

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau



GETTING OFF

We start the new year off with our 61st issue. The January (no. 60) doesn't count as it was released in December. It did count as the 11th issue for last year, which is a record for DRUMMER. This year our plans are much more ambitious: twelve issues of DRUMMER, twelve issues of the new MANIFEST, four issues of MACH, our DRUMMER Annual and a couple of Lucky Strike Extras, beginning with "VAL MARTIN BREAKS IN A HOUSE SLAVE" which is ready to go to press.

That's a heavy schedule for a group that has taken eight years to get its act together. There's no big new influx of capitol, no gangbuster distributor to hustle these issues around the country along with the syndicate "gay" magazines. Just you and us, kids.

Our advertisers help immensely. They want to talk to you so they pick DRUMMER and help pay the freight. The bars and shops along with the bookstores and newsstands that handle both DRUMMER and MANIFEST—alongside the myriad of publications all fighting for your attention and your dollar—are more help than you can realize. But the bottom line is the reader, the guy who buys our efforts, either on the stand or by subscription, that makes it all worthwhile.

We've come a long way, baby. In this age of computers and reader surveys, motivation studies and the worst economy since Eisenhower, DRUMMER keeps moving along, doing what it does best.

We are proud of this issue and will be prouder of the issues to come. Our now-modest price of \$3.95 is no longer outrageous; everybody is charging that these days. Some are charging a lot more but no one seems to pack in the quality and excitement that the people who write for, draw for and photograph for America's Magazine for The Macho Male.

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CIRCULATION L. CHARLES MASSARSKY
ACCOUNTING ART MUENCH
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VOLUME 7/NUMBER 61/FEBRUARY 1983