



Asian Animation Education Network

AAEN 2024

in Bangkok

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for gathering with us for the annual Asian Animation Education Network meeting.

The Asian Animation Education Network, abbreviated as AAEN, is an assembly of higher education institutions that was established to promote animation education and research in Asia. Animation represents the convergence of culture, art and technology, and the knowledge and experiences we share here are invaluable to the next generation of creators and to the content industry that will drive the future of animation. I believe that by sharing our expertise and passion and by collaborating with each other, we can revolutionize animation education and industry in Asia.

Furthermore, this meeting provides an excellent opportunity to foster new friendships and strengthen international networks. I am confident that exciting and productive exchanges will take place and that they will lead to the emergence of new ideas and projects.

I sincerely appreciate everyone's proactive participation and cooperation to make this year's AAEN endeavors a success and for today's involvement. Let us join hands to build a better and stronger AAEN for the future of animation education and research.



Mitsuko Okamoto

Professor of the Graduate School of Film and New Media
Vice President of Tokyo University of the Arts

10:00

Opening Speeches

10:10

Part 1 Co-work: Pandemic and Post-Pandemic

- Co-work 2022 by K'ARTS and CUC students
- Co-work 2023 by Tokyo Geidai, K'ARTS and CUC students

11:00

Part 2 AAEN Student Works

- Korea National University of Arts
- Communication University of China

12:30

Lunch

13:30

Part 2 AAEN Student Works

- Tokyo University of the Arts
- Silpakorn University

15:00

Break

15:30

Part 3 The Latest in Asian Animation Education

- Silpakorn University
- Tokyo University of the Arts
- Communication University of China
- Korea National University of Arts
- National Institute of Fine Arts, Laos

17:00

Closing Remarks

K'ARTS = Korea National University of Arts
CUC = Communication University of China
Tokyo Geidai = Tokyo University of the Arts

Part 1 Co-work : Pandemic and Post-Pandemic

Co-work is a project name short for “Japan-China-Korea Students’ Co-work of Animation” which began in 2010. Students from the three countries form mixed teams to complete short animated projects. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the project was kept alive through online efforts, but resumed in-person production in 2023. Co-work alumni from during and after the global chaos will present the processes and results of their collaboration.

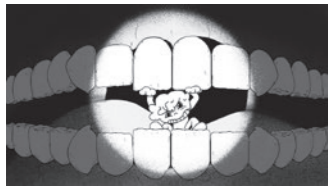
Co-work 2022 “Emotions in Isolation”

The theme of Co-work 2022 was “Emotions in Isolation.” The COVID-19 pandemic dogmatically divided the world and secluded people in ways never imagined in the modern era. But in truth, isolation always existed close to us or even within us—in war, in social media, at home, in our minds. We focused on the feelings that we face in such predicaments because people, even when lonesome, are capable of experiencing a multitude of emotions that intertwine, shift and color our inner world.



Sadness

Tokyo Geidai : Chandler Anne Azling, Tzuting Lee
K'ARTS : Yuseon Sim
CUC : Yuan Zhang
CUC Assistants : Wenzhi Shan, Yifei Wang, Haoyuan Zhu



Fear

Tokyo Geidai : Musashi Yoshihara
K'ARTS : Jungsoo Kim, Eunbi Jo
CUC : Yuanfang Hu
CUC Assistants : Yuxuan Jiang, Ke Wu, Shiqi Zhang



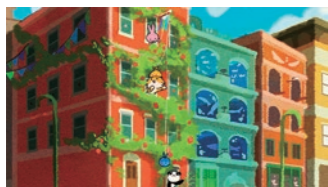
Anger

Tokyo Geidai : Nao Yamamoto, Akari Tada
K'ARTS : Yuseon Park
CUC : Yujun Wei
CUC Assistants : Xingqi Lin, Yiyang Wei, Jing Zhong



Peacefulness

Tokyo Geidai : Yini Yang
K'ARTS : Yeonhwa Heo
CUC : Yishu Ruan
CUC Assistants : Jiayu Pan, Shiqi Xiao, Ruihan Zhang



Joy

Tokyo Geidai : Saki Araki
K'ARTS : Minkyung Kim
CUC : Gen Mai
CUC Assistants : Yi Shuan Lee, Jiangyu Chen, Hui Yue Wong, Yunfei Yang

Music (all) : Soyoka Hayashi

Co-work 2023 “The Body”

The theme of Co-work 2023 was “The Body.” It is our physical body that senses the world and lets our existence be known to the external. But what did the body mean to us when we were locked inside our homes? How different were we from AI in that we were nodes interacting with the world through codes? With the pandemic behind us, we attempted to reevaluate the significance of the body and how much weight it gives to our presence.



Apple <りんご/苹果/ 사과>

Tokyo Geidai : Yuxuan Sang
K'ARTS : Jiwoo Bang
CUC : Yuqi Han
CUC Assistants : Hongxu Chen, Qianai Lin, Shiyu Yang

Music & Sound : Mio Adachi



Tangled Tresses <わたしとウネウネ/纠缠/ 꼬불꼬불 베베>

Tokyo Geidai : Kurumi Goan
K'ARTS : Yeryeong Kim
CUC : Shiyuan Ma, Yunfan Zhao
CUC Assistants : Huiru Chen, Shuyue Ding

Music & Sound : Naohiro Shima



One day, I met King Kong

Tokyo Geidai : Nina Tsuji
K'ARTS : Daewoen Yoon
CUC : Liya Zhu
CUC Assistants : Keye Huang, Jiayin Li, Yiqian Ma

Music & Sound : Naohiro Shima



Sweet tooth <甘党/甜癮/달콤한 입맛>

Tokyo Geidai : Yu Takehara
K'ARTS : Gyujin Lee
CUC : Yunxin Qing, Xiaoyu Xu
CUC Assistants : Yida Wei, Xinran Ye

Music & Sound : Akio Yokozawa



Devotion <献身>

Tokyo Geidai : Chihiro Yamanaka
K'ARTS : Eunkyung Kim
CUC : Yuntao Wang, Ruihan Zhang
CUC Assistants : Luyi Wang, Ziyu Wang

Music & Sound : Mio Adachi



Mirage

Tokyo Geidai : Jiaxi Xu
K'ARTS : Heeyoung Jang, Nahyeon Shin
CUC : Da Ren
CUC Assistants : Zhiyan Chen, Jingyi Li

Music & Sound : Akio Yokozawa

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Part 2 AAEN Student Works

Tokyo University of the Arts



700 Grams of Late Afternoon

Jiayi Xu | 2024 | 03'49" | Animation

The cactus girl has just started living on her own. In that room she dozes off and wanders in a place that feels neither real nor unreal.



Nen-nen, my blankie

Yu Takehara | 2024 | 03'52" | Animation

This girl can't sleep without her blankie. She tends to spend her time somewhere between reality and imagination. Gradually, she learns to cope with growing up.



Add to Stories

Nina Tsuji | 2024 | 03'36" | Animation

A life that could be anyone's. We live it a day and then upload it somewhere. We just keep adding a story to pass the time.



Into a Landscape

Chihiro Yamanaka | 2024 | 02'25" | Animation

Today, somewhere, a landscape is born on paper. Eventually, it will become immobile. But the landscape within us never ceases to flow and expand. The colors and shapes push and pull—not even a moment of preservation.



Shape of the Elephant

Sam Kuwa | 2023 | 08'11" | Animation

There was an elephant living in my house, but all the adults were avoiding it. The elephant kept changing its shape and grew up with me.

Asian Animation Education Network (AAEN) is an initiative that began in 2021 to further enhance the higher education of animation in Asia. Its aim is to nurture talent who can lead the future of animation culture, art and industry. In this part, students from the four main AAEN universities will present their work.

Korea National University of Arts



Persona

Sujin Moon | 2022 | 06'00" | Animation

The process of being encroached by the persona.



Bud

Jiwoo Bang | 2023 | 07'26" | Animation

While working as a courier, Seo-hee finds Winter hiding in the luggage compartment, covered in boxes.



Vaccine Hero Ati

Kihyun Sung | 2023 | 01'30" | Animation

Ati who lives on planet Aya, which oversees all sanitary order in the universe, hears Virus King has kidnapped his friends and left for Earth. Will Ati be able to stop the villain and restore peace?



Gold, Fish In The Room (Chapter 1)

Jiwoo Bang, Hyuk Choi, EunKyung Kim, Daewoen Yoon

2023 | 02'30" | Animation

When residents of Keumsung apartment see the descending hallway from the elevator window, they see the shadowy identical figure.



