COMIC CONNECT
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PRESENTING
THE BOBBY BLUE
COLLECTION!

ORIGINAL ART, COMICS, VHS, VIDEO GAMES, AND THE JERRY SIEGEL LETTERS

EVENT AUCTION #55 ENDS AUG. 21ST THROUGH AUG. 25TH!
Dear CC Friends & Family,

Thank you very much for your patronage in our last auction. Your consignments and spirited bidding made it one for the history books.

I often expound on the variety of collectibles we are offering in this letter, but this time I would like to focus on two amazing consignments, the mind-blowing original owner Bobby Blue Collection and The Battle for Superman: Lost Jerry Siegel Letters.

The books in the Bobby Blue Collection are rivaled by the great story of a loving World War II-era father buying a weekly comic for his newborn son. The breadth and depth of this collection is so impressive, with genres ranging from superhero to horror to Western to funny animal. Highlights like Sensation Comics #1, Pep Comics #22, Captain America Comics #46, All Select #1, Mask Comics #1, Marvel Family #1, Chamber of Chills #19, Tales of Terror Annual #1, and Detective #73 are just a snapshot of the amazing books to come!

Over two-dozen beyond historically important letters written to and from Jerry Siegel, co-creator of Superman, are a time capsule of one of the greatest stories behind the comics. This is a rare chance to own a true piece of comic history.

Comics, original art, pulps, video games, VHS tapes, Siegel letters, charity art, including the Lake Como Jam Piece, and for the first time, graded audio cassettes - Enjoy!

El Jefe,

Vincent Zurzolo, President

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RARE PAINTED FOREIGN COVERS

**SUPERMAN #66**
1953 Brazilian Cover by Antonio Eirebio

**SUPERMAN**
1982 Indonesian Cover by Djoni Andrean

**SPIDER-MAN & CAPTAIN AMERICA**
1983 Indonesian Cover by Djoni Andrean

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK #181**
1980 Spanish Cover by Rafael López Espi

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NOITES DE TERROR
1950s Brazilian House Ad by Jayme Cortez

KOSHCHEI THE DEATHLESS #6
Cover by Mike Mignola

LOGAN #2
Cover by Eduardo Risso

NAMORITA - RARE 1993 GIVEAWAY
Cover by Darren Auck

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SUPERMAN: THE MAN OF STEEL ANNUAL #4
Pages 2-3 by John Paul Leon

SAVAGE DRAGON/DESTROYER DUCK #1
Page 3 by Chris Marrinan and Erik Larsen

WONDER MAN #16
Cover by Jeff Johnson

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SILVER SURFER #45
Page 26 by Ron Lim – 2nd Infinity Gauntlet

THE BLACK QUEEN
Illustration by Bruce Timm

HUMORAMA
Gag Illustration by Bill Ward

EXCALIBUR
House Ad by Salvador Larroca

DELIURIM OF THE ENDLESS
Painting by Glenn Fabry

DEATHLOK #11
Page 4 by Denys Cowan

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100% of the proceeds will go to benefit the

Arthur Adams

Kevin Eastman

Terry Dodson

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JAM TABLECLOTH

All Padova Children’s Leukemia Organization.

Frank Cho

Ryan Ottley

Created on the fly at the opening reception for the 2023 Lake Como Comic Art Festival, this tablecloth, measuring approx. 11” x 11”, features drawings by over 40 artists. In addition to the close-ups shown here, artists include Simon Bisley, Milo Manara, Liberatore, David Mack, Travis Charest, Artgerm, Humberto Ramos, Liam Sharpe, Brian Stelfreeze, Mark Bodé, Mark Buckingham, and many more. This is unquestionably one of the most unique pieces we’ve ever offered!

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BOB BLUE was born in 1935 and grew up in a small Midwestern town. His father earned $2.10 a week in those days and would stop by the newsstand to buy his young son Bobby one comic book for ten cents after every payday. Bobby was too young to understand or read the books at first, but his dad kept buying them and saving them until the boy was old enough to enjoy them. Originally, Bobby's dad would buy him superhero comics, but as Bobby got older, in the late 1940s, he started to enjoy horror and Western titles as well. When Bobby was twenty-one years old, he had a newborn child and a job at the local bank; his responsibilities took priority, and he stopped collecting comics in 1956.

