

Number 3

April 1993

Edited by

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**SNIPPETS:** Erstwhile Old Thymer Greg Hills is assembling a selection of fannish clip art suitable for computer owners of a desktop publishing bent. Hand-drawn fanart is scanned and filed on disk. Artists are welcome to submit artwork, and interested faneds should enquire about sending in disks to be filled. Greg resides at PO Box 420, Richmond, 3121 //// The fourth *Steve & Martin's Excellant Fanzine*, a sick little ASMFA winning comic full of movie crossovers (and a special liftout Swimsuit Edition) is out at last. Write to 21 Stanislake Ave. St.Marys, 5042 and ask. ////

**SO WHAT IS MAIL ART?:** Mail Art is several things, but basically it's any type of artwork you can stick a stamp on and post. Decorated envelopes, homemade postcards, packets of strange found objects, artzines, poetry, you name it.... So who does it? There are hundreds, thousands of people, all over the world sending strange things to each other through the Post Office. This is called *The Network*. No-one knows how big it is. It seems much bigger than fandom. If you count the people who use computer bulletin boards, the population is probably in the millions. Participants range from house-spouses to art-commune-dwellers, grandparents in retirement to teenage punks. It's much more diverse and anarchic than fandom - the concept of a SMOF wouldn't even arise in The Network, and there's no visible attempts to organise things; no clubs, no Worldcons, no Fan Funds, no awards. Just a huge, diverse group of people having fun. It transcends language barriers, it ignores borders, it acts as a massive ongoing information exchange. There are political aspects to International Networker Culture - it tends towards the anarchistic and holds that "Art" is the property of the people, not the galleries. Surrealism and Dada are big influences. Mostly, though, it's just Networkers sending offbeat, crazy things to each other simply for the joy of self-expression and communication. There are exhibitions of Mail Art running all the time, on a variety of topics, and anybody is invited to participate.

I've been involved in this stuff for only a year and

I've received hundreds of items from a dozen countries. If you'd like to learn more about International Networker Culture, write to the ARTYCHOKE editorial address and ask for a Mail Art Starter Kit.

