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IIPNATE #1

THE BEST OF SIMON & KIRBY'S

## MAINLINE COMICS

by JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY • Introduction by JOHN MORROW

In 1954, industry legends JOE SIMON and JACK KIRBY founded MAINLINE PUBLICATIONS to publish their own comics during that turbulent era in comics history. The four titles—BULLSEYE, FOXHOLE, POLICE TRAP, and IN LOVE—looked to build off their reputation as hit makers in the Western, War, Crime, and Romance genres, but the 1950s backlash against comics killed any chance at success, and Mainline closed its doors just two years later. For the first time, TwoMorrows Publishing is compiling the best of Simon & Kirby's Mainline comics work, including all of the stories with S&K art, as well as key tales with contributions by MORT MESKIN and others. After the company's dissolution, their partnership ended with Simon leaving comics for advertising, and Kirby taking unused Mainline concepts to both DC and Marvel. This collection bridges the gap between Simon & Kirby's peak with their 1950s romance comics, and the lows that led to Kirby's resurgence with CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN and the early MARVEL UNIVERSE. With loving art restoration by CHRIS FAMA, and an historical overview by JOHN MORROW to put it all into perspective, the BEST OF SIMON & KIRBY'S MAINLINE COMICS presents some of the final, and finest, work Joe and Jack ever produced. SHIPS SUMMER 2023!

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# DESTROYER DUCK GRAPHITE EDITION

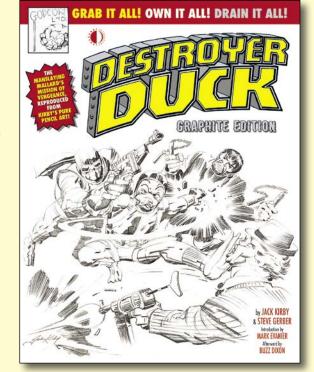
by JACK KIRBY & STEVE GERBER • Introduction by MARK EVANIER

In the 1980s, writer STEVE GERBER was embroiled in a lawsuit against MARVEL COMICS over ownership of his creation HOWARD THE DUCK. To raise funds for legal fees, Gerber asked JACK KIRBY to contribute to a benefit comic titled DESTROYER DUCK. Without hesitation, Kirby (who was in his own dispute with Marvel at the time) donated his services for the first issue, and the duo took aim at their former employer in an outrageous five-issue run. With biting satire and guns blazing, Duke "Destroyer" Duck battled the thinly veiled Godcorp (whose infamous credo was "Grab it all! Own it all! Drain it all!"), its evil leader Ned Packer and the (literally) spineless Booster Cogburn, Medea (a parody of Daredevil's Elektra), and more! Now, all five Gerber/ Kirby issues are collected—but relettered and reproduced from JACK'S UNBRIDLED, UNINKED PENCIL ART! Also included are select examples of ALFREDO ALCALA's unique inking style over Kirby on the original issues, Gerber's script pages, an historical Introduction by MARK EVANIER (co-editor of the original 1980s issues), and an Afterword by BUZZ DIXON (who continued the series after Gerber)! Discover all the hidden jabs you

missed when **DESTROYER DÚCK** was first published, and experience page after page of Kirby's raw pencil art!

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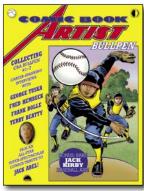
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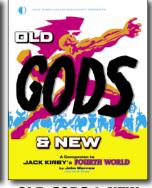
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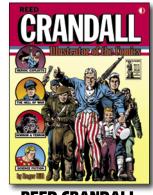
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Special NEAL ADAMS ISSUE, featuring in-depth interviews with Neal by HOWARD CHAYKIN, BRYAN STROUD, and RICHARD ARNDT. Also: a "lost" ADAMS BRAVE & THE BOLD COVER with Batman and Green Arrow, and unseen Adams art and artifacts. Plus FCA (Fawcett Collectors of America), MICHAEL T. GILBERT in Mr. Monster's Comic Crypt, and more! Edited by ROY THOMAS. (Plus: See BACK ISSUE #1431)

