

Retro Rogues Fanzine • May 2020 • page 02



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Special thank to our contributors!

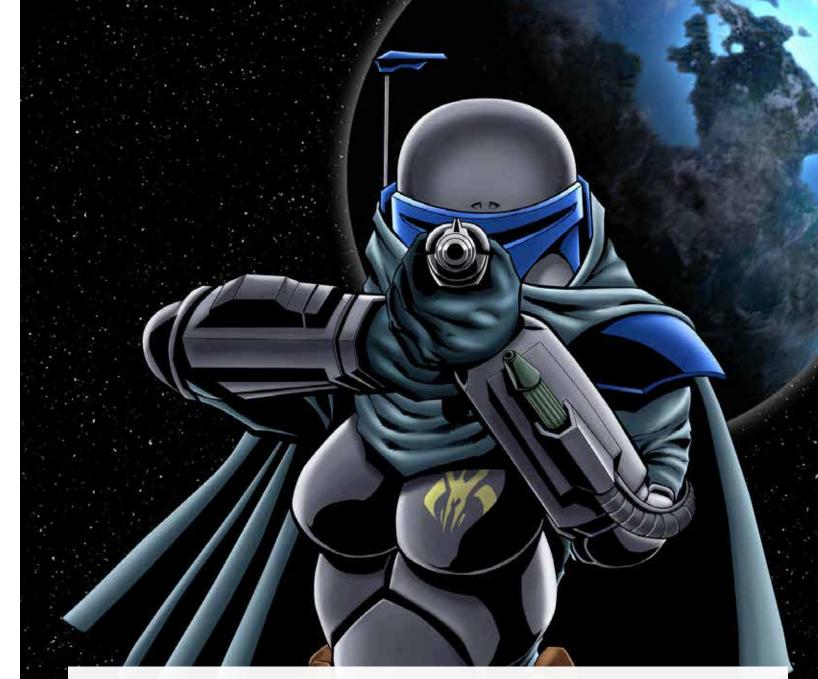
PJ, Ed Harris, Benjamin Glendenning, Jane Shenks, the Janimal and the Retro Rogues Staff.

Please email us with comments or story suggestions

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Thank you for Reading and Sharing!

Featured Content Creator PJ from You can learn more about *Orville Nation on Twitter at:* @orville_nation

RR: What were the science fiction shows, comic books, and/or movies that made you a fan of the genre?

Star Wars, Star Trek, Space 1999, Buck Rogers and BSG.

RR: How long have you been a sci-fi fan?

Forever....all my life.

RR: What is your favorite sci-fi memory from childhood?

Going to see Star Wars in the theater.

RR:. Why did you decide to become a content creator?

Just wanted to have some FUN

RR: How long have you been interested in social media as a platform for promotion or fan interaction?

For many years

RR: Why did you create Orville Nation?

To have FUN and create a Community....a safe place for fans to come together.

RR: Who is your favorite character on Orville?

Between Gordon and Ed.

RR:. What are your expectations for season 3?

After Season 3 The Orville will be "as big" as Star Trek.

RR:. What is your favorite episode of the Orville?

Identity parts 1 & 2.

RR:. What is the mission of Orville Nation?

- 1. To support Seth and Tom and the rest of the cast and crew as they create the best sci-fi on TV / Streaming.
- 2. To create the best fan community for Orville fans ...and to connect Orville fans to Orville channels and podcasts.
- 3. Keep Orville fans engaged in the offseason.

RR: What else are you into that might surprise your followers at Orville Nation?

Health Nutrition Fitness, and Personal Growth.

RR: At Retro Rogues we are really into retro stuff. What is your favorite retro tv series, movie, or comic book? (You can pick and choose or do one of each)

Does Buck Rogers count?

RR: How do you define the term "retro"? Do you consider yourself a roque?

