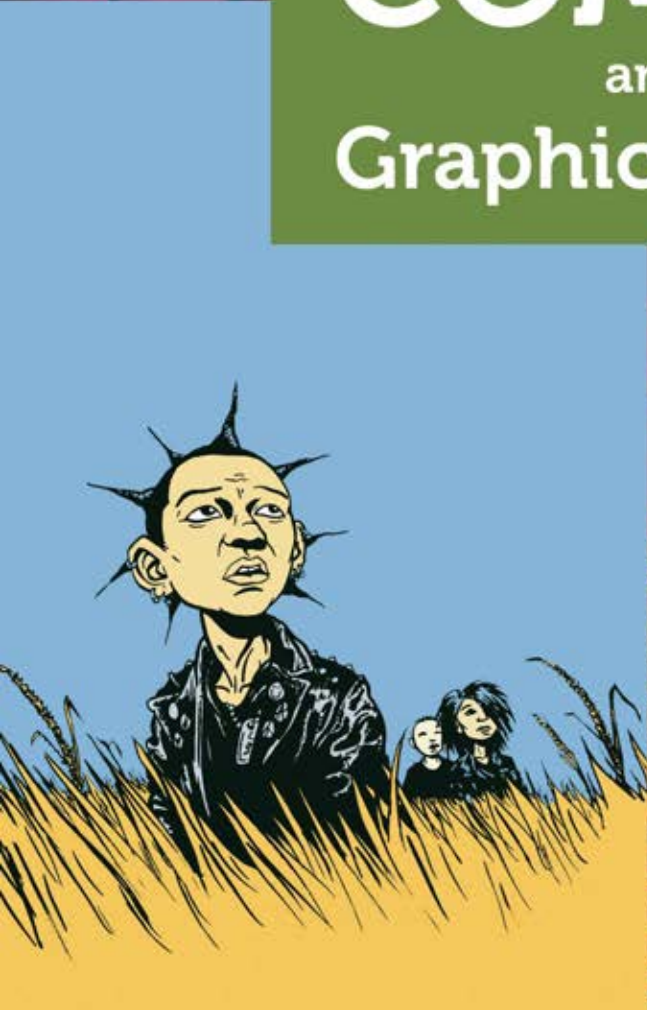




New Zealand
COMICS
and
Graphic Novels





New Zealand COMICS and Graphic Novels

Edited by Dylan Horrocks

with assistance from Richard Fairgray, Tim Bollinger and Adrian Kinnaird.

Thanks to everyone who provided images and information.

Cover illustrations (clockwise from top left): Front: Mat Tait, Toby Morris, Greg Broadmore, Ant Sang; Back: Akira Atsushi, Mat Tait, Andrew Burdan, Dylan Horrocks.

This page: Bob Kerr.

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NEW ZEALAND TORI AOTEAROA
 creative nz

New Zealand comics

Island people - global imagination

by Tim Bollinger

Adrian Kinnaird



New Zealand comics are characterised by the country's size and isolation. Comic artists and writers here are outward looking, informed by a wide range of international cartoon and comic book influences.

In the early part of the twentieth century imported British children's comic papers dominated the country's magazine shelves. In the 1940s and 50s American comics, or 'American-style' comics drawn in Australia, increased in circulation.

By the 1960s, the local diet of American and British comics began to be supplemented by the British publication of European albums in English: *Tintin*, followed by *Asterix* in the 1970s. American translations of *Métal Hurlant* came in the '80s, alongside Britain's *2000AD* and a growing raft of American mainstream imports - boosted by the growth in specialist comic outlets and the liberalisation of import controls. By the 21st century the country's comic kids were reading manga, and downloading comics off the internet.

The New Zealand 'market' was always too small to sustain more than a handful of artists making and selling their own

comic books. New Zealand cartoonists were more likely to be employed as caricaturists, editorial satirists or commercial illustrators.

Others made a living overseas, in the growing comic book industries of Australia and Britain. Early expatriate pioneers in the Australian scene of the 1930s and '40s Noel Cook, 'Unk' White and Ted Brodie-Mack drew genre western, sci-fi, romance and jungle adventure comics for both the Australian and New Zealand markets. Cook is said by some to have 'invented' the sci-fi comic idiom with his 'Peter' strip for the Australian *Sunday Times* in 1924.

The first New Zealand comics boom – more of a puff, really – came during and just after World War II, when over a five or six-year period several locally drawn children's comics were widely available – Eric Resetar's *Crash Carson of the Future*, Jack Raeburn's *Sparkles* and Harry W. Bennett's *Supreme Feature Comic* among them.

Some of this growth was the result



Harry Bennett (1940s)



The only record of public reaction to these comics is a few grumpy letters to the Minster of Education

of import controls on overseas comics. Some was due to a rush of talented and enterprising returned servicemen, some of whom produced their work 'under-the-table' while doing day-jobs, which is why much of it was anonymous. Jack Raeburn was an engineer for the New Zealand Railways Corporation and kept his second occupation secret.

Few left their mark on the cultural landscape. Harry Bennett's 'Standish Steele', Jack Raeburn's 'Rangi and His Pets' and Eric Resetar's 'Captain Sinister' remain obscure to the vast majority of New Zealanders. The only record of public reaction to these comics is a few grumpy letters to the Minister of Education, some sanctimonious articles by teachers and librarians, and the simple evidence of sales – in their thousands.

Along with locally printed overseas comic books and Australian and British imports,



Harry Bennett (1940s)



Eric Resetar (1940s-50s)



New Zealand booksellers reported selling between 100 and 500 comics each week. “I could get rid of 400 on Friday night alone if stocks weren't limited,” remarked one newsagent in 1945.

Some of the new found popularity of comics came from the influence of visiting American servicemen. By 1944 New Zealand's appetite for comics had grown

Usually they were quarto size, in portrait format, but sometimes they were half that height, in landscape, with two rows of strips per page - a format that persists in the compilations of local newspaper strips like ‘Bogor’ and ‘Footrot Flats’, or the landscape-format booklets of Karl Wills’ *Jessica of the Schoolyard*. The necessity for high contrast and clarity in drawing for

The government responded by redefining hundreds of previously acceptable comics as 'obscene.'

big enough to sustain two large comic book printing and publishing houses – Feature Productions in Lower Hutt, Wellington, and Times Printing works in Newton, Auckland.

New Zealand comics of the era were almost always printed on newsprint or other low-grade paper, with black and white interior, three-colour cover and back. Sometimes the interior was a single dark colour – blue or red.

black and white print was also embedded in the New Zealand comic art style from this time.

The boom petered out when moralists in government began clamping down on comics. In 1952, Times Print was obliged to discontinue many of its more commercial overseas titles. Times, for whom comics was 80% of their business, closed its doors in 1954, the same year the ‘Mazengarb Inquiry’ identified comic books as a cause



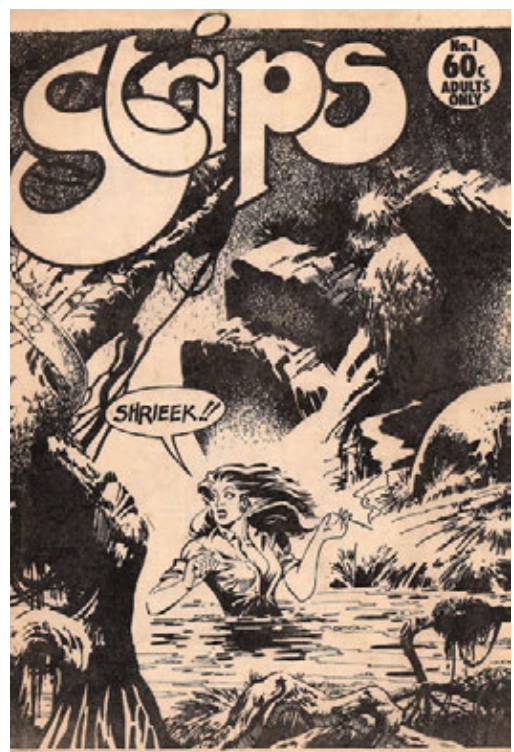
Joe Wylie (1978)

In 1977 they started Strips - a mix of classy comic art and local underground comix.

of “juvenile delinquency”. The government responded by redefining hundreds of previously acceptable comics as ‘obscene.’

With the country’s fledging comic book industry all but destroyed, New Zealand comics went underground, surviving on the fringes of the student scene in the cartoons of parody and protest. Contributions to student ‘Capping’ magazines by the likes of Neville Colvin and Bob Brockie in the 1950s and 60s were followed in the 1970s by the strips of a new generation of cartoonists.

Artists like Colin Wilson, Terence Hogan, Barry Linton, Joe Wylie and Laurence Clark had grown up on the comics of the 1950s, but had also absorbed what was going on in Europe and the Californian underground. In 1977 they started *Strips* – a mix of classy comic art and local underground comix, with clean lines



Colin Wilson (1977)

and strong blacks to the fore.

Strips was a community of artists, brought together by the isolation of comics in the New Zealand cultural landscape.

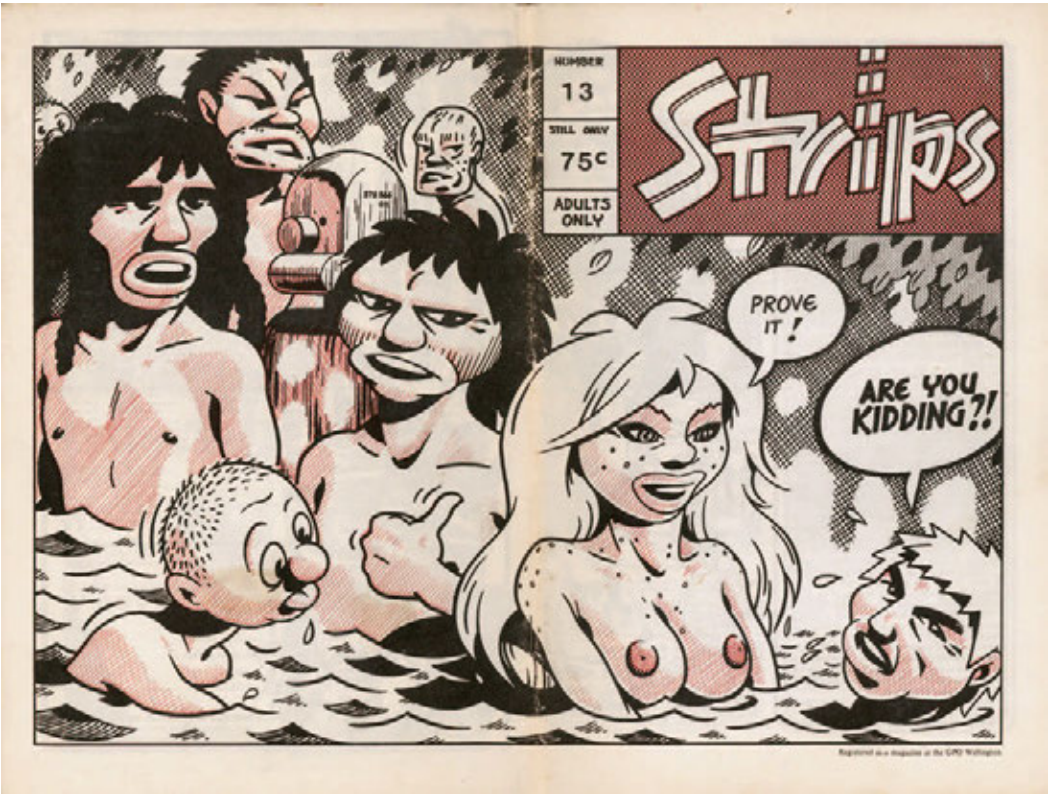
Editor and principal instigator, Wilson was focused and ambitious, and used the first ten issues as a vehicle for his experiments in comic art, before becoming the next in a long line of New Zealand exports to Britain, drawing for *2000AD* and finding a home in the French bande dessinée industry.

Wilson also created in 1979 what is possibly New Zealand's first superhero comic, the ecologically themed *Captain Sunshine* – a full-colour promotional vehicle for a plastic sundial watch. Like so many of its New Zealand predecessors, *Captain Sunshine* was produced on cheap plain newsprint, and although the comic proved more popular than the product it was

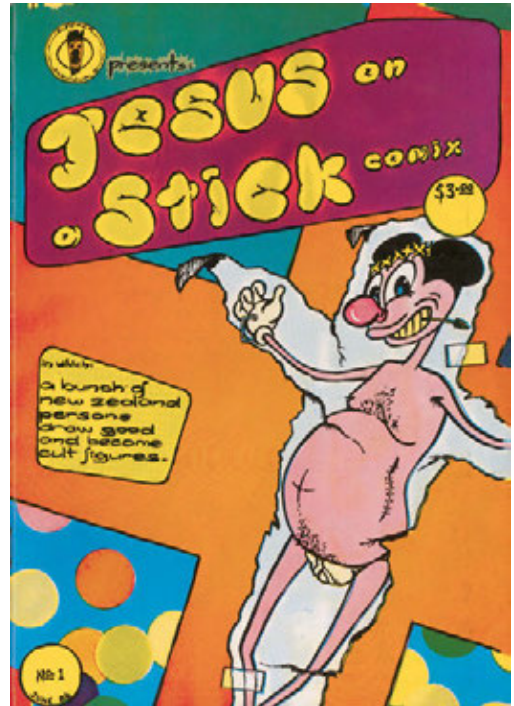


Colin Wilson et al (1979)

Strips was a community of artists, brought together by the isolation of comics in the New Zealand cultural landscape.



Barry Linton (1980)



Left: David Mitchell (1985). Right: Chris Knox (1986)

promoting, never made it to issue two on account of a decline in the sundial watch business.

Strips carried on after Wilson's departure to become the springboard for a second New Zealand comics 'puff' in the 1980s and '90s, as a whole bunch of local comic aspirants saw their work in print for the first time in its pages. In the words of Wilson, "it was never supposed to be self-funding." This gave its artists an unusual amount of creative freedom.

With the growth of photocopying technology, and the rise of specialist comic shops as an outlet for non-profit driven, independently published work, *Strips* became the model for other communities of artists to produce and publish the comics of their imaginations. In overseas comic circles this would be known as the 'small press,' but in New Zealand it was the only press in town.

As a method for career advancement, it sometimes paid off. *Strips'* immediate successor, *Razor* showcased the early work of Dylan Horrocks (*Hicksville*), Cornelius Stone (*Knuckles the Malevolent Nun*) and

Roger Langridge (*Fred the Clown*), all of whom went on to greater international success. *Jesus on a Stick*, led by cartoonist and lo-fi musical innovator Chris Knox, brought a new 'punk' aesthetic to the local comics scene that helped establish a cult following for his own and others' work in comic and music circles around the world.

In the 1990s, Martin Emond's painted panels for Gordon Rennie's *White Trash* won him fame and work in California, while his friend and sometimes collaborator Simon Morse helped Emond define the house style for Auckland design company 'Illicit' – combining comics with fashion and tattoo art.

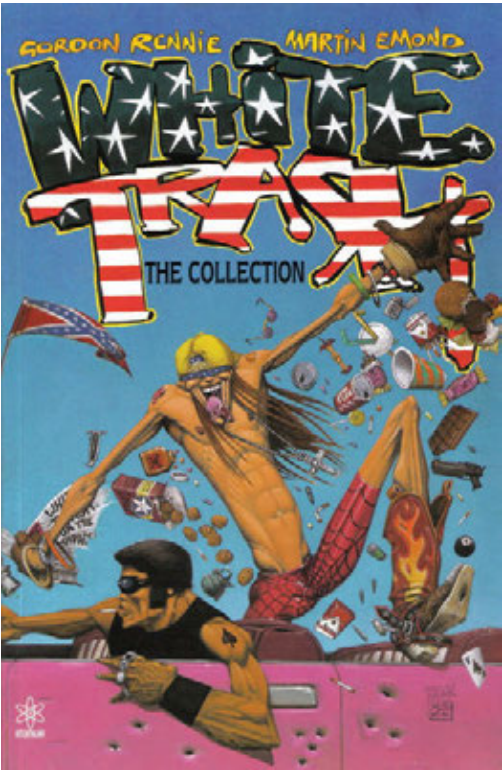
During those decades, underground met overground in the pages of the *NZ Listener*, a TV listings magazine, where Burton Silver's 'Bogor' and Murray Ball's 'Stanley' were followed in quick succession with comics by Graham Kirk, Trace Hodgson, Dylan Horrocks, Chris Knox and Anthony Ellison, bringing New Zealand's comic 'puff' into the country's suburban homes.

Regular 'pulp culture' festivals, in which New Zealand comics held a special place thanks to organiser and entrepreneur Bill

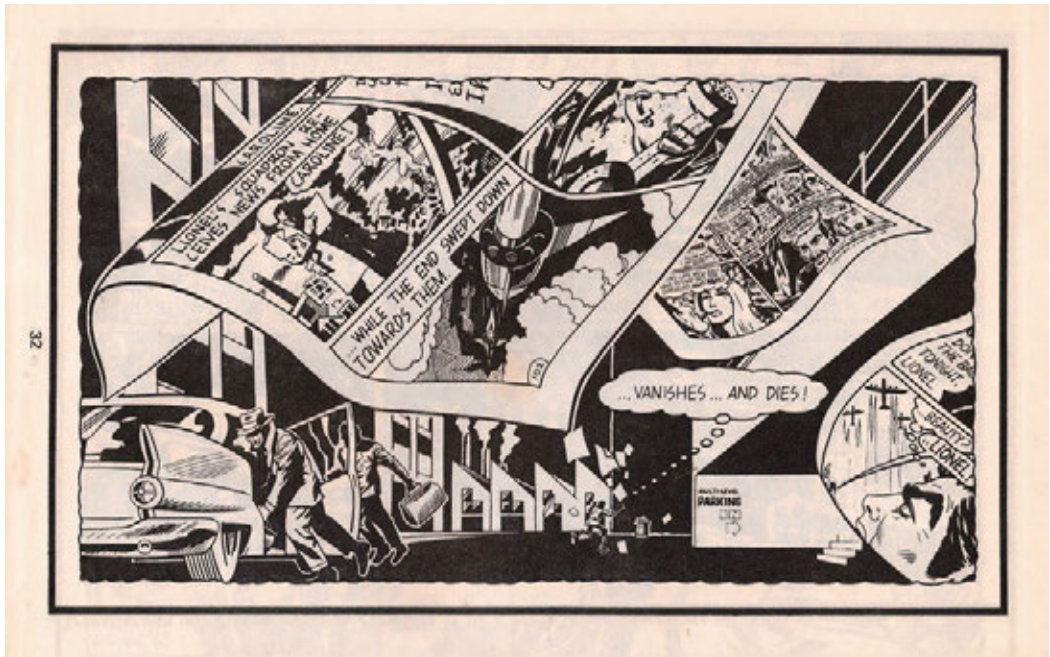
Geradts, provided a new venue for local self-publishers, as did a growing network of 'zine' fests and small press distributors. By the 21st century, the isolation of earlier decades had been transformed into a movement of friends, brothers, sisters, couples and communities producing all variety of comic books in a myriad of styles, from the most underground to the most deliberately commercial.

