

J E F F R E Y C Z E K A J

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Jef Czekaj is a cartoonist, illustrator, and printmaker who lives and works in Somerville, MA.

Recent Grants:

2002	LCC Grant Winner in Visual Arts	Somerville Arts Council
2001	Professional Development Grant	Massachusetts Cultural Council
2000	Project Grant Winner	Somerville Arts Council
2000	LCC Grant Winner in Visual Arts	Somerville Arts Council
1999	Matching Funds Grant	Eastern Enterprises

Recent Exhibitions:

20/2000

Group show
Brickbottom Gallery, Somerville, MA
February 2 - 25, 2001

See With Your Eyes, Not With Your Hands

Group show
Somerville Museum, Somerville, MA
November-December 2002

Jef Czekaj and Dan Moynihan (2 person show)

Diesel Cafe, Somerville, MA
December-January 2002

Comic Release: Negotiating Identity for a New Generation

Touring Group Exhibition
Gouger Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University
January 17 - March 21, 2003

other scheduled appearances of this show:

New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA
April 11 - June 15, 2003

University of North Texas, Denton, TX
August 25 - October 18, 2003

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA
Jan. 12 - March 13, 2004

Professional Experience:

Somerville Comics Collaborative, Somerville, MA

Co-founder and Co-director

Co-founder of an organization dedicated to bringing Somerville residents together to tell stories of the city in comic form. The Collaborative's first book, a 96-page graphic novel telling the story of the 1834 burning of the Ursuline comic in Somerville written by twelve Somerville teenagers was published in 2000. Collaborative comics have also been created in association with various organizations including the Somerville Community Youth Program, the Somerville Arts Council, the Somerville Police Department, Clarendon Hill Towers and the Mystic Public Housing Development.

August 1999-present

Highwater Books, Cambridge, MA and Brooklyn, NY

Production Supervisor

Directly involved in all aspects of a small comic-book publishing company, including marketing, publicity, book editing, design.

October 1997-present

Somerville Comix Festival

Co-Director

Organized a week-long, city-wide comic art festival including art exhibits at several venues throughout the cities featuring local and national artists, workshops, parties, musical performances, lectures, and an animation show.

July-October 2001

Washington St. Art Center Comix Show

Co-organized and exhibited at a show featuring both local and national cartoonists work.

September-October 1998

Cambridge Comix Circus

Co-organized and performed in a multi-media performance featuring comic artists performing "comic-related" work including puppetry, music, and dance.

May 1997

Recent Publications:

"Grampa and Julie: Shark Hunters"

appears regularly in *Nickelodeon Magazine*

1999-present

"The Imposters"

self-published

2001

"Fuck Other Forms of Art"

An essay about how and why comic artists can and should get arts grants.

The Comics Journal, Issue 238, Sept. 2001

http://www.tcj.com/238/e_grants.html

Recent Publications (continued):

"Fireballs"

Low Jinx #3: The Big Rip-Off

Noe-Fie Monomedia

Feb 2001

"The Man Who Cried Fish" (with Brian Ralph)

Bizarro Comics

DC Comics

2001

"Hypertruck has seen the future of music"

Expo 2001

SPX

2001

"Donkey Boy"

Low Jinx #2: The Horrible Truth about Reinventing Mini Comics

Noe-Fie Monomedia

April 2000

"X-Men vs. Galactus"

Coober Skeber #2

Highwater Books

1997

Fire on the Nunnery Grounds (edited)

The Somerville Community Youth Program and The Somerville Comics Collaborative

2000

a few other self-published works:

R2-D2 is an Indie Rocker #1-5

Hypertruck #6

Let's Go Bitch, Whine, and Otherwise Complain About Cambridge

The Oath