

Comics from a small press

Cary publisher to debut books at N.C. Comicon

Nov. 13, 2014 @ 11:04 AM

[Cliff Bellamy](#)

DURHAM —

In Jacques Nyemb's comic book "Not So Super," Daniel Douglas is given super powers with a catch: The powers keep changing, and Douglas does not know when the powers appear or disappear. His life becomes chaotic as he tries to figure out what gave him his powers.

"Not So Super" is one of three books that Cary resident Nyemb has written and published at his company Not So Super Comics. Other titles are "This Bites," about a vegan who is bit by a vampire, and "Smorgasbord Squad." They reflect the kinds of stories that Nyemb hopes will draw more people into comics as a storytelling and an art form.

In the world of comics and graphic novels, "people feel as if you had to have read every comic to understand what is going on," Nyemb said. "I know that as a kid the way I got into comics is my dad brought me comics, and I enjoyed them." He wants to continue creating comics that speak to universal themes and appeal to a broad audience.

Nyemb will have his company's books for sale at this weekend's N.C. Comicon, to be held in the Durham Convention Center and nearby venues. This year's convention includes appearances by actor and writer John Barrowman and his sister and collaborator Carole Barrowman. Other guests are publisher Anthony Ruttgaizer, artist Bernard Chang and many more.

In conjunction with the convention, the Carolina Theatre will present a "Comique Film Festival." Among the titles to be screened will be "Flash Gordon," "Iron Giant" and "Swamp Thing." As always, there will be a contest for Cosplayers.

Nyemb will be making his first visit to Comicon and will have his first print comics available for purchase. Nyemb, 31, founded Not So Super Comics three years ago and has been publishing digitally. When readers asked for print books, he did a Kickstarter campaign to pay for the first run of print books. "This convention is the first opportunity to sell to people face to face," Nyemb said. "We've been growing our readership online, but we want to develop more face time."

Nyemb (who has a separate job as a Web designer) writes all the comics but concentrates on marketing and PR to give his visual artists and editors more time to create the visual work. Among the artists at his publishing house are Kayla Miller, Justin Wood and Joe Hunter.

Nyemb has been writing stories since he was a child. Some of his favorite artists and writers are Stan Lee and Jack Kirby, creators of the "X-Men" series. "I also have an international view of comics. My dad is from Cameroon in Africa, and my mom is from Charlotte," he said. His father introduced him to the French comic "Asterix and Obelix," written by Albert Uderzo and René Goscinny.

His titles are about 24 pages each, but Not So Super Comics wants to expand the stories to graphic novel-length books in the future. His readership so far is diverse in terms of age, nationality and other factors, “and that’s exactly what I wanted. It’s doing very well in getting multiple audiences.”

<http://www.heraldsun.com/lifestyles/entertainment/x1918012975/Comics-from-a-small-press>