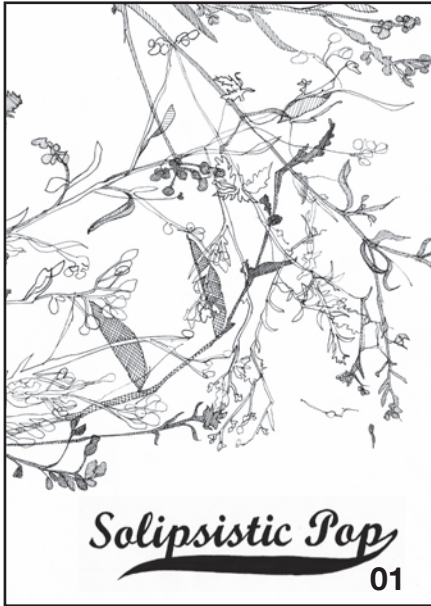


SOLIPSISTIC POP

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE VANGUARD OF COMICS



Book One "Broken"

Published by Solipsistic Pop Books

Edited by Tom Humberstone

Contributions from Andrew Blundell, Anna Saunders, Daniel Locke, Howard Hardiman, Joe Decie, Julia Scheele, Mark Oliver, Matthew Sheret, Philip Spence, Philippa Johnson, Rachael Reichert, Richard Cowdry, Robbie Wilkinson, Sarah Gordon, Stephen Collins, and Tom Humberstone

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"You know nothing about the following pages. It's possible that, as you turn these pages, your life will change forever"

Kieron Gillen from his introduction

About Solipsistic Pop

Solipsistic Pop is a biannual anthology designed to spotlight the best in alternative comic art from the UK.

The anthology has the dual purpose of introducing inventive, original, and highly imaginative comic art to a wider audience while providing UK based alternative comic artists with a support structure in which they can have their work published and distributed in a unique, and groundbreaking physical artefact.

Each volume of **Solipsistic Pop** offers contributors a one word title that forms a loose brief for the artists to respond to however they wish. The title also becomes the basis for the design and production of the book itself.

Book one launches with an exclusive and limited print run of 500 at the **ICA on November 8th**.

For more information please visit www.solipsisticpop.com

Contact

To acquire a copy of **Solipsistic Pop** for review or to request an interview with any of the contributors please contact Tom Humberstone at solipsisticpop@gmail.com or on **+44 (0) 7903 311 515**.

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Contributors

Andrew Blundell was raised by a herd of Narwhal off the coast of Norway. He now resides in North London where he is trying to break all contact with sub aquatic mammals.

Anna Saunders is an artist and illustrator living in London. Her work has spanned a wide range of mediums and she has produced illustrations, cartoons, drawings, scenic imagery and prop builds since graduating from Brighton in 2003. Her work has appeared on Channel 4's *Big Brother*, *The Friday Night Project*, and BBC's *Dead Ringers*. Anna also illustrates promotional films and has taught activity workshops at the British Museum. She is currently trying her hand at teaching life drawing. Her work can be seen at www.drawmoresaunders.blogspot.com.

For the past few years **Daniel Locke** has been focused on making comics alongside commercial illustration. He started his career as a gallery artist working on projects for the fashion designer Paul Smith, and was included in a number of group shows. Shortly after completing his MA at The Slade School he began publishing his own comics under the title *Green* which ran from 2005 until 2008. Since then Daniel's work has been included in a number of anthologies amongst them *Torpedo 6* (Australia), *The Blurred Books Project* (New York) and the upcoming *Smoke Signal 2* (New York). Daniel's illustration has been used by *Attitude Magazine* and can be seen on the TV show *Dating In The Dark*. His work is at www.daniellocke.com.

Howard Hardiman was described as "suave" by *Simply Knitting* magazine. He makes comics and is studying for an MA in Illustration at Camberwell College of Arts. He makes a web comic about a lonely badger moping around South London at www.cutebutsad.co.uk.

Joe Decie draws pictures in boxes that are true and made up. He currently lives on the south coast of England with his girlfriend and their son. His favourite chilli pepper is the Scotch Bonnet and his favourite whiskey is Lagavulin. He has comics on the internet at www.webcomicsnation.com/joedecie.

Julia Scheele is one of "those" 20-something artists and illustrators living in London. Before returning to her undying love for comics, she has taken part in various film festivals and exhibitions, and used to co-organise an art/film/music event which mainly involved getting people to dress up as cardboard robots and dance. She has produced work in and around the UK small press scene under her own name and with her collective, *We Are Words And Pictures*. Currently she is running the *69 Love Songs, Illustrated* project on the internet and can often be found at zine fests and conventions throughout the UK. Her comics and illustration work can be seen at www.poweredbyrobots.co.uk.

