

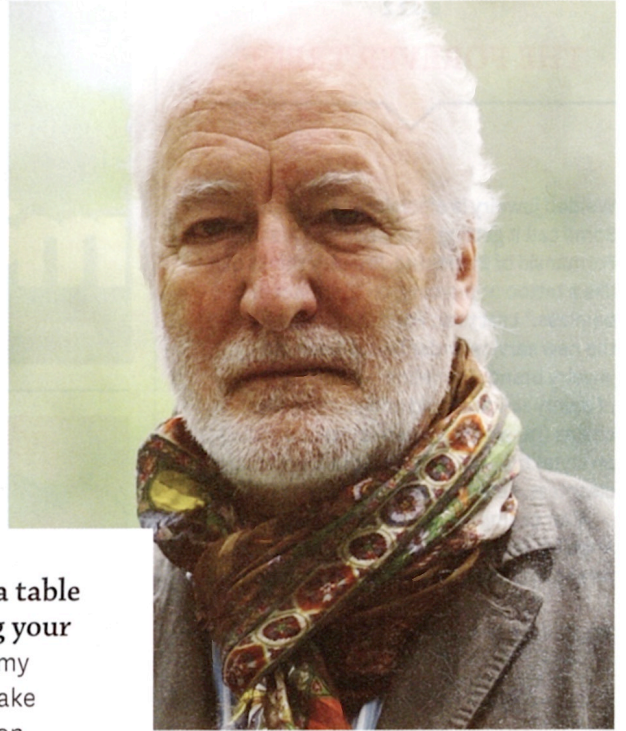
FIVE MINUTES WITH

DAVID COGGINS

For most of the past three decades, David Coggins has been plugging away in his studio in Northeast Minneapolis, shifting between drawing, painting, photography, and bookmaking. His latest work is his memoir *Paris in Winter*.

OCCUPATION: Artist, author

TWIN CITIAN SINCE: 1975



What do you consider the highest character trait in a Minnesotan? Intelligent civic-mindedness

The lowest local character flaw? Smugness

What do you wish outsiders knew about the Twin Cities? How many great creative artists live and work here

Pick one: Spoonbridge and Cherry or Mary Tyler Moore? The statue of Ole Bull, the 19th-century Norwegian virtuoso violinist, in Loring Park

Where's your favorite place to go during the summer? To our cabin in Wisconsin



Where do you grab a table when you're making your next big project? In my Northeast studio to make whatever I'm working on

In which restaurant would you feel happy to eat your last meal? The New French Cafe, sadly gone

Your order? A simple well-prepared fish or steak with a good bottle of wine

Who is the most important artist from Minnesota? F. Scott Fitzgerald

When and where were you most inspired locally? Theatre de la Jeune Lune

Who's your favorite Minnesotan artist alive? Dominique Serrand (not officially Minnesotan but created his best work here)

Favorite neighborhood hang? The Stone Arch Bridge on the Mississippi River

If you could change one thing about our cities, what would it be? Provide homes for everyone

What's a nonprofit that should be on everyone's radar? Cedar Cultural Center



What's been your greatest achievement here? Raising a family

Your greatest regret? Didn't learn how to skate

EDITED BY STEVE MARSH

PHOTO BY KAT IRLIN (DAVID COGGINS); COURTESY OF DAVID COGGINS (CABIN); HAROLD LAWTON (CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER)