

Blab! Vol. 11

Monte Beauchamp

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Monte Beauchamp : Blab! Vol. 11 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blab! Vol. 11:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Don't judge a book by its coverBy Rick von Baden BadenThe only good thing about this book is its cover which shows a Mark Ryden's amazing work. On the other hand, inside of it, there is nothing interesting. The art shown has nothing to do with Ryden's and its really inferior.When the book arrived, I opened it feeling very curious to see what was inside, but it really got me disappointed. In addition,whitin less than one day, it dismantled completely due to the very poor binding. I almost gave it back to . Instead, I gave the book to my maid for her to play with collage art with her little daughter.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love it!By Sara TI am a collector of these little books! They're very strange and inspiring at the same time.1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Hardly revolutionary, but pretty.By B. EricksonJust look at the lovely cover by Mark Ryden. It's practically impossible not to like his work even though the "ironic" juxtapositions of fluffy bunnies and raw meat, etc were NEVER really clever or thought-provoking and have since become mere conventions. So for most of the stuff in a typical issue of BLAB - a rather aptly named journal indeed. It's supposed to look as though it's being incendiary or at least cutting-edge, but it's really just so much hot air. Not that I'm not recommending it. It has always functioned as a showcase for my favorite commercial illustrators - Ryden, Christian Northeast, Gary Baseman, Camille Rose Garcia, Fred Stonehouse, blablablab - and thus there are always at least a couple pages of technically interesting artwork per issue. But I say "technically" because there is just not a whole lot going on

conceptually with BLAB. It's just a bunch of pretty weirdness. It's the literary equivalent of "Liquid Television." But I don't know that anybody was expecting anything else out of it...nor should they, really. Fans of Ryden or Baseman know what to expect.

Mark Ryden's spectacular cover is the gateway to this issue's visual feast, starring Spain, Richard Sala, Doug Allen, Stephane Blanquet, Peter Kuper, Drew Friedman, Lloyd Dangle, the first part of the Jonathon Rosen sketchbook, and much more! Fueled by the front and back cover paintings of Mark Ryden, the outsider art movement's leading contemporary painter, Vol. 11 broke new sales records for our preeminent anthology of the graphic arts. Blab!'s list of contributors past and present reads like a Who's Who of the contemporary visual art world. Vol. 11 earned raves from both Print and Graphis magazines. Blab! is edited and designed by five-time New York Festival of Advertising award-winner Monte Beauchamp. Under his guidance, Blab! has grown from a fanzine begun almost 20 years ago to an annual coffee-table showcase of impeccable production values, wild experimentation and master craftsmanship. Blab! is an objet d'art that has become a standard-bearer in the world of professional graphic arts. This volume features leading contemporary cartoonists and illustrators like Gary Baseman (creator of ABC's Teacher's Pet), Christian Northeast, the Clayton Brothers, New York Times art director Steven Guarnaccia, Zap artist Spain Rodriguez, Richard Sala, Jonathon Rosen, Peter Kuper, Doug Allen, Drew Friedman, and many others. Vol. 11 and also include a feature on the popular Krampus devil cards that comprise the accompanying Fantagraphics title The Devil In Design (also edited by Beauchamp). Illustrations and comics throughout including 42 pages of full color

From Booklist The latest edition of the roughly annual anthology Blab is always welcome. Originally an elegantly packaged showcase for alternative cartoonists, Blab now includes cutting-edge graphics of all forms. New-to-Blab talents--notably the Clayton brothers and cover painter Mark Ryden, all known for their appearances in the alternative-art magazine Juxtapose --appear alongside Blab regulars, who are among the brightest luminaries in the comics-as-art world. Standout contributions include a droll story by American Illustration Award-winner Greg Clarke, David Goldin's tale of nautical child abuse, and disquieting visual fairy tales from Blanquet and Pamela Butler. Strong contributions from relative traditionalists Richard Sala, Peter Kuper, and Spain Rodriguez prompt regret that Blab has largely turned away from its comic-strip roots. Letdowns include a one-page toss-off from Drew Friedman and an inconsequential prose story by illustrator Lou Brooks (such occasional prose pieces are Blab's Achilles' heel). Editor Beauchamp's contribution is an assortment of vintage German postcards depicting Krampus, a Satanic anti-Santa who punishes wicked children. Sharply designed and attractively assembled, Blab belongs in libraries' graphic novel and fine-art collections. Gordon Flagg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Cutting-edge graphics of all forms....Sharply designed and attractively assembled. -- Booklist, Gordon Flagg Eclectic, collective artwork...puts to shame Liechtenstein and those other arty shysters who rip off comics. -- The List, Miles Fielder It is, simply, a great book. -- Chicago Tribune Magazine Like The New Yorker for mutants. -- Los Angeles Reader Neither periodical nor book, BLAB! is quite obviously a work of art. -- Comics Buyer's Guide Since the demise of Art Spiegelman Franoise Mouly's RAW, BLAB! is the leading showcase for contemporary cartoonists. -- Booklist The latest edition Vol. 11 is perhaps the most fully realized to date in terms of its scope and sumptuous visual presentation. -- Print Magazine With superior printing, an overwide magazine size, a perfect-bound spine, and eclectic content, BLAB! pushes the limits of the form. -- Print About the Author Monte Beauchamp edited The Life Times of R. Crumb from St. Martin's Press, and the popular Blab! series. His work has appeared in Print, Communication Arts, American Illustration, and the New York Festival's Annual of Advertising. He lives in Chicago, IL.