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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Contact:

August 6, 1996 Randy Reynaldo

WCG Comics

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Rob Hanes to be Published in Italy

[Los Angeles, California] — WCG Comics announced that Rob Hanes has been licensed by a foreign publisher to appear in The Fix, a new anthology comic-book from Italian publisher Raw Dust Productions. The first issue is scheduled to appear in January 1997.

"This is really great news," said <u>Rob Hanes</u> creator Randy Reynaldo. "Because the Europeans have a strong respect for the classic adventure genre, I have been very active in trying to find an overseas publisher. This will hopefully open the door to the character's translation into other languages as well."

Rob Hanes will be one of three series appearing in the anthology, along with Paul Grist's Kane. The third series will be announced at a later date.

"QUOTE BY MICHAEL FOSCHINI," said Michael Foschini, publisher at Raw Dust Productions and a fan of Rob Hanes.

While the U.S. market is dominated by superheroes, the European market has a long tradition of diverse titles for all ages, including classic adventure comics. In addition to perennial adventure favorites like Hergé's <u>Tintin</u> and Hugo Pratt's <u>Corto Maltese</u>, many of the pioneers of

the form from the United States, including Milton Caniff (<u>Terry and the Pirates</u> and <u>Steve Canyon</u>), Alex Raymond (<u>Flash Gordon</u>) and Will Eisner (<u>The Spirit</u>), remain well known in Europe through translated reprints.

In a few cases, some American adventure comics are even supported solely by its readers overseas, including Lee Falk's <u>The Phantom</u> and George Evans's <u>Secret Agent Corrigan</u>, which appear in only a few newspapers domestically, but continue to do well in Europe.

For these reasons, Reynaldo is very excited about bringing Rob Hanes to a foreign audience.

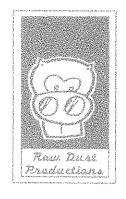
The first story to be translated will be "The Glowworm Conspiracy," which appeared in Reynaldo's Rob Hanes anthology, the Rob Hanes Archives. The stories will not be published in chronological order in order to ensure that more recent and the graphically stronger stories are published first. According to Reynaldo, this should not pose a problem for new Italian readers since all his stories to date are self-contained and designed to stand alone.

The series features the modern-day adventures of Rob Hanes, a young private detective from Justice International specializing in worldwide investigation and security. Hanes also does freelance intelligence work for a myriad number of agencies, including the CIA, the United Nations and the European Union. The series has been often compared to <u>Tintin</u>, <u>Indiana Jones</u>, <u>Jonny Quest</u>, and <u>Mission: Impossible</u>.

Reynaldo is also a past recipient of a Xeric Foundation Grant for self-publishers and in 1995 was nominated for the Russ Manning Award for Most Promising Newcomer which was presented as part of the Will Eisner Comics Industry Awards at the San Diego Comicon.

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Word Count:





PRESS RELEASE

August 5th, 1996

As of December 1996, Randy Reynaldo's ROB HANES and Paul Grist's KANE will feel the famous Italian hospitality!

These two features are the first wave in the line up of INDY PRESS, an imprint of Raw Dust Productions meant to show Italian mainstream readers what they're missing on.

Rob Hanes and Kane will debut in a 40 page, black and white book titled THE FIX.

In a marketplace strangled by (guess what!) superheroes, The Fix is going to provide a much needed alternative for those discerning and disgruntled readers who can't get enough quality reading from the stands.

Riding the wave of popularity that's accompanied English and American creators in Italy in recent years, but without jumping the bad girl-gore-and-bullets bandwagon, The Fix should gain strong enough a following to allow the switch from bimonthly to monthly schedule whithin the first year of publication.

Original Made-in-italy features will also appear as of issue 2, showcasing young local talents such as Antonio Menin and Michela Da Sacco.

Further information available upon faxed request. Contact: Michael Foschini.