I'm feeling an "old school" vibe for defining "retro". If it puts me in the great company of Eric and Dave you bet I'm a rogue! LOL.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Benjamin Glendenning

RR: How old were you when you first starting drawing?

About four years old, my dad taught me to read on digest sized DC comics and I was immediately trying to draw my own (mostly Legion of Super-heroes and the bat-mobile). I then became totally enamored with Saturday morning cartoons and drawing was a great outlet for creativity being that I lived in rural Michigan at the time.

RR: I know you used to submit art to Wizard magazine back in the day. Could you briefly tell us a bit about that?

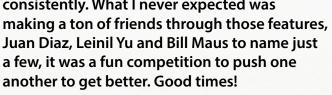
Yeah, back in those days (early internet days) it was tricky to learn about creators and creative processes. Conventions, which were expensive and zines, which were hard to come by consistently were the best sources, until I found Wizard magazine. I immediately became a fan of the "letter Art" and "Drawing Board" features and dived into that as more of a training grounds to pressure myself into producing

> consistently. What I never expected was making a ton of friends through those features, Juan Diaz, Leinil Yu and Bill Maus to name just a few, it was a fun competition to push one

RR: When was the first time you heard about sketch cards?

I heard of them when I managed a Comic book store in the mid nineties, thought the idea was really intriguing. Come late 2007 a friend and mentor on DeviantArt, Mark Irwin fell into art directing the returning **Marvel Masterpieces card set for Upper** Deck, I happened to be on his radar at that time and with no real experience using markers, I ended up using my daughter's crayola washables and they gave my work a super bright and fun look, something that resonated with fans at the time.

Upper Deck: Guardians of the Galaxy set Gamora and Nova



RR: What was the first sketch card gig you worked on?

Marvel Masterpieces 2008 was my first set, first time working with markers, or color in general and my first time working that small, It was a really fun challenge, and to work on so many of my favorite characters in an official capacity was so exciting.

RR: What was your favorite sketch card assignment to date?

Oooh, this is a tough one. I would have to say any of the Perna Studio sets, as much as I love working on huge properties like Batman, X-men, Mars Attacks, Rick & Morty or Ghostbusters... The Perna's allow the artist to go wild and create within the context of sketchcards, and these days that really excites and motivates me the most.

> **Cryptozoic Entertainment: Ghostbusters set Louis Tully Real Ghostbusters**

RR: What are your preferred art materials or drawing supplies for creating sketch cards?

Blue lead pencil, Staedtler pigment liner pens (color and black) various color sharpies, white **Gelly Roll pen and Prismacolor markers (brush** tips)... Although I'm thinking of taking the plunge into Copics recently.

RR: What is your favorite character to draw?

Hmmm, another tough one, It seems to depend on my mood, Monstrous inhuman creatures are always a ton of fun, Frankenstein's Monster, ghosts, Mothman, Martians. Cosmic beings like Thanos, Silver Surfer or Darkseid are also a ton of fun, the backgrounds then tell a story just as much as the figure and telling a story in a tiny image is my goal and source of fun.

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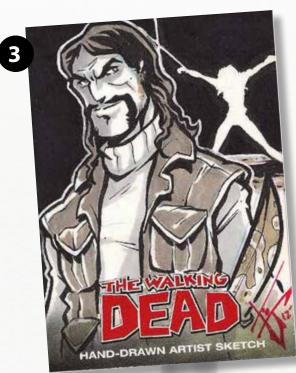
Perna Studios: Hallowe'en 2 set Frankenstein's monster













