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Alex Ross strikes a pose next to his Oscar 2002 poster.

Oscar's poster boy

By JILL FEIWELL

Move over Superman and Spider-Man, Hollywood has a new superhero.

Oscar, showbiz's golden boy, made his debut Wednesday as the Acad unveiled the 2002 Academy Awards commemorative poster.

Graphic-novel illustrator **Alex Ross** designed the poster with Oscar perched high atop Hollywood's First National building overlooking the Hollywood and Highland theater complex, host of the upcoming Academy Award ceremony.

"I've painted a lot of well-known superheroes in my career, and since Oscar is a hero to so many in Hollywood, I wanted to work in that direction," Ross said.

"When they told me that Oscar was designed to represent a knight crusading on behalf of the movies, I had my hook: the gold knight returning to reclaim his title as Hollywood's resident superhero."

In a nationwide promotional campaign, 50,000 Oscar posters will be distributed.