



SOCIETY of ILLUSTRATORS

The Museum of Illustration

MoCCA Arts Festival Announces 2019 Programming, featuring Gabrielle Bell, Liana Finck, Emily Flake, Aisha Franz, Sarah Glidden, Keith Knight, Florent Ruppert, Bill Sienkiewicz, Mark Alan Stamaty, Lauren Weinstein and more!

NEW YORK, NY- The Society of Illustrators is proud to announce a robust and distinguished programming schedule for the 2019 MoCCA Arts Festival, taking place April 6-7. **This year's programming will take place at the beautiful Ink48 Hotel** (653 11th Avenue at 48th street), steps away from our primary venue, Metropolitan West at 639 West 46th Street.

Organized by *Best American Comics* Series Editor **Bill Kartalopoulos**, this year's programming includes spotlight sessions with all of this year's MoCCA Guest of Honor: *Gaylord Phoenix* artist **Edie Fake**, *New Yorker* cartoonist **Liana Finck**, *K Chronicles* artist **Keith Knight**, and Emmy-nominated artist **Bill Sienkiewicz**. Finck will appear in conversation with cartoonist **Gabrielle Bell**, and Sienkiewicz will discuss his career alongside artist **Klaus Janson**.

Featured guest **Mark Alan Stamaty** will also take the stage in a spotlight session, alongside conversations including our distinguished international guests **Aisha Franz**, **Michel Kichka**, and **Florent Ruppert**. **Mike Dawson**, **Sarah Glidden**, and **James Sturm** will discuss work that addresses political themes within a narrative context. **Emily Flake**, **Sacha Mardou**, and **Lauren Weinstein** will address comics about the experience and work of motherhood. Other panels will feature luminaries including **Marisa Acocella**, **Ivan Brunetti**, **Liza Donnelly**, **Mort Gerberg**, **Julian Glander**, **Tom Hart**, **Abby Jame**, **Keren Katz**, and others.

The School of Visual Arts Continuing Education will host a series of roundtables focusing on professional developments. Panelists include **Emma Allen** (*The New Yorker*), **Matt Lubchansky** (*The Nib*), artists **Josh Bayer**, **Fran Meneses**, **Julia Rothman**, **Andrea Tsurumi**, and others.

A programming schedule can be found attached. Each programming event will last one hour, with a half hour break between programming events. Admission to programming is included with MoCCA Arts Festival admission. **All seating is available on a first come-first served basis**. Price of admission is \$10 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 twelve are free. More information about the Fest can be found [here](#)

About the Museum of Illustration at 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 2019 MoCCA Arts Festival will take place April 6-7th, 2019 at Metropolitan West in New York City with programming mere steps away at Ink48 (653 11th Ave).

SATURDAY APRIL 6

Garamond Room / 12:00 pm

Edie Fake Spotlight

Edie Fake is a multidisciplinary artist whose award-winning comics series *Gaylord Phoenix* explores desire and transformation in a dreamlike, fantasy setting. His latest book is the collection of short comics *Little Stranger* (Secret Acres). Fake is also a fine artist, whose Memory Palace drawings reimagine historical Chicago-area queer spaces. His recent paintings have been exhibited at Western Exhibitions and were cover-featured in *The Paris Review*. Fake will discuss his work with artist and publisher (and longtime friend) **Caroline Paquita**, whose Pegacorn Press has published several of his works.

Helvetica Room / 12:00 pm

Cartooning for Peace

Founded in 2006 at the UN Headquarters, Cartooning for Peace is an international network of editorial cartoonists who fight, through humor, for cultural diversity and freedom. Charter member **Liza Donnelly** will discuss the organization and its projects with Israel-based cartoonist **Michel Kichka** and American editorial cartoonists **Jeff Danziger** and **Ann Telnaes**. An associated exhibit featuring work by a wide range of international members will also be featured on-site at the MoCCA Arts Festival.

Garamond Room/1:30 pm

Keith Knight: Red, White, Black and Blue

Award-winning cartoonist **Keith Knight** will be presenting his world renowned anti-racism comic strip slideshow, "Red, White, Black and Blue: Why America Keeps Punching Itself in the Face When It Comes To Race." Using comics, story-telling, statistics, and common-sense, Knight makes the case for racial-illiteracy being America's biggest problem, and what we all can do to solve it. The slideshow has been a hit at universities, libraries, comic cons and high schools worldwide.

Helvetica Room / 1:30 pm

Our Modern Dystopia

Networked technology has invaded every aspect of daily, social and personal life, and comics, like all other forms of narrative, increasingly reflect the impact of technology on our exterior and interior lives. At the same time, the static, mediated, and intangible nature of interactive life presents particular challenges to artist working in comics. Artists **Aisha Franz** (*Shit is Real*), **Abby Jame** (*Prophecy of the Flesh Virgin*), and **Florent Ruppert** (*The Perineum Technique*) will discuss the use of fantasy imagery to depict current reality in a conversation moderated by *BOMB Magazine* Associate Editor **Chantal McStay**.

Garamond Room / 3:00 pm

Mort Gerberg and Friends

Mort Gerberg broke into print with irreverent drawings in *The Realist* in the early '60s. His social-justice-minded—and biting funny—cartoons subsequently appeared in magazines including *The New Yorker*, *Playboy*, and the *Saturday Evening Post*. As a reporter, he's sketched historic scenes including the women's marches of the '60s and the 1968 Democratic National Convention. He is currently the subject of a retrospective exhibit at the New-York Historical Society, and Fantagraphics Underground Press has recently published the retrospective book *Mort Gerberg On the Scene: A 50-Year Cartoon Chronicle*. Gerberg will discuss his work in a conversation with friends and colleagues, led by **Michael Maslin** (*Inkspill*, *The New Yorker*) and including *New Yorker* cartoonists **Marisa Acocella**, **Bob Eckstein** and **Danny Shanahan**.

Helvetica Room / 3:00 pm

The Personal and the Political

For many, political events and political questions have assumed a heightened urgency in American life. Just as personal experience and political life are thoroughly intertwined, recent work by comics artists suggests that the line between "personal" and "political" work is beginning to disappear in comics that meditate upon contemporary social life. Artists **Mike Dawson** (*Rules for Dating My Daughter*), **Sarah Glidden** (*Rolling Blackouts*) and **James Sturm** (*Off Season*) will discuss the consideration of political themes within a

narrative context with scholar **Jonathan W. Gray** (John Jay College-CUNY and the CUNY Graduate Center).

Garamond Room / 4:30 pm

Professional Development 101: Art Directors' Roundtable

What are art directors looking for and how do they find it? How do they notice work by artists they may want to work with? What qualities distinguish artists who they work with again and again? A panel of art directors will address these questions and more. Featuring **Emma Allen** (*The New Yorker*), **Matt Lubchansky** (*The Nib*), **Will Varner** (formerly *Buzzfeed*), and **Alexandra Zsigmond** (formerly *The New York Times*) in conversation with artist and educator **Viktor Koen**. Co-organized and sponsored by the School of Visual Arts, Division of Continuing Education.

SUNDAY APRIL 7

Garamond Room / 12:00 pm

Liana Finck in Conversation with Gabrielle Bell

Liana Finck's cartoons and comics appear regularly in *The New Yorker* and other venues. Her latest book is the graphic memoir *Passing For Human*. Additionally, her daily outpouring of witty, observant cartoons on Instagram has earned her hundreds of thousands of loyal readers online. Finck will appear in conversation with cartoonist **Gabrielle Bell**, with whom she regularly meets to draw, for a wide ranging conversation in which the two artists will interview each other about their work. Bell's most recent books are *Everything is Flammable* and a new, updated edition of her short story collection *Cecil and Jordan in New York*.

Helvetica Room / 12:00 pm

Other Models, Other Forms

This exciting, forward-looking panel will bring together a group of comics artists whose work not only departs from the use of traditional art making tools, but embraces non-literary models for narrative and, in some cases, reconceptualizes the form of the book itself. Moderator **Bill Kartalopoulos** (*The Best American Comics*) will discuss process and approach with **Maëlle Doliveaux** (*I Will Live Forever*), **Julian Glander** (*3D Sweeties*), **Keren Katz** (*The Academic Hour*), and **Florent Ruppert** (*Barrel of Monkeys*).

Garamond Room / 1:30 pm

Mark Alan Stamaty Spotlight

Mark Alan Stamaty has enjoyed a diverse career as a cartoonist and children's book author. His 1973 children's book *Who Needs Donuts?* is a contemporary classic and remains in print. In 1978 he began drawing the comic strip narrative *MacDoodle St.* weekly for the *Village Voice*. The collected edition of that book was recently republished by New York Review Comics. His other comics series include *Washington* for the *Voice*, the *Washington Post* and *Time Magazine* and *Boox* for the *New York Times Book Review*. His works for younger readers include *Alia's Mission* and *Shake, Rattle & Turn That Noise Down!* His first children's book, *Yellow Yellow* with writer Frank Asch, is forthcoming in a new edition from Drawn and Quarterly. Stamaty will discuss his art and his career in a spotlight session moderated by **Bill Kartalopoulos**.

Helvetica Room / 1:30 pm

Narratives of Motherhood

The experience and work of motherhood has increasingly been the subject of comics narratives in recent years. Artists have drawn their birth stories and explored the complex emotions that parenthood can provoke, while also addressing the difficulty of maintaining an artistic practice balanced against the demanding responsibilities of parenthood. *MUTHA Magazine* editor and *Publishers Weekly* graphic novels review editor **Meg Lemke** will lead a discussion on comics narratives of motherhood with artists **Emily Flake** (*The New Yorker*, *Mama Tried*), **Sacha Mardou** (*Sky in Stereo*), and **Lauren Weinstein** (*Mother's Walk*, *Normel Person*).

Garamond Room / 3:00 pm

Bill Sienkiewicz in Conversation with Klaus Janson

Bill Sienkiewicz is an Eisner-winning, Emmy-nominated artist best known for revamping the style of comic and graphic novel illustration from 1980 onward, with his groundbreaking run on *New Mutants*, his fully

painted work on comics including *Elektra: Assassin* and his acclaimed graphic novel *Stray Toasters*. He will be joined for a special conversation with artist **Klaus Janson**, a distinctive stylist and storyteller whose own career path has intertwined with Sienkiewicz's. Moderated by **Karen Green**, Curator for Comics and Cartoons at Columbia University.

Helvetica Room / 3:00 pm

Comics and the Teaching Artist

Historically a self-taught discipline, comics are now taught in classes, programs, and dedicated institutions. How do teaching artists construct syllabi and curricula? What have they learned as artists that they can teach? And how does their teaching affect their own work? Comics scholar **Tahneer Oksman** (Marymount Manhattan College) will discuss this and more with **Ivan Brunetti** (*Cartooning: Philosophy and Practice* and *Comics: Easy as ABC!*), Sequential Arts Workshop (SAW) founder **Tom Hart** (*Rosalie Lightning*), and Center for Cartoon Studies (CCS) founder **James Sturm** (*Off Season*).

Garamond Room / 4:30 pm

Professional Development 102: Artists' Roundtable

What does it take to be a working artist today? How do artists develop their careers, and how do they sustain their personal artistic practices? To what extent do those two goals overlap and to what extent do they diverge? Artists **Josh Bayer**, **Fran Meneses**, **Julia Rothman** and **Andrea Tsurumi** will share their own perspectives on maintaining a career and life as a working artist in conversation with artist and art director **Kristen Radtke** (*The Believer*). Co-organized and sponsored by the School of Visual Arts, Division of Continuing Education.

The MoCCA Arts Festival is sponsored in part by:



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