

# 'Biff, bang, pow' redefine the limits of cartoon humor

by Jason Bermingham

A new graphic art magazine has recently been published by Ivan Brunetti, the notorious author of "Misery Loves Comedy," and some of his cohorts which redefines the traditional limits of cartoon humor. This magazine, which is entitled *BIFF BANG POW*, takes its reader away from the tedious mediocrity of modern cartoon art to a world of dark, intelligent humor which is geared toward a mature, educated audience.

For those who are familiar with Brunetti's previous works, *BIFF BANG POW* may not come as much of a surprise. It is, much like "Misery Loves Comedy," a poignant look at the world we live in. Many aspects of our society are satirized and no issue is left beyond the reach of the artist's pen.

Besides previously unpublished episodes of "Misery Loves Comedy," *BIFF BANG POW* includes a variety of new sketches. One example is a collaboration by Brunetti and Thad Doria which results in the Fine Art Force, a super hero task force comprised of Impressionist Girl, Ms. Minimalist, Dr. Realistic, Renaissance Man, Captain Cubist and a few other characters who are out to prevent surrealism from becoming the predominant art school of the 20th century. Also featured is a series of comics entitled



**Hello, Dali!** AUTEURS: IVAN BRUNETTI & THAD DORIA

The Fine Art Force defends the 20th century school of art from surrealism

"Hitler's Sunday Comics," a pseudo-intellectual graphic short-story collage called "The Post-Modernist Always Rings Twice," a tale of Bob the truck driver and his samurai sword wielding companion, Lone Wolf.

*BIFF BANG POW* is an intellectual, tongue-in-cheek look at the realities of the human condition in modern

## COMMENTARY

society. Be forewarned, though, that this compilation of graphic art and social commentary is far removed from the ordinary realm of today's cartoon art. *BIFF BANG POW* redefines the limits of cartoon humor and in doing so it provides the reader with material that is not only intelligent and witty, but also very original.

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