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CORCORAN STUDENTS CREATE EXHIBITION DESIGN FOR *KINGS OF THE PAGES: COMIC STRIPS & CULTURE 1895-1950*

Corcoran Graduate Students in CCAD Exhibition Design Program Contribute Exhibition Design for Exhibition at Maryland's McDaniel College

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Graduate students in the Corcoran College of Art + Design's Spring 2011 Exhibition Design program created the exhibition design for *Kings of the Pages: Comic Strips & Culture 1895 – 1950*, a major exhibition exploring the serious side of newspaper comic strips, opening **TODAY** at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD.

Curated by Dr. Robert Lemieux, associate professor of communications and cinema at McDaniel, and designed by graduate students at the Corcoran College of Art + Design in Washington, D.C., the exhibition examines the cultural and historical significance of newspaper comic strips from the late-19th to mid-20th centuries with 28 original, hand-drawn panels and early newsprint pieces on loan from the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum at Ohio State University, including “Krazy Kat,” “Blondie,” “Pogo,” and “Peanuts.”



The students were lead by Corcoran College of Art + Design Adjunct Professor and Senior Curator and Chief of Design at the National Gallery of Art Mark Leithauser and Senior Architect at the National Gallery of Art Donna Kirk.

“We are thrilled to work with McDaniel on this exhibition,” said Lorraine Schmidt, the Corcoran’s associate chair and academic advisor, Master of Arts in Exhibition Design. “The Corcoran is committed to providing real-world opportunities to students, and this exhibition afforded these students a chance to work with a client and see their project come to life.”

As part of the exhibition’s “The Serious Side of Comics Speaker Series,” cartoonist **Richard Thompson** will speak at the Corcoran’s Francis and Armand Hammer Auditorium on Thursday, November 1 at 7 p.m. Richard Thompson, the illustrator behind the witty strip “Cul de Sac,” and *The Washington Post*’s “Richard’s Poor Almanac” has been described by a peer as “probably the most talented all-around syndicated cartoonist working

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today.” He was the 2011 recipient of the Reuben Award, the nation’s preeminent award for cartoonists and illustrators. He has also illustrated for *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic*, and *U.S. News & World Report*. Tickets (<https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/richardthompson>) are \$20 for members of the public, \$15 for Members and \$10 for full-time students.

To learn more about the full speaker series and the exhibition at McDaniel College, please visit <http://www.mcdaniel.edu/11672.htm>.

Kings of the Pages: Comic Strips & Culture 1895 – 1950 is made possible by the Abbe Family Trust, Carroll County Arts Council, Corcoran Gallery of Art + Design, and the National Communication Association. Additional support provided by the *Carroll County Times*.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America’s first dedicated art museum and today is Washington’s largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington’s only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College’s Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.



Image: Drawing by Richard Thompson.

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