

Honolulu Museum of Art

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MUSEUM KICKS OFF MANGA EXHIBITION SERIES WITH ARTIST TAKAYA MIOU

Innovative graphic novel author and artist draws inspiration from Italian Renaissance martyr portraits and Aubrey Beardsley in her first solo show

WHAT: Visions of Gothic Angels: Japanese Manga by Takaya Miou

WHEN: Aug. 25, 2016–Jan. 15, 2017

WHERE: Honolulu Museum of Art, 900 Beretania St., Honolulu

COST: Museum admission \$10 general, free for children age 17 and under

INFO: 532-8700, www.honolulumuseum.org (publishable)

High-res images available on request.

HONOLULU, HAWAII (Aug. 2, 2016)—This summer the Honolulu Museum of Art kicks off a multi-year series of manga exhibitions with *Visions of Angels: Japanese Manga by Takaya Miou*, opening August 25.

Manga—Japanese graphic novels or comics—play a vital role in contemporary Japanese culture. Historically connected with Japanese woodblock prints and paintings (*ukiyo-e*), which were produced in Japan throughout the Edo period (1615-1868), the term *manga* was coined by the renowned *ukiyo-e* artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849). Today annual sales of manga total more than \$2 billion and they are the centerpiece of the Japanese government's Cool Japan Initiative to promote the country as a cultural superpower.

In 2014, the Honolulu Museum of Art began to explore the art historical importance of manga in the exhibition *Modern Love: 20th-Century Japanese Erotic Art*. Since then, in its mission to expand and enhance its renowned collection of Japanese works on paper, the museum has acquired examples of Japanese manga by artists such as Maruo Suehiro and Anno Moyoco. Launching a manga exhibition series was a logical next step.

Stephen Salel, the Robert F. Lange Foundation Curator of Japanese Art and curator of the exhibition, selected Takaya for the inaugural manga for her cutting-edge, multilayered work.

In Japan, manga includes a wide variety of genres, from sports to domestic life. Takaya Miou, who lives and works in Nagoya, has created her own niche in the genre of fantasy.

Honolulu Museum of Art
900 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96814
808-532-8700

www.honolulumuseum.org

Honolulu Museum of Art
Spalding House
2411 Makiki Heights Drive

Honolulu Museum of Art
First Hawaiian Center
999 Bishop Street

Honolulu Museum of Art
School
1111 Victoria Street

Honolulu Museum of Art
Doris Duke Theatre
Entrance on Kinau Street

“Her artwork explores themes of femininity and female identity through fantastic imagery inspired by a wide variety of artistic traditions, such as Italian Renaissance portraits of Christian martyrs, the intricate Art Nouveau style of British illustrator Aubrey Beardsley, and the surreal puppets of German sculptor Hans Bellmer,” says Salel. “The characters in Takaya’s stories—seraphim and lesser angels that one might expect in a painting by Peter Paul Rubens—are predominantly young women. And like Rubens, Takaya decorates her compositions with intensely baroque details—garlands of meticulously described roses, figures splendidly dressed in intricate Victorian outfits, and angels whose wings are so elaborately rendered that at times the remainder of their bodies disappear entirely. The classical elegance and splendor of Takaya’s images embody the artistic sophistication of Japanese manga.”

In addition to an overview of the artist’s 25-year career, *Visions of Gothic Angels: Japanese Manga by Takaya Miou* focuses on two anthologies, *The Madness of Heaven (Tengoku kyō, 2001)* and *Map of Sacred Pain (Seishō-zu, 2001)*. Short stories from these publications will be presented in a variety of formats—original drawings, printed books (*tankobon*), large-scale wall graphics, and digital works that visitors can read from cover to cover on iPads installed in the gallery.

EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING

Roundtable discussion: Manga in Japan, Hawai‘i, and Throughout the World

Oct. 7 • 4-5:30pm • Doris Duke Theatre • Free

Artists Brady Evans, Audra Furuichi and Jamie Lynn Lano, *Star Advertiser* columnist and blogger Jason Yadao, and Kawaii Kon organizer Roy “Buma” Bann discuss how they developed an interest in manga, the development of manga in Hawai‘i, their recent and upcoming projects, and their predictions about changes to the industry.

Lecture: Deb Aoki | Making a Living in Manga: Bento Box and Beyond

Oct. 28 • 4-5:30pm • Doris Duke Theatre • Free

Honolulu residents know Deb Aoki for her comic strip *Bento Box* that cast a witty look at island life and ran in the *Star-Advertiser* from 1996 to 2013. In addition, for six years she developed manga-related content for the online encyclopedia About.com. She currently manages the website Manga Comics Manga, in which she discusses Japanese manga as well as graphic novels and pictorial stories produced throughout the world. Deb will discuss the course of her artistic career, the development of her interest in manga, and the struggles of contemporary manga creators.

About the Honolulu Museum of Art

One of the world's premier art museums, the Honolulu Museum of Art presents international caliber special exhibitions and features a collection that includes Hokusai, van Gogh, Gauguin, Monet, Picasso and Warhol, as well as traditional Asian and Hawaiian art. Located in two of Honolulu's most beautiful buildings, visitors enjoy two cafés, gardens, and films and concerts at the theater.

In 2011, The Contemporary Museum gifted its assets and collection to the Honolulu Academy of Arts and in 2012, the combined museum changed its name to the Honolulu Museum of Art.

Locations:

Honolulu Museum of Art: 900 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu Museum of Art Spalding House: 2411 Makiki Heights Drive
Honolulu Museum of Art School: 1111 Victoria Street
Honolulu Museum of Art at First Hawaiian Center: 999 Bishop Street
Honolulu Museum of Art Doris Duke Theatre: 901 Kinau Street (at rear of museum)

Website: www.honolulumuseum.org

Phone: 808-532-8700

Hours:

Honolulu Museum of Art: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m.; closed Monday.
The Honolulu Museum of Art Café: lunch only, Tues.-Sat., 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Honolulu Museum of Art Spalding House: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun. noon-4 p.m.
Spalding House Café: lunch only, Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Admission (permits entry to both museums on the same day):

\$10 general admission; children 17 and under are free.

Admission is free to: shop, cafés, Robert Allerton Art Library, and the art school

Free days: First Wednesday of every month

Bank of Hawaii Family Sunday: The museum is free to the public on the third Sunday of the month, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., courtesy Bank of Hawaii.