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THE
WHAT
AND
WHERE
GUIDE

AYA 2011

EVENTS

After Dark, Horribly Drunk

Saturday, 3pm - 4pm - Theatre

Never say Ayacon doesn't get value from its guests... In ADHD, we'll be plying Matt Mercer and Michael Sinterniklaas with booze and then letting you ask them anything you want. Be warned: they're likely to answer. And they might have some questions for you, too...

Anime Dub Live IV

Saturday, 10am - 12pm - Theatre

How does an anime dub get made? Probably not like this, but it'll be fun anyway! Our fan-dubbing event will feature improv games where you get to work on your voice acting skills, topped off with a live dub of some anime scenes. You don't have to take part, but everyone is encouraged to give it a shot - even great voice actors have to start somewhere!

Anime Dub Production

Sunday, 10am - 11am - Theatre

In this panel, guest Michael Sinterniklaas will be taking you through the process behind anime dub production - sharing his experience of working not only as an actor, but also as a director and the owner of a recording studio. Whether you're a fan of dubs or not, this is a unique look behind the scenes at how they're made!

Anime On Demand

Sunday, 1pm - 2pm - Theatre

One of the biggest changes to the anime industry of recent years has been the arrival of on-demand video services on the internet. What does legal streaming anime mean to the industry - and what does it mean to us, the fans? Andrew Partridge investigates.

Artist's Alley

All Weekend - Students Union

If you're an artistic soul, drop by our Artist's Alley - where there'll be space to draw, share tips and information with other artists, and display your work for all to see! There'll also be desks where artists can sell prints of their work, and if you want to buy an original piece, you can leave your details so the creator can get in touch.

Aya SL Starcraft Tournament

Saturday, 2pm - 4pm - National Grid

The national sport of South Korea (well, okay, it's not, but it might as well be) makes its Ayacon debut with a two hour session of zerg-rushing action. Our commentary team will talk you through all the action in this invitational tournament, so it'll be fun to watch even if you've never played the game!

BJD Meet-up

Friday, 2pm - 4pm - National Grid

If you're interested in Japan's beautiful ball-jointed dolls, this is the event for you. It will be a great and relaxing place to hang out with other doll owners, find out more about the hobby and share your experiences of these enchanting creations!



Bushido and Shinto

Saturday, 12pm - 1pm - Conference

Akemi Solloway will talk about Bushido, the code of the samurai, and how it influences the Japanese way of life - followed by a talk about the main belief structure of the Japanese people, its relationship with Buddhism, and what it means in modern Japan.

Calligraphy

Saturday, 11am - 12pm - Conference

A demonstration by Akemi Solloway of traditional Japanese handwriting techniques, showing the various different forms of written Japanese.

Charity Auction

Sunday, 4pm - 5.30pm - Theatre

Conventions are mostly about having fun - but for years, they've also been a great way for the community to raise money for some seriously worthy charities. Come along to the Charity Auction, bid on the weird and wonderful stuff on offer, and help to bulk out the cheque we'll be sending to charity!

Experiencing Disaster in Japan

Sunday, 2pm - 3pm - Conference

The March 11th Earthquake in North-East Japan is one of the most devastating in history. Hear the facts about the quake, its aftermath and the reaction of the Japanese people, straight from people who were in Japan during these tragic events..

Fanfiction Contest

Saturday, 10am - 1pm - National Grid

Some sew costumes, some draw pictures - but for some, there's nothing like a pen in your hand and a cast of characters to play with! Pit your writing skills against the challenge of our Fanfiction Contest.

Figure Collecting 101

Saturday, 4pm - 5pm - Conference

Anime isn't just about 2D art - it's also about beautiful, desirable figures and statues. In this panel, we'll take you through the process of building your own collection - particularly, how to distinguish fake, unlicensed figures from the real thing.

