

Tales from the Strip: The Hot Rod Comics and Drag Racing Cartoons of Pete Millar June 1 –September 14, 2008

Pasadena, CA.- *Tales From the Strip* is the first comprehensive museum exhibition to recognize the legendary hot rod and drag racing cartoonist Pete Millar (1929 – 2003). After finding his original inspiration from the artists of *Mad Magazine's* heyday in the 1950s and 1960s, Millar turned his drawing skills to humorous situations involving souped-up cars and their errant drivers, as well as his spoofs of actual personalities and controversies during the rapid growth of the drag racing culture in California. Millar's virtuoso drawing abilities were nurtured by his training as an engineering draftsman and first hand experience as a drag racer. He built and drove three dragsters while he published his drawings and comic strips in *Drag Racing*, *Hot Rod* and *Rod & Custom*, and produced his own periodicals, *CARtoons*, *Drag Cartoons*, *Big Daddy Roth Magazine* and *Drag Comics*. Millar is considered one of the greatest satirical cartoonists, working within the hot-rodding and drag racing communities.

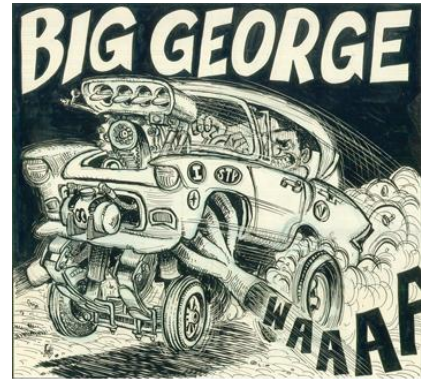


Image Courtesy of Estate of Pete Millar



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The exhibition will include over 40 original drawings and paintings from the Millar estate and will also feature numerous vintage publications from both the golden age of drag racing and the recent era of hot rod nostalgia.

The exhibition is curated by Gordon L. Fuglie who is currently the Curator of Exhibitions & Collections at San Luis Obispo Art Center. Fuglie's examination of Pete Millar's legacy is particularly appropriate as he is perhaps the only art curator of his generation to have participated as a hot-rodder and drag racer.

About the Pasadena Museum of California Art

The Pasadena Museum of California Art (PMCA) is dedicated to the exhibition of California art, architecture, and design from 1850 to the present. Informed by the state's rich mixture of cultures and inspired by its impressive geography, California art has long been defined by a spirit of freedom and experimentation. PMCA exhibitions and educational programs explore the cultural dynamics and influences unique to California that have shaped and defined art in all media.

Exhibition Information

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| What | Tales from the Strip: The Hot Rod Comics and Drag Racing Cartoons of Pete Millar |
| When | June 1 – September 14, 2008 |
| Hours | Wed – Sun, 12 pm to 5 pm |
| Where | 490 E Union St. Pasadena, CA 91101 |
| Admission | \$7, \$5 Seniors/Students |
| Parking | Free in the museum garage |
| Phone | 626.568.3665 |
| URL | www.pmcaonline.org |

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS**Opening Event**

Saturday, May 31, 2008

7:00pm -9:00pm

Opening reception for *Tales from the Strip: Hot Rod Comics and Drag Racing Cartoons of Peter Millar and Kori Newkirk: 1997-2007*.

Free for Members. \$5 admission.

PMCA Family Day

Sunday, June 22, 2008

3:00pm – 5:00pm

Join us as we make fun art projects based on the artwork in our current exhibitions *Tales from the Strip* and *Kori Newkirk*. This event is designed for children ages 5 to 10, although all ages are welcome. Snacks and drinks will be served.

Free with museum admission, RSVP to 626-568-3665 x17

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