In 2011, several major New Zealand book publishers released graphic novels by New Zealand comic artists – Ant Sang, Chris Slane and Chris Grosz, all of whom have done time in the underground comics scene. All three were nominated for New Zealand children's book awards.

In the age of the internet, New Zealand comics have a higher international profile than ever before, and what was once a puff may be becoming a small controlled explosion. The outcome is indeterminate, but likely to surprise.



Martin Emond (1993)



Laurence Clark (1979)

Tim Bollinger is a cartoonist and historian who lives in Wellington. He is currently writing Back of Beyond, a history of New Zealand comics.

Author profiles



Joe Wylie



Akira Atsushi (Samantha Asri)

Akira Atsushi (real name Samantha Asri) was born in Indonesia and has lived in New Zealand since she was 13.

She began drawing *Night and Day*, a 'yaoi' manga, while studying for a Bachelor of Graphic Design degree.

She currently lives in Auckland, New Zealand, where she works with the Watermark illustration studio.

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e-mail: akira666@gmail.com
agent: www.watermarkltd.com



Night and Day

Graphic novel

(180 pages, self-published/Drama Queen LLC.)

Adder, a professional male escort, encounters the chance of a lifetime when one of his clients offers him two million dollars to turn her spoiled, anime-obsessed brother, Jin, into a proper gentleman. Sounds too good to be true? It usually is. Jin will not abandon his bad habits without a fight and Adder decides to call everything off but is to find out his contract does not leave any room for failure. Will Adder be able to win against his fate and transform Jin into a social butterfly or will he lose and be forced to work night and day for Jin's demonic sister?



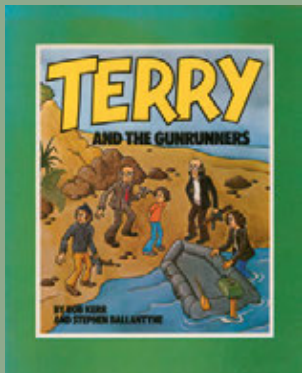


Stephen Ballantyne and Bob Kerr

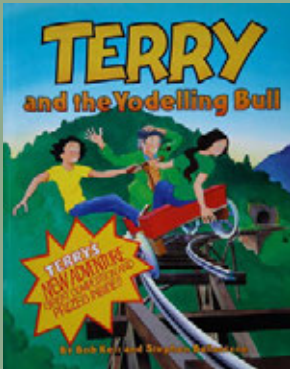
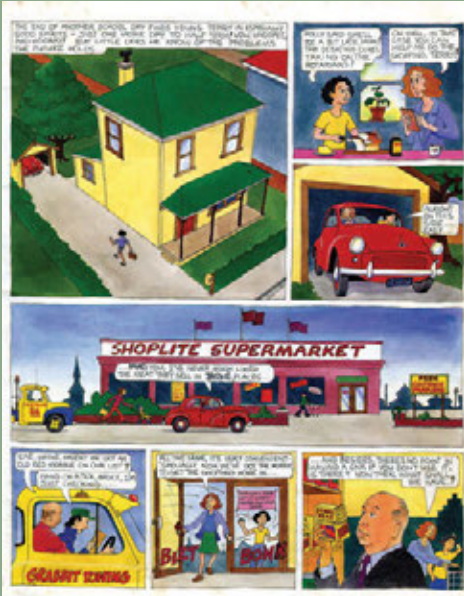
Stephen Ballantyne (writer) and Bob Kerr (artist) are the creators of New Zealand's groundbreaking graphic novel series, *The Adventures of Terry Teo*. The first book, *Terry and the Gunrunners*, was published by Collins in 1982 and was followed by two sequels, *Terry and the Yodelling Bull* (Finlayson Hill, 1986) and *Terry and the Last Moa* (Hodder & Stoughton, 1990). The series was hugely successful and was even turned into a children's television series in 1985 (actors included Michael Bentine, comedian Billy T. James and former New Zealand prime minister Robert Muldoon).

Bob Kerr has written and illustrated many children's books and is now primarily a painter. Stephen Ballantyne is a freelance journalist and writer.

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 e-mail: bob@buzz.net.nz (Bob Kerr)
 skepticalsteve@gmail.com (Stephen Ballantyne)



Terry and the Gunrunners
 Graphic novel
 (42 pages, William Collins Publishers)
 When schoolboy skateboarder Terry Teo stumbles across a gang of weapon smugglers, he finds himself thrust into the adventure of his life. Villainous Ray Vegas and his henchmen Bluey and Curly set out to kidnap Terry to keep him quiet. But they haven't reckoned on Terry's lively courage, his skateboarding skills and his Kiwi ingenuity. Thrills, spills and plenty of hilarity ensues in this enormously popular New Zealand classic.

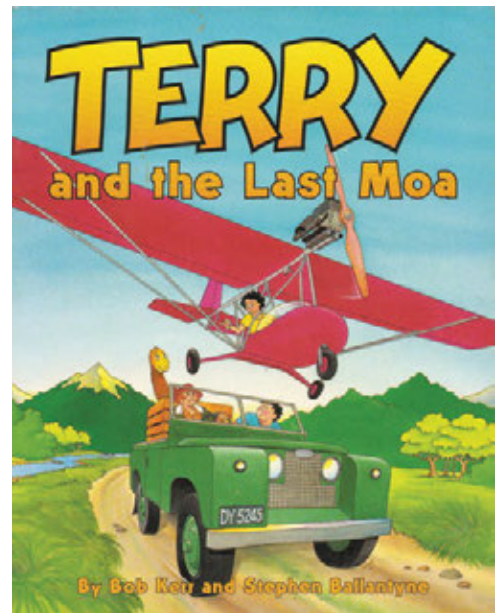
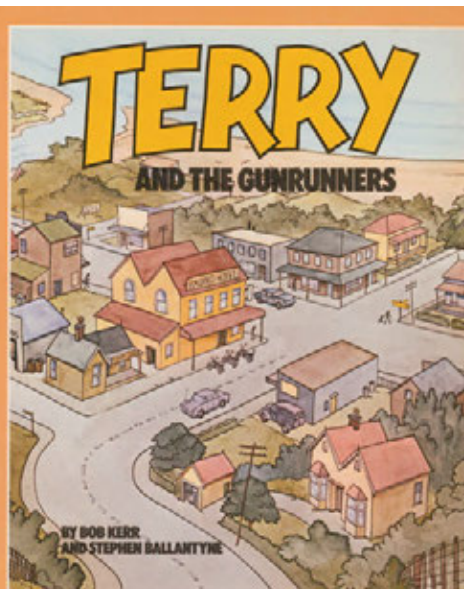


Terry and the Yodelling Bull

Graphic novel
(42 pages, Finlayson Hill)

Terry and his family are back - and this time their troubles are worse than ever! The family car is stolen. Terry's brother turns to crime. Mysterious noises in the night. Fire, sabotage, secret agents and the nastiest sandwiches Mum ever made...!

The economy of the nation is at risk. Can Terry and Polly save the day - and Mum's car?





Dr. Tim Bollinger

Tim Bollinger has been drawing and publishing his own comics from his home town of Wellington since the early 1980s. His work ranges from 40-page 'funny animal' and political parables to shorter satirical and autobiographical pieces, many set in a fictionalised urban landscape based on the geography of his home city.

Tim's comics include *Stories Strange But Nonetheless True*, *Absolute Heroes*, *Attitude Problem*, *Tim Bollinger's Overdeveloped Sense of Injustice*, *Animal Firm*, *Lost Wellington*, *Early Stories About Food and Death* and *Dr. Tim Bollinger's Big Book of Cartoon Facts*.

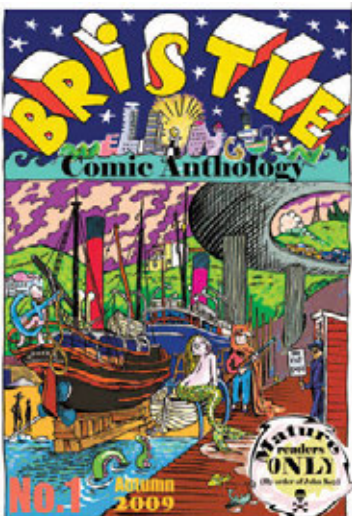
At fifty, Tim persists in his comic-making endeavours, contributing experimental comics to international underground arts magazine *White Fungus* where, as Comics Editor, he also publishes work by veteran New Zealand comic writer Barry Linton.

Tim's recent stories include reinterpretations of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Orpheus and Eurydice and Noah's Ark. Other stories explore the vanishing cultural heritage of Wellington and the relationship between comics and fine art.

Tim has a doctorate in Politics from Wellington's Victoria University. He has extensively researched New Zealand's nascent comics history, and through his articles and exhibitions has helped shine light on many otherwise little known comic book artists and publishers of yesteryear. He is currently writing *Back of Beyond*, a history of New Zealand comics.

He writes comic reviews for the website werewolf.co.nz, where a collection of his comics and cartoon strips may also be viewed.

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Little Eye (P'tit Oeil)

Serialised adventure stories

An ongoing Tintin-esque children's mystery adventure about an amateur detective. Volume one, *The Mystery of the Southern Godstick*, features a missing cultural treasure, waking dreams and the mysterious power of television. *Little Eye* was first serialised in *Tearaway* magazine.

Photo: Steve Unwin



Greg Broadmore

An award-winning artist, writer and designer from Whakatane, New Zealand, Greg Broadmore has worked for over 10 years at Wellington's Academy Award winning visual effects studio, Weta Workshop. Here he was the lead conceptual designer on the film *District 9* and has worked on a host of films including *King Kong*, *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *Black Sheep* amongst many, many others.

He is also the creator of *Dr. Grordbort's*, a retro-science fiction universe of rayguns, rocketships and raw male idiocy. Starting as a series of paintings that Greg made for his own pleasure, the world of Dr. Grordbort took on a life of its own, spurred on by Weta Workshop creative Director, Richard Taylor.

The Dr. Grordbort's raygun collectibles have become hugely popular with collectors all over the world – exploding onto the internet, featured by cutting-edge publications such as *Wired* magazine and entering the videogame world via Valve Software's *Team Fortress 2*.

Fleshing out this fictional world, Greg has written and illustrated three books. Dark Horse comics published *Dr. Grordbort's Contrapulatronic Dingus Directory* in 2008 and *VICTORY - Scientific Adventure Violence for Young Men and Literate Women* in 2009. Now, through Weta's own publishing arm comes *TRIUMPH - Unnecessarily Violent Tales of Science Adventure for the Simple and Unfortunate*.

The art objects, books and illustrations of Greg's world have culminated in a world touring art exhibition that has been through China, Europe and next the USA. A feature film and videogame are in the works.

websites: gregbroadmore.blogspot.com
www.DrGrordborts.com
publisher: kate.jorgensen@wetaworkshop.co.nz
www.wetanz.com





Triumph: Unnecessarily Violent Tales of Science Adventure for the Simple and Unfortunate. Graphic novel (48 pages, Weta Publishing)

Triumph is the third Dr. Grordbort's book and uses comics, illustrations and writing to detail this satirical science-fiction universe. This latest book focuses on anti-hero Lord Cockswain as he blunders his way around our solar system, using rayguns to sort out his problems. The previous books were published by Dark Horse and varied in content, being in turns faux-catalogues of arcane weaponry and adventure annuals filled with propagandist images reviling our planetary neighbours and reveling in Earth's superiority.



Grant Buist

Grant Buist was raised in Moscow and Maryland, USA. A long-term resident of Wellington, New Zealand, Grant is known for his long-running student newspaper comic strip *Brunswick*, published from 1993 to 2005, and topical Wellington arts strip *Jitterati*, published since 2001.

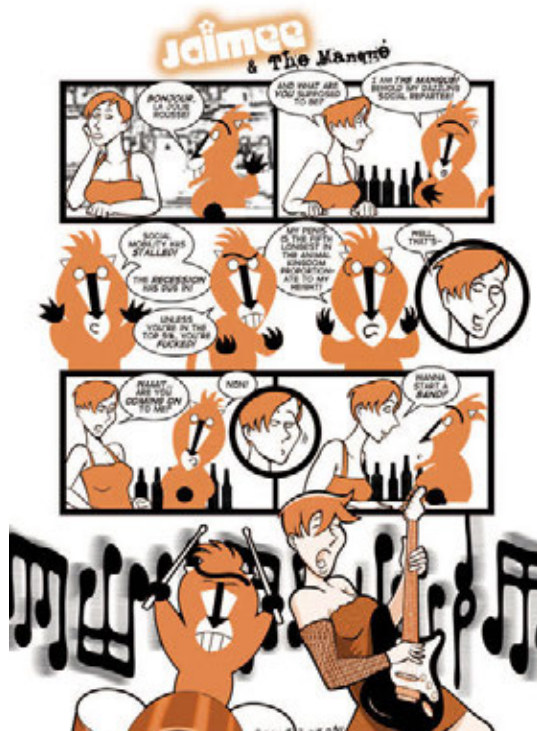
Grant's many published comics include *The Complete Ivory Tower*, *Total S*O*B*, *The Big Yellow Brunswick Book*, *The Complete and Utter Rat*, *Rat in the System*, *beetlebunnyratroad*, *Brunswick: A Historical Romance*, *Ask Auntie Fitz!*, *Brunswick: Fin de Siecle*, *How to Rule the Universe in 7 Easy Steps*, *Brunswick: A Fantasy*, *Brunswick: Year of the Bunny*, *Brunswick: Redux*, *Jitterati* and *The Hits of Fitz*.

His musical stage show *Fitz Bunny: Lust for Glory* (based on *Brunswick*), has been produced three times and was named one of the Top 5 Plays of 2010 by the *New Zealand Herald*.

In his spare time, Grant makes animated music videos, murals and woodcuts. He has curated exhibitions of New Zealand comics and was inducted into the NZ Cartoon Archive in 2008. He has won numerous awards for Brunswick-related films, and *Jitterati* won the 2006 NZ Comics Eric Award for Best Webcomic.

Grant's current projects include preparing for an artist residency at the Museum of City & Sea in Wellington and finishing his sixteenth book, a 288-page graphic novel *Brunswick: Antibalas*.

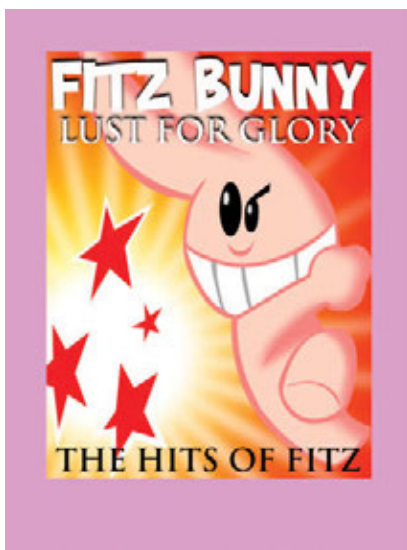
website: grantbuist.com
e-mail: brunswick@paradise.net.nz
tel: +64 27 208 6048





Brunswick
(widely published in many forms since 1993)

A fixture of the New Zealand comics scene since 1993, Brunswick is a three-foot high yellow rodent. He is an extrovert, an innocent, an optimist and a pain in the butt. He attracts chaos like a sweater attracts lint, but is a remarkably good cordon bleu chef. His best friend is Alex Kincaid, whose life has suffered ups and downs over the years. Other regulars include Fitz Bunny (cute, pink and incredibly violent) and Mapplethorpe, the jellybean-loving Dragon.





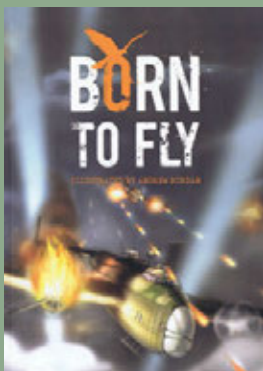
Andrew Burdan

Andrew Burdan is an illustrator living in Wellington. He has also worked as a storyboard artist in advertising, television and film (*District 9*, *Aliens in the Attic*, *Two Little Boys*).

Andrew has drawn two award-winning educational graphic novels for Huia Ltd, *Hautipua Rererangi/Born to Fly* and *Ngarimu Te Tohu Toa/Victory at Point 209*.

Andrew is currently working on another Māori language graphic novel.

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 tel: +64 21 156 1516



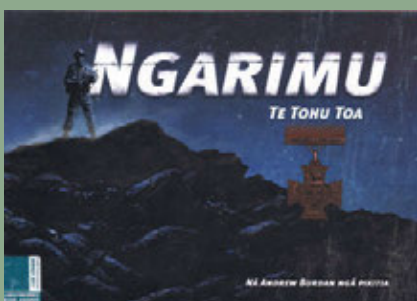
Hautipua Rererangi: Born to Fly

Graphic novel

Written by Julian Arahanga

(40 pages, English & te reo Māori editions, Huia Publishers)

A biographical account of the life and wartime exploits of Māori pilot John Pohe. Designed to appeal to boys and particularly reluctant readers, the book tells Pohe's story, from his childhood in New Zealand to his execution as an attempted escapee in the famous "Great Escape."



Ngarimu Te Tohu Toa: Victory at Point 209

Graphic novel

(40 pages, English & te reo Māori editions, Huia Publishers)

The story of how Second Lieutenant Te Moana-nuia-Kiwa Ngarimu of 28 Māori Battalion won the VC during World War Two.





Jerome Bihan

Born in France in the 1970s, Jerome Bihan moved to New Zealand in 2002, where he became an active part of the local comics scene, editing the award-winning comics anthology *Radio as Paper* and organising festivals and exhibitions. He currently lives in Nantes, France, where he contributes to fanzines in France, Belgium, Australia and New Zealand and continues to edit the now-international anthology *Radio as Paper*. Jerome's recent minicomics include *Pig-Bucklame*, *Irgendwo*, *Mozart vs Beethoven*, *Champion* and *Angouleme*.

websites: astrictdietofself.blogspot.com
awrycomics.blogspot.com
 e-mail: sergeandisteroy@gmail.com



CHAMPION



Champion Mini-comic

A boxing champ at the height of his career; but when he bumps into an old sparring partner years later, we learn what really happened to his career.

Champion is a story of a man who carries heavy baggage, of a once easy prospect that turned sour.



Lars Cawley

Lars Cawley is originally from Christchurch, where he was an active member of a group of cartoonists in the late 1980s and early 1990s that included Peter Rees, Christian Carruthers and Ned Wenlock. Early comics featured a character named Sharpie. Lars's output varied from semi-autobiographical comics about life and love, to the whimsical and fantastic. In the early ninties Lars moved to Auckland. He co-edited a comics zine called *Black River Chronicle* with Dylan Horrocks in 1995 and edited a 40+ artist/ page jam that was published by the Fisher Gallery at the time of their exhibition *Comix* in 1996. In 1999 he founded an online rallying point for New Zealand cartoonists, the Black River Digital mailing list. Lars has been making a living creating CGI/VFX since 1995 and has directed a short film set in the world of *Check the Binker* called *Rekko*.

website: www.littleprojecta.com
www.rekko.net
 e-mail: lars@littleprojecta.com



Check the Binker

Graphic novel (work in progress)

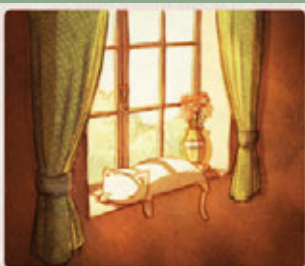
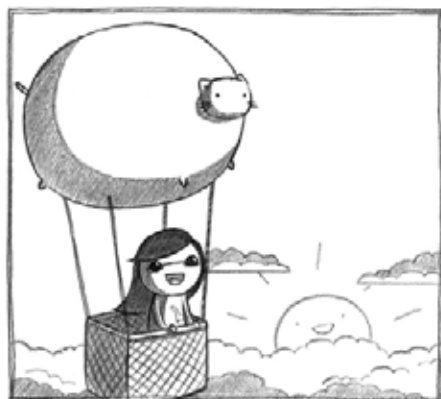
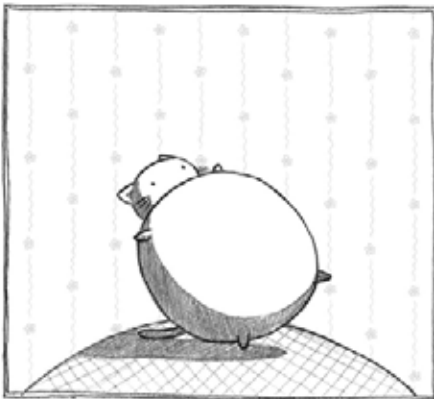
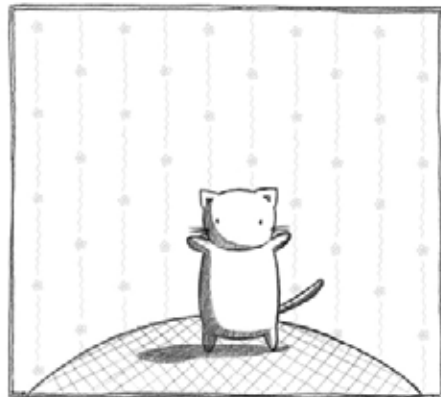
In the future, a young man is shipwrecked and drifts far from his intended destination. A forbidden archipelago, where old secrets and new dangers await, as two nations vie for the dormant power that nearly destroyed them both.



Li Chen

Li Chen was born in Beijing, China and moved to New Zealand with her parents at age 5. She started her webcomic *Extra Ordinary Comics* in 2009 after graduating from the University of Auckland with a degree in architecture. Since then the site has grown steadily and now receives over 45,000 visitors a week. When Li used Kickstarter to fund the publication of her first 200 comics in two volumes, it was the 4th most successful comics project in the history of Kickstarter.

website: www.exocomics.com
e-mail: email@exocomics.com
twitter: [@exocomics](https://twitter.com/exocomics)
facebook: facebook.com/exocomics



Extra Ordinary Comics

Webcomic

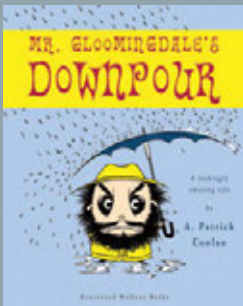
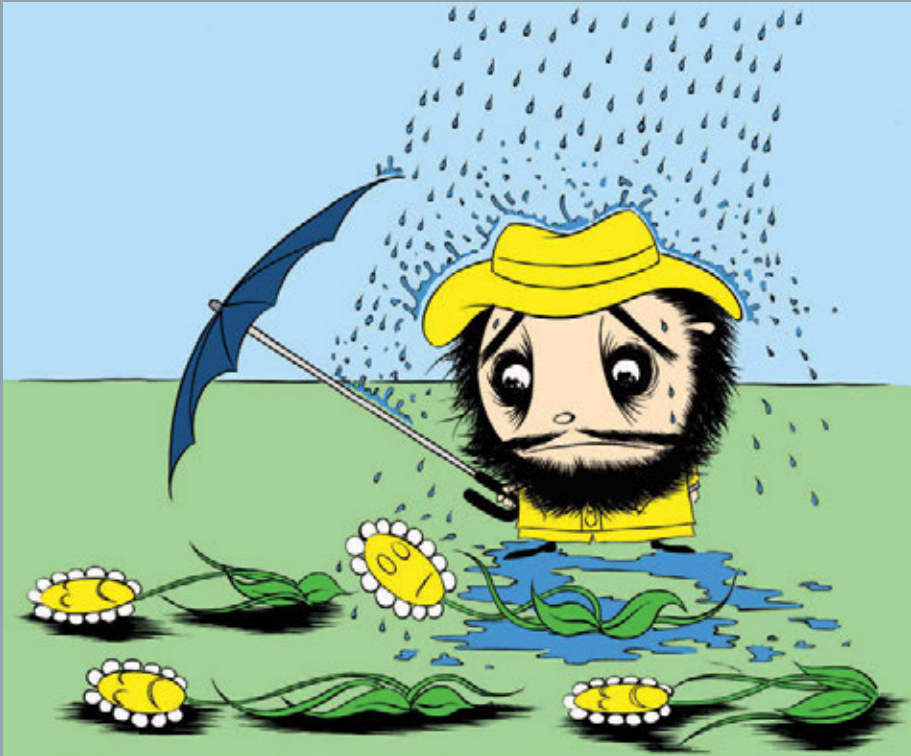
The whimsical adventures of Li, Jordan and Shoelace the cat. Extra Ordinary Comics has been going since 2009 and has built a devoted international following. The first 200 comic strips are being published in two volumes in 2012, after an extremely successful Kickstarter drive.



Andy Conlan

Andy Conlan is an award winning feature film maker from Auckland, New Zealand, with a background in comics and illustration. Beginning his artistic career with *Strumming Teeth*, a free underground comics publication that became a fixture of Auckland's cultural landscape of the mid 1990s, he has since moved across to film and children's picture books. His illustrations have appeared in advertisements for Greenpeace, Stephen King and dairy products, and in various local newspapers and magazines. He is currently an editorial cartoonist for *OnFilm*, New Zealand's magazine for the local film industry.

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 Auckland 1010, New Zealand



Mr. Gloomingsdale's Downpour Graphic novel (32 pages)

Andy Conlan's first work primarily for children follows the story of a grouchy old man whose wish at a mysterious wishing well has an ironic effect. Populated with curious little creatures and a hilariously bad tempered main character, it is an amusing meditation on isolation, environmental concerns and the age old lesson that sometimes the best way to feel happier yourself is to make others happy. Originally released in boutique bookstores throughout New Zealand. Video of the author reading the book can be viewed online at www.apconlan.com.

Laurence Clark

Laurence Clark has been drawing comics and cartoons since the 1970s, initially for student newspapers and later for the ground-breaking comics magazine *Strips*. His graphic novel *The Frame* was serialised in *Strips* and the original artwork was exhibited at RKS Gallery in 1984. He also co-created the satirical superhero series 'Mawpawk' for *Strips* with Kevin Jenkinson.

Laurence has worked under various pen-names, including Klarc and Helen Cross. He has drawn comic strips and editorial cartoons for numerous newspapers and magazines, including a stint as the *NZ Herald's* daily political cartoonist. Laurence is currently the *Northern Advocate's* editorial cartoonist and also freelances from his Whangarei studio.

websites: www.klarc.co.nz
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 e-mail: laurencemclark@hotmail.com

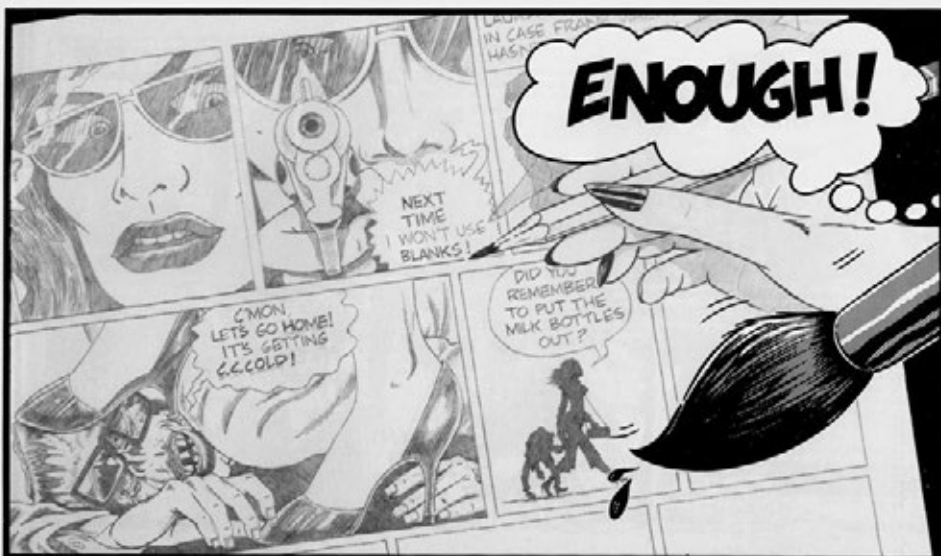


10,000 Years of Beer, More or Less

Graphic novel

(32 pages, published by Brauhaus Frings)

A cartoon history of civilisation through the eyes of brewers, with plenty of comedy and satire along the way.



The Frame

Graphic novel

(51 pages, first serialised in Strips magazine)

Is it a love story, a thriller, science fiction or Western? And if this is a comic book, who the hell is writing it and, for that matter, reading it? *The Frame* is a complex, multi-layered story full of comics (and other media) within comics. The reader moves through the various levels: from the story's "reality" to Frank's comics to television shows and more, until ultimately even the identity of *The Frame*'s creator is called into question. *The Frame* is a response to Roy Lichtenstein, a playful riff on multiple genres and a wry commentary on fiction, comics and art.



His publications include *Blue Mask*, *Fast Comics*, *Doom Truck* and *Passages*.

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Ongoing series

Blue Mask is the story of a guy who's got it all and what he chooses to do with it. Aspiration, creativity, music, friends, competitiveness, time-wasting, fast food, psychedelia, keeping chill, having heaps of cash, celebrity and status anxiety are all touched upon in this ongoing series of upbeat adventures and relaxed down-times.



Hayden Currie

Hayden Currie is a Wellington-based cartoonist, illustrator, and editor of the comic collections *WORD!*, *Copious*, and *Book*. He earned a Bachelor of Design degree from Massey University majoring in Illustration and his final year project was *Between The Lines*, a 20-page wordless comic on teenage depression.

His published comics include *John Keywi Key*, *GC Prime Minister* and *WORD!*, a collection of wordless comics by 8 New Zealand artists, accompanied by an exhibition and the distribution of flyers and posters with empty panels for public participation.

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WORD!

AnthoLogY
(52 pages)

WORD is a 52 page full colour A4 collection of wordless comics by Hayden Currie, James Rowsell, Thaw Naing, Sarah Anderson, Jono Smith, James Flynn, Hannah Salmon and Carlos Patino Rojas.

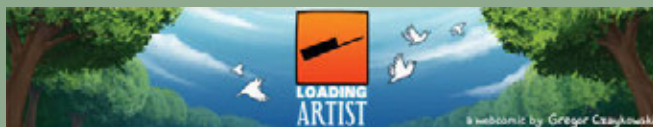
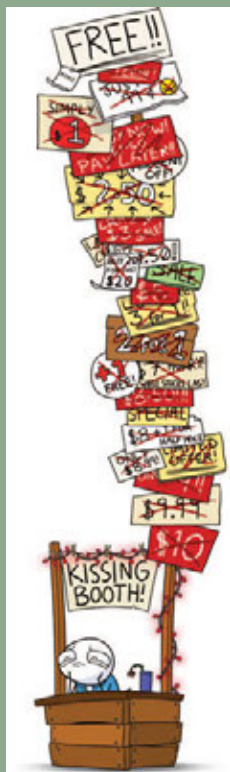
Gregor Czaykowski



Gregor Czaykowski was born in Dubai to Austrian parents and now lives in Auckland, New Zealand, where he works as a User Interface Artist at Gameloft.

He self-published his first mini-comic, *Featherlike*, in 2008 and began the webcomic *Loading Artist* in January 2011.

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e-mail: gregor@loadingartist.com
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twitter: [@loadingartist](https://twitter.com/loadingartist)



Loading Artist
Webcomic
(www.loadingartist.com)

A stylised webcomic featuring humour about pretty much everything, including itself.

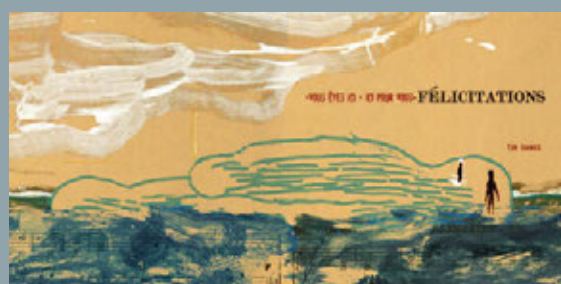


Tim Danko

"Hi, how are you? I am good. My name is Tim. I like reading comics and I like making comics. I've been making my own comics for a little while now. I live on an island off New Zealand called Waiheke. I draw in books I find or that people give to me. Mostly the book tells me what to draw. I like it to be something I haven't seen before. My wife and daughter live here and they like to draw as well. We have a little boy who is just starting to colour in. We are happy together. I used to print my comics under the house. Recently some people in France have started printing the comics I draw, they are called The Hoochie Coochie and are very kind. There is a gallery called the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra that bought some of my comics for their collection. I sometimes draw comics for a group of people in Melbourne Australia called Silent Army, and in New Zealand I draw for Oats gang. Dead Xerox Press is where my comics live. Thank you."

Tim Danko is one of Australasia's leading experimental cartoonists. He moved to New Zealand in 2003.

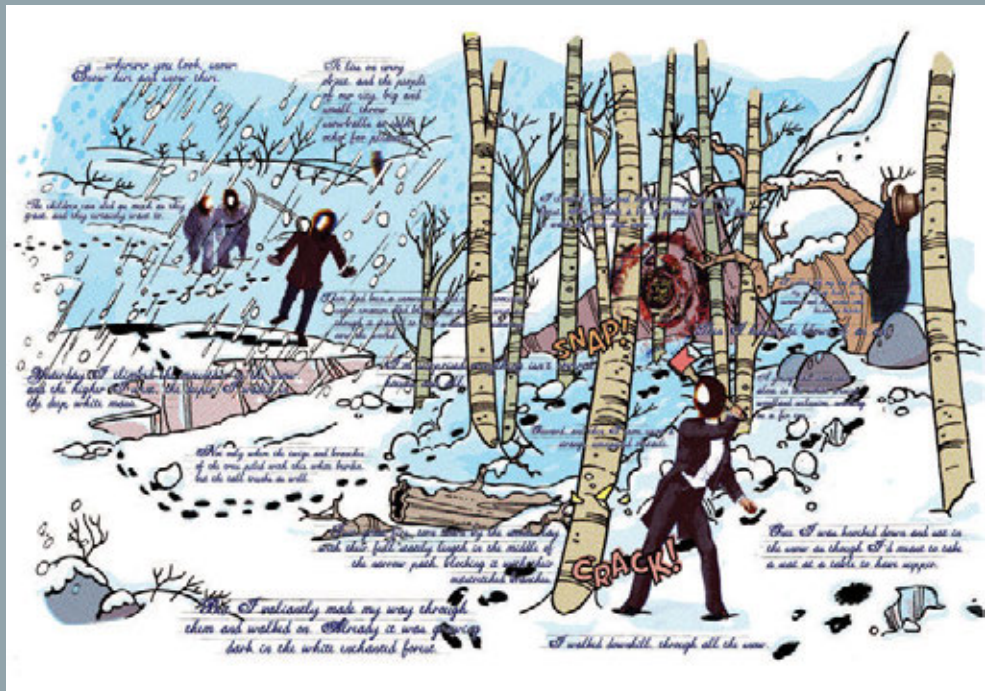
website: www.deadxeroxpress.com
www.silentarmy.org
www.thehoochiecoochie.com/auteurs/15-auteurs-1/54-tim-danko
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Félicitations

(16 pages, *The Hoochie Coochie*)

The first of Tim's comics printed in France by The Hoochie Coochie. Initially made for Amber Carvan's Comics Rehab website in 2007, it is about two people trying to tell a joke.



