



Juan Jose Fernandez

Visual Linguist

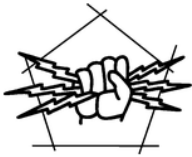
Worksamples: Professional and Personal

I have deep interest in arts education, economics, mental health, technology, art, theory, and a love for comics, system design, and community development.
I look to merge these interests in my work.

MFA Recipient of the Center for Cartoon Studies and Graduate of Carnegie Mellon University.

Contact:

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(440) 364 9243



Comics Workbook

An online magazine for comics makers

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[The Alabaster Pizzo Interview – Mim](#)



Professional Work Samples



Empowering Artists + Creatives
Educational & Entrepreneurial
Workshops



Comics Workbook is an online magazine that works as a platform for writing about the intersections of comics-making with the world, including health, politics, professional practices, equity, personal finance, race, linguistics, culture and history. The core of this site revolves around reviews, essays, interviews, and a homegrown daily comics publishing project. It is a space for comics makers, by comics makers. A space that genuinely looks to put into practice the idea of exploring comics as an essential community and process form.

My design: I have built the online hub at Comics Workbook with a focus on long term, archive-oriented useability. Along with this, the user interface aims to provide intuitive, serendipitous learning for aspiring makers and curious readers.



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Be right back.
- juan

Reviews

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Festivals & Shows

News

[The Chris Diaz Photo Archive](#)

The Alabaster Pizzo Interview – Mimi and the Wolves



Topics

Becoming An Artist

Building a community

Dealing with anxiety

Developing a creative process

...

Themes

Adversity

Beginnings

Business

Collaboration

...

Recent

brb ;) Gallery Hopping LFD – Episode 6 Dog Comics 201–205 Washington Square Park

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Comics Database - Search and Browse

I've created two ways of engaging with the growing comics archive; browsing and searching. Browsing invites users to see a selection of new comics, allowing them to catch up with the latest the site's contributors have created. Searching allows for users to get a more robust handle on what they're.

The site connects a robust, well tagged database of comics to the front-end so that users can search via creator, series, or even the media used to create the comic.

Browse

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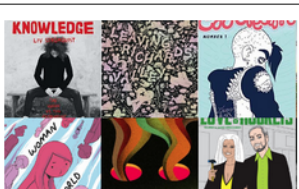
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Archives: Comics



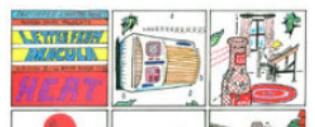
Gallery Hopping
by Joy Alicia Raines



LFD - Episode 6
by Simon Reinhardt
Series: Letter from Dracula







Dog Comics 201-205
by Niall Breen
Series: Dog Comics



Find Comics



	Comic	Creator	Series	Medium
	Adventures Close To Home	m . a . noreña	Adventures Close To Home	Digital, Pen and Ink
	Dog Comics 201-205	Niall Breen	Dog Comics	Pencil
	Dog Comics 196-200	Niall Breen	Dog Comics	Pencil
	LFD - Episode 6	Simon Reinhardt	Letter from Dracula	Marker, Pen

Interviews, Reviews, and Tutorials

This site hosts an extremely wide range of content, as a result, it requires simple visual interfaces for searching via tags and post contents. For this I have built a well tuned search bar.

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Category: Interviews



[The Alabaster Pizzo Interview – Mimi and the Wolves](#)

Posted on [August 26, 2019](#) by [Juan Jose Fernandez](#)



[The Niall Breen Interview](#)

Posted on [May 29, 2019](#) by [Juan Jose Fernandez](#)

Example - Interviews

Content like interviews requires different hierarchic and typographic treatments, as a result I've built with simple design that emphasizes typographic differences to help navigate the many layers of information.

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Posted in [Interviews](#)

Tagged [Alabaster](#), [alabaster pizzo](#), [Avery Hill Publishing](#), [kaeleigh forsyth](#), [Mimi and the Wolves](#)

Juan Fernández

Posted on [August 26, 2019](#)

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comics

The Alabaster Pizzo Interview – Mimi and the Wolves

Posted on [August 26, 2019](#) by [Juan Jose Fernandez](#)

On Alabaster

[Alabaster Pizzo](#) is a cartoonist from New York, currently living in Los Angeles. A graduate of the School of Visual Arts, her publicly available comics work include her serialized a weekly comic, [Ralphie and Jeanie](#), [Hellbound Lifestyle](#) with Kaeleigh Forsyth, and her ongoing project, [Mimi and the Wolves](#).

