

Key talks concerning my reportage practices and graphic novel projects 2017-19
by Fumio Obata (please click the external links for further information)

Talk on my reportage work on natural disasters and upcoming Graphic Novel ' The Garden' at SOAS University of London. A collaboration with Japan Society London 6th Form Japan day on 7th November 2019.

<https://www.japansociety.org.uk/lectures-and-workshops-2019/>



The screenshot shows the website for The Japan Society. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'About', 'Events', 'Publications', 'Schools', and 'Grants'. The logo for 'THE JAPAN SOCIETY' is on the left. Below the navigation is a search bar with a 'Go' button. The main heading is 'Lectures and Workshops – Sixth Form Japan Day 2019'. Underneath, there is a section titled 'LECTURES' with a sub-section 'Keynote Address'. The text describes Fumio Obata, born in Tokyo in 1975, who moved to the UK at age 16 and studied illustration at the Glasgow School of Art and the Royal College of Art. It mentions his work on 'Just So Happens' and 'The Garden', and his current projects. At the bottom, it provides his website (www.fumioobata.co.uk) and Instagram handle (@fumioobata).





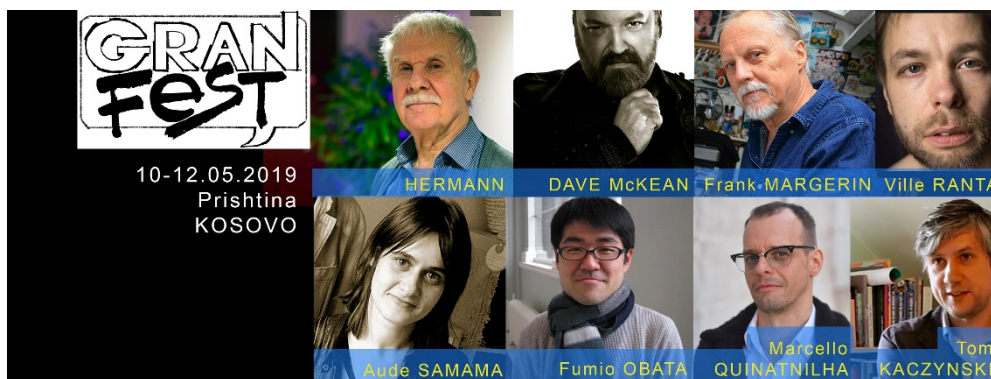
Polipo 2019 International Literature Festival, Pristina, Kosovo, May 2019

Collaboration with Granfest and Quendro Multimedia

Discussion on Creative vs manipulative information and the role of Graphic Journalism

<https://polipfestival.wordpress.com/authors/>

<http://qendra.org/1696/?fbclid=IwAR3EADzCziJWoYrP5975bNarXOtb6fKbTwEiVxTKS0Epx8fEdziRxCdY-I>



Talking my methods on reporting the development of the nuclear accident in Fukushima



<https://youtu.be/EqgByiLl84w?t=659>

Exhibition Les Yokai de Fukushima

From 3rd April -16th June 2019 At Maison Fumetti, Nantes, in conjunction with Fumetti Comic Art Festival 13th-16th June 2019. Most recent works on my reportage work on the nuclear accident, assembled second time in public.

<http://www.maisonfumetti.fr/yokai-fukushima/>



À PROPOS

Les Yokai de Fukushima est une exposition présentée dans le cadre du festival Fumetti 2019.

Depuis le vendredi 11 mars 2011, l'auteur Fumio Obata cherche à faire sens de la catastrophe nucléaire entraînée par le plus important séisme jamais mesuré au Japon. D'abord attentif aux échos de la presse dans son pays d'origine et au Royaume-Uni, Obata entreprend de se rendre à Fukushima. Cette démarche donnera lieu à un blog de bande dessinée où l'auteur analyse avec talent et lucidité les conséquences sociétales de la catastrophe. Elle se poursuivra par la création de sérigraphies, et d'un livre à venir. Comment raconter les signes visibles d'un danger invisible ?