Once
(30+ pages)

Tim has been making *Once* since 2010: "It keeps getting added to and stretching out. It is like a long picture of the land that two lost people walk through. They are looking for the writer Robert Walser, but they never seem to find him."





Rufus Dayglo

Rufus cut his teeth in Comics in Wellington, New Zealand in the early 1990s, when he started *Pistake* with his friends David Tulloch and Simon Morse, a self published comic book which ran for 12 issues. Rufus is now an internationally successful comic book artist living in London, UK. He's worked on such varied projects as Judge Dredd for *2000AD*, *Metal Gear Solid* for IDW Comics, *The UnWritten* for DC Comics and designing toys for threeA. But he is perhaps best known for relaunching *Tank Girl* in 2006 with Alan Martin to much acclaim. They published 6 new series of *Tank Girl* in 5 years.

Rufus is now working on projects for DC Comics and Ashley Wood's threeA Publishing, including a new creator-owned series, *Solid Gold Death Mask*.

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SOLID GOLD DEATH MASK

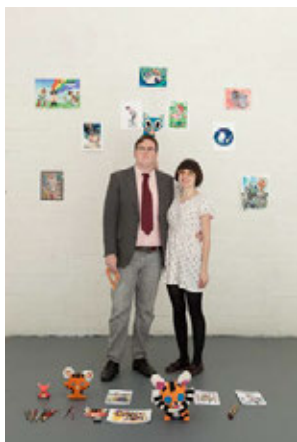


Solid Gold Death Mask

Comic book series

(published by threeA)

The daughters of the (possibly) murdered Death Goddess are on a quest for truth, vengeance, the Solid Gold Death Mask, and a decent lunch. Working for Last Chance Penguin, Bang Tidy helps him dispatch the undead, as only the daughter of a murdered Death Goddess can do, while her sister Death Hag broods on her mouldering body and decapitated boyfriend, Head. Death! Girls! Penguins! Decapitated boyfriends! Got it?



Becky Dreistadt and Frank Gibson

Becky Dreistadt & Frank Gibson have been making comics together for around seven years. After getting engaged they relocated to Los Angeles, where they have continued to work independently in comics. In 2010 they successfully Kickstarted the children's book *Tigerbuttah*, which is produced entirely in the vintage painted and cardboard bound style of 1950s Little Golden Books. They have subsequently utilised Kickstarter to co-found *B9 Kingdom*, an ongoing comic art book project, as well as most recently funding a 144 page hardcover collection of their online comic *Tiny Kitten Teeth*. In addition to making comics Becky & Frank have produced animated work for Nickelodeon's *Yo Gabba Gabba*.

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@beckyandfrank



Tiny Kitten Teeth

Ongoing webcomic

(144 page hardcover collection forthcoming)

Tiny Kitten Teeth is an ongoing hand-painted online comic. It combines a number of Becky and Frank's loves and influences, ranging from Tove Jansson's *Moomin*, Carl Barks & Don Rosa's *Scrooge McDuck*, the work of PG Wodehouse and JD Salinger, vintage animation and Japanese toys. The story follows Mewsli, a fish-out-of-water tabby cat trying to find himself at a ridiculous and prestigious art school.



Matt Emery

Matt Emery was born in Napier, New Zealand in 1975 and started making comics in his late teens. He moved to Melbourne, Australia in 2007. He has produced many mini-comics and comic books, as well as two collections of his work: *The Guzumo Show* (published by Blackhouse Comics in 2011) and *Pay Through the Soul* (Pikitia Press, 2012). Matt publishes comics online at guzumocomics.com and in 2011 he began researching and writing about the history of Australasian comics at pikitiapress.com. He is publishing a collection of these essays and articles as *The Pikitia Press Book, Volume 1* in late 2012.

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Pay Through the Soul

Graphic novel
 (120 pages, Pikitia Press)

The second big book of Matt's darkly funny comics, collecting the first three issues of the comic book series published by Blackhouse Comics in Australia, with a mixture of short gag strips and longer stories. Features an array of absurd characters getting up to ridiculous antics whilst pushing the boundaries of taste in every way possible. Giant robots, sexy bears, full frontal snowman nudity, and magical pink unicorns are just a sampling of what you will find in *Pay Through The Soul*. Don't be fooled by the bright colours and simple cartooning style; these comics are definitely not for young folk!



Rachel Fenton (Rae Joyce)

Rae Joyce was taught to paint by her granddad who died when she was 9. She studied art, design and ceramics in Yorkshire and Wales, and creative writing at Sheffield Hallam University before moving to New Zealand in 2007. In 2012 she won AUT's Graphic Fiction Prize with 'Alchemy Hour,' a graphic poem about regret, time and surfing.

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Escape Behaviours

Webcomic

Originally penned between 2011 and 2012 as a comic love letter to her husband, a chronic stutterer who wouldn't read anything she wrote unless it had pictures, *Escape Behaviours* is an epic graphic poem odyssey of common life, of marriage after migration, and a means of communicating with a man for whom speech has failed.

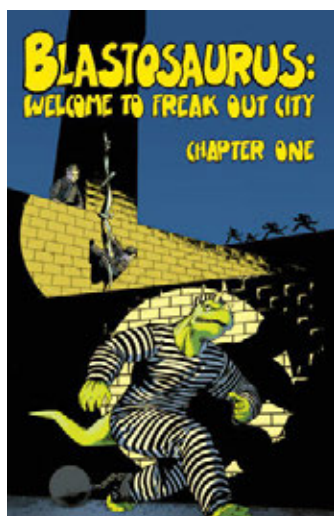


Richard Fairgray and Terry Jones

Terry Jones has loved comic books since childhood. As an adult he gained a Masters degree in comics, taught courses in comics, made other people write comics and then eventually began writing them himself. Richard, on the other hand, spent his formative years thinking comics did not exist. He knew they had existed once but believed they were a medium of a bygone era that had been replaced by film and cartoons. Richard genuinely believed (at age 7) that he was doing something no one else did anymore by creating his first comic book.

Richard's actual blindness and Terry's colour blindness give them a unique perspective on the world; to them it all looks sort of blurry and garish. Richard and Terry have been writing together for several years, working on films, animation, novels and (most importantly) comics. Their best known creation is *Blastosaurus*, but their work also includes the graphic novels *Drinking Mercury* and *Wilhelm Scream*, the comic books *Falling Leaves* and *Ghost Ghost* and a daily webcomic *I Fight Crime*. They are currently working on a number of projects, including the graphic novels *Infini-Tim* and *The Boy Who Never Met The Beatles* and the mini-series *No-One Remembers Jimmy Nichol*.

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Blastosaurus

Ongoing series

(written by Terry Jones & Richard Fairgray,
 art by Richard Fairgray)

On the surface *Blastosaurus* is a self-aware take on the Mutant Crimefighter genre of 90s cartoons. The titular character is a humanoid triceratops working as a cop in the present day, wielding a futuristic ray gun and accompanied by a group of surprisingly unlovable children. But being a dinosaur really isn't an advantage. He can't fit in a police car, go under cover or wear normal pants. The ray gun is all but ornamental since no-one in the future (when he got it) showed him how it works and his boss resents having him on the police force because he's just another in a slew of bad publicity stunts perpetrated by the city. *Blastosaurus* is an ongoing comic series that debuted online in late 2011. It is designed with print publication in mind, ideally in collected volumes of the 3-6 issue story arcs.



Infini-Tim

Graphic novel (360 pages, work in progress)
(written by Terry Jones & Richard Fairgray,
art by Richard Fairgray)

This is the story of Tim, an average man in his twenties stuck in a dead end job who fears he'll leave no legacy for the world. His eyes are opened when he finds a mysterious box of Silver Age comic books in his dead mother's attic. As Tim learns about the four colour heroes of the past he begins to realize that he must control his own destiny and sets out on a quest to track down his favourite comic artist. As Tim discovers the darker truth behind the fictional comic book world he begins to discover that all these idealistic characters were perhaps more real than he could have imagined, and that his own journey is about more than just reading comics. The story is told on several levels, switching between 'reality' and the comics Tim reads (and later writes) so that the reader discovers the history of Captain Awesome as Tim does.





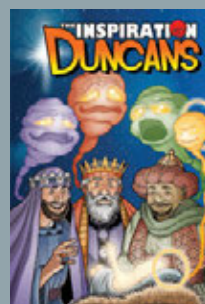
William Geradts

William (Bill) Geradts is based in Christchurch New Zealand and has been working in the comics field since 2009, with online publishing since July 2011 when he launched Beyond Reality Media. Beyond Reality Media serialises a range of ongoing comic book series by New Zealand and international creators.

Bill himself writes or co-writes the Beyond Reality Media series *Attica*, *Warden*, *The Inspiration Duncans*, *The Darwin Faeries*, *The Time Travelling Tourist* and *One Must Break*. Hardcover book collections of *The Inspiration Duncans* and *Attica* are being published in 2012.

Bill also organises the Armageddon Pulp Culture Expo, a comics and pop culture event held in six cities around Australia and New Zealand.

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The Inspiration Duncans
 Graphic novel
 (written by William Geradts
 and Richard Fairgray,
 art by Gonzalo Martínez)
 (80 pages, published by
 Beyond Reality Media)

"This is the story of the Duncans, how I destroyed the world and lots of bizarre stuff. Again, I'm really sorry about that."

Patrick discovers the Duncans: balloon-like parasites attached to each and every human. But when Patrick tries to liberate the human race from their alien overlords, he triggers consequences he never imagined.



Attica

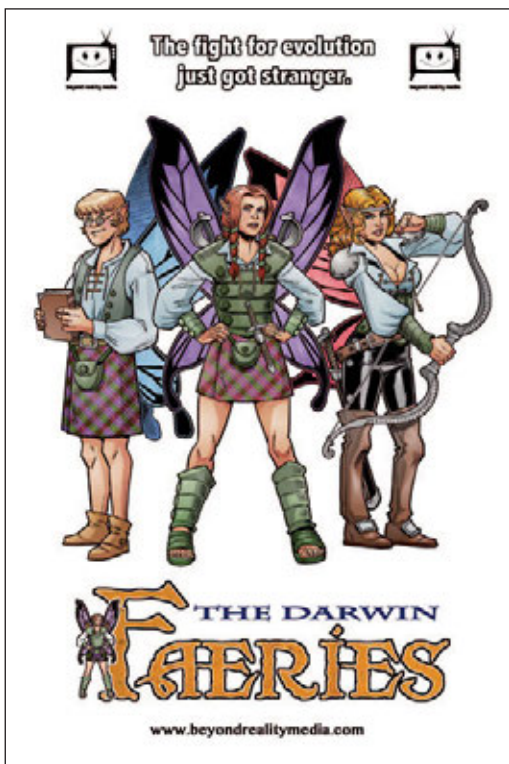
Ongoing series

(written by William Geradts
and Christian Gossett,
art by Richard Clarke)
(volume 1, 180 pages,
published by Beyond Reality
Media)

Pollux son of Zeus returns to the world of today. Formerly a warrior and death dealer, Pollux is now a converted pacifist, never to raise his hand in anger ever again. But there are other ways to bring people into the light.



Art by Alan Robinson



Art by Gonzalo Martínez



Tim Gibson

Tim Gibson has worked on numerous films including *District 9*, *Tintin* and *Avatar* and has had work published in *White Cloud Worlds volume II*, *The Art of the Adventures of Tintin* and *Elemental 3*. In 2011 he was awarded a grant from Creative NZ to work full-time on his debut graphic novel *Moth City*.

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 tel: +64 22 650 9540
 facebook: [@Tim_Gibson](http://www.facebook.com/MothCity)
 twitter: @Tim_Gibson



Moth City

Graphic novel (work in progress)

Governor McCaw is a man who has everything: a beautiful daughter, a mansion on a peak and a weapons deal with the army of Nationalist China. But when his chief scientist is murdered, he becomes entangled in deadly intrigues that threaten everything he has. Nothing is as it seems, and soon he must face a choice between his family and his fiefdom before Moth City's dark secret wipes it from the map.

Moth City sits at the intersection of detective fiction, noir and horror and is set in a fictional East Orient island in the 1930s.

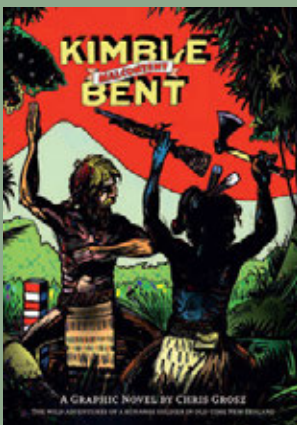


Chris Grosz

Chris Grosz has worked as an illustrator and cartoonist since the early 1970s in New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia and Hong Kong. His work has been published in many newspapers and magazines, including *Time*, *The Age*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The Bulletin*, *HQ*, *The EYE*, *Sun Herald*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Monthly*, *The NZ Herald* and *The NZ Listener*. He has illustrated books, animated films, exhibited paintings and designed band posters and album covers.

His first graphic novel, *Kimble Bent: Malcontent*, was published in 2011 by Random House (NZ).

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e-mail: chris@chrisgrosz.com



Kimble Bent: Malcontent

Graphic novel

(72 pages, published by Random House)

Sailor, soldier, deserter, outlaw and Hau Hau slave, Kimble Bent joined the British Army and was sent to New Zealand in the 1860s on the eve of the tumultuous Taranaki land wars. In an act of defiance, Bent deserted the army and was adopted by a Māori tribe. *Kimble Bent: Malcontent* illustrates Bent's life as a Pākehā Māori, his observation of secret war rites, including cannibalism, and fighting on the side of the Hau Hau at the famous battle at Te Ngutu o Manu. One of New Zealand's folk heroes, Bent's story encompasses romance, bloodshed and mayhem.



Dylan Horrocks

Dylan Horrocks has been drawing comics since the early 1980s, when he was a co-founder of the anthology *Razor*. He is the author of the graphic novel *Hicksville* and the comic book series *Pickle* (Black Eye) and *Atlas* (Drawn & Quarterly), along with many comics stories published around the world. His graphic novel *Hicksville* has been published in five languages and nominated for awards in USA, France, Italy and Spain. Dylan won an Eisner Award in 2002.

He has also worked as a writer for DC Comics, including *Batgirl*, *Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight* and the Vertigo series *Hunter: the Age of Magic*. Dylan has drawn political cartoons, illustrated books, designed book covers and written essays and prose fiction.

He is currently working on a new graphic novel (*Sam Zabel and the Magic Pen*), a collaborative work with American artist Karl Stevens (*The American Dream*), a collection of his short comics and a prose novel (among other things). Dylan lives on the outskirts of Auckland with his wife and two teenage sons.

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 e-mail: dylan@hicksville.co.nz
 twitter: @dylanhorrocks
 post: PO Box 281037, Maraetai Beach,
 Auckland 2148, New Zealand

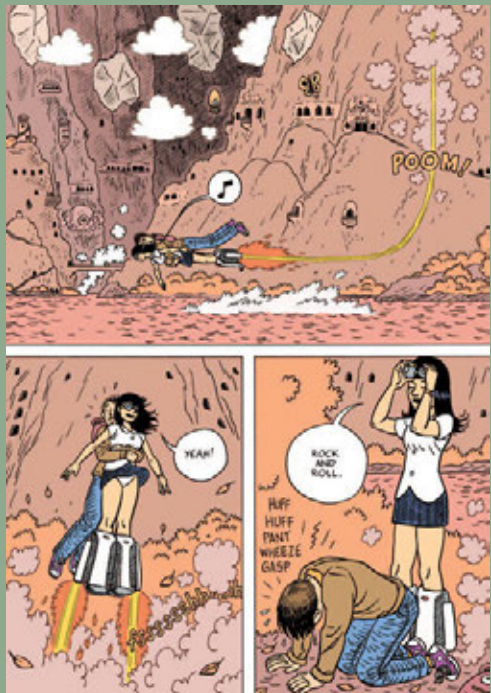


Hicksville

Graphic novel

(256 pages, published by Drawn & Quarterly & Victoria University Press)

When reporter Leonard Batts turns up in Hicksville looking for the inside story on the town's most famous export, comic book megastar Dick Burger, he expects a simple tale of local boy made good. Instead he finds a town full of wonders and a dark secret no-one's willing to share.



Sam Zabel & the Magic Pen

Graphic novel (work in progress)
(120 pages, volume 1 of 3)

Cartoonist Sam Zabel is stuck in a nightmare of creative block and depression. He spends his days writing superhero comics for a big American publisher and struggling to draw. Then one day he finds himself magically transported inside a 1950s science fiction comic, where he is swiftly proclaimed the God King of Mars, complete with an army of loyal servants and a harem of green-skinned beauties. Will Sam succumb to the temptations of another man's fantasies or is he too miserable to enjoy even this? And what is the secret of the Magic Pen? A funny, erotic and thoughtful adventure exploring the moral dangers of storytelling, art and fantasy.





Mat Hunkin

Mathew Hunkin is an illustrator and comics creator based in Wellington, New Zealand. Of Samoan and New Zealand descent he has a strong interest in the shared narratives and history of New Zealand and the Pacific, creating comics that draw upon both of these unique landscapes. Mat's comics include *Public Announcement*, *Cities of Gold* and *Blue Roses* and he is currently working on two projects set in the Pacific during the Second World War: *Dog Fight* and *The Crawl*. As an illustrator Mathew has worked for a range of national and international clients, taught design and illustration at Wellington's Massey University and has been a designer and illustrator on *The Hobbit* feature films for the past two years.

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Dog Fight

Graphic novel (work in progress)
(80 pages)

Dog Fight is a children's adventure story about a group of friends living in the Pacific during World War Two. When the peaceful life they've created around a small trading boat is disrupted, the group find they must navigate their way through the islands and through the war to eventually find their place in the Pacific.

Aimed at an audience from 10-14, the story follows the adventures of three children, their guardians and friends as they are drawn into the Pacific war, weaving real historical events with action and adventure.



Robyn E. Kenealy

Robyn E. Kenealy lives in Wellington, New Zealand. Her comics have been published in numerous anthologies and in Victoria University's student newspaper, *Salient*, online and in her own mini-comics. Actively involved in the Wellington alternative and experimental art scene, Robyn has also written prose fiction, established and run an art gallery and organised New Zealand comics festivals. She plays guitar and banjo and sometimes sings.

