CV JAN OLOF BERG

EDUCATION

2000

EMPLOYMENTS

2011 - 2012

2006



181 37 Lidingö

NICKNAME

TELEPHONE +46 (0)70 209 18 22

ail@olle-berg.com

www.olle-berg.com

DATE OF BIRTH March 10, 1953

NATIONALITY

IT SKILLS

Photoshop After Effects Premiere

OTHER SKILLS

Illustration Animation Comics artist

INTERESTS

1977 - 1981 Konstfackskolan in Stockholm.

University degree in graphic design.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LLUSTRATÖR OLLE BERG AB

1984 the company Illustratör Olle Berg AB was registerd. Since then I have worked, often in parallel with the employments, with major Swedish and international advertising agencies, magazines and newspapers, I've sold illustrations and comics to a dozen countries. Here are a few previous customers. There is much more on the website.

2013 - 2018 Jupiter reklam AB Uppsalatidningen 2011 - 2012 2005 - 2008 Everyday Magic 2002 - 2008 Lärarförbundet Lapin 1999 - 2000 Universum International 1996 - 1999 Nöjesguiden 1995 - 1996 Die Zeit 1993 - 1994 Heavy Metal 1993 - 1997 Dagens Nyheter 1979 - 1984 Galago, co founder & editor

Carpentry teacher

Sandviksskolan

Art and carpentry teacher

Art and carpentry teacher

Photo and media teacher

Photoshop and Flash teacher

Stockholm Uppsala Halmstad Stockholm Paris Stockholm Stockholm Hamburg USA Stockholm. Stockholm

Stockholm.
Stockholm.
Stockholm

HONOURS AND REWARDS

1981 - 1986 Svenska Dagbldet

2016 - 2017 Söderfjärdsskolan

2008 - 2009 RODA education

2001 - 2004 Solskifteskolan

2006 - 2008 JohnBauer Gymnasiet.

Art teacher

In house artist.

2013 - 2016 Vibyskolan.

Invited guest att the Treviso Comic Book Festival in Italy Invited guest att the Haarlem Stripdagen 2006 in
Holland
Represented Sweden at the Eurocomics exhibition in HongKong

ABOUT SWEDISH COMIX IN GENERAL AND GALAGO AND OLLE BERG'S COMIX IN PARTICULAR

IN THE BEGINNING Sweden has a rich tradition of comics and cartoons. The two leading cartoonists in the 19th century were Oskar Andersson Bom and a newcomer Lilla Fridolf appeared from nowhere. Soon, and Albert Engström. Oscar



Andersson was something of an

eccentric, at odds with life, but

soldiers, and drew an anarchistic

tramp, Kolingen. He also ran his

both men is still evident in Sweden

own paper, Strix. The legacy of

BIFFEN

press over the years.

y Oscar Andersson

By Albert Engström





owned by a giant Swedish comic publisher, Semic Press. None of them were especially hip, but they very skilful and with a bizarre were all there was. You might say visual imagination. Albert Engström that a Swedish cartoonist was wrote racy stories, often about firmly established if he got to draw farm labourers, fishermen and 91:an at some point in his life... One bright spot, particularly in the '60s, was the Swedish edition of MAD, which was excellent. In the '70s other foreign influences also began to find their way to Sweden: Crumb, Spiegelman, Skelton and others.

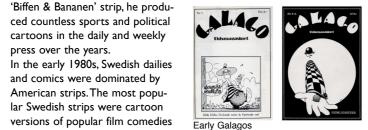
> In Sweden, too, there were signs of innovation. Some short-lived attempts were made to start comics with young Swedish car-



Anka (Cold Duck), seen here. rence and choice of themes. There was also a small publishe Epix, that introduced many new strips, mostly French ones.

GALAGO

Galagago was launched in 1979 by Rolf Classon and Olle Berg. At the time, Rolf was an angry Another influential cartoonist was young poet and Olle an angry Rit-Ola. Besides the legendary young cartoonist. Galago published



Olle Berg AB, Fregattvägen. 9, 181 37 Lidingö, SWEDEN, Mob. +46 (0) 70 209 18 22, mail@olle-berg.com www.olle-berg.com

