

MOPOP
 MUSEUM OF POP CULTURE
 University of Washington Thesis
 project by Madeleine O'Connor
 Chair: Dr. Lane Eagles
 Committee: Adam Eisenberg, Amalia Kozloff

BACKGROUND

Selected as MoPOP's Guest Curator for 2025, I crafted the narrative, artifacts, layout and didactics for my exhibit *Chutzpah: The Jewish Voices Behind American Comics*. On view March 2025-March 2026.

PURPOSE

Create an exhibit to bridge communities through a shared love of superheros, challenge antisemitism and celebrate and bring to light the often erased Jewish origins, histories, and perspectives that shaped American comics at the Museum of Pop Culture.

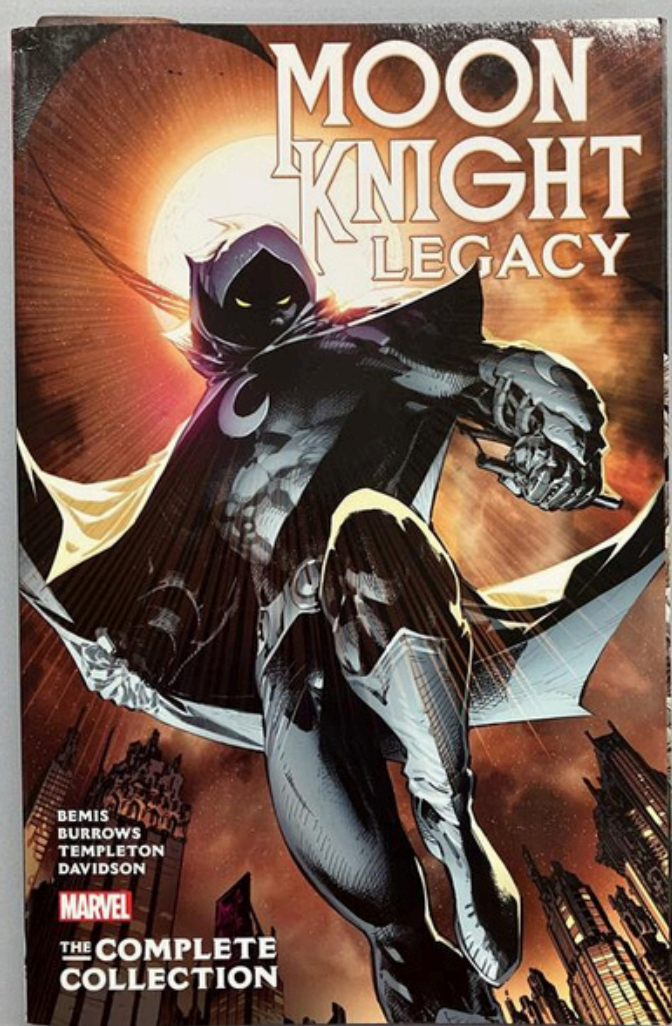


PROCESS

- Building the story and exhibit themes
- Object selection
- Didactic writing and narrative crafting
- Didactic revisions
- Exhibit design and layout
- Installation

DELIVERABLES

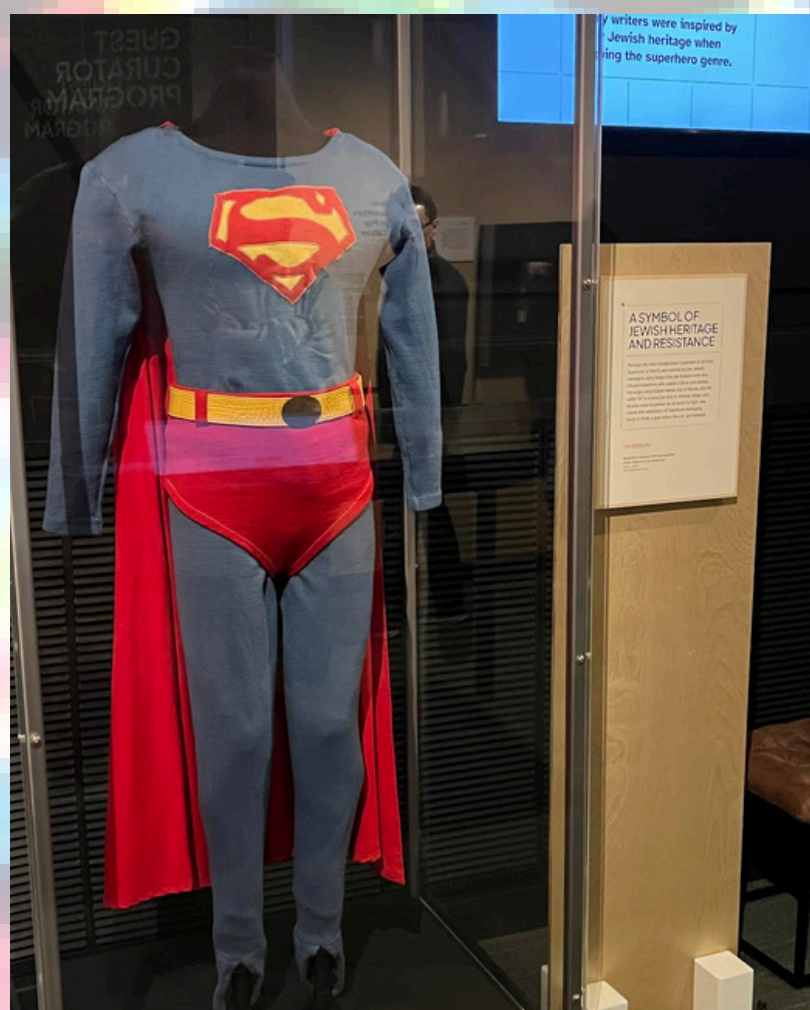
- An exhibit at MoPOP on view for a year.
- A curatorial guide including a comparative essay on anti-semitism in America during Marvel's Golden and Silver ages and today; and extended didactics on Moon Knight, Magneto, and Kitty Pryde.



REFLECTIONS

I learned more than I could have hoped for.

- How an exhibit comes together
- How to handle potentially sensitive topics
- How many people and teams it takes for an exhibit to come together.



A few key references

Erskine, Hazel Gaudet. "The Polls: Religious Prejudice, Part 2: Anti-Semitism." *The Public Opinion Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 4, 1965, pp. 649-64

.Simon, Joe, and Jim Simon. *The Comic Book Makers*. Revised Vanguard edition., Vanguard Productions, 2003.

Depicted are comics on view from MoonKnight to Harley Quinn and Magneto