Robyn writes, she explains, "horrible yet sympathetic stories about compromised people."

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Roddy's Film Companion

Graphic novel (work in progress)
(approximately 400 pages)

The sporadic cartoon adventures of ex-child star turned celebrity best friend, Roddy McDowall (of *How Green Was My Valley* and *Planet of the Apes* fame). Serialised as a webcomic and mini-comics, *Roddy's Film Companion* is part biography, part slash fiction, and part Foucauldian critique of both.



Timothy Kidd

Timothy Kidd was born in 1975 and made his first mini-comic in 1994. His comics include *Half a World Away*, *Came The Dawn*, *Illumina*, *Lucky* and *Radio Netherlands*. He has contributed to numerous anthologies and magazines.

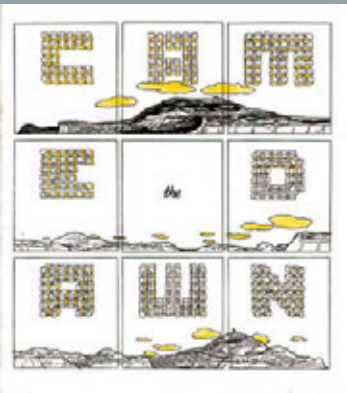
Tim lives in Auckland with his wife and three sons. He works at the public library, where he looks after the graphic novel section. He is currently working on a new series of comics called *Western Park*.

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Western Park Comic book series

A collection of short and longer stories, following the lives of various characters who live around Western Park in Auckland and ranging from the everyday to the fantastic.



Came the Dawn Comic book series

Set in a seaside town the morning after a whale stranding, *Came the Dawn* is a story of aftermaths and approaching catastrophe.



Jonathan posts new work semi-regularly to his Tumblr and to website *The Brighter Future*, including the surrealist-terrorist thriller *Threat Level*, the horror tribute series *Oh No, It's...* and *City Lights*, written by Chad Taylor. He is currently developing an all ages adventure comic, a ripping yarn inspired by a true story, set in mid-20th century New Zealand, in the spirit of Hergé's *Tintin* and Bob Kerr & Stephen Ballantyne's *Terry Teo* and such films as *The 39 Steps* and *Indiana Jones*.

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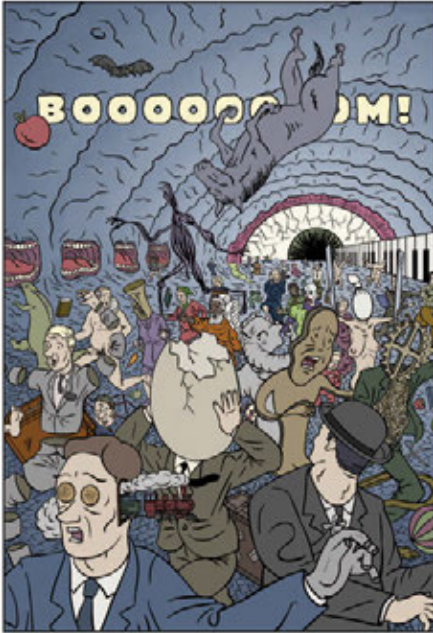


CITY LIGHTS II.

PLANET OF FEAR

WRITTEN BY GUY BORDS. DIRECTED AND EDITED BY ANDREW BOYD

City Lights is a sci-fi/drama set in the near future. A pair of astronomers find signs of civilisation on a distant planet; but they struggle to convince the world of the significance of what they've found – and have even more trouble dealing with the messy reality of life on Earth.



Threat Level

Comic book

Clocks droop, fish appear in unlikely places and Rationality Generators are pushed to the limit in this clear-line comedy-thriller in which reality-bending freedom fighter Salvador Dali races to stay one step ahead of the Counter Surrealism Unit.

OH NO, IT'S THE **TRIPODS!**



Adrian Kinnaird



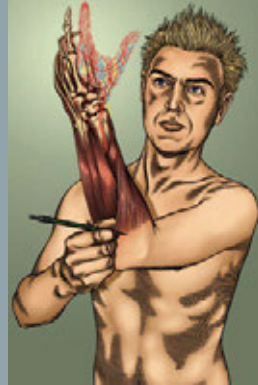
Adrian Kinnaird has been involved in the New Zealand comics community as a cartoonist, writer and blogger for the last 15 years.

In 2009 he founded *From Earth's End*, the first blog dedicated to New Zealand comics and culture, quickly establishing himself as a local comics authority. In 2011 he chaired a panel on NZ Comics & Cartoons at the Auckland Writers & Readers Festival, the online video of which became the most viewed of the Festival.

He is writing and editing *From Earth's End: The Best Of New Zealand Comics*, to be released by Random House NZ in 2013, and is currently working on two graphic novels, *Anatomy* and *Bookmarks* and an autobiographical webcomic, *A Life With Comics*.

Adrian has a degree in Graphic Design and works as a freelance illustrator when he can find the time. He lives, sleeps, and occasionally dreams in Auckland.

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Anatomy

Graphic novel
(work in progress)

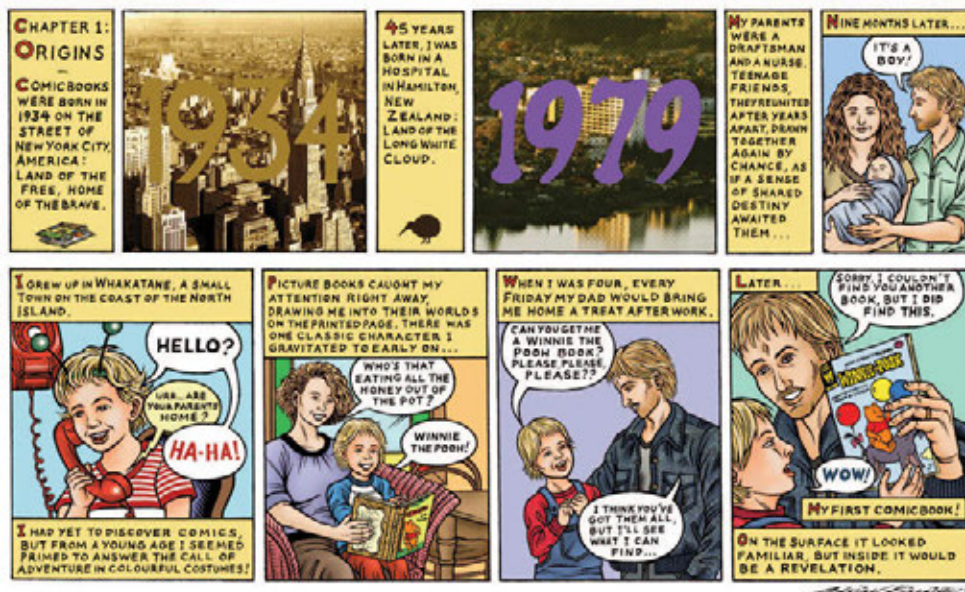
A drama that follows a class of students through their three year degree at art school. It mixes teen drama with an exploration of design and art history incorporated into its presentation, making it a unique comic reading experience. It also explores the relationship between artists and their artwork, and the unexpected effects they can have on each other.



Bookmarks

Graphic novel (work in progress)
(90 pages)

A comedy following a year in the life of a group of students working part-time in a bookstore. It explores the 'bookmarked' period of time in their lives, between where they are now and where they aspire to be in the future. It's also a biting satire of a book trade obsessed with corporatisation, declining sales, and the ever approaching death of the printed word.





Sarah Laing

Sarah Laing was born in the US but moved to New Zealand at nine months. Although she margin-doodled all through high school and university, she put aside comics for a few decades, pursuing an award-winning career in graphic design and creative writing. Her sketch book re-emerged after the birth of her first child, and she kept a journal of her daily experiences.

After winning a national short story competition, Vintage NZ published Sarah's first book of short stories, *Coming Up Roses*, in 2007, and her novel, *Dead People's Music*, in 2009. She was awarded a writing fellowship in 2010 and it was there that she started blogging her diary comics, gaining a considerable following. She was asked to contribute regular comics to three nationwide magazines – one parenting, one current events and one book-related. In the meantime, her novel-in-progress, *The Fall of Light*, morphed to envelope a graphic novella, and she drew enough blog material to fill three books.

Sarah lives in Auckland with her husband, Jonathan, and her three children, Otto, Gus and Violet.

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Apple, Apple

Graphic novel

(106 pages, black & white and watercolour)

A collection of personal and fantastical comics linked by apples. This includes diary-style comics as well as retelling of apple-themed fairy stories, history and poetry.



The Witching Hour

Graphic novel

(220 pages, black and white and colour)

A collection of comics from Sarah's personal journals and webcomic, 'Let me be Frank,' about her tussle with motherhood and art. It embraces the frustration, anxiety and delight of being a mother and a writer. Some of these comics have been published in *Little Treasures* magazine, a New Zealand publication for parents of the under-fives.



Let Me Be Frank

Graphic novel

(ca. 300 pages)

A best-of collection from Sarah's blog of autobiographical comics. These comics explore writing, art, motherhood, insecurity, pop culture, fame and feminism. Some stories have previously appeared in magazines such as *Little Treasures*, *Metro* and *Booknotes*.



Jared Lane

Jared started publishing comics in the Canterbury University student newspaper *Canta* in the early 1990s while studying Fine Arts. He was also a founding member of the *Funtime Comics* collective and is still a contributing member.

He has contributed to several New Zealand and Australian anthologies (*Funtime Comics Presents*, *Officer Pup*, *New Ground*, *Tango*, *Pure Evil*) as well as street press/gig guides in Christchurch (*Bugg*, *The Package*). Jared self publishes a comic *Progress* which was awarded a New Zealand Comics Eric Award for best comic in 2005.

Most recently Jared been working on a web comic set in the *Mad Max* universe. Links to this can be found via his website.

By day Jared works as an Architectural Technician. He is on the front line of the effort to rebuild Christchurch, a New Zealand city devastated by earthquakes in 2010 and 2011. He lives in the leafy inner suburbs of Christchurch with his wife Rachael and three young sons.

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The Kaiapoi Kid

Ongoing comic book series
(serialised in Progress)

A pair of Australian Bushrangers, 'Kid' and 'Hayes,' adventure through the dark and dramatic landscapes of 1880s New Zealand in search of a mysterious rust-bound chest. They are pursued by the police, beset by the weather, and joined in their quest by a plucky Irish barmaid and her Chinese miner friend. Running a Victorian equivalent of the 'coast to coast' marathon, Kid will re-discover his Māori heritage, and reconnect with a land he once called home.



Living With the Abyss

Graphic novel (serialised in Progress)

The seas rise. The world goes up in flames. Nations and economies collapse and the wealthy flee off-world, establishing an orbital plutocracy. Waves of refugees from low-lying and war-torn countries wash up on the shores of New Zealand, now a totally privatised, free-market, hypercapitalist society. Christchurch has become a swampy metropolis of three million, its inner core surrounded by slums and refugee camps. Welcome to our future.

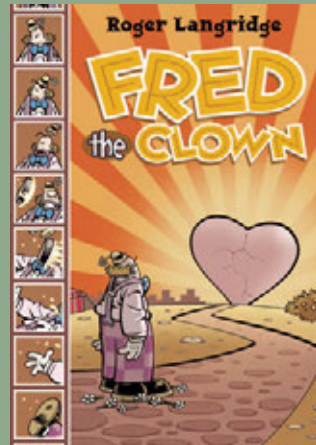
When Nathan finds a dismantled sex robot who claims to be his ex-girlfriend Jasmin and begs for help, he "liberates" it from the laboratory and takes it home. Now powerful corporations will do anything to get it back...



A cartoon caricature of a man with glasses, a red cross on his forehead, and a red vest, smiling.

Roger's published comics include *Art D'Ecco* (with Andrew Langridge, Fantagraphics), *Knuckles the Malevolent Nun* (with Cornelius Stone, various publishers), *Fred the Clown* (Fantagraphics), *The Show Must Go On* (Boom! Studios) and *Snarked!* (Boom! Studios). He has also written and drawn many comics for publishers in America and Britain, including a highly acclaimed run on *The Muppet Show Comic Book* and Marvel's *Thor: the Mighty Avenger*.

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Graphic novel
(250 pages, Fantagraphics)

58



Snarked!

Ongoing comic book series
(serialised 300 page graphic novel)
(Boom! Studios)

Lewis Carroll meets Carl Barks in this comedy fantasy adventure, wherein the Walrus and the Carpenter join eight-year-old Scarlett (the future Red Queen) and her young brother Rusty on a mission to rescue their father from Snark Island. Initially serialised in comic-book form, the complete *Snarked!* will total some 300 pages, and should be finished in October 2012.



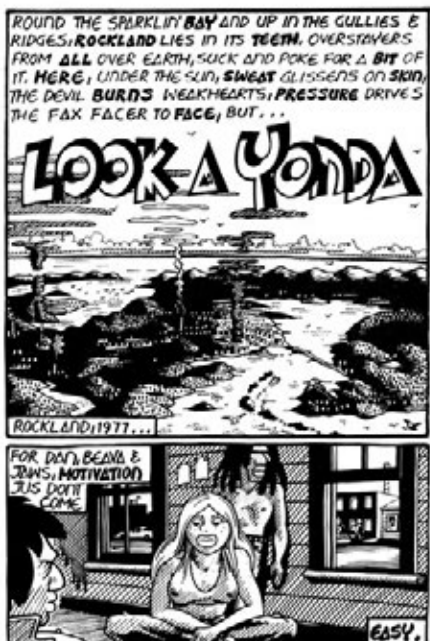


Barry Linton

Barry Linton has been drawing comics since the early 1970s and was a key figure in the influential New Zealand comics anthology *Strips*. His comics and drawings have been published in books, magazines and literary journals and on posters and album covers.

Barry's early comics detail the lives and loves of a group of characters living in a familiar South Pacific city, with plenty of music, sex, politics and drugs. Over the years his characters wrestled with broken relationships, parenthood, criminal gangs and crooked lawyers. In one story the cartoonist Spud is kidnapped and chained to a drawing board, forced to churn out pornographic comics by his gun-toting captors. In recent years Barry has worked on a series of graphic novels set in a fictionalised neolithic Oceania, *Lucky Aki*, and comics exploring ancient history, UFOs and the future of humanity.

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Chok Chok! Graphic novel (120 pages)

The first edition of *Chok Chok!* was self-published in 1994 and quickly sold out. This expanded edition includes comics from the 1970s to the present, from Barry's iconic *Strips* stories to his autobiographical 'The Mighty Waikato' (first published in *Landfall*) and more recent stories exploring ancient history, UFOs and other cultural ephemera and esoterica.

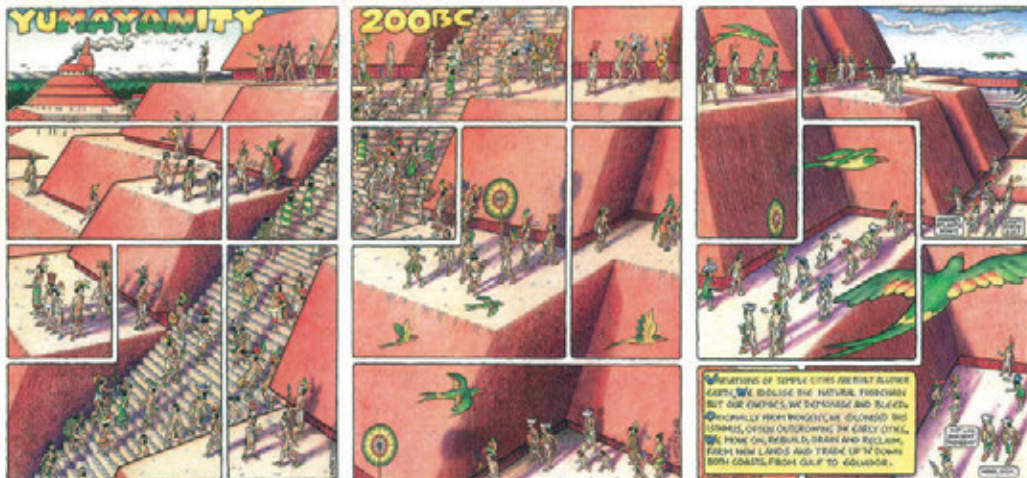


The Akia

Graphic novel series

(3 volumes completed: 36/56/36 pages)

Aki is a young boy in a fictionalised neolithic Oceania who discovers an exciting world beyond his island's home shores. His adventures take him across prehistoric oceans, encountering playful dolphins, lively cities and diverse cultures half-real and half-imagined. Meticulously researched, *The Akia* is a labour of love expected to fill several volumes, three of which have been completed. Each book also includes detailed papercraft models of ancient ships for readers to cut out and assemble, maps of visited islands and towns and notes on life in Aki's world.





Jesca Marisa

Jesca Marisa is an award-winning animator, artist and illustrator born and bred in Cape Town, South Africa and now living in Auckland. She was introduced to comics at the tender age of 5 thanks to a generous older brother who felt *Batman* and *2000AD* were ideal reading material for a growing mind.

She has published two volumes of her graphic novel series *Awakenings*.

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jesca_marisa@yahoo.com





Awakenings

Graphic novel series

(2 volumes: 40 pages and 112 pages)

A collection of fantastic stories, fairy tales and journeys through strange lands. The stories deal with growing up, hopefulness and the beauty and strangeness of the natural world.



Lee-Yan Marquez



Lee-Yan Marquez grew up in Manila, Philippines where she inhaled 50s to 60s pulp serials, classic Filipino Komiks and Lives of the Saints fumetti. Her gateway drug into mainstream comics was *Dazzler* Vol.1 #21. She was soon avidly devouring DC and Marvel titles from the 70s and 80s such as *The Brave and the Bold* and *Uncanny X-Men*.

She studied Fine Arts at the University of Santo Tomas and, after stints in 3D gaming and multimedia design, moved to New Zealand where she began writing, illustrating and self-publishing comics. She now lives in Montréal with her husband where she continues to pine for the bronze age comics she grew up with.

