

COMICS ART FORUM XIII

Comics Art Forum XIII will take place Nov. 9–11, 2006. This year's event, hosted by the sequential art department, will feature 12 comic artists.

The guest artists will attend a reception where their artwork will be displayed. It will take place at Pei Ling Chan Gallery, 324 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., on Thursday, Nov. 9, 6–7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in meeting them is invited to visit Pei Ling Chan Gallery at that time. The schedule of events will also include a workshop (10 a.m.–1 p.m.) and a portfolio review (2:30–5 p.m.) for sequential art students on Friday, Nov. 10, in Norris Hall, 548 E. Broughton St. Saturday events include a workshop for sequential art students (11 a.m.–2 p.m.) at Norris Hall and a panel discussion (6–8 p.m.) in Trustees Theater, 216 E. Broughton St. The panel discussion is open to the public. Anyone interested in sequential art is encouraged to attend.

Comics Art Forum has been a proud part of the history of the sequential art department for many years. The event represents one of the few major academic acknowledgements of comic art and sequential art storytelling in the nation. The forum permits guests to discuss sequential art concerns from many differing points of view and provides students and the public alike with an opportunity to discuss the art form with a variety of top industry professionals.

Tracy Yardley earned a B.F.A. from the Savannah College of Art and Design's sequential art program in 2001. He and Nathaniel Bowden, a fellow SCAD graduate (B.F.A., sequential art, 2001), produced the self-published "Nate and Steve" comic series, which led to their TOKOYPOP graphic novel "Riding Shotgun." Yardley is currently working on the second volume of "Riding Shotgun" and is the current penciler for Archie Comics' "Sonic the Hedgehog."

Tommy Lee Edwards was born in Texas in 1973, grew up in Michigan, attended the Art Center College of Design in California, and then moved to central North Carolina. He's lived there and worked in his studio behind the house for several years now, accompanied by his wife (and often colorist) Melissa and their two children. Since 1992, Edwards has been making a living as an illustrator on everything from comics and movies to games and children's books. A life-long lover of comics, he has put his heart and soul into creating art (and sometimes the stories) for all of the major publishers whose titles include "Daredevil," "Zombie World," "The Question," "Batman," "X-Men," "The Invisibles," "Disavowed," "Aliens," "Teddy Grant" and "Bullet Points."

Mark Schultz has been cartooning and illustrating for more than 20 years. He is best known as the creator of the award-winning speculative adventure comic book "Xenozoic Tales," which has been adapted to television as the animated series "Cadillacs and Dinosaurs." Schultz has been awarded five Harveys, two Eisners, an Inkpot, a Spectrum, and three Haxturs (the last from the Sal6n Internacional del C6mic del Principado de Asturias).

Rodolphe Guenoden studied animation at the Gobelins in Paris, and has worked for 17 years in the animation industry as a 2-D animator and storyboard artist on such films as "Prince of Egypt," "Road to El Dorado" and "Sinbad." Guenoden lives in Los Angeles with his wife, two sons and a cat. He loves drawing women, and has always wanted to draw comics.

R. Kikuo Johnson's comics and drawings have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Believer*, *The New York Times* and in galleries in New York and Los Angeles. His debut graphic novel, "Night Fisher," a coming-of-age tale set in the suburbs of Hawaii, was released Fall 2005 to wide acclaim. In 2006, the book earned Johnson two of comics' most prestigious awards: a Harvey Award in the "best new talent" category as well as the Russ Manning Most Promising Newcomer Award.

Phil Craven is featured in and works as co-editor of the "Flight" comics anthology and host of his own Web site, BluePillow.net. Craven earned an M.F.A. in sequential art in 2002 from the Savannah College of Art and Design and is now working as a storyboard artist at Dreamworks SKG.

Nick Dragotta is a SCAD alumnus who graduated with a B.F.A. in sequential art in 1997. Since graduating, he's gone on to write, pencil, ink and color comics professionally. His work can be seen in both Marvel and DC Comics. Recently, he penciled the six-issue miniseries "X-Statix Presents: Deadgirl," acclaimed by *Entertainment Weekly* as one of the "Top Five Reasons to Live." Dragotta is also a co-creator of "Howtoons," a children's comic soon to be published by ReganBooks/HarperCollins. "Howtoons" are cartoons that show children "how to" build toys using everyday household objects. Dragotta's work for "Howtoons" will be included in the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum's "Design Life Now: National Design Triennial 2006" exhibition in New York City.

John Paul Leon is best known for his critically acclaimed work that envisioned and redefined the entire Marvel Comics universe in the maxiseries "Earth X." Leon's bold and dramatic work has influenced many of today's young talents. Born in New York City in 1972, he first began working professionally at the age of 16, with a series of black and white illustrations for TSR's *Dungeon* and *Dragon* magazines. In college, he majored in illustration at New York's School Of Visual Arts and studied under such legends as Will Eisner and Walter Simonson. Leon began his comic book career with a miniseries for Dark Horse Comics' "Robocop: Prime Suspect," and followed with the DC/Milestone comic, "Static," which eventually developed into the popular animated television show, "Static Shock."

Cliff Chiang graduated from Harvard University in 1996 and started working in comics to avoid going to law school. After several years as an assistant editor for DC Comics' Vertigo imprint, he made the switch to the glamorous world of freelance art. He has worked primarily for DC, drawing such books as "Detective Comics," "Beware the Creeper," "Human Target," "Nightwing" and, most recently, "The Spectre." He enjoys hunting, Xtreme winter sports and long walks on the beach.

Adam Hughes is probably best known for contributing towards the definition of what was termed "Good Girl" art. However, to label him merely as a "good girl" artist would be doing him a grave injustice. Hughes pencils, inks and colors both interior and cover art, and is also a noteworthy writer. This year Hughes celebrates his 20th year in comics. His career has taken him many places; from interior artist on books like "Justice League" and "Star Trek: Debt of Honor" for DC Comics, "Ghost" for Dark Horse Comics and "Gen-13" for Wildstorm, to the wide range of covers he creates today. Those covers include an almost 50 issue run on "Wonder Woman" and currently the issues of "Catwoman" and "Star Wars: Legacy." Hughes' career has earned him several Harvey Awards, an Eisner Award, and the thanks of a grateful nation.

Paolo Rivera has been an painter for Marvel Comics since 2002. He was born in 1981, raised in Daytona Beach, Fla., and graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in

2003, where he studied under David Mazzucchelli. He broke into comics thanks to writer Jim Krueger, whom Rivera met at a comic convention while still in high school. He is currently working on "Mythos," a series of one-shots featuring the origins of Marvel's major characters.

One of the most popular inkers in the comic book industry, **Scott Hanna** has been drawing and inking comic books for more than 20 years. To date, he's inked nearly 14,000 pages of comics. At Marvel Comics, Hanna's worked on all the top characters at the company, including Spider-man, X-Men, Wolverine, Thor, The Avengers, Daredevil and The Hulk. He's been drawing Spider-man for 12 years, working on almost every title starring the wall crawler. He is now the inker on "Sensational Spider-man," "Ultimate X-Men," "X-Men Deadly Genesis" and "Invincible Ironman." At DC Comics, he worked on many of their major titles, most notably a five-year run on "Detective Comics" starring Batman.