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attachments: cover; photo

## **Jackie Estrada's Kickstarter-Funded *Comic Book People 2* Provides Unique Peek at the Comics Industry in the 1990s**

The 1990s were a transitional era in comics: Image emerged, lots of other new publishers got into the mix, the direct market flourished, and the self-publishing and indie comics movements really took off. The number of comic conventions also increased all around the U.S. And Jackie Estrada was there, capturing the scene in candid images, hundreds of which will appear in *Comic Book People 2: Photographs from the 1990s*.

As a follow-up to last year's well-received *Comic Book People: Photographs from the 1970s and 1980s*, longtime comics industry insider Jackie Estrada is running a Kickstarter campaign to fund the 1990s volume. As of March 2nd, the campaign was 60 percent funded, with just 10 days left to go.

The high-quality hardcover coffee-table book will feature some 600 candid photos taken at comic conventions in the 1990s, along with commentary and anecdotes about each image. The book will be 176 pages, mostly with black-and-white images but including a 16-page color section. Estrada's goal is to raise \$23,000 to cover the costs of design, production, and printing of 2,000 copies, along with shipping, distribution, and backer rewards.

"The 1990s were a great time for new faces that are now familiar fixtures, such as Neil Gaiman, Grant Morrison, Jeff Smith, Terry Moore, Garth Ennis, Colleen Doran, David Lapham, and Paul Pope, says Estrada. "But even as these new creators came on the scene, a number of Golden and Silver Age greats were still with us, and I was fortunate to be able to photograph many of them," says Estrada. Among the venerated artists who will be in the book are Frank Frazetta, Carmine Infantino, Gene Colan, Al Williamson, Sheldon Moldoff, Nick Cardy, and of course Will Eisner and Jack Kirby.

It was during the 1990s that Estrada and her husband Batton Lash formed Exhibit A Press to produce his comics series *Wolff & Byrd, Counselors of the Macabre* (aka *Supernatural Law*). Many of the photos in *Comic Book People 2* were taken at shows where they exhibited, from the Chicago Comic-Con and WonderCon to the Small Press Expo and APE, as well as from the San Diego Comic-Con. The book will cover the full spectrum of creators, from mainstream superhero writers and artists to small press cartoonists, as well as people behind the scenes in the industry. Among the events of the 1990s to be featured are the foundings of Milestone and Friends of Lulu and highlights from ProCon in Oakland, California.

Jackie has been both a comics fan and a photographer since the 1960s, and she has been to every San Diego Comic-Con. Her involvement in comics has included editing publications for Comic-Con, serving as the administrator of the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards since 1990, serving as president of Friends of Lulu, and being the co-publisher of Exhibit A Press, which will publish *Comic Book People 2*. Her photos of comics creators have appeared in numerous books and publications, from Paul Levitz's *75 Years of DC Comics* and Julius Schwartz's autobiography *Man of Two Worlds* to *Alter Ego* and *Comics Buyer's Guide*. Most prominently, dozens of her photos were used in Dark Horse's *Comics: Between the Panels* and in *Comic-Con: 40 Years of Artists, Writers, Fans, and Friends*. Most recently, her photos could be seen in the PBS special on the history of superheroes.

The Kickstarter campaign can be found here:

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1472315988/comic-book-people-2-photographs-from-the-1990s>