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The Tremblars

Ongoing comics
(in anthologies and online at
thetremblars.tumblr.com)

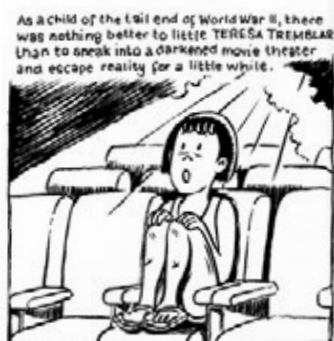
The Tremblars are a dysfunctional family nonpareil. First seen in a short comic drawn in response to the Christchurch Earthquakes, the Tremblars have since evolved into a fictional ensemble allowing Lee-Yan to explore the humour and sadness of everyday life and the imaginative possibilities of daydream.



The Impostor

Comic book series

Guilt-ridden social worker Lucy Roxas seems intent on getting herself killed until a man named "K" intervenes. She believes that he's none other than The Pugilist, a vigilante and folk hero to the denizens of the Lower District whom she serves. K disappears but their brief involvement puts her in the sights of a shadowy organisation who believe she is responsible. Meanwhile she learns from police records that K has been declared dead for the past three years. When K resurfaces, he offers Lucy a choice: reveal his whereabouts to his pursuers and resume her old life, or run away with him and live as fugitives.

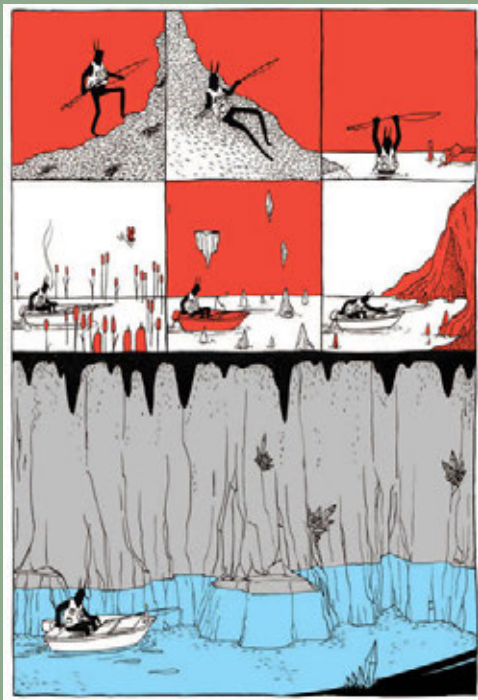




Lauren Marriott 'Ralphi'

Lauren Marriott ('Ralphi') is an award-winning illustrator, designer, cartoonist and model who was born in Gisborne and now lives in Auckland with her partner Dan, her cactus James and a Siamese Fighting Fish named Marceline. Her comics have been posted online, published in literary zine *Potroast*, pasted up as posters and exhibited in galleries.

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Bunny Comics and webcomic

Bunny is a whiskey drinking, cigarette smoking, monster slaying babe. He's also a hybrid bunny-man character who appears frequently in Ralphi's comics and art.

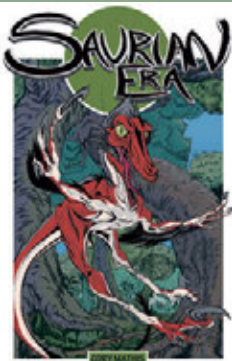


Cory Mathis

Cory Mathis trained in classical animation and has studied both digital and traditional art, including oil painting and sculpture. As a child, Cory dreamed of becoming a paleontologist. Since then he decided if he can't make a living digging up dinosaurs' bones he'll make comics about them instead.

Cory has worked in illustration, storyboarded for children's television and made a short animated Saurian Era film. Since then he has followed it up with two mini-comics and has many more planned.

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e-mail: corysaur@gmail.com



Saurian Era *Mini-comic series*

Saurian Era is a dinosaur inspired fantasy adventure following a group of characters as they navigate and explore a world where ancient beasts and man collide. From dinosaur racing to epic arena show-downs, a primeval medieval-samurai dinosaur-riding mash-up with a menagerie of characters trying to keep their dinosaurs fed long enough to make a quick buck. So far, Cory has explored the *Saurian Era* through a short animation, a series of mini-comics and a website. He is also planning a graphic novel.



Tim Molloy

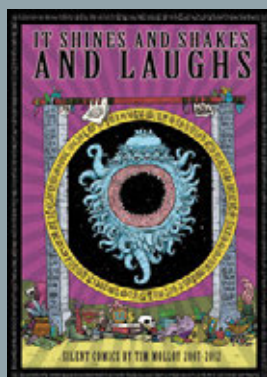
Tim Molloy was born in Auckland in 1980 and started making comics at a young age, publishing his first mini-comics before he left high school. After studying animation, he spent his early twenties working in the industry, being involved in the local comix scene, playing music in various bands and exploring the various possibilities for expression in his chosen medium.

His cartoon strips became infamous in Auckland as he became a long running contributor to Auckland University's student magazine *Craccum*, first for his violent and irreverent gag strip 'Ninja Sheep' and then later for his surreal series 'The Ground! It Rushes Upwards!' and for his bizarre antihero Mr Unpronounceable.

As well as many mini-comics and anthology contributions, Tim's work has been published in two book collections by Milk Shadow Books in Australia.

He now lives and works as a freelance illustrator in Melbourne, Australia with his wife and two cats. As well as making comics, paintings, and sculpture, Tim fronts the sci-fi-delic pre-apocalyptic party blues band Plague Doctor.

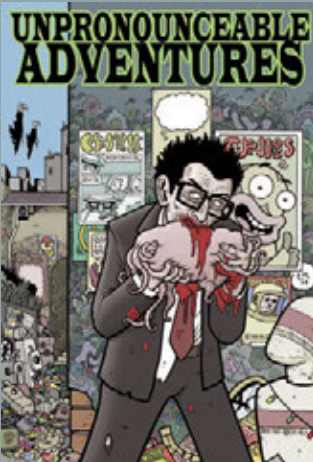
website: timmolloy.com
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 tel: +61 406 008 160
 facebook: facebook.com/tim.molloy.art



It Shines and Shakes and Laughs

Graphic novel
 (180 pages, Milk Shadow Books)

A collection of silent comics drawn between 2007 and 2011. Full of strange visions and disturbing hallucinations, open doorways and broken mirrors. Includes the 40-page "alchemical saga" 'Saturn Returns.'



Unpronounceable Adventures

Graphic novel

(150 pages, Milk Shadow Books)

Unpronounceable Adventures will be the first collection of Mr Unpronounceable strips. Mr Unpronounceable lives in The City Of The Ever Open Eye, a bizarre dream world that never fails to confuse his already delirious mind. With his faithful Shriveled Homunculus in tow, Mr U wanders raving and sweating through one strange and terrifying encounter to another.





Toby Morris

Toby Morris is an illustrator, art director and designer by day and a comics artist by night. He is a former member of the band Batrider, former editor and publisher of the New Zealand comics anthology *Officer Pup*, former artist and writer of the comic book series *Pirate Technics* and a current father of one.

He drew, published and nationally distributed his first comic at age 13 and since then has illustrated commercially for everyone from *Q* magazine to Lego. He has drawn books, murals, countless gig posters and over twenty comics, including *Can't Find Jacob*, *Dreamboat Dreamboat*, *Pirate Technics*, *Sunken*, *Smoke vs Water*, *Great Gran* and *200 People I Used to Know*.

In 2010 he published the book *Alledaags: A Year In Amsterdam* and is currently working on the follow up, a personal account of his first year of parenting.

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Alledaags: a Year in Amsterdam

Graphic novel

(364 pages, self-published)

In January 2009 Toby Morris began a daily sketchbook diary documenting his life and his observations of his adopted city of Amsterdam. *Alledaags* collects 333 of the drawings and covers everything from canal boats, hair gel and the madness of Queen's Day to Vondelpark picnics, Zwarte Piet and blunt Dutch service. The story is told in single panels, with a clear line style, a good sense of humour and an observant eye.



Meeting Max

Graphic novel (work in progress)
(approx. 300 pages)

Meeting Max adopts the same format as *Alledaags* - single panel clear line observational story telling, this time on the ups and downs of new parenthood. *Meeting Max* follows both the first year of a baby's life and all the milestones within and also a firsthand account of the journey of a new father. All the sleepless nights, all the spew, all the joy and fear and hope and love.





Simon Morse

Simon has worked for a number of comic book companies in America and Japan. He is best known as co-creator, with David Tulloch, of *Straightjacket Ninja*, who has appeared in the Wellington anthology comic *Pistake* and was later published in the USA by Kitchen Sink Press.

Simon worked for Glenn Danzig's L.A based horror anthology *Verotik* alongside his long-time friend and art collaborator, Martin Emond. For Danzig, Simon was converting Edward Lee's *Grub Girl* short stories into comics.

Martin and Simon, in collaboration, created *Chopper Chick* for the Japanese publisher DDD. Also for DDD, Simon created the half-girl, half-car character *Toolbox*.

Simon and Martin also designed artwork for Illicit clothing.

Along with illustration, Simon also paints and often exhibits his work. He has dabbled in freelance graphic art before fully immersing himself in his tattoo career. Tattooing gives him a chance to combine his illustrative line work with his painting disciplines.

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Straightjacket Ninja

Comic book series

(written by David Tulloch)

A homeless idiot in a box - or the vigilante saviour of a corrupt city? Is the Straitjacket Ninja a deranged mental patient or is he channeling cosmic forces of good, truth and justice? Through the eyes of a small boy he's a hero, in his own mind he's a genius crimefighter, but others have very different perspectives...



Michel Mulipola

Michel Mulipola is a Samoan New Zealand comics artist and freelance illustrator who also works at a comic book store and wrestles professionally in tights, cape and mask as the supervillain "Liger."

Michel's work includes contributions to New Zealand comics anthology *New Ground*, *Knuckles the Malevolent Nun* and the webcomic *The Gutters*. His comics have won a Gibson NZ Comics Award and the V Energy Drink 'Pimp My Life' Contest. He was a Top 25 Finalist in the Stan Lee Foundation's 'Create Your Own Superhero' contest.

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 Auckland 1061, New Zealand



Done to Death: The Truth Comic book (written by Stevie James)

Done to Death introduces a young female crime fighter whose male sidekick documents her exploits in a comic book, using monsters as a metaphor for the criminals she kills.

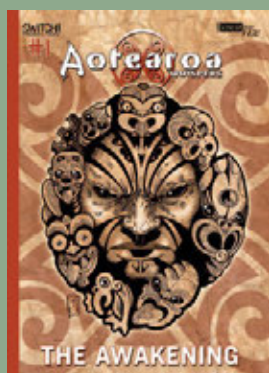
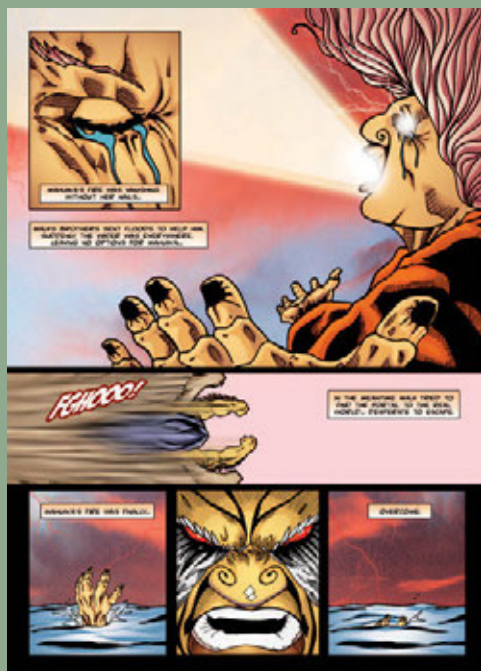
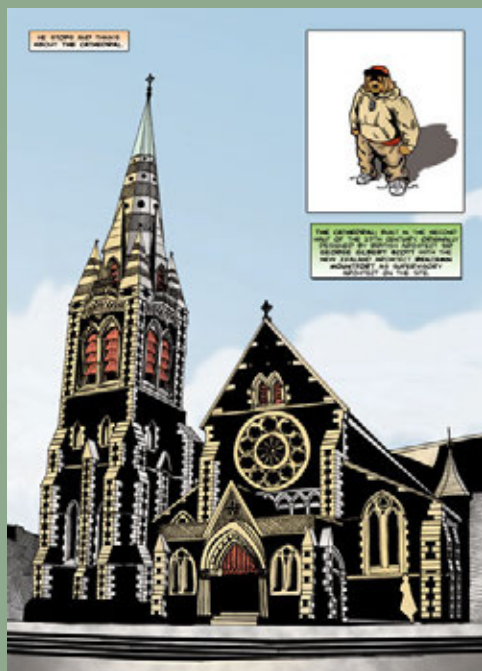


Gonzalo Navarro

Gonzalo Navarro was born in Santiago de Chile but now lives in Christchurch, New Zealand, where he conceived of *Aotearoa Whispers*, a story that combines historical fact, traditional mythology and modern concepts. The first volume of *Aotearoa Whispers* was published in 2011 by Gonzalo's own publishing imprint, Switch! Productions, and is divided into three parts: presenting the story in English, then in te reo Māori and lastly a "behind the scenes" section with sketches and notes from the creator.

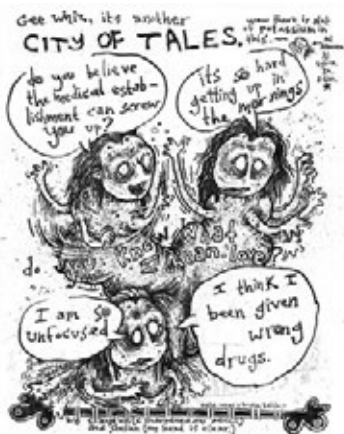
Gonzalo is currently working on *Aotearoa Whispers* #2.

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 tel: +64 21 0246 4441



Aotearoa Whispers #1: the Awakening Graphic novel (128 pages, Switch! Productions)

A 13 year old boy named Kahi wanders the streets of Christchurch city, feeling a bit lost in a place where he should belong. When he finds a 10 cent coin, the profile of the British Queen and the Māori icon on the reverse makes him think about himself and his Māori culture. The coin, a symbol of colonisation, leads him to his grandmother, a wise kuia who shares a little of her vast Māori knowledge with Kahi. The words of his kuia carry him on a mesmerizing journey that will make Kahi discover his heritage and his true identity.



Stefan Neville and Clayton Noone

Clayton and Stefan both grew up in New Zealand's far North but met in their teens in Hamilton where they were part of the vituperative Oats street gang and comics collective. The group, including Glen Frenzy, Indira Neville, Sugar Jon Arcus and Adrian Ganley, produced countless grubby homemade comics through the 1990s and 2000s, including *Dad & Tracy*, *Scorch*, *Pipes* and *The New Dixon*. Clayton now lives in Dunedin and Stefan in Auckland but they still collaborate on *City of Tales* comics. Their strips have appeared in anthologies around the world, including *SPX99* and *SPX2002* (USA), *Pure Evil* (Australia), and *Gambuzine* (Portugal). Both are also active musicians.

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City of Tales

Mini-comics
 (collected in three 80 page volumes)

City of Tales comics have been published in numerous mini-comics and anthologies and have recently been collected in three print-on-demand books: *What the Fuck is a Free Radical*, *Identity Cleared of Beard Ripping* and *Win Tanes Bra*. Mundane, vague, decrepit, daft and heartfelt and filled with ballbags, derelicts, old ladies, nudists and kiwi dazblers, *City of Tales* is drawn in pen, ink, pencil and twink, in an uncompromising unforgettable style.

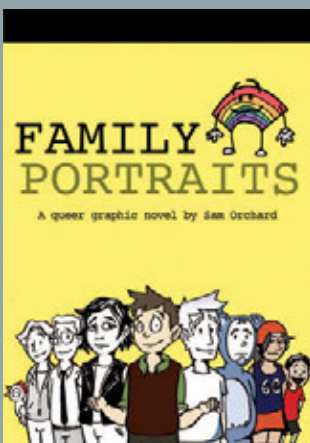


Sam Orchard

Sam Orchard has been drawing since he was a little girl. He draws comics about being queer and trans, many of which appear on his blog www.roostertailscomic.com.

His comics and illustrations have been published in various anthologies, books and journals in New Zealand, Australia and America and he has been involved in a number of human rights education and advocacy campaigns. He earned a Master of Creative Writing degree in 2011, drawing his first graphic novel along the way.

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Family Portraits

Graphic novel
(149 pages)

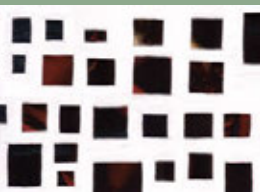
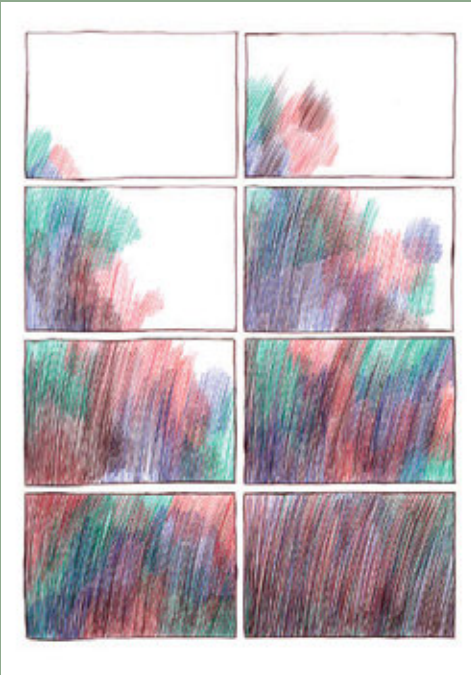
Family Portraits explores a diverse range of queer stories. The book interweaves Sam's own story as a queer-identified transman with vignettes of other queer individuals. It explores how age, history, gender, and ethnicity shape our experiences of ourselves, and how we live in the world. *Family Portraits* examines how the stories of others shape and affirm our own stories (either through connections or differences).



Draw (David Raw)

Draw began making comics in the mid-1990s and has since published numerous mini-comics, including *Silver* and *The Tangled Garden*, and contributing to anthologies and exhibitions in New Zealand and internationally. His recent practice is focused on abstraction and investigating the formal qualities of comics.