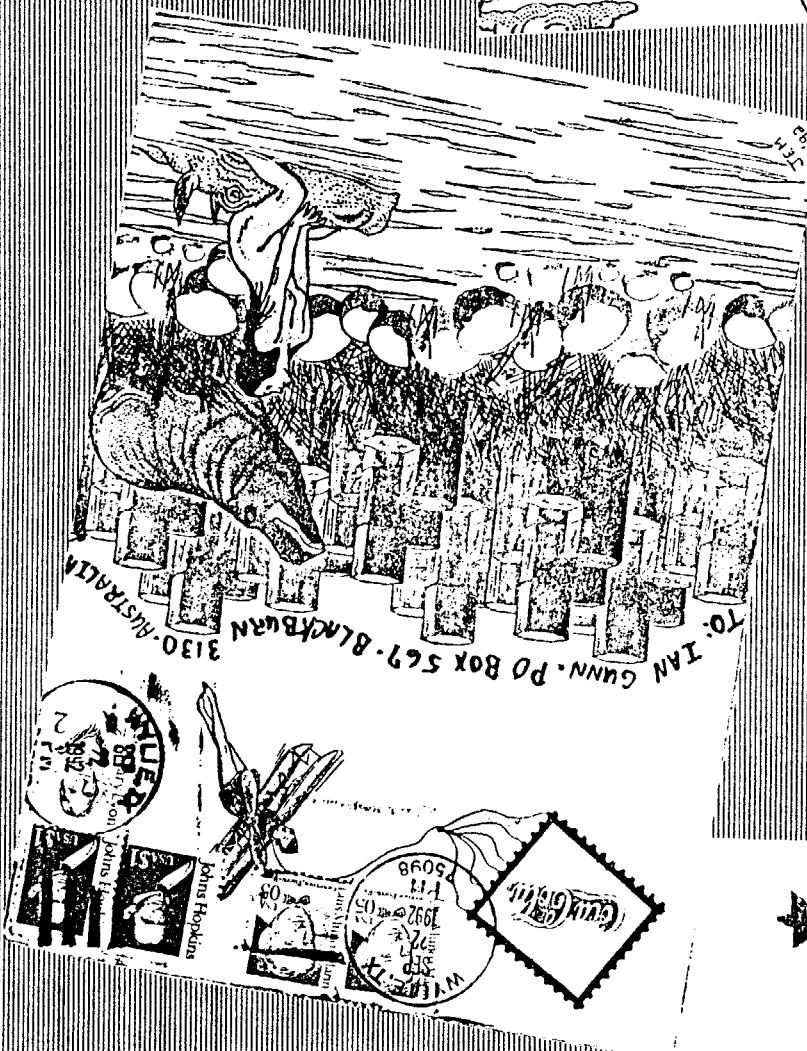
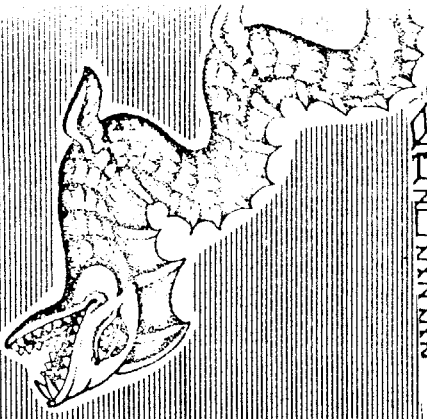
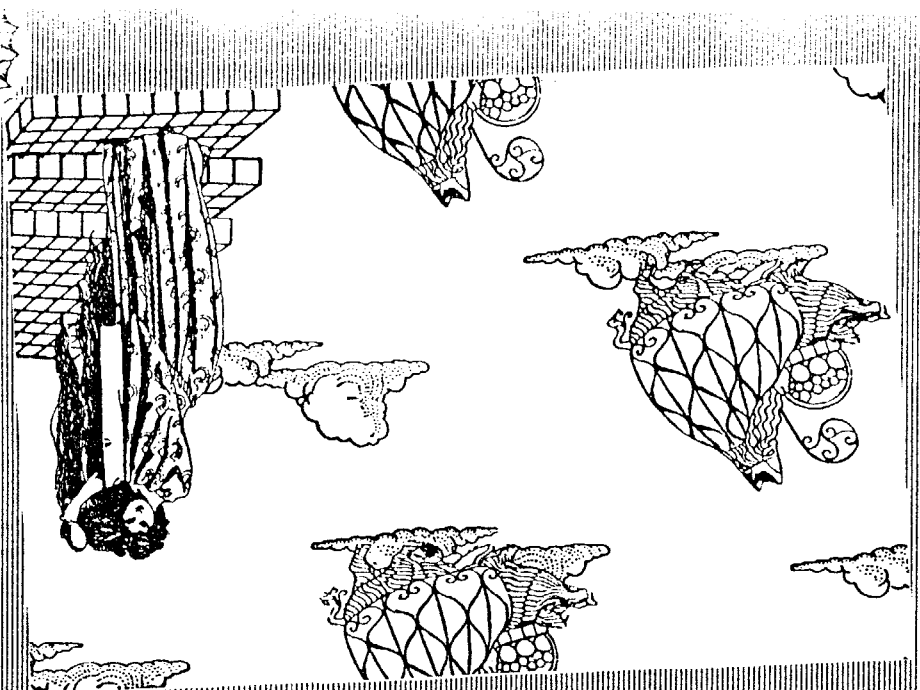
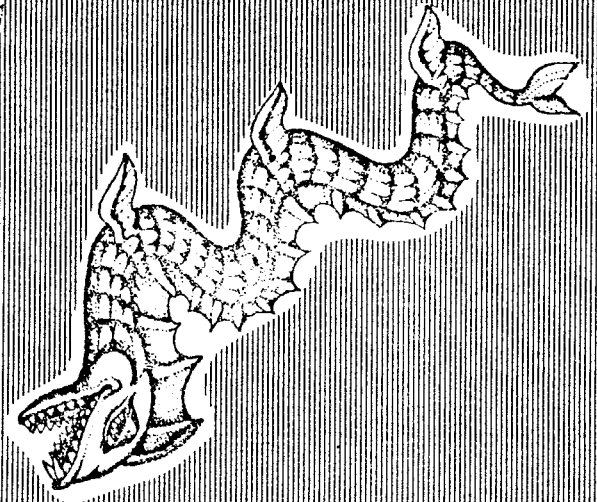
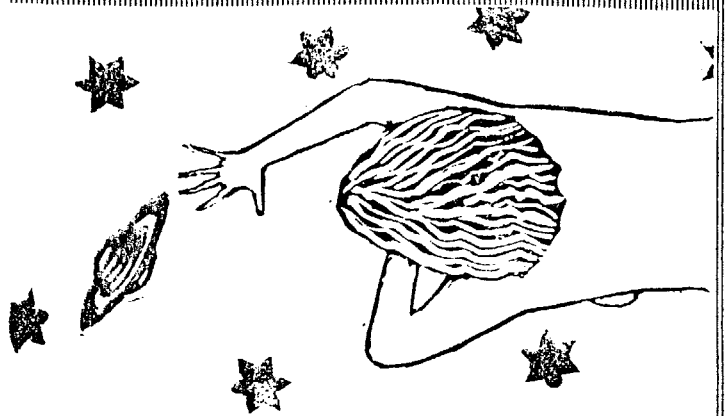
#### FEATURE ARTIST: JEM

