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SelfMadeHero, Timof comics and
Adam Mickiewicz Institute proudly present

Robot...

comprised of two robot-themed tales from **Stanisław Lem's**
Mortal Engines collection adapted into **graphic novel** medium.

URANIUM EARS



Danusia Schejbal adapts **Uranium Earpieces** in which a paranoid king forces his subjects to wear suits of glowing uranium alloy. Can the young inventor, Pyron, find a way to free the people from this evil tyrant?

THE SANATORIUM OF DR. VLIPERDIUS



Andrzej Klimowski tackles **The Sanatorium of Dr. Vliperdius** set in a world increasingly populated by robots. Our hero visits Vliperdius' institution, but its patients soon turn against him. Can he escape after learning the facility's dark secret?

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Original author: Stanisław Lem Adapters and artists: Andrzej Klimowski and Danusia Schejbal Publisher: SelfMadeHero Pub. date: 03/12/11 ISBN: 978-1-906838-40-9 RRP: £14.99 Pages / Format/Colour: 64pp / HB / Full
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Danusia Schejbal
Creator – *Uranium Earpieces*



Andrzej Klimowski
Creator – *The Sanatorium of Dr. Vliperdius*

Danusia Schejbal on adapting *Uranium Earpieces*:

“Lem’s work is perfect for comics adaptation. His stories often take place in fantastical settings and the way he describes his characters left a space for us both to imagine the worlds and people who inhabit them. The story I chose was a joy to adapt, and the only problems came with some of the words that Lem invented – he was well known for doing that and there are multiple translations of his work because of it.”

Danusia Schejbal on illustrating *Uranium Earpieces*:

“I usually work in gouache, but for this project I worked almost exclusively with Aquarelle pencils adding a touch of white gouache in only a few places for highlights. Working in this way meant I easily could soften and “humanise” the robot’s appearance.”

Andrzej Klimowski on choosing *The Sanatorium of Dr. Vliperdius*:

“I wanted to adapt one of Lem’s more realistic stories. I chose a story set in this odd sanatorium. It was perfect because it was so grounded: so seemingly normal and it had a human protagonist. But everything was not as it first appeared in this strange place and we are all the time being given hints and glimpses of the sci-fi elements in the story.”

Andrzej Klimowski on illustrating *The Sanatorium of Dr. Vliperdius*:

“I wanted to achieve an almost “photographic” feel using half-tones and limited palette. Colour is used sparingly throughout, with small flashes of blue gleaming through in certain panels to suggest the robotic activity “under the surface” of Vliperdius’ patients.”

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

- **Robot...** is a collection of two stories from Lem’s *Mortal Engines* collection. It is being published simultaneously in two editions, one English (SelfMadeHero, London) the other Polish (Timof, Warsaw) as a dust-jacketed hardback in a limited edition of 1000
- **Robot...** is part of I, CULTURE the International Cultural Programme of the Polish EU Presidency
- **Robotville Festival:** Klimowski and Schejbal will discuss their book in a free event at 12.30 on Saturday 3rd December 2011 at London’s Science Museum as part of their **Robotville Festival**, which features twenty of Europe’s most advanced robots. Full details here: www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/robotville
- **Stanisław Lem:** (1921–2006) was a Polish writer of science fiction, philosophy and satire. His books have been translated into 41 languages and have sold over 27 million copies
- **Stanisław Lem’s** writing is known for dealing with philosophical themes; future technology, the nature of human intelligence, the impossibility of mutual communication and understanding, despair about human limitations and humankind’s place in the universe
- **Andrzej Klimowski** studied sculpture and painting at St. Martin’s college studying poster design in Warsaw. He is currently a professor in the Faculty of Communication and Graphic Design at the Royal College of Art
- **Andrzej Klimowski** is published in the UK by Faber and SelfMadeHero. His most recent graphic novels have been literary adaptations: *The Master and Margarita* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
- **Danusia Schejbal** studied stage design at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts and Fashion & Clothing in London. She designed theatrical sets in Poland before joining London’s Cherub Theatre Company as a Set Designer. She has collaborated with Klimowski for decades, recently on graphic adaptations of *The Master and Margarita* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
- **Review access** to *Robot...* is available as an e-book, via this URL: http://bit.ly/Robot_Reviewcopy
- **Images** cleared for web and print publication are available to accompany editorial or as image galleries via this URL: bit.ly/Robot_MediaPack
- **A trailer is available for online sharing** <http://vimeo.com/31916199>
- **SelfMadeHero** is an award-winning, independent, graphic novel publishing house, established by Emma Hayley in London in 2007
- **Timof** is the Polish publisher of *Robot...* a leading, independent, graphic novel publishing house, established by Paul Timofiejuk in Warsaw in 2006
- **The Adam Mickiewicz Institute (AMI)** is Poland’s international cultural relations body. The Institute’s activities are part of cultural diplomacy to promote Poland internationally. Its task is to organise and to take part in cultural exchange programmes abroad, working together with counterparts among other cultural institutions and organisations. In 2011 AMI is responsible for the International Cultural Programme of the Polish EU Presidency.
- **The Polish Cultural Institute** is a part of the Polish diplomatic mission in the UK. The Institute devises programmes of cultural events across visual arts, film, theatre, music and literature in collaboration with established and cutting-edge British cultural organisations
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