



# THE DESIGN AND ART PORTFOLIO OF IAN CHASE NICHOLS

**Ian Chase Nichols**

**PH:** 617-913-2430

**Email:** [iancnicholsart@gmail.com](mailto:iancnicholsart@gmail.com)

[www.iancnichols.com](http://www.iancnichols.com)



Signing autographs at San Diego Comic Con International as a guest of NEC PRESS

Greetings!

As a professional graphic artist, I've worked extensively for over fifteen years across a wide range of creative services. My work in graphic design and marketing has been in all forms of digital and traditional media, advertising, and large format installations. It has been featured in international campaigns, award-winning, and award-nominated projects. My work in comic books has been on the largest intellectual properties in the world and in award-nominated books. Everything I've done has required and harnessed quality marketing strategies, extensive knowledge, and charming creativity to inform, captivate, and motivate people to action.

With my extensive background, diverse experience, and talent, I will bring new ideas and perspectives with knowledge and expertise. I have the ability to be self-starting and work in a team environment and bring value to the company and those I work with. Thank you for the opportunity to share my portfolio of work with you.

Kindest Regards,

A stylized, handwritten signature in yellow ink, appearing to read 'Ian Chase Nichols'.

Ian Chase Nichols

References Available Upon Request

## CONTENTS

Greetings.....	1
Contents.....	2
 <b>GRAPHIC DESIGN</b>	
Logo Design.....	3
Branding .....	6
Print Advertising.....	8
Merchandise .....	9
Digital Marketing .....	10
Video Editing and Streaming.....	11
Book Layout.....	12
Website Concepts .....	13
 <b>ILLUSTRATION AND COMICS</b>	
Published Comics .....	14
Award-Nominated Works .....	15
The Boston Red Sox .....	16
The Providence Bruins .....	16
Undersea Hero .....	17
Concept Art.....	18
 <b>Above and Beyond</b>	
Can You Do This Too?.....	19
 <b>RESUME.....</b>	
<b>20</b>	
 <b>THANK YOU.....</b>	
<b>22</b>	
 <b>REFERENCES.....</b>	
<b>22</b>	



## LOGO DESIGN

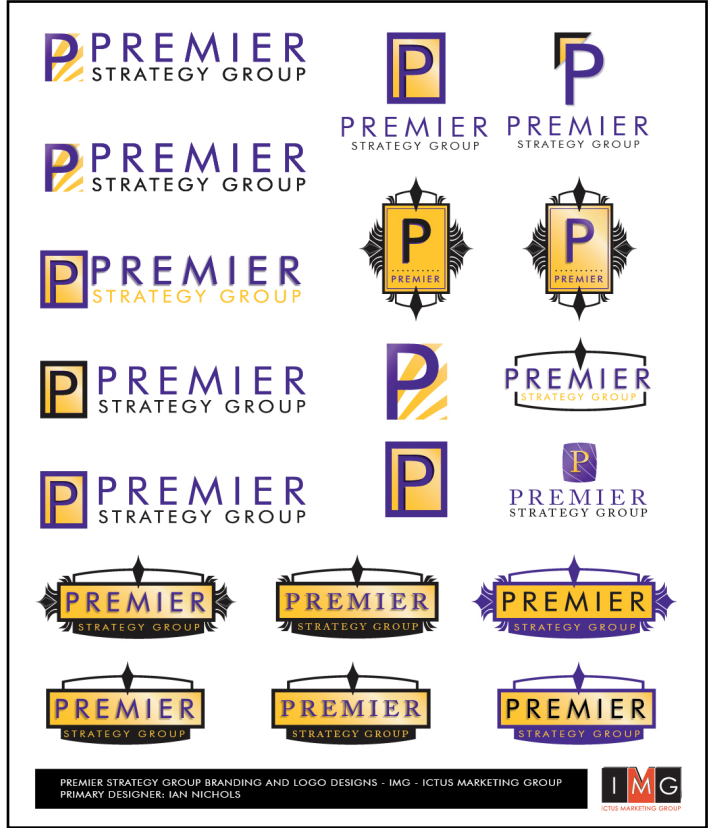
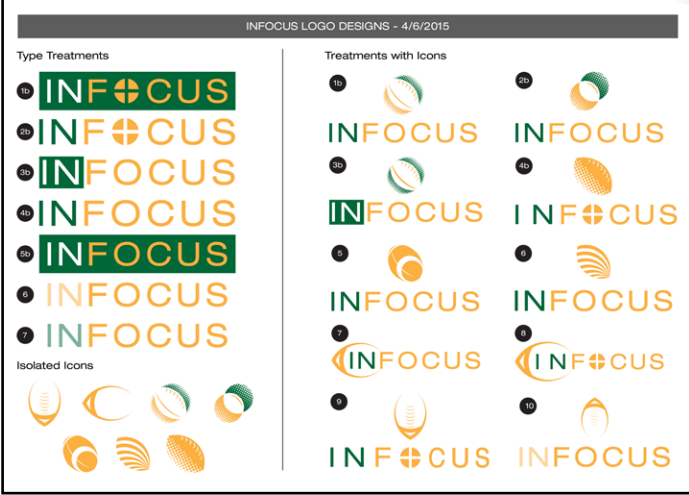
I look at a logo as the Rosetta Stone of a brand. It all begins here. I've created logos for a wide array of industries and clients. Here are some of my favorites.





# LOGO DESIGN

Here you can see the process behind creating a logo. I begin all of my designs with pencil on paper. After that stage, I take one of any number of approaches to create the best logo for each client's unique needs.



Some of my favorite logos take time, others the client and I agree right away. I always keep my process work to learn from and use down the line.



## LOGO DESIGN

Rhode Island Anime Con was not always called that. Even before its first show, it changed names twice, and had to be re-branded twice. Otaku Con was first, and the branding was based on the works of Hokusai. When I was told the name would change to the more modern, RI Anime Expo, I wanted to introduce a modern option. Lastly, it was changed again, to what it is now The Rhode Island Anime Con.

### OTAKU CON LOGO DESIGNS BY IAN CHASE NICHOLS



### RHODE ISLAND ANIME EXPO LOGO DESIGNS BY IAN CHASE NICHOLS

#### CONCEPT 1 (Based on Otaku Con Concept)



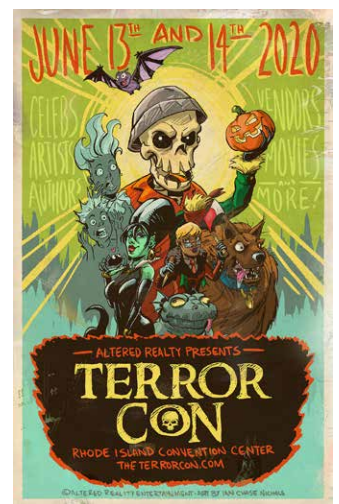
#### CONCEPT 2 (Based on RICC Logo Concept)





## BRANDING


Designing the logo is only the beginning of establishing a memorable branding presence. Reinforcing visual ideas, typography, and imagery are vital to brand strength and recognizance. Terror Con has always been one of my favorite brands that I've built because it has so much room for fun ideas.





## BRANDING

I created all of the branding and logos for Joseph Jordan while I was at Acanthus Publishing. The color scheme and fonts were chosen to enhance and establish a visual signature that worked with his message of significance. Joe is an inspirational speaker and behavioral finance expert. *Living a Life of Significance* (Acanthus Publishing, 2013) has sold over 90,000 copies in five languages. Formerly, Joe ran insurance sales at Paine Webber and more recently was a senior vice president at MetLife.



Joseph W. Jordan is a globally renowned independent speaker, author, and behavioral finance expert. The first edition of Joe's book, *Living a Life of Significance*, was one of *Financial Advisor* magazine's top five books of 2011 and has sold over 30,000 copies in 4 languages. Joe is the founder of the Insured Retirement Institute (formerly known as the National Association of Variable Annuities, or NAVA) and was featured on the cover of *Life Insurance Selling* magazine in 2012. For three consecutive years, he has been named one of the "Top 50 Irish Americans on Wall Street" by *Irish America* magazine.

Beginning his career with Home Life Insurance Company in 1974, Joe was honored as the "Rockie of the Year" and a member of the Million Dollar Round Table. He went on to run insurance sales at PaineWebber from 1981 to 1988, and then joined MetLife to oversee retail product development. Joe was responsible for starting fee-based financial planning, then, as well as their behavioral finance department. He was a senior vice president before dedicating himself full time to independent speaking and consulting.

Joe has spoken around the world at top industry conferences, including the 2004 Million Dollar Round Table, as well as IMRI conferences in Thailand, Korea, Ireland, Greece, Poland, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Australia. He was a keynote speaker for the 2006, 2009, and 2012 GAMA LAMP Conferences, the 2012 IMRA Distribution Conference in Hong Kong, and dozens of regional NAIFA and FPA meetings. He was also the chairman of the 2012 Personal Finance Society conference in Birmingham, UK.

Joe is a member of the Fordham University Football Hall of Fame and has played rugby for the New York Athletic Club for over 30 years.

### LIVING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE

Intrinsic value is not measured by how much money you make, but by the size of the problem you can solve. As a financial professional in the 21st century, you are a modern day hero to Joseph Jordan. By providing people with independence, dignity, and a legacy, you are part of the noblest profession in the world. Celebrate your significant purpose in life and instill inspiration into your career by reading one of *Financial Advisor* magazine's top five books of 2011.

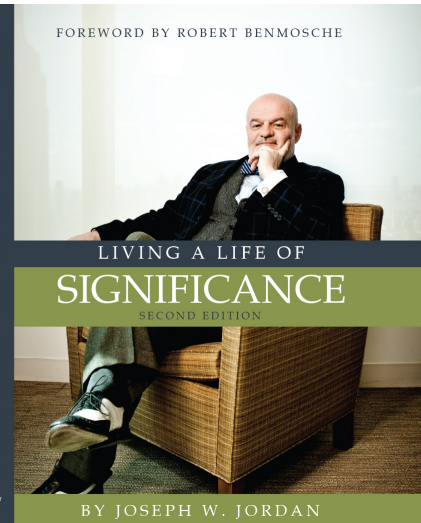
- "...a gift to anyone who wants a boost in energy."  
Dan Sullivan - Founder of Strategic Coach®
- "*Living a Life of Significance* is essential reading for your practice and your soul."  
Nick Murray - "Resources" in Nick Murray Interactive, July 2011
- "Joe cares passionately about the financial profession."  
Ray Goldsack - Chief Executive of The Personal Finance Society (UK)
- "Joe has an air of wisdom, empathy, and reassurance."  
Phil Hartman - Former MDRT President
- "Joe Jordan can teach you like no one else."  
Gordon Watson - Executive Vice President & Regional Managing Director, AIA Group
- "Although he talks about financial services, he is really talking about life."  
Jack Keane, Retired Four Star General & Former Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army



© 2013 Joseph W. Jordan - Cover and Author Images © Isabelle Hastings

LIVING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE - JOSEPH JORDAN

FOREWORD BY ROBERT BENMOSCHE



LIVING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE  
SECOND EDITION


BY JOSEPH W. JORDAN

"Joseph Jordan is a gifted communicator with a deep knowledge of insurance products, their construction, and pricing. The most compelling quality that separates Joe is his ability to perceive financial products in the greater scheme of things and think about them from the perspective of our customers, rather than how industry insiders see them. From Joe's view of the world, we in the insurance industry earn our living in the noblest profession on earth, and each one of us is living a life of significance."

Read this book and pass it on. I applaud the role Joe Jordan has taken to become the 'Ambassador of Significance' for the industry; his message strikes the core of everything we do. By incorporating the ideas Joe offers in this book, we can transform society's perception of us and regain our sense of purpose. I petition you to join me and take the pledge to live a life of significance. The greatest beneficiary of this new paradigm is you."

Excerpt from the Foreword by Robert Benmosche  
Chief Executive Officer of American International Group


ACANTHUS PUBLISHING  
Published by Acanthus Publishing  
© 2013 Joseph Jordan - josephjordan.com



Living a Life of  
**SIGNIFICANCE**  
Second Edition

By Joseph W. Jordan


FOREWORD BY  
ROBERT BENMOSCHE



Published by Acanthus Publishing - 2013

Table of Contents

What People Are Saying	III
Dedication	IX
Table of Contents	XI
Acknowledgements	XV
Foreword	XVII
Introduction	XXI
<b>Part I</b>	
Chapter 1: Do You Hear What I Hear?	3
Chapter 2: That Time Before	9
Chapter 3: Dawn of The Information Age	27
<b>Part II</b>	
Chapter 4: Important Influences	33
Chapter 5: Stories that Resonate	41
Chapter 6: View From The Future	49
Chapter 7: A Life Interrupted	53
<b>Part III</b>	
Chapter 8: Coming to Terms	67



PART  
**I**

CHAPTER 2  
That Time Before

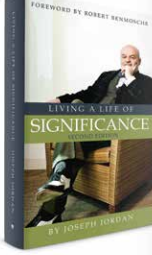
"Intellectual awareness and knowledge of something motivates us to do nothing."  
- DAVID HUME

When I took the leap into the insurance business in 1974 at a small company called Phoenix Home Life (which no longer exists), everyone was selling products that had been around for years. The products were whole life and term life. It is important to remember that in the 1970s, insurance, banking, credit, and investing operated separately from one another. Most working Americans, if they had anything they called a "retirement" account, would have had a pension or some other defined benefit plan for retirement. Many people (more men than women in those days) also had some form of traditional life insurance. There was no motivation to design updated insurance products at that time.

As the 70s gave way to the 80s, however, America faced record inflation and an oil crisis, compounded by the hostage crisis in Iran. Americans felt vulnerable. Products such as life insurance policies that relied on cash values with fixed interest rates—even healthy ones—suddenly seemed



SECOND EDITION  
NOW AVAILABLE  
HARDCOVER AND KINDLE FORMAT



FOREWORD BY ROBERT BENMOSCHE

LIVING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE  
BY JOSEPH JORDAN

Order Today to Discover the Significance of Your Career!  
www.josephjordan.com | 1-855-JoeJordan

JOE JORDAN

FINANCIAL SERVICES INDUSTRY LEGEND

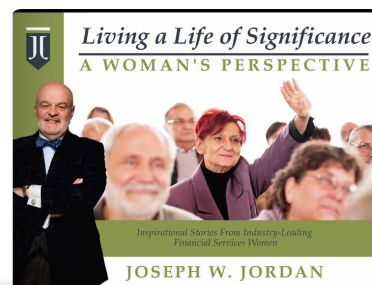
Living a Life of Significance  
2nd Edition  
ISBN 978-1-938002-1-1  
\$24.95

FEATURED RESOURCE  
Joe Jordan Interview  
Watch Joe Jordan's Interview

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER & AUTHOR

Joe Jordan is an international speaker and author who has spoken at over 100 conferences and seminars across the globe. He has a reputation as a top speaker in the financial services industry and has been featured in numerous media outlets. Joe is a sought-after speaker for insurance and financial planning events. He has also authored several books, including *Living a Life of Significance*, which has been translated into multiple languages. Joe is a member of the International Speakers Bureau and is a frequent contributor to industry publications.

Living a Life of Significance  
A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE



JOSEPH W. JORDAN





## PRINT ADVERTISING

Even in a world where digital advertising is so prolific, print advertisements and marketing strategies can grant a level of credibility and vitality that digital can lack. From tiny business cards to gigantic billboards, I've designed almost any type of print out there. In my time running a print shop for postalcenter, I've also printed and installed a wide array of products and print.





## MERCHANDISING

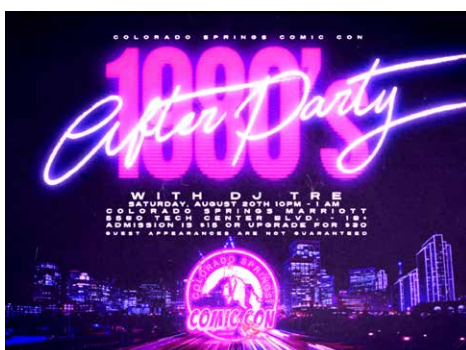
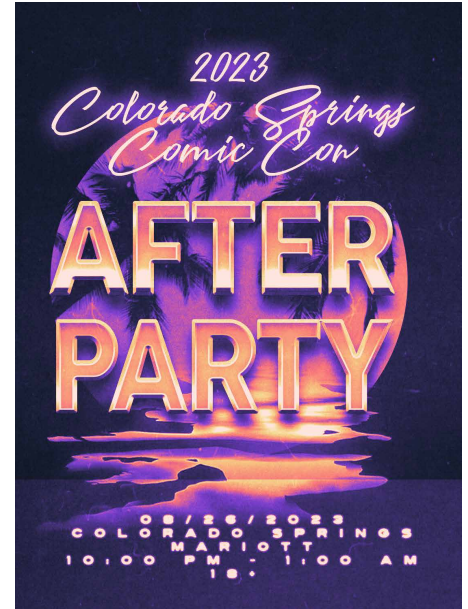
Expanding brand awareness and income through merchandising demands quality design. I've designed shirts, hats, beer labels, buttons, pins, prints, mugs, tumblers, and many other types of merchandise. Several of my Rhode Island Anime Con 2023 shirts sold out at the show.





## DIGITAL MARKETING

Great digital marketing is interactive. It has to be an shared relationship to maintain any vitality in the algorithms of social media. Creating dynamic visuals are the introduction and salutation, and they need to be strong enough to elicit curiosity, attention, and action.

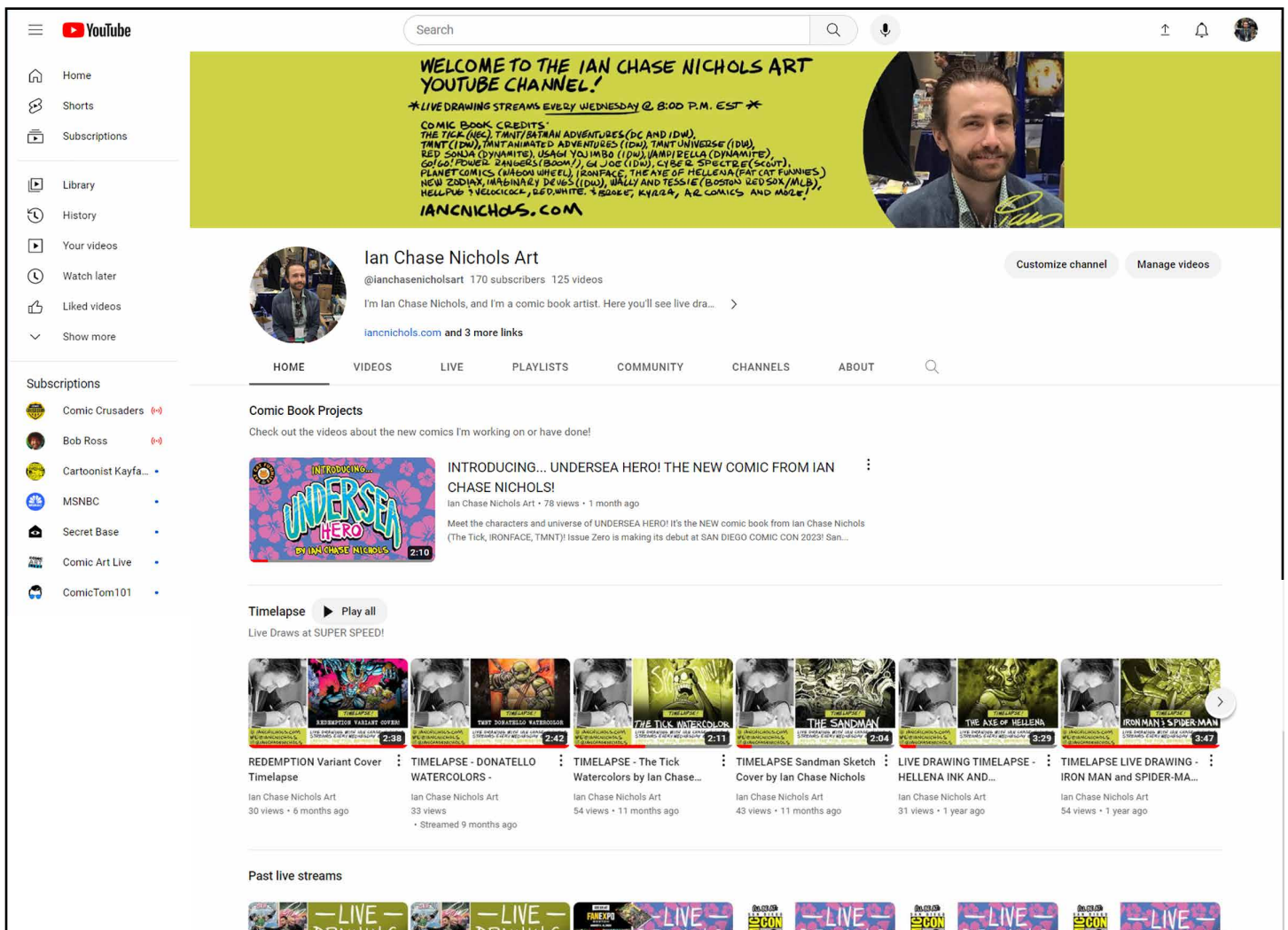
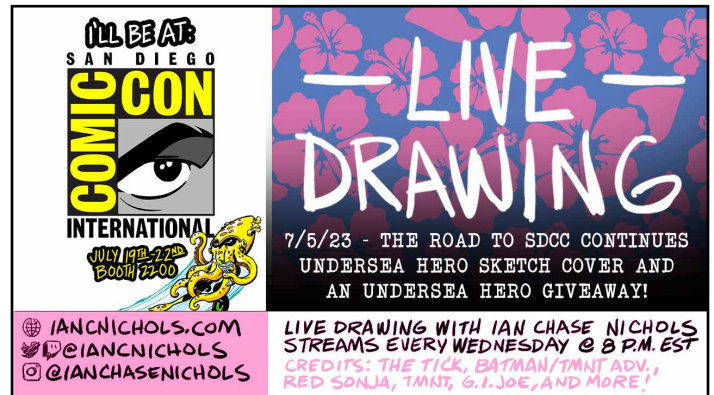
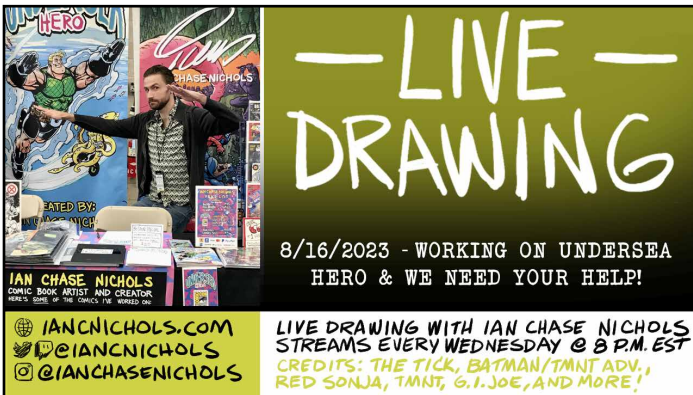




## VIDEO EDITING AND STREAMING

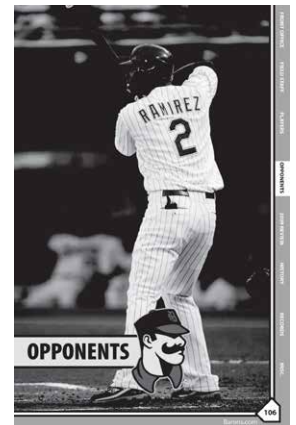
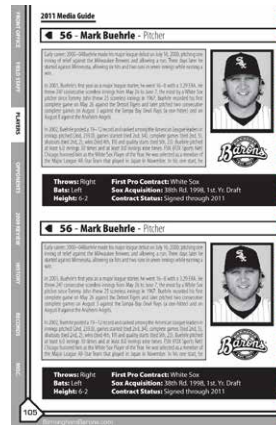
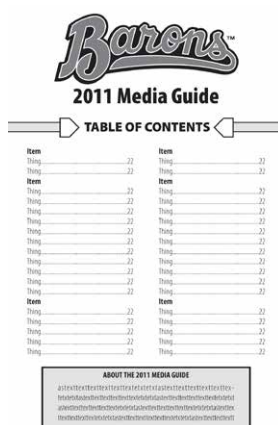
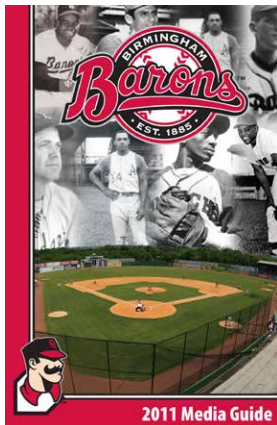
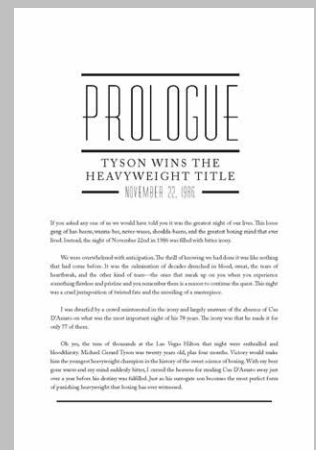
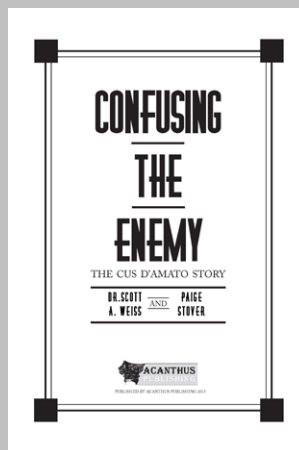
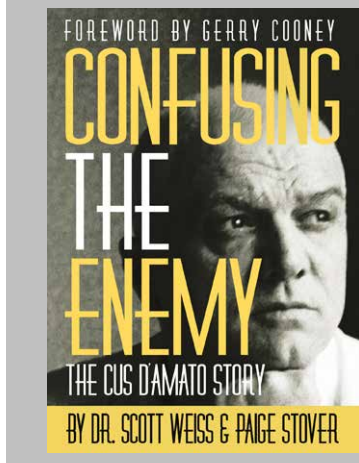
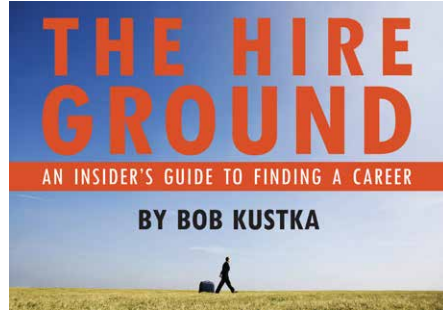
Two years ago, I began training on Adobe Premiere Pro video editing software. Current marketing and the algorithms of social media require video content. Reels, streaming live videos, shorts, and simple time lapse videos do wonders for modern marketing campaigns relying on social media platforms.

For my own work, I do a weekly live stream. I use Restream to broadcast it on YouTube, Twitch, Twitter, Facebook, and my website every Wednesday at 8 PM EST.



# BOOK LAYOUT

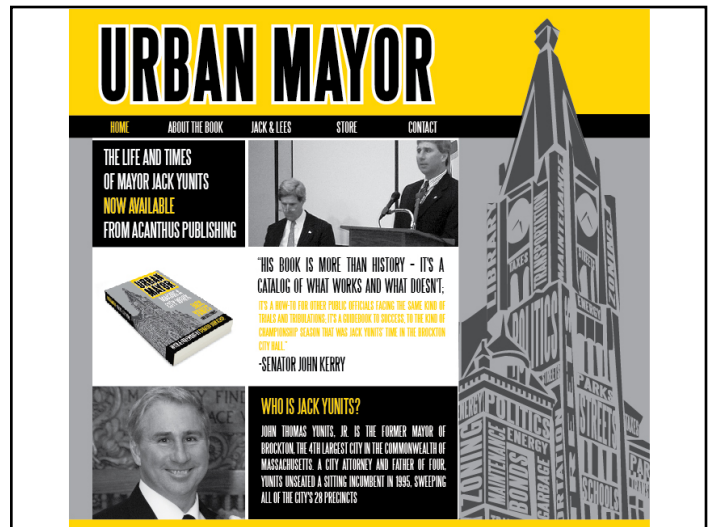
At Acanthus, I was the Creative Director and Lead Designer on all of their books and publications. I used InDesign to create dynamic layouts for books as long as 500 pages. Our books were regularly nominated for IPPY and other awards, garnering several wins in various categories.





## WEBSITE CONCEPTS

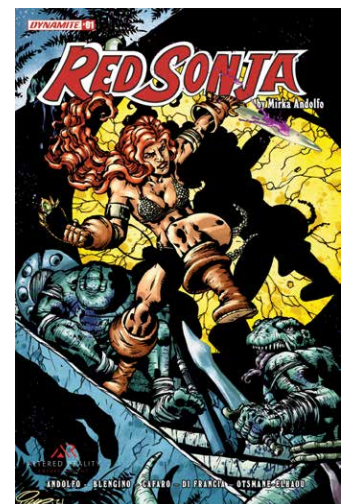
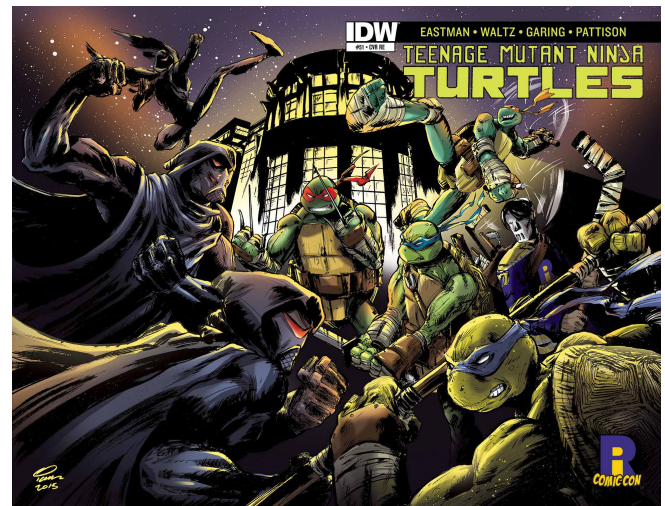
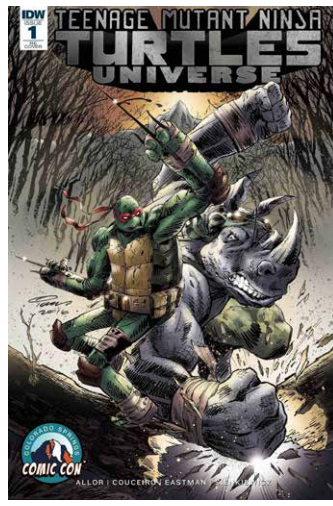
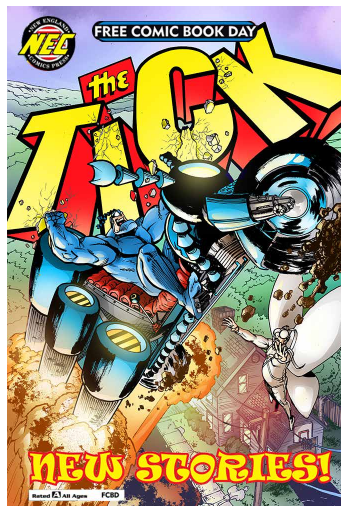
I have been designing websites since I first got a computer. Professionally, I began designing published websites for clients at postalcenter, and that continued through Ictus/Acanthus to today.





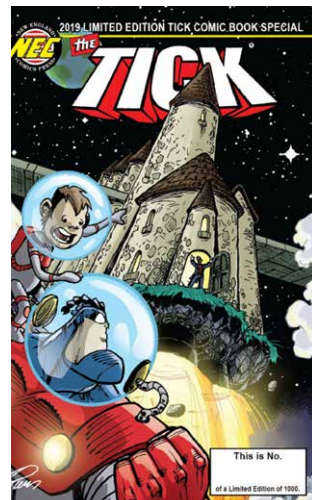
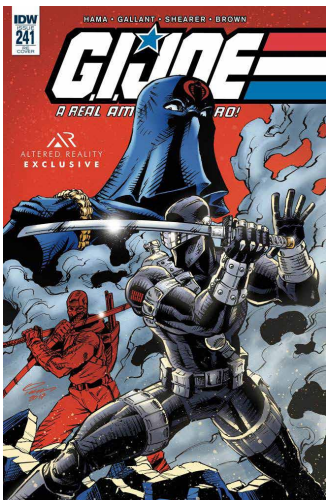
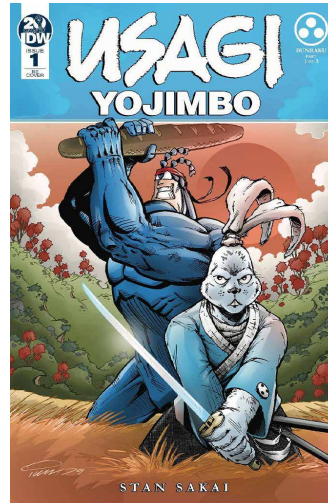
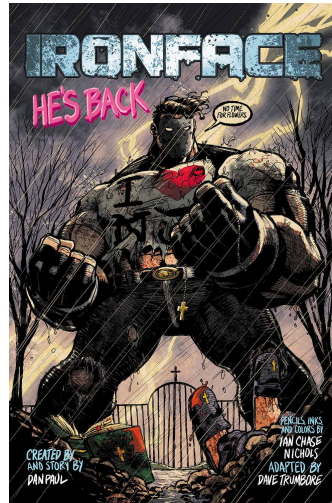
## PUBLISHED COMICS

I've loved comics my whole life. I've had the privilege of working on some of the most prestigious characters in the world, such as Batman, Ninja Turtles, Conan, The Tick, and many more. I pencil, ink, color, letter, and do the production design for almost all of my works.





## Design and Art Portfolio of Ian Chase Nichols



## AWARD-NOMINATED COMIC WORK



I contributed to the 2023 Eisner-nominee The Charlton Companion. The Eisners are the Academy Awards of the Comic Book Industry.

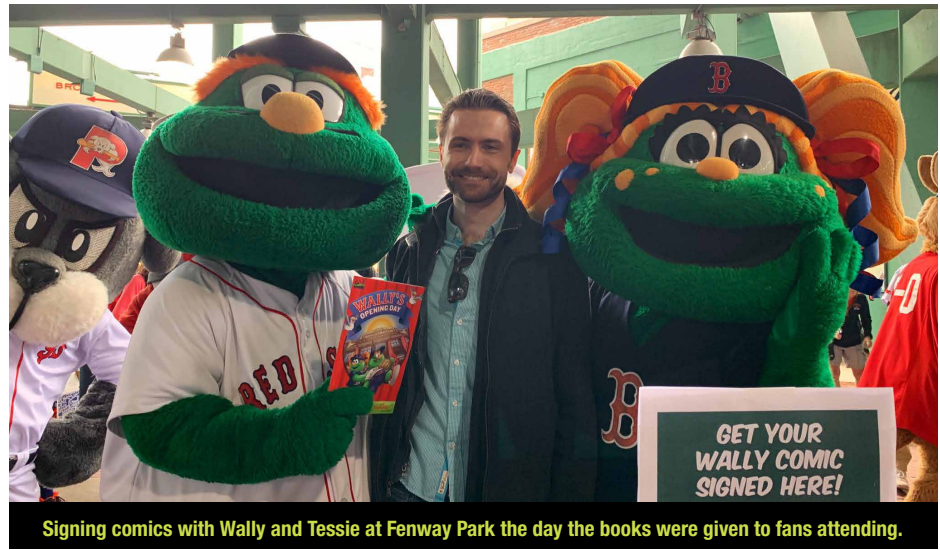
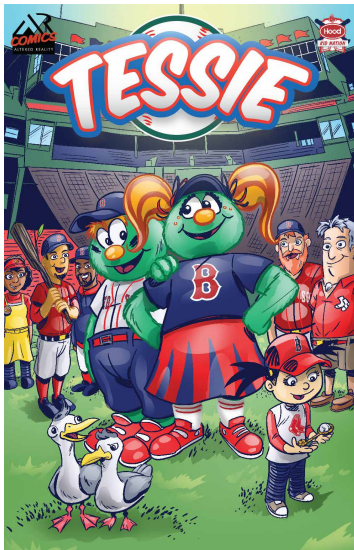
I also contributed to the Ringo Award-Nominated Anthology 'Magic Bullet' in 2018 with the story, 'Space Frog.'





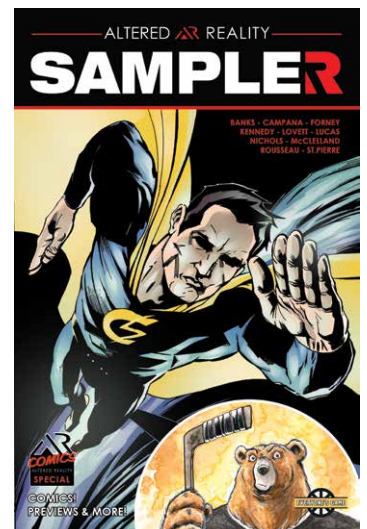
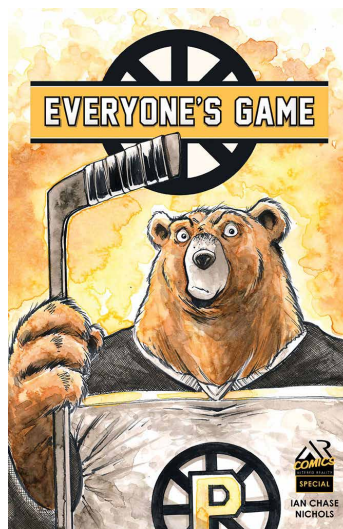
## THE BOSTON RED SOX

I was the entire creative team for the Wally and Tessie comic books for The Boston Red Sox. Wally's Opening Day was an adaptation of a short film, and Tessie was an original story I created.



## THE PROVIDENCE BRUINS

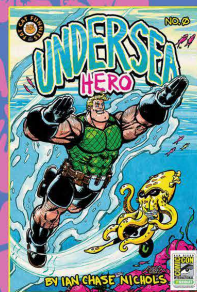
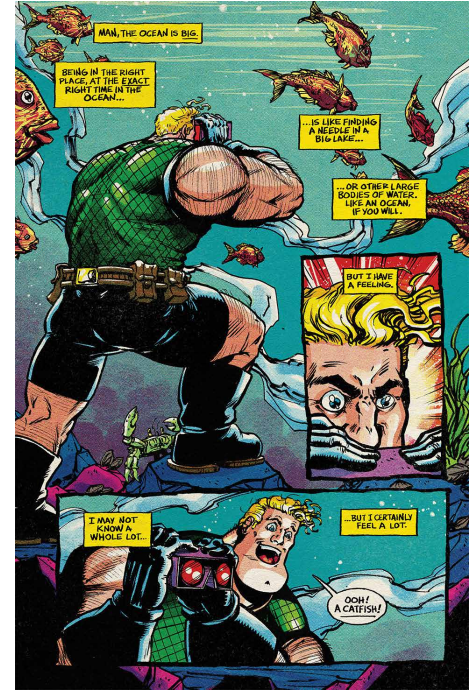
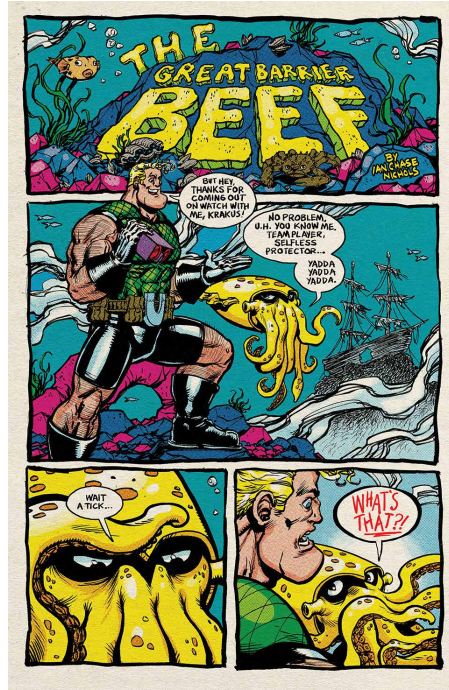
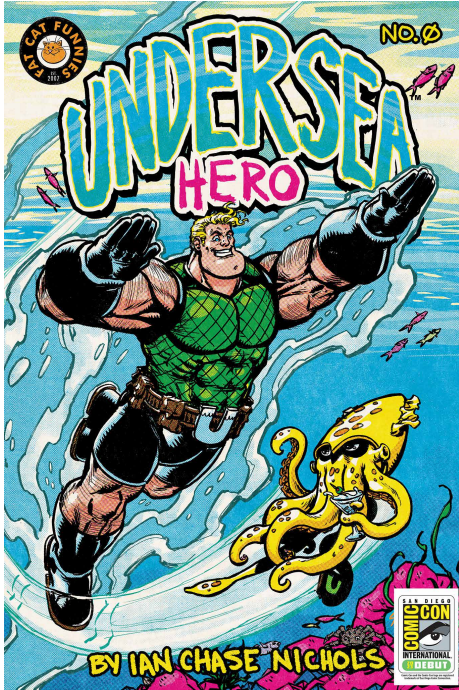
I also created an original superhero, ICECAP for the Providence Bruins. We also developed two other properties together, Everyone's Game and an AR Comics Sampler.



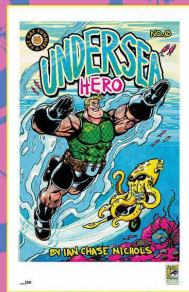


## UNDERSEA HERO

Undersea Hero is my latest creator-owned comic book. It is an all-ages comedy that I describe as Aquaman and The Tick meet The Muppets. It was granted 'Official Debut' status at the 2023 San Diego Comic Con International, which is a juried and prestigious status.



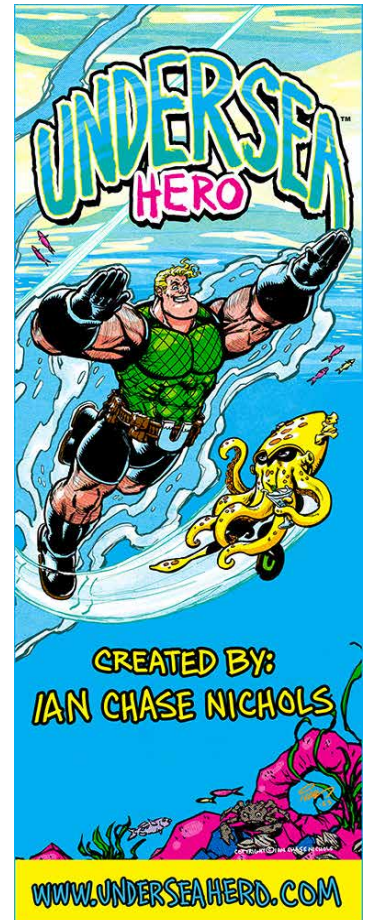
DEBUT COVER  
LIMITED TO 100 COPIES



DEBUT PRINT  
SIGNED, NUMBERED,  
AND LIMITED TO 50



SKETCH COVER  
(NOT SDCC EXCLUSIVE)



Showing off the first copy at San Diego Comic Con International 2023



## CONCEPT ART

From video games and comics to toys and films, I've done concept art for a myriad of applications.

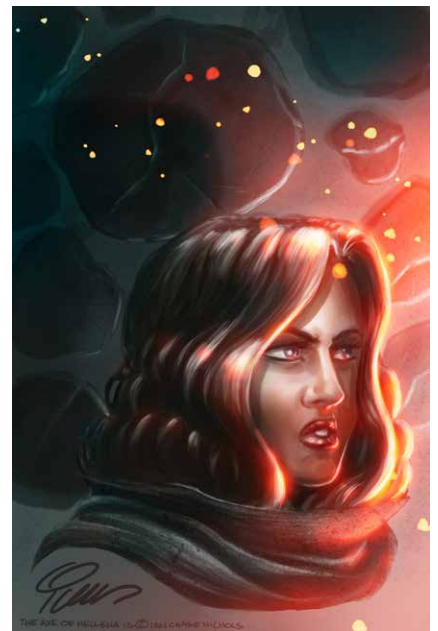
Digital painting of a Level design rendering for a fantasy video game.



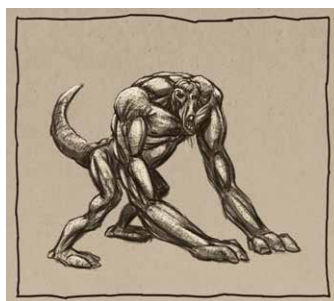
Game dwarf warrior design



Dwarf warrior detail



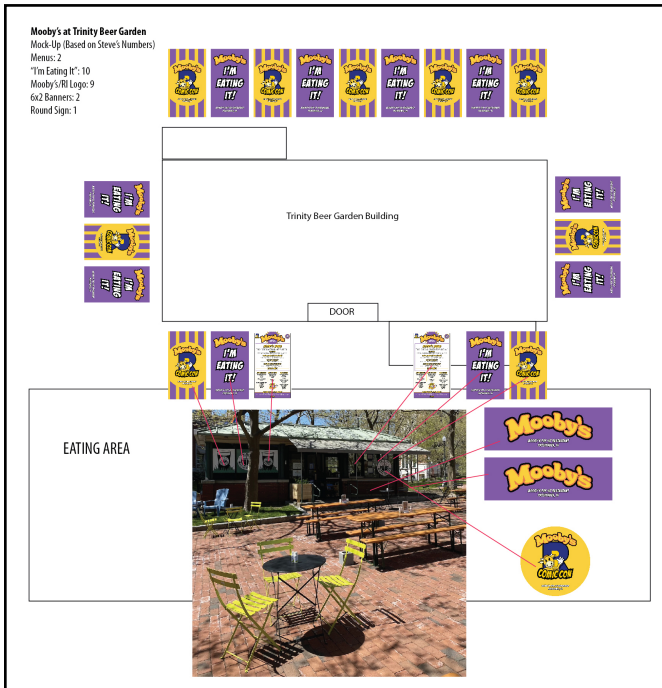
THE AGE OF MULLBELLIA © IAN CHASE NICHOLS





## CAN YOU DO THIS TOO?

I pride myself on my adaptability and ability to learn new skills on the fly and rise to the occasion. One such instance was the Mooby's pop-up at Rhode Island Comic Con. I was told at 9:00 a.m. that filmmaker Kevin Smith was coming, we were doing a Mooby's restaurant, and it needed to be designed by noon of that day in order for all of the materials to get printed and installed in time for Kevin's arrival. I was not given specs for most things, only digital photographs of the install site. I used my expertise, some basic math, and my abilities to get all of the menus, signs, clings, menus, and shirts done.





# Ian Chase Nichols

Design, Illustration, Comic Books, Creative Services Specialist

PH: (617) 913-2430  
lancnicholsart@gmail.com  
lancnichols.com

## EXPERIENCE

### **Altered Reality Entertainment, Fall River, MA — Chief Creative Officer**

2017 - PRESENT

- Creating and managing original illustrations and designs for seven annual comic and pop culture conventions nationwide
- Leading and delivering diverse digital and traditional media campaigns, including the design and creation of original logos, designs, and illustrations
- Working in collaboration with clients, sponsors, venues, and vendors to meet and deliver unique branding and marketing needs
- Directing art and design content from conception to completion including book layouts, websites, audio-visual products, merchandising, advertising, logos, social media, videos, and branding initiatives
- Consistently meeting tight deadlines and making sound, budget-conscious creative decisions

### **Altered Reality Comics, Fall River, MA — Editor-In-Chief**

2017 - 2021

- Schedule oversight and editorial lead for Altered Reality's entire line of company-owned original comic books
- Creating custom comic books in partnership with the Boston Red Sox, Providence Bruins, and other sponsors
- Coordinating special edition comic books with publishers Marvel, IDW, Dynamite, BOOM!, Titan, NEC Press, and Zenoscope
- Lead designer, artist, writer, character designer, colorist, letterer, and editor
- Managing comic and project queue with time-sensitive deadlines for multiple titles from conception to print and delivery
- Recruiting and collaborating with world-class comic book artists and writers to enhance and diversify the comic book line

### **Ictus Initiative and Acanthus Publishing, Boston, MA — Creative Director**

2012 - 2017

- Lead designer and concept artist for a diverse stable of publications from industry leaders in a variety of fields
- Managed project queue and workload delegation between departments
- Initiated design schemes and coordinated with clients, staff, and vendors
- Creative project management of book layouts, websites, audio and video products, merchandising, advertising, logos, social media and branding initiatives
- Made tight deadlines with wide-ranging budgetary constraints
- Oversaw the intern program with colleges and universities in the Boston area
- Completed illustrations for multiple books and covers
- Multiple projects won multiple industry awards and recognitions for quality

## SKILLS AND PROGRAMS

Adobe Illustrator  
Adobe Photoshop  
Adobe InDesign  
Adobe Premiere Pro  
Adobe Acrobat  
MS Office  
Web Design (Wix, Basic HTML & Wordpress)  
Google Analytics  
Facebook Meta Suite  
Onyx  
Fiery Command Workstation  
Filezilla  
Squarespace  
Illustration  
Cartooning  
Graphic Design  
Marketing  
Social Media  
Power Point  
Print Production  
MAC and PC Capacity

## AWARDS

2023 Eisner Award  
Nominee  
Contributing artist to  
'The Charlton Companion',  
Nominated for Best  
Book About Comics

2021 Ringo Award  
Nominee  
Contributing Artist to  
'Magic Bullet,'  
Nominated for Best  
Anthology



**postcenter, Milford, MA — Lead Print Production and Design Technician**

2007 - 2012

- Managed the daily production queue and served as the sole designer on a full-time, daily basis
- Completed all orders from four retail locations and external trade partners
- Served customers ranging from individuals to national corporate accounts.
- Designed all postcenter projects, promotions, and advertising materials for print and electronic applications
- Creatively designed and generated projects, promotions, and rewards programs
- Maintained and organized all customer and company files for convenient recall
- Maintained all print and production equipment for optimal output and use

Multiple Winners  
and Nominations  
for Independent  
Publisher's Awards  
Lead designer and  
book layout artist

**Fat Cat Funnies, Fall River, MA — Sole Proprietor, Publisher, Creator**

2009 - PRESENT

- Development and publishing of creator-owned comics and intellectual properties
- Completion of complex, fully-illustrated comic books on a regular schedule
- Hiring and organizing of creative teams and individuals for diverse projects
- Handling distribution, fulfillment, marketing, and licensing

**Social Media**

Facebook  
Instagram  
YouTube  
Twitter  
twitch  
LinkedIn  
Bluesky  
Artstation  
deviantart

**PUBLISHED WORKS AND FREELANCE WORK**

**Titan Comics** — Cover Artist on *Conan the Barbarian* #1

**TwoMorrow's The Charlton Companion** (Eisner Award Nominee) -Pinup Artist

**IDW Comics** — Cover Artist on five *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* Comic Series, *G.I. Joe*, *Usagi Yojimbo*, and interior artist for *Imaginary Drugs*

**DC Comics** (with IDW) — Cover Artist on *Batman/TMNT Adventures*

**NEC Press** — Penciling, Inking, and Coloring *The Tick* comic book series (2014-Present)

**Dynamite Entertainment** — Cover Artist on *Red Sonja*, *Vampirella*, and *Elvira*

**IRONFACE STUDIOS** — Artist, Designer, Letterer, and Producer of *IRONFACE: He's Back*

**SCOUT Comics** — Cover Artist on *Cyber Specter* & Pinup Artist for *Kyrra the Alien Jungle Girl*

**Fat Cat Funnies** — Artist, writer and publisher of *Undersea Hero* and *The Axe of Hellena*

**Wagon Wheel Comics** — Artist on *Planet Comics*

**Hazzum Productions** — Cover Artist on *Dawg Haus*

**Magic Bullet** (Ringo Award Nominee) — Artist on *'Space Frog'* comic strip

**Astronaut Ink** - Cover and Pinup Artist on *New Zodiac*

**Worthy Chaos Comics** — Cover artist on *Redemption*

**Boston Red Sox** — Artist, Writer, Film Adaptation - *Wally's Opening Day* and *Tessie* comics

**The Newark Advocate Newspaper** — Editorial Cartoons

**Buhler Furniture** — Graphic Design

**Brian Nichols Furniture** — Graphic Design

**Birmingham Barons** — Graphic Design

**Art Show at 11 Broad Street** — Exhibition hosted by the Nantucket Historical Association

**Curry College Alumni Art Exhibition**

**Berkline Furniture Company** — Advertising and concept art

**Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association Aquarium** - Educational Illustrations

**EDUCATION**

**Curry College, Milton, MA — Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts & English**

2004 - 2007

Magna Cum Laude, 'Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities' Award



## **THANK YOU**

Thank you very much for taking a look at my work. Please contact me at any time that is convenient for you.

## **REFERENCES**

**REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**