



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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newARTSpace news

De Pere, Wisconsin –

Book Club returns August 25 featuring artists Jessica Campbell and Aaron Renier. These two prolific artist/illustrators will be on hand for an in-depth look at their graphic novels and comic books from 5:30 – 6:30 at newARTSpace.

The author of three graphic novels, Jessica Campbell's most recent publication, *Rave*, is a queer coming-of-age story, complete with secret cigarettes, gross gym teachers, and a lot of church. Campbell uses frankness and dark humor to articulate her protagonist's burgeoning crisis of faith and sexuality. She captures teenage antics and banter with astute comedic style. Published by Drawn and Quarterly in 2022, *Rave* is an instant classic.

Jessica Campbell is a Canadian artist based in Green Bay, Wisconsin. She works in comics, fibers, painting, drawing, and performance. Her work draws on a wide range of influences, including science fiction, art world politics, and her evangelical upbringing. Her comics have appeared in the *New Yorker* and *Hyperallergic* among other publications.

Aaron Renier's latest project, *Kats Hats*, is a wild picture book starring a world-renowned cat, his trainer, and a cast of quirky characters created with Daniel Pinkwater. Published by Harry N. Abrams in 2022, the story features Thermal Herman as the top Kat Hat in Matt Katz's company. A trained cat who is able to shape himself into specialty hats, Thermal Herman is world-renowned for his warmth and agility. Enjoy the tale as Renier shares excerpts from this zany and cleverly illustrated picture book. It is sure to make all giggle with every turn of the page.

Aaron Renier was born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He has been drawing comics, in one way or another, for as long as he can remember. His illustrations have appeared in a wide variety of places, including turning an entire city bus into a moving aquarium. He won the

Eisner award for Cartoonist Ceserving Wider Recognition for his first graphic novel, *Spiral-Bound*.

He is the illustrator of a series of books about the knights of the roundtable by Gerald Morris, and a picture book by Alice Shertle titled *An Anaconda Ate My Homework*.

These two charismatic and thoughtful artists have an abundance of anecdotes to go along with their engaging artwork. This is a rare opportunity for the two of them to share from their extensive repertoire of projects – the conversation is certain to be lively!

Prior to joining Book Club Aaron Renier will appear at the Kress Family Branch Library to create an original drawing while the audience follows along creating their own original art with tips and tricks from Renier.

Jessica Campbell is one of six artists in the current exhibition newART/SNC. This installation highlights recent work by the art faculty at St. Norbert College including Brandon Bauer, Shan Bryan-Hanson, Debbie Kupinsky, Brian Pirman, Katie Ries, and Campbell.

The gallery will be open from 5-8 pm. Book Club will take place from 5:30-6:30. Entry is always free and open to everyone. Come early and take in the art on the walls!

For further information contact:

art@newartspace124.com

www.newartspace124.com

For weekly hours check out our postings on Facebook & Instagram @newartspace124

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Contact: Terri Warpinski

Phone: 541-991-7119

Email: art@newartspace124.com

Street Address: 124a N. Broadway, De Pere, WI 54115