

The media industries in the United States and Japan are similar in much the same way different animal species are: while a horse and a kangaroo share maybe 95% of their DNA, they're nonetheless very different animals—and so it is with manga and anime in Japan and Hollywood animation, movies, and television. Though they share some key common elements, they developed mostly separately while still influencing each other significantly along the way. That confluence is now accelerating into new forms of hybridization that will drive much of future storytelling entertainment. Packed with original interviews with top creators, illuminating case studies, and over 300 color images—primarily from legendary manga/anime—Northrop Davis parses out these shared and diverging genetic codes in a revolutionary study of the cross-influences and independent traits of these Japanese and American forms.

Northrop Davis is Associate Professor of Media Arts, teaching Manga/Anime Studies and Screenwriting, at the University of South Carolina, USA. As a professional screenwriter, Davis has sold projects to Warner Brothers, Fox, and Sony/Columbia studios that he wrote as screenplays, and he is a member of the Writers Guild of America, West. Among his awards and grants from the University of South Carolina, he received the prestigious Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award and in 2015 was named a Breakthrough Star, awarded to those who demonstrate "phenomenal commitment" to their fields.

"For some time now, there has been a bi-directional pop-culture mind-meld going on between Japan and America. In this lavishly illustrated book, Northrop Davis uses his industry insights and shines new light on the remarkable relationship between manga/anime and Hollywood. Kudos for a book both educational and entertaining!"

Frederik L. Schodt, award-winning author of *Manga! Manga!: The World of Japanese Comics*

"Fans all over the world, in the West and in Japan, make comparisons between American cartoons and comics and Japan's anime and manga. Northrop Davis has given the debate a new focus. As an academic with one foot in Hollywood and a deep appreciation of Japanese graphics, he's brought together his experience as a writer, comic creator, teacher, and passionate otaku in a book that mixes American student art with Japanese industry interviews, facts, and figures with fun and a spirit of exploration. This engaging book shows what a fresh outlook can bring to the longest-running debate. It's both an interesting assembly of information and an enjoyable read."

Helen McCarthy, author of *A Brief History of Manga* and *The Anime Encyclopedia: A Century of Japanese Animation*

Select interviews conducted by Professor Yoko Hayashi

FILM & MEDIA STUDIES

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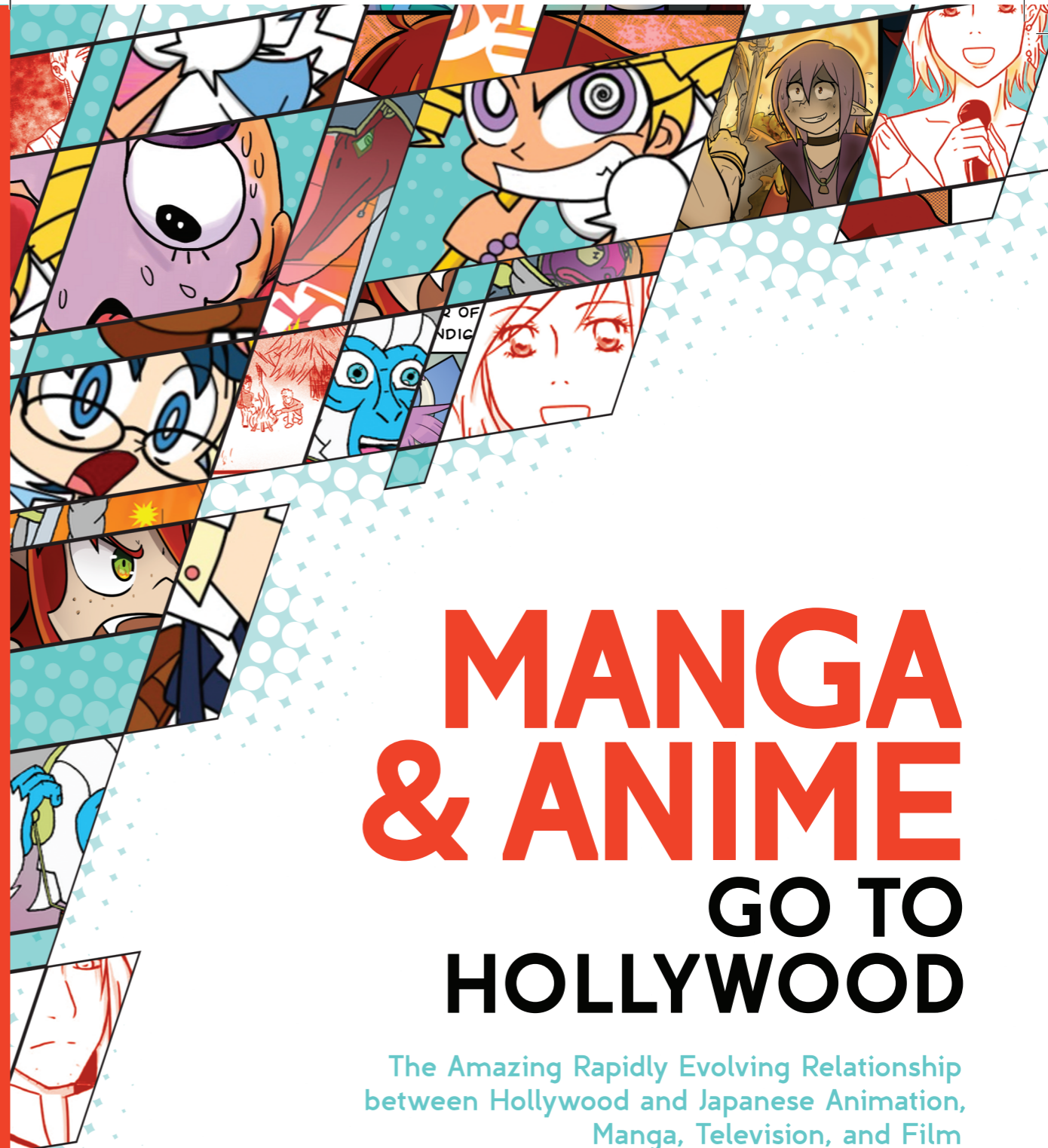
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