

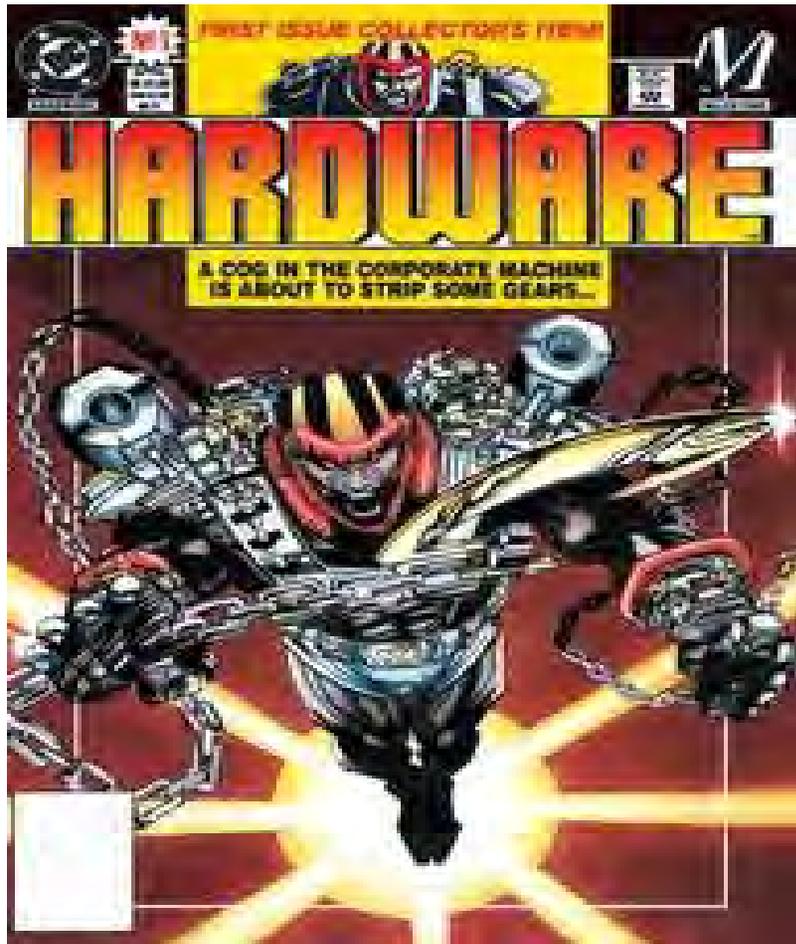


Diversity in Comics & Milestone Media's Legacy

Intent: Understand how the need for diverse stories was the catalyst for the development of more Black characters and the increase of independent creators of color and their publishing imprints.

Paradigm Shift: Highlight how Black characters were being portrayed in stereotypical 'SideKick' roles. This was the inspiration for new heroes story arcs to be written.

New Perspectives: Socially conscience stories have now become mainstream. What does that mean for the future of comics?



Black Intellect and Corporate Greed

Social Symbols: 'Hardware' rebels, against his role, as a pawn in the corporate production of intellectual property.

Commentary:

- The appropriation of Black minds for monetary gain.
- The agenda of capitalism and the corporate citizen.
- Protecting ownership in the Black community.

More than a Hero: Stretching the Black superhero comic expectations in terms of narrative and depth of purpose.

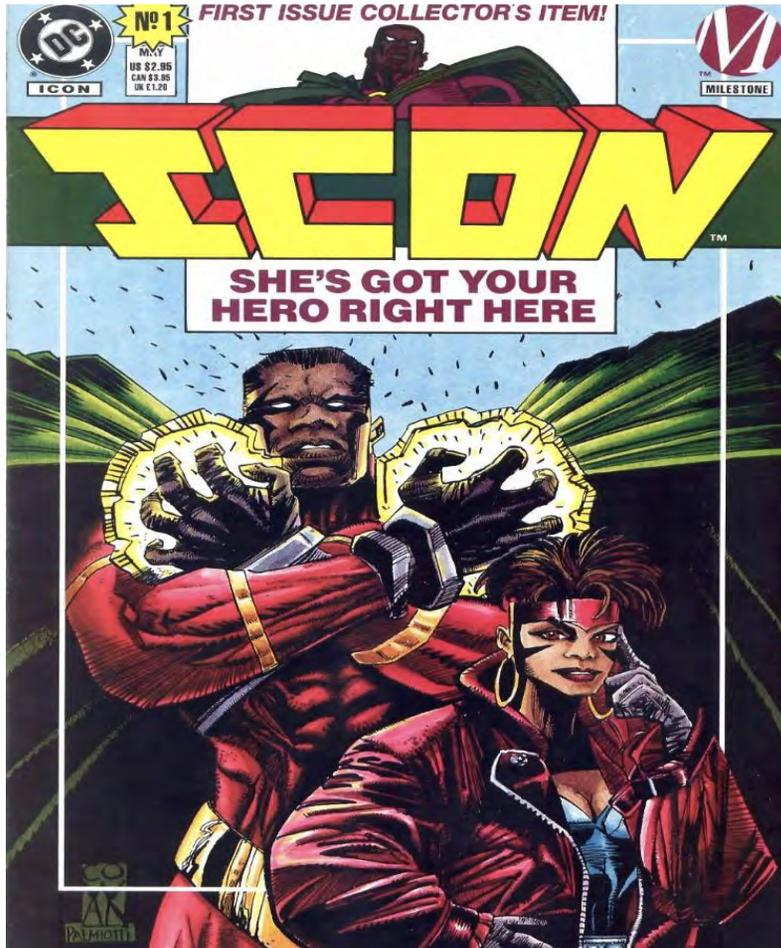


Interracial/Intercultural/ Gender Fluid SuperGang

Diversity in Full Display: 'Blood Syndicate' as the first minority super team to feature LGBTQ characters.

Social Commentary:

- An LGBTQ characters as heroes.
- Intercultural/racial unity against an oppressive system.
- Challenging the look of the 'urban' hero.



SHEroes and the Other

Big Symbols: 'Icon & Rocket's' story is symbiotic. Told from the perspective of Rocket who brings Icon out of hiding.

Social Commentary:

- The Black woman as lead SuperHero.
- The 'alien' or 'other' as hero.
- Youth heroics as inspiration for the complacent adult 'hero.'



Youth Heroes (Static) Shock the World!

Know Thyself: A young boy (Static Shock) discovers his true powers and purpose.

Social Commentary:

- Young Black boys as heroes.
- The needs of the young are their responsibility.
- Self determination and confidence in an oppressive urban environment.