

## PHILLIP MARTIN BOWLES

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### Objective

Professional Illustrator/Cartoonist/Writer

### Professional Experience

#### Comics 2003-Present

- *My Corner* (2007): A graphic narrative of historical fiction inspired by surviving prints. The prints consist of drawings and letters my great uncle produced while in prison during the Spanish Civil War. The story focuses on his struggle to survive and to record what he witnessed. This comic strip is printed regularly in the *Village News*, a weekly newspaper located in Chester that covers Chesterfield County, VA.
- *Cool Kids!* (2005-2006): An original storyline based on characters created in high school. The comic strip stars Skate, a high school skateboarder who has to juggle schoolwork, villainous classmates, girls, and a dual identity. This weekly strip was printed in the *Village News*.
- *The Random, Hair-Raising Tales of a Woolly Mute* (2003-Present): A bi-monthly comic strip and cartoon starring a hirsute fellow whose hair is alive, and who responds to the madness of the ordinary world around him. This original character is featured in *Wadi*, a bi-monthly college magazine focusing on Richmond, VA.
- *Wally and the Lunatics* (January 6, 2006): A wannabe rock band whose misadventures are chronicled in *Blacklight Comix*, an underground comic book anthology featuring Richmond cartoonists. The second *Blacklight* issue contains the story, "The Revengeful Phantom: Part 1," focusing on the Lunatics attempt to solve the mystery behind the disappearance of the Rolling Stoners' organ.
- *Falling For No Apparent Reason* (Spring 2003): The first *Blacklight* anthology features two pages of a teenager falling into readers' faces.

#### Editorial and Cover Illustration 2003 - Present

Illustrations produced for the *Village News*.

- January 18, 2007: The issues *From the Editor* article features a cartoon I drew illustrating a local district's displeasure concerning the building of a tobacco sludge composting facility.
- August 11, 2005: The issue features a front-page photograph incorporating the cover illustration I created for the *Chesterfield County Fair* magazine that year. The subject of the article is the general manager of the fair.
- August 26, 2004: The issue contains an article about the dress code for local public schools. I drew two students not adhering to the dress code.

- June 3, 2004: The issue features a cover illustration of a forest for an article concerning a horticulture writer and teacher.

Illustrations produced for *Wadi*.

- Spring 2004: An article concerning Richmond fashion trends.
- Fall 2003: A cover featuring an abstract street scene illustration.
- Spring 2003: A cover illustration depicting an abstract face.

Cover Illustration for *Laughing With The Church*.

- Fall 2006: A cover illustration for a book focusing on humorous events that occur in the church as told by a former pastor.

### Freelance Writer 2004 – 2005

Articles featured in the *Village News*.

- September 29, 2005: The issue features a cover article titled “Chester’s Very Own Plugger” concerning a local resident whose ideas for *Pluggers* have been accepted for the strip nine times, the most out of anyone in the country submitting ideas. *Pluggers* is a syndicated cartoon by Gary Brookins that runs in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.
- July 2005: An article titled “A Comic Artist’s Art is Serious, Seriously” discusses a local illustrator who visits libraries in and around Richmond lecturing about the unique art of comics.
- June 2005: An article titled “An Immigrant’s Tale” concerns my grandfather, originally from Argentina, who immigrated to America with his wife and eight kids.
- June 2, 2005: An article titled “Private Art” discusses the meaning behind a large abstract sculpture a Chester resident commissioned for the front of his house.

Graphic Novel Reviews for *Wadi*.

- *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen Vol. 2*
- *Danger Girl*
- *Saga of the Swamp Thing Vol. 1*
- *Batman: Year One*
- *JLA: Liberty and Justice*

### **Education**

Virginia Commonwealth University

Fall 2002 – Fall 2006

Richmond, Virginia

Bachelor Degree, Fine Arts

Concentration in Communication Arts

G.P.A. 3.2

Dean’s List: Fall 2003-Spring 2004, Spring 2006

Honors Studio: Fall 2005 - Fall 2006

Illustration Academy

Summer 2006

Sarasota, Florida

- An intense seven-week program that allows students to learn one on one with today's most prominent illustrators including Mark English, Gary Kelley, George Pratt, C.F. Payne, and Anita Kunz. The program includes critiques from these professionals as well as figure drawing sessions twice a week.

The Arts Student's League of New York

Summer 2004

New York, New York

- A one-month long figure drawing course that met five days a week.

**Awards**

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Holiday Calendar

- Placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of twenty-five students competing in a student competition.

Chesterfield County Fair magazine

- Developed original artwork for the magazine for two years (2004 – 2005).  
The illustrations won for best cover both years.

**Qualifications**

Traditional and Digital Media

- Oil, Acrylic, Ink, Watercolor, Graphite, Photography
- Adobe Photoshop
- Painter
- Adobe Illustrator
- Wacom Tablet