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Intelligent Sentient?

Luke Ramsey

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Luke Ramsey : Intelligent Sentient? before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Intelligent Sentient?:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Anti-characters and Anti-comics? By EisNinE This isn't a graphic novel. I've heard it referred to as such, but it's really not. Even books like Al Columbia's 'Pim and Francie' and Jeff Ladouceur's 'Holy Moly' are closer relatives to proper sequential art. It's actually an art-book/artist's jam with an 'exquisite corpse'-thing happening, even though the only thread uniting the panoramic spreads by Luke Ramsey and company is a loose concept: "(...)an anti-character, a de-evolved member of a grey race". Alright. A psycho-chemical solution made up of elements way too cool for the periodic table.....The Incal, Akira, Forming, Powr Mastrs, Capacity, By This Shall You Know Him, Ant Colony... One drawing inspired the next, and each contribution was influenced by the art that preceded it; but it's unquestionably Luke Ramsey's book. 'Intelligent Sentient' looks incredible, a slim but well-designed 64-page hardcover packed with the clean lines and intricate compositions I jabber on about constantly. It's the same cosmic-hallucinogenic subject matter mined by Jesse Moynihan, Theo Ellsworth and Jesse Jacobs... aliens doing very alien things; gargantuan creatures made up of countless smaller creatures; structures like organic scaffolding floating through empty space -- you get the idea. If you're a fan of this brand of art-comics inspired by 'The Incal' and 'The Air-tight Garage', you should love this. Just don't expect speech balloons or a coherent narrative. Thanks to the unassuming introduction hidden on the indicia page, I learned that the many stylistic shifts -- especially one 2-page spread that I initially assumed Ramsey had surgically extracted from Jesse Jacobs' brain -- were actually the work of several collaborators and contributors... including the unmistakable art of Jacobs and Michael Deforge. The first half is mostly by Ramsey himself, and the second half is mostly by his gathering of awesome pals. I'll skip the hyperbole for once, but just say that yet another Canadian artist-cartoonist has joined my long list of favorites. Great Stuff. Not a comic.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful little book crammed full of wonderful, wild images By Gordon E. Anderson Really great. Gets wilder and wilder as the book progresses, approaching the lofty heights of the Codex Seraphinianus. Reasonably short, too, and each image is crammed with detail. There's a sort of narrative running through the book, too, that's hard to put into words. You have to

puzzle over it for a while before you start picking up on that. I hope Luke Ramsey puts out more books, but from the look of it this took quite a while to make. The price is right, too, for such a small book so densely packed with ideas and wild images. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Made my niece very happy. By Porter Purchased this as a gift for a niece who draws and is in general drawn to the arts. She loves it, says she keeps finding more to go back for.

Delicate, complex drawings tell of a science-fiction world. Intelligent Sentient? feels like an artifact from another time, a lost feature in OMNI magazine or the album booklet for a late-1970s Hawkwind record or perhaps a print version of Koyaanisqatsi. Beautiful, detailed filigreed drawings fold in on themselves and blossom out at the reader as time speeds up and contracts. A loose story is told that involves a society of giant people, strange art, and inexplicable scientific experiments utilizing nonexistent technology. Factories and tree houses teem with life, and the city nestles up against a landscape filled with dinosaurs, apes, and dragonflies living peacefully side by side. Intelligent Sentient? is a series of images that are tied together not in narrative but in a progressing theme, the takeaway being that everything is connected. The drawings contain the fine detail of a watchmaker and the visual scope of a social reform muralist. This book is meant to be read forward and backward and returned to and treated like a mystical text.

Looking closely at one of Luke Ramsey's images, one sees the big bold shapes dissolve into a chaos of squiggles only to find new patterns emerging. Somehow he manages to distill the sense of order and chaos found in nature into his work. Squidface and the Meddler on Luke Ramsey About the Author Luke Ramsey cofounded the Islands Fold residency, exhibits internationally, and works as a freelance illustrator for clients such as The New York Times. His practice includes collaboration, design, public art projects, and detailed freehand drawing. Ramsey's collaborative mural with Josh Holinaty won an award of excellence from the city of Edmonton and a National Urban Design Medal from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. He lives on Pender Island, British Columbia.