'Biffen & Bananen' strip, he produ-

cartoons in the daily and weekly

In the early 1980s, Swedish dailies

and comics were dominated by

American strips. The most popu-

lar Swedish strips were cartoon

versions of popular film comedies

from the '30s. One such was the poetry, short stories, illustrations, in the comic paper Larson. A army cartoon strip, 91:an from photos and experimental col- couple of figures feature quite 1932, which had its own paper. lages, all mixed together with Others included Åsa Nisse, 113 comic strips. New cartoonists from 1956. All the cartoons were Galago had created a completely new climate for Swedish comics. It offered satirical, political and humorous strips pitched at adults. Several of the cartoonists from the 'Galago generation' have since won fame abroad, including loakim Pirinen, Max Andersson, Charlie seems to determine what style the Christensson and Eva Lindström. cartoon is drawn in and whether All started out in Galago. In time, it is to include other figures who the paper focused increasingly may only appear once or twice. on cartoon strips. In the '80s and You can rarely dash through Olle '90s it grew in stature and helped Berg's comic strips. Each operates to produce new generations of on its own terms and you have to



been genuinely home-grown in its fall into place. style and humour, with surprisingly In one cartoon, for instance, you of contact, however. Most of the (A Day in the Country). Another early Galago strips were very 'car- might illustrate the importance toony' and out for laughs. Virtually of proper etiquette when hiking all involved scenes from everyday through the Alps (Grüss Gott), life that spun out of control and while a third shows how a young reached absurd heights where anything could happen, and did. These Swedish cartoons were rarely drug-, porno- or violenceoriented. Nor was there much swearing or drunken humour. Instead, the cartoonists made their mark with their partoons, including Mammut and Kall ticular brand of imagery, irreve-

OLLE BERG'S COMIX

Interest in comics became intense in the 1980s, as noted above. and it was not long before the established media realised what was going on. Olle Berg was soon a regular contributor to the Stockholm city guide, Nöjesguiden. and Germany. Besides being a Dagens Nyheter, Sweden's bigenormously by opening its pages agencies and with animation. to the new generation of Swedish cartoonists. Many of Olle's strips Kerold Klang have done the rounds in Sweden. Journalist Originally produced for Galago Translated comics, or Nöjesguiden, they might then illustrations and animations on appear in Dagens Nyheter's Sunday section, and subsequently

often in Olle's cartoons, namely



and his cool lady, Liza. But most of the cartoons involve other characters

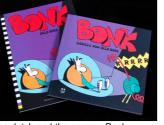
on each page





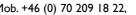
Swedish cartoonists. Galago has work these out before the pieces

few references to foreign comix. are asked to assume that the ani-There have been some points mals are putting on a show for us fellow has a feeling all things are against him (Little Charlie). Olle's comic strips have been published in a dozen countries. They have appeared both in Heavy Metal and the German magazine



Die Zeit. Albums with his comics have been published in Holland cartoonist he works as an illustragest daily, helped things forward tor for magazines and advertising

www.olle-berg.con





toonists

its circulation among the populace, i pro- aret runt. to your friends.

into zen, a somewhat overcomplicated garland, died in 1988. title for someone as easily accessible and a couple of years earlier, his son, olle become recognisable. uncomplicated as olle berg.

and labyrinthine route from cubism and cult magazine, galago. art deco, dissolving the grid with surrea- in recent years, his cartoons have becolistic, dreamlike cartoon tales such as the me considerably more cheerful, to put it MORE COMICS STUFF: night bus and charlie's xmas.

tures in this album are highly compres- his two albums, nobby clarke's ascent some of the folks i'd corresponded with sed - the core essence remains, all else into zen (1989) and bonk (1997), would in past years. it was an excellent shop, is peeled away.

over the late-night bus is slapstick of the imagery - the wildly stylised characters something particularly swedish, i asked highest order

remarkable pictures, as they're tremen- nevertheless have something in com- the big find for me, though, was the work dously graphic, they're like a cross bet- mon. ween the puffiest whipped cream and father and son both tell stories, extrava- huge (2000 page) comix 2000 volume glittering stilettos, full of payoffs and gant tales in which dynamic, unexpected published by l'association in...that's right. hilarious comments.

i broke down frequently while reading and the finale. the album and had to put it aside, falling and both of them love words and artistic huge impression the first time around. about with laughter.

recognition – ha, at last, someone who has observed what sweden looks like Håkan Ljun these days!

bloody funny, in fact.

ascent into zen its gold medal.

