

Kim Deitch | Solo Exhibition

December 6th, 2013 to January 25th, 2014

Artist reception December 6th at 6 PM

Scott Eder Gallery

18 Bridge St., Brooklyn, NY

Scott Eder Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of art by the New York-based Underground Comix legend Kim Deitch. Spanning 30 years of work, the show will feature art from his most recent graphic novel, *Katherine Whaley*, and include selections from classics such as *Smilin' Ed*, *Stuff of Dreams...* and the infamous cat, *Waldo*.



Deitch's narrative sense takes no back seat to the precise line of his pen; his clear lines have evolved towards a lush inking style, with an almost velvet-like textural quality. His yarns explore themes like obsessed collectors, film history, and dementia, and can flow from the mundane into the surreal and psychedelic as smoothly as a daydream. While silent movies and old-time animation haunt the stage for Deitch's characters, two-dimensional creatures cross into reality and often leap right out of the artwork with his signature “exploding page” layouts.

In addition to original artwork, silkscreen prints, T-shirts, and signed books will be available for purchase at the opening reception on December 6th.

Son of well known animator Gene Deitch, Kim Deitch rejected his conventional Pratt Institute education and found inspiration as a young adult in the burgeoning Underground Comix movement of the late 1960s.

Underground Comics (or “comix” for the oft-X-rated themes) evolved as a reaction against the censored world of the CCA, the Comics Code that governed mainstream comics and basically kept them G-rated. Comix artists, often self published and operating on shoestring budgets, were free to explore sex, drugs, profanity, and leftist politics and as well as absurd psychedelic themes.

After sailing the world and a string of lousy jobs, Deitch started drawing comics in the late 60s for the *East Village Other*, a NYC underground newspaper that the *Times* described as “so counter-cultural that it made *The Village Voice* look like a church circular.” There he created his most



familiar characters, Waldo the Cat and Uncle Ed, the India Rubber Man. The *Other* was an incubator for underground art expression and it hatched the seminal all-comics tabloid spin-off, *Gothic Blimp Works*, which was founded by Vaughn Bodé. and later edited by Deitch. In its short but iconic run, *Gothic Blimp Works* – like its contemporary, *Zap Comix*, featured work by such notables as R. Crumb, Spain Rodriguez, Art Spiegelman, Joel Beck, Jay Lynch, Larry Hama, S. Clay Wilson, and Bernie Wrightson. Deitch would later co-found the underground publishing group Cartoonists Co-op Press in the early 1970s.

His most recent graphic novels include *The Boulevard of Broken Dreams*, *Deitch's Pictorama* (in collaboration with his brothers), and *The Amazing, Enlightening and Absolutely True Adventures of Katherine Whaley*. Still true to his underground roots, Deitch says, “I have now been at it for forty-odd years. It's been a great ride full of thrills and spills... and I am still as fascinated and stimulated by it as I was way back when I first started out.”

Kim Deitch was awarded an Eisner for *The Stuff of Dreams*, and Comic Con International gave him an Inkpot award in 2008. *The Comics Journal* called his *Mishkin Saga* “one of the top 30 best English-language comics of the twentieth century.”

In addition to his books, Deitch’s work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *L.A. Weekly*, *RAW*, *Weirdo*, *Arcade*, *Details*, *Nickelodeon Magazine*, and *McSweeney’s*.

The show opens on December 6th, with an artist reception from 6-9 PM.

Kim Deitch Bibliography

[courtesy of Wikipedia]

Creator:

- *The Search for Smilin' Ed* (serial in *Zero Zero* and 2010 book collection)
- *The Stuff of Dreams* 2002 (collected in 2007 as *Alias the Cat!*)
- *The Boulevard of Broken Dreams* (story and book collection)
- *Beyond the Pale* (book collection)
- *All Waldo Comics* (book collection)
- *A Shroud for Waldo* (strip and book collection)
- *Corn Fed Comics*
- *The Mishkin File*
- *No Business Like Show Business*
- *Shadowland* (series and book collection)
- *Hollywoodland* (series)

Books:

- *Hollywoodland* (Fantagraphics), 1988
- *Beyond the Pale* [22 stories, 1969-1984] (Fantagraphics), 1989
- *A Shroud For Waldo* (Fantagraphics), 1990
- *All Waldo Comics* [1969-1988] (Fantagraphics), 1992
- *Boulevard of Broken Dreams* [1991 story] (Pantheon), 2002
- *Shadowland* (Fantagraphics), 2006
- *Alias the Cat* [2002 Stuff of Dreams] (Pantheon), 2007
- *Deitch's Pictorama* [co-authored with Simon Deitch & Seth Kallen Deitch] (Fantagraphics), 2007
- *The Search for Smilin' Ed* [1999 serial] (Fantagraphics), 2010
- *The Amazing, Enlightening and Absolutely True Adventures of Katherine Whaley* (Fantagraphics), 2013

Published in:

- *Apex Treasury of Underground Comics*, Links Books, 1974
- *Arcade*
- *The Best of Bijou Funnies*, Quick Fox Books, 1975
- *Corporate Crime Comics*
- *East Village Other*
- *Gothic Blimp Works*
- *Heavy Metal*
- *High Times*
- *Laugh in the Dark*
- *LA Weekly*
- *Lean Years*
- *Mineshaft Magazine*
- *The New Yorker*
- *Pictopia*
- *Prime Cuts*
- *Raw*
- *Swift Comics*, Bantam Books, April 1971
- *Southern Fried Fugitives*
- *Tales of Sex and Death*
- *Webcomic Hurricane Relief Telethon*
- *Weirdo*
- *Young Lust*
- *Zero Zero*

Animation

- *Top of The Hour*, Nickelodeon, 1985
- *Easy Groove ID*, Nickelodeon, 1987
- *Curtains ID*, Nickelodeon, 1987
- *Network ID's*, Nick Jr., 1988
- *Prank Bumpers*, HA!, 1990

For further inquiries please contact Scott Eder at scott@scottedergallery.com or 718-797-1100.

[Scott Eder Gallery](#) – located in DUMBO -- is New York City's only gallery devoted exclusively to the art of comics.