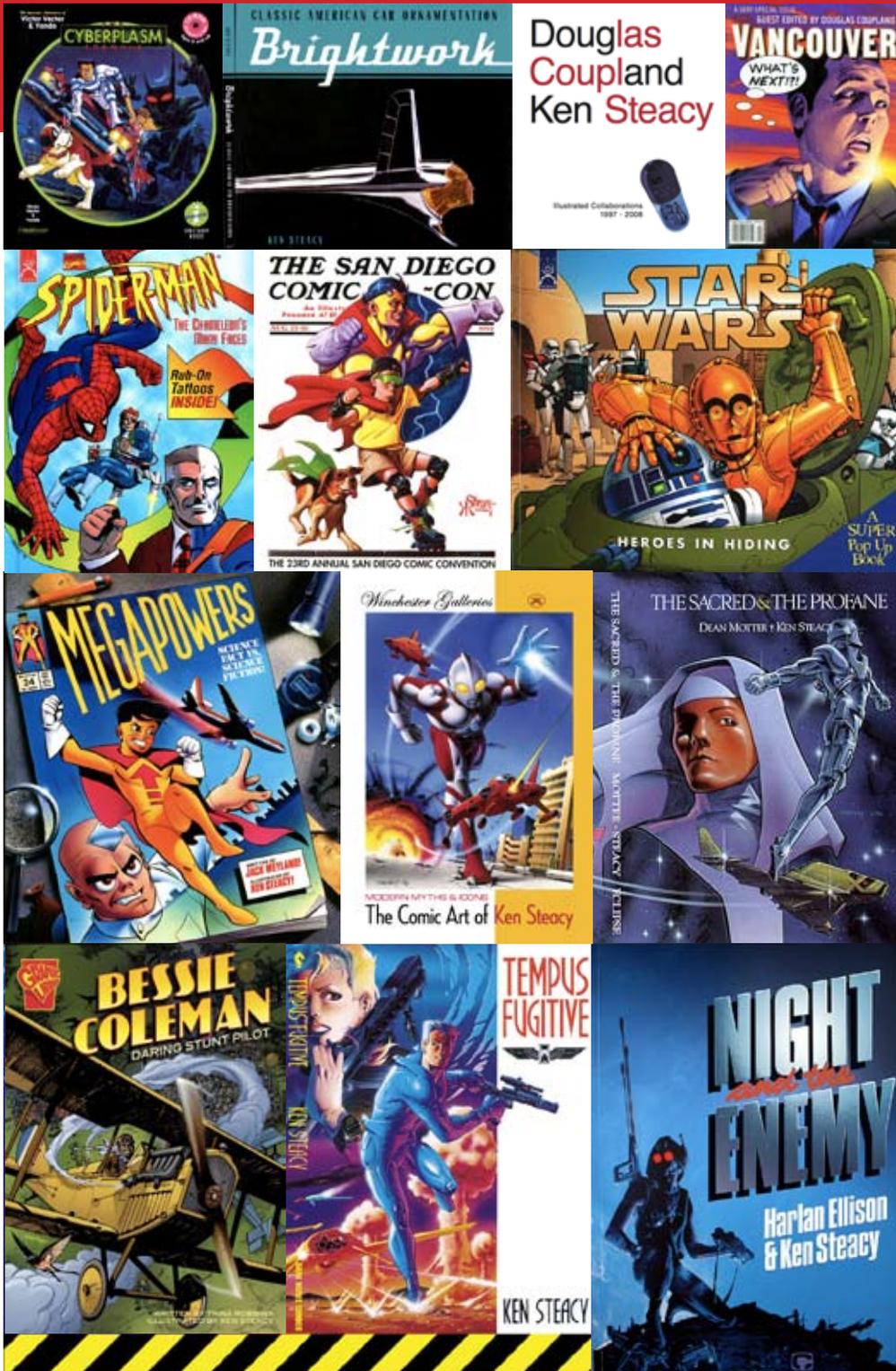


Biography



KEN STEACY is a Canadian Air Force brat who decided at age eleven to become a professional comic book artist. He pursued this intent until the magic moment occurred in 1974 with the publication in ORB magazine of *Super Student*, a two page strip that he wrote, pencilled, inked, and lettered. This holistic approach has been a hallmark of his work ever since, true to his belief that specialization is for insects, not artists. He also believes that the arbitrary distinctions between Art and Illustration should go away forever. His favorite colour is currently sanguine.

He studied both film and video as analogies to sequential narratives, later known as graphic novels, at the Ontario College of Art & Design, but drove all of his profs crazy by turning in comic strips instead of film or video. They finally figured out what he was up to and awarded him a pile of scholarships, including the Lieutenant Governor's Medal.

Since then Ken has written and illustrated the exploits of practically every popular character you could name, including *Astro Boy*, *Harry Potter*, *Batman*, *Ultraman*, *Spider-man* and *The X-Men*. His four major works in print are *The Sacred & the Profane* (co-authored by Dean Motter), *Night and the Enemy* (stories by Harlan Ellison), *Megapowers* (written by physicist Jack Weyland) and *Tempus Fugitive* (which he did all by himself). Other graphic novels featuring his own IP are currently in progress.

Ken spent two very intense years at Sanctuary Woods Multimedia creating, producing, directing and illustrating *The Awesome Adventures of Victor Vector & Yondo*, an interactive edutainment CD-ROM series for kids. He later produced a three issue comic book mini-series chronicling the further adventures of VV&Y in print. He has worked for many years with LUCASFILM, producing stories and computer-rendered illustrations for *Star Wars* books, prints, and merchandise.

Chronicle Books has published *Brightwork*, a celebration of classic American car ornamentation which Ken wrote, designed and art directed. He also produced all of the display artwork for the *Space Place* gallery at Edmonton's TELUS World of Science, designed the sets and promotional material for a production of *West Side Story*, and painted stacks of *World of Warcraft*, *Marvel Masterpieces*, and *Indiana Jones* gaming cards.

Ken produced storyboards and design elements for the Rainmaker Entertainment digitally animated feature film *Escape From Planet Earth*, and rebranded a number of local enterprises, including Baggins, the world's largest Converse shoe store.

Ken is an official Canadian War Artist, and created a series of paintings depicting the peacetime activities of navigators in the air-arm of the Canadian Armed Forces. During that assignment he flew with the Snowbirds aerial demonstration team, and aboard Search & Rescue and anti-submarine warfare aircraft. He also broke the sound barrier in a CF-101B interceptor, a plane his father once piloted. The paintings are now part of the permanent collection of the National War Museum in Ottawa, two of which are included in a touring exhibition titled *A Brush With War* which opened at the McMichael Collection in Kleinburg. The show also includes works by A.Y. Jackson, Alex Colville, Ted Zuber, and Gertrude Kearns.

On numerous occasions he has worked with author/artist Douglas Coupland, and their collaborations were shown at P.S. Gallery in 2008. The Winchester Gallery in Victoria hosted a major retrospective of Ken's work in 2009. He guest lectures extensively on the topic of sequential narrative storytelling, most recently at Sheridan College, and the University of Toronto.

The recipient of an Eisner and an Inkpot award, Ken was inducted into the Joe Shuster Awards Hall of Fame in 2009, a lifetime achievement award honouring Canadian comic book creators for their contributions to the industry.