This Fall Avery Hill Publishing is collecting the self-published issues of Mimi and the Wolves. It is on that occasion that I exchanged emails with Alabaster to chat dig into the process and work-flow of this exciting project.

–juan

You can [purchase Mimi and the Wolves Vol. 1](#) from Avery Hill Publishing.



Juan Fernandez: So, how did you find yourself working on what has become Mimi and the Wolves?

Alabaster Pizzo: I worked out the story in my head and doodled characters for it for a long time before actually committing to it. I had a central story I wanted to tell, and I decided to set it to basically an extended adaptation of Little Red Riding Hood.

In Mimi and the Wolves, more so than anything, it feels like you're weaving a lot of personal experience and spinning it metaphorically. to create new spaces for

Contributor Pages

I've designed a set of contributor pages with the goal of allowing people to have a regular, personal hub to post and link to when showing off their work to others. These pages are organized to show all the content that the contributors have worked on. Given that artists can have significant contributions to the medium in the form of writing and comics making, the site's design organizes all of this content of comics, articles, reviews, and tutorials in one



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Mardou



Mardou was born in Macclesfield in 1975 and grew up in Manchester, England. She began making comics after graduation from the University of Wales where she got a BA in English Literature. Her mini-comics include Manhole, Anaïs in Paris and editing the all-girl anthology, Whores of Mensa.

She married the cartoonist Ted May in 2006 and has lived in St Louis, Missouri ever since. They have a small daughter and a portly cat.

Her influences include 1960s cinema, writers like Françoise Sagan and Sylvia Plath, the animated series Daria and music from the 90s. If you like that stuff too, you might like her comics. Maybe.

Sky in Stereo is her first graphic novel.

<http://www.mardouville.com/>

Comics

[Therapy Diary – November](#)

[Therapy Diary – December](#)

[My first I.F.S. Session](#)

[Strange Kind of Love by Mardou \(Excerpt\)](#)

[Unburdening](#)

Posts

[“How we were thinking” – The Zeitgeist and The Complete Wimmen's Comix](#)

[Art Trip: Little Black Dress](#)

[Art Trip: At the Magic House](#)

The site is set up to handle a wide range of artists:

Natalia González



Natalia (also known as ponipon) is a graphic designer and illustrator born in 1990 in Valparaíso, currently living in Santiago, Chile. Co-founder and editor in Pupi Club, a small publishing house and riso studio focused in the creation of zines through experimentation and friendship in collaboration with new graphic artists all around the world.

www.cargocollective.com/ponipon
www.instagram.com/ponipong
www.pupiclub.com

Comics

[Cuidando plantas 1](#)
[Seaweed](#)
[Viendo el youtube](#)
[Cuidando plantas 2](#)

Fifi Martínez

Phillip Dokes

Fifi Martinez



Fifi Martinez is a cartoonist and musician based in San Diego.
<https://www.patreon.com/fifimartinez>

Comics

[Is this you?](#)
[I forgot anyway](#)
[28 is still young](#)
[Oh wow](#)
[Weird Barista](#)
[My Underwear is Cute](#)

Juan Jose Fernandez



Juan José Fernández is a Spanish-Venezuelan cartoonist that makes experimental and poetic comics, raised in Cleveland, OH who studied Linguistics at Carnegie Mellon University ('12) and received his MFA from the Center of Cartoon Studies ('14). His work centers around love and curiosity while expanding and bending the comics medium with his linguistics and multidisciplinary background.

He is the Managing Editor here at Comics Workbook.

Online at: <https://www.juanjosefernandez.com/>

Comics

[I Can See the Birds](#)
[The Shell of a Cicada](#)
[esperanza_00 1-5](#)
[esperanza_00 6-10](#)
[esperanza_00 11-18](#)



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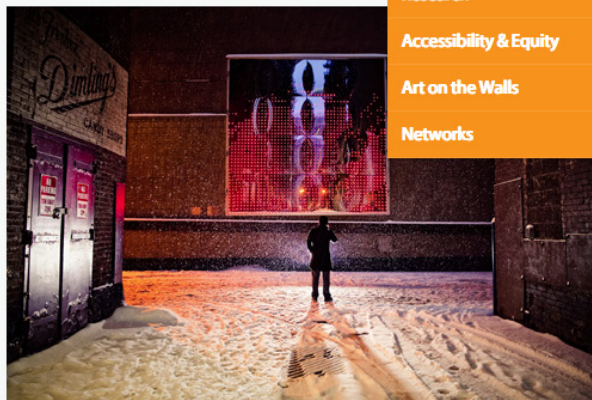
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About **Programs** Membership Events Advocacy Public Art

