

Tom Everhart

(American, b. 1952)

In 1980, Tom Everhart was introduced to cartoonist **Charles M. Schulz** at Schulz's studios in Santa Rosa, California. A few weeks prior to their meeting, Everhart, having absolutely no education in cartooning, found himself involved in a freelance project that required him to draw and present *Peanuts* renderings to Schulz's studios. Preparing as he would his own drawings and studies for his large-scale, skeleton/nature-related paintings, Everhart blew up some of the cartoonist's strips on a twenty-five-foot wall in his own studio, which eliminated the perimeter lines of Schulz's cartoon boxes, and left only the marks of the cartoonist. Schulz's painterly pen-strokes -- now, larger than life -- were transformed into painterly brush-strokes in a language that overwhelmingly connected to **Everhart's signature form of expression and communication**. Completely impressed with Schulz's line, Everhart was able to reproduce Schulz's draftsmanship with exacting fidelity. This, in turn, impressed Schulz at their 1980 meeting. It was at this time that **Everhart affirmed his obsession with Schulz's line-art style, and thus began their ongoing friendship and collaboration**.

A few years later, while still painting his own body of work full-time in *his* studio, Everhart began drawing special projects for Schulz and *United Media* of **New York** and **Tokyo**. These authentic, Schulz-style drawings included covers and illustrated articles for magazines, art for the **White House**, and the majority of the *MetLife* insurance-company campaign, so very famous in its day. **Everhart is now the only fine artist authorized and educated by Schulz to draw the actual Schulz line**.

The paintings using Charles Schulz's comic strip *Peanuts* as subject matter began to replace Everhart's original, skeleton and nature-related paintings in 1988. **Today, all the images in Everhart's work are in some respect derived from Schulz's *Peanuts* comic strip**.

Tom Everhart continues to lecture around the world on the artwork of Charles M. Schulz, and to communicate the unique collaborative relationship they shared, cartoonist vis-à-vis painter. To this, Everhart has since dedicated his life.

Today, Everhart is the only fine artist educated by Schulz and legally authorized by both Charles Schulz and *Iconix Brand Group* to use subject matter from Schulz's *Peanuts* strip to create fine-art renditions of the master's legendary cartoons.

EDUCATION

1970	Yale University of Art & Architecture , New Haven, CT, undergraduate studies
1972	St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA, independent-study program under Earl Hoffman
1974 - '76	MFA , Yale School of Art & Architecture
1977 - '78	Musée de l'Orangerie , Paris, France, postgraduate studies

CAREER

- 1979 - '80 Antioch College, **Professor of Life Drawing and Painting**, CA
- 1991 Charles Schulz and **United Media** draft legal agreement, allowing Tom Everhart to use subject matter from Schulz's *Peanuts* strip in *his* art for "the term of his life."
- 1996 - 2006 A series of four lithographs are published in 1996 and a series of four more lithographs, entitled *To Every Dog There Is a Season*, follows in 1997. Over the next ten years **S2 Art Editions** and Tom Everhart will create an astonishing body of lithograph work, consisting of over seventy-four images.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 1990 **Louvre Museum, Paris** -- an exhibition of Everhart's Schulz-related work, then, *traveling*: Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, CA; Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, Canada. *Also at*: Rome-Venice-Milan, Italy; Minneapolis, MN; Baltimore, MD; New York, NY; Houston, TX; Chicago, IL; Las Vegas, NV
- 2000 **Everhart's first solo museum show, Suntory Museum of Art**, Tokyo and Osaka, Japan
The exhibition travels to five other locations in Japan through 2002.
- 2002 **The Charles M. Schulz Museum** opens in August, Santa Rosa, CA.
Tom Everhart premier solo show, The Charles M. Schulz Museum
- 2003 Tom Everhart solo show, *Under The Influence*, Charles M. Schulz Museum
- 2004 - '05 Everhart exhibits nine, large-scale paintings, *Dots Dogs Drips*, S2 Art Gallery, Chicago -- then traveling to Osaka and Tokyo.
- 2006 - '07 *Cracking Up* exhibition, seventy-five works on paper, canvas, and wood
Boom Shaka Laka Laka: The Lagoon Paintings, three large-scale paintings and one hundred-fourteen works on paper, ranging in sizes from 10" x 12" to 40" x 60" Both exhibitions, Jack Gallery, Las Vegas, NV
- 2011 *Pop'd From The Panel*, featuring **Everhart, Warhol, Lichtenstein** -- Schultz Museum
Crashing the Party, solo exhibition, Animazing Gallery, NYC

SELECTED MEDIA

- 1992 "Pigpen's Dirtballs," a 72" x 128" painting is filmed with Everhart, as artist-in-progress, for the **CBS special "The Fabulous Funnies."**
- 1997 *Snoopy, Not Your Average Dog*, (**Harper Collins**, NYC) features an essay and reproductions of Tom Everhart's Schulz-inspired paintings.
An agreement among Tom Everhart, **United Media Feature Syndicate**, and *Peanuts'* creator Charles Schulz is signed to grant licenses to third parties, with respect to Everhart's Schulz-inspired paintings, in order to produce up-scale, museum-type memorabilia. The deal continues in effect to the present, with **Iconix** replacing **United Media** in 2010.
- 2000 **CBS**, in a Charles M. Schulz tribute, Everhart designs an entire sound-stage, composed solely of Everhart *Peanuts* paintings. **Whoopi Goldberg** hosts the hour-long special.