Epicenter

Heeyun Hahm | 2022 | 11'00" | Animation

Mt. Bukhan grows with an earthquake. Little by little, as fine cracks appear on the wall that divided the world of fantasy and reality, someone begins to notice the existence of an invisible world.



Communication University of China

The Road of Dreams

Ruozhao Xu, Qiang Liu, Yujun Wei, Jueling Zhang | 2023 | 02'10" | Animation

This animation shows how the Chinese zodiac lives in modern society which reflects the extraordinary energy in daily life. Inspired by the sundial, it uses a unique symbol system to convey the down-to-earth Chinese spirit.



Let emotion flow

Yishu Ruan | Presentation

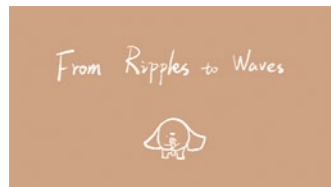
I'd like to share with you my experience of being afraid to create in the face of peer pressure and information shock, and how I overcame my fear of creating and embraced my complex emotions.



River, Mom, Job. Yuanfang's creation.

Yuanfang Hu | 2022-2023 | Animation, Illustration

There are two short films and my graduation creation. The first about a man's desire to return to his mother's arms, and the second about a bad day for a fox in bad weather. My graduation project is an art book that compares life to a river.



From Ripples to Waves

Yunfan Zhao (Ripple) | Presentation

Ripple's self introduction, work presentation, and some words to say.



Crab Soda

Chuchu Guo, Lingbo Fei, Ruolin Hu | 2021 | 10'56" | Animation

A girl's desire to drink soda is not necessary for survival. Witnessing the failure of her father's crab business, the girl got an early taste for life.



Rain

Yuqi Han | 2021 | 03'50" | Animation

《Rain》 is a children's animation short film that depicts the amusing reactions of animals during a rainy day.



Gone with the Heat

Siyuan Li, Jaemin Park, Cave, Blue, Gatoon | 2023 | 00'53" | Animation

“Gone with the Heat” is a short story based on the hot weather in Thailand. The film starts with the common experience that the Thai weather brings to everyone, and finally expresses the mutual understanding of students from 3 countries.



Coral, she's waiting

Xiaomeng Wang | 2023 | 00'40" | Animation

The girl Haiyan recalled the story she had heard from her grandfather in the turbulent waves, echoing the spirit of Mazu. She used her divine power to quell the anger in the raging ocean, and the brilliant glow illuminated the earth.



THE SILK ROAD AND XINJIANG

Yumeng Zhang | 2023 | Illustration, Comic

This is a series of illustrations and comics created with elements of ethnic minorities and ancient religions in Xinjiang Province, China.



Silpakorn University

Summer 2545

Oranitcha Lokwipas | 2022-2023 | Visual Development for Animation

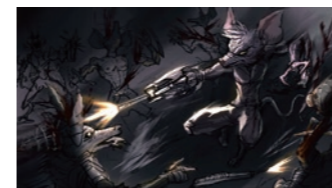
“Summer 2545” is a coming-of-age animation inspired by Tai Yai folklore. The main story revolves around two girls of different races who accidentally meet in the middle of a forest near a Tai Yai village in Mae Hong Son, Thailand.



Cat's Eye Airship

Chanchay Kasiwongsuntorn | 2023 | Steampunk Airship Design for Animation

When cats completely conquered the world, the elite class built the airship to investigate their people. The design was inspired by the steam engine in the 19th century and Victorian decoration.



Duality Road

Woranan Churjai | 2022-2023 | Concept Art for Game RPG-Open World

The story of a rat who received military-grade prosthetics from a cat who was a killer, causing a dual consciousness. The two seek revenge for their families, so they decide that together they must take down the city's cruel motorcycle gang.

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Part 3 The Latest in Asian Animation Education

Throughout Asia animation is widely appreciated but is still limited in areas that offer higher education in that field. Especially in the ASEAN region, the history and current climate of its animation and academic approaches are yet to be shared with the rest of the world. The Asian Animation Education Network (AAEN) opens doors to these realms and encourages the exchange of views on the activities and achievements in Asian countries.

