

## Blab! Vol. 13

Monte Beauchamp

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**Monte Beauchamp : Blab! Vol. 13** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blab! Vol. 13:

The best anthology of the graphic arts for over 10 years is better than ever. The preminent 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. This is why Chronicle Books will release an anniversary BLAB! omnibus in 2003 in a deluxe, hardcover format. In the meantime, we have the latest all-new volume, edited and designed by five-time New York Festival of Advertising award-winner Monte Beauchamp. Under his guidance, BLAB! has grown from a digest-size b/w fanzine he began over 10 years ago to an annual coffee-table showcase of impeccable production values and master craftsmanship, an objet d'art that has become a standard-bearer in the world of professional graphic arts. Volume 13 cruises with a cover by Rocket USA's phenomenal toy packaging robot artist, George Eisner, as well as stories by children's book illustrator Laura Levine, Rolling Stone artists Rob and Christian Clayton, Doug Fraser, Washington Post contributors Peter and Maria Hoey, and the return of Time magazine artist Peter Kuper. Also, RAW artist Sue Coe joins BLAB! with the six-page story "Ghost Tiger," and Little Lit illustrator Marc Rosenthal contributes "Une Crise de Style," a tour de-force of two interlocking comic strips. Al Columbia returns after a two-volume hiatus with a 2-page full-color spread. Also featuring contributions from Gary Baseman, Drew Friedman, Lou Brooks, Michael Bartolas, Steven Guarnaccia, Greg Clarke, Fred Stonehouse, Richard Sala, Spain, Walter Minus, David Goldin, Jonathon Rosen,

Christian Northeast and many more of America's best award-winning illustrators.

From Booklist The annual Blab combines cutting-edge graphics and alternative comics in a lavish package. The most conventional offerings this time are by Blab stalwarts: Peter Kuper's and Spain Rodriguez's vaguely rueful autobiographical stories about arrested adolescence, and Doug Allen's La Ronde-style tale of a bass guitar and its various owners. Other returning contributors include Finland's Matti Hagelberg, depicting the Finnish president's encounter with Pinocchio in the belly of a whale; Stephane Blanquet, with a disquieting and sexually explicit story of "Rancid Love"; and Greg Clarke, whose understated "Elegy on the Death of a Hirsute Poet" stands out amid the surrounding outrageousness. Notable newcomers are children's-book illustrator Marc Rosenthal, whose "Une Crise de Style" meshes two separate stories in a manner reminiscent of Chris Ware (Jimmy Corrigan, 2000), and agitprop queen Sue Coe, who depicts the grisly deaths of 67,000 sheep in a cargo-ship accident. Editor Beauchamp offers another entertaining found-art feature, this one made up of vintage ads from the old Johnson and Smith novelty catalog. For adventurous fine arts and graphic novel collections. Gordon Flagg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved An explosion of graphic delights for fans of mutant art...always engaging and always absorbing. -- The Shy Librarian, Jessamyn West, 8 March 2003 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 Pages of visual excellence you'll probably want to eat. Don't. Instead sit, stare and feed your brain. -- Bizarre, Nadia Shireen Since the demise of Art Spiegelman and Francoise Mouly's RAW, BLAB! is the leading showcase for contemporary cartoonists. -- Booklist 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. His work has appeared in Print, Communication Arts, American Illustration, and the New York Festival's Annual of Advertising. He lives in Chicago, Illinois.