

PERTH COMIC ARTS FESTIVAL

2026

VIP GUESTS
WORKSHOPS
MARKET HALL
ACTIVITIES

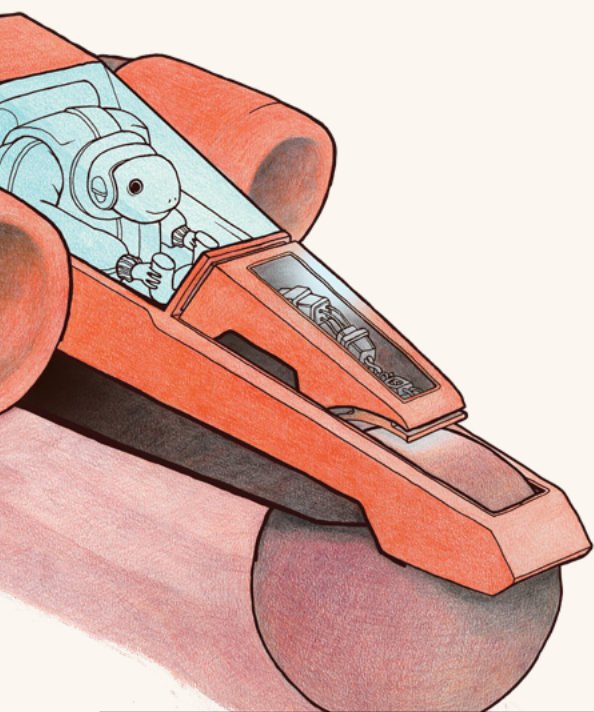


EVENT PROGRAM JULY 23RD - 26TH



The Perth Comic Arts Festival is a not-for-profit, volunteer run organisation which works to foster, promote, and uplift the Western Australian comics community.

PCAF operates numerous free and accessible events throughout the year, including academic workshops, live comic readings, and our annual two day comic festival celebrating the diversity and passion of comics.



Acknowledgment of Country

The Perth Comic Arts Festival acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation as the traditional owners of the land on which the festival operates, the sovereignty of which was never ceded, and pays respect to their elders, past and present.

23rd - 26th July 2026

State Library of WA

pcaf.org.au

@perthcomicartsfestival

2025-26 Committee

Campbell Whyte	Chairperson
Steven Martellotta	Secretary
Kristina Turner	Treasurer
Elizabeth Marruffo	Creative Director
Lola Baldsing	Deputy Chair & Market Hall Director
Aśka	Programming Director
Stuart Medley	Grants Director
J. Harris	Communications Director
Dan Chambers	Senior Committee
Bre Manning	Senior Committee
Nina Dakin	Senior Committee
Sarah Winifred Searle	Senior Committee

Many thanks to Steven Christie for the festival poster, Kis Heiner for organising Look Hear, our general members and our additional volunteers.

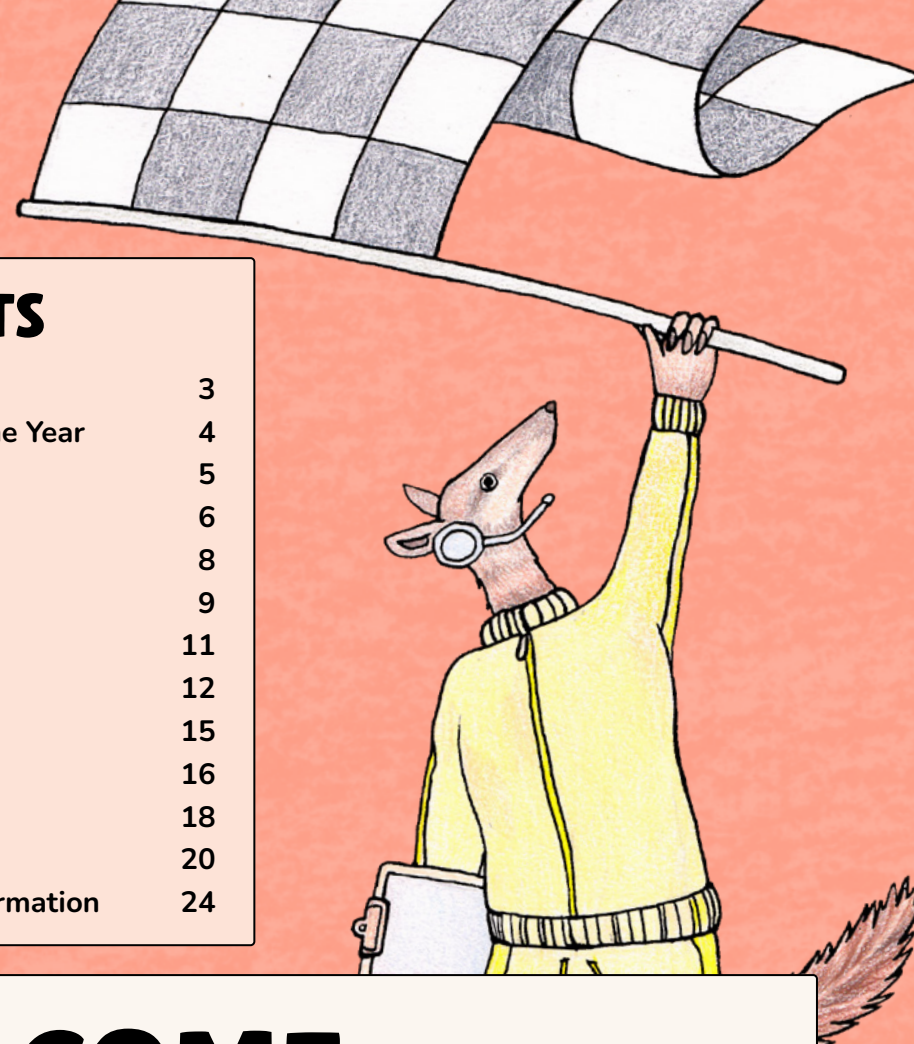
Love what we do? There are lots of ways to lend a hand!

Perth Comic Arts Festival has grown year on year as a result of supporting and building opportunities for comic artists and illustrators in Western Australia. PCAF is not owned and run by private interests, but by and for creators and creatives.

Head to www.pcaf.org.au for more!

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WELCOME

Welcome back to the annual Perth Comic Arts Festival, the event that explores, celebrates and uplifts the most beautiful of all literary forms, COMICS!

This year we are excited to once again fill the State Library of Western Australia to bursting with local, interstate and international creators who exemplify the best and most ambitious examples of contemporary comic making.

There's a full program of talks and panels on our Academy Day, and 150+ comic makers ready to show their work at the Market Hall.

Throughout the week there are Deep Dive workshops, our experimental live-music / comic-reading night, titled Look Hear, the delivery of another year of our beloved Tale Town newspaper and much much more.

Australian comics are scrappy, ambitious and fueled by raw passion. PCAF's mission is to fan the flames of this passion and give it a collective shape that can be admired and appreciated by all.

We hope you find inspiration, excitement, camaraderie and opportunity at this year's Perth Comic Arts Festival!

Campbell Whyte
Festival Chairperson

PCAF THROUGH THE YEAR



PCAF Stories

PCAF Stories is a FREE live-reading event that turns comics into lively performance art! Anyone who enjoys a good story is welcome to attend, whether you're familiar with comics or not. Each year we organise two types of Stories events: an adult-focused evening readings and family-friendly readings on a Sunday morning. Each themed edition showcases an entertaining variety of works, read by the creators themselves.

Fellowship

Hosted by Centre for Stories, this fellowship offers a stipend and workspace in the months leading up to PCAF for the creation of a new work to debut at our festival.

Monthly Academy

PCAF Academy is a FREE monthly meetup for comic book creators of all levels, from aspiring to hobbyists to professionals.

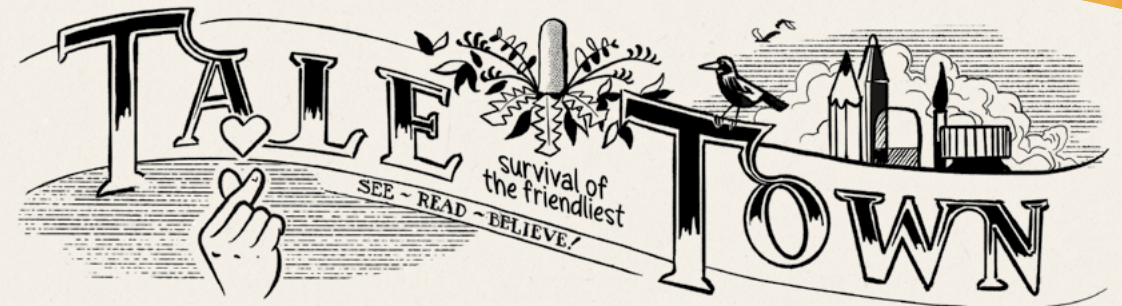
On the first Sunday of each month, PCAF's committee organises a variety of skill-sharing talks, workshops, and discussions with a focus on community building to strengthen our already vibrant local comic arts scene.



Trash Classics

PCAF has collaborated with VHS Tracking and Luna Leederville on special editions of the monthly Trash Classics screenings to focus on beloved comic book films.

See more of PCAF's events at www.pcaf.org.au/



Don't miss your free copy of the 2026 Tale Town!

The annual TALE TOWN comics journal was begun by Elizabeth Marruffo as a project of the Milktooth School of Art and Stories. Since the second issue, it has become a regular feature of the Perth Comic Arts Festival, with each edition debuting at the Festival Weekend and given out for free!

The publication commissions new works from comics-makers who are asked to engage with the theme of the that year's Festival.

One of the recurring compliments PCAF receives each year is about how friendly it is, this is a quality we strive to have but we do at times take it for granted. In actuality friendliness is one of those priceless phenomena that could do with a celebration and acknowledgment of its intangible but important presence.

Our society has long been preoccupied with the myth of the 'Alpha Wolf', a dominant, aggressive, masculine figure within social groups that all others submit to. Even the elegant theory of "Survival of the Fittest" is routinely misrepresented as being about a physical, powerful "fitness", rather than the ability to "fit in."

But there is another theory, that of "Survival of the Friendliest". Which is an idea that organisms throughout history have thrived and succeeded not in domination over each other, but through their ability to collaborate, coordinate and find comrades in life.

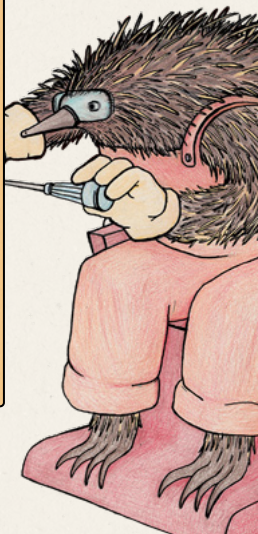
The theme for this year's festival is "Survival of the Friendliest" and we are encouraging artists to reflect on the role of "friendliness" in their communities, in their professional practices and in their personal politics.



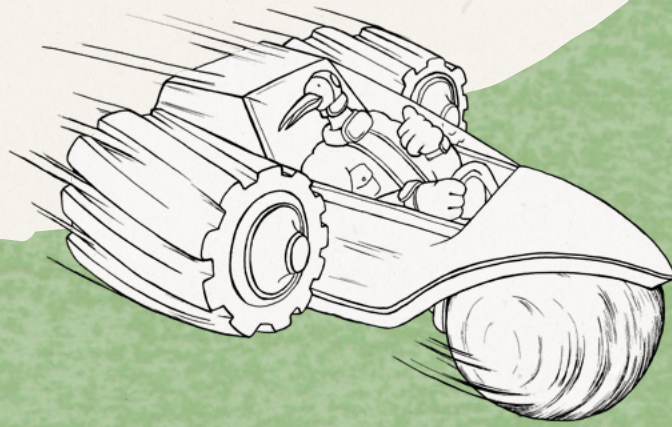
An explosive anthology of comic stories from beyond your imagination. 26 teens from across the great big state of western Australia took part in a mentoring program run by Austratia's only dedicated comic school, the Milktooth School of Art and Stories. The short works that resulted were created in a burst of energy, capturing this most tumultuous period of their lives on the page and transmitting it to you, the reader!

Comics are the literary language of youth. Filled with irrepressible emotion, unbridled passion and incomprehensible humour. Sunset City is the launch pad of the next generation of Australian comic makers.

Pick up your FREE copy at the Sunset City table!



GUESTS



Rachel Ang **Victoria**

Rachel Ang is an artist and writer who makes comics. Their work has previously been published in international outlets such as *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post* and *kuš!*, and local journals such as *The Lifted Brow* (RIP), *Meanjin* (RIP), *Island* and *Overland*. Their new book, a collection of short stories in comics form titled *I Ate The Whole World to Find You*, is out now through *Drawn* and *Quarterly* and *Scribe*, and was shortlisted for an *Ignatz Award*.



Georgina Chadderton **Adelaide**

Georgina Chadderton (she/they) is an awkward yet friendly Australian cartoonist with an undying love of eating snacks, drinking green tea, patting dogs and playing roller derby. Her debut graphic novel, *Oh Brother* (Penguin Random House, Feb 2026) is a memoir about growing up as the sibling of someone with complex support needs — as well as being a sweaty teen and negotiating a new friendship.



Stacy Gougoulis **Victoria**

Stacy is an illustrator, radio presenter and Eisner Award-nominated cartoonist whose work has appeared in publications like *The Washington Post*, *Fantagraphics NOW* and *VICE*. They are currently working on their debut graphic novel, *Bivouac*, which will be published by *Fantagraphics*.



Kim Hyun Sook **South Korea**

Kim Hyun Sook never planned on becoming an author, but one day, while hiking with her cartoonist husband Ryan, she casually mentioned her experiences smuggling illegal books under the nose of a dictator. Years of storytelling, research, and interviews later, she is the award-winning co-author of *Banned Book Club* and its sequels, *No Rules Tonight* and *Good Old Fashioned Korean Spirit*. Now everyone knows all of her secrets.



Ryan Estrada **South Korea**

Ryan Estrada is an Eisner and Ringo-nominated, Freeman Award-winning author/artist/adventurer who has been traveling the world making comics ever since his high school ambassadorship to Australia inspired his *Student Ambassador* series. His other books include *Banned Book Club*, *Good Old Fashioned Korean Spirit*, *Occulted*, and *Learn to Read Korean in 15 Minutes*. He's made comics for *Garfield*, *Star Trek*, *Popeye*, and *Flash Gordon*.



Marco Kohinata **Japan**

Kohinata Marco was influenced by her mother's love for art and became enraptured with drawing as a child. Her mother often took her to art exhibitions and museums and at home she was exposed to picture books from all around the world, manga, illustrations, anime, and the like. While working as a manga artist she also takes on illustration and animation commissions. Beginning with manga, Kohinata Marco has felt comforted by many works of art made by her predecessors and wishes to recreate that feeling in people through her art.



Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky **France / Japan**

Loïc Locatelli is an illustrator and comic book author based in Japan, where he has worked as a concept artist for several prestigious animation studios, including *Mappa*, *Bones Studio*, and *Satelight*. He now mainly creates works for young-adults audiences, contributing to French magazines as well as through his comic books published around the world — notably *Persephone* and *Flavor Girls* (BOOM! Studios).

DEEP DIVES

Exclusive, small workshops with our invited guests.
Ideal for comic creators of all skill levels aged 16+.

Tickets
\$60

Thurs 23 July, 2:30PM - 4:30PM

Compressed Comics

with Loïc Locatelli-Kournwksy

Join celebrated storyteller Loïc Locatelli as he breaks down the essential building blocks of visual storytelling. From the goofy to the sublime, there are key principles that work across genres. In this hands-on workshop, you'll be guided through a series of activities and challenges that will push how you think about comic storytelling, while sharpening your core skills.

Thurs 23 July, 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Light, Composition, Emotion

with Kohinata Marco

Marco Kohinata holds a unique place in the world of manga, working in a uniquely soft and poignant way that blends the rich history of Shōjo manga with picture-book like illustrations. This Deep Dive will provide a rare opportunity for local creators to get a better understanding of Kohinata's practice as she guides you through her strategic use of light and composition to create emotions in her stories.

Fri 24 July, 2:30PM - 4:30PM

Truth is Stranger than Fiction

with Georgina Chadderton

Georgina Chadderton has been making friends and breaking hearts via autobiographical comics for years, and they're here to share all their hard won tips and tricks for making great autobio comics. In this hands-on workshop, you'll be guided through a series of activities as you make your own mini-comic zine that perfectly captures the YOUness of YOU!

Fri 24 July, 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Living the Dream

with Rachel Ang

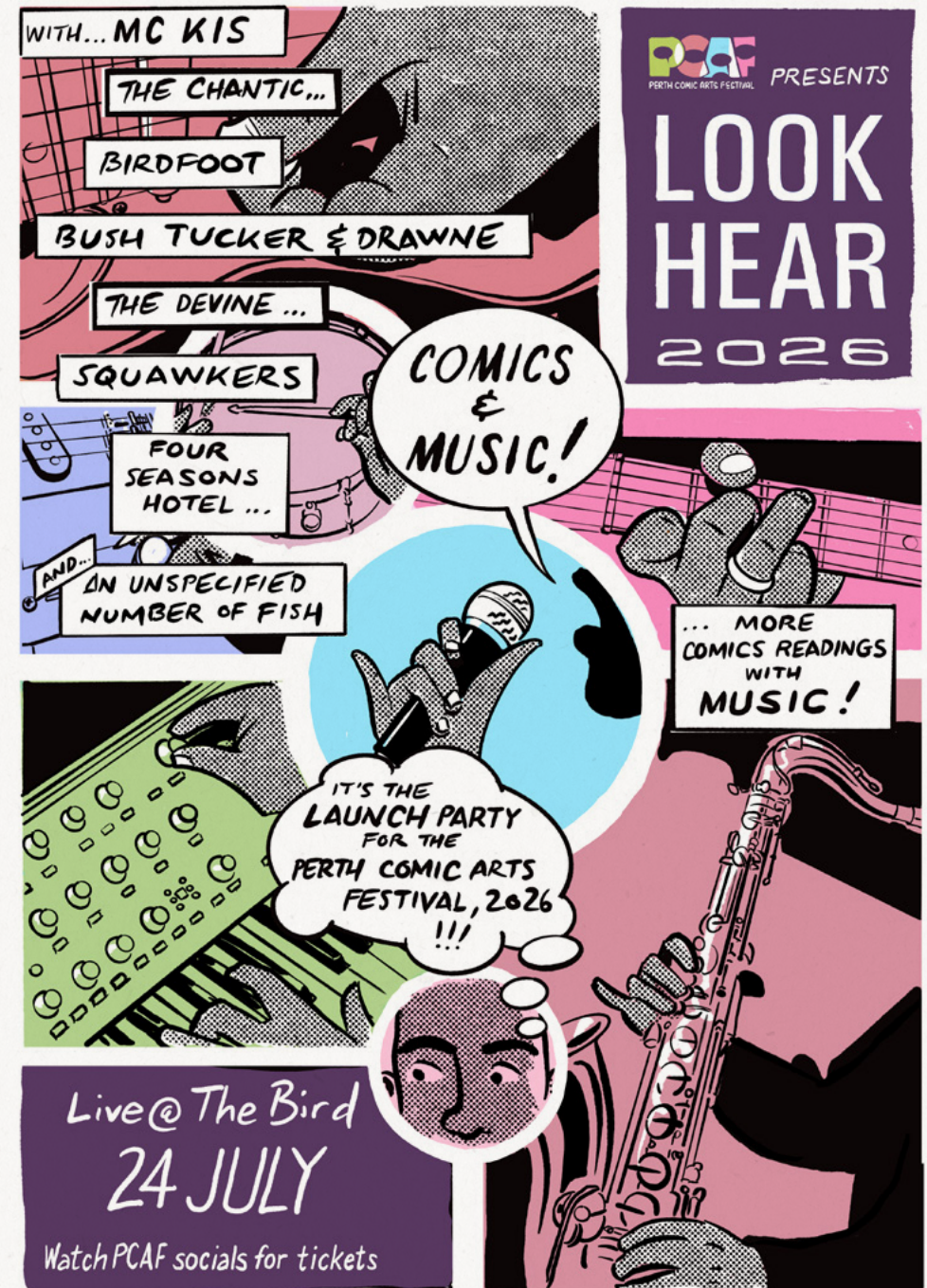
Rachel Ang's dream-like comics are a beautiful blend of visual poetry, restraint and the surreal.

In this hands-on workshop, you will be exploring the dream-world where the border between words and images blur and our deepest subconscious rises to the surface.

LOOK HEAR

The official opening event: a wild night of live comics reading and musical performances at The Bird. 18+ Event.

Tickets
\$15



pcaf.org.au



Saturday July 25

ACADEMY DAY

Talks that dive into comic creation, the industry and more. Perfect for aspiring creators, academics, professionals or other enthusiasts.

10:00 - 10:30 Library opens and registrations begin

10:30 - 11:00 Welcome Theatre

11:00 - 12:00 **The Killing of Books** Theatre
Ryan Estrada and Kim Hyun Sook

12:30 - 1:30 **Found in Translation** Theatre
Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky

Lunch Break

2:30 - 3:30 **Soft Stories** Theatre
Marco Kohinata

4:00 - 5:00 **Pen Pals** Theatre
Rachel Ang, Stacy Gougoulis and Steven Christie

5:00 - 6:00 **BEST FRIENDS FOREVER!** Theatre
Various

6:00 - 6:30 Endtroduction Theatre

Book Your Free Tickets at www.pcaf.org.au

TALKS

Saturday July 25

Tickets
Free

11:00AM - 12:00PM

The Killing of Books

Ryan Estrada and Kim Hyun Sook

with Sarah Winifred Searle

Welcome to 2026, where words and books are treated as more dangerous than guns and bombs. Kim Hyun Sook and Ryan Estrada know this better than most. Their award winning (and banned in multiple states across the USA) graphic novel, Banned Book Club, tells the true story of Hyun Sook's experience at college in South Korea where she was part of a secret literary club that read books that had been banned by the state government. Hyun Sook and Ryan will join award winning author, Sarah Winifred Searle to discuss the power of graphic novels and the threat that book bans pose to our freedoms.



12:30PM - 1:30PM

Found in Translation

Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky

with JB Harris

Moving to Japan, breaking into the comic industry, working in animation and making drawing your full-time job. Sounds like a dream, right? Well Loïc made it happen and he's here to tell us about how he did it, how he DIDN'T do it and what the reality of living "the dream" really is. Loïc will be joined by Harri to discuss all this as well as his inspirations, creations and the work ethic that brings them all together.



2:30PM - 3:30PM

Soft Stories

Marco Kohinata

with Aude Yukiko and Campbell Whyte

While the manga industry continues to take the comics world by storm, we're turning our attention to the soft, quiet and delicate side of manga that is often overlooked. One of the rising international talents of this gentler side of manga is Marco Kohinata, whose tender and leisurely paced stories resonate with warmth and sensitivity. Join Marco in conversation with Aude Yukiko and Campbell Whyte as they take us on a journey through the works that inspired them, their storytelling philosophy and their peers.



4:00PM - 5:00PM

Pen Pals

Rachel Ang, Stacy Gougoulis and Steven Christie

with Aśka

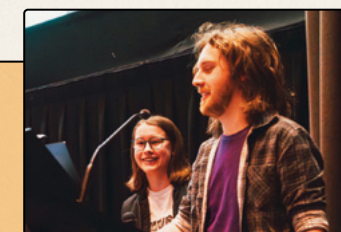
With limited publishing opportunities here in Australia, many creators have turned their focus abroad. Join three creators who have done just that and have worked with a range of different publishing houses overseas to share their stories. Join Aśka in conversation with Rachel Ang, Stacy Gougoulis and Steven Christie as they talk about how these projects found their homes as well as the challenges and opportunities that come with working with international publishers.



5:00PM - 6:00PM

Best Friends Forever!

Who can you turn on when times get tough? Who's always by your side? In this lightning-fast session we ask seven comic makers about the role FRIENDSHIP plays in their careers and how they use it to fuel their creativity.





Sunday July 26

MARKET DAY

Comic creators from across WA and beyond sell their original works at our lively community market. Casual, family friendly workshops run all day.

10:00	Market Hall Opens	
10:30 - 11:30	Tell Your Tale! Aśka and Georgina Chadderton	Theatre
11:45 - 12:30	Guest Signing Georgia Chadderton	Level One
12:00 - 1:00	Comic Crush Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky, Marco Kohinata, Rachel Ang, Stacy Gougoulis, Steven Christie, Aude Yukiko and Campbell Whyte	Theatre
1:15 - 2:00	Guest Signing Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky, Marco Kohinata, Rachel Ang	Level One
1:30 - 2:30	Learn to be a Fearless Storyteller Ryan Estrada and Kim Hyun Sook	Theatre
2:45 - 3:30	Guest Signing Ryan Estrada and Kim Hyun Sook	Level One
3:00 - 4:00	Cosplay Life Drawing Stacy Gougoulis	Theatre
4:00	Market Hall Closes	

Book Your Free Tickets at www.pcaf.org.au

WORKSHOPS

Tickets
Free

Sunday July 26

10:30AM - 11:30AM

Tell Your Tale!

with Aśka and Georgina Chadderton

Comics are an incredible medium for sharing personal stories, from the comedic to the dramatic and everything in between. Think your life is too “ordinary” to be an “extraordinary” story? Think again! Join Aśka and Georgina Chadderton in this interactive session as they share their top tips for how they drew inspiration from their own lives for their new books.



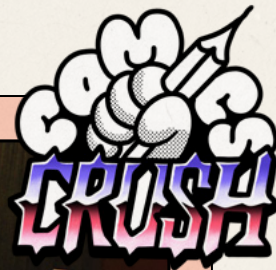
12:00PM - 1:00PM



Comics Crush

with Loïc Locatelli-Kournwsky, Marco Kohinata , Rachel Ang, Stacy Gougoulis, Steven Christie, Aude Yukiko and Campbell Whyte

Roll up! Roll up! The world's best comics makers battle it out for your entertainment to decide who has the mightiest pen in town! Ridiculous challenges, unimaginable quests and unwinnable obstacles all stand between them and victory.



1:30PM - 2:30PM



Learn to be a Fearless Storyteller

with Ryan Estrada and Kim Hyun Sook

Storytelling is a skill you can use in any career, from making comics, to being a doctor. And the best way to master it is to tell stories in front of a crowd. This interactive workshop helps cure stage fright, shows you how to construct a compelling story, and perfect it until it's ready to share in front of an audience.

3:00PM - 4:00PM

Cosplay Life Drawing

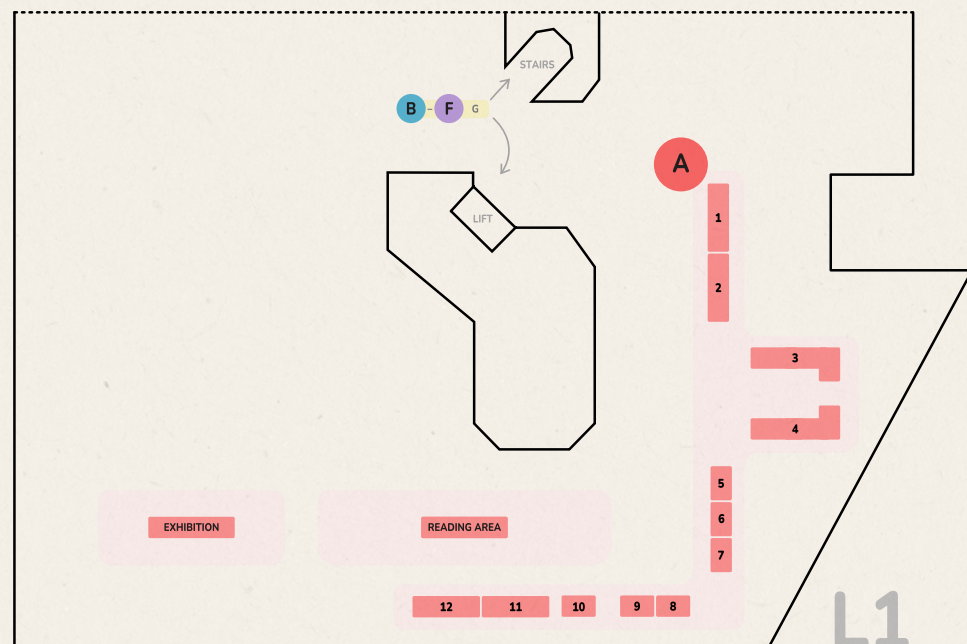
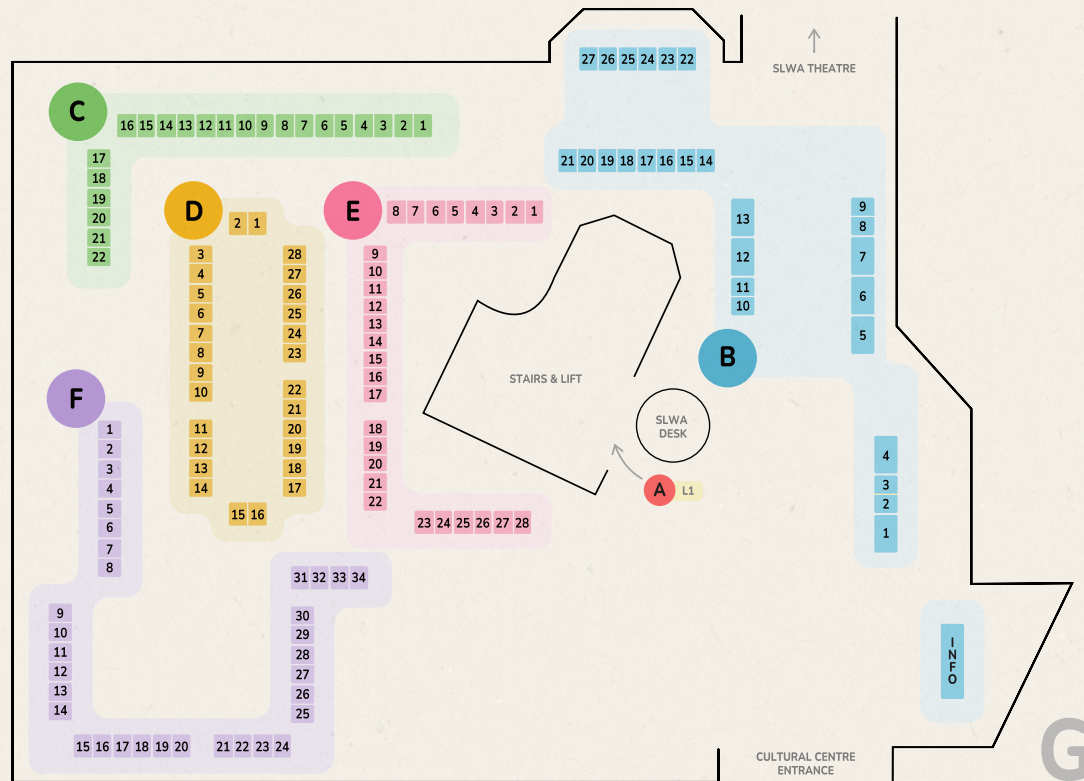
with Stacy Gougoulis

Grab your pencil and get to work capturing the magic, mystique and majesty of our costumed models as you're guided through the joys of life-drawing with expert illustrator Stacy Gougoulis.



MARKET HALL

Sunday July 26



2026 EXHIBITORS

- A1 Rabble Books and Games
- A2 Guest Signings
- A3 Gestalt Comics
- A4 Indigiverse
- A5 Centre For Stories
- A6 The Illo Club
- A7 Tokyo Alley
- A8 North Metropolitan TAFE
- A9 Westerly Magazine
- A10 State Library of WA
- A11 Consulate-General of Japan in Perth
- A12 Alliance Francaise de Perth

- B1 Milktooth
- B2 Elizabeth Marruffo
- B3 Campbell Whyte
- B4 Sunset City Anthology
- B5 Amplified Press
- B6 14thframe
- B7 Cockatoo Comics
- B8 Steven Christie
- B9 Stefanie Palladino
- B10 Voiceworks Magazine
- B11 51 Personae
- B12 Melbourne Comics Art Jam
- B13 Comics Jam Malaysia
- B14 harrinaut
- B15 SketchySally
- B16 Mamath
- B17 Mia Guerrieri
- B18 SHELLZKI
- B19 Feral Rainbow
- B20 radiostarkoi
- B21 comicarltan
- B22 Sheydedart
- B23 Jana Hoffmann
- B24 David Mahler
- B25 CYBERFRANKIE
- B26 Sponthanaeity
- B27 Clemency

- C1 SunnyAlbion
- C2 Steven Martellotta
- C3 Languid Bones
- C4 Mils Makes Art
- C5 Alu
- C6 SCARandACHAI
- C7 Ever's Art
- C8 Danae McMiles
- C9 cowdoy
- C10 Wott11
- C11 QAE0
- C12 Beeteal
- C13 zerofinch
- C14 Duckiib
- C15 Mari Costa
- C16 Annalise Jensen

- C17 L.G. Veldenmire
- C18 PanelPerDay
- C19 trashgirlarts
- C20 Nathanael Whale
- C21 StudioBeeDraws
- C22 Jorden Allen-Barr

- D1 Pigeon Princess Art
- D2 Kindling Press
- D3 superghostcowboy / Big Stupid Gorilla Inc.
- D4 kaillyonsart
- D5 Leah Addison
- D6 Alex Chase
- D7 theirdandelion
- D8 Oggie Studio
- D9 Selachimorpha
- D10 amiwaffletoday
- D11 Zalienn
- D12 RATJAM
- D13 Azurevoltage
- D14 Caramel Coda
- D15 Elton Fernandes
- D16 Elton D'Souza ART / Studio Skies & Water
- D17 Glasses and Disasters
- D18 Baileif
- D19 eskrimko
- D20 Lanklongus
- D21 Frujabi
- D22 ZANA ZINES
- D23 KEV AND TREV! Graphic Novels by Kylie Howarth
- D24 Renee Trembl
- D25 Fung.draws
- D26 Fascher
- D27 Canisemenace
- D28 Skyfoxc

- E1 Kieran Alexander & Christopher Wood
- E2 Tyson Elmer
- E3 Cranium Agaric
- E4 Scott AM
- E5 Brown Street Bulletin
- E6 Laundry Press
- E7 Maha Malik Art
- E8 Alicia Rose Illustrations
- E9 Black Cat Comics
- E10 Mimizigs
- E11 Crystal Mayhem
- E12 Crazy Angel Art
- E13 Safia Slawinski
- E14 Gravestar
- E15 lain_in_the_wired's table
- E16 Little Clover Co.
- E17 Nazario Whyte
- E18 The Hills by Zack Bishop

- E19 R0ach
- E20 Graphite Graphics
- E21 Demonik
- E22 Salsa Sauces
- E23 donkeys are real / Zoe Heath
- E24 Dragon Legacy
- E25 Neet's Arts and Tales
- E26 CJ Wu
- E27 Leander D'Cruz
- E28 fuzzy print

- F1 Laverne Moi
- F2 Charlene's Art
- F3 Aw Shux! Comix
- F4 Object Market
- F5 peintimentos
- F6 POPPTARTZE
- F7 Poodle doodle draws
- F8 Aška
- F9 Trenchcoat Studio
- F10 Akreampuff
- F11 Brepai
- F12 birdblitz
- F13 Ben Crappsley
- F14 Hien Pham
- F15 rindotnet
- F16 Adam Yojimbo Comics
- F17 Crabbitz
- F18 ComicGoblin
- F19 hnugie_art
- F20 Heaven: The Graphic Novel Series
- F21 Sarah Winifred Searle
- F22 Soolagna Majumdar
- F23 Luke Milton and Lizzy Lang
- F24 Creature
- F25 Austen Mengler
- F26 Pete Correy
- F27 Detective Budgy
- F28 Rob Lisle / Spedsy
- F29 Izzy French
- F30 Stuart Medley
- F31 Studio Virgo / R J Millar
- F32 Rachel Coad
- F33 Paper & Palette
- F34 Curtin Illustration Club



THINGS TO DO

Sunday July 26

Drop In Activities

Head up to Level One and join in on our drop in comic activities, presented by our Community Partners.

Catch of the Day

Got a great haul of comics?

Head over to the info desk and weigh your catch! We want to see who has brought home the heaviest collection of comics from our Market Hall.

Prizes await for the netting the most books!

Silly Billy Awards

Keep your eyes out around the Market Hall for our Silly Billy judges with their bright yellow clipboards.

What are the Silly Billies, I hear you ask? Only the silliest, most trivial, most inconsequential comic awards this side of the equator!

Silly categories include, "*The Best Rendering of a Butt*" and "*The Sparkliest Anime Eyes*". The full list of categories will be announced on Sunday, so stay silly and keep an ear out.

Got a hot lead for a silly category or see a super silly comic on the day? Talk to one of our roving judges, or visit the PCAF info desk and slip your suggestion into our Silly Billy Box!

The suggestion box will close at 2pm on Sunday.

Reading Area

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the Market Hall and grab yourself a comfy spot to settle in and read some of the incredible comic works you've collected.

Still a bit loud? Head over to our Quiet Room on the Ground Floor to have a bit of a reprieve.

Guest Signings

Grab copies of our VIP Guests' incredible works from the Rabble Books and Games stall up on Level One, and get a signature straight from the source at our designated signing times.

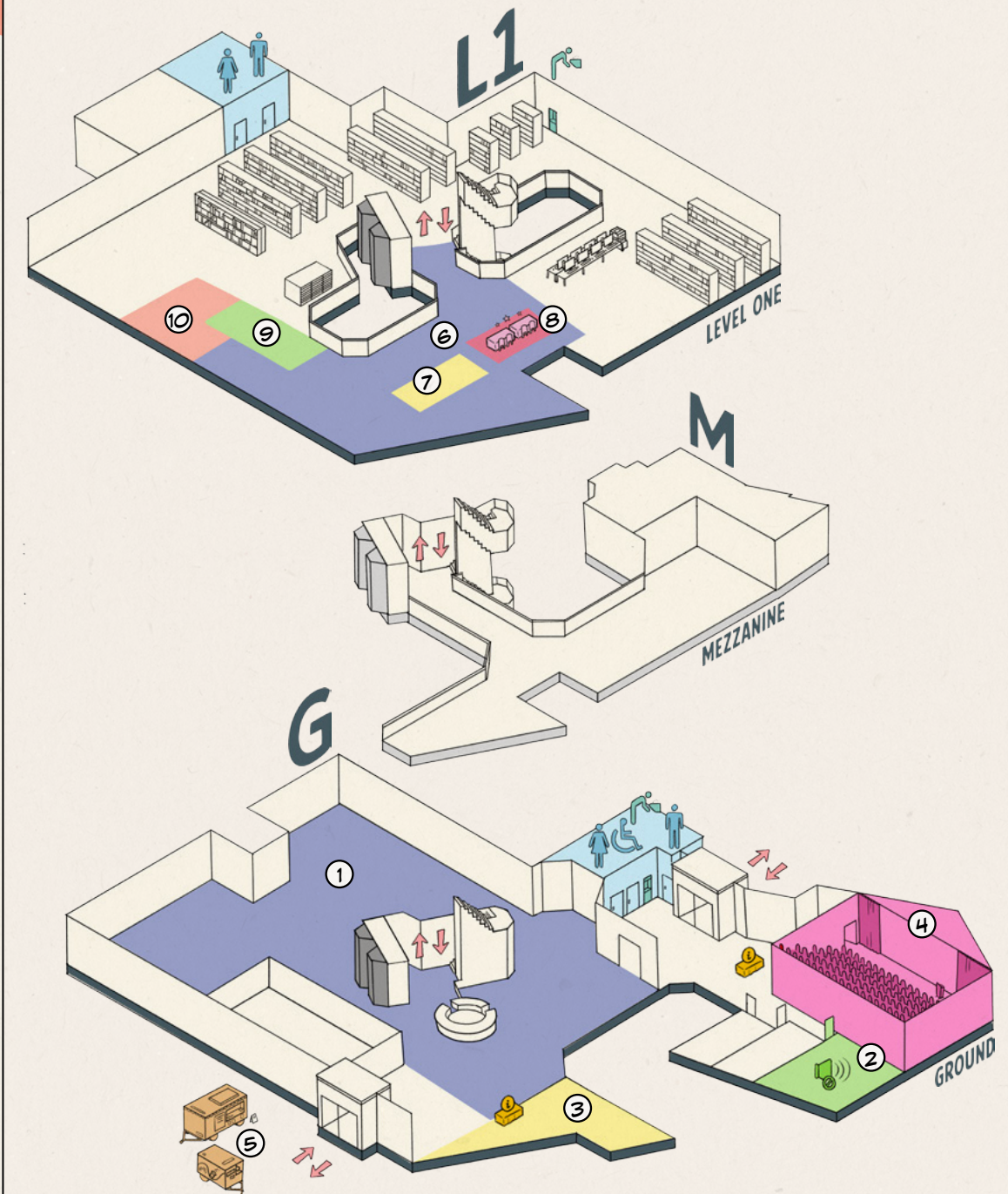
The Comics Lab

A French Language Exhibition from the Comic Art Museum of Brussels

The Comics Lab travelling exhibition is an engaging and educational experience tailored for children ages 6 to 10. It offers an opportunity to discover the fascinating world of comics, unveiling their visual language, creative processes, and the book production chain.

Through original illustrations by Belgian author Karolina Szejda (creator of Tram 5 and Love Me Tinder), children will also explore the various genres within comics, immersing themselves in the richness of this dynamic art form.

Presented by the Perth Comic Arts Festival and Alliance Française.



GROUND FLOOR

- ① MARKET HALL
- ② QUIET ROOM
- ③ ACTIVITY ZONE #1
- ④ THEATRE
- ⑤ FOOD TRUCKS

LEVEL ONE

- ⑥ MARKET HALL CONT.
- ⑦ ACTIVITY ZONE #2
- ⑧ GUEST SIGNING
- ⑨ READING AREA
- ⑩ EXHIBITION

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

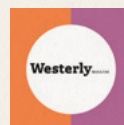
Supporters



ALEX HOTEL

Partners

Founding Partner



Accessibility Information

Quiet Room

The Quiet Room is a low-sensory quiet area, designated as reprieve from the noise of the busy Market Hall and festival activities. It is located on the Ground Level, next to the SLWA Theatre.

Captions

The Perth Comic Arts Festival is trialling Closed Captioning for our Talks. More information on captioning will be available on the day. We encourage patrons who utilise the service to provide feedback for future events.

Venue

Lifts operate between the Ground Floor and Level One.

A unisex wheelchair accessible toilet is available on the Ground Floor of the State Library, in the Theatre foyer (adjacent to the Francis Street entrance).

The Theatre has tiered seating accessed via stairs. Limited seating is available on the lowest level, including five seats and space for approximately four wheelchairs.

For more information about the SLWA venue visit slwa.wa.gov.au/plan-my-visit/hours-transport-access/access-inclusion

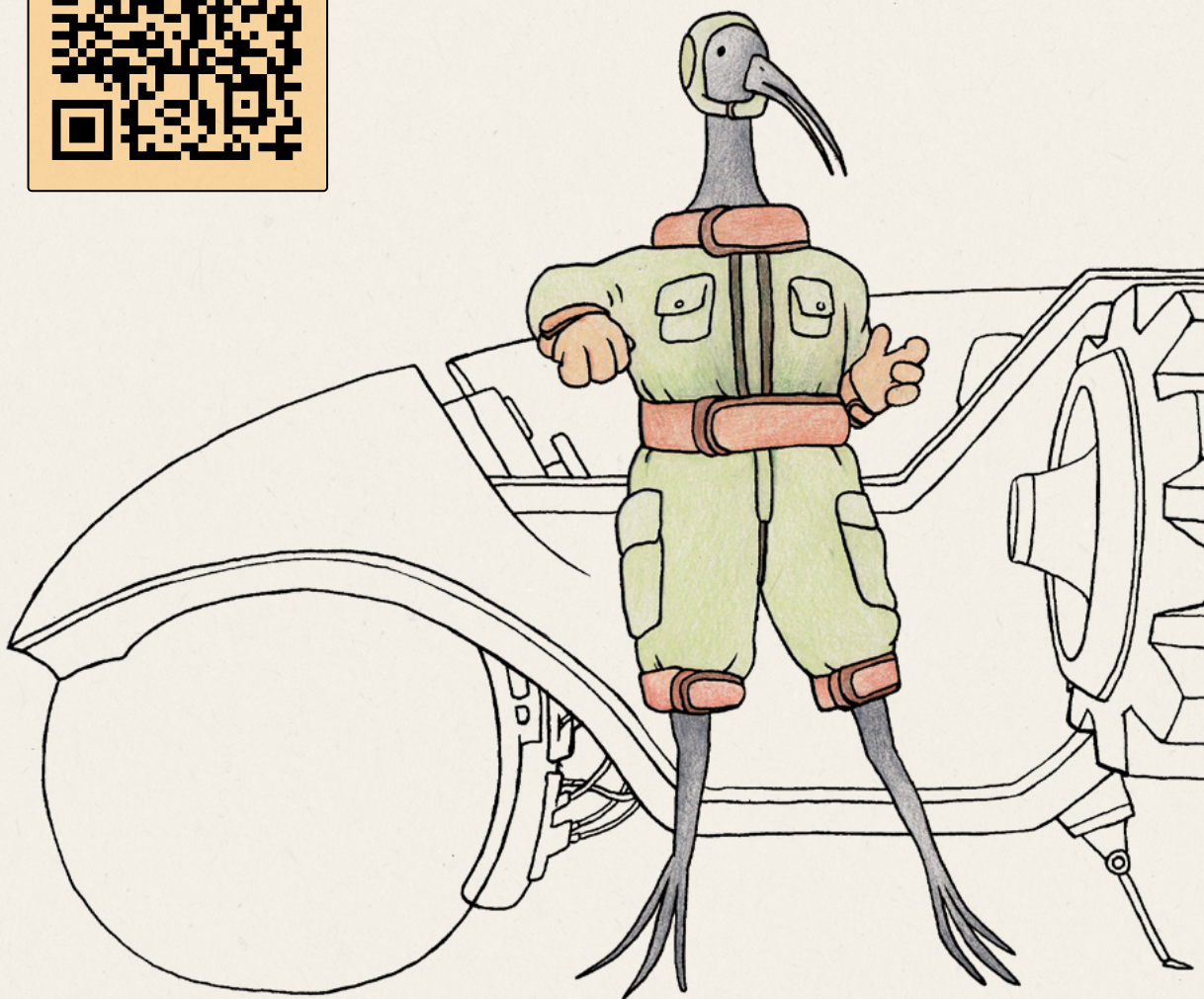
**Your feedback
helps PCAF!**

Let us know your
thoughts in a quick
post-festival survey.

pcaf.org.au/feedback



Read a digital version of this program by
scanning the QR Code or heading to
pcaf.org.au/festival-program-2026



PERTH COMIC ARTS FESTIVAL

23rd - 26th July 2026

State Library of WA

pcaf.org.au

[@perthcomicartsfestival](https://twitter.com/perthcomicartsfestival)