has discussions on the subjects of current and past comics of all genres, comics as they relate to queer people, and the varied alternate 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 a central coordinator who collates the sec-

tions and sends the completed magazine to each member.

As of August 1999, we have published 59 magazines on a bimonthly schedule. You need not be a professional to be involved, nor an artist or story writer. Many of the members are fans of the comic medium and participate in friendly and informative discussions. This is a magazine with some adult content thus you must be of legal age to join.

Contact information:

Michael Phillips, Central Mailer
1032 Irving Street, PMB - 614
San Francisco, CA 94122-2200
• Email: MPhilp@Aol.com

for a sample issue: send \$5.00 with your name and address

NORTHSTAR

NORTHSTAR is the nation's fastest growing APA for gay comics fans. The APA was founded in 1989 by Jericho Wilson, Mark Phillips, and Rick Campbell. Members submit self-made 'zines on comics and popular culture to the Central Mailer who in turn distributes copies of the collected issue to the membership. Nominal fees cover the cost of postage.

Issue #47 came out in July 1999, and the deadline for submissions for #48 is Friday, September 17th. We love comics — and we love new members! Come join the fun in time for our 50th Anniversary Issue in January. NORTHSTAR — now more than ever!

Contact information:

Kyle Minor, Central Mailer
• Email: kminor@sfopera.com
• Email: kyleminor@yahoo.com

Gay Force Quarterly

Gay Force Quarterly (a.k.a. "G-Force") is a new zine intended to spotlight the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender connection to the world of comic books. Produced in a sort of gay "Wizard meets Comics Journal" style, G-Force will cover queer characters, story lines, creators, industry professionals, up-and-coming talents, and other wacky stuff in the world of comics.

Created by some of the mind's behind the GLA and *FAZE Magazine*, G-Force's first issue is due out late fall/early winter of 1999. It will feature exciting features, reviews, columns, and interviews with such names as Joe Phillips, artist of DC's *Body Doubles* and Diane DiMassa, creator of *Hothead Paisan: Homocidal Lesbian Terrorist*.

Contact information:

• Email: GayForceQ@aol.com

GAYS IN COMICS PANEL

A 12-Year History of the Gays In Comics Panels at the San Diego Comic Con!

All twelve panels have been moderated by writer/editor **Andy Mangels**

(editor *Gay Comics*, writer *Bloodwolf*, *Star Wars: Boba Fett*, *Star Trek: DS9*, *Nightmares on Elm Street*, *ElfQuest: Blood of Ten Chiefs*, *Child's Play*, *Quantum Leap*)

Note: All credits below reflect projects from that time period.

Panel #1 — Saturday, August 6th, 1988
12:30-2 pm in the Civic Theatre

Description: "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*, *Fortune's 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
12-1 pm in the Copper Room

Subtitled: "Character Portrayals"

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

(With a Con party in **Andy Mangels'** hotel room. And **Roger Klorese** appeared on a panel about APAs, representing the gay "APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name.")

Panel #3 — Saturday, August 4, 1990
Time and Room Unknown, Convention & Perf. Arts Cntr.

- 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. It's likely that the Panel included **Eric Shanower**, and **Kate Worley**.

(With a pool party at **Andy Mangels'** hotel, wherein a blown-up rubber glove was used as a pool toy. Also a dinner with performance by **Sabin Grey**, "the Swishin' Magician." And the *Gays* same-sex dance-crashed the Seduction of the Innocent party. Plus ATDNSIN dinners aplenty.)

Panel #4 — Saturday, July 6th, 1991
12-1 pm in Room 16A

Subtitled: "Role Models: Lesbians and Gays"

Description: "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*, *Stintz*, *Gay Comics*)
- Flower Frankenstein, cartoonist (*Public Chaos*)
- Roberta Gregory, writer/artist (*Naughty Bits*, *Gay Comics*, *Winging It*)

(With ATDNSIN party in **Sabin Grey's** room.)

Panel #5 — Friday, August 14th, 1992
4:30-5:30 pm in Room 16A

Subtitled: "The Creators and the Characters"

Description: "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 (*X-Men*, *Alpha Flight* — brought *Northstar* out)
- Lee Marrs, writer/artist (*Pudge*, *Girl Blimp*, *Gay Comix*, *Viking Prince GN*, *Vamps*)
- Bill Messner-Loebs, straight writer/artist (*Journey*, *Wonder Woman*, *Flash* — brought *Pied Piper* out)

(With "Jem" theme party in **Sabin Grey's** room, guest-starring **Brinke Stevens** as *Jem*. Plus a *Gay Comix* signing with **Daerick Gross**, **Brad Parker**, **Donna Barr**, **Roberta Gregory**, and **Tim Barela**.)

Panel #6 — Saturday, August 21st, 1993
4-5:30 pm in Room 15

Subtitled: "Dealing with Intimacy"

Description: "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?"

GAYS IN COMICS PANEL

A 12-Year History of the Gays In Comics Panels at the San Diego Comic Con!