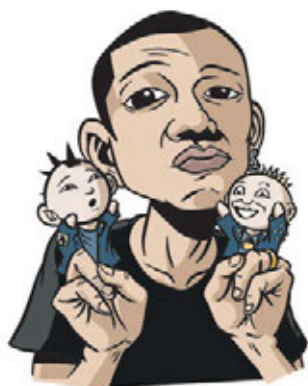
website: www.drawingsilence.com
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Drawing Silence

Webcomics (www.drawingsilence.com)

Since 2008, Draw has maintained an ongoing webcomics site, *Drawing Silence*, where he publishes a mixture of narrative and experimental comics. Some of this work was included in the Eisner Award-nominated book *Abstract Comics: the Anthology* (published by Fantagraphics in 2009).



Ant Sang

Ant Sang was born and currently lives in Auckland, New Zealand with his wife and two daughters. He spent eleven years in Hong Kong, where he developed a love of martial arts and Japanese pop culture. After a lifetime of drawing, he was inspired to begin writing comics in the early 1990s when he discovered 'alternative' comics and their ability to tell deeply affecting, personal stories. His work is influenced by his love of Eastern and Western comics, pop culture and film.

Ant self-published *Dharma Punks* as a series of comic books between 2001 and 2003, selling it through New Zealand comic stores where it earned a strong following and regularly outsold *The X-Men*. *Dharma Punks* won the New Zealand Comics Eric Award for Best Comic two years running. His graphic novel *Shaolin Burning* (2011) has met with even greater success.

Ant has worked for many years as an illustrator, designer and storyboard artist. He was the lead designer for all five seasons of the hugely successful animated television series *bro'Town*, for which he won numerous industry awards. He is currently adapting *Dharma Punks* as a screenplay.

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Dharma Punks

Graphic novel
 (384 pages, self-published
 as a comic book series)

A group of anarchist punks plot to bomb a mutli-national fast-food restaurant. On the night of the bombing, the protagonist, Chopstick, grapples with the death of his best friend and must ultimately decide between the paths of spirituality and political activism.



Shaolin Burning

Graphic novel

(192 pages, HarperCollins (NZ))

A fusion of kung fu mythology and Chinese history with a twist of contemporary street culture, *Shaolin Burning* is the story of Monk Who Doubts and Deadly Plum Blossom, two fighters whose lives, though seemingly separate, are entwined and destined to finally collide. *Shaolin Burning* won both an Honour Award at the 2012 NZ Post Children's Book Awards and the Storylines Notable Young Adult Fiction Award and was in the New Zealand Bestsellers Bookcharts Top Ten for eight weeks.



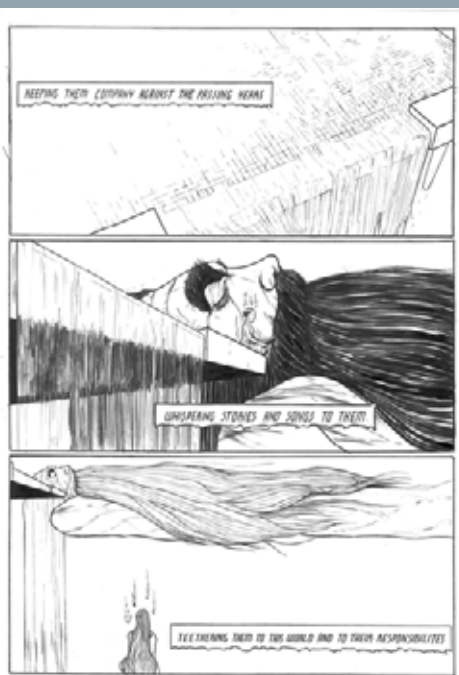


Darren and Kelly Sheehan

The Sheehan Brothers have been making comics together since 1997, including *The Long Man*, *The Inhabitants* and *Into the Dark Woods*. They have also made comics separately, including Darren's *Go Gorillas*, *Lazarus* and *Solo Chinese Whispers* and Kelly's *Tony Fomison: a Sketch in 35 Panels* (drawn by Anthony Ellison).

The first seven chapters of *The Inhabitants* can be read online at theinhabitants.blogspot.com.

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 Auckland 0600, New Zealand

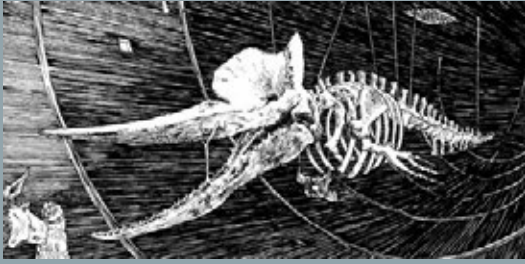


The Inhabitants

Graphic novel

(153 pages, self-published as a comic book series)

The Inhabitants are misfit teenagers and rock stars on the lam, lapsed utopians, style mystics and deadbeats with superpowers. They live in a bohemian dreamtime, a run down urban paradise that stretches out to the edge of forever. The four issue series introduces the world and characters of *The Inhabitants* in a complete, self-contained story. Intended to be an ongoing series of stories in a variety of formats, *The Inhabitants* features a rotating cast of characters who will appear in short stories, mini-series, single page strips and graphic novels.



Into the Dark Woods
ongoing series
(20-30 pages each issue)

Into the dark woods is the Sheehan Brothers' latest project and is a work in progress.

A wordless, dreamy fantasy, the series follows an unnamed girl and her wolf companion as they explore a forest haunted by fairytales and myth.





Chris Slane

Chris Slane is one of New Zealand's best known cartoonists, combining a successful career as an editorial and political cartoonist with the creation of comic books and graphic novels for local and international publishers.

His editorial cartoons have appeared in countless magazines and books, most notably the *NZ Listener*, and have twice earned him the Qantas Media Award for Cartoonist of the Year.

His comics work has ranged from illustrating *Star Wars* comics for Dark Horse to producing a comic book version of the *Brandt Report* for the Independent Commission on International Development Issues.

His graphic novels include *Maui: Legends of the Outcast* (with Robert Sullivan) and *Nice Day for a War: Adventures of a Kiwi Soldier in WWI* (with Matt Elliott), both of which were nominated for numerous awards. Based on a young soldier's diary, *Nice Day for a War* explores New Zealanders' experience of the war through a mixture of comics, illustrations, photographs and text and was named the NZ Post Children's Book of the Year in 2012.

Chris has also produced comics and graphic novellas in te reo Māori for the Ministry of Education. An English-language collection of these is currently in preparation.

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Swimmers

Graphic novel

(script by Hana Pomare,
 art by Chris Slane)
 (72 pages, previously
 published as three Māori
 language graphic novellas
 by the NZ Ministry of
 Education)

Collecting three 24-page stories featuring Māori women who swam into legend and history.





Maui: Legends of the Outcast

Graphic novel

(written with Robert Sullivan)

(48 pages, published by Godwit Publishing)

He's an outcast, spurned by his mother and despised by his brothers. He's Maui Tikitiki-a-Taranga, the celebrated trickster-hero of Polynesian legend. Armed with cunning and awesome supernatural powers, he sets out to challenge the forces of nature. Calling on the power of the gods, he hooks the greatest fish of all. His confrontation with the Goddess of Fire turns the earth into a raging inferno. And his fearless battle with the Sun God tames this mighty force into submission. But will he triumph in his death-defying challenge?





Margaret Silverwood

Margaret Silverwood was born in South Australia and moved to Dunedin, New Zealand, when she was 14. Her first comic, *The Girl Who Ate Air*, was drawn as coursework for a creative writing paper and she drew a second, *Paradise Lost*, while at art school.

Margaret has had three children's picture books published and today lives in Whanganui where she works part-time as a caregiver, exhibits drawings and prints and works on her graphic novel, *Utopia Now*.

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Utopia Now

Graphic novel (work-in-progress)
 (150 pages, self-published as mini-comics)

The story of an unlikely friendship between a rabbit and a penguin, who each have their own problems getting by in the world. The rabbit is desperate to form a relationship but whenever one comes along he soon finds it intolerably suffocating. The penguin, in contrast, is trusting, hapless and easily contented. The story is told with one panel per page and minimal dialogue, lingering on the spaces, full of uncomfortable absurdity.



Ben Stenbeck

Ben Stenbeck is an Auckland-based cartoonist who has been working as a professional comics creator for the last seven years.

Ben has drawn several titles for Dark Horse Comics, including the *Baltimore* series (with Mike Mignola and Christopher Golden). The first volume, *The Plague Ships*, made the *New York Times* Best Seller list and was been nominated for three Eisner awards and a Bram Stoker award. Volume two, *The Curse Bells*, was published in June 2012. Other comics Ben has worked on include *Living with the Dead* and *Witchfinder*.

Ben has also worked on books, films and games. In 2002 he co-wrote and directed a short film, *Zombie Movie*, which won awards at the LA Screamfest and the NYC Horror Film Festival.

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Baltimore: The Plague Ships

Graphic novel

(story by Mike Mignola and Christopher Golden)

(volume one: 146 pages, Dark Horse Books)

After a devastating plague ends World War I, Europe is suddenly flooded with vampires. Lord Henry Baltimore, a soldier determined to wipe out the monsters, fights his way through bloody battlefields, ruined plague ships, exploding zeppelins and submarine graveyards, on the hunt for the creature who's become his obsession.



Cornelius Stone

Cornelius Stone has been writing and drawing comics since the 1980s. He edited and published the comics magazines *Razor*, *Family of Sex* and *UFO* and created, wrote and frequently drew *The Associates*, *Joe Dole* and (with Roger Langridge) *Knuckles the Malevolent Nun*. Cornelius has also written poetry and prose, staged his own plays, acted in television shows and commercials and taken plenty of photographs. His card game *Sooth*, a unique mix of party game, poetry event and philosophical discussion, has been a favourite in the Auckland underground art scene for years and a commercial release is currently in preparation. He is also currently working on *Tender Stray*, a graphic novel about Jesus attempting to free undeserving sufferers from Hell.

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Knuckles the Malevolent Nun

Comic books, comic strips and books
(with Roger Langridge et al)

Knuckles the Malevolent Nun first appeared in *Razor* magazine in the 1980s (leaping out of a toilet bowl) and soon spread like a virulent virus into other comics and magazines, radio plays and stage shows. Blasting through a world populated by every pop (and high) culture icon you can imagine (from daleks to the Residents), the Holy Sister wreaks havoc at every opportunity, from her Catholic Abortion Clinic to disgusting shenanigans with her beloved pet Spunky the Fly, *Knuckles* is outrageous, appalling, hilarious, but also playful, philosophical and smart. Just don't get too close...

David Tulloch



David Tulloch (webname Gunwallace) started writing comics in the early 1990s, when he edited and published the influential Wellington based comics anthology *Pistake* and co-created *Straitjacket Ninja* with Simon Morse. After some years of working in retail and desktop publishing, tutoring in History at University and writing science history, David found himself a father and started writing comics again. He began making comics by photographing toys and the result was the unique webcomics site, virtuallycomics.com. David and Simon are currently working on new *Straitjacket Ninja* stories (see page 72).

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Virtually Comics

Webcomics (virtuallycomics.com)

Since 2010, David Tulloch has been making comics by photographing toys and the result is *Virtually Comics*, an eclectic mix of comedy, drama and absurdity. Stories include *Utterly Rucked*, a PG13 murder mystery involving rugby, beer and a great deal of tomato sauce, *Character Development*, an epic fantasy adventure now over 600 pages long, rural police drama *Dark Bay* and various short comics about plastic people and their plastic lives. Not all the comics at *Virtually Comics* involve toys; Dave also collaborates with artists to create stories funny and serious, short and long.



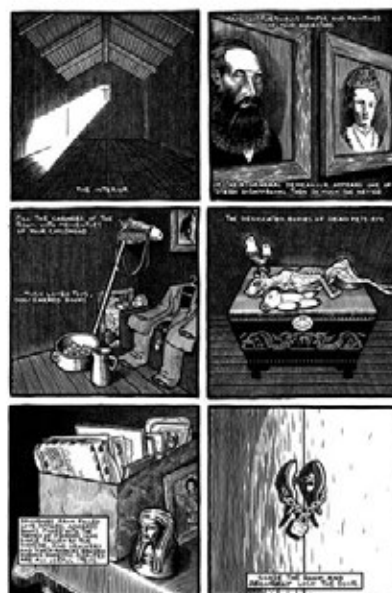
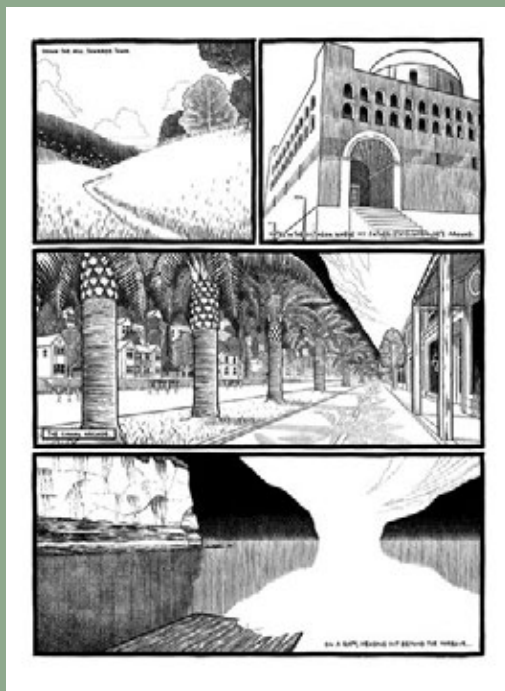
Mat Tait

Mat Tait is a South Island based comics artist and writer. He gained a BFA in painting from Ilam School of Arts and then lived for a while in America and Britain before returning to New Zealand and settling in Motueka, a small rural town where he does freelance illustrations and works on his art.

He has contributed comics to many local and international anthologies, including *Kramer's Ergot* (USA), *Study Group 12* (USA), *Pure Evil* (Australia) and *Comix 2000* (France).

His comic *Love Stories* won the New Zealand Comics Eric Award for Best Comic in 2010.

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Love Stories

Graphic novel
(in preparation)

A selection of Mat Tait's short comics stories from recent years, including 'Dream Map of Dunedin,' 'Some of My Life So Far,' 'Great Historical Disasters,' 'Rebus' and 'Shortcuts to Enlightenment.'



The Heading-Dog Who Split in Half: Legends, Yarns and Other Folklore of New Zealand

Graphic novel

(written by Mike Brown, art by Mat Tait)
(150 pages, work in progress)

A collection of stories that draw from the rich vein of New Zealand folk tales, back-country yarns, ghost stories, and urban myths. Its entertaining mixture of both Pākehā and Māori stories - historical, pioneer, and supernatural - explores the varied and unique flavours of New Zealand's past.





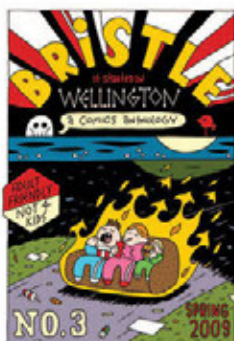
Ned Wenlock

Ned Wenlock was born in the UK and emigrated to New Zealand on his 13th birthday. He has been drawing comics since he was 5, a passion that inspired him to study graphic design at Christchurch Polytechnic and then to become an animator.

Ned's animation and illustrations have appeared around the world and he has made music videos for MGMT and Danger Beach. His comics have been published in magazines and anthologies, as mini-comics and online.

He currently lives in the small seaside village of Paekakariki with his wife Karen and two daughters.

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Hotpools & other comics

Mini-comics and anthologies

Ned's comics have been published in various magazines and anthologies, including Wellington's *Bristle*, and in his own self-published mini-comic series, *Hotpools* (4 issues to date), which won a New Zealand Comics Eric Award in 2011.



Jason Winter

Jason Winter lives in Wellington, where he works as a baker and writes and draws comics. His first published comics work was a story called 'The Collector', written by *Pistake* editor Dave Tulloch. He then wrote and drew *Raising Kane*, an 80-page science fiction epic in the tradition of Al Williamson and Alex Raymond, which was serialised in *Funtime Comics* between 1992-2007.

He also drew *Tikitiki*, a 31 page comic for Uili Fecteau and Jacob Luamanuvae and has been involved in a variety of small press comics, both local and international. He contributed a number of stories to Brent Willis' anthology *Bristle* and has flatted pages for Harvey Award nominated comic *Rainbow in the Dark* by Adam Withers and Comfort Love.

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Strange Attractors

Graphic novel
 (180 pages, work-in-progress)

Michael Gallegher has been operating as the superhero The Emmissary for 19 years. He turns 50 soon and wishes to retire, but feels he cannot until he has defeated Ferocizide, a vicious parasite which has been terrorising Epsom City for the past 7 years.



Brent C. Willis

Brent C. Willis has been writing, drawing and self-publishing his own comics since the mid 1990s, beginning with the *Fetus Boy Adventures* series and going on to become one of New Zealand's most prolific cartoonists.

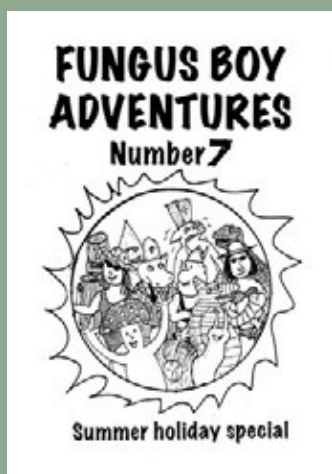
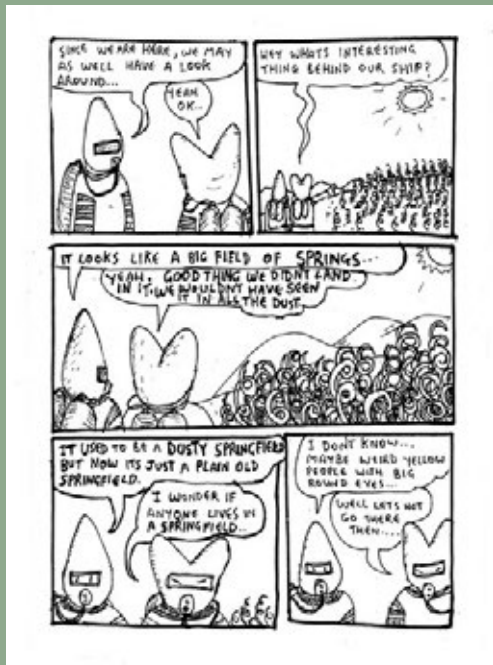
In addition to 12 issues of *Fetus Boy Adventures* and 7 of *Fungus Boy Adventures*, his comics also include *Maggot*, *The Great Hair Fashion and Grooming Guide*, *I am Mucous Man*, *Convention Carnage*, *Thumbscrew Theatre*, *Brent Willis's 115th Dream*, *20,000 Leg-Warmers Under the Sea*, *Baz and Bruce*, *Teddy-Bear Detectives* and the self-published graphic novel *Battle Van*. Then there are the comics he's produced with regular collaborator Clive Townsend (whose drawing style is so similar to Brent's they are rumoured to be the same person), including the *Gimps* series, *Comic Strippers*, *Future Cock*, *Blast a Sore Arse* and *John Key is Awesome*. Other collaborators include Ari Freeman, Darren Schroeder and the many cartoonists he's drawn jam comics with. He may also have had something to do with "New Zealand's grossest comic" *Manhole*, but if you ask he'll deny it.