Go Workshop

Saturday, 11am - 1pm - Student Union 1

24 times British Go Champion Matthew Macfayden will once again be attending Ayacon in order to give beginners an introduction to the deceptively simple but incredibly deep Japanese board game, Go. There'll be time for Q&A and boards and stones for a few games afterwards!



Going East

Sunday, 1pm - 2pm - Conference

Every year thousands of fans come to conventions and other such events to show our love for Japan - but few seem to take the logical next step and visit Japan itself! At this panel you'll get the hints, tips and travel advice needed to plan the trip of a lifetime to one of the world's most beautiful and fascinating countries.

Hentai Panel

Saturday, 8pm - 10pm - Conference

It's back and it's dirtier than ever! The hentai panel promises lots of laughs and a fun, friendly atmosphere. We've got anime girls, the tentacles who love them, and fabulous prizes - with audience participation actively encouraged. Especially if you're a tentacle monster, presumably.

How to run an Anime Society

Sunday, 5pm - 6pm - Conference

If there's no anime society near you, why not start up one of your own? They're great fun and a great way to meet like-minded people! Come along and learn how to find a venue, advertise, please the punters and manage finances - or to share your own experiences, if you already run a society.

How to Start a Webcomic

Saturday, 10am - 11am - Conference

Tab Kimpton is the author of Khaos Komix, an online webcomic that gets over 30,000 unique readers a day and is published in print. This workshop will cover getting your work online, attracting an audience, making money and getting published.

Inciting Delinquency for Fun and Profit

Saturday, 1pm - 2pm - Conference

Go Nagai and his company Dynamic Productions pioneered many ideas that anime fans now take for granted, from giant robots that you could pilot to transforming magical girls. The most creatively fertile period was from 1968 to 76 - in this talk, we take a look at the biggest series of that era and their legacies.

Japan's Minorities

Friday, 3pm - 4pm - Conference

Many people - both in Japan and abroad - believe that the Japanese are an ethnically "pure" race, with no minority groups. It's a myth so widespread that minorities in Japan have had trouble being recognised in the past, but this talk will address groups such as Japan's indigenous Ainu, the Burakumin outcasts, and those of Korean descent.

J-Pop Lounge

Saturday & Sunday, 2pm - 5pm - Student Union 1

J-Pop, J-Rock, VK, K-Pop... We aim to have a little something for everyone, playing music videos and music non-stop, at a level where you can chill and chat. We'll also have quizzes, prizes, photobooks and more, so come along! Additionally, on Sunday, the J-Pop Lounge will be attended by the Maids of England (MOE), operating a mini Maid Cafe for our attendees!

Kairo: Making of a Game

Sunday, 4pm - 5pm - Conference

Indie game developer Richard Perrin will be presenting his new adventure game, Kairo, and talking about the development process - including insights into the pitfalls you face as a one-man developer making a commercial game (e.g. going way over budget on chips and bourbon). If you're interested in making games, come along, ask questions, and learn from his (bourbon-soaked) mistakes.

Kanazashi Workshop

Friday, 5pm - 7pm - Conference

Kanzashi are beautiful Japanese hair ornaments, made from fabric carefully folded to look like flowers. In this workshop you'll learn about the techniques involved in making these ornaments - and get a chance to make your own! Materials will be provided.

Kimono for the Half-Arsed

Friday, 2pm - 3pm - Conference

You want to look good in a kimono - but it's confusing, requires stuff you don't have, and it's all so expensive. This panel is about how to blag it! We'll cover what you really need, what bits you don't have to bother with, and where to stock up - on a budget, of course!

MADSTRAVAGANZA V

Saturday, 8pm - 10pm - Theatre

How to describe this, the fifth MADstravaganza? A fractured fun-house for the eyes? Two hours of audio-visual goofing off? A workout for your lungs and funny bone? All I know for sure is that there will be cats. And these cats will be dancing. To an accordion version of Lady Gaga's Poker Face.

