

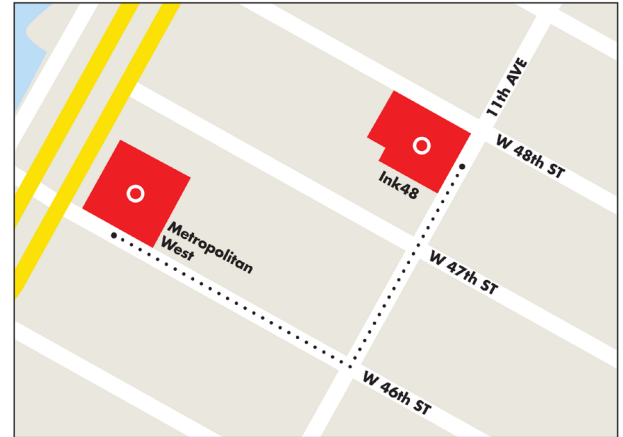


For Immediate Release:

MoCCA Arts Festival Announces 2016 Programming, featuring Rebecca Sugar, Phoebe Gloeckner, R. O. Blechman, Noelle Stevenson, Cece Bell, Aidan Koch, Bill Plympton, and more!

NEW YORK, NY (March 10, 2016)- The Society of Illustrators is proud to announce a robust and distinguished programming schedule for the 2016 MoCCA Arts Festival, taking place April 2-3, 2016. This year's programming will take place at the beautiful Ink48 Hotel (653 11th Avenue at 48th street), steps away from our new primary venue, Metropolitan West at 639 West 46th Street.

Organized by *Best American Comics* Series Editor Bill Kartalopoulos, this year's programming includes spotlight sessions with all of this year's MoCCA Guest of Honor: *Steven Universe* creator **Rebecca Sugar**, *Diary of a Teenage Girl* author **Phoebe Gloeckner**, *El Deafo* author **Cece Bell**, legendary illustrator, animator and graphic novelist **R. O. Blechman**, and graphic novelist and DC Comics artist **Sonny Liew**. Focused panel discussions will address topics including the legacy of *Wimmen's Comix*, comics for younger readers, censorship and satire, the dynamic between comics and the art world and much more with panelists including **Noelle Stevenson** (*Nimona*, *Lumberjanes*), **Rick Meyerowitz** (*National Lampoon*), **Aidan Koch** (*After Nothing Comes*), **Diane Noomin** (*Wimmen's Comix*, *Glitz-2-Go*), **Steve Brodner** (*Freedom Fries*), **Nicole Georges** (*Calling Dr. Laura*), and many more.



Programming at Ink48 is located two blocks from the exhibitor hall at Metropolitan West.

Access to programming on a daily basis is included with the price of admission to the MoCCA Arts Festival.

Admission to MoCCA costs \$5 per day. Tickets will be available at the door at Metropolitan West the weekend of the Fest, and on-site at Ink48 during programming.

An abbreviated programming schedule can be found on the accompanying page. A full schedule, along with further information about this year's MoCCA Arts Festival, can be found at: www.societyillustrators.org. Each programming event will last one hour, with a half hour break between programming events. **All seating is available on a first come-first served basis.**

About the Society of Illustrators and the Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art (MoCCA)

Founded in 1901, the Society of Illustrators is the oldest nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of illustration in America. Notable Society members have been N.C. Wyeth, Rube Goldberg, and Norman Rockwell, among many others. Our Museum of Illustration was established in 1981. We offer year-round themed exhibits, art education programs and annual juried competitions. Our Permanent Collection houses 2,500 pieces that are cataloged for scholarly use and displayed periodically. In 2012, we created the MoCCA Gallery with a focus on curated exhibits of comic and cartoon art.

The MoCCA Arts Festival is a 2-day multimedia event, Manhattan's largest independent comics, cartoon and animation festival, drawing over 7,000 attendees each year. With 400 exhibiting artists displaying their work, award-winning honorees speaking about their careers and artistic processes and other featured artists conducting workshops, lectures and film screenings, our Festival mission accelerates the advancement of the Society's broader mission to serve as Manhattan's singular cultural institution promoting all genres of illustration through exhibitions, programs and art education.

PRESS CONTACT:

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

SI is located at 128 East 63rd Street
between Lexington and Park Avenue in New York City.

SI is open to the public:

Tues: 10am to 8pm
Wed to Fri: 10am to 5pm Sat: 12pm to 4pm.
For admission costs and additional information,
please call 212.838.2560, or visit our website at:
www.societyillustrators.org

SATURDAY APRIL 2

in the Garamond Room at Ink48

12:30 PM: Phoebe Gloeckner in Conversation with Ariel Schrag

The author of *Diary of a Teenage Girl* discuss the film and her career with author Ariel Schrag (*Adam, The L Word*).

2:00 PM: Cece Bell on *El Deafo*

Moderated by Susan Van Metre, Vice President and Publisher for Abrams Books for Young Readers and Amulet Books

3:30 PM: Venn Diagram: Art/Comics

With Austin English, Aidan Koch and Blaise Larmee; moderated by Bill Kartalopoulos

SATURDAY APRIL 2

in the Helvetica Room at Ink48

12:30 PM: Sonny Liew Spotlight

Moderated by Paul Levitz

2:00 PM: Bill Plympton Cartoon Showcase

Plympton presents animation from throughout his storied career; for mature viewers only.

3:30 PM: Autobiography: Revealing the Self in Comics

With Gabrielle Bell, Nicole Georges, Jennifer Hayden, and Gina Wynbrandt; moderated by Heidi MacDonald

SUNDAY APRIL 3

in the Garamond Room at Ink48

12:30 PM: Making Comics for Younger Readers

With Laurent Linn, Kevin McCloskey, Noelle Stevenson, and James Sturm; moderated by Sarah Murphy

2:00 PM: Rebecca Sugar Q+A

Moderated by Ryan Sands

3:30 PM: Wimmen's Comix

With Jennifer Camper, Phoebe Gloeckner, Diane Noomin and Leslie Sternbergh; moderated by Margaret Galvan

SUNDAY APRIL 3

in the Helvetica Room at Ink48

12:30 PM: R. O. Blechman Spotlight

Moderated by Gary Groth

2:00 PM: You Can Get Killed Doing This: Sketches from the Satire Biz

With Steve Brodner, Sean Kelly, Peter Kuper, and Rick Meyerowitz

3:30 PM: The Center for Cartoon Studies: Ten Years of Fellowship

With T. Edward Bak, Max de Radigues, Julie Delporte, Connor Willumsen, Chris Wright, and Sophie Yanow; moderated by Alec Longstreth

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