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**BEST OF ENEMIES: A History of US and Middle East Relations / Jean-Pierre Filiu & David B.**  
“The first volume of a ground-breaking graphic novel series on US-Middle East relations”  
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**About the book:**

It was an American who first described the “Barbary” lands of the Mediterranean basin as “the Middle East” – a region by which America, ever since its own revolutionary foundation, has always measured its power. Acclaimed historian Jean-Pierre Filiu and award-winning artist David B. here tell the story of the blockades, broadsides, and betrayals of this foreign affair – a wary co-dependency that, from the Epic of Gilgamesh to the Eisenhower era, and from gold to oil, has continued to define our modern world. This is the first in a three-book series.

**About the author:**

Jean-Pierre Filiu, an historian and an arabist, is professor at Sciences Po, Paris. After an extensive career in the Middle East, first with NGOs, then as a diplomat, he has held visiting professorships both at Columbia (New York) and at Georgetown (Washington). His most recent book is *Arab Revolution: Ten Lessons from the Democratic Uprising* (Hurst, London and OUP, New York).

**About the author/ artist:**

David B. is the artist behind *Epileptic*, an autobiographical graphic novel widely considered a masterpiece of the medium. A founder of the revolutionary French publisher L'Association, he is regarded as a giant among Bandes Dessinées artists. His prizes include the Prix de Chev-erny (2007), the Ignatz Award (2005), and the top prizes for Comics Writing (2002) and Best Comic Book (1998, 2004) at the Angoulême Festival. His *Black Paths* was published by SelfMadeHero (2011). *David B. will appear in London as part of the BD & Comics Passion 2012 at a headline event entitled ‘How do you draw history?’. The event will take place at the French Institute, London on Saturday 26th May – 1pm-2pm. Further information: [www.bdandcomicspassion.co.uk](http://www.bdandcomicspassion.co.uk)*

**About the translator:**

Edward Gauvin is the winner of the 2010 John Dryden Translation prize. He has received fellowships and residencies from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Fulbright Foundation, the Centre National du Livre and the American Literary Translators' Association. He translates comics for First Second, Archaia, Lerner and Top Shelf.

**About the publisher:**

SelfMadeHero is a publisher of the finest fiction, biography, history and humour in the graphic novel medium. Showcasing leading authors and artists from around the world: from the quirky and humorous to the political and profound.

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Please contact Paul Smith for all interview, feature and extract enquiries

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SelfMadeHero A: 5 Upper Wimpole Street London W1G 6BP T: 0207 487 4395 M: 07970 878 802 E: [paul@selfmadehero.com](mailto:paul@selfmadehero.com)