

Our author for 2007:

## Marjane Satrapi



Marjane Satrapi was born in 1969 in Rasht, on the edge of the Caspian Sea. Part Azerbaijani, part Turkmen, part Muslim, part Zoroastrian—Iranian, in other words—she grew up in Tehran, where she studied at the Lycée Français, before leaving for Vienna and, later, Strasbourg to study Decorative Arts.

In 1997, Satrapi moved to Paris, where she met Christophe Blain, who brought her into l'Atelier des Vosges, home to many of France's celebrated "new wave" of comic book artists. There, she regaled her fellow artists with amazing stories of her family—stories of dethroned emperors, suicidal uncles, state-sanctioned whippings, and heroes of the revolution—in short, the details of daily life in contemporary Iran. After listening to her stories and seeing her drawings, they kept asking why she was waiting to put her life in the pages of a comic book.

*Persepolis* was published in four volumes in France, where it met with enormous critical acclaim, garnered comparisons to Art Spiegelman's *Maus*, and won several prestigious comic book awards. The work is published as two volumes in the United States: *Persepolis* and *Persepolis 2*. Satrapi's other books include *Embroideries* and her latest adult book, *Chicken with Plums*. Satrapi is also the author of several children's books including *Monsters are Afraid of the Moon*.

Marjane Satrapi lives in Paris, where her illustrations appear regularly in newspapers and magazines. Her animated film adaptation of *Persepolis*, which won the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, is expected to be released in the US in December 2007.