

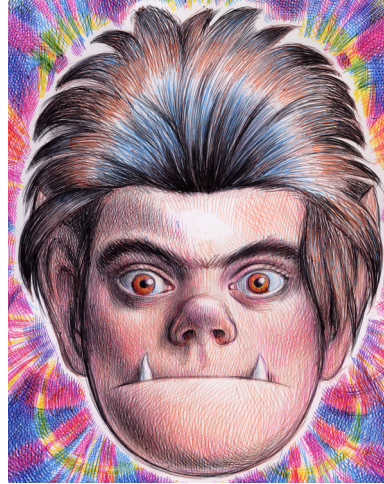
Emil Ferris

My Favorite Thing is Monsters Book Two

November 7th, 2024 – January 11th, 2025
17 rue Martel | 75010 Paris

opening reception with the artist
on Thursday, November 7th
starting at 6pm

book signing session upon registration
on Saturday, November 9th
starting at 3pm



Seven years after the release of the first volume of Karen Reyes' adventures, Emil Ferris returns to offer us a sequel that lives up to the international acclaim of its predecessor. And with great excitement, Galerie Martel Paris will unveil, starting on November 7th, a selection of original artwork from this « Book Two », to be released on November 8 by Monsieur Toussaint Louverture.

On the occasion of this second monographic exhibition dedicated to the virtuoso of ballpoint pen, the Gallery asked Mexican filmmaker Issa López to present the narrative and artistic magic crafted by the American artist.

How hard it is to follow up a masterpiece?

With her first graphic novel, the magnificent « My Favorite Thing is Monsters », Ferris exploded into the comics and art world, illuminating it with a supremely unique vision, brimming with beastly beauty, forbidden desires, and sublime horrors.

She invited us to read the intimate journal of Karen, a little girl turned detective, attempting to solve a brutal murder in 1960s Chicago, navigating a merciless, incomprehensible reality made almost entirely of lies and secrets. Karen's superpower is monsters. Her fortress, the art she discovers on the walls of a museum. And the revelations she offers in the course of her investigation are painstakingly rendered in glorious, baroque, numinous ballpoint pen drawings on lined notebook pages. Monsters felt like opening a matchbook and finding the universe inside.

Ferris commanded our attention with a voice that could mix humor, pulp, nightmares, libido, social commentary, history lessons, profound feeling, and exquisite imagery, cooked into a labyrinthine mystery — often literally in the form of a labyrinth of pictures and words that made us turn the big volume in an intoxicating spin.

And then she went away.

For seven long years.

This is her comeback, and every day of the wait was worth it.

To answer our initial question, it's impossible many times to follow up a masterpiece. But Ferris manages and then some. « Book Two » is every bit as poignant and surprising as the first volume, and even more beautiful. The art on the page is more precise and polished. The questions that « Book One » posed are all reframed in the view of a more mature young detective, wiser, having learned a lesson or two on grief and duplicity.

This is a painfully grown-up book. Karen's brother, Deeze, a Sherpa of sorts in her hero's journey, is losing himself this time around. She's mourning his loss, the loss of her mother, and the loss of her childhood.

She's changing — as monsters change. The plot thickens. And madness lurks in every gritty, brutal Chicago corner.

Unmissable.

Welcome to « Book Two ».

Issa López

Issa López is a Mexican director, screenwriter, and producer.

In 2017, her film « Tigers Are Not Afraid » acclaimed by critics, won several awards.

In 2024, she brings new life to the series « True Detective » with a fourth season featuring, among others, Jodie Foster. She will once again be behind the camera to direct a new season.

Press relations : Galerie Martel +33 6 10 19 30 02, contact@galeriemartel.fr
Monsieur Toussaint Louverture - Sylvie Chabroux +33 6 64 25 48 42, sylvie@chabroux.com