





## I went to an antiquarian book fair.

It was a professional commitment; I do work for a literary foundation after all, but really, I was there for one reason: *The Left Hand of Darkness*.

To say that the sale of the cover of one of the most important genre books of the 1970s was a big deal would be an understatement if you happened to life in the world of Genre collecting. It was an important cover, done by important, and somewhat underappreciated, artists. The provenance was impeccable, the work gorgeous.

The dealer was chatty, but what are we to expect?

The Antiquarian Book Fair is an annual event, and I went back in 2022. I found a couple of things there, but more important than anything I bought was the fact that I discovered the Ephemera Society of America, which I joined and truly enjoy.

The display of the painting was simple, and next to it were two Hugos, Terry





[illegible][illegible]

A large collection of vintage pulp magazines displayed in wooden racks. The top row features titles like "DER ORCHIDEENGARTEN", "KINEMATOGRAPH", "WONDER STORIES", and "DETECTIVE". Subsequent rows include "Der Orchideengarten", "Phantastische Blätter", "Weird Tales", "Adventures of Future Science", "Captain Satan", "Amazing Stories", "Futuristic Fiction", "Science Fiction", "Fantastic Story Magazine", "Astounding Science Fiction", "Startling Stories", and "Wonder Stories". The covers are colorful and feature various illustrations, including science fiction scenes, fantasy landscapes, and action figures.



The dealer produced an impressive catalog which listed the items from the Terry Carr collection, as well as stuff from Carol Carr and Bob Lichtman's collection. There's some incredible stuff, and going through and seeing all the zines listed is impressive.

Even if it appears that he threw away all the *Claims Departments* and *Journey Planets* I sent him.



The fact that there are two Hugos (and possibly as many as five) on the market is interesting. I've often said that if money gets tight enough, I'll sell my first Hugo. It's the one that would likely fetch the most, and though it would absolutely kill me to not have it, sometimes things gotta happen. I once owned a Robert Motherwell piece, a small drawing, and I had to sell it to make rent once. That sucked. I hope I'll never have to do that again, but one can never tell. I was probably a month away from selling in when I lost my job in 2019. I got lucky and got something just before things got super-tight.

Elsewhere in the fair, there was a lot of science fiction, including one dealer who had a lot of pulp magazines. We talked for a while, and in his booth he had a copy of *The Best of Uncanny*.

It worries me that a magazine I have appeared in has a collection available at an antiquarian book fair.

I grow old, I grow old...

There were a lot of copies of *Neuromancer*, which were for way more money than I'd have expected. There were dealers who specialize in genre, though I thought the

prices were a little high.

Save for an absolutely gorgeous edition of *Welcome to the Monkeyhouse* that was signed by Vonnegut for two grand. That was perhaps a little undervalued because of the signature, and the fact it was a review copy.

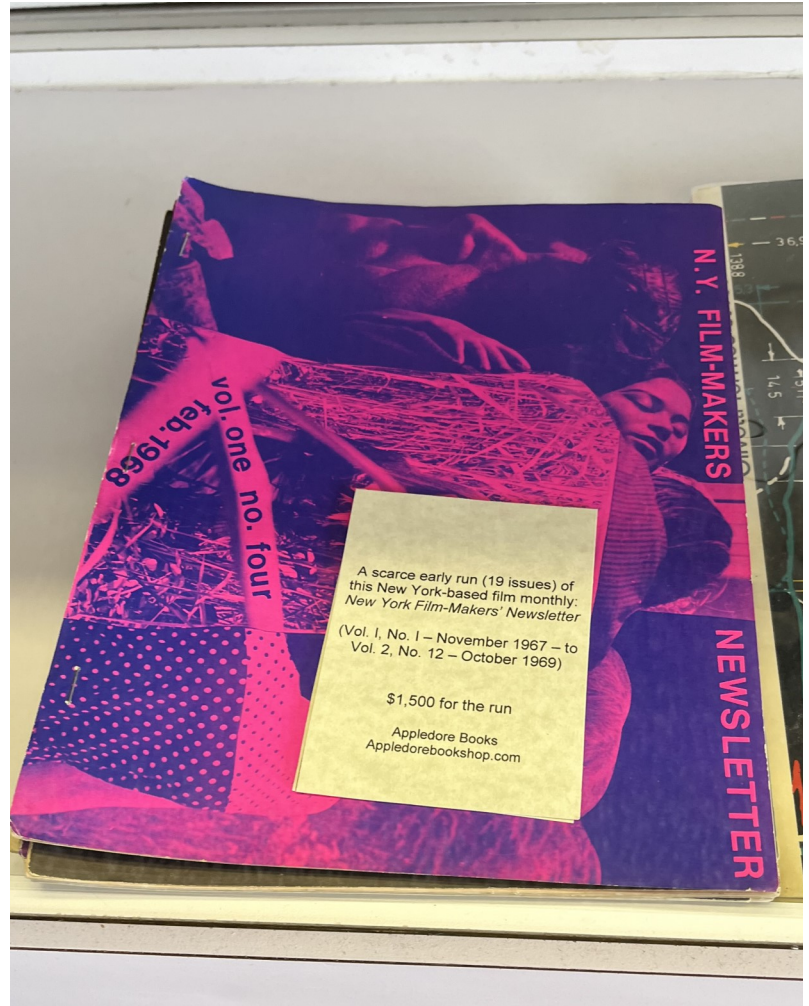
There weren't a lot of zines, there seldom are, but the ones that I saw that piqued my interest were in areas where there are always well-heeled collectors.

The first was a run of a zine I had never heard of called *New York Film-Maker's Newsletter*. I looked into it and it

appears to have sprung up with the Jonas Mekas crowd in NYC. It certainly has the flavor of the NY Avant Garde of the 1960s, and there's an issue with a cover featuring the most famous headshot of Kenneth Anger, who I will always consider an LA filmmaker even if I am fully aware of his time in NYC.