1. Topps: Mars Attacks Martian Infantry

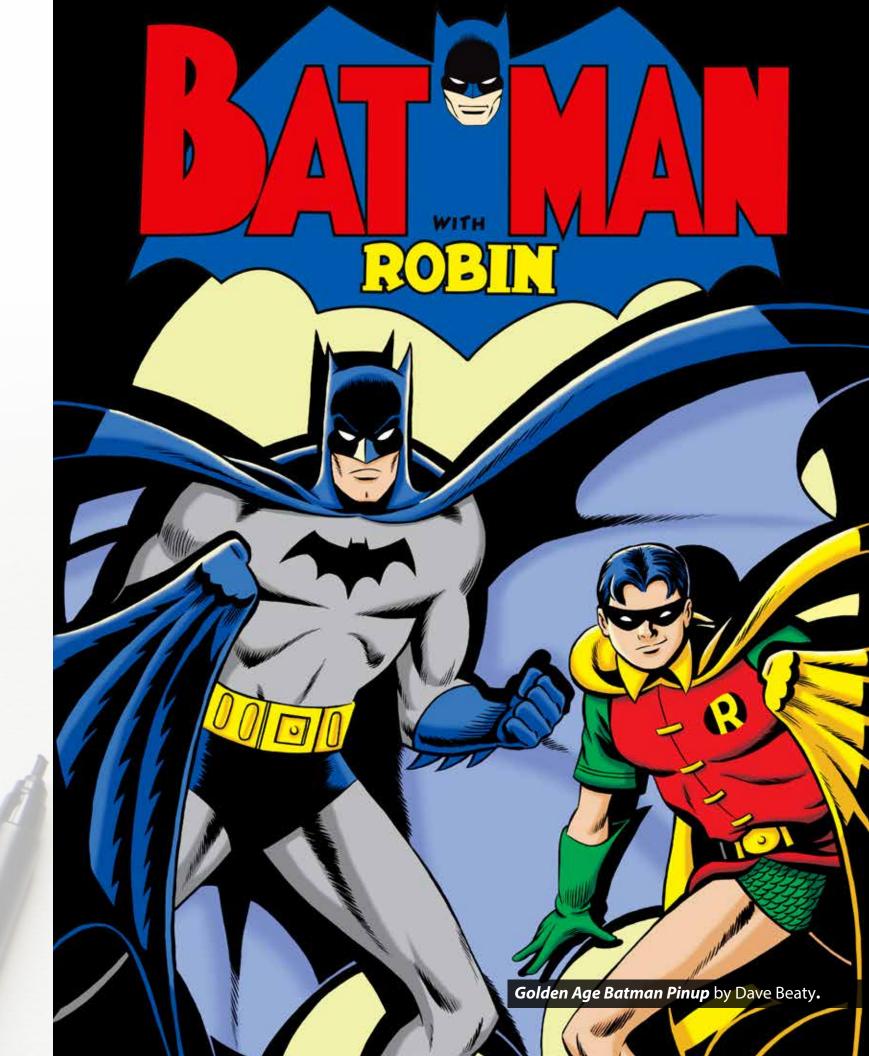
2. Cryptozoic Entertainment : Adventure Time set Cyber-armor Fiona

3. Cryptozoic Entertainment: The Walking Dead set the Governor

4. Cryptozoic Entertainment : DC Comics Super-Villians set Darkseid

RR: Where can people see more of your art online?

Right now my Instagram www.instagram.com/SnapHavok My Facebook www.facebook.com/benjamin.glendenning are the best sources. Looking to fix that sometime this year though;)





Favorite Comics from **Yesteryear**

984

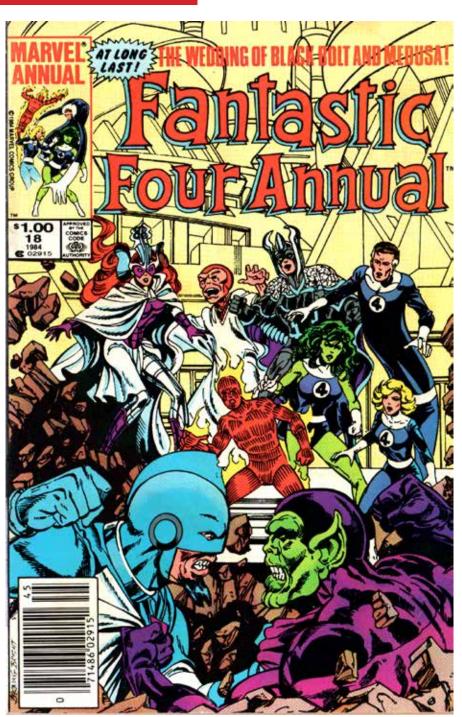
by Dave Beaty

Fantastic Four Annual #18

Writers: John Byrne (plot) & Mark Gruenwald (script) Art: Mark Bright (pencils), Mike Gustovich (inks), Phil Felix (letters), and Petra Scotese (colors) Editor: Mike Carlin

was a sickly child. By that I mean I was sick a lot. Seemed like if there was something to get sick from I caught it, and I was also was born with asthma. So a simple cold could turn deadly with Pneumonia real quick. I spent a lot of my formative years reading and drawing because I was a sickly child. In hindsight I'm glad about those circumstances. Art and reading are a very important part of my life.

My Mom was my hero growing up. She always took care of me. One of the more fun things we shared is a love of science fiction and adventure stories. When I was sick she always brought me home a comic



"We have decided that you two warriors, the epitome of all that is great in each of our mighty races, shall be the champions of each empire. You will continue the singlewarrior combat that you have independently begun..."

-Skrull Empress R'klll

book to read. She would pop in my room to take my temperature, ask me how I was doing and give me a new comic book to read. This new series on my blog is going to focus quite a bit on these comics. As she gave me some of my favorite comics.



Her taste was pretty unique and it was always a surprise what she had picked out for me. The comic I'm reviewing this week is still one of my favorite comics to the present day. Fantastic Four Annual #18 tells the story of the wedding of Black Bolt and Medusa. They are both members of the super powered race of Inhumans living on the Moon. This was my introduction to the Inhumans but also a character who would become a fav and a total obsession for many years to follow... Wolverine!

I was 11 years old. I was not an X-men comics reader yet. This is the comic that started it though. The annual starts with a brief interlude featuring Wolverine being hurled across the Moon during the events of Uncanny X-men #137. In this brief 3 page sequence I was introduced to Logan's unique power set and two alien

warriors. One a Skrull and the other a Kree. The comic follows the battle of Raksor (the Skrull) and Bel-Dann (the Kree) as they battle for years without end. Until fate interrupts their battle and they become the ultimate wedding crashers.

This brief introduction to Wolverine would cause me to search out more comics with him in them. I would become a huge X-men fan and read the title non-stop for decades. But it all began with a brief 3 page intro to a character I had never heard of.

Another character I was unfamiliar with was She-Hulk. I remember as a kid being somewhat confused by why the Thing was missing. I was familiar with the FF having read many of the original run of the comics and enjoyed the 60's cartoon which had been in re-runs on TV. The story explains why he is missing but it was still a bit off putting at first. But I fell in love with Mark Bright's rendition of She-Hulk. I would follow the adventures of She-Hulk for many years to follow as well.

If you are a fan of the Fantastic Four, the Inhumans, or just enjoy a great done in one comic book stories this is a good one. Chances are you might run across a copy in a dollar bin somewhere. Keep an eye out for it. It's not an investment or important key issue comic but it's a great story with great art. I highly recommend it.

Continued on next page...



Uncanny Fun from

FUNCO"

by Dave Beaty

There does my fascination with the X-men start? My first real memory of any X-men character was seeing Wolverine in the Fantastic Four Annual #18. Shortly thereafter I started trading baseball cards for comic books in school. One of my best trade deals netted me several awesome X-men comics. Included in this trade was several comics that would later be referred to as the "Samurai Saga". This only furthered my interest in these characters. The book that I was buying at my local 7 Eleven was "Marvel Saga".

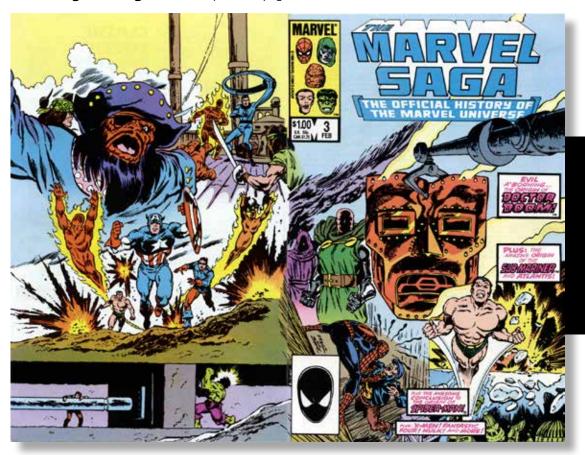
I loved this series. I am a huge fan of world building. "Marvel Saga" was everything that really captured my imagination; awesome retro art, new art featuring retro style characters, and tons of comics history. Leading up to issue #10 was all the backstory for the classic X-men characters.

My mail order subscription started shortly after reading Marvel Saga #10. I used to cut lawns around the neighborhood to pay for my comic collecting after I exhausted my baseball card collection. My first four subscriptions were as followed: Batman, Uncanny X-men, Classic X-men, and Marvel saga.

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This was the comic that started my full on fascination with the classic X-men.





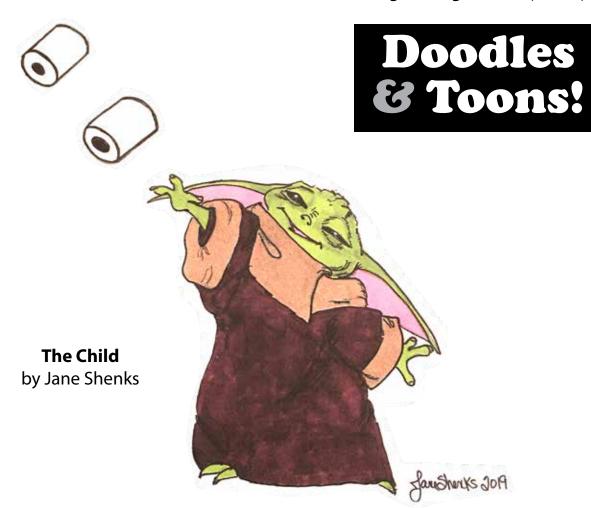
Marvel Saga is still one of my favorite comic series. I highly recommend it to people curious about the classic 616 universe.

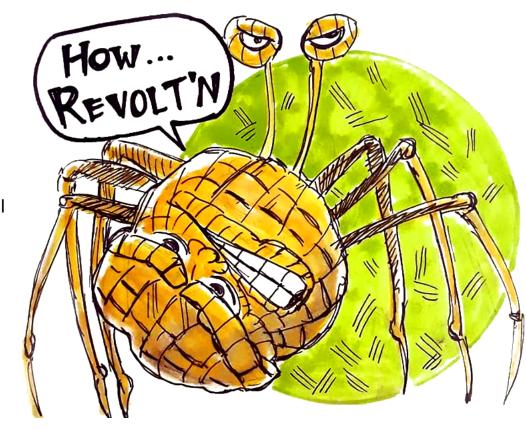


80th Marvel Comics Anniversary Namor the Sub Mariner Funko Pop. I love the classic X-men. All the original stories by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby are so inventive and fun. Were they social relevant and sometimes topical? Yes. For a young kid they were just fun. How does this lead to Funko Pops?

Until just recently the only Pops I owned were gifts from friends. A good friend of mine has a very extensive collection and I always thought it was cool. I have also seen a lot of them at conventions and comic stores the last few years but I did not have a lot interest in collecting them until I saw the classic X-men. The thing that really won me over is the fact that they are in the original 60's costumes. Also included in this 80th Anniversary release was Namor the Sub Mariner.

