

JEWISH HALL OF FAME



CELEBRITY AUTOMATA and CARTOONS in ZOOM's FIRST MAJOR INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION!

Zoom Rockman with Amy Winehouse



Unveiling Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame - the awardwinning 22 year-old political cartoonist and paper puppet animator's first major London show, opening on Tuesday 23 May – Sunday 3 September 2023 at the stunning JW3 in North West London. (Press and Media Day 22/05/23.)

Zoom is creating a series of **10** automata of British cultural icons, with several of the celebrities voicing their own mechanicals! Plus a plethora of some **80+** of **Zoom**'s brilliant cartoons of famous faces throughout the interactive exhibition.

Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame, is London's new Summer Exhibition, with a perfect cheeky 'end of the pier' vibe, with the automata in traditional seaside settings. Which celebrity will be at the candyfloss cart? What famous face is running the Fossil store? **Zoom'**s clues are there......! So why not:

Grab a selfie with **Sacha Baron Cohen** dressed as Moses as he parts the Red Sea! **Zoom** depicted him as Moses because he's more recognizable in costume than he is in real life!

- Experience being fired from Lord Sugar's Beigel Shop!
- Take part in an interactive performance by the late, great, **Amy Winehouse**!
- Or score a goal with Alex Scott wearing her One Love armband!

With six more famous cultural icon automata still to be revealed.....who will they be, and what will they be doing?!

Zoom Rockman (his real name), became the youngest-ever contributor to: *The Beano Comic* (at 12), *Private Eye Magazine* (at 16), *The Sunday Times* (Zoom's Week at 21), and named by the *Evening Standard* as one of the Most Influential Londoners under 25. **Zoom** graduated in 2022 with a first class degree in Graphic Design from Central Saint Martins - and **Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame** is his first major public show.

JW3 are thrilled to produce their first immersive and interactive exhibition, with timed ticket entry allowing only 20 visitors per session – so everyone can enjoy the artwork and unique installations. And even hand crank and work the brilliant automata!

Zoom says: "I always start with paper and ink as I love the resistance of paper. But I've always wanted my drawings to move. Animation takes so long to create, but pushing puppets in real time was fast. My puppet making technique is now a precise combination of illustrations and mechanics, and I've invented a programmable machine called the Zoomascope.

"The machine does the job of puppeteering for me when I'm not there, so the audience can turn the handle and the drawings come to life in front of them.

"Part of my motivation in making it was thinking about how we might entertain ourselves after the apocalypse! The Zoomascope, is Pre-Cinema Technology in the 21st century!"

Each automaton is hand-crafted with **Zoom**'s unique **Zoomascope**. **Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame** is curated by comic aficionado and UK Comic Art Award winner, *"the man at the crossroads"*, **Paul Gravett**.

Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame summer fun perfectly complements the **free** real **sandy Beach** at **JW3**, open throughout the summer (from July). With deck chairs aplenty – bring your bucket and spade and make **JW3** your summer destination! The delicious **Baladyt** vegetarian restaurant and café – serves the best falafels in town and ice cream aplenty! So book your tickets for **Zoom Rockman's Jewish Hall of Fame** – and check out what else is on in **JW3**'s state of the art cinema and theatre for a great day out!

LISTINGS INFORMATION





Tuesday 23 May to Sunday 3 September 2023

at



THE NEW POSTCODE FOR JEWISH LIFE

JW3, 341-345 Finchley Road, London NW3 6ET

Box Office: jw3.org.uk/zoom

Entry ticket price: £6 per person (concessions £3 per ticket) - Children under 4 go free

20 capacity, in 30 minute slots

Monday – Wednesday: 10:30am - last entry 9pm Thursday & Sunday: 10:30am – last entry 10pm Closed Friday & Saturday Thursday 25 May: last entry 2pm Monday 1 May & Friday 26 May: closed VIP Gala Night: Monday 5 June 2023 – full details TBC

Photography, titles and logos: <u>HERE</u>

PRESS and MEDIA DAY: MONDAY 22 MAY – Timings TBC

For further information, interviews, photography, tickets please contact DGPR Deborah Goodman: <u>publicity@dgpr.co.uk</u> / +44 (0)208 959 9980 / +44 (0)7958 611218

Zoom Rockman

Zoom Rockman, his real name, became the youngest-ever contributor to; The Beano Comic (at 12), Private Eye Magazine (at 16) and The Sunday Times ('Zoom's Week' at 21). London Evening Standard named him as one of the Most Influential Londoners under 25.

Still only 22, Zoom has illustrated Iain Dale's *The Prime Ministers* (Political Book of the Year 2020) and *The Presidents* (2021). Zoom's illustrations appear on the cover of Private Eye's *Dr Hammond's Covid Casebook* (2021), Michael Rosen's *St Pancreas Defendant Me, The Boris Letters* (2022) and Ivor Baddiel's *Ben's Bonkers Barmitzvah* (out September 2023).

Zoom graduated with a first class degree in Graphic Design from Central Saint Martins. He attended JCoSS secondary school, Barnet.

zoomrockman.com

Instagram: @the_zoomcomic Twitter: @The_ZoomComic

JW3

JW3 - Open to all, regardless of race, religion, belief, gender, sexuality, ability or age.

JW3 - Jewish Community Centre London is the UK's flagship Jewish Community Centre, the only such public venue for Jewish arts, culture, learning and community of its kind in the country.

JW3's Vision: A vibrant, diverse, unified British-Jewish community, inspired by and engaged with Jewish arts, culture, learning and life.

JW3's Mission: To increase the quality, variety and volume of Jewish conversation in London and beyond. In 2022 over 100,000 people have come to JW3 for more than 100 different activities each week, with many more accessing the programmes online. The diverse programme includes adult education, language classes, theatre and musical performances, youth activities, film, family events, social impact programmes and their seasonal installations of JW3's summer sandy beach and winter ice-rink.

jw3.org.uk

Twitter @JW3London Facebook: facebook.com/JW3London Instagram: instagram.com/jw3london

Paul Gravett - curator

Paul Gravett is a London-based writer, historian, curator and lecturer, specialising for over forty years in international comics and cartoon art. His contributions to these fields include co-publishing the innovative magazine Escape (1983-89) which helped discover such British creators as Eddie Campbell, Jamie Hewlett, Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean. He directed and curated for London's first Cartoon Art Museum (1992-2001) where he developed its collection and first gallery locations, which presented tributes to Carl Giles and Charles Schulz, amongst others. He is co-founder and co-director of Comica, the London International Comics Festival (2003-). Since 2004, he has been writing thematic studies and cartoonist and illustrator monographs, most recently on Posy Simmonds and Tove Jansson. Among the exhibition which he has (co-)curated in the UK and internationally are: 'God Save the Comics!', which opened the Centre National de la Bande dessinée et de l'Image in Angoulême, France in 1990; 'Comics Unmasked: Art and Anarchy in the UK', the first of its kind at The British Library, London in 2014; retrospectives of the work of Tove Jansson (2010) and Posy Simmonds (2012) at the Centre Belge de la Bande Dessinée in Brussels; and 'Mangasia: Wonderlands of Asian Comics' (2017-), commissioned by The Barbican Centre, London and being toured worldwide. His most recent book, a monograph on Tove Jansson for Thames & Hudson's series 'The Illustrators' has been published in nine languages.

Currently curating cartooning prodigy Zoom Rockman's first solo art installation at JW3 and an exhibition of contemporary Taiwanese graphic novels for the BDFIL Festival in Lausanne, Switzerland. <u>paulgravett.com</u>