Mark Oliver is the founder of *Dancing Eye*. He graduated from Camberwell College of Art in 2008 with an MA in illustration. He produces drawings, prints and sculpture in response to a range of subjects in both commissioned and self initiated projects. These include a self-published book about a performance by Lenny Bruce, a picture book about a gorilla in a zoo, a series of prints about sex, and a psychiatry textbook. You can find his work at www.dancingeye.co.uk.

Since moving to London in 2004 **Matthew Sheret** has been a journalist, a web-hack, a curator, an educator, a serious young man, a commentator, a student, a critic, an artist, a photographer, a DJ, an editor, a writer and a publisher. He liked being described once as a "Dungeon Master of popular culture". A list of his projects can be found at www.matthewsheret.com.

Philip Spence was born in December of 1980 in London, England. He likes it there, drinking tea, going to gigs, hanging out with the queen...the usual sort of thing for a twenty-something. When he's not drawing his regular webcomic *Ninja Bunny*, he's working on his autobiographical comics. When he's not doing that he's earning a living as a freelance web and graphics designer. You can see his work at www.ninja-bunny.com.

Philippa Johnson trained in Textile Design and graduated from Chelsea School of Art in 2004. She has since concentrated on texture rather than textile, working in a variety of media as a surface artist/designer and stylist for sets and photography. You can view her work at www.pipjohnson.co.uk.

Rachael Reichert lives in a bubble of comics, fashion and ignorant bliss in London. Carrying on from her previous work *The Majestic Sea Dragon*, Rachael is continuing the theme of anthropomorphic escapist fantasies of nature. Her work can be viewed at www.rachaelreichert.com.

Richard Cowdry is probably best known for his comic strip anthology, *The Bedsit Journal*, which was widely available in the UK for a few years. A born cartoonist, Richard got his start trying to remember what Popeye looked like. His work has appeared internationally and locally, in publications such as *Not My Small Diary*, *Oxford American*, and *Vice Magazine*. In 2002 he won a New Talents Award at the Sierre Bande Dessinee Festival in Switzerland. His weekly strip *Somersault* appears on the award winning *Forbidden Planet International* blog, and his work will be appearing in the next issue of *Whores Of Mensa*. You can contact Richard via richardcowdry.blogspot.com.

Robbie Wilkinson is a freelance illustrator based in London, he enjoys robots, meat, dinosaurs, comics, trainers, jam, mittens, biscuits, star wars, guitars, skateboarding, ale, and monsters. His work can be found at www.robbybrownshoes.com.

Sarah Gordon is an illustrator and animator living in South London, although originally she comes from a big field in the Home Counties where she spent most of her time pretending to be a deck chair. When she wasn't being a deck chair she was almost certainly poking something with a stick. That is all behind her now, and when she grows up she wants to be a submarine pilot or a vet. But until then she is working on being the best at drawing things and standing on one leg without falling over (not necessarily at the same time, although you would be surprised how often they coincide). You can view her work at www.ratherlemony.com.

Stephen Collins is a cartoonist and illustrator based in London. In 2008 he won the Cartoon Arts Trust award for Best Strip Cartoonist for *The Day Job* – his weekly strip in *The Times*. He also won Best Editorial (bronze) in the AOI Images 2008 collection. His work has been used by many clients worldwide, including the *BBC*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Times*, *The Guardian*, *La Repubblica*, *The Independent*, *The Independent on Sunday*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *NME*, *GQ*, *Wired*, *US Golf Digest*, *Gay Times*, *Word*, *Attitude*, *Mojo*, *The Big Issue*, *Q Magazine*, *Nature*, and many others. He specialises in comic strips, contemporary caricature, and general editorial illustration. His work can be seen at www.collinscomics.com.

Tom Humberstone is the creator of *Art School Scum*, *You're Wrong*, and *Everything You Never Wanted To Know About Crohns Disease*. His latest comic, *How To Date a Girl In 10 Days*, won an Eagle Award in 2008 for "Favourite black and white British comic". He is also the co-author of *My Fellow Americans*, a book written and drawn during an eight week roadtrip across America following the 2008 Presidential elections. He is currently working on a collection of short stories for his next book – *Ellipsis*. His illustrations have appeared in several publications including *Electric Sheep Magazine*, *Dazed&Confused*, *The Guardian* and *Word*. He lives in London where he runs a monthly drawing event called *Pen Club*. His work can be viewed at www.ventedspleen.com.