Artist Services

To support our region's artists, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council provides free consultation, knowledge, and networks that help artists initiate new collaborations and artistic creations. Our goal is that artists from Southwestern Pennsylvania grow their skills, advance their practice, and develop sustainable careers. Check the blue menu on the right for more information on Consultation, the Emergency Fund for Artists, and a listing of Professional Development workshops for artists. We also offer services such as [legal consultation](#) and [business consulting](#), and program exhibitions through our Art on the Walls program. Many more resources are listed from other organizations and artists on our [Pittsburgh Artist Resources website](#).

Please [contact GPAC's Artist Relations Manager, Christiane Leach](#), for more information or to set up an appointment: 412-391-2060 xt 228. [Sign up to receive the GPAC e-newsletter](#) about upcoming workshops and opportunities for artists, and be informed.



Artist Services

Business & Legal Services

Grants

Research

Accessibility & Equity

Art on the Walls

Networks

IN THIS SECTION

» Artist Services

Consultation

Professional Development

Pittsburgh Artist Resources

Emergency Fund

Fair Play

» Business & Legal Services

» Grants

» Research

» Accessibility & Equity

» Art on the Walls

» Networks

Pittsburghartscouncil.org - User Experience Redesign

Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council

2019



FEATURED EVENTS

PERFORMANCE
VISUAL
LEARNING
CULTURE

JAN 11

Sound Series: Adam Green's Aladdin

Presented by The Andy Warhol Museum at The Andy Warhol Museum

The Warhol welcomes musician, artist and filmmaker, Adam Green for a unique evening featuring a solo acoustic performance of songs from his second... [More Info](#)

Find An Event

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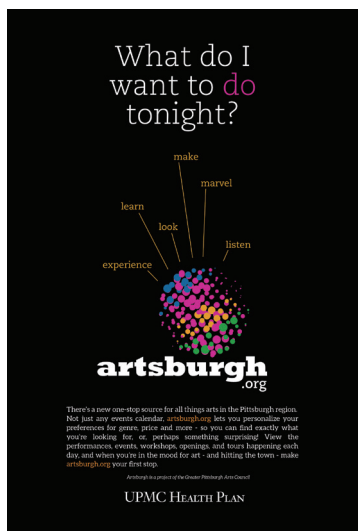
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Select Organization