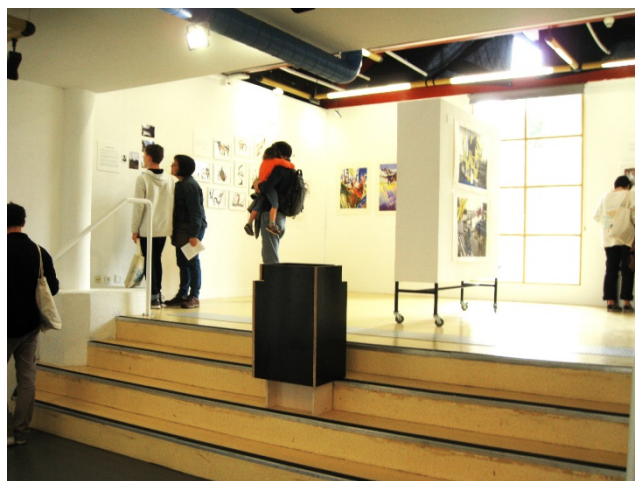
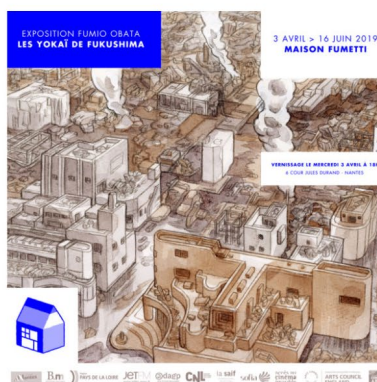
Les Yokai de Fukushima propose une plongée dans une réalité complexe, déroutante et émouvante, celle d'une société face à ses limites et à ses démons, ses non-dits et sa résilience.

Infos pratiques :

- Exposition visible à Maison Fumetti, 6 cour Jules Durand à Nantes, du 3 avril au 16 juin 2019, du mercredi au samedi de 13h30 à 18h
- Vernissage le mercredi 3 avril à 18h accompagnée d'une émission radiophonique « Radis Fumetto », autour de la question « Représenter la catastrophe », avec les

AGENDA

LES YOKAI DE FUKUSHIMA DU 3 AVRIL AU 16 JUIN 2019 MAISON FUMETTI





MP3 download- discussion on how to represent the catastrophe during the festival on 16th June (in French).

http://jetfm.fr/site/Le-Festival-Fumetti-du-13-au-16.html?fbclid=IwAR0loi-NDiQ9E0QdFYV_sWgOnycrTZzOFoKO8JYK8iSGkIBMhw6ABoWF3fQ

Accueil du site | Hors studio | Le Festival Fumetti du 13 (...)

SOUTENEZ LES ACTIVITES DU JET

helloasso

SAU AUC

Le Festival Fumetti du 13 au 16 juin 2019

samedi 15 juin 2019

Le Festival Fumetti du 13 au 16 juin 2019

Jet fm s'installe en direct du festival de la bande dessinée curieuse les samedi 15 et dimanche 16 juin dès 14h.

par Henri

- Festival Fumetti 2019, samedi 15 juin: présentation
- Festival Fumetti 2019, samedi 15 juin : antipasti Aude Picault
- Festival Fumetti 2019, samedi 15 juin : rencontre sur la Micro Edition
- Festival Fumetti 2019, samedi 15 juin : le scénario selon Fabien Grolleau
- Festival Fumetti 2019, dimanche 16 juin : rencontre Charlotte Des Ligneris & Jérémy Perrodeau
- Festival Fumetti 2019, dimanche 16 juin : antipasti Hugues Micol
- Festival Fumetti 2019, dimanche 16 juin : rencontre Fumio Obata & Fabien Grolleau

Le Grand Air, c'est le thème de cette nouvelle édition du festival de bande dessinée Fumetti, porté par l'équipe de Maison Fumetti, du 13 au 16 juin 2019 à Nantes (manufacture).

