CMX 304: Making Comics 1
Autobiographical Influences Comics

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Response Gallery: Project 2 – Autobiographical Influences.

Make a short comic about yourself by using at least three instances where you directly reference the style from 3 different artists (comics or related) that you admire or were influenced by as a way to tell your narrative. Play with it, see if it gives you any ideas about your own drawing process, your style, composition ideas. It’s a chance to learn a bit about your own comics making by adopting the look of others. See my example “bi(bli)ography” and R.Sikoryak’s “iTunes Terms & Conditions” adaptation – all of which I linked to above... Have fun with it!
Evie

Tove Jansson, Shaun Tan, Quentin Blake
Mikyla

My first page is inspired by the work of Phoebe Gloeckner. I like her sketchy style of drawing and how raw and real she is with her illustrations. I also really like how she portrays San Francisco. Her work feels like a diary or a scrapbook.

The second portion of my work is inspired by R. Crumb and his famous poster, "Stoned Agin!" I really loved drawing in his style because I was able to make my mistakes look intentional and they added to the weirdness that is common in his cartooning.

My third section is inspired by Ebony Flowers. I like how she has whole pages without any panels and how the characters kind of just fade away. Her drawing style is pretty neat and clean, except for the clothing she draws is more sketchy and dark. I also liked playing around with her style of speech and thought bubbles.
My perception of comics remained in Stevenson’s fantastical world for quite some time. It wasn’t until college that I found that comics could be more.

Here, in a college English course, I learned that comics could be dissected. Every inch of a page could hold meaning, and Bendel’s graphic novel wasn’t just a story.

For me, Bendel brought comics out of fantasy and into the real world.

But what really turned my understanding of comics on its head... was Moebius.

I had it all. Everything that comics is or could be. Moebius handed it to you.

I already loved comics. But Moebius made me feel like I was falling into something new.

And I am still falling.
My love for comics was something I inherited from my older siblings. I would often ask them to lend me their manga.

Eventually, I switched off to American comics.

I especially liked ones with animals.

In fact, my love for comics inspired my love for art!

I often tried to copy the styles of the comics I read.

And now I'm here!

And thus my love for comics began!

Jade

First page: Kiyohiko Azuma, creator of Yotuba&! Second page: Babymouse by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm, Garfield by Jim Davis, Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson, Nichijou by Keiichi Arawi, and Sailor Moon by Naoko Takeuchi
COHDEE

by Cody Evans

IT STARTED YOUNG, CHILDISH.

SOMETHING PECULIAR I SAW

HURRY HOME

I LOVED SPIDERMAN FIRST,

MY LOVE FOR KIRBY CAME LATER.

ALTHOUGH, I STOPPED READING COMICS AS I AGED (I CANT DO IT).

LOOKS LIKE SHIT

I SEARCHED FOR SIMPLICITY, SOMETHING NEW

NYC 1986

I FOUND ME.
Rebecca

Raina Telgemeier, Sarah Andersen, and Bill Watterson
Growing up, I always wanted to be one thing: STRONG.

I always admired comic book heroes. Characters who came from tough and honest upbringings.

As a kid, I used to draw terrible, boring comic strips, and even more, incredibly deep self-esteem comics. I knew that if I wanted to be strong, I had to change.

PRE-COMP: I was over 300 lbs. All fat. No muscle. I had developed terrible, embarrassing issues, and even more, a deep, self-esteem crisis. I knew that if I wanted to be strong, I had to change.

FAST FORWARD TO NOW.

As a grown-up, I'm still me, but I've shed the weight and built the physique of a superhero. I'm confident, strong, and powerful. I've overcome my insecurities, and I'm proud of myself.

I'm down so low and lean as ever.
Julia
Mia Ikumi, the author of Tokyo Mew Mew, Jen Wang, the author of The Prince and the Dressmaker, Joshua Barkman, author of False Knees

Cherokee
Paraska

Marjane Satrapi, Chris Ware, and Riad Sattouf
Scott McCloud

One of the biggest inspirations for me growing up was Scott McCloud. I remember I was in high school when I stumbled upon his “Understanding Comics” book.

His analysis of quality in a comic, going beyond the surface helped my understanding of the various components that go into making comics. Specifically his section about idea, form, identity, structure, craft, and surface taught me the recipe for a full and rounded comic.

Like sure I could draw some badass edgelord or super cute anime girl, but without understanding all the other components all I had was a fancy picture book.

From his book I learned how writing is important to a comic and when to show and when to tell.

Yet, as much as I love his book and respect his work it wasn’t his work that had me fall in love with comics.

That honor goes to a Canadian comic artist and his comic book series called...

Bryan Lee O’Malley

Bryan Lee O’Malley’s work on Scott Pilgrim was the cool teen comic series I was lucky to have grown up with!!

From the easy-to-relate characters to silly game differences and constant fight scenes into young Scott Pilgrim’s wild and wacky adventures!

As if I’d forget, Scott!!

This series set the basis of my style and accepting that my art will never be anime or western but a fusion of what I grew up with!!
"Day dreaming"

Simon Hanselmann,
Alabaster Pizzo, &
Tara Booth