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Art Speaks 2017

 Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council



Schedule
Ongoing

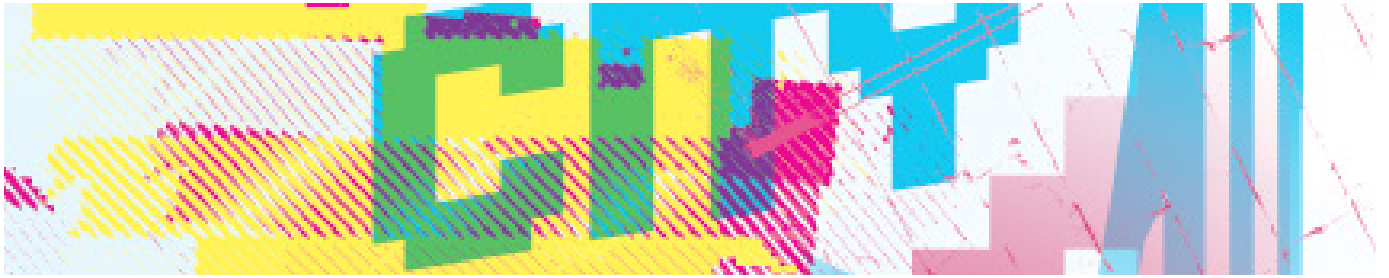
Location
Any location

Keywords
Arts, advocacy

Art Speaks - Online Promo Campaign for National Arts Advocacy Day

Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council

2017



My Routine

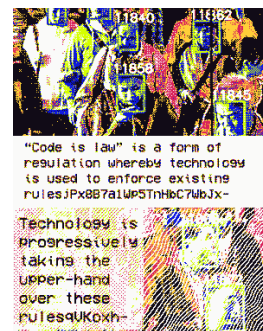
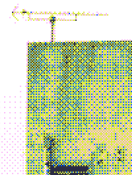
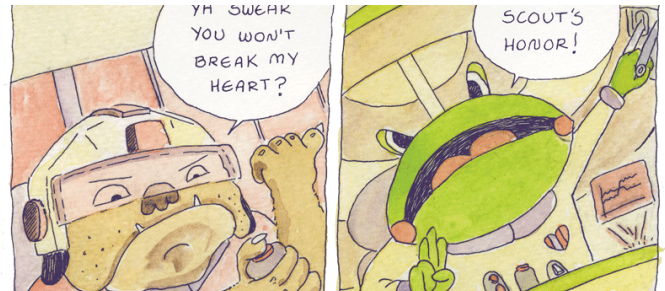