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Bobby Blue is now enjoying his retirement. His collection had been stored in file boxes in a closet of his home since the 1950s; he had forgotten about this treasure trove until his family cleaned out the closet, and at once, many memories came flooding back to him. Bob revealed that the person who wrote his name on all his books was his loving mother.

Bobby hopes that the books he’s held on to all these years will go to collectors that will cherish his childhood keepsakes. We are very excited to bring these books to the comic community and hope that everyone lucky enough to obtain a piece of this collection and the history they represent will cherish and enjoy them as much as Bobby Blue has.

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There are a handful of artists from the Golden Age of comics whose style and skill are immediately recognizable, Lou Fine, Alex Schomburg, and L.B. Cole are the standouts, who rose above the glut of talented, and some, not so talented, illustrators that worked during the dawn of the comic book. Cole is without question, one of the most remarkable artists to work in comics in any era. Employing a range of skills he developed at the University of Berlin, his bold, bright style has become the stuff of legend over the years as comic art has begun to be taken more seriously.

It is quite possible that his covers for Mask Comics are the most popular and well-known of his entire career, and the quasi-psychedelic cover to issue #1 is a very sought-after book from the Golden Age. Employing what he referred to as “poster colors,” Cole’s work was the very essence of eye-catching, this book would certainly stand out from the crowd on a spinner rack or newsstand, it is simply stunning work of a sort not normally associated with the Golden Age. This issue holds a particular draw for serious collectors, and it has earned a well-deserved place among the most important books of the Golden Age, a book that sells for staggering numbers, even at lower grades.
While the superhero craze was booming across newsstands, up and coming publishers were looking for ways to stand out from the pack by creating new twists on existing tropes. In the case of MLJ, pay dirt had already been struck with Wilbur, the original comic-book teen craze, leading Bob Montana to pitch his idea for an awkward, girl-crazy high-schooler based on his own experiences, and sketches from his teenage years in small-town Massachusetts. As with his predecessor, the character’s first appearance was an instant hit with readers, but unlike the rather cartoonish and limited Wilbur, Archie’s personality and social circle were completely relatable to contemporary American youth and proved to be not only resilient but arguably the most commercially successful comic book creation of all time after Superman. One of the scarest of major Golden Age keys, this first appearance of Archie Andrews has attained iconic status in recent years, as collectors have cottoned to its importance, value, and scarcity.

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TALES OF TERROR ANNUAL #1

Tales of Terror Annual #1, published in 1951, is a notable comic book that holds both cultural and historical significance. The issue featured a collection of stories from publisher EC Comics, known for their groundbreaking horror, crime, and science fiction output. The stories within the imprint’s various titles often explored macabre themes, delving into the darkest recesses of the human imagination.

This incredibly scarce comic book is an important target for collectors and investors due to its association with EC, a company that revolutionized the comic book industry during the early 1950s. EC Comics, under the guidance of publisher William Gaines and editor Al Feldstein, pushed the boundaries of storytelling and artistic expression. Their bold and innovative approach paved the way for the rise of mature and psychologically complex comics.

Tales of Terror Annual is a compendium of previously published EC issues: Crypt of Terror #19, Haunt of Fear #16, Vault of Horror #15, and Weird Science #14. The book’s release also coincided with the heightened public concern about the content of comic books, which eventually led to the establishment of the Comics Code Authority. Thus, Tales of Terror Annual #1 stands as a testament to the artistic and cultural impact of EC Comics during a transformative period in the history of the comic book industry.

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One of the toughest Caps to find, featuring one of the most graphic covers ever published, the jarring image on the front of this book depicts Nazis burning Jews alive in ovens. Many of the early comic creators were European Jews and they knew what was happening to their families and friends overseas. They used the popular medium of comic books to spread the word about the Holocaust and make people aware of the atrocities that were taking place under Hitler’s regime during World War II.

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Wonder Woman was an instant hit who served as a graphic representation of the women’s war effort during WWII, predating Rosie the Riveter by two years. All Star Comics #8 contains the very first appearance of Wonder Woman, although she is not shown on the cover; this issue remains one of the most desirable Golden Age comics thanks to the game-changing debut of one of the first female superheroes. The upside potential for this issue cannot be stressed enough. Wonder Woman’s overdue solo film received critical acclaim and birthed a whole new generation of fans, and a reboot of the franchise is currently rumored for the retooled James Gunn DCU which will certainly draw renewed interest to this already incredibly valuable and hard-to-find book.

