

## INHERENT VICE

### 24 hour drawing marathon, 4-5 August 2011



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From 16 July to 16 August, the National Gallery of Victoria is proud to present the newest project at NGV Studio – *Inherent Vice*. Watch as eight cartoonists from Melbourne vacate their studios to come together and collaborate on comic art, DIY publications and their own larger projects.

The artists are zine makers, web cartoonists, late night scribblers, street artists, authors of ‘serious’ comic book literature and active members of this city’s small press community.

Although normally most comfortable when hunched over a drawing table or light box in the more cloistered corners of Melbourne’s suburbs, for five weeks they are working at NGV Studio, drawing, painting, printing and binding in full view of the passing commuters.

From 10am tomorrow, 4 August to 10am on Friday 5 August, the eight *Inherent Vice* cartoonists will work collaboratively with visitors to NGV Studio on an anthology of comics. Visitors will be encouraged to choose their own projects and do whatever it takes to finish them by morning. Artists under 18 years of age will be welcome between 10am and 6pm for a shorter marathon.

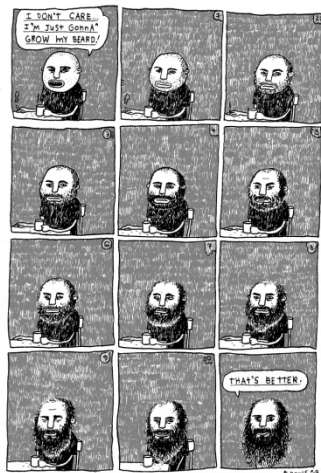
The tradition of a 24 hour comic book challenge began when cartoonist Scott McCloud dared his friend Steve Bissette to draw a 24 page comic book in a single day. Since then, 24-hour comics have become a rite of passage for cartoonists worldwide.

Beckett Rozentals, Assistant Curator, Australian Art, NGV said: “This really is a unique opportunity for everyone to get involved in Melbourne’s small press community at the NGV. Through *Inherent Vice* we hope to introduce Melburnians to this fascinating process otherwise kept behind doors. I encourage everyone to come and participate on 4 August. This 24 hour free event is not to be missed.”

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# NGV NEWS

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Frances Lindsay, Deputy Director, NGV said: “Visitors to NGV Studio will have the chance to see what goes on behind the closed doors of a cartoonist’s studio where comic art and independent comic books are made.

“Since opening, Melbournians have embraced NGV Studio by showing their support both in presence by visiting the space at all hours of the day, and online too. The support has been phenomenal.”

Located at the corner of the Atrium at Federation Square, NGV Studio presents a changing program of exhibitions, installations and events that actively involve Melbourne’s youth.

NGV Studio provides opportunities for groups to present their art and culture, engage in key events and festivals, providing a space that promotes experimental art forms. This space encourages innovation and experimentation in content, context, interpretation and display.

NGV Studio is open Sun–Wed, 10am–5pm and Thu–Sat, 10am–10pm. Entry is free.

Get involved! If you have an idea or proposal for NGV Studio please email [ngvstudio@ngv.vic.gov.au](mailto:ngvstudio@ngv.vic.gov.au)

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## Media contact

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## THE ARTISTS

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### **Rebecca Clements**

Rebecca Clements is a cartoonist and illustrator who has worked on video games, book illustrations and animation storyboards. She is currently working on a children's book while also publishing several web comics including *KinokoFry*, *Me and G*, *Secret Mystery Diary* and children's comic *Ruffle Hall*. Rebecca's colourful works are full of imagination inspired by tea drinking, video games and children's books. She is also passionate about environmental sustainability and social justice.

### **Michael P Fikaris**

Michael P Fikaris is a self taught artist who began self-publishing his short comics in 1993. As a passionate painter and collaborator, Michael founded Silent Army.org as a way of bringing Australian artists together. He has since released many artist books and organised numerous exhibitions. Michael has recently completed a longer illustrative narrative to be released in three parts later this year.

### **Pat Grant**

Pat Grant is a cartoonist, writer and zinemaker. He has spent the last year in his studio drawing a graphic novel about localism and racism on Australian beaches and the coming of strange blue-skinned foreigners. Pat is a doctoral Candidate at Macquarie University where he is undertaking creative research on the process and poetics in cartooning.