I wake up a 9:30 A.M. and I do chores, then get breakfast. After that I go to the garden. I have flowers and plants. I water them and then warm up for an hour, maybe an hour-

whatever I want to at the moment. Usually it is something that I have in my mind that wants to get out. It can be just a little painting, a little sequential thing, a strip or it could

Then I get to work until maybe 2:30 P.M. and have lunch, then rest for a little bit. Then I get back to work until 8-9 at night. After that I study, read, or watch some-



Personal Work Samples

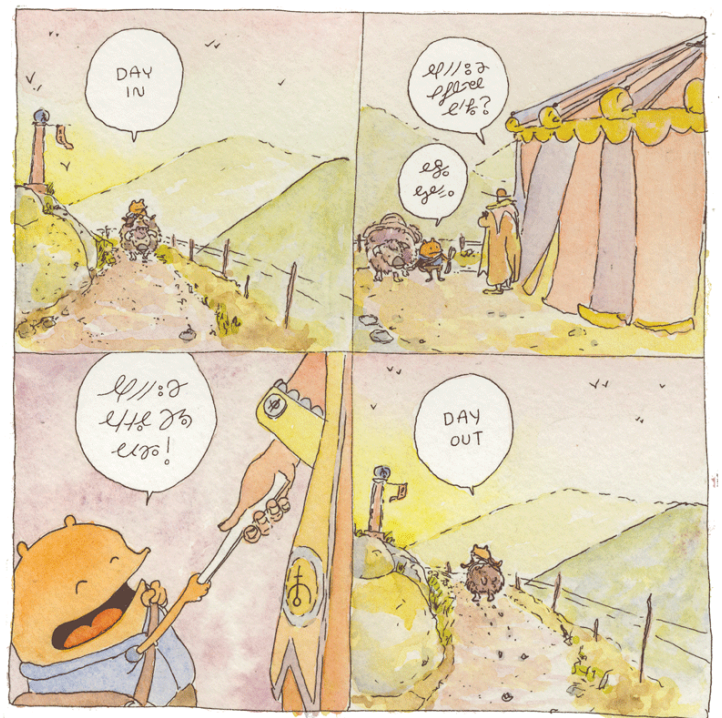
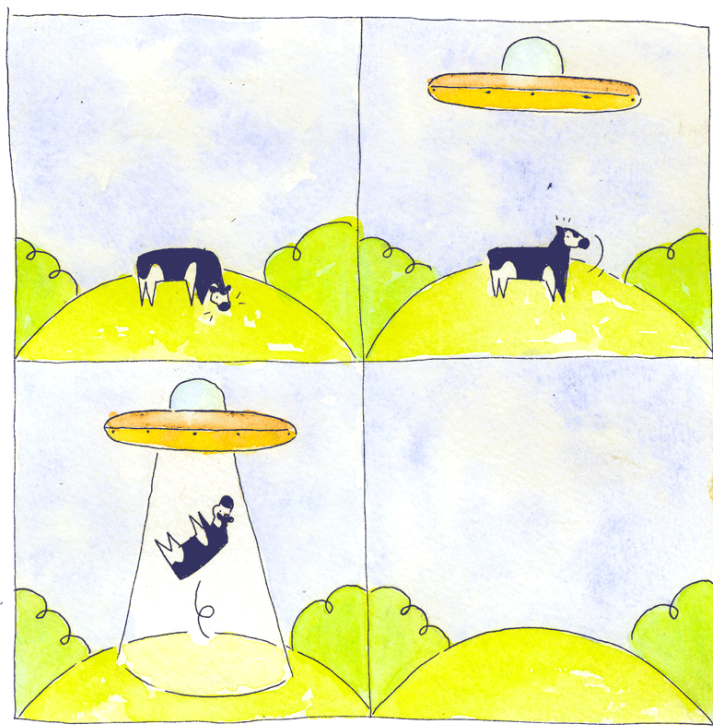
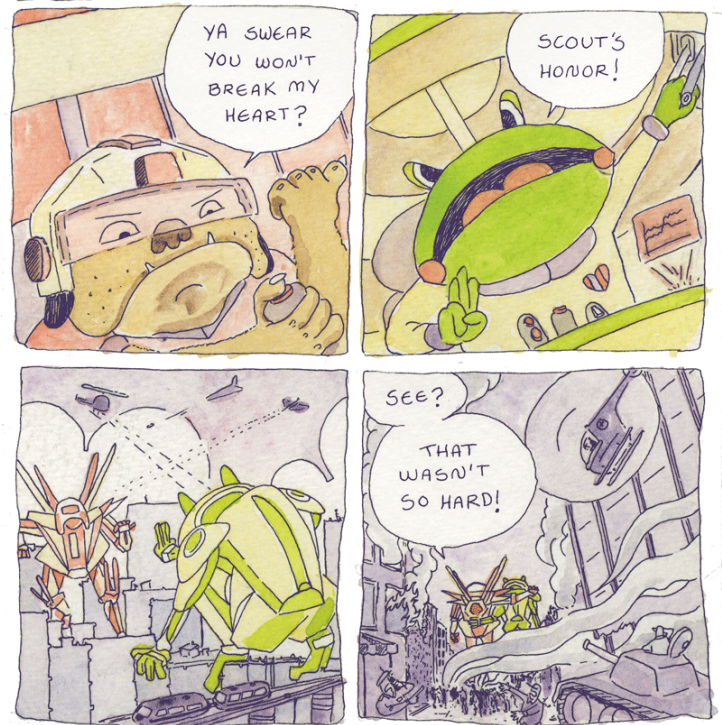


