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The Encyclopedia of American Comics: From 1897 to the Present

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From Facts on File : The Encyclopedia of American Comics: From 1897 to the Present before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Encyclopedia of American Comics: From 1897 to the Present:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Graphic Art OverviewBy thirtdtwinIf you're into graphic art in general you'll find an interesting snapshot here. This is an ambitious volume considering the huge amount of time (for a book on pop culture) it tries to cover- so there are bound to be plenty of things not covered; but even so this is a fascinating research tool if you're building a library of resources on graphic art. You're bound to find at least some information titles and characters that you didn't know about before which will lead you to even more resources and fun.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Graphic SF ReaderBy averageThis is very comprehensive. It details characters, and creators of both the strip and book variety, in various incarnations. Did you know Dashiell Hammett and Alex Raymond worked on a strip together? Me either. A very impressive piece of work by Goulart.

A reference work of over a 1000 entries devoted to the phenomenon of the American comic, which covers almost a century of comic production from the introduction of the genre in 1897 with the "Katsenjammer Kids" to the latest "Peanuts" strip and the "Superman" books.

From School Library JournalYA-- This extensive guide focuses on comic heroes and villains; the creators, artists, and writers of comic strips and comic books; and the publishers and syndicates of the comics industry. The more than

1,000 entries are arranged in dictionary form, are superbly illustrated, and are cross-referenced. An intriguing, reliable look into this form of popular American culture. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Reference works on comic art are not rare (the most recent being Denis Gifford's *American Comic Strip Collections, 1884-1939: The Evolutionary Era*, LJ 9/15/90), but ones of this scope are. Unfortunately, this work promises far more than it could possibly deliver; though it covers the most visible aspects of American comic book and strip development, it is not close to complete. The annotations, by various experts in the field, are generally well written--though the entries on comics giants Jack Kirby and Harvey Kurtzman are very disappointing. Inconsistencies intrude: there are separate, but virtually identical, entries for the strip *Cathy* and its creator Cathy Guisewite; more disparate entries for Garry Trudeau and *Doonesbury*; an entry for *The Family Circus* but only a cross-reference for creator Bil Keane; and no entry whatsoever for *American Splendor*, though there is one for its creator Harvey Pekar. There are also, as one would expect, various minor factual errors. Most disappointing is the paucity of illustrations in general and the lack of recent ones in particular. Still, there are some fine entries (especially the ones for *The Avengers*, *Pogo* creator Walt Kelly, *Krazy Kat*, and *Plastic Man*). Given the complexity of the project and the sheer volume of source material, the flaws can be overlooked. Recommended for graphic arts collections and medium to large public libraries.- Keith R.A. De Candido, "Library Journal" Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.