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Contact LINDA ADAMS: 909-725-7337

GODFATHER OF THE AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL PHIL YEH

LAUNCHES NEW “CARS & GUITARS” TOUR

IN SANTA MONICA AND WESTMINSTER IN SEPTEMBER

Phil Yeh, often called the Godfather of the modern American Graphic Novel, will be painting a colorful cartoon mural promoting reading and the arts at **Hi De Ho Comics & Books with Pictures** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, September 16, at 525 Santa Monica Blvd. in Santa Monica. Yeh will be signing copies of his brand new *Dinosaurs Across California* comic books and his full color hardcover graphic novel *Dinosaurs Across America* at the bookstore. *Dinosaurs Across America*, published by NBM in New York City, went into a second printing last fall when it won the coveted Children’s Choice Award from the Children’s Book Council and the International Reading Association for 2008. His dinosaur series is a fun way for people of all ages to learn about geography and history.

Yeh will also showcase three custom made guitars on this new “Cars & Guitars” tour featuring

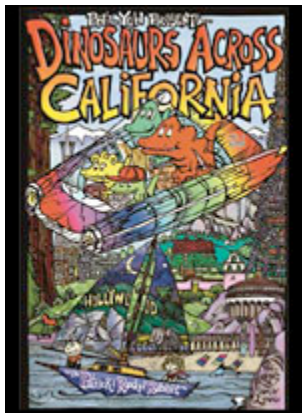
illustrations and signatures from many incredible artists from all fields including: *The Joker’s* creator Jerry Robinson; the voice of *Rocky the Squirrel* June Foray; *Groo’s* creator Sergio Aragones; writer Ray Bradbury; *Mulan* designer Alex Nino; *For Better or For Worse* cartoonist Lynn Johnston; *LuAnn’s* Greg Evans; *Mutts’* creator Patrick McDonnell; Newberry award winning author Linda Sue Park; *Fantastic Four* artist Joe Sinnott; singers Judy Collins and Peter Yarrow; comedians Cheech and Chong; *Elephantmen’s* Moritat and Richard Starkings; *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles’* creator Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird; actor Alan Alda; *Bone’s*



Jeff Smith; *Hellboy's* Mike Mignola and many others. The guitars are being made by Patrick Buben from his Guitarification studio in Fallbrook, California and eventually will total five instruments for the bigger world tour in 2010.

Yeh's new *Dinosaurs Across California* comic features all 21 original California missions and includes many noted people and places in this state. He will also have copies of his bestselling *Dinosaurs Across Route 66* comics at the store. The *Dinosaurs* series of comics will cover most of the 50 U.S. states with individual books over the next decade.

Yeh is also a special guest in the brand new issue of *Betty &*

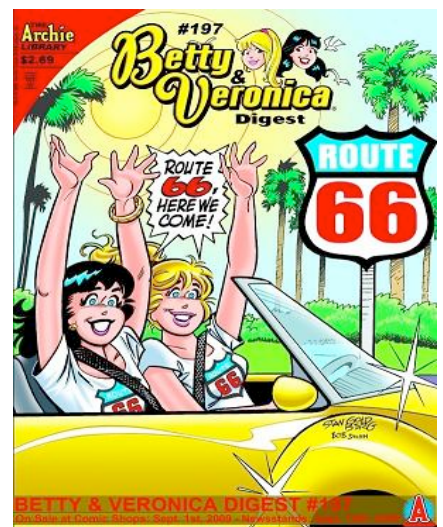


Veronica Digest #197, which features Yeh's "Cartoonists Across America Tour" in an Archie comic for the second time. The first time was a cover story in the 200th issue of *Archie's Pals 'n' Gals* back in 1988. Writer George Gladir was invited to one of Cartoonists Across America's mural painting events at the central San Bernardino Library in 2006 and was inspired to write a story about Betty and Veronica traveling all along Route 66. Hi De Ho Comics is located on Santa

Monica Blvd. at 5th Street right near the end of the famous American highway.

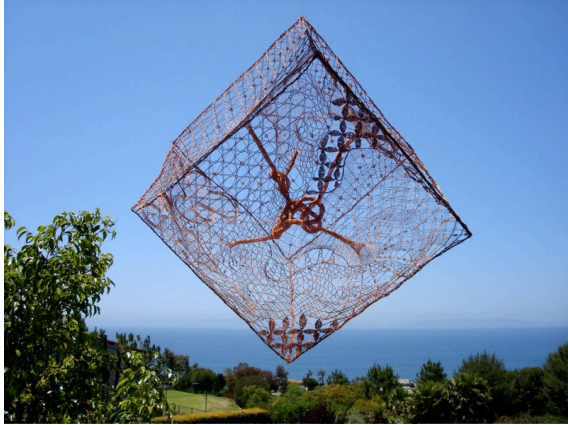
Yeh will be signing books and creating another mural at **Comics Unlimited** bookstore in Westminster on Saturday, September 19 from 1 pm to 5 pm. The Westminster store is located at 16344 Beach Blvd. right off the 405 freeway at Beach Blvd. heading south towards Huntington Beach.

Tony Hawk artist Matt Lorentz will be a special guest at Hi De Ho in creating this new mural for the community. Lorentz recently finished his 66th design for Hawk Clothing and has also worked for many other skateboard and clothing companies. Yeh will be joined at



both events by Lieve Jerger, his long time colorist and co-artist in their 1997 bestselling

illustrated book, *The Winged Tiger and The Lace Princess*. Lieve's unique copper lace work is made using traditional Belgian lace-making techniques. Her Copper Lace Cube was recently on display at an international lace conference held at the LAX Hilton and is featured in Yeh's



watercolor paintings for the expanded new edition of their magical book about a world without art.

Yeh's band of artists is called *Cartoonists Across America & The World* and has painted more than

1800 murals in the last 24 years promoting

literacy, creativity and the arts. Yeh also speaks to students of all ages in schools, libraries, and

community centers and will be touring through the end of 2010 when his 25 year road trip finally comes to an end.

Yeh pioneered the graphic novel form in the mid-1970s along with NBM publishing in the U.S. and 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. For more information about *Cartoonists Across America & The World's* ongoing campaign to promote literacy please check out our website at: www.wingedtiger.com

Everyone is always invited to participate in creating these original works of art at these events.

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