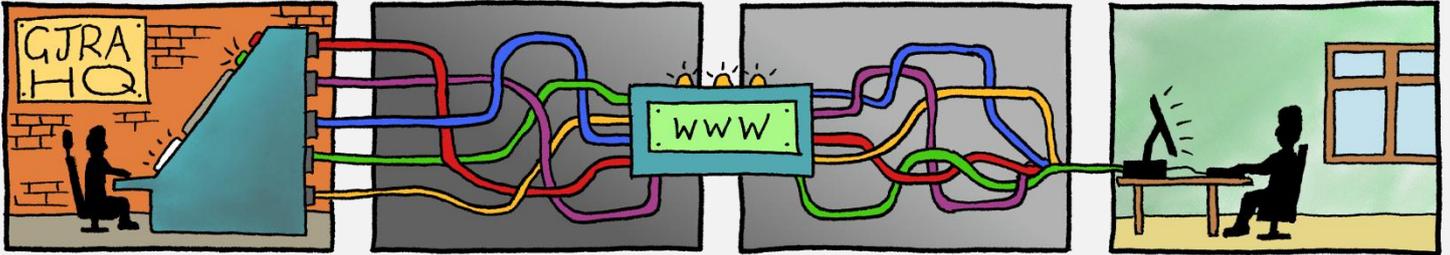


# GRAPHIC JUSTICE RESEARCH ALLIANCE

# MEMMO



## A MONTHLY ROUND-UP ON ALL THINGS GRAPHIC JUSTICE

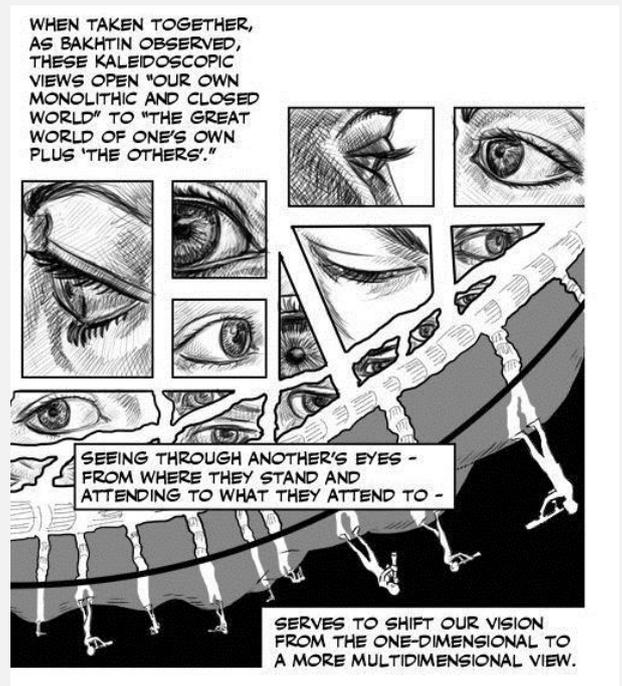
Issue #5 October 2015

### FEATURED ONLINE RESOURCES AND ARTICLES

**Using Comics in Libraries:** Comics are a great resource for engage a variety of audiences in literary discussions. Check out this discussion of using comics in libraries with children: <http://cblbf.org/2015/10/comics-creators-talk-about-successful-library-events/>

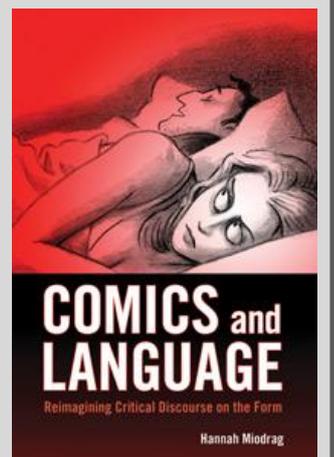
**Comics Futures:** In honour of 'Back to the Future Day' (October 21 2015, the 'future' date Marty McFly travels to in Back to the Future Part II), and relevant to work in futurescopy and technology/regulation speculation, here is an article discussing the history of depictions of the future in comics: [Click here for the article.](#)

**Interview with Nick Sousanis:** *The Unflattening* is the first PhD thesis to be created fully in comics form, and successfully defended. It has now been [published by Harvard UP](#). This Newsarama interview with its author/creator, Nick Sousanis, engages with a range of issues around the boundaries of scholarship and the nature and development of the comics medium. [Click here for the interview.](#)



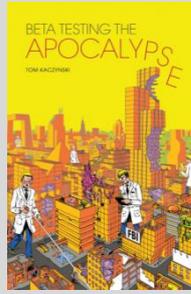
### FEATURED PUBLICATION

This months' featured academic text is Hannah Miodrag's *Comics and Language: Reimagining Critical Discourse on the Form*. Firmly ensconced in comics studies, this work is of particular use to legal and justice scholars interested in linguistics, semiotics, and modes of communication. Miodrag's work examines the critical limits of structural linguistic approaches to understanding comics, arguing that comics are not a language in the same way as traditional written or spoken text. This volume also contains some useful surveys of existing comics studies literature and theory, as well as insightful analysis of various comics works. For more information, see [here](#).



## RECOMMENDED READING

For those of you interested in themes of metaphysics; capitalism; political, technological and social space; speculative futures; and brilliant clear line artwork; it is strongly advised that you check out Tom Kaczynski's short story collection *Beta Testing the Apocalypse*.



## KEY RESOURCE

This month's tip is law and pop culture blog [Pop Goes the Legal](#):



## NEWS!

**Graphic Justice @ Comics Forum 2015:** This year's Comics Forum academic conference is just around the corner, along with its associated 'Thought Bubble' Leeds comic art festival. At Comics Forum this year there is a Graphic Justice panel. Registration is only £22 for both days, so come along if you can. The full [Thought Bubble Festival Programme](#) is here.



**DC Diversity:** Can DC create and maintain a universe that is sensitive to human difference and diversity? Check out these thoughts on the new DCYou strategy, which aims to improve representation in the DC universe, to find out more: [Article here](#).

**Bisexual Comics Characters:** Continuing the diversity theme, see this run down of 'bisexual characters we have loved' in various comics and graphic novels from Women Write About Comics: [Article can be found here](#).

Here is creator Cass Sharp's premise for the site: "You may not realise it, but the impact of law is all around you. Other than in courtrooms and formal rules, the existence of law is diverse—culturally, visually, relationally. This blog is designed to get to the heart of how we view law in all its forms—that is, to explore how we use and transform ideas about law as a way of understanding our world and animating our expectations."

The site is of general interest to anyone working on law in its cultural context(s), including of course its intersection with comics and graphic fiction.

## OPEN CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you have something you would like to post on the [GJRA blog](#), we are always open to receive submissions. Types of post include, but are by no means limited to:

- short 'graphic justice' (very broadly defined) analyses of law-related comics, exploring or outlining the law and/or justice aspects (be they empirical, theoretical, or cultural, to do with readership, content, or something else) via some form of engagement with comics or graphic fiction;
- reviews of comics that might be of interest to those working in graphic justice and related areas;
- book or article reviews of work of relevance to graphic justice, considered broadly;
- information or announcements about graphic justice related events, calls, and publications (this kind of material is also sought for inclusion in future GJRA Memos);

To submit or discuss a post, you just need to send an [email](#).

## GJRA MEMBERSHIP

The GJRA is always looking for new members, and it's completely free to join. Just [send an email](#) and you'll be added to the [Alliance Members](#) page.

