

Drop On Air Column

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Posted by [Richard Boom](#) on Mar 21, 2012

Gert-Jan van Oosten has always been an avid comic book reader. One fine day he took the step from comic book fan to comic book creator and, nowadays, he is the co-owner of Drop Comics, a prime comics publisher in the Netherlands.

Every once in a while, Gert-Jan, the Goost Writer, shares his personal experience of how he started his own comics publishing company. Follow his trail. The trail of the Goost Writer.

Check out the [previous columns](#) for more of the Drop Comics story so far...



I have always been a fan of the Dutch Radio DJ's Rob Stenders and Fred Siebelink. These two guys are DJ's at one of the most listened Radio Station; Radio 3FM. I listened to these guys for years and they often made me laugh so hard I had to cry. One of the DJ's started his own Internet Radiostation, KXRadio www.kxradio.nl ; a radio station where the DJ's can play any music they like, without a playlist made by marketing guys and girls. And besides having a fresh approach here in the Netherlands, there are also a lot of good DJ's and famous Dutch people who have a show at said station. A fresh station that I listen to a lot while writing.



DMTR and Ranjit made their comics ready to send them to the printer. We had finally decided what company we wanted to print the comics. We choose a company in the Netherlands in order to have a good look at the paper, and it meant we could ask for a try out issue. We could do it in the USA for less money, but with the sending costs it was not really that much cheaper, and with this company we at least could sample the goods before giving the go-a-head.



Somewhere in this process I was listening to KX-Radio and there was this item they did in de Siebelink and Stenders show where they were looking for a job for Fred Siebelink. I laughed when Fred Siebelink tried to apply for an F-16 Jet pilot. He didn't make it though... And as I was listing I thought that it might be cool to ask Fred Siebelink if he wanted to be in the comic as a bystander. Maybe they liked it and then would talk about our comic on the show and it would only mean that Ranjit and/or DMTR would draw Fred somewhere in a panel on a couple of pages. I talked about it to the guys and they thought it was a nice idea. So I sent an e-mail to the producer of the show (and also a great singer) Lana Wolf.

I was actually surprised when I got a reply. And after exchanging phone numbers I got a phone call from one of the voices I heard so often while listening to KX-Radio; Lana Wolf.

They had talked about our idea and loved it so much that at the end of a few phone calls

Fred did not become an innocent bystander, but he would have the lead in the comic, together with Rob Stenders and Lana Wolf.

DMTR was the one who took up the challenge to make a comic with the likeness of real people. But because we were ready to go to the printers we couldn't change the whole comic. DMTR made a few drawings of Fred, Rob and Lana and they asked me to call in on the show. I said yes and because of that I had lost 3 nights of good sleep. I was really nervous. And when the phone rang and I saw it was KX-Radio my heart skipped a beat. The conversation went okay I guess. In my head I had already had this conversation a million times, but none of them were remotely like this one. But I guess it went okay. The people who heard me said it went okay so I have to believe them.



And just a few days before the deadline, the comic books went to the printers and the comics were ready. I was really, really, really busy in my 'other job' and when the sample comic came (they were sent to DMTR and Ranjit) I didn't have any time to go to the guys and look at the comics. But like I said before, I trust these guys with the visual aspect of the comics and when they said it was great, I followed. And, thus, our first ever comics were printed!

So the comics were on their way, we had done our PR thing, we were going to our first Comic-con. Everything was on track. And then something happened that I didn't see coming. But it had great impact on me.

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Gert-Jan van Oosten, co-founder of Dutch comic book publisher, [Drop Comics](#), talks about his efforts to find his place on the comics market from across the pond; the Netherlands.