I'm also a big Bill Everett and Namor fan. The irony in this whole story is the first Pop added to my collection was not an X-man but actually the Sub Mariner. This has initiated me into collecting Pops. I hope to show off these classic X-men Pops Live on the Retro Rogues LIVE show in the near future.





The Thing by the Janimal



by Dave Beaty

It was announced that Moon Knight will be getting a Disney+ series earlier this year. I have been a MK fan since the 1980's. The first comic book I read featuring the character was in a grab bag I purchased from a Zayre's Department Store in Memphis, TN. I was mesmerized by the amazing art by Bill Sienkiewicz. The Batman similarities were immediately apparent to me. This was long before I started hearing MK being called Marvel Comics Batman. Over the years there have been many great MK and I highly recommend The Essential Mook Knight volumes published by Marvel over the years. All three volumes are stellar. The character is highly collectible in my opinion. More than simply providing a simple key issues breakdown... Just like the phases of the Moon here are my eight favorite comic books featuring the "fist of Khonshu!"

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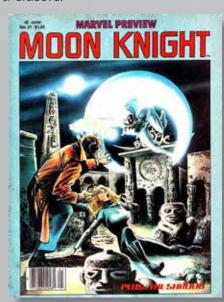
Esseential Moon Knight Volumes 1-3 are unironically essential reading for Marvel Comics "Batman".





1 Werewolf by Night #32-#33

It all begins here as a mercenary is recruited by a shadowy organization to capture the werewolf Jack Russell. In pretty short order Mark Spector's origin for the Moon Knight will get retconned but this is his beginning and it's a classic.



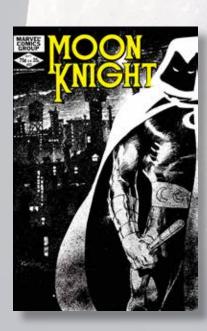
4 Marvel Preview #21

Mark Spector, Steven Grant, Jake Lockley...? Just who is the Moon Knight? Our hero wrestles with his identity as he is forced to confront aspects of his past. A great thriller and another early story that further enriches and expands the foundation of MK.



2 The Hulk! Magazine #17-#18 & #20

Don't be fooled these Hulk Magazines contain my favorite Moon Knight story by Doug Moench. In this three part back-up story Marc Spector takes on the serial killer known as the Hatchet-man. A truly interesting and slightly macabre story that sets a tone that permiates most of the MK stories to follow. Also some great early art by Bill Sienkiewicz.



5 Marvel Preview #21

Reality is brought into question as Moon Knight battles Morpheus the Dream Demon. A really great issue of Moon Knight but the art by Bill Sienkiewicz is the real star. This is one of the best drawn comic books I've ever seen.



6 Fist of Khonshu: Moon Knight #1

Marc Spector has retired but Khonshu the Moon god has other ideas! This is the most super hero version of the character in my opinion. While not fondly remembered by most MK fans this entry by Alan Zelentz and Chris Warner is a favorite of mine.





7 Moon Knight #1

A deep reexamination of the character by writer Charlie Huston. While not my favorite version of the character the art by David Finch is outstanding and worth having in any collection.



8 Moon Knight #20

Another battle between the Werewolf and Moon Knight. The art by Mike Deodato is superb and why it's on this list!