Silpakorn University



Academic Teaching in Pre-production Design for Animation

Chanisa Changadvech
Professor, Visual Communication Design Department
Faculty of Decorative Arts, Silpakorn University

Silpakorn University



Education in Concept Arts and Professional Careers

Vorrarit Pornkerd
Visiting Professor, Visual Communication Design Department
Faculty of Decorative Arts, Silpakorn University
Supervisor & Project Manager, Riff Animation Studio

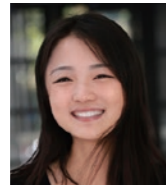
Tokyo University of the Arts



Tokyo Geidai student projects of hand-drawn 360-degree images and videos

Nahomi Maki
Associate Professor, Department of Animation
Graduate School of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts

Communication University of China



Animation as a Spatial Narrative Element—Practical Exploration of Lightscape Design for City Night Walk

Yichen Jiang
Lecturer & Deputy Director, Environmental Design Department
School of Theater, Film and Television, Communication University of China

Korea National University of Arts



Development of Global Cultural Content Co-Education Program

Eunyoung Jang
Lecturer, Korea National University of Arts



Sang-a Oh
Assistant Researcher of CAMPUS Asia,
Korea National University of Arts

National Institute of Fine Arts, Laos



Development of Lao Animation

Souliya Phoumivong
Head of Visual Communication Design Department
National Institute of Fine Arts, Laos

AAEN Workshop

Forming and Presenting Game Ideas

Featured Event

Asian Animation Education Network (AAEN) is a network of animation education institutions in Japan, China, Korea, and ASEAN countries that work together to build an Asia-wide animation education and research platform. The future of animation and other visual media depends on the human resources we nurture today. The latest technology and skills, the fruits of our research and development, historical data and archives—what and how we pass these on to the next generation are topics that need to be discussed and executed systematically.

One field that is closely linked with animation and other cinematic expressions is games. As a related event of AAEN 2024 in Bangkok, a workshop on game planning was held by Takashi Tokita who is a renowned producer at SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD. and also a Visiting Professor at Tokyo University of the Arts.

In the workshop, teams of participants were tasked with ideating a game based on a common theme. The students experienced the process of producing a game plan as a group within a limited time frame and learned what significance this holds in the development of games. The importance of revealing their ideas in an engaging presentation was also shared.

Date:
January 20th, 2024

Venue:
Wang Tha Phra Campus, Silpakorn University

Participants:
Students from Silpakorn University, Rangsit University, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Kantana Institute, Tokyo University of the Arts

Languages:
Thai, Japanese, English



Takashi Tokita

Producer, SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.
Visiting Professor, Tokyo University of the Arts

Tokita began creating games in 1984 as a part-time job while pursuing theater. He has participated in games production as a designer, planner, director, and most recently, as producer. His main projects include *FINAL FANTASY IV*, *LIVE A LIVE*, *Chrono Trigger*, the *Hanjuku Hero* series, and *Nanashi no Game*.

AAEN 2024

in Bangkok

Tokyo University of the Arts

Mitsuko Okamoto	Vice President / Professor
Asako Eguchi	Associate Professor
Keigo Ito	Research Assistant
Nahomi Maki	Associate Professor
Takashi Tokita	Visiting Professor / Producer, SQUARE ENIX CO.,LTD.

Silpakorn University

Chanisa Changadvech	Professor
Vorrarit Pornkerd	Visiting Professor / Supervisor & Project Manager, Riff Animation Studio

Korea National University of Arts

Jungmin Lee	Professor
Jongshin Park	Professor / Course Director, Department of Animation
Eunyoung Jang	Lecturer
Kyunghwa Lee	CAMPUS Asia Coordinator
Sang-a Oh	CAMPUS Asia Coordinator

Communication University of China

Xiuqing Jia	Professor / Head, Division of Academic Development and Planning
Lei Yan	Chief, Office of Division of Academic Research
Xing Cheng	Lecturer / CAMPUS Asia Coordinator
Yichen Jiang	Lecturer / CAMPUS Asia Coordinator

National Institute of Fine Arts, Laos

Souliya Phoumivong	Head, Department of Visual Communication Design
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King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi

Rangsit University

Kantana Institute

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Publisher	TOKYO GEIJUTSU DAIGAKU (Tokyo University of the Arts) Graduate School of Film and New Media 4-44 Honcho, Naka-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 231-0005 Japan
Key Visual Design	Daigo Shinkai
Design	Yohta Toriyama
Editing	Keigo Ito
Translation	Asako Eguchi
Printing	Graphic Co., Ltd.
Publication Date	January 21, 2024

