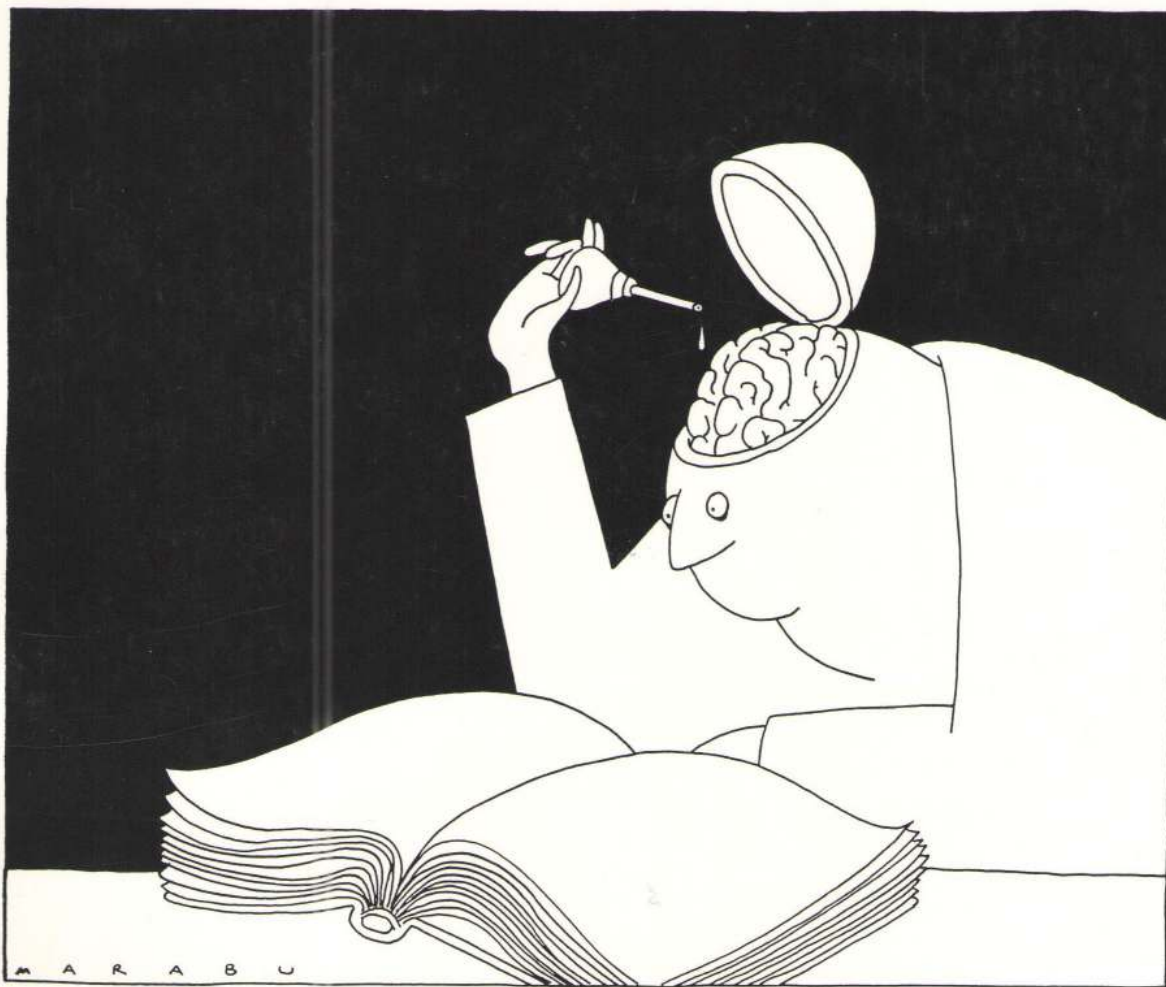


cartoonists & their inventions



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Final selection, layout and preface: Farag Moussa & Laurence Deonna

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© Quino/Quipos: cartoons of Quino (Argentina)