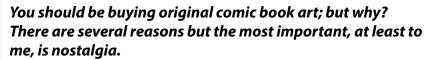
Collecting Comic Book Art

You should be buying original comic book art.

by Ed Harris

Comic books have been around since 1933 and have been popular periodicals for kids and adults since the debut of Superman in 1938. Widespread the world over, I would find it hard pressed to find someone who hasn't read a comic book at some point in their life in one way, shape or form. Comics are composed of two main components: story and art. The latter can be broken up into several different components: pencils, inks, lettering and color. If you're like me as a kid; they were just fun stories with great art! I grew up in a small town before the days where everyone had access to the internet. I had no clue how a comic was put together or that it was possible to buy original pages from. Even attending San Diego Comic Con during the early 1990s I was oblivious to the opportunities that were available to me. At the time I was into signatures and filling out my collection. In retrospect I wouldn't have had the money to purchase anything or context to know where to buy or if I was getting a good deal. I did luck to get some significant free sketches from artists whose art I knew but wouldn't fully appreciate until I was exposed to the art originals. In 2003 at the Phoenix Cactus Con (now known as "Phoenix Fan Fusion) that I purchased my first piece of original comic art.

I've been falling down the rabbit hole ever since.



I've been reading comics since the early 1980s here and have clear memories of summers at my uncle's house in Pittsburgh where I clearly remember reading The New Adventures of Superboy #46 and Green Lantern #169. I didn't really delve into collecting them until 1988 when I purchased Web of Spider-man #41 from a Circle K convenience store spinner rack in Yuma, Arizona. Ever since I was a small boy Spiderman has been my go-to. I think watching the Spider-man and his Amazing Friends cartoon and the live-action primetime specials on TV were the catalyst for my appreciation of the character. It goes without saying that my first piece of art was from the 1999 Peter Parker: Spider-man series #43 by Jim Mahfood. It features a blinged-out Sandman in that quirky Mahfood style and cost me a whopping seventy-five dollars; which, at the time, was a lot of money for me. I justified it to myself that it was Spider-man, I loved the juxtaposition of the page, adored Mahfood's art and it was the only one in existence.

That's right, the only one.



Peter Parker: Spider Man #43 art by Jim Mahfood

Segway into some art history --

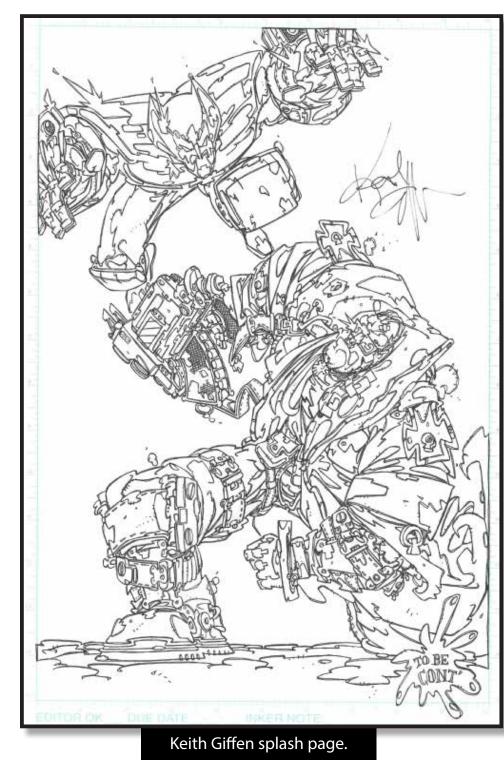
There are always exceptions to the rule; but unlike today's traditional modern art; most comic books have a single original page for each page of the comic, including the cover. A lot of popular non-comic contemporary modern art seems to be (or a form of) lithograph or serigraph. Lithography is printing originally based on the immiscibility of oil and water. The printing is from a stone or a metal plate with a smooth surface. This includes the printing press, etching, rotary press, offset printing and solid ink printing. Serigraph's are a similar rendering of an original artwork using a silk-screen process. Would you be surprised to learn that most originals from artists such as Andy Warhol, Peter Max, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali leverage one of these techniques? Yes, I did say originals. Whereas they are not the single-origin original, with the adjustments made by the artist while creating the pieces, the adjustments qualify as original art. You may often see this documented at the bottom of these pieces noted with "number X of Y" signifying that the piece had a print run. If you were to see the equivalent in the classic comic art world, it would say "one of one."