Kjell Alinge Fldorado Swedish radio di and satirist

A FAMILY AFFAIR

father and son will be exhibiting original readers. comic drawings at the cartoon gallery, also, he's funny, which sets him apart from

the father is the legendary cartoonist tend to be very serious and pretentious. Im Ottaviani is the eisner award nomirit-ola, who published a sports strips berg's new album, nobby clarke's ascent nated writer and publisher of two-fisted for almost half a century in sweden's into zen, is playful and entertaining the science. biggest daily, dagens nyheter. he was reader gets to follow how he helped to

BLOODY FUNNY. IN FACT! cartoon in the picture magazine, se, and and produced advertising pages that there are guite a few potential masters another strip, 'biff & banana', in the old showed everyone from satan to corpses among the present crop of swedish car- political magazine, folket i bild and then buying the magazine from a shy fellow there was the drawing school he ran for called holger swax. in today's lecture on popular culture and 15,000 pupils in yet another magazine, even at this early stage, olle berg's strips

pose to discuss olle berg - mention him not a person with time to waste, in other lop. in the night bus he cuts loose with words.

berg, had first appeared in dn with the today, olle berg is funnier than ever and he draws the most elegant cartoons i've ghoulish strip, knut. by that time, he was his drawings have a more powerful sting. ever seen in sweden. as an illustrator, he already established as a cartoonist. and seems to have embarked on a winding was also one of the co-founders of the Henrik Arnstad

mildly, to the delight not least of readers i also visited a comic store while there

make even an undertaker crack a smile. with a terrific selection of comics from advise you to look through these rit-ola's brisk line drawings – but they to me they suggested (...)

actions often provide both the high point 2000. i had enjoyed his contribution, but

expression.

Dagens Nyheter

the torpedoes are invading france. the good turn of translating many of his olle berg's cartoon world blends farce. favorites into english at his website: satire and experimental imagery. and he www.olle-berg.com visit now, and perhas now published his first album, offe- haps even order a copy or two of his ring world-class comic strips for adult books i'd loan you mine, but i'm worried

seriegalleriet, on saturday 31 august. most other comic artists in sweden, who lim Ottaviani also responsible for a weekly political start the comic magazine galago in 1979

were unique, but he continued to devea vengeance – that cartoon is simply in front of me i have nobby clarke's ascent rit-ola, whose real name was jan-erik a must! berg likes observing ordinary people and drawing them so that they

Kvällsposten

the scenes from swedish life that he cap- of the dn sunday cartoon supplement. (in sweden) (staffars serier), and met the scene with the bawling lads who take rit-ola and olle berg use very different all over the world. since i wanted to read in berg's strips are a world apart from them to recommend a couple of books

of olle berg. i'd seen his work in the have to confess that it didn't make a probably because i was so shell-shocked and the material gives you the delight of and both share the same good humour. by the time i finished the book that i'd forgotten the work that came earlier in the alphabet. but with a concentrated dose of berg in bonk, i saw the light. marvelous work, very graphically inventive, eldorado hereby awards nobby clarke's NOBBY CLARKE'S ASCENT INTO and as hilarious, even though (as indicated above) i don't read swedish, and you nobby clarke has ascended into zen and don't have to either, since he's done us all that i wouldn't get 'em back...



REVIEWS OF THE DUTCH BONK

Dizzying laughs

but to accept it. Wishing you many dizzying laughs,

your partner in comedy

Hanco Kolk (author of Meccano, SIngle & BONK Gilles de Geus) Holland

Cranky with a brain

laughing. His jokes are cranky with a brain: absurd humor which reveales the true glimpses of reality.

Mark Retera (Autor of Dirkjan) Holland

Lovely nonsense

The teacher holds up the letter A. 'Well... Pelle which letter is this ? Pelle dosent know... Drops of sweat are appearing on his forehead... the letter gets legs...starts The dutch and the german Bonks. dancing... the teacher suddenly speaks with Dutch publisher: Zet.El, german publisher: Lappan verlag Every contribution has its fitting effect with double tounge... shaking... four eyes - two mouths...TOTAL CHAOS.

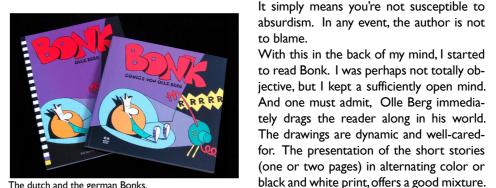
ning is airtight.

magazine Galago. He published in, amongst others, the Swedish newspaper Dagens 22/10/2005 Nyheter and the German daily Die Zeit. Michel Kempeneers In Bonk are 51 cartoons, gags illustrations Het Besloten Land / De Standaard and funny stories, plus some extra bonuses Belgium in form of loose (?) drawings on the back-

side of the front and back cover. ... you will find yourself reading it time and The comics were previously published in The loose press supplement that comes again and invariably be surprised by the ap- the albums Zen (1989, own release) and with the album describes it as a "sparkling parant simplicity and controlled chaos Olle Bonk (Swedish humor, 1997), with recent introduction " to the phenomenon that is Berg has to offer you. Such is the fate of a work added. Bonk by Olle Berg is a valuable called Olle Berg (1953). This Swedish strip Olle Berg- reader and you have no option extension of the Collection De Wilde Vaart. cartoonist "treats the reader to clever jo-

