THE GRADUATE COMICS ORGANIZATION PRESENTS
THE 10TH ANNUAL UF CONFERENCE ON COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS

A COMIC OF HER OWN

Women Writing, Reading, and Embodying Through Comics

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Keynote speeches in Ustler Atrium
Registration & all other events in Pugh Hall 210

Artwork by Leela Corman

#UFcomics

15-17 MARCH 2013

10¢
Dear Guests,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 2013 UF Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels!

*At Comic Of Her Own: Women Writing, Reading, and Embodying Through Comics* responds to growing academic, historical, and popular interests in the relationship between women and comics.

In 1993, Trina Robbins’ *A Century of Women Cartoonists* refuted a comics history which often forgets women. In the past few years, interest has grown around women working in the comics industry, perhaps best exemplified by Hillary Chute’s 2010 *Graphic Women*. Similarly, academia has made many inroads into comics and gender. Scholarship on superheroines in mainstream comics by Jeffrey A. Brown, Jennifer Stuller, and Mike Madrid, among others, attests to a growing interest in the representation of women in comics.

These two scholarly fields share a mutual interest: the examination of women in comics, whether behind the scenes or on the page. However, they each focus exclusively either on the representation of women in comics or on women artists and their work. This conference hopes to facilitate a meaningful dialog between scholars and artists on the intersections between women’s writing in comics, women represented in comics, and the women who read them.

Thank you for joining us in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tamar Ditzian
President, Graduate Comics Organization
Managing Editor, *ImageTexT*

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**DON’T FORGET TO SUBMIT AN ESSAY TO THE UPCOMING CALL-FOR-PAPERS FOR IMAGETEXT’S WOMEN AND COMICS ISSUE, INSPIRED BY THIS CONFERENCE!**
THE 10TH ANNUAL UF CONFERENCE ON COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS BEGINS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 15. GUESTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD JOIN TOGETHER IN GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA TO EMBARK ON A MISSION TO SHARE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WOMEN AND COMICS EVERYWHERE...

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm  
Meet & Greet and Check-in

3:30 pm - 3:45 pm  
Introduction to the Conference
• Donald Ault, UF; Founder, University of Florida Conference on Comics & Graphic Novels; Founder and Editor, ImageTexT: Interdisciplinary Comics Studies

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm  
Testing Bechdel
Moderator: Asmaa Ghonim
• "Does 21st century feminist fiction challenge or uphold conventional notions of the family? A critique of A Mercy and Fun Home," Monalesia Earle, University of London
• "Writing a History of Difference: Queer Identity and Experience in Fun Home," Margaret Fink, University of Chicago

5:00 pm - 6:15 pm  
The 'I' in Woman: Women, Comics and Biography
Moderator: Najwa Al-Tabaa
• "Cuter in Real Life: Aline Kominsky-Crumb's Approach to Autobiography," Carmen Merport, University of Chicago
• "Women, Webcomics, and Transformational Consciousness: Investigating First Person Comics Online," Veronica Vold, University of Oregon
• "The Transformation of Silence through Violence: A Feminist Reading of 'Hush,'" Matthew Ziegler, Truman State University

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Break

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Keynote Lecture: Trina Robbins

8:30 pm - 10:00 pm  
Reception

Here are the great women cartoonists!
Check-in and Light Breakfast

Manga Made for Women: Shoujo and Shounen-ai
Moderator: Katie Shaeffer
• "Disempowering Visions of Ideal Love in Shoujo Manga Nana and Gravitation," Mia Lewis, Stanford University
• "The hysterical subject of shojo: The dark, twisted heroines in Revolutionary Girl Utena and Puella Magi Madoka Magica," Lien Fan Shen, University of Utah
• "Critiquing Masculine Impressions of Feminine Storytelling: In Defense of Moto Hagio's The Heart of Thomas," Carolynn Calabrese, Managing Editor, NOVI Magazine

Gender and Reworking Cultural Traditions
Moderator: Kayley Thomas
• "Women in War," James Ewald, Grand View University
• "Matriarchs, maidens and moles: Syd Hoff’s binders of women," Dina Weinstein, Miami Dade College
• "The Visual Re-imagination of a Picture Storytelling Epic Tradition," Anuja Madan, University of Florida

Artist’s Workshop with Megan Kelso
2:30 pm - 3:45 pm  **Good Girls, Bad Girls and Models**  
Moderator: Anuja Madan  
- “Evolving sub-texts in the visual exploitation of the female form: Good girl and bad girl comic art pre- and post-Second Wave Feminism,” Christopher J. Hayton, Florida State University College of Social Work  

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm  **Is Anybody in the Mainstream?**  
Moderator: Emerson Richards  
- “I Would Whip Some with Scorpions: Aesthetics of Rage in the Graphic Woman,” Cassandra Dunn, University of Chicago  
- “‘It’s About Power and It’s About Women’: Gender, Power, and the political Economy of Superheroes in Wonder Woman and Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” Carolyn Cocca, State University of New York, College at Old Westbury

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  **Break**

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  **Keynote Lecture: Jeffrey A. Brown**

8:30 pm - 10:00 pm  **Reception**

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**CONFERENCE ADVENTURERS ADJOURN FOR THE NIGHT ... TO BRAVELY PREPARE FOR THE FINAL DAY OF THEIR NOBLE JOURNEY.**
Check-in

8:45 am - 9:00 am

9:00 am - 10:45 am

Artist’s Workshop With Leela Corman

Special Guests Round Table

Moderator: Anastasia Ulanowicz
• Jeffrey A. Brown
• Leela Corman
• Megan Kelso
• Trina Robbins

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Lunch Break

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Women Underground

Moderator: Sarah Traphagen
• “Twisted Sisters: Women’s Comix and Cultural Action,” Samantha Meier, Harvard University
• “The Frontlines of the Sex Wars: Sexuality & Feminism in Women’s Underground Comix” Margaret Galvan, CUNY Graduate School
• “Women and Underground Comix It Ain’t Me Babe as Feminist Cultural Activism,” Ian Blechschmidt, Northwestern University

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Breakfast!

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Lunch!

3:30 pm - 4:45 pm

Marginalized Women: Out of the Margins and Onto the Page

Moderator: Melissa Loucks
• “Batwoman Makes the Big Leagues and is Queer to Boot” Dianna Baldwin, Michigan State University
• “The all-inclusive label of queer: Visualizing Gender Fluidity in the Comics of Cristy C. Road, Erika Moen, and Lucy Knisley,” Gwen Athene Tarbox, Western Michigan University
• “Black & White or Color? Women and Ethnicity in American Comics,” Amy Chu, Alpha Girl Comics Publisher/Co-Founder, Harvard Business School

HISTORY IS REVISITED AS THE CONFERENCE CONTINUES ON SUNDAY, MARCH 17.
We sincerely thank our sponsors for their support!

ImageTexT: Interdisciplinary Comics Studies
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UF Center for Women’s Studies & Gender Research
UF Department of English
UF English Graduate Organization
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March 15-17, 2013
Gainesville, Florida

Artwork by Megan Kelso