Hellboy: The Third Wish art by Mike Mignola.

Back to nostalgia:

After I had my first taste of original comic art I was hooked! At the time I would go on eBay and scour the related departments for original comic art and attempt to buy as much as I could afford. I usually focused on books I had read in the past, and at this point, I had read thousands of comics. The notion of owning something I had read while growing up just had that je ne sais quoi. After several years I had built up a sizeable collection of, well, mostly crap I didn't care about. I had a couple of the ITOYA portfolios brimming with original art and only a few original pages up on my wall. I was dumbfounded when I had my first piece of original art professionally framed. I easily paid double for the framing what I had paid for the art. I opted to continue to buy original art but only what I was willing to frame and hang on my walls. This meant more two-thirds to full page spreads. Subsequently I was only buying once every few months, but I was getting some beautiful pieces of art. In 2006 I took a huge step in my collection. Someone on eBay had posted an original Mike Mignola page from the Hellboy: Third Wish story. I lamented, eventually bid on, and amazingly enough, won!



Then I had a minor panic attack.

I just paid several hundred dollars for a... piece of paper. What was I thinking? When that page arrived in the mail all of my doubts subsided. The art was incredible. The lines were thick and you could see where the ink was laid on thicker in some areas than others. The ink itself was glossy and visually popped off the page. It was gorgeous. In my mind my collection now had some legitimacy. So what did I do? I hid it away in a portfolio to keep it safe.

It was around this time that I attempted to build some rapport with artists coming to the local shows and acquire pieces that way. I cannot accurately describe the appeal of being able to look a creator in the eye and have a oneon-one discussion with them about their art, experience and learn more about them as a person than just a name in the creator's block. I would find out who was attending a show, look for art that appealed to me, reach out to their dealer (or the artist directly) and start building that relationship. Over the years I've managed to stack

up a decent list of relationships with artists, new and old, that I cherish more than the art itself. Having a casual conversation with someone whose art I looked at twenty-plus years earlier is humbling. It also helped me appreciate the craft just a little bit more.

At some point I found myself still buying art geared to be viewed on my wall. Unfortunately, I would end up still not framed; sitting in a portfolio. I had to take a hard look at why I was buying comic art. Purchasing for the sake of ownership had long lost its appeal. Buying only wall-worthy art wasn't really working out as I planned. I stopped buying art.

One day I just happened down ComicArtFans rabbit hole and I was looking at fellow collector's portfolios

and I just had a rush of excitement. Original comic art was really coming into its own and there were so many fantastic pages being posted. I started looking up creators whose work had been so much a part of my life as a kid to see what was out there. It was seeing those original pages from my childhood that reminded me of why I liked owning original pages – nostalgia. Back when I was a kid and things were easy, life was without responsibility, sitting at the grocery store magazine racks reading comics while my mom shopped, my excitement when my uncle shipped me a couple hundred issues of The Amazing Spider-man, walking around swap meets looking for 25-cent books just so I could read them, the torturous waiting for a week or month until the next issue came out, SDCC with my friends Tim and Kevin, when comics were fun and not so serious.

Nostalgia is my number one motivator when I buy comic art today. Whether it's a Keith Giffen splash from Images of Shadowhawk to a Ghost Rider cover by Javier Saltares or panel pages by



Books of Magic art by Peter Gross

Peter Gross from Books of Magic; each piece of art reminds me of a happy time in my past and without a doubt has a story tacked on as well. Taking a walk down memory lane on my walls with art from some of the great books I've read over the years helps surround me with the calm and good feelings that I associate with comics. If you can fondly look back at a time in your past where you read a comic book; there may just be an original page lingering out there in the world waiting for you too. Even if you can't own it, the internet can bring you one step closer to reminiscing about that time, seeing the work on your screen, and maybe someday you'll consider hanging a piece of comic history on your wall too.







NEXT ISSUE:

