

Developed around comics From the beginning of the 20th century to the present, the GraFX collection includes classic comic strips and cartoons, superhero and other genre comic book series, literary adaptations and nonfiction works, manga and bande dessinée, in anthologies, compilations, collected trade volumes, and original standalone graphic novels, as well as how-to manuals and scholarly publications on the subject.

The covers and interior pages on display in this exhibit were chosen to represent some of the major works as well as the variety of holdings in the library collection. These writers, artists, and comics have won Eisner, Harvey, or other awards or have been otherwise recognized For their cultural significance.

The GraFX collection is located in the Atrium on the 1000 level of Booth Library.



BONE**Jeff Smith**

Out from Boneville collects the first six issues of the self-published comic book series (1991-2004). Influenced by classic animated cartoons and comic strips, this epic humorous fantasy follows the adventures of three cousins lost in an uncharted valley.

ARZACH**Jean "Moebius" Giraud**

A collection of four stories, originally published in *Métal Hurlant* in the mid-1970s, about the adventures of a pterodactyl-flying hero named Arzach, featuring the surreal, dreamlike imagery and "pantomime" visual storytelling style of the French comic book artist whose other works include *Blueberry* and *L'Incal*.

PALESTINE**Joe Sacco**

Published by Fantagraphics in 2001, this example of comics journalism documents Sacco's experiences in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip during December 1991-January 1992.

MARVELS**Kurt Busiek and Alex Ross**

This four-issue limited series (1994) views the Marvel Universe of superheroes through the eyes of an Everyman character, and launched the careers of writer Busiek and artist Ross, whose photorealistic painted artwork stands out from more traditional pencil-and-ink drawn comics.

FOURTH WORLD OMNIBUS**Jack Kirby**

After a successful run at Marvel, Kirby created the "Fourth World" metaseries—interconnected titles about the battle between good and evil in a sci-fi-based mythology—for DC Comics (1970-1973). This cover of the first volume from the reprint collection features Orion from *The New Gods* series.

FROM HELL**Alan Moore and Eddie Campbell**

Widely regarded as one of the best comic book writers ever, Moore collaborated with artist Campbell on this independently-published series (1991-1996), an extensively researched speculation on the identity and motives of Jack the Ripper. This and other works by Moore (*V for Vendetta*, *Watchmen*) have been adapted as films.

AMERICAN SPLENDOR**Harvey Pekar**

The late Pekar was an underground comic book writer best known for this autobiographical series depicting his everyday life in Cleveland, Ohio. Published irregularly 1976-2008, the series was illustrated by various artists such as R. Crumb.

SIN CITY**Frank Miller**

A neo-noir metaseries set in Basin City, a fictional town in the American West plagued by crime and corruption, published by Dark Horse since 1991. Pictured here is a page from the first collected story arc, subtitled *The Hard Goodbye*, which follows ex-convict Marv on a quasi-chivalric quest for revenge.

LITTLE NEMO IN SLUMBERLAND**Winsor McCay**

This "best of" volume offers selections from the surreal fantasy comic strip that first appeared in the *New York Herald* in 1905. The strip related, in art nouveau style, the dreams of a little boy named Nemo and his adventures in imaginary lands, with the only glimpse of his real life when he awakened from sleep in the final panel of each strip.

GODS' MAN**Lynd Ward**

First published in 1929, this wordless novel is considered a forerunner of the contemporary graphic novel. Influenced by the work of Frans Masereel, Ward uses only evocative wood-engraved images to tell the tale of an innocent young artist's struggles with his craft in a corrupt world.

LOCAS**Jaime Hernandez**

Los Bros Hernandez started the alternative comics magazine *Love and Rockets* in 1981. Unlike mainstream comics, the most prominent narratives feature strong female characters and focus on relationships rather than action. Jaime's *Locas* follows main characters Maggie and Hopey, from their origins in the SoCal punk scene in the Chicano neighborhood of Hoppers, through the years. On the cover at far right is Luba, one of the inhabitants of a fictional Central American village in Gilbert's *Palomar*.

POISON RIVER**Gilbert Hernandez****THE SPIRIT****Will Eisner**

Comic books were introduced in 1934 as reprints of newspaper comic strips. Then in 1940, *The Spirit* became the first comic book produced as a Sunday newspaper insert. Created by revered writer-artist Eisner, the original run of this series about a masked crime-fighting vigilante was published by Quality Comics until 1952. Pictured here is the front page of "The Silk District Beat" from January 12, 1941. Eisner later turned to longer storytelling forms; his 1978 *A Contract with God* popularized the term "graphic novel."

PERSEPOLIS**Marjane Satrapi**

First published in French in 2000, this graphic autobiography depicts the author's childhood in Iran during and after the Islamic Revolution. A second volume portrays her adolescence spent in Vienna and her return to Iran.

GHOST WORLD**Daniel Clowes**

Originally serialized as eight stories between 1993 and 1997, the best known of the collected narratives from Clowes's comic anthology series *Eightball* follows two cynical, pseudo-intellectual outcasts and best friends as they grow up and apart after their high school graduation.

QUIMBY THE MOUSE**Chris Ware**

Quimby first appeared in strips Ware drew for his college newspaper in the late 1980s, later reprinted in the *Acme Novelty Library*. The stylistic influence of early animation can be seen in both the character and the presentation, but the themes of angst and existentialism are modern. The vignette pictured here explores Quimby's complicated love-hate relationship with a cat head named Sparky.

LITTLE LIT**edited by Art Spiegelman & Françoise Mouly**

Spiegelman, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Maus*, and his wife Mouly first collaborated on the 1980s alternative comics magazine *RAW*. In the early 2000s, they co-edited this short-lived hardcover anthology series of comics for children. Pictured here is the cover of the second volume, *Strange Stories for Strange Kids* (2001), illustrated by Charles Burns.

SCOTT PILGRIM**Bryan Lee O'Malley**

The Infinite Sadness is the third volume in the six-volume series (2004-2010) published by Oni Press, about a 23-year-old Canadian slacker and part-time bassist who must defeat Ramona Flowers's seven evil ex-boyfriends in order to date her. Both a movie and a video game based on the series will be released in August 2010.

ACHEWOOD: THE GREAT OUTDOOR FIGHT**Chris Onstad**

Onstad launched the webcomic *Achewood*, which portrays the lives of anthropomorphized toys and pets, in 2001. This volume compiles the story arc about a cat named Ray Smuckles and his involvement with the annual three-day competition of the title, plus bonus material.

THE BOOK OF GENESIS**R. Crumb**

Crumb is best known for his subversive, satirical, countercultural contributions to the underground comix movement of the late 1960s-early 1970s. He spent four years completing his most recent project, a literal visual interpretation of the first book of the Bible, published 2009.