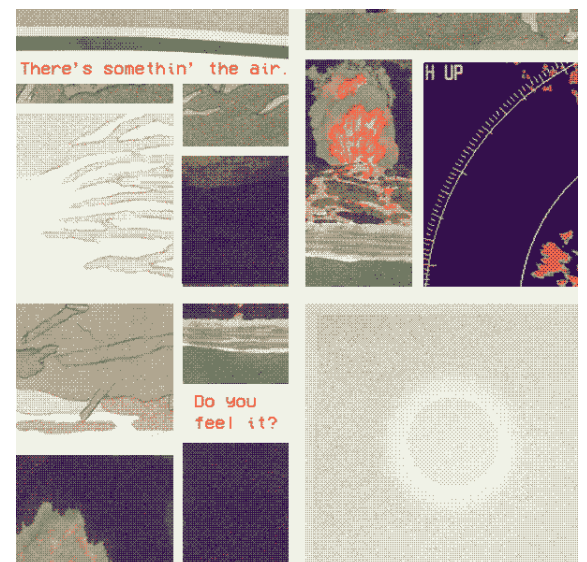


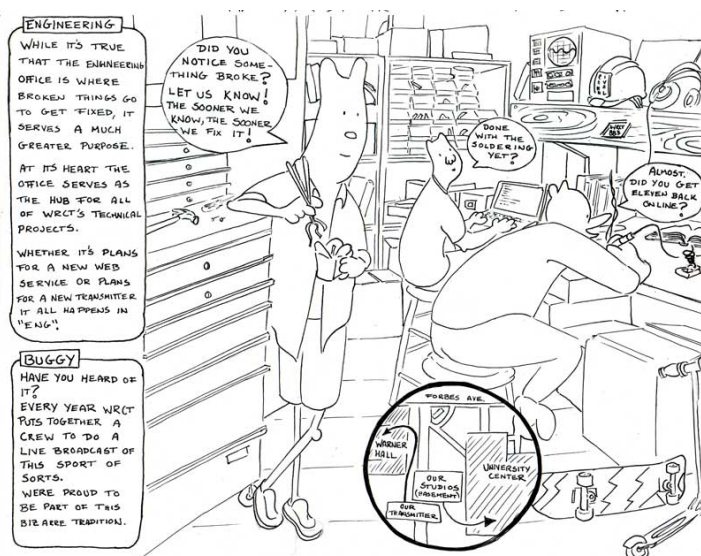
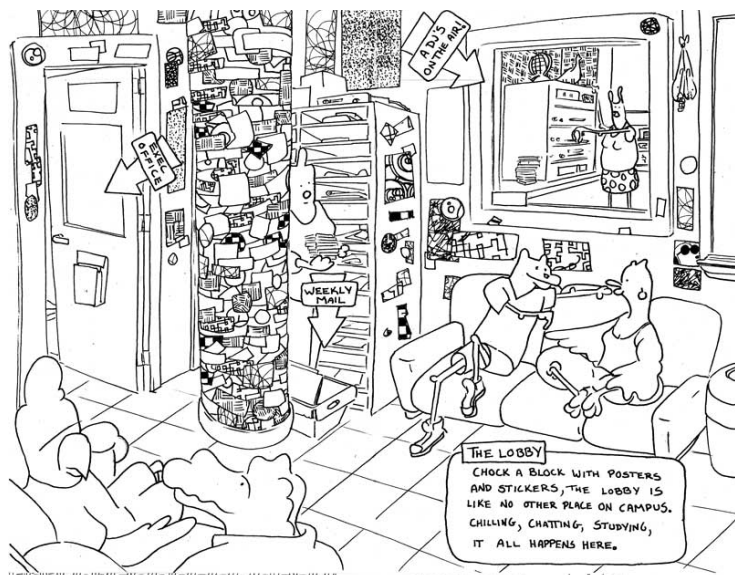
Dog City #4 - Cover Design

Dog City Press

2015









My Routine

I wake up at 9:30 A.M. and I do chores, then get breakfast. After that I go to the garden. I have flowers and plants. I water them and then warm up for an hour, maybe an hour-and-a-half. I do this to get ideas out. I draw something,

whatever I want to at the moment. Usually it is something that I have in my mind that wants to get out. It can be just a little painting, a little sequential thing, a strip or it could just be it could be the neighbor sitting on his porch.

Then I get to work until maybe 2:30 P.M. and have lunch, then rest for a little bit. Then I get back to work until 8-9 at night. After that I study, read, or watch something interesting. That's my day.



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Drawing from Life

I was always encouraged to draw from life, all the time. Just chairs lying around, people in school... and I will do that to this day. Family reunions, vacation, in my garden. I just draw what I see. That's how I practice. It's like building a visual library. My

hand is recording what I see. That way I can draw it again when I need to, without having to look at it.

Since I was 5 years old I was looking at Velazquez and Goya, and the Rococo guys, all the Dutch painting. I would draw on those books,

my grandmas books! She got pissed off, but that's how I learned.

I guess my love for drawing from life naturalism comes from that. I've been attracted to it. I love that it is something that I can do. It's something that just comes out.

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VR
DEL
REY



Influences and Process

I have influences from all over the place. It's not just comics.

My grandma was a painter so we had art history books in the house, mostly impressionist books, Spanish artists, Velazquez, Goya.

She encouraged me a lot. She got me a teacher by the age of 12, who started teaching me about technique, perspective, drawing, and proportion. He showed me Russian Realism. Andrew Loomis was a big figure for me during that time. I also started getting to know the figure with Playboy magazines. After that I came to the US. That was in 2002. I was 19 and went to school at Miami Dade college. It was there that I took a few painting classes and drawing classes. I learned about Sergeant,

the pre-Raphaelites, and Waterhouse. Klimt was always a big one, along with Mucha. From Art History, the baroque was a big influence. It is really dark, really intricate. Oh and Bernini! Who else...so many people!



When it comes to my own process, though, I start with thumbnails on paper, analogue. And I simply draw what comes to mind, right there, simple, straight up. After that, I scan that up and

blow it up on the computer. I do my pencils really gestural.