These were going for 1,900 bucks, way out of my league, though I might add them to my NYC research trip schedule. The Filmmakers Collective was what put it out, it appears, so that's a good starting point. I've found scans of several covers from the issues, but no full scans myself.

Having known Jonas a little, I am able to follow his footprints all over the place. My own filmmaking (let's call it what it is - playing with video) is clearly influenced by Mekas' *Notes on a Circus* as much as by Bruce Conner's *A Movie* or the work of Ed Emshwiller. This run of zines would certainly give me more insight into that time period when the American Avant Garde was at a highwater mark, and probably have some really cool art going on!



There were quite a few poetry zines, including one with a beautiful Robert Creeley set of pieces, There were no Punk zines, not even a *Sniffin' Glue*! That made me sad.

*My new obsession is a publication called Hairy Who. Featuring work from the likes of Jim Nutt, it's an art zine that had four issues and is IMPOSSIBLE to find these days.*

*I'd make a great, billionaire, but collecting would likely make me a millionaire in a matter of weeks!*





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**HAIRY WHO!**  
NEW  
ONLY 50¢

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VICA-VITES  
LIVER-LIFE  
ADWATE  
PRESTOE  
BUY IT

**Hairy Who  
Complete 1-4**  
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Gladys Nilsson,  
Art Green, Suellen Rocca  
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CARDS AS WEAPONS

# I went to see Too Many Zooz

Vanessa and I don't get out much without the kids, but our favorite band as a couple, Too Many Zooz, was coming to, of all places, Felton.

This is weird, because Felton has maybe 5K people in it, and is best known as the home of Roaring Camp, my wife's ancestral homeland.

The show was super solid, and I miss live music. They're a jazz/rock/house combo of a drummer, The King of Sludge, trumpeter, Matt, and Bari Sax player, Leo P. Leo is amazing, and has even performed as a headliner at BBC Proms a few years ago. The show was kinda short, which is perfect for sleepy-ol' me!

The wonderful thing was they played only one of their songs that I was familiar with, *Warriors*, though at a strange tempo. They played two covers, one of which I did not know, but the other was Weezer's *Hash Pipe*.

Now, I'm a HUGE Weezer fan, as the recent-ish ish about them will attest, but this is my absolute least-favorite Weezer song. That said, this cover killed and I wish I had a good recording of it!

It's still hard for me to go to crowded location, but I wore my mask and enjoyed the hell out of it.

It does help make it more affordable that I can't drink anymore!









## Going to New York next week.

I haven't been back since the kids were six months old, but really, haven't been into NYC itself since the week Vanessa and I got married in the Sculpture Garden of the MoMA.

MoMA is my spiritual home.

I'm planning on a full day there, starting with looking through the museum as normal, then heading to the Library to look at copies of Aspen Magazine, that legendary magazine-in-a-box, and then probably more time in the museum.

Because I love it.

The plan was 6 museums, and three research stops - MoMA, The Met, The Whitney, The Guggenheim, The Paley Museum of Broadcast, and the NYPL. It's likely I will either skip the Guggenheim or The Whitney. I've got research time (which means I'm technically on the work clock!) at MoMA, The Paley, and NYPL, so those are gonna need to happen. Like I wrote a few months back, I've got to get to The Whitney at some point, and it's close to Vanessa's



uncle's place, so that's gonna make that more likely.

But man, I've got people and places to see!

I've got a couple of nights at a hotel with a Free Hot Breakfast! This will be key as I'm gonna be walking, low on cash, and needing to keep going. I'm meeting some friends and family, which is the real reason for the trip, and watching stuff at the Paley.

On what?

Saroyan. There's an episode of *Playhouse 90* that is Jackie Gleason as Nick in *The Time of Your Life* that I really want to get a look at. There's also the opera version of *My Heart's in the Highlands* from NET that I believe they have available. That's one I really wanna see, since I'm getting into Opera and hey, it's close to Lincoln Center.

I also have to get photos of the spot where Vanessa and I got married. It's in the Sculpture Garden at MoMA, and there's no where else in the world that means as much to me.







## Finally had my neurologist ap- pointment.

While he didn't really have any answers (and when I told him I had no memory of my wedding, his response was "huh.") he did order the imaging tests, said it almost certainly wasn't dementia, and worse case scenario was mini-seizures.

That's pretty worst case for my mind.

Still, it's a good sign and he was a nice doctor. Like always happens, we ended up talking about Oppenheimer (Robert, not Frank) and he basically took down all my info.

My Blood Pressure was also REALLY high, 161/91, though I had had a cup of coffee right before heading over. Last time it was took it was 130/85. I gotta work on that.

All in all, it wasn't a bad visit, and the imaging is happening right after I'm back from NYC!







## Alright, that's enough.

I've got stuff to do, and I'm looking forward to the next few weeks. We've got Cinequest coming up, and there's the NYC trip, and probably a few more things, who knows?

Been listening to more Cozy mysteries, of course, but Tara Lush is still my favorite. Her characters are the most fun. I'm also revisiting the *Pie Town Mystery* series by Kirsten Weiss. It's a cute set of stories, with its center being Pie Town, a pie shop that ends up being the epicenter for a Cabot Cover's worth of murders. It takes place in a town that's basically Half Moon Bay called San Nicolas. It's a lot of fun, and I can't wait to listen to it more.

It's Valentine's Day, and I spent yesterday taping candy to Valentine's stickers for the kids. They didn't get home until just a bit before bedtime, so I ended up getting them ready. This is basically what I was always hoping would happen being a Dad.