### **Simon Hanselman**

Simon Hanselman has been writing, drawing and self-publishing comics since the third grade. His comics, often autobiographical or about funny animals and dreams have been reproduced as pamphlets, origami, hardbacks and videos. Currently Simon is a quarter of the way through a 1000 page teen drama and 52 pages into a 300 page psychological thriller. He also makes music, produces a late night talk show and is writing a novel.

### **Michael Hawkins**

Michael Hawkins completed his Bachelor of Fine Art in Tasmania in 2001 before editing a comic anthology and curating the accompanying launch exhibition. In 2006 he relocated to Melbourne where his paintings and drawings have appeared in numerous exhibitions. Michael has contributed to comic anthologies and self-published his own small press comics culminating in the recent publication of *Corey: the Dweller in the Hollow*.

# NGV NEWS



## **Sarah Howell**

Sarah Howell is an artist and event producer interested in comic books, zines and community cultural development. In 2004 Sarah co-curated an exhibition of Australian comic book art titled *The Dark Woods*. Sarah's illustrations have been published in the *Emerging Writers' Festival Reader* and *The Lifted Brow*. She has also self-published zines including *One Day in August*, *She Could Still Feel...* and *The Smell of Peppermint*.

## **Ben Hutchings**

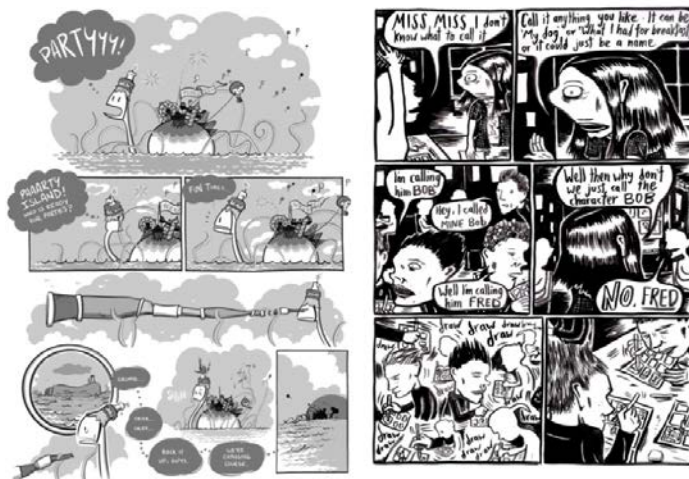
Ben Hutchings has been drawing comics for sixteen years. He makes a living producing the comic strips *Tales From the Pub* and *Lesson Master* for Picture Magazine as well as the occasional strip in MAD Magazine. He is also a reputable coin designer, children's book illustrator and 3D photographer.

## **Mandy Ord**

Mandy Ord is a comic artist and illustrator. As well as self publishing, her work appears in a variety of local and international anthologies and literary journals. In 2008 her first graphic novel *Rooftops* was published and this month a book of short comics, *Sensitive Creatures* will be published. Mandy also teaches comic workshops to community groups and schools.

## 24 HOUR DRAWING MARATHON

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The NGV invites cartoonists, comic art ninjas and compulsive drawing maniacs into NGV Studio for a 24 hour drawing marathon beginning at 10am tomorrow, 4 August. The aim of the marathon is to encourage quick thinking and loose drawing.

The eight resident cartoonists from *Inherent Vice* will be working on a collaborative 24 page comic book and visitors are encouraged to choose their own projects and finish them by morning. Artists under eighteen are welcome between 10am and 6pm for a

shorter marathon while adult artists are encouraged to burn the midnight oil until the official finish at 10am on Friday 5 August.

### EVENT OUTLINE

- 10am** The eight artists along with visitors will begin the 24 hour drawing marathon. NGV Studio will be set up with three drawing areas, with paper supplied
- 11am–12 pm** All ages drawing table with Sarah Howell
- 2–3pm** All ages drawing table with Rebecca Clements
- 6–11pm** Trails drawing session with Michael Fikaris involving fun games with pens and sticks
- 12–10am** Guests will be encouraged to choose their own projects and do whatever it takes to finish them by 10am