Like many a Mail Artist, JEM operates under a pseudonym, and, like many Mail Artists, her forte is rubber stamping. Commercially bought rubber stamps are overlapped and juxtaposed to form a scene. Pencils, ink-and-sponge or a brayer (ink roller) are then used to add colour. JEM also creates her own rubber stamps by hand-carving erasers, as well as print blocks made from Masco, a soft version of linoleum. She uses photographic xerox transfer techniques which enable her to carve portraits (see example below) "I create what I feel," she says, "Letting my emotions lead the process rather than worrying what people might think of the finished piece. We are bound by all sorts of rules and restrictions in the world. This type of attitude does *not* belong in an individuals art."



"JEM, Two Men, And Lotsa Bees" ...by JEM

# April Fool



Mail Art  
by JEM

# SPACE★TIME

## Buccameer's

BY *Jon Gunn*

### EPISODE THREE

BY ALL THE GODS! WHAT IS THIS FOUL SMELLING MUCK THAT COVERS THE SEA? IT STINKS!

WELL, BLACK GLADYS, MY HISTORY BOOKS DON'T GO MUCH BEYOND THE 49TH CENTURY, BUT I SUSPECT IT'S SOME FORM OF YEAST...

AH... DINNER IS SERVED. I HUMBLY SEEK YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR THIS DISGRACEFUL MEAL. I AM SHAMED. AFTER I HAVE DONE THE DISHES I WILL COMMIT HARI-KARI...

FOR GOTT'S SAKE, TERAMOTO - LIGHTEN UP! I, FOR ONE, AM LIKING DER INSTANT REHYDRATED PIZZA...

ARR - AVAST AN' BELAY THAT SUICIDE ATTEMPT. THERE'LL BE NOBODY KILLIN' HISSELF ON MY SHIP-AN' THAT'S AN ORDER!

THEN I HUMBLY BEG THAT I BE PUNISHED FOR MY NEGLIGENCE IN PREPARING A MORE ACCEPTABLE REPAST... I DESERVE KEELHAULING AT THE VERY LEAST...

BY GOD! SHUT YER MOUTH YE ORIENTAL LOON! JUST DON'T GIVE ME ANY O' THEM ANCHOVY THINGIES AND WE'LL CALL IT EVEN, ALRIGHT? NOW, BE OFF WI' YE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "YEAST" ENDERCOTT?

UM... WELL, MISS McBAIRD... I'VE READ THAT IN THE LATE 4800'S THE MEN OF SCIENCE WERE BREEDING SOME FORM OF EDIBLE YEAST TO FEED THE TEEMING MILLIONS. IT GREW ON THE SEA AND WAS HARVESTED - SOMEHOW - AND MADE INTO FOOD.

YUM. PIZZA. IS IT SEA-FOOD PIZZA?

I SAY, WOULD SOMEBODY MIND CLOSING THE PORT-HOLE, PLEASE. THAT SMELL IS PUTTING ME OFF MY PIZZA.

ORIGINALLY, THEY BLOCKED OFF THE MEDITERRANEAN... BUT PRESUMABLY, AS WE'RE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, THE YEAST MAY NOW COVER THE ENTIRE OCEANS OF THE GLOBE...

AH, WELL, AT LEAST WE'VE LANDED IN A TIME PERIOD THAT APPEARS PEACEFUL... I WAS GETTING TIRED OF THE CONSTANT BATTLES...

BUT SVEN - THE WARRIOR'S LIFE IS ONE OF BATTLES ... YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT!

