

News From The Dot and Line

EMBARGOED UNTIL Monday, April 27, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. ET

Contact: John Maher (516) 672-9418 OR johnhughesmaheriii@gmail.com

Eric Vilas-Boas (631) 838-4789 OR yilasboas.eric@gmail.com

The Dot and Line to Cease Publication May 1

*After four years publishing journalism and writing on cartoons and animation, The Dot and Line will stop production of content as of this May following the release of a final editorial package, **THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!***

Brooklyn, N.Y. - The Dot and Line, a web publication dedicated to changing the way cartoons and the animation industry are covered in the media, has decided to close up shop after a successful four-year run. This Friday, May 1, The Dot and Line will publish its last story on the site as part of the editorial package **THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!**—the team's farewell to the site and final hurrah, which will begin on April 27, and will end with the publication of a final newsletter on May 1. The site will also launch a GoFundMe on April 27, to offer our readers the chance to thank our writers during a time in which many are struggling to make ends meet.

Started as an outlet by fans and for fans, the site was founded with the mission of covering the animated arts with journalism as serious, attentive, and engrossing as the best writing on works in other creative forms. Over the last four years, The Dot and Line has published analyses, essays, interviews, humor, retrospectives, reviews, creative writing, podcasts, and more from a number of diverse voices and perspectives. Our writers and editors, who have contributed to the site on a volunteer basis, have drawn on decades of studied expertise (i.e., watching a ton of cartoons) and scored exclusives with animators, voice actors, directors, producers, writers, historians, and more to tell compelling stories about the art form we love.

Since its inception, The Dot and Line has garnered roughly 1 million unique page views and 1.5 million total page views, and during that time broke industry news, including the retirements of voice director Andrea Romano, in 2017, and Adult Swim executive Mike Lazzo, in 2020. Some of the site's greatest hits include:

- [At the End of Cowboy Bebop All I Could Think About Was My Dead Mom](#), by John Maher
- [Andrea Romano on Retiring and 30 Years' Hard Work](#), by Eric Vilas-Boas
- [What She-Ra and the Princesses of Power Gets Right About Angsty Queerness](#), by Maya Gittelman
- [Why You Should Watch Sports Anime \(And Where to Start\)](#), by S.M. Balding
- [Communist China's Animators Made Traditional Ink Painting Into Cartoons](#), by Isabel Galwey
- [How Myth Made Many of Your Favorite—or Least Favorite—Animated Movies](#), by Deirdre Coyle

The site was founded by John Maher of *Publishers Weekly* and Eric Vilas-Boas, now of Observer, with the intent of bettering media coverage of their preferred art form, animation. After nearly two years of working alone, The Dot and Line added freelance journalist and communications strategist Elly Belle in 2017 to lead the charge on the site's social media and curated monthly newsletter and contribute to the site. In 2018, freelance journalist Sammy Nickalls and writer and researcher Marley Crusch joined the team, both as contributors and in handling web editorial and special projects respectively. As our team expanded, the dream expanded. While The Dot and Line hoped to monetize the site and pay contributors for their efforts, that dream became impossible to realize in the current media climate and considering the team members' individual limitations in time and resources.

The editors of The Dot and Line would like to extend their sincere gratitude to their readers and all those who work in animation, journalism, as well as to the internet at large, for their community and support over the past four years. Thank you for building relationships with us, entrusting us with your art, and believing in this little blog-turned-real-cartoon-journalism-website-that-could. We've cherished every moment of this project and are sad to see it end, but are confident that we are leaving the coverage of this wonderful art form in good hands.

That's all, folks!

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