"How do I make you cry? How do I make you laugh? How do I go from this panel to the next - that thing is really entertaining for me"

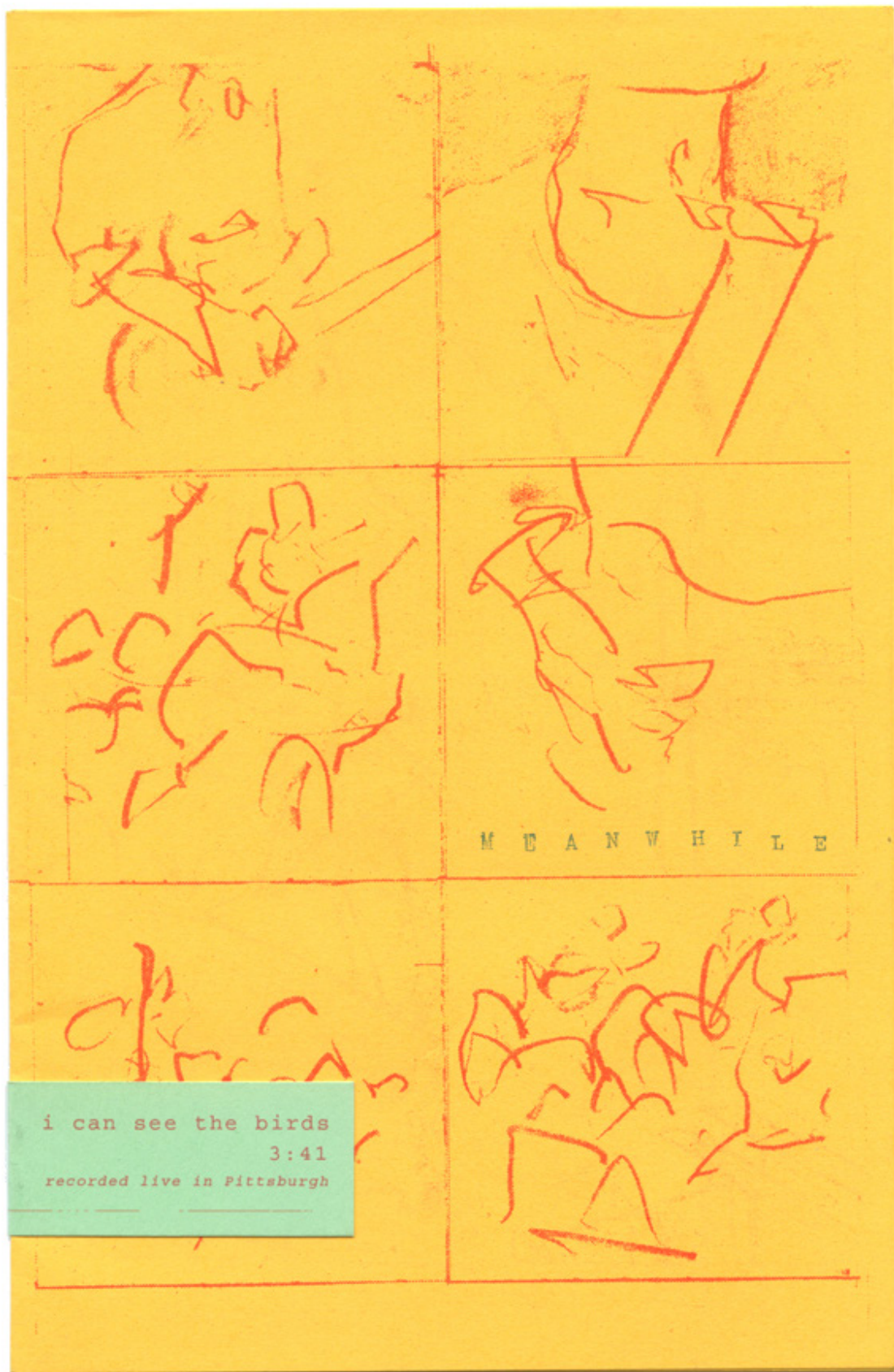
If I'm drawing a person, I think "What's he doing, is he screaming, smiling, is he serious?". I figure out perspective at that stage as well. That's really important. After that, I print out the pages on mixed media paper. It has a little bit of tooth, which I like. Then I just ink with a brush, a number 6.

I don't usually ink digitally, because it feels a little detached to me, along with the way it looks on the page. It's not as raw, if it's not as rich as organic media.



juan fernandez

The Dojo
Self Published Comic
2017



i can see the birds

Self Published Zine

2016

August 2nd

6-10 pm

113 N. Pacific Ave.

*The Bloomfield Garfield
Community Center*



the little book fair

A one day celebration
of Pittsburgh's vibrant
self-publishing community.

books, comics, zines
poetry, prints

for more information visit:
littlebookfair.tumblr.com

Poster Design for *The Little Book Fair*

Pittsburgh, PA

2015