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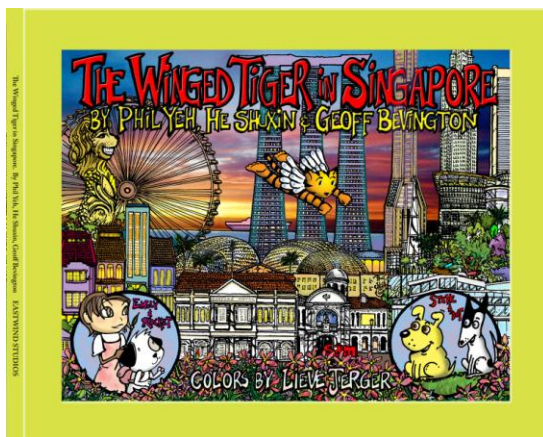
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PHIL YEH, THE GODFATHER OF THE AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL

TEAMS UP WITH SINGAPOREAN CARTOONIST HE SHUXIN TO

CREATE THE WINGED TIGER IN SINGAPORE

AT THE SINGAPORE TOY GAME & COMIC CONVENTION DECEMBER 10-12, 2010



American cartoonist Phil Yeh will make his fourth appearance in Singapore this December to unveil his 91st book, *The Winged Tiger in Singapore* published by Comix Guru Publishing in Singapore. This book is the sequel to Yeh's bestselling *Steve the Dog & The Winged Tiger* which debuted in March, in the city of Chicago, Illinois. Yeh teamed up with Chicagoland cartoonist Geoff Bevington and Belgian copper lace artist Lieve Jerger to

create one of the most unique children's books of our time. *Steve the Dog & The Winged Tiger* tells the story of how a couch potato dog name Steve, who lives in Chicago, gets talked out of his apartment by a little dog named Dot for the very first time in his life. She takes Steve the Dog to visit her friend, a well-dressed Chicago bull who then introduces both dogs to his magical friend The Winged Tiger. Once the tiger shows Steve all the things he can do in the city, from visiting the library to the great museums, Steve transforms from a couch potato dog to a Renaissance dog.

In the United States, a whole new generation growing up with computers, cell phones and video games are now estimated to spend 7 1/2 hours a day on some form of electronic entertainment. *Steve the Dog & The Winged Tiger* is designed to be a fun way to get reintroduced to the joys of reading real books and also in exploring the many things that can



really change our lives no matter what age. Bevington's Steve the Dog and Dot characters combined with Jerger's unique coloring and Yeh's detailed backgrounds made this book an instant classic.



Andrew Wong, He Shuxin, Phil Yeh, Linda Adams, Gerson Gilrandy, Debra Raymond at Scape

When Yeh was invited to speak in Singapore by the National Book Development Council in February 2010, and then to paint a mural at SCAPE, Linda Adams, Yeh's partner showed the one advance copy of *Steve the Dog & The Winged Tiger* to SCAPE's director Andrew Wong who was so impressed that he asked Yeh to create a sequel set in Singapore.

Yeh teamed up with Singaporean cartoonist and art teacher, He Shuxin and the two began to work on the book thousands of miles apart during the last several months. He's character Emily and her dog Rocket are the co-stars in this hardcover book for all ages showing some of the many things one can do in Singapore if one would just go outside. Rocket goes from being a couch potato dog who loves TV and video games to being a Renaissance dog in this sequel. Guest artist Geoff Bevington also contributed art for his characters and the coloring was again handled by Lieve Jerger. The result, *The Winged Tiger in Singapore*, will be seen for the first time at the Singapore Toy Games & Comic Convention at Suntec from December 10 to 12, 2010. Yeh will be a guest at the convention along with his friend Phil



National Library

Ortiz. Ortiz is a five time Emmy winning animator and cartoonist who was one of the original artists on *The Simpsons* TV show. Ortiz and Yeh both live in the San Bernardino Mountains in Southern California and have traveled the world for the last several years under the banner "The Two Phils Tour".

Ortiz and Yeh were special guests at the 2007 China Cartoon and Animation Festival in Hangzhou, China.



Yeh's father's family still lives in the city on the West Lake. His father came to Chicago in 1948 where he married Yeh's mother, who is of European heritage. Growing up in a multicultural home since 1954, Yeh has made a career of showing characters from all cultures in his award-winning books.

Yeh's *Cartoonists Across America & The World* band is in its 25th year promoting

literacy, creativity and the arts. Yeh has painted more than 1800 cartoon murals in 49 U.S. states and 14 other countries. He painted his first mural in Singapore in 1997 at a book fair, and returned in 1998 to paint another. In March, 2010, Yeh painted two murals in Malaysia where his friend Lat lives. Lat is just one of the guest artists who have appeared in Yeh's *Winged Tiger Comics* since 1998. Other noted guests include *Star Wars* creator George Lucas, *Ninja Turtles* creator Kevin Eastman, actor Jason Scott Lee, French artist Moebius and *MAD* magazine cartoonist Sergio Aragones. Yeh's band of artists has been honored at The White House and former FirstLady Barbara Bush painted with Yeh at the Library of Congress. His work has been endorsed by national and international organizations and also the late cartoonist Charles Schulz



Cartoonists Morrie Turner, Sergio Aragones, Charles Schulz, Phil Yeh

Yeh will also be signing copies of his award-winning books including *Dinosaurs Across America*, a graphic novel which has been called one of the best ways to learn about American history and geography for all ages. *Dinosaurs Across America* won the Children's Choice Award from the Children's Book Council and the

International Reading Association in 2008. Yeh speaks to students of all ages in schools, libraries, museums, and community centers and will be touring through the end of 2010 when his 25 year road trip finally comes to an end. He has traveled back to China since 1979 and has written many graphic novels about his adventures throughout the country. Yeh's 1980 classic graphic novel, *Cazco in China* was the very first appearance of Yeh's Winged Tiger character. 2010 marks the 30th anniversary of the Winged Tiger, a character that stands for peace and tolerance.

Yeh pioneered the graphic novel form in the mid-1970s in the U.S. He encouraged his fellow artists in North America to embrace the new format and consider the bookstore and library market well before the majority of publishers in his field. His landmark 1977 graphic novel *Even Cazco Gets The Blues* featured introductions by *MAD* magazine cartoonist Sergio Aragones and the late Golden Age comic book creator Don Rico, and was a real departure from the normal superhero subject matter in the comic book field. His 1993 wordless graphic novel *The Winged Tiger* was named one of the 25 best graphic novels in print and featured drawn introductions by Jean Giraud (Moebius) and Elfquest's Wendi Pini. He has been writing graphic novels without violence and for all ages for nearly four decades.

Will Eisner, the Father of the Graphic Novel and creator of *The Spirit* said of Yeh's book:

"The Winged Tiger is a most imaginative concept and a singular achievement. The employment of imagery as language is at the very cusp of modern communications. It is the new literacy."

Scott McCloud, author of *Understanding Comics* said:

"The Winged Tiger is a remarkable feat of human imagination. Phil Yeh's vision of a universal language is inspired and compelling. Highly recommended to readers of all nations."

At the 40<sup>th</sup> annual San Diego Comic-Con International in 2009, Yeh was a special guest of the convention and received the Inkpot Award for his work in the comic book field. Yeh will complete his documentary film about his 27 year road trip in 2012, as well as an epic graphic novel about his travels and his struggles to make graphic novels appeal to a wider audience around the world.

For more information about *Cartoonists Across America & The World's* ongoing campaign to promote literacy please check out our website at: [www.wingedtiger.com](http://www.wingedtiger.com)