WELL... I MAY HAVE BEEN BORN A VIKING - BUT I SPENT SEVERAL YEARS WITH SOME 19TH CENTURY CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES... THIS IS MY SECOND VOYAGE ON THE TIME-SHIP...

JA. JA. WE'VE ALL HEARD DER STORY OF HOW YOU VERE PICKED UP BY DER TIME-SHIP ... ONLY IT HASN'T HAPPENED YET, JA?

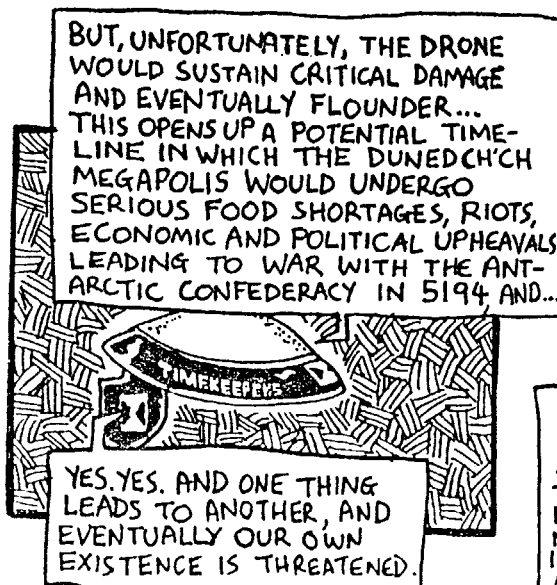
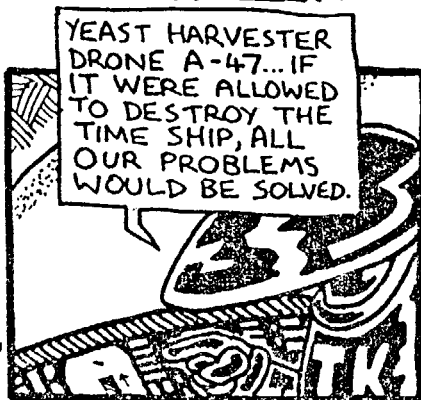
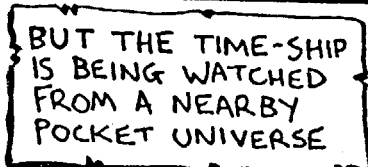
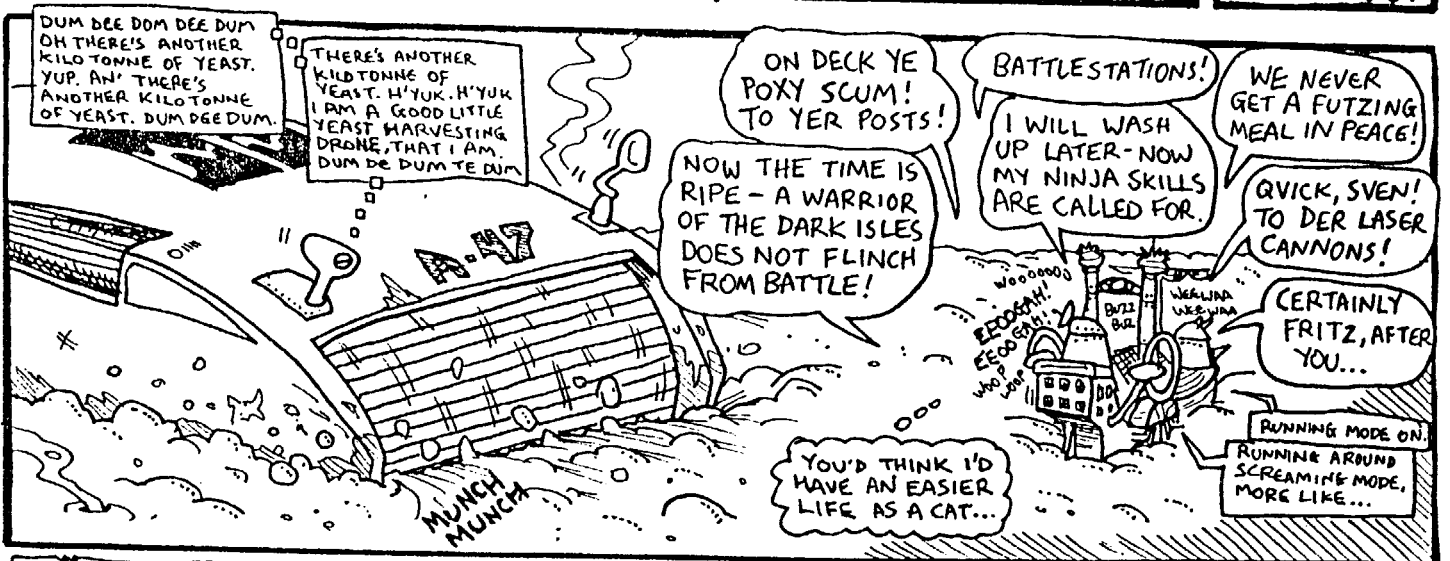
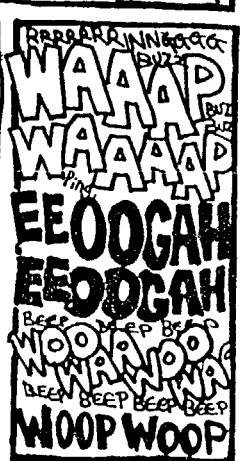
MEANWHILE UNDER THE TABLE...

