

Aquariums in Manga - Possibility of Aquarium Education

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ABSTRACT: Today, Manga is the culture of representing Japan and its quality and quantity are world's highest and appreciated led by a youth in the foreign countries. Museums, zoos, aquariums also become the stage or the subject of Manga in a variety ways. Considering the necessity of aquarium education including species conservation, environmental conservation or SDGs and human resources development of keeper and experts in aquarium, we can't ignore the power of Manga which is the medium read by many citizens because of its high expressive power. This presentation introduces these works and think about our future on the water planet by Manga.

INTRODUCTION

Currently, the Special Exhibition "Swords of Kyoto" is showing at the Kyoto National Museum. In the past, exhibitions about swords did not draw huge crowds – they would typically pull in experts, as well as the more curious museum-goers. But, every day, we have suddenly found ourselves welcoming many female visitors. So much so that they have been forming a long line, to get in. This queue of women was so noticeable that our security staff have had to manage the unwelcome interest of certain, let us say; 'lonely men' that appeared – not to see the exhibition, but to pester the waiting visitors. In Japan, online gaming is extremely popular, and certain games are aimed at female audiences. One such game is called "Token Ranbu", and in this game legendary swords are depicted as handsome young men. So, we believe this to be the reason why we are seeing a sharp rise in female visitors coming to museums to see Japan's historic sword masterpieces, not just in Kyoto, but all over the country. Currently, this collaborative exhibition is proving to be very popular.

Manga is one of the cultural representations of Japan - and many believe it to be the world's best animation. The quality and quantity of manga is appreciated - largely with young people at the vanguard - in every country. The course of study specifies the utilisation of manga, and comics that are used for school textbooks and examinations. Local government utilize Manga to introduce their history. Many examples are utilizing Manga as guidebook or introduction. Central government utilize Manga to introduce their task. Museums or historical site utilize Manga for display. Manga Museums and Memorial Museums to Manga Artists have been established in many places. There is also a movement to set up a Manga Museum Network in Japan. Some Manga Museums are contributing to regional revitalization. Recently, Manga exhibitions have been held at more than 100 museums or cultural facilities, every year in Japan. Many manga exhibitions are held abroad, as well. Manga

museums have even come to be established abroad.

MUSEUMS BOTH FEATURE AS A THEME IN, AND PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR MANGA

I would like to introduce some examples of the relationship between Manga and museum.

- Fujihiko Hosono "Gallery Fake"
The main character called Reiji Fujita was the curator of Metropolitan Museum, but he is learned in every field, and now in the black market. It introduces the backstage life of the museum and the work of the curators.
- Eishi Ai, Kei Satomi "ZERO The Man of the Creation"
The main character, Zero is deeply knowledgeable, with superior sensory powers and memory, and completely reproduces everything that exists in the world.
- Kazuo Koike, Seisaku Kano "Auction House"
The main character, Ryu Sogen is a world-famous art expert, and confronts the "dark side" of the art world to exact revenge.
- Motohiro Kato "C.M.B. Cause list of Shinra Museum"
The main character has extensive wide knowledge and solves many difficult cases.
- Sachiko Aoki "ZOO KEEPER"
It is a fiction, but it prompts some interesting ideas. The main character has eyes which can perceive temperature and she finds, treats and captures her cases.
- Masato Fujisaki "Wildlife"
The main character can understand the heartbeat and respiratory sounds of animals, and can distinguish a case with perfect pitch.

In these Museum Manga, the main character is an exceptionally talented expert. It is a little bit old fashioned, but it shows some of Manga's charms.

There is a lot of Museum Manga, but time is limited. I'll quickly introduce some of them.

- Jiro Okazaki's "National Museum Story"
- Kazuhiro Fujita "Black Museum - Springald"
- Mariko Iwadate "Art museum still on August"
- Mami Kashiwabara "At the mercy of the space"

Recently, comic essays that introduce the backstage workings of museums, showing the curators and museum staff, is increasing. For example;

- Izuma Kuroda "People in the museum"
- Yuri Ono "Working in the art museum"
- Fuki Inoue "You of glasses and the museum"
- Mitsuko Usae "A Museum Girl"

These are very interesting and educational for beginners or persons who would like to work at a museum.

AQUARIUMS BOTH FEATURE AS A THEME IN, AND PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR MANGA

Aquariums and Zoos also become the platform for, or the subject of Manga in a variety of ways. Koichi Iimori "My zoo diary" is the first Manga featuring a zoo theme. The basis of the main character is Toshio Nishiyama, who was a keeper at Ueno Zoo, and former director of Tobu Zoo. This is documentary manga.

Now, there is a lot of Aquarium Manga, just as with the aforementioned Museum Manga. These Manga may be divided into four broad types.

(1) The personification of fish or marine animals; many works for children like "Finding Nemo" and "Zootopia". In Japan, "Jungle Emperor Leo" by Osamu Tezuka is most famous. For example;

- Kiriko Kubo "Rice in the bucket"
- Ryoko Sugihara "Natural Aquarium"
- Watanabe Denki Inc. "Aquarium for Life"
- Nakayoshi Yoshida "Asahi! Let's go to the Zoo"
- Kohei Horikoshi "Twilight Zoo"
- "Kemono Friends"

(2) Documentary records of existing aquariums; for example, Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium or Asahikawa City Asahiyama Zoo. For example;

- Kenji Yoshida, Fujio Fukamitsu "Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium Story"
- Yumin Mori, Kei Honjyo "ASAHIYAMA ZOO STORY"
- Katsumi Tatsuzawa "BENJIE" (DeNA 2018)

(3) Fiction set in the aquarium; especially the sort of stories where the aquarium staff are the heroes of the tale, are most popular, and sometimes the main character has exceptional abilities, I mentioned before. For example;

- Midori Takanashi "A Sea Animal" - the main character can relate to Sea Animals.
- Jyotaro Mokumiya, Aoi Amagi "Aquarium Girl"
- Masumi Sudo "Aquarium"
- Masumi Sudo "NANANABANI Garden"
- Maomi Ito "Aquarium of the Little Mermaid"
- Kiyomi Sugishita "Deep Sea Aquarium MagMell"
- Wataru Ishi "Suizoku Company!"
- Yu Abiko "Welcome to a Happy Aquarium"
- Akiyo Kurosawa "Zoo at all"
- panpanya "Ashizuri Aquarium"
- Nae Serizawa "Desires Aquarium"
- Makoto Ogyu "The tropical fish longs for snow"

(4) The essay style of Manga that introduces the backstage work of museums, or the work of the keepers, trainers and staffs at aquariums. For example;

- Tomokichi Hidaka "I will work in an aquarium"
- Qtaro Hanamizawa "Animal Illustrated Book"
- Saku Yamaura "Animal trail"
- Kikka "I'm working in Zoo"
- Satoshi Miyakoshi "The casual day at the Zoo"

CONCLUSION

When the Manga of fishing made a hit in the 1970s, a fishing boom came in Japan. Also, when the Manga of the veterinarian made a hit in the 1990s, a competition rate of the veterinarian department rose at a stretch.

The influence of Manga is significant as much as that. The weekly Manga magazine records sales more than 2 million copies, and there may not be the hand which does not utilize this.

Considering the necessity for aquariums to educate – on the subjects of species conservation, environmental conservation or SDGs and human resources development for the staff and specialists at the aquarium - we cannot ignore the power of Manga, which is a medium read by many citizens for its high expressive power and ability to influence. It would be great that if every country could publish the Manga that featured the theme of aquariums and environment.