

# Yoshitaka Amano

Summer Buchanan

Even 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Early Years

Yoshitaka was born on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1952, in Shizuoka, Japan.

Not much is said about his family, besides the fact that his older brother worked in a paper factory, which is what encouraged him to start drawing in the first place.



## Early Years- Continued

Yoshitaka spent his childhood in Japan.

“I don’t remember a time when I wasn’t making drawings,” he recalls.”



## Education

At the early age of 15, Yoshitaka presented his work to an animation studio, where they immediately took notice of his talent.

Also, Yoshitaka was doing poorly in school, and that influenced him to do what he did.



Above is an example of one of the shows Yoshitaka took part in making, called Gatchaman.

## Adult Years

- Yoshitaka was moved into a company apartment (he was still pretty young) to live while working with the animation company Tatsunoko Productions.
- (To the right is another example of the shows Yoshitaka took part in creating, Hutch the Honeybee.”



## Adult Years- Influences

- Yoshitaka states that Neal Adams was his favorite comic book artist. >>
- He also says that psychedelic and pop art of the West fascinated him.



## Personal Life

- Yoshitaka was doted by the head of the animation company, Tatsuo Yoshida.
- Yoshitaka's departing from the company was also influencing by Tatsuo's death in 1977, because he felt like the company wasn't the same anymore.



## First Works Of Art



- Yoshitaka first started off his freelancing by freelancing for a magazine.
- He mainly contributed to a section called “Twilight Worlds,” and eventually cover art.
- Yoshitaka also contributed to Vampire Hunter D.
- Fun fact, the author, Hideyuki Kikuchi, didn’t envision the vampire hunter himself as Yoshitaka did, but he still loved it.



## Style

- Yoshitaka isn't famous for a particular art movement.
- He uses mainly watercolor for his work.
- His work is more on the surreal side.



## Style- Continued

- Like I said, Yoshitaka is not responsible for any art movement, although that would be awesome.
- He was also a contributor to the very famous Final Fantasy series, providing design for characters like Lightning. >>



## Works- Famous

There is no one most famous, so one was selected out of his work for Final Fantasy.

It's featured in one of his many books.



- The painting is among one of his many Final Fantasy works.
- The book that it's in is called "Amano: The Complete Prints of Yoshitaka Amano."

# Works- Famous Continued



# Critique

Many make a remark on his fantastical art style and gorgeous use of watercolor.



# My Critique

What I like:

- The angled noses
- The color palette (when dark colors and cool colors are used)>>

What I don't like:

- The color palette (when there are more dusty and earthy colors used)



## Other Works



# Importance

- Yoshitaka Amano has influenced pop culture time and time again by being a part of Final Fantasy and its many games.
- I find similarities with his art and others' quite often, like the artwork by [@libet\\_hs](#) on Twitter, as shown to the right.,
- He's a big inspiration for me as well. His gorgeous anatomy and his expert use of watercolor always sends me for a spin.





# Fun Facts

- Yoshitaka presents himself as warm and friendly, a personality not so reflected by his work.
- He is also a scenic designer for film.
- He also participates in costume design for film.
- He works in theatre as well.
- He's a five-time winner of the Seiun Award!

## References

- [YOSHITAKA AMANO](#)
- ['Yoshitaka Amano: The Illustrated Biography' / Ganriki](#)