Au programme des rencontres, expositions, spectacles, concert, animations, dédicaces avec une quarantaine d'éditeurs et collectifs présents ainsi que neuf autrices et auteurs invité.e.s : **Charlotte de Ligneris, Fabien Grolleau, Elizabeth Holleville, Margaux Meissonnier, Hugues Micol, Fumio Obata, Jeremy Perrodeau, Aude Picault & Clément Vuillier.**

Jet fm s'y installe en direct pour deux jours de rencontres et sons autour du festival, dès 14h les samedi 15 et dimanche 16 juin.

YouTube video link from the same talk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93JosxpB6mo>



Notre nature racontée

Discussing my method on Graphic Novel and reportage practice on the nuclear accident in Fukushima with Free Thinking BBC radio 3 broadcasted on 21st February 2019. A collaboration with Japan Now Festival 2019

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0002md8>

The screenshot shows the BBC Free Thinking website interface. At the top, there is a red navigation bar with the BBC Radio 3 logo, the program title 'Free Thinking', and a 'LIVE Through the Night' indicator. Below the navigation bar, there are menu items: Home, Episodes, Clips, Galleries, Podcast, Presenters, Contact, and Night Waves archive. The main content area features a large image of a blue-haired anime character with a surprised expression. A 'Listen now' button is overlaid on the image. Below the image, the episode title 'Images of Japan' is displayed, followed by a short description: 'Illustrator Fumio Obata and manga translator Jocelyne Allen discuss Japanese comic book imagery and how to tell stories of disaster in graphic novels. Plus Christopher Harding talks to the authors Yuya Sato and Kyoko Nakajima.' To the right of the description, it says 'Available now' and '44 minutes'. On the right side of the page, there is a 'Last on' section showing the broadcast date 'Thu 21 Feb 2019' at '22:00' on 'BBC RADIO 3'. Below this is a 'More episodes' section with 'PREVIOUS' and 'NEXT' entries, each with a speaker icon. The 'PREVIOUS' entry is 'The joy of sewing, poet Fatimah Asghar, Painting in miniature' and the 'NEXT' entry is 'Jack the Ripper and women as victims'. At the bottom of the right sidebar, there is a link: 'See all episodes from Free Thinking'.

The poster for the Japan Now Festival 2019 features a large, stylized title 'JAPAN NOW' in red and blue. The 'O' in 'NOW' is a blue circle with a red dot in the center. Above the title, the dates '18 February - 25 February 2019' are displayed. On the left side, there is a vertical image showing a modern building interior with a glass facade and blue lighting. Below the title, there is a block of text: 'Programmed by Modern Culture in partnership with the Japan Foundation and University of Sheffield. Supported by Arts Council England, Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, the Japan Society and the National Centre for Writing. Part of Japan-UK Season of Culture 2019-20'. At the bottom, there are several logos: 'M C' (Modern Culture), 'JAPAN FOUNDATION', 'The University of Sheffield', 'DAIWA ANGLO-JAPANESE FOUNDATION', 'ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND', and 'BRITISH LIBRARY'.

A joint talk over practicing comic books as a part of East Meets West theme at Cheltenham Literature Festival on 6th Oct 2018. The discussion extended to the role of reportage comic.



THE ~~ARTS~~ TIMES
THE SUNDAY TIMES
CHELTENHAM
Literature
Festival

Art & Design
**The Manga
Phenomenon**
Quickfind L015

Fri 5 Oct 2018 6:15pm - 7:15pm
The Nook

Comics expert, curator and author of *Mangasia: The Definitive Guide to Asian Comics* **Paul Gravett** brings together manga artists **Chie Kutsuwada** and **Fumio Obata** whose work ranges from manga adaptations of Shakespeare to reportage manga about the aftermath of Fukushima.

A talk on my reportage work over the nuclear disaster in Japan, titled 'Comics and Fukushima' for Oxford Comic Network, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities on 31st May 2018

<https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/the-voice-disappearing-comics-and-fukushima>

"The voice disappearing": Comics and Fukushima

31 May 2018, 5.15pm
Lecture Room, 47 Wellington Square,
Oxford, OX1 2HY

Speaker: [Fumio Obata](#) (University of Gloucestershire)
Paper Title: *"The voice disappearing": Comics and Fukushima*

Fumio Obata has engaged with the recent natural disasters in various regions of Japan through a series of short comic strips. As he prepared his graphic novel on this topic, Obata focused on Fukushima and the complex impacts of the radiation leakage. He talks about how the nuclear accident torments those who have been affected specifically under the context of Japanese society and why the Japanese find it difficult to learn valuable lessons from the experience. Obata will also discuss the challenge of making a comic book to tackle such complex themes and how it differentiates itself from more conventional journalistic approaches and documentaries.