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PREFACE

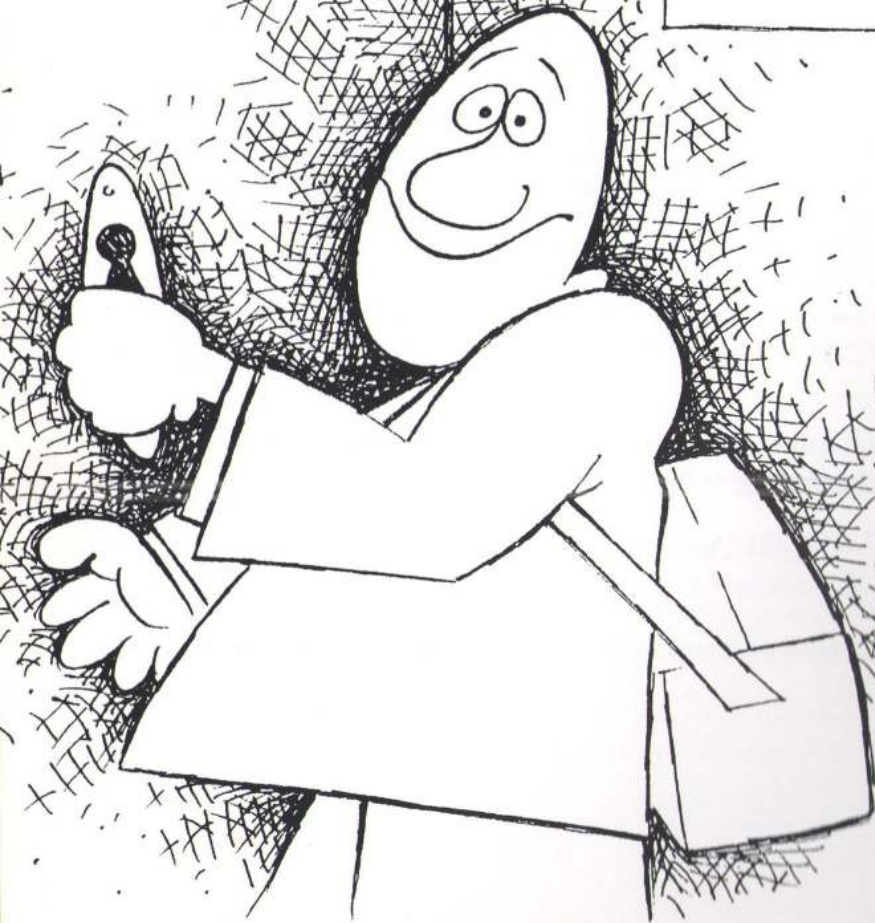
Sparkling humor, fascinating insights! Cartoons grab us with pen, pencil, charcoal, india ink, pastels, watercolors and even the computer. For centuries, maybe from the depths of time, there have been thousands and thousands of inventions, first scratched on earth or sand, then drawn on bark, clay tablets, papyrus, and parchment. One wonders if any of these inventions on the following pages will ever see the light of day? Perhaps someday we may witness highly futuristic inventions such as the electronic wedding ceremony designed by Argentine artist Quino. In any event, for the cartoonists, the objective of their drawings is most often to mimic, to critique, to moralize, to philosophize, or simply to amuse us.

This collection of cartoons about inventions is unique. Some cartoons are published, some not, others were drawn especially for the occasion. They come from 62 artists in 36 countries. Some renowned artists are missing since the selection was made thanks to a variety of coincidental encounters. Nor are there cartoons from other lands famous for the art of caricature. For the most part, non-captioned drawings were preferred. Some are obvious, some less evident, some downright hermetic at first glance (take a second look!), others pure fantasy – like the snake flush chain by the Swiss Rapallo. Each carries a message. Each speaks of a different culture – even though laughter is universal.

Humour quand tu nous tiens! Non pas par la barbichette, mais par le crayon, la plume, le fusain, l'encre de Chine, le pastel, l'aquarelle, ou encore, miracle du progrès, par l'ordinateur. Depuis des siècles, en fait depuis toujours, elles sont des milliers et des milliers ces inventions qui avant d'être réalisées furent d'abord tracées sur la terre, le sable, l'écorce, sur des tablettes, des papyrus, des parchemins... Les inventions présentées dans les pages qui suivent verront-elles jamais le jour? Certaines, futuristes, peut-être – comme la cérémonie de mariage électronique de l'Argentin Quino. De toutes façons, tel n'est pas leur but. Pour leurs auteurs, ces dessins sont très souvent là pour pasticher, critiquer, moraliser, philosopher, ou pour nous amuser, tout simplement.

Cette collection humoristique autour du thème de l'invention est une première. Elle comprend des oeuvres soit déjà publiées, soit inédites, soit réalisées spécialement pour la circonstance.. Celles-ci proviennent de 62 artistes de 36 pays. Plusieurs noms célèbres ne figurent pas ici, notre choix s'étant fait avant tout au hasard de nos relations. Il en est de même pour plusieurs pays qui ont pourtant une longue tradition dans le domaine de la caricature. Dans l'immense majorité des cas, nous avons sélectionné des dessins non légendés. Certains sont évidents, d'autres plus codés, quelques uns peuvent paraître obscurs au premier abord (cherchez bien!), d'autres encore relèvent de la plus pure fantaisie – comme le serpent-chaîne-de-chasse-d'eau du Suisse Rapallo. A chacun son message. Et à chacun sa culture – même si le rire est universel.

INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF INVENTORS'
ASSOCIATIONS



Handwritten signature

Argentina

Quino



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For the biographical sketches of the artists, please contact IFIA.