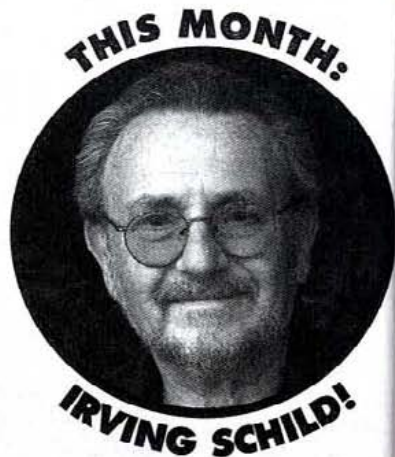


MAD's IDIOT OF THE ISSUE!

IRVING SCHILD FAQs (Fanatically Aberrant Questions we asked Irving!)



THIS MONTH:

IRVING SCHILD!

Q: What is your favorite MAD article that you photographed?

A: "Who Made the Caesar Salad," a four-photo series of a Roman party, everyone dressed in togas (MAD #148). If anyone studies these photographs closely, you'll find two people missing in the last photo. They got drunk and fell behind the set during the shoot.

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Q: What was your most difficult MAD photo shoot?

A: "Martha Stewart Dying" (MAD #357). I used my wife as the model!
(Editor's note: see it on page 55!)

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Q: What actor should play you in a movie about your life?

A: Jean-Claude Van Damme. He is tough on the outside and soft on the inside like me. He's also Belgian.

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Q: What actress should play your wife?

A: Demi Moore — you want me to draw you a picture?!

Q: Pick a MAD contributor and describe them in one word.

A: Sergio Aragones — genius!

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Q: Where did you go to school?

A: Cooper Union.

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Q: What was the last movie you viewed or rented?

A: *Home Alone: Taking Back the House*.

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Q: What was your favorite MAD trip?

A: Mexico, Thailand, Japan, France, England, Greece, Africa, etc.

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Q: Any stories from the MAD trips you'd like to share?

A: While having cocktails on a safari in Africa, a gorgeous woman gave me her address and telephone number — a moment later, a baboon snatched the address from my hand. Won't she be surprised when he comes to visit!

In Mexico, we went to an amateur bull fighting arena. A few of us tried our hand at fighting the young bull. I can still remember that horn on my butt while running away from that charging young bull. What do you mean "olé"? I say "OY VEY!"

Irving delights the Mexican crowd by bravely fighting what is, technically, a bull.

Q: Who would you not want to be stranded on a desert island with?

A: MY WIFE!!

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Q: If you could change one thing about yourself what would it be?

A: My underwear!

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Q: Can you name some other publications your work has appeared in?

A: *Life*, *McCall's*, *Esquire*, and some sex magazines. *Paris Match*, *Shturm Magazine*.



(left to right) Irving, Sergio Aragones and friend, Hank Fishman, play dress-up during the shoot for "Great Moments in Advertising" from MAD #98.

Q: What was your favorite Halloween costume?

A: As myself, one year, walking in a Halloween parade in New York City smoking a cigar and wearing my marlin cap, they took me for Fidel Castro.

Q: Where have you taught?

A: FIT (The Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC).

Q: Have you had any notable students?

A: They are all notable!

Q: The biggest misconception about you is...

A: I am talented.

Q: Is it true that most of your work is done with a six-dollar disposable camera?

A: That's what some of my cameras are worth after a MAD shoot.

Q: Which is better for film developing — CVS or Duane Reade?

A: Neither, I recommend Kmart.

Q: How many languages can you speak?

A: Three — English, Italian, and French.

Q: Could you translate "Say Cheese" into all of them?

A: English — "Say cheese," Italian — "Diche fromaggio," and French — "Dit fromage."

Q: You've photographed Nick Meglin many times — if you had to choose, what would you say is his "good side"?

A: I would only like to be on his right side.

Q: Honestly — have you ever forgotten to take off your lens cap?

A: No, but I have forgotten to put film in my camera.

With every picture that Irving takes, another layer of clothing comes off.



Q: You're originally from Belgium — how do you take your waffles?

A: With Godiva chocolate.

Q: Sergio Aragones first recruited you to work for MAD? Have you ever forgiven him?

A: On the contrary, I could never thank him enough for initiating me into the MAD fraternity of gifted artists, the infamous "gang of idiots."

Q: If you were conducting this interview, what question would you have asked yourself?

A: Did these questions come from Al Jaffee's book, "Answers To Stupid Questions"?



In Beijing, China — a nation of 600 million people — Irving poses here with every single MAD fan in the country!

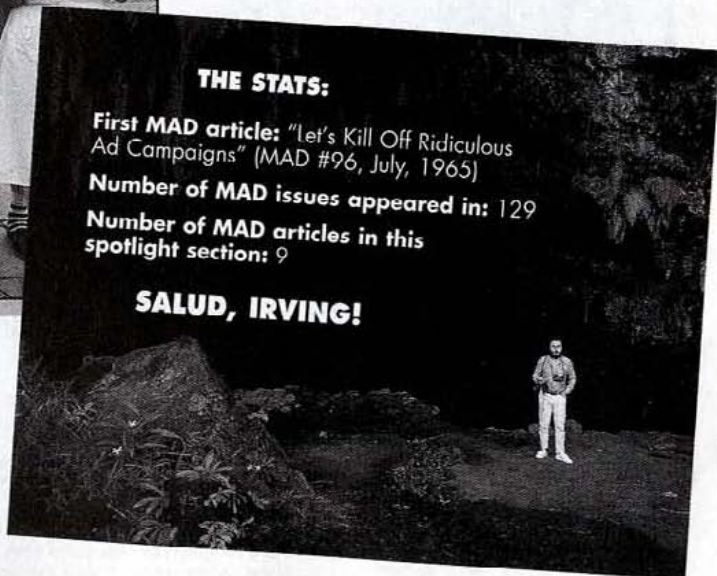
THE STATS:

First MAD article: "Let's Kill Off Ridiculous Ad Campaigns" (MAD #96, July, 1965)

Number of MAD issues appeared in: 129

Number of MAD articles in this spotlight section: 9

SALUD, IRVING!



Q: What's the most unusual thing you ever photographed?

A: A cockroach for a dining publication.

Q: Favorite midnight snack?

A: Sleeping pills and a glass of water.