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This features the first-ever cover appearance of Wonder Woman, an undeniably big moment in comics history. When William Moulton Marston's revolutionary and cagily subversive heroine exploded onto the Golden Age comics scene, she officially established the "trinity" of DC's hero stable, while promoting a role model and avatar for millions of comic book fans all over the world. This classic cover debuts H.G. Peter's trademark style, which combines the crude grace of ancient Greek artists with the flowering majesty of storybook illustration. This strip looked and felt like nothing else before or since, a true milestone in comics history. Also of note in this issue, Wonder Woman assumes the persona of her alter ego, the resourceful nurse, Diana Prince.

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Superman #1, published in 1939, is a landmark comic book. It is the first issue of the solo series featuring the iconic superhero who was created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. This issue introduced Superman's origin and powers, setting the foundation for the character's enduring legacy. A 1.5 copy of Superman #1 recently sold for $192,000 in June of 2022.

This original-owner copy was a beloved keepsake of a Navy pilot and his family, who felt a great sense of responsibility and emotion about passing along this important collectible to a new generation via our Event Auction. Having had the opportunity to explore the wild blue yonder, like his favorite superhero, the owner went on to study at the Art Institute of Chicago and later pursued a career in commercial art. His appreciation for Superman's ability to fly and of the talents of the men who created the Man of Steel were both first-hand experiences that helped bond him to the character for his entire life -- purchased while training in the ROTC, the original owner, and his family are extremely proud to present this top-tier comic to our clientele.

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Anybody who grew up in the 1980s understands the significance of this TMNT #1: It is the Action #1, the Showcase #4, and Amazing Fantasy #15 of the era. Self-published by scrappy creators Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird, this book contains the origin stories of the Ninja Turtles and Splinter, as well as the introduction of Shredder and the Foot. The moody cover, an homage to Frank Miller's Ronin mini-series, features deep blacks and bloody reds with muscular cross-hatched renditions of our heroes standing ready to fight the forces of evil. Eastman and Laird's characters were soon to be toned down and made more child-friendly, but in these early books, they pulled no punches on the way to devouring their beloved pizza pies.

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This classic comic, released in May 1955, marked the debut of the Black Knight, a new character created by writer Stan Lee and artist Joe Maneely. The story introduced Sir Percy of Scandia, a medieval knight who inhabited the universe of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. This issue showcased the tale of The Black Knight’s mission to protect King Arthur from his nephew, Mordred, and the scheming of his sister, Morgana Le Fay. Working with the wizard Merlin, the courageous knight helps thwart the evil plot against Camelot.

Black Knight Comics #1 holds historical relevance as it represents a notable addition to Marvel’s post-war output at the dawn of the Silver Age. It exemplifies the publisher’s early experimentation with diverse characters and genres beyond their popular superhero offerings. The Black Knight’s medieval theme offered a unique appeal during the period when superhero comics were out of vogue. Moreover, the comic’s creators went on to become prominent figures in the industry, further enhancing this book’s significance.

For collectors and enthusiasts, Black Knight Comics #1 holds value as a key issue, marking the introduction of a character who would later become a mainstay in Marvel’s comic book universe, appearing in many different iterations over the years. Kit Harrington’s cameo as The Black Knight in the MCU’s “Eternals” has recently sparked renewed interest in this issue as an investment target.

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Employing the Marvel Method, in which artists worked from thumbnail plots provided by the author, Kirby and Lee collaborated on their acknowledged masterpiece, the Fantastic Four, for nearly a decade. This often lead to some happy accidents and surprises -- such as in this issue, when Kirby, sick of drawing spaceships, snuck a sleek, silver, surfing alien into Galactus' first appearance, stunning Lee into writing some of the most deliriously florid, melodramatic prose of his career to date (which is saying something), and launching one of the greatest arcs in comics' history. Introducing the world-eating, imperious purple god Galactus and his tormented herald, the Silver Surfer, into the international consciousness. There's a reason why we call this "The Greatest Story Ever Told!"

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**HERO FOR HIRE #1**

Thanks to a hit series on Netflix, Luke Cage has become a hot commodity in the comic book world, and when a superhero hits the big time, his or her origin story can exponentially shoot up in value. Originally enjoying cult success in the 1970s, Cage would go on to join The Defenders and team up with fellow hero Iron Fist, becoming a fan favorite throughout the decades. The character has enjoyed a resurgence in the modern day, while evolving into an icon of Marvel’s hero stable, making his first appearance a sought-after investment issue. This classic cover by John Romita hints at the tales of gritty action within the pages, and the interior art by George Tuska and Billy Graham is equally impressive; this is a true classic of the Bronze Age.

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**IRON MAN #55**

The Marvel Cinematic Universe dominated the box office thanks to teasing a singular threat, Thanos, the Mad Titan. Hellbent on reshaping the universe to his will, Thanos was created by writer/artist Jim Starlin and made his first appearance here in the pages of Iron Man #55. Fearing that his writing career wouldn’t last long, Starlin went for broke with Thanos and his companion creation, Drax the Destroyer, whose debut is also in this landmark issue; inspired by Jack Kirby’s New Gods, Thanos was designed as one of the most powerful beings in the Marvel Universe. Longtime comic book fans knew when the Purple Poobah popped up at the end credits of 2012’s “The Avengers,” chaos was certain to follow. Described as “the final boss in a video game” by Marvel’s movie producers, Thanos was the puppeteer behind all the major events in the MCU. In 2018’s “Avengers: Infinity War” Thanos finally got out of his chair to take action against the hero team and enact his master plan, and though he initially succeeded, he would meet his fate in the conclusion of the Infinity Stones Saga “Avengers: Endgame.” Due to the highly praised, mainstream success of the MCU, Thanos and Drax’s stock have undoubtedly soared in value, making this book an essential for collectors and investors.

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TIMELY & MARVEL CLASSICS!

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THE BATTLE FOR SUPERMAN: THE LOST SIEGEL LETTERS

To:
From:
Date:

Subject: Christmas Message

On the occasion of this Christmas Season, when you have turned your eyes and cold hearts upon the men you deliberately reared. I put you on a curve.

May you become subject to all of the horrible ailments that beset mankind: disease, fire, flood, gas, tragedy, self-destruction, rope, and sharp and heavy instruments. May God crush down on the homes, and flesh, and blood of you and yours.

I see by today’s Sunday daily strip that Superman, our beloved man of steel, is helping a young lad. How kind and humane! This touched me until I recalled that Superman’s owner stole Superman from his creator who shares in the story. When I began to laugh -- laugh at Superman’s owner who sells Superman’s goodness for money, while wiping off the blood from his knife, they stuck into his creator’s back. Imagine the audacity of controlling Superman, the greatest battle for justice in the world!

I have created what I call the “Identification Game.” You need to... and let your conscience identify your:

1. PHILADELPHIA BROWN RUTT
2. A WORK OF PIUS KORAT HUMANITARIAN PATHETIC
3. “PHILANTHROPIC” THURBY
4. BORN TO
5. BAD HUMOR

You are hereby invited to grab this, as you read my other creations.

Like yourself, I am a Jew. I have read of your wonderful philanthropic work in behalf of the Jews and am writing to you for help as one Jew to another. You see, some Jews have given me a rough time -- snatched away my creations, and slinky deprived me of an income from them. As a gladiator who fights in behalf of downtrodden Jews -- whether they come from Rome or anywhere else, I appeal to you in the hope you will do something about these clever Jews. They have cut off pounds of my flesh. With their Jewish layers, they have deprived of a fellow Jew from earning a living from his phenomenal creations. How can you battle the so-called “international Jew legions,” as depicted in “The Protocols of Zion” when Jews like the above are permitted to stick a knife in the emaciated back of another Jew, feeding him with the necessity of having to go on “elitist” millions for their cunning, grasping, money-coloring Jews, poverty for the Jews they ruined! I have placed a bitter curse on these Jews, and they and theirs will suffer under the curse for all time. I spit on them and hope it won’t be long before they rot in hell. When Superman goes on television, if not earlier, the story of his maker will be unfolded.

SIEGEL

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EVENT AUCTION #55
ENDS AUG. 21ST THROUGH AUG. 25TH!

View the entire auction here!
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