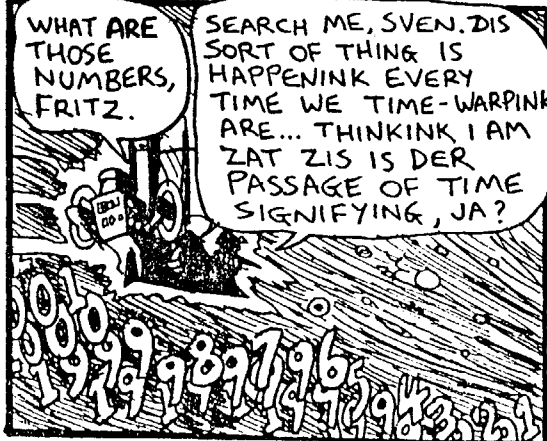
OH, FAB, TRIFF. THEY'RE DOING LUNCH. SHOULD I GO INTO MINUTES TAKING MODE?

AH, NO - I THINK SHE'S ABOUT TO PLAY FOOTSIES WITH ENDERCOTT

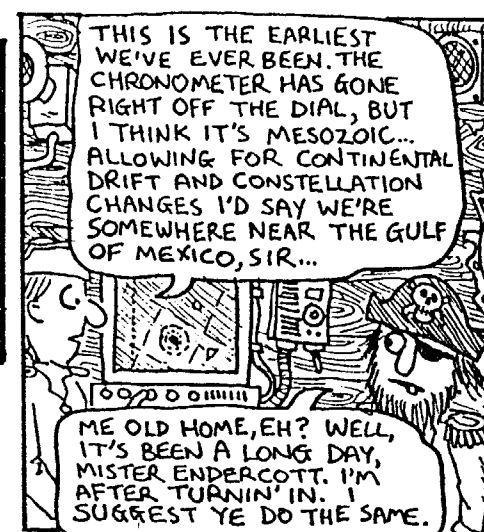
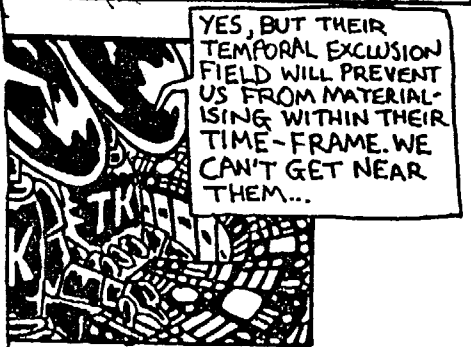
OH, HANG ON! I'M RECEIVING A FAX. HMM. THAT'S RATHER UNUSUAL...

YAH? FAX, EH? WHO'S IT FROM?





THEY ARE TRAVELLING BACKWARDS IN TIME- TO THE JURASSIC... HMM, ACCORDING TO OUR DATA, NO PART OF THE TIME-SHIP WAS IN EXISTENCE BEFORE THAT PERIOD... AND NONE OF THE CREW WERE BORN THEN... A STATE OF TOTAL ANACHRONISM. IF WE COULD DETONATE AN ANOMALY BOMB IN THEIR VICINITY IT WOULD SEND EACH COMPONENT PART OF THE SHIP HURLING BACK TO ITS POINT OF ORIGIN.



GOOD THINKING! BACK TO BASE, THEN, AND WE HAD BETTER USE THREE ANOMALY BOMBS, JUST TO MAKE CERTAIN...