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An FCA (Fawcett Collectors of America) special, behind a breathtaking JERRY ORDWAY cover! Features on Uncle Marvel and the Fawcett Family by P.C. HAMERLINCK, ACG artist KENNETH LANDAU (Commander Battle and The Atomic Sub), and writer LEE GOLDSMITH (Golden Age Green Lantern, Flash, and others). Plus Mr. Monster's Comic Crypt by MICHAEL T. GILBERT, and more!

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#### **ALTER EGO #183**

Golden/Silver/Bronze Age artist IRV NOVICK (Shield, Steel Sterling, Batman, The Flash, and DC war stories) is immortalized by JOHN COATES and DEWEY CASSELL. Interviews with Irv and family members, tributes by DENNY O'NEIL, MARK EVANIER, and PAUL LEVITZ, Irv's involvement with painter ROY LICHTENSTEIN (who used Novick's work in his paintings), Mr. Monster, FCA, and morel

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#### **ALTER EGO #184**

Known as one of the finest inkers in comics history, the late TOM PALMER was also an accomplished penciler and painter, as you'll see in an-depth interview with Palmer by ALEX GRAND and JIM THOMPSON. Learn his approach to, and thoughts on, working with NEAL ADAMS, GENE COLAN, JOHN BUSCEMA, and others who helped define the Marvel Universe. Plus Mr. Monster's Comic Crypt, FCA, and more!

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Canadian comic book artist, illustrator, and graphic novelist MICHAEL CHO in a career-spanning interview and art gallery, a 1974 look at JACK ADLER and the DC Comics production department's process of reprinting Golden Age material, color newspaper tabloid THE FUNNY PAGES examined in depth by its editor RON BARRETT, plus CBC's usual columns and features, including HEMBECK! Edited by JON B. COOKE.

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SUPER ISSUE! Superboy's Bronze Age adventures, and interviews with GERARD CHRISTOPHER and STACY HAIDUK of the Superboy live-action TV series. Plus: Super Goof, Super Richie (Rich), Super-Dagwood, Super Mario Bros., Frank Thorne's Far Out Green Super Cool, NICK MEGLIN and JACK DAVIS' Superfan, and more! Featuring a Superboy and Krypto cover by DAVE COCKRUM! Edited by MICHAEL EURY.

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A special tribute issue to **NEAL ADAMS** (1941–2022), celebrating his Bronze Age DC Comics contributions! In-depth Batman and Superman interviews, 'Green Lantern/Green Arrow'—Fifty Years Later, Neal Adams—Under the Radar, Continuity Associates, a 'Rough Stuff' pencil art gallery, Power Records, and more! Re-presenting Adams' iconic cover art to BATMAN #227. (Plus: See ALTER EGO #181!)

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MEN WITHOUT FEAR, featuring
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Sinestro and Mr. Fear histories, superheces with disabilities, and... Who Is Hal
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#### **KIRBY COLLECTOR #86**

VISUAL COMPARISONS! Analysis of unused vs. known Kirby covers and art, BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH on his stylizations in Captain America's Bicentennial Battles, Kirby's incorporation of real-life images in his work, WILL MURRAY's conversations with top pros just after Jack's passing, unused Mister Miracle cover inked by WALTER SIMONSON, and more! Edited by JOHN MORROW.

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#### KIRBY COLLECTOR #87

LAW & ORDER! Kirby's lawmen from the Newsboy Legion's Jim Harper and "Terrible" Turpin, to Western gunfighters, and even future policemen like OMAC and Captain Victory! Also: how a Marvel cop led to the creation of Funky Flashman! Justice Traps The Guilty and Headline Comics! Plus MARK EVANIER moderating 2022's Kirby Tribute Panel (with Sin City's FRANK MILLER). MACHLAN cover inks.

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