Portfolio Requirements for Graphic Storytelling

Your portfolio should represent you as an artist and sequential storyteller and should include your best work. It is important that we see a good demonstration of your skills within all the different categories listed below. From 2013, we are only accepting digital portfolios in the form of a link which should be included in your letter of intention attached to your KOT application. We ask that all portfolios are well organized and are clearly divided or separated into the categories listed below. We also ask that your name and contact information are easy to find and that you put a copy of your letter of intention on your blog as well.

We suggest using Blogspot, Tumblr or online PDFs and that you consider the size of your images and other posts so that it loads easily and quickly. We will not accept portfolios using Facebook, DeviantArt galleries (DeviantArt portfolios are fine) or Flickr. We recommend uploading videos on Vimeo and posting images no larger than 2MB to reduce loading time. Please also make sure that your blog, link or website functions properly. If it does not function at the time of the admissions review, we will disregard your application.

Content requirements for Graphic Storytelling

Sequential storytelling (12 - 24 pages): Attach two stories in comic form that comply with the following requirements:

First story (6 – 12 pages):

The story:

Must be based on the first meeting of two (or more) people.

Must include dialogue.

It can be a complete story or an excerpt of a larger story. In the case of the latter, it must be a whole scene or sequence and it is important that you attach a brief summary of the story before and after the excerpt.

Additional content, genre etc. is up to you. Style: It is up to you which style you choose to work in – black & white or color, graphic or realistic and so on. However, the pages must be completed in the final look, including all text.

Second story (6 – 12 pages):

In this story, you decide the topic and genre yourself based on your own ideas. This story does not need to be finished with the final look—i.e., you may hand it in, in sketch form. However, it is important that it is clear and readable. It can be a complete story or an excerpt of a larger story. In the case of the latter, it must be a whole scene or sequence and it is important that you attach a brief summary of the story before and after the excerpt. You may finish one page to show the look you intend it to be.

For the two sequential stories, you must show that you are able to tell stories through the graphic novel/comics media. The individual elements (characters, acting, backgrounds, environment etc.) should work together, and the tools of composition should be utilized and read clearly from one panel to the next.

World Creation: (min. 8 drawings in color):

Create a unique universe which could contain interesting stories. It is allowed to be the same universe as in one of the Sequential Storytelling assignment. Present the universe in a series of drawings, which shows it in the best possible way. Supplement the drawings with a brief text (5-15 sentences) that elaborates the universe. The drawings must include the following:

Environment (min. 4 drawings)

Character design (2 – 4 drawing, of which 2 drawings show a character in motion: walking, jumping or a character doing sports.) Selected details (2 drawings) – Present detail from your universe: Buildings, creatures, technology etc.

Story: (max. 1 page.):

Write a childhood memory that could be used as a base for a comic.

In this category, you must show your abilities as a storyteller. We focus on your ability to structure your story and make it alive.

Drama/Acting (min. 4 drawings):

Drawings in this category should depict characters expressing a specific emotion or feeling. From reading the character's body language, the viewer should be able to clearly determine the character's mood or feelings.

Life Drawings (min. 8 drawings):

Drawings in this category must show proper anatomy, size proportions, and an understanding of shape, body dynamics and weight of the figure.

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Letter of Intention:

The letter of intention is meant to allow us to get to know your background, interests and motivations for applying. We would like you to include the following written in a letter format (not bullet points or answers to the questions) in English:

A link to your blog portfolio

Which program you would like to apply to

Why you are applying and why you chose the specific program

Any related work experience, courses or activities

A list your software knowledge and user level

Your ambitions for the future work

Your professional influences and inspirations

Your favourite stories, films and/or games and why?

If you applied in previous years, when and to which programme?

If you are a former Drawing Academy or Visual HF student? Who was you teacher and how was your experience?

Any travel or experience abroad and how it affected you

How you plan to finance the education

Optional:

You are welcome to include links or additional categories work outside of our requirements, like interesting projects, story ideas or graphic work.

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