- **Tim Barela**, writer/artist (award-winning 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
2:30-3 pm in Room 8

Subtitled: "Moving Beyond the Stereotypes"

Description: "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)

Panel #8 — Saturday, July 29, 1995
2:30 pm in Room 10

Subtitled: "Eight Years On"

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

- **Tim Barela**, writer/artist (award-winning Leonard & Larry cartoon strip and TPBs)
 - **Sharon Cho**, agent (Star Reach)
 - **Mark Phillips**, central mailer for The APA That Dares Now Speak Its Name
 - **Martha Thomases**, straight publicity manager for DC Comics (promoting Howard Cruse's Stuck Rubber Baby)
- Terry Moore** (announced, but did not make it)

Panel #9 — Saturday, August 6th, 1996
2:30-3 pm in Room 14B (or 2:30-4 Room 9)

Subtitled: "Out in Print"

Description: "One of the Cons' 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)
- Barry Blair** (announced, but did not make it)

Panel #10 — Saturday, July 19, 1997
11:30-1 pm in Room 9

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

- **Tim Barela**, writer/artist (award-winning 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
11:30-1 pm in Room 4

Description: "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 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)
- Brad Rader** (announced, but did not make it)

Panel #12 — Saturday, August 14th, 1999
12-1:30 pm in Room 8

- **Tim Barela**, writer/artist (award-winning Leonard & Larry cartoon strip and TPBs)
- **Sharon Cho**, co-writer/agent (critically-acclaimed series Nobody)
- **Terrance Grieb Jr.**, writer (The Skulker, Scooby-Doo)
- **Brad Parker**, artist (hardcover Green Lantern graphic novel "Fear Itself", Marvel's Code of Honor)
- **Brad Rader**, artist/animation director (Batman Adventures, The Mark, TV's Spawn, Roswell)
- **Stephen Sadowski**, artist (Justice Society of America)
- **Bob Schreck**, editor (Comico, Dark Horse, Oni Press, now senior editor at DC Comics)

TIMELINE

Here are a few important events in the history of gay and lesbian cartooning.

- 1957**
Physique Pictorial (Tom of Finland premieres)
- 1964**
Drum begins running A.Jay's *Harry Chess* strip
- 1972**
Wimmen's Comix #1 (first lesbian comic story)
- 1973**
Come Out Comix (Mary Wings)
All Canadian Beaver Comix (first gay comix 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 #1 (September)
The Hulk Magazine #23 (infamous YMCA rape scene)
- 1981**
GAY COMIX #2 (November)
- 1982**
GAY COMIX #3 (December)
In Touch begins running Jerry Mills' *Poppers*
- 1983**
GAY COMIX #4 (November)
Alison Bechdel begins syndicating *Dykes To Watch Out For*
- 1984**
GAY COMIX #5 (November)
- 1985**
GAY COMIX #6 (Winter)
- 1986**
GAY COMIX #7 (Spring)
GAY COMIX #8 (Summer)
GAY COMIX #9 (Winter)
Meatmen volume 1 (23 volumes to date)
Watch Out! Comix (Vaughn Frick)
- 1987**
GAY COMIX #10 (Spring)
GAY COMIX #11 (Winter)
Strip AIDS (UK)
Tales of the Closet #1 (nine issues to date)
- 1988**
GAY COMIX #12 (Spring)
AARSHI Artists Against Rampant Government Homophobia (UK)
Strip AIDS USA
"Out of the Closet and Into The Comics"
major article on gay creators and creations published in *Amazing Heroes* #143-144
1st Gays In Comics panel at San Diego Comic Con
- 1989**
Gay Comics trade paperback (Plume)
The APA That Dares Not Speak Its Name is founded.
Northstar, a second APA, is founded.
- 1991**
GAY COMIX #13 (Fall)
GAY COMIX #14 (Winter)
GAY COMIX SPECIAL #1 (Winter)
Buddies #1 (UK, lasts to #4)
- 1992**
GAY COMICS #15 (Spring)
GAY COMICS #16 (Spring)
GAY COMICS #17 (Fall)
Oh. . . #1 (lasts to #22)
Alpha Flight #106 (screaming Northstar issue)
- 1993**
GAY COMICS #18 (Spring)
GAY COMICS #19 (Summer)
GAY COMICS #20 (Fall)
GAY COMICS #21 (Winter)
GAY COMICS wins Comic Creators Guild Best Anthology Award
Dyke's Delight #1 (UK, lasts to #2)
Quantum Leap #9 (Stonewall issue)
- 1994**
GAY COMICS #22 (Summer)
Hands Off! (Washington pro-gay benefit book)
Out of the Inkwell premieres in SF (four gay comic-based one-act plays)
- 1995**
Dyke Strippers: Lesbians Cartoonists A to Z
Stuck Rubber Baby (Howard Cruse)
- 1996**
GAY COMICS #23 (Spring)
GAY COMICS #24 (Summer)
- 1997**
BAGAL Comic Connection (gay comic news zine)
10th Anniversary Gays In Comics panel at San Diego Comic Con
- 1998**
GAY COMICS #25 (Spring — Final Issue)
Gay and Lesbian characters introduced in *Marvel's Star Trek: Starfleet Academy* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*.
- 1999**
Gay Day at San Diego Comic Con
The first *Out in Comics* (this zine) published!
- 
- Out in Comics*
has been produced in August 1999
by Andy Mangels
I wish to thank all of the creators
for their help,
and especially wish to thank Howard Cruse,
who has been there for me, and really,
has been there for all of us.
- Andy Mangels, PO Box 3226, Portland, OR 97208
AMangelsSW@aol.com

AUTOGRAPHS '99

Collect the signatures of your favorite Out and Proud Creators!

AUTOGRAPHS '99

Collect the signatures of your favorite Out and Proud Creators!