Martial Arts

Saturday, 3pm - 4pm - Conference

This talk is a history of fighting - introducing you to different martial arts, their history and their development, and how they differ from one another. You'll learn fascinating and sometimes surprising facts about weapons we see all the time in anime and video-games, too!

Name That Tune

Friday, 5pm - 7.30pm - Student Union 1

Come for the quiz! And the trolling! And the amusing anecdotes! This is our music focused pub quiz, all about the aural treats to be found in anime and videogames... And also all about the hapless host being trolled by his own Keynote presentation, if last year is anything to judge by.

NICE GERMAN!

Sunday, 10am - 11am - Conference

From Tiger Mask to Pretty Cure, the influence of professional wrestling is everywhere in anime and manga - and wrestling has taken plenty of influence back, too, from masked wrestlers to cosplay battle royales. Find out about this bizarre relationship in this equally bizarrely named panel. We don't know if bratwurst will be served, sorry.

Oldschool Anime Experience

Sunday, 11am - 1pm - Conference

If you've ever wondered what on earth the references in Sergeant Frog or Disgaea are actually on about, or what those obscure costumes at conventions are... Look no further than this whirlwind tour of the history of anime, introducing you to notable series and themes from across the decades! From propaganda films and singing animals to giant robots, this panel has it all.

Otaku Japanese 101

Sunday, 11am - 2pm - National Grid

You won't be finding this one on your university syllabus, but Konekone will be sharing bits and pieces of Japanese language, talking about learning Japanese as an otaku - and along the way, there'll be singing, acting and games to be played.

Piano Recital

Friday, 5pm - 6pm - Theatre

An hour of musical delights thanks to the wonderful talents of pianist Raven and singer Neff - who'll be performing everything from game music to popular internet memes. It probably wouldn't be allowed in the Albert Hall, but it suits Ayacon perfectly!

Proud to be a Nerd

Sunday, 12pm - 1pm - Theatre

Matt Mercer discusses the spreading social acceptance of Geek Culture, and just how deeply it has permeated the mass media and entertainment industry. Come bearing your d20 proudly!

Pub Quiz

Sunday, 9pm - 11pm - Student Union 1

This isn't your mother's pub quiz. Unless, of course, your mother is hairy, Irish, and swears like a sailor who's just stubbed his toe - which is possible, I guess. As ever, Rob Fahey is your host, which promises a stronger emphasis on the "pub" aspect than the "quiz" aspect - but there'll probably be some questions about stuff mixed in with the beer, the shouting and the slander.

The Sweet, Sour and Soda Hour

Saturday, 1pm - 2pm - Student Union 1

Japan produces many unusual things - none more so than its snack foods, which range from the sublime to the disgusting. We'll be trying some of the weirder ones - and so will you. Audience participation isn't mandatory... Unless we decide to pick on you, of course...

Stage Clear: Reunion Show

Friday, 1pm - 3pm - Theatre

Stage Clear was a popular podcast that ran for 2 years, hosted by games journalist Rob Fahey and indie developer Richard Perrin. Back for the first time in a year, this reunion show will remind us that games are awesome, and gamers are a bunch of whinging, entitled gits! Bring booze and get your heckle on for a straight talking look at gaming.

State of the Industry

Saturday, 12pm - 1pm - Theatre

Andrew Partridge chairs a panel of the great and good in the anime industry - your chance to get a look at what's on the horizon for the commercial anime and manga business in the UK and to put your burning questions to the companies who take so much of your pocket money away.

Steampunk Guide

Sunday, 3pm - 4pm - Conference

This panel will cover everything from what Steampunk actually is (and isn't!) through to where to find inspiration, buy items and make your own great Steampunk items.

The Adventures of Mercer

Sunday, 2pm - 4pm - Theatre

A Q&A with actor Matthew Mercer about life, the universe and everything. Actually, probably just silly stories about being a geek, the industry, embarrassing moments, and occasional triumphs.

The Japanese Earthquake

Saturday, 2pm - 3pm - Conference

Akemi Solