



Image Comics: The Road To Independence

By George Khoury

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- In 1992, seven artists shook the comic book industry when they left their top-selling Marvel Comic titles to jointly form a new company named Image Comics. Out of the gate, millions of readers flocked to the energetic adventures by these creators, as together they ushered in the Image Age, where comics would sell in the millions, and a comic book artist could become a mass media celebrity. *Image Comics: The Road to Independence* is an unprecedented look at the history of this important comic book company, featuring interviews and art from popular Image founders Erik Larsen, Jim Lee, Todd McFarlane, Whilce Portacio, Marc Silvestri and Jim Valentino. Also featured are many of finest creators who over the last 15 years have been a part of the Image family, offering behind-the-scenes details of the company's successes and failures. There's plenty of rare and unseen art, helping make this the most honest exploration ever taken of the controversial company whose success, influence and high production values changed the landscape of comics forever.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The industry has certainly changed since the arrival of Image, and indeed it has been for the better. As well as challenging the relationships between artist and publisher, Image Comics has also proven time and again that serial comics can be about more than super-powered people in tights. Some of the most compelling (and award-winning) work of the last decade has stemmed from these new frontiers that comics are expanding into, and they have Image to thank for much of it. Anyone who wants to get a good grasp of a company that can only be described as the embodiment of a movement would do well to pick up this book." **Lance Eaton, Curled up**

"Your interest in the individual interviews will depend entirely on how interested you are in the creative activities of that person. I naturally found Lee's ruminations to be the most interesting. Now keep in mind that Khoury as interviewer doesn't just cover the comics and how they were created but follows the interviewees through their lives, from their first interest in comics as art to what they are currently up to. The upshot of this approach is I learned a whole more about Jim Lee and his work than I expected to!" **Cat Eldridge, The Green Man Review**

"For a great many decades the comic book industry was dominated by two giant corporate publishers: Marvel & DC. Then a new publisher emerged to successfully challenge them -- Image Comics. Their stories were edgier, their artists among the most skilled in the field, and their appeal to the reading public included adults as well as teens. The collaborative work of Image icons George Khoury, Jim Lee, Erik Larsen and Todd McFarlane, *Image Comics: The Road To Independence* is a profusely illustrated 280-page compendium showcasing the company's seven founding artists, its management team, and its roster of associates. Of special note is the concluding chapter showcasing perhaps the most influential artist and storyteller in the modern comic book/graphic novel industry -- Jack Kirby. Informed and informative, *Image Comics: The Road To Independence* will prove to be a fascinating read for the legions of Image Comics fans and prove to be an enduringly popular addition to personal, academic, and community library collections."

Midwest Book Review

From the Back Cover

"An unprecedented look at the history of this important comic book company, featuring interviews and art from popular Image founders Erik Larsen, Jim Lee, Todd McFarlane, Whilce Portacio, Marc Silvestri and Jim Valentino. Also featured are many of finest creators who over the last 15 years have been a part of the Image family, offering behind-the-scenes details of the company's successes and failures. There's plenty of rare and unseen art, helping make this the most honest exploration ever taken of the controversial company whose success, influence and high production values changed the landscape of comics forever."

About the Author

George Khoury has written and edited the Eisner-nominated *Kimota!* and *The Extraordinary Works of Alan Moore*, amongst other titles. He served as a senior editor on the award-winning *Comic Book Artist* magazine; he's also a regular contributor to the popular *Modern Masters* series. He's been a writer for various magazines, newspapers, and internet sites over the last 20 years. He was born and raised in New Jersey. His new book *Comic Book Fever* is coming out this summer.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Margie Turner:

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Randolph Dilworth:

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Steven Bourg:

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Lillian Thrasher:

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