Tweet

Oxford Comics Network @TORCHComicsOx

@FumioObata on his graphic journalism about #Fukushima for @Internazionale: "I needed to react, I just had to do it". @TORCHOxford @AsianStudies_Ox #comicstudies

5:31 PM · May 31, 2018 · Twitter for Android

Search Twitter

Relevant people

Oxford Comics Ne... @TORC... Follows you **Following**
An interdisciplinary network and seminar series at the University of Oxford designed to discuss and promote the academic study of comics.

Fumio Obata @FumioObata
Comic book artist/Graphic novelist/Illustrator/Lecturer at the University of Gloucestershire, latest book 'Just So Happens' with Jonathan Cape out now

In **Internazionale** @Internazionale **Following**
Le ultime notizie da tutto il mondo scelte dalla redazione di Internazionale.

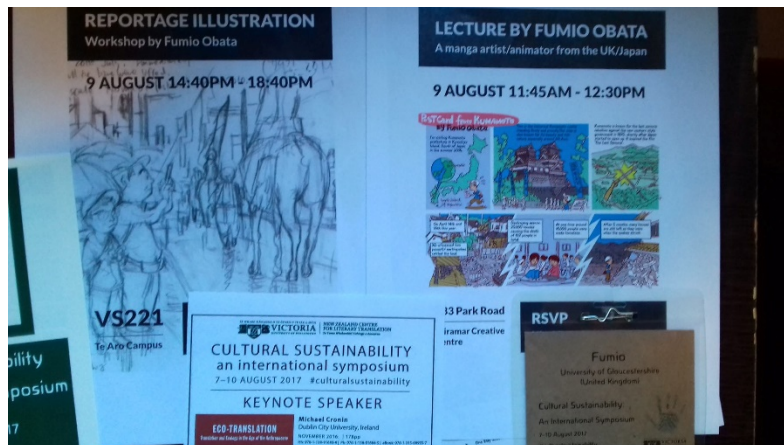
Trends for you Trending in United Kingdom

International Symposium on Cultural Sustainability at Victoria University of Wellington
New Zealand, 7-10th August 2017, discussed on how graphic novel could contribute to the
idea in the face of both severe natural and manmade disasters.

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/wtapress/about/events-showcase/cultural-sustainability-symposium>

https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/997021/CSS_programmefinal.pdf

<https://thespinoff.co.nz/media/09-08-2017/the-comic-strip-journalist-who-reports-on-the-fallout-from-fukushima/>



Cultural Sustainability
an international symposium

7-10 August 2017

#culturalsustainability



Exhibition during Lakes International Comic Art Festival, Kendal, Cumbria October 2017. My latest exploration at that time on the nuclear accident in Fukushima, titled 'On the Palm of Unknown' and a reportage work on the working relations that Sellafield site has had with Japan's nuclear industry. The project was supported with Arts Council England funds through the festival committee.

<https://www.comicartfestival.com/news/2017-lakes-international-comic-art-festival-programme-revealed>

<https://downthetubes.net/?p=40013>

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Lakes Festival Focus 2017: An Interview with comic artist Fumio Obata

BY JOHN FREEMAN on SEPTEMBER 4, 2017 · 0 · 0



The countdown has begun to this year's Lakes International Comic Art Festival in October (13th – 15th). The downthetubes "Kendal Calling" interviews continue with a chat with comics artist and "reportage" author Fumio Obata.

Fumio is an author whose work and inspiration come from cultural differences and social issues in his surroundings. His art style is influenced by both Japanese and European aesthetics and he explores an idea of pictorial storytelling rather than staying in conventional comic strip format, as his interest spans across various sequential image designs.

