

Fantagraphics cont.

in 1989, just as the grunge phenomenon gained global notoriety. Within a few years Seattle was considered the center of the alternative comix movement.

Q: The indie comix scene has grown over the years from diy cardboard bound comix zines to professionally printed volumes. Do you have any advice for DIY projects in a younger place?

My advice to aspiring comix artists is to keep expectations realistic. Self-publishing is a rewarding creative outlet and recent advances in printing processes have made it attractive and affordable. But marketing and distribution can be daunting. Best to set print runs low and become active in Seattle's lively indie comix communities. There are lots of opportunities but it requires research, ambition, and resourcefulness.

Q: What are some of your favorite comix that spotlight radical movements or marginalized voices?

Many of the most compelling new comix deal with socially relevant issues and advance progressive concepts. There are several publishers in the Northwest that specialize in radical politics. Fantagraphics Books was founded in the early 80's on Love & Rockets by Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez, which foreshadowed the multicultural, gender fluid society we all take for granted now; 40 years ago it was a revelation. We were also the first to publish the work of comix journalist Joe Sacco, whose graphic novel Palestine just entered its 21st printing. When it first appeared in 1993 the title alone was considered highly provocative. Microcosm Press based in Portland is another highly principled publisher. They publish one of my favorite comix series, Seeds of Spring: A Mi'kmak Teen Discovers Kropotkin, Punk, and Her Place in the World. It's an engaging and thoughtful examination of the intersection of radical politics and pop culture through the eyes of First Nations youth.

Q: How does Fantagraphics support community-building?

Central to Fantagraphics Bookstore's mission is nurturing local artists in a variety of media. One example is our annual Hot Off the Press Book Fair featuring over 50 small press and independent artists presenting their work at no charge. The 11th installment takes place outside the bookstore on July 13 with live music, art, comix, and more.



#12
june
'24

**SEE INSIDE: Rad Benefit Shows + More
From All 'Round the Sound**

FANTAGRAPHICS INDIE COMIX DRAWING CHANGE

Sabotage Noise presents a short Q&A with Larry Reid, a fixture of Seattle's independent Comix scene and the curator/manager of the Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery in the Georgetown neighborhood:

Q: How did the underground "Comix" scene emerge? Whats been Seattle's place in that?

Underground comix seemed to appear spontaneously across the country in the mid-60's, largely associated with the hippie youth movement. San Francisco was the epicenter, but artists in Austin, Cleveland, Chicago, and New York contributed as well. I should add that many of these comix would be considered problematic now. They reflected the hippie counterculture itself, which was patriarchal, sexist, and homophobic for the most part. Their narrative approach and rendering techniques, however, marked a stark departure from the past, which would inspire later generations of indie cartoonists.

The Pacific Northwest has a long tradition as home to talented cartoonists. In the pre-digital era it was affordable to live here and creativity was considered valued labor, allowing cartoonists to earn a living. In the late 70's a trio of gifted cartoonists emerged from the Evergreen State College in Olympia: Lynda Barry, Charles Burns, and Matt Groening syndicated their idiosyncratic strips in alternative newspapers in major cities around the country, which helped popularize a new approach to the timeless medium. Fantagraphics Books relocated to Seattle



RAD SHOWS + BENEFITS

OLYMPIA

The Mortuary

@olymortuary

EVERY Thursday 6-8pm - People's Cafe Open Mic free/ donation coffee + tea by Wobbly Cup Cooperative Cafe~~
EVERY 1st Sunday 1:30-4:30pm - Prisoner Letter Writing Night (June 2, July 7)~~

June 7 8pm-3am - Fund-raver for the Mortuary and Alva's mutantfest fund

June 10 6pm - Miriam Hacksaw + June Hawthorn tour ft. Freddie Lee Toyota and For You, Always For You

June 14 6-9pm - Queer Prom, ages 12-21 only

June 28 6:30pm - Ragenest

July 13 6pm - Free all-ages punk show ~~

July 26 5pm - Feminine care product drive

BREMERTON

People's Exchange
(639 Callow Ave)

@peoples_exchange

EVERY Sunday 6pm - Queer Meetup~~

June 9 & July 13 5-7pm - Queer Figure Drawing~~

June 14 & July 12 6-8pm - Mending Meetup ~~

The Charleston

@thecharleston333

(333 N Callow Ave)

June 20 6pm - IWW Movie Night ft. music by Organized Retail Crime

SEATTLE

Left Bank Books

@leftbankbookscollective

(92 Pike St)

EVERY 1st Thursday 7:30-11pm - Open Mic (June 6, July 4) ~

EVERY Last Thursday - VOLTA: A QTBIPOC Open Mic (June 27, July 25)~~

June 9 7:30pm - Sister Wife Sex Strike, Miriam Hacksaw, June Hawthorn, Captain Preacher **

June 13 7:30pm - A Knife Like Knight: Talk and Poetry Reading on The Legacy of Frank Stanford ft. Documentary screening "It Wasn't a Dream: It Was a Flood"~~

June 20 7:30pm - Joint author event celebrating / *Never Dreamed You'd Leave in Summer* ft. Robert Lashley and David Fewster ~~

TACOMA

The Gravel Pit

@gravelpittacoma

June 9 7pm doors - ffooff/ Jade Peter/Worms in Ditt**

June 21 6-10pm - Solstice Market ~~

July 20 - Skrek Rave

July 26 - Reptile LOVE Child and more

July 28 - Bigger than Mountains/Raccoon Venom/Loud in the Morning/Free Range Lunatic

Solidarity Center

(1220 S 23rd St)

BOOK EVENTS AT THIS
RAD COMMUNITY
SPACE! EMAIL THEM:
hilltopsolidarity@proton.me

Pipsqueak

(173 16th Ave)

@pipsqueak.seattle

EVERY 1st Sunday 3-5pm - Prisoner Letter Writing ~~ (June 2, July 7)

EVERY 2nd Sunday 4:30-6:30pm - Queer Writers Meetup ~~ (June 9, July 14)

EVERY Wednesday 6-9pm - Queer/Trans Art Jam~~

June 23 2pm - "In it for the long haul: longevity, trust, and building cultures of struggle" ~~

SAVE THE DATE: Seattle Anarchist Bookfair

Returns September 27-28 @ Vera Project

Details: @seattleanarchistbookfair or sabf.info

NEED HELP BOOKING A BENEFIT SHOW?

WANT TO LIST YOUR COOL SHOW OR BENEFIT EVENT FOR MUTUAL AID - LABOR SOLIDARITY - PRISONER SUPPORT - GENERAL ANARCHY?

CONTACT SABOTAGE NOISE PRODUCTIONS!

EMAIL: sabotagenoiseproductions@proton.me

@sabotagenoiseproductions

KEY

!! = SNP Hosted

** = NOT A FLOF

~~ = Free Entry



Kitsap County-Based Mutual Aid Benefit Show Booking

