



sonia leong, artist & illustrator, sweatdrop studios
~ anime/manga-style ~ comics ~ illustrations ~
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Sonia Leong is a professional comic artist and illustrator specialising in Anime/Manga. Her first graphic novel was Manga Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet (SelfMadeHero). Her awards include Young Adult Library Services Association "2008 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers" and "Best Books for Young Adults 2008" for Romeo and Juliet ; Winner in Tokyopop's first UK Rising Stars of Manga competition (2005/06) and Winner in NEO Magazine's 2005 Manga Competition. She contributed Siren to the Eisner Award-winning Comic Book Tattoo: Tales inspired by Tori Amos (Image Comics). She illustrated the Manga Life series of self-help comic books (Infinite Ideas), Find True Love and Be Creative. Her work also appears in Domo: The Manga (Tokyopop/Big Tent) and Bravest Warriors: The Search for Catbug (VIZ Media). She also illustrates covers for Titan Comics, notably for Assassin's Creed and Norman. She is well known for her work in children's publishing, namely the illustrations for the I, Hero series (Hachettes) by Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore, Girls FC series (Walker) by Helena Pielichaty and Ninja: First Mission (Barrington Stoke) by Chris Bradford (Author of Young Samurai series). She also works in other fields such as design, film/tv, fashion and advertising, featuring in Wacom-Europe's Manga campaign, the British movie Popcorn (2007), the set of Channel 4's popular sitcom The IT Crowd and the dark comedy Flowers, Toyota GB's Aygo and GT86 campaigns, Marie Claire Runway and Topshop S/S 2015 collection.

Sonia is the Company Secretary of Sweatdrop Studios, a leading UK comic collaborative and independent publisher of Manga. Her works with Sweatdrop include A Brush With Magic, Once Upon a Time, Love Stuffing and Aya Takeo, a full-colour comic originally published online.

She has authored numerous instructional art books, including Beginning Manga (Walter Foster), Manga Makeovers (Barrons) and Draw Manga: Complete Skills (Search Press), published in five worldwide editions. She has taught Manga workshops since 2004, beginning with lectures at the Artist & Illustrators Magazine Exhibition. UK appearances include the Hay Festival, Latitude, Victoria & Albert Museum and London County Hall. She frequently represents UK creators overseas, working with the British Council. She has exhibited artwork in the Kyoto International Manga Museum, London County Hall, London Cartoon Museum, Japanese Embassy, Manchester URBS Centre amongst many others and provided product demonstrations on behalf of Chameleon, Copic, Letraset, Wacom and Promethean.

Clients and associates

Artists & Illustrators Magazine, Asahi, Authors Abroad, Axis Publishing, Barrington Stoke, Barrons' Educational, Bournemouth Russell-Cotes Museum, British Council, Channel 4, COMiCA at the ICA, Copic, Families in Business Magazine, Garage Magazine, Guardian Hay Festival, Hachette's Childrens Books, Harper-Collins, Ilex Publishing, Image Comics, Infinite Ideas, International Manga and Anime Festival (IMAF), Japan 21, Japanese Embassy (London), Letraset, London MCM Expo, Manga Entertainment, Marie Claire, Moshi Moshi Brighton, New Holland Publishers, NEO Magazine, Peters Bookselling, Popcorn (2007, British film), Promethean, Quarto Publishing, Rockport Publishers, SelfMadeHero/MetroMedia, Seven Stories Press, Tablestar Games LLC, Titan Comics, Tokyopop, Topshop, Toyota, Victoria & Albert Museum, VideoJug, Wacom, Walker Books, Wolff-Olins

Products:

Comics/graphic novels, illustration, branding/mascots, website graphics, character design, concept art, portraits, covers, how-to-draw publications/tutorials, workshops, tuition, presentations, product demonstration

Mediums/Software:

Pencils, colour pencils, pen and ink, screentone, watercolours, colour markers (Chameleon, Copic, Windsor & Newton, Graph-It, Deleter), Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, OpenCanvas, PaintTool SAI