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JULY 2017—NO. SEVEN

VALEIRIAN

CLASSIC FRENCH SCI-FI EPIC
HITS THE STATES IN COMICS AND FILM

PLUS...HANNA-BARBERIANS!
AND... A TRIBUTE TO ADAM WEST

The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of
Valerian is a spatio-temporal agent of Galaxity, center of the gargantuan Terran Galactic Empire. Laureline is a peasant girl from the 11th Century who sussed out that this handsome stranger was from the far-flung future. Together they patrol space and time, putting the cuffs on rogue time travelers and space invaders. Introduced in Pilote, the foremost French comic magazine of the 1960s, Valerian set an international standard for science fiction comics, inspiring creators from Moebius to Lucas. Now Cinebook Ltd has gathered all the disparate graphic novels and short stories into a new series of thick and gorgeous tomes. Each is reprinted according to its place in the over-arching epic. The first volume features the more straight-forward space opera of the earlier stories. Volume 2, the source of our cover and the panel below, begins the transition into more complex stories, with Laureline taking a stronger role as writer Pierre Christin began to reflect on social issues such as feminism. Throughout the series, the art of Jean-Claude Mezieres walked the fine line between cartoonish exuberance and rough-hewn realism. His tech has a physicality worthy of Wallace Wood. His aliens are so lively, you can almost smell them. And like most French cartoonists, Mezieres is a wizard with architecture, his cityscapes an major influence on Luc Besson's The Fifth Element. If Besson's Valerian is as grand as the comic, it will be astonishing.

Batman didn't happen in a vacuum. Inspired by the Silver Age comeback of superheroes, Batman inspired in turn an explosion of absurd concepts and characters. Michael Eury's Hero-A-Go-Go (TwoMorrows) gives the lowdown on all the super-spies, super-teens and super-presidents of the camp era. Dig horn rans like Jigsaw, the Fly and Fatman the trans like Jigsaw, the Fly and Fatman the rans like Jigsaw, the Fly and Fatman the nters. Michael Eury's Hero-A-Go-Go (TwoMorrows) gives the lowdown on all the super-spies, super-teens and super-presidents of the camp era. Dig horn rans like Jigsaw, the Fly and Fatman the nters. Michael Eury's Hero-A-Go-Go (TwoMorrows) gives the lowdown on all the super-spies, super-teens and super-presidents of the camp era. Dig horn
Will Eisner (1917-2005) could have rested on his laurels. As one of the creators of the American comic book industry, as the writer and artist of the justly revered Spirit; as the producer of the US Army’s instructional comic PS, Eisner could have retired fat and happy and never drawn another panel. But Will Eisner had more to give. In 1978, after shopping his new project around to little interest, Eisner finally saw the release of A Contract With God. Sub-titled “And Other Tenement Stories”, Contract follows the lives of the tenants of a ramshackle building on Dropsie Avenue, a mythical New York ghetto like those in which “Villie” was raised. Often called Ddropsie Avenue, a mythical New York ghetto like lives of the tenants of a ramshackle building on Other Tenement Stories”,

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