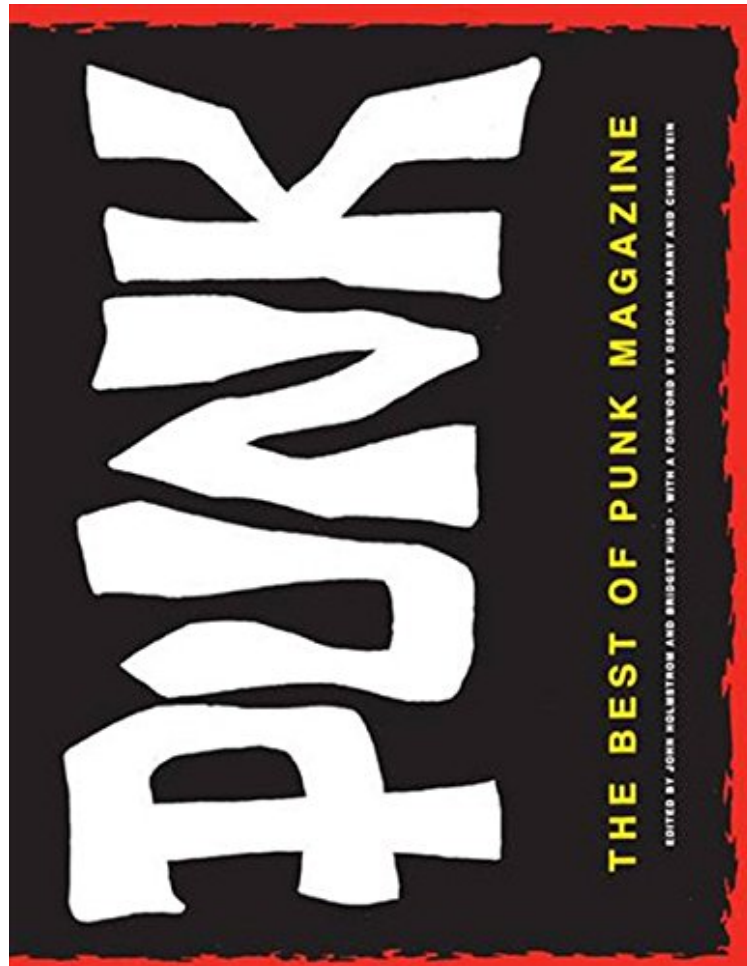


The Best of Punk Magazine

John Holmstrom

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John Holmstrom : The Best of Punk Magazine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Best of Punk Magazine:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A great glimpse into the 70s in NYC and more.By Ignatius ReillyThis is really a monumental compendium of PUNK magazine and what they accomplished during their short run. John Holmstrom's chapter notes are super entertaining and I felt like I got to know some of the personalities involved in the making of PUNK magazine. I really enjoyed it. I definitely learned that it was a damn miracle that the mag got published at all.There is a lot of material on Debbie Harry from Blondie, which is classic stuff. She was obviously as cool as she appeared to be. It wasn't an act! There's also a ton of cool stuff on Iggy Pop, The Ramones (of course) and other Punk-ish celebs of the time like David Johansen. Edward "Legs" McNeil comes off looking like the polished turd everyone in NYC knows he is.The quality of this big, heavy book is high, with a solid cover, nice paper and lots of pictures, drawings and magazine reproductions. Some of J. Holmstrom's old cartoon work is very cool,

too. Something I like about this book is that you can open it randomly to any page and there is something funny to look at. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly Recommended By Scott Coblio Exceeded expectations by far. If it's not a bound periodical of all the issues of Punk ever made, in their entirety, it sure looks and feels like one. Only it's got the backstory (amusingly informative) for counterpoint. You get all the fumettis (photo-novels) too ("the Legend of Nick Detroit", "Mutant Monster Beach Party", etc) in MUCH higher resolution than was ever available on the tabloid paper on which the original magazine was printed. It's lovely to see them all in better quality, as well as many outtake pictures and supplemental photography showing all our favorite people from that illustrious time. I bought it primarily because I'm a Blondie/Debbie fan, and there is no scarcity of pictures of her in it. As well as lots of Ramones, Richard Hell, et al. This one's a keeper! 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. I'm in it, ...so, of course I love it. But, ... By Steven Taylor I worked for John Holmstrom and Punk Magazine as an artist, back in the Seventies. So, bear that in mind as you read this. I reckon if you're reading reviews for this book, that you have some idea of what it's about. So, I'll skip all that. I always loved John's "take" on how a publication could look and be. One of the things that I found really interesting about the original publication was how Holmstrom always seemed willing to go out on a limb with the format and layout. Sometimes, it was a newspaper. Other times it was like a comic book or even a big coloring book. The writing was always great and funny, ...the art was always eye-catching and entertaining. Not to mention the fact that it covered every aspect of the emerging "punk" scene, in a way that no other Rock Roll publication out there, at the time, was covering it and included, virtually, every artist out there. The vibe was always a little smart-assed and cool. I'd look back at my old issues, through the years and wish that there was a big art book of that material that I could pull off of the shelf to peruse. Now, thanks to John Holmstrom and his partner in crime, the incredibly attractive, Ms. Bridget Hurd, ...I have that book. It has size and it has weight AND it has the very best of Punk Magazine! Not only does it have that, but at the core of this tome is Holmstrom's biography of the magazine. How it got started, who started it, the various players involved with the publication throughout the years, ...the whole roller coaster ride. John's known, throughout the world as a ground breaking artist/cartoonist, but I've always enjoyed his easy-going writing style as much as his art. So, it's nice to see so much of it in one place. It's like you're sitting around with the guy as he tells you this story. It's a great, wonderful book. I'd tell ya' that even if my stuff wasn't in it. John and Bridget have done their comrades proud in this beautifully produced volume. I'd recommend this book, even if you're not the least bit interested in the subject of Punk Rock. Intelligent fun!!!