A fixture of the New Zealand comics and zine scenes, Brent has contributed to many anthologies, student newspapers and websites, and has edited and published numerous anthologies, including 10 issues of the local comics anthology *Bristle*. He has been nominated for the New Zealand Comics Eric Awards several times.

When not doing comics, Brent sings and plays guitar with his part-time band, the False Dmitrys, and has a day job working for the Government (usually in a deep dark basement away from most other people). He is currently preparing a new bi-monthly solo anthology comic (as yet untitled). He also draws the monthly comic strip 'Ranga' for Werewolf.co.nz.

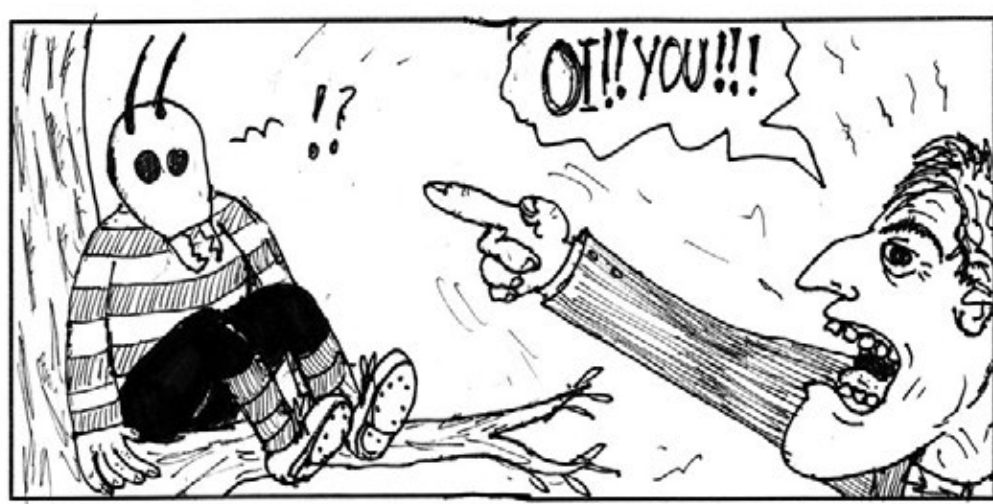
website:	werewolf.co.nz/2012/05/cartoon-alley-brent-willis/
e-mail:	celfbw@xtra.co.nz
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Fungus Boy and other comics
Mini-comics and zines

Brent's philosophy with comics is to keep them raw, fresh, simple, direct and purposeful. He prefers the low-tech zine aesthetic to the way mainstream comics look and is thus able to draw and produce them quickly and cheaply, publishing hundreds of pages of comics in the past decade and a half. Brent's stories are hilarious, outrageous, absurd and endlessly inventive, mixing social and political satire with unpredictable plot twists. He is currently working on a new (as yet un-named) bimonthly anthology-style comic which will contain multiple characters, stories, short pieces, longer serialised works, one-off gags and occasional rants.





Karl Wills

Karl Wills started making comics in the early 1990s while failing to study journalism at Waikato Polytech. He is now a cartoonist, illustrator and animator, whose work has been published in books and magazines around the world, including Peter Bagge's *Hate* (USA), *Nagamba vol.1* (Japan), *Dirty Stories* (USA), *Cinema Sewer* (USA), *Vice Magazine* (USA), *The Mammoth Book of Best New Manga* (UK), *Hotwire* (USA) and *Dailies* (Australia).

His self-published comics include three issues of *The Comic Book Factory Funnies*, *Uncle Charlie's Cartoon Revue*, *Dr. Connie Radar PhD Daily Funnies* and his latest, *Princess Seppuku and the Hunt for Robot-X*.

Probably his best-known creation to date is *Jessica of the Schoolyard*, a drinking, smoking, knife-wielding schoolgirl, whose exploits Karl has chronicled in twelve 8-page Tijuana Bible format mini-comics, short comics for various magazines, trading cards and even a music CD, *Jessica and the Jawbreakers*, which came packaged with an 8-page comic book insert. Jessica has become a popular subject for prints, t-shirts and tattoos.

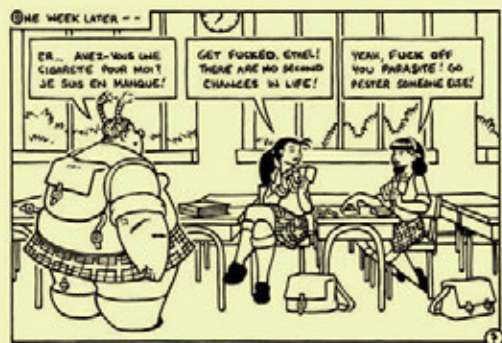
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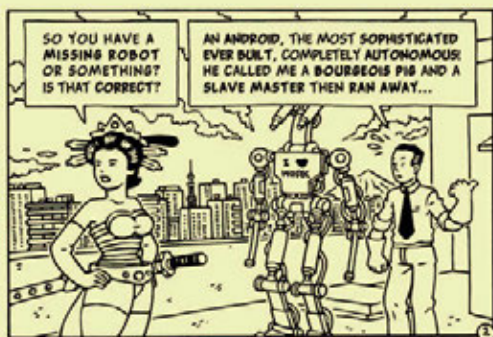


Jessica of the Schoolyard

Comic books
 (thirteen 8-page comics)

The adventures of a violent, narcissistic schoolgirl who wouldn't think twice about knifing anyone who stands in the way of what she wants. With her best friend Alice Daiquiri, a billionaire's spoilt alcoholic daughter, and the psychotic Pagoda Twins, Jessica rules the school. Don't make eye contact.





Princess Seppuku

Comic book

(32 pages, available in English or Japanese)

Ongoing adventure series of a Japanese superhero, the real reason why the crime rate in Japan is so low. Cruel but fair and always polite, Princess Seppuku and her assistant Okiku battle all manner of giant monsters (daikaiju), killer robots, demons, and the criminal underworld.

One book published so far, *Princess Seppuku and the Hunt for Robot-X*, with more to follow.



切腹姫

Meet Princess Seppuku

By KARL WILLS





Colin Wilson

Colin Wilson is one of the founders of the modern New Zealand comics scene, and has gone on to become one of the country's most successful creative exports.

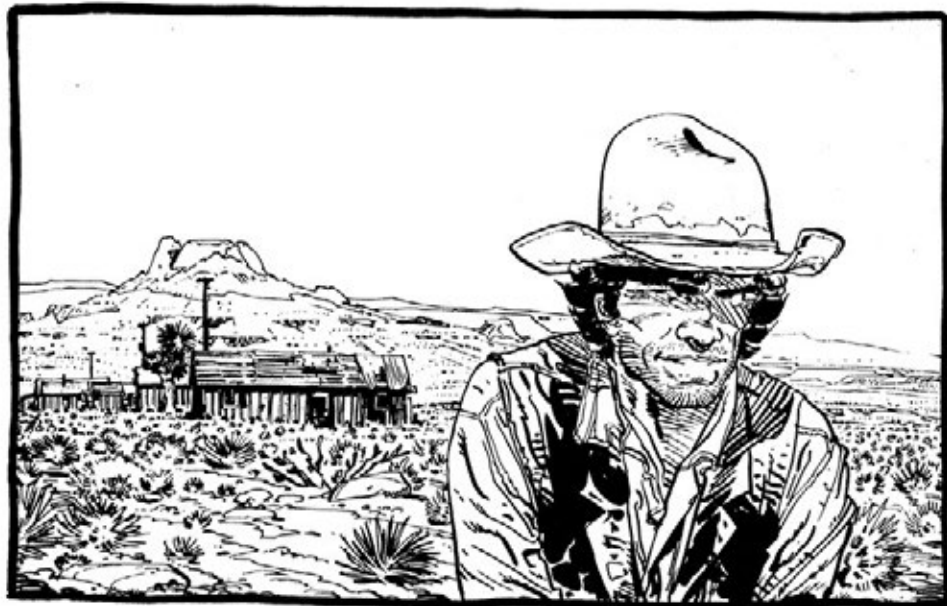
After editing and publishing *Strips*, and creating New Zealand's first ecological superhero *Captain Sunshine* in the 1970s, Colin Wilson soon realised that to become a professional comic artist he needed to head overseas.

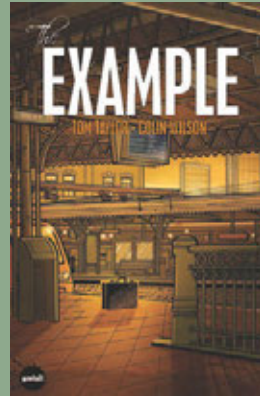
Arriving in London in 1980, Colin soon began working for the UK weekly *2000AD*, appearing alongside the likes of Dave Gibbons and Brian Bolland. But where they looked to the States, Colin's eye turned to Europe, and a 15-year career began drawing his own series (*Dans l'Ombre du Soleil*) and realising a personal dream by drawing *Blueberry: The Early Years* alongside Jean Giraud (Moebius).

After publishing more than 15 books in Europe, Colin returned to Australia in 1996, and while continuing to produce work for the European market (*Tex*, *Du Plomb Dans La Tete* and more work for *2000AD*) his art has also regularly appeared via US comics publishers, on such series as *The Losers*, *Battler Britton*, *Bionic Commando* and *Star Wars*.

With work on the *Star Wars: Invasion* story arc now complete, Colin Wilson is currently working with writer Tom Taylor on several new projects before beginning work on a second book for the series *Jour J* (Delcourt) in France. His European series *Du Plomb Dans La Tete* (recently published in the States as *Bullet To The Head* by Dynamite) has been optioned by Warner Bros and the film is currently being shot in New Orleans. The film, starring Sylvester Stallone, Christian Slater and Jason Momoa, is scheduled for release early in 2013.

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The Example
 Graphic novella
 (20 pages, Gestalt Press)

Colin Wilson's first collaboration with Australian writer Tom Taylor, *The Example* is a conversation between two people waiting for a train, who notice an unattended briefcase and find themselves face to face with their own reaction to the War on Terror. Taylor and Wilson have since collaborated on numerous projects, both commercial and personal.



FURTHER READING

Online:

hicksvillepress.com

comics.org.nz

pikitiapress.com

www.facebook.com/groups/6120362851

fromearthsend.blogspot.com

www.littleprojecta.com/BRD/list.html

On paper:

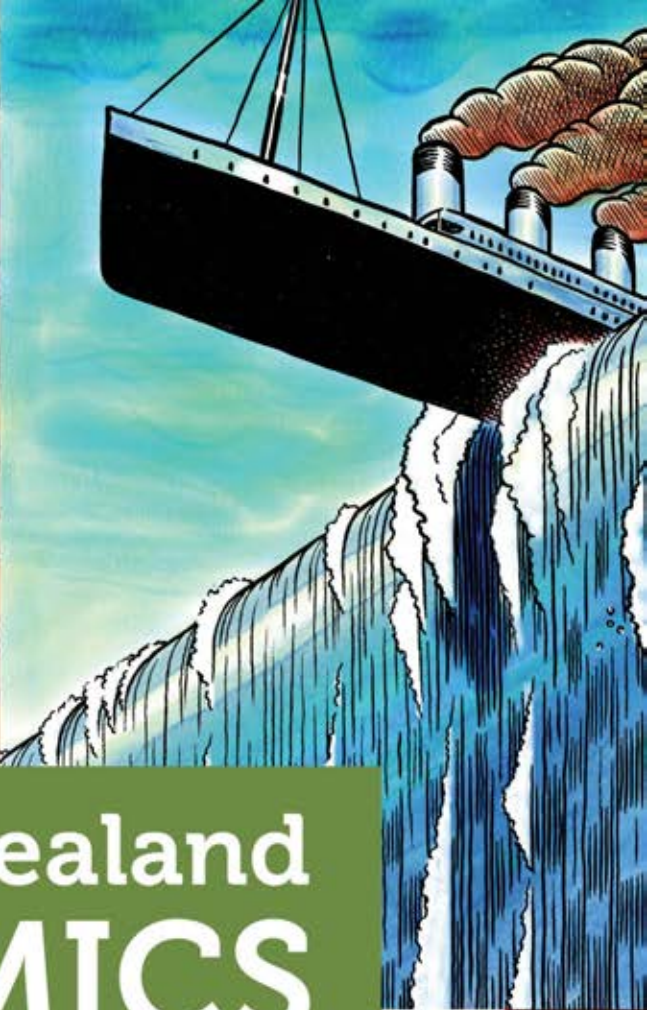
From Earth's End: the Best of New Zealand Comics,
edited by Adrian Kinnaird (Random House (NZ), forthcoming 2013)

Back of Beyond: Comics in New Zealand,
by Tim Bollinger (in preparation)

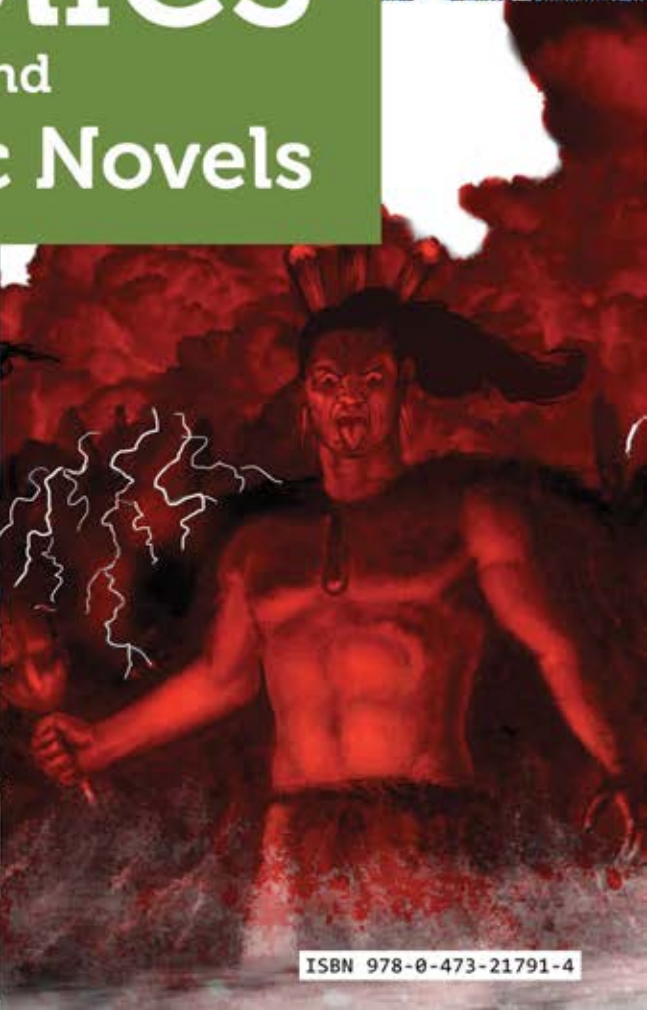
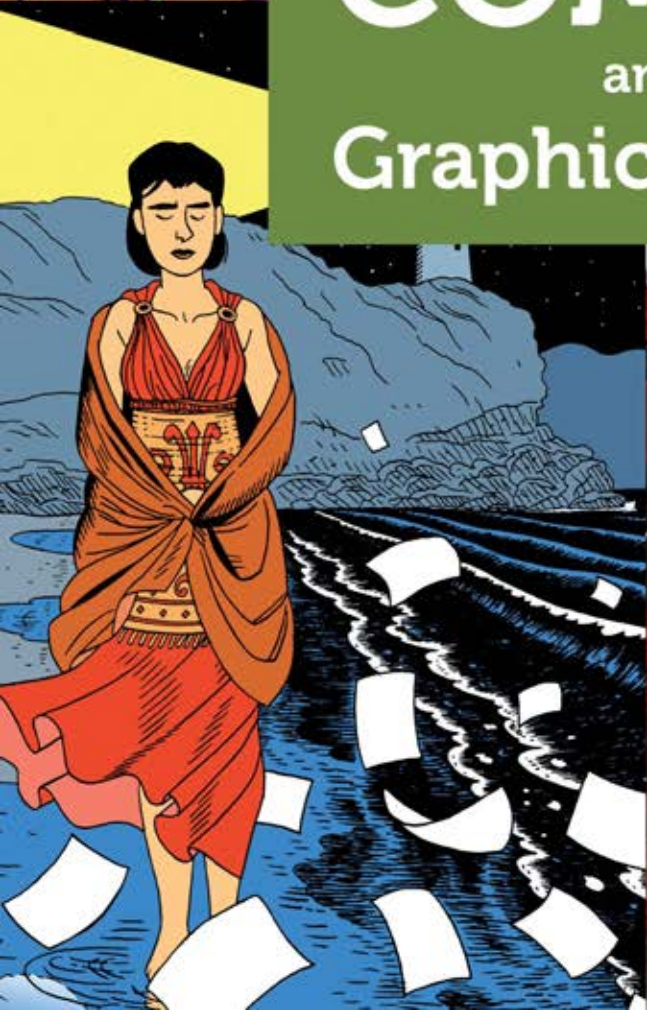
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New Zealand
COMICS
and
Graphic Novels



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