

For Immediate Release

MoCCA Arts Festival Announces 2017 Programming, featuring Gene Luen Yang, Blutch, David Lloyd, Rutu Modan, David Polonsky, Françoise Mouly, Becky Cloonan and many more!

NEW YORK, NY- The Society of Illustrators is proud to announce a robust and distinguished programming schedule for the **2017 MoCCA Arts Festival**, to be held on April 1 - 2, 2017. **This year's programming will take place at the beautiful Ink48 Hotel** (653 11th Avenue at 48th street), steps away from the **primary venue, Metropolitan West** at 639 West 46th Street.

Organized by *Best American Comics* Series Editor **Bill Kartalopoulos**, programming includes spotlight sessions with all of the MoCCA Guests of Honor: National Book Award-nominated author **Gene Luen Yang**, *Heroes of the Comics* author and illustrator **Drew Friedman**, internationally renowned artist **Blutch**, comics artist and illustrator **Cliff Chiang** (*Doctor 13: Architecture and Morality, Paper Girls*), British comics artist **David Lloyd** (*V for Vendetta*), and artist and writer **Becky Cloonan** (*Southern Cross, The Punisher*).

Focused panel discussions will address topics including diversity in comics, creating cartoons and underground publications in a tense political environment, teaching comics internationally, as well as one on ones with today's leading comic and cartoon creators like **Whit Taylor** (*The Nib*), **David Mazzucchelli** (*City of Glass, Asterios Polyp*), **Rutu Modan** (*Exit Wounds*), **David Polonsky** (*Waltz With Bashir*), **Françoise Mouly** and **Nadja Spiegelman** (*RESIST!*), among others.

An abbreviated programming schedule follows; a full listing with panel descriptions is available [online](#). Each programming event will last one hour, with a half hour break between programming events. All seating is available on a first come-first serve basis.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

12:30PM / Garamond Room

Reading Without Walls: Diversity in Comics

With Gene Luen Yang, Damian Duffy, Hazel Newlevant, and Whit Taylor; moderated by Jonathan W. Gray.

12:30PM / Helvetica Room

Drew Friedman: Heroes of the Comics

With Gary Groth, Al Jaffee, and Karen Green.

2:00PM / Garamond Room

Blutch in Conversation with David Mazzucchelli

Moderated by Bill Kartalopoulos.

2:00PM / Helvetica Room

Covering Trump: Steve Brodner Edel Rodriguez in Conversation

With Steve Brodner and Edel Rodriguez; moderated by Steven Heller.

3:30PM / Garamond Room

Fit to Print: French Artists in The New York Times

With Lucie Larousse, Mayumi Otero, Eugène Rioussse, Simon Roussin, and Raphael Urwiller; moderated by Alexandra Zsigmond.

3:30PM / Helvetica Room
Cliff Chiang Q+A
Moderated by Paul Levitz.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

12:30PM / Garamond Room
David Lloyd in the Spotlight
Moderated by Kent Worcester.

12:30PM / Helvetica Room
Teaching Comics Internationally
With Jessica Abel, Guillaume Dégé, Ben Katchor and Merav Solomon; moderated by Bill Kartalopoulos.

2:00PM / Garamond Room
Rutu Modan and David Polonsky in Conversation
Moderated by Tahneer Oksman.

2:00PM / Helvetica Room
RESIST!
With Françoise Mouly and Nadja Spiegelman.

3:30PM / Garamond Room
Anthologies as Art: Kramers Ergot and Lagon
With Sammy Harkham and Alexis Beauclair; moderated by Bill Kartalopoulos.

3:30PM / Helvetica Room
Becky Cloonan Q+A
Moderated by Nathan Fox.

Access to programming on a daily basis is included with the price of admission to the MoCCA Arts Festival. Admission to MoCCA costs \$5 per day. To be admitted to programming, attendees must display proof of ticket purchase for that day to the Fest or purchase Festival admission on-site at Ink48. Tickets will be available at the door at Metropolitan West the weekend of the Fest, and on-site at Ink48 during programming.

About the Society of Illustrators

Founded in 1901, the **Society of Illustrators** and its Museum of Illustration together comprise America's longest-standing nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of illustration. The mission of SI/MI is to promote the art and appreciation of illustration and its history and evolving nature through exhibitions and educational programs.

The MoCCA Arts Festival is a 2-day multimedia event, Manhattan's largest independent comics, cartoon and animation festival, drawing over 7,000 attendees each year. With 400 exhibiting artists displaying their work, award-winning honorees speaking about their careers and artistic processes and other featured artists conducting workshops, lectures and film screenings, our Festival mission accelerates the advancement of the Society's broader mission to serve as Manhattan's singular cultural institution promoting all genres of illustration through exhibitions, programs and art education. The MoCCA Arts Festival will take place April 1 - 2nd from 11:00AM - 6:00PM at Metropolitan West located on West 46th Street between 11th and 12th Avenue. Programming featuring panels by top artists and speakers focusing on current issues and trends will take place

at Ink48 (653 11th Ave), a boutique hotel located on the corner of 11th Avenue and West 48th Street. Price of admission is \$5 per day and will grant attendees access to the Fest including the Exhibitors Hall, on-site Gallery space, and programming. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Children under ten are free.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SI is located at 128 East 63rd Street between Lexington and Park Avenue in New York City.

SI is open to the public:

Tues and Thurs: 10am to 8pm

Wed and Fri: 10am to 5pm

Sat: 11pm to 5pm.

For admission costs and additional information please call [212.838.2560](tel:212.838.2560) or visit our website at: www.societyillustrators.org

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