Stripschrift 372 2005

(...)The Dutch publisher Zet.El has relea- be beyond all criticism right from the start. sed an anthology from Berg's body of work, Because, well, yes, after all, it's absurd. Every mainly containing work from the 90's. The attempt to discover a thread or recogniza-Bonk album truly is a jewel. The comic ble gags is doomed to fail. And if you do Olle Berg knows that thinking precedes book community should be grateful to Zet. fail, you only have yourself to thank for it.



el, which also publishes the free comic book this is a key factor when it concerns a col-The Swedish artist Olle Berg possesses information magazine ZozoLala, for being so lection of very short sketches, in order to a well developed ability to identify him- much impressed by their Berg discovery to avoid the risk of losing the reader's attenself with others and a rich imagination, a immediately want to put together an ant- tion. The drawings work out just fine. They smooth cartooneque and yet personal dra- hology. There is no way of comparing Berg's are recognizable, but never annoy thanks to wing style and a well-developed sense of cartoons with others. They are highly sur- the diversity of characters. Also, the drasubtle, absurd humor. Besides this he is able realistic, often funny, but apparently at times wings naturally emphasize the humor that to lead a situation very consquently to an also pointless. Berg constantly presents new is often bizarre. inevitable end. It leaves the reader laughing characters, mostly in one page, occasionally The jokes themselves are of a varying quasurprised, lovely nonsense and the reaso- spread out over two pages. His characters lity. For instance, the stories about a tourist have gigantic noses and act in a Miró-like in Bali who goes insane from the everlasting The subjects Berg handles are very diver- setting of which the laws of nature appear smile of the local people ("I will smack the se: from his vision on the working day of a rather coincidental and may as well be dif-skull of the next guy with a smile on his medieval knight on the flat earth (mornings ferent again tomorrow. Berg has an unparal-face!") and the short but intense battle of and evenings in the traffic jam), the happy leled style in telling about the origin of en- competences between two yodelers, are djungle animals who come and get their ergy, But he could as well tell a story about simply hilarious. (...) there seems to be portion of Prozac, the three cool men who American tourists in Stockholm. Also aliens bright future ahead for Olle Berg. He strisay they want to drink, gamble and go to may appear in his little world --- on those kes the golden mean and seems to walk the the whores but eventually don't dare, till occasions, Gary Larson (The Far Side) peeks path of 'accessible absurdism', which may the over-zealous orange in the fridge who around the corner. It appears that Berg has turn out to be a successful genre. Moregets a good hiding from the other inhabi- published only two albums in his home over, his drawing style is identifiable out of country, of which Bonk compiles the best. thousands and radiates an eccentricity that Olle (Olof) Berg is the son of comic artist Let us hope a second album with the lefto- doesn't disturb. (...) Rit-Ola (Jan Erik Garland). He studied grap-vers will follow at some point, as the slightly hic design and was co founder of the comic eccentric Berg is certainly worthwhile. I4 December 2005



kes in a drawing style which is accessible

and immediately recognizable and always

intractable." Well, try to write a critical

piece about this. Not an easy task. Like with

many absurdist comics, this work seems to

respect to atmosphere and dynamics. And

Danny Koningstein

8Weekly

Holland

Wie is hil en wat doet hil van Zweden genoemd Na zij lietiid ging hij even als reda aan de slag voor het cul gazine Galago, wa tranten, pikten hem o door het stripm 1989 bracht hij met narkt, Zen. Het tweede a Bonk, dat nu vertaa ste Nederlandstalige cheen nadien. Ond

Kortom: in eigen land ge onbekende, in de rest van d wereld een grote onbekend Ia. maar dat hield gen om in de res scheen in Die a's in de per pig hoe ik bij Di noette de Duits laimo Kinzler op n Erlangen. Hij h studeerd en haastte zich om het festival, zonder mijn mede ten, mijn strips te vertalen er naar Die Zeit te sturen met vraag of Zweedse str ren. Dat waren ze, b mo belde me daaron of ik wel in Die Zeit wil

STRIP • GESTOORDE GRAPPEN MET HERSENS

maal is, kan dat zeer grappig zijt

Reviews of the NEW DUTCH BONK