The very best of Punk the legendary magazine that defined an era finds new life in this stunning anthology, featuring original articles along with behind-the-scenes commentary and the backstory on each issue as told by editor-in-chief John Holmstrom. Punk was the Bible of the urban counterculture movement. It not only gave punk music its name, but influenced the East Village art scene and steered the punk aesthetic and attitude. The Best of Punk Magazine includes high-quality reprints of hard-to-find original issues, as well as rare and unseen photos, essays, interviews, and even handwritten contributions from the likes of Andy Warhol, Lou Reed, Debbie Harry, the Ramones, the Sex Pistols, Lester Bangs, Legs McNeil, Lenny Kaye, and many more. For collectors, lifelong punks, and those just discovering what punk is all about, this is the chance to see the history of the movement come back to life.

This coffee-table book cherry-picks from the archive: a Patti Smith QA, a cartoon strip (with real photos) starring Lester Bangs, and a two-page centerfold of Debbie Harry, who's billed as Punk Playmate of the Month. (Rolling Stone, 4 Star) The anthology is packed tighter than CBGB in the 70s on a Saturday night, with incredible interviews...art, comics, rants, killer photos, and behind-the-scenes commentary and backstory on each issue from Holmstrom. It's not just the history of the magazine...it conjures up the spirit of an era. (Vanity Fair) If you're a punk fan, I'd say this hardcover is pretty essential to your collection. (USA Today's Pop Candy) While the thought of a hardcover, slick-papered, coffee-table book anthologizing the decidedly low-rent, ragtag Punk magazine might seem the antithesis of punk, even a curmudgeon like Johnny Rotten would have to spit a gob in appreciation of the nicely done result. (Houston Press) The Best of Punk is a funny, visually-stimulating time capsule commemorating the first music periodical of its kind: A subversive, savvy, often-imitated street-intellectual art showcase for punk rock purveyors at the dawn of the Eighties. (Examiner.com) Though it only existed from 1976-1980, Punk Magazine captured the zeitgeist of New York's punk music scene as it emerged from a few ramshackle clubs (most notably CBGBs and Max's Kansas City) to the national and international stage. (Publishers Weekly (starred review)) From the Back Cover Launched in 1976, Punk magazine announced an exploding youth movement, a new direction in American counterculture. Punk was to magazines what the stage at CBGB was to music: the gritty, live-wired, throbbing center of the punk universe. Despite its low-rent origins, the mag was an overnight success in the underground music scene, selling out every print run across the US and UK. Every musician who appeared on the cover of Punk became an icon of the era. But Punk not only championed music, it became a launching pad for writers, artists, cartoonists, and graphic designers. And the wacky, sardonic, slapstick vibe of the magazine resonated with an international army of music fanatics who were ready to burn their bell bottoms and stage-dive into the punk universe. The Best of Punk Magazine collects the best of these pages into the ultimate, must-have anthology: Interviews with the Ramones, Sex Pistols, John

Cale and Brian Eno
Photos by Roberta Bayley David Godlis, and Bob Gruen
Cartoons by R. Crumb, Bobby London, and John Holmstrom
The articles that formed the groundwork for *Please Kill Me*, the legendary oral history of punk by Legs McNeil and Gillian McCain
Two "graphic novels" *The Legend of Nick Detroit* and *Mutant Monster Beach Party*
told through photographs featuring Debbie Harry, Joey Ramone, Richard Hell, Andy Warhol, Peter Wolf, and David Johansen
The Best of Punk Magazine is a must-have for people who love punk rock music, comics, fanzines, Blondie, the Ramones, Lou Reed, the Velvet Underground, the Sex Pistols, and the legendary CBGB scene.
About the Author
John Holmstrom is a cartoonist and writer and co-founder (with Legs McNeil) of Punk magazine. He illustrated the covers of the Ramones albums *Rocket to Russia* and *Road to Ruin*, and created the characters Bosko and Joe, which were published in Scholastic's *Bananas* magazine from 1975-1984, as well as in *Stop! Magazine*, *Comical Funnies*, *Twist*, and *High Times*. Holmstrom's work and unmistakable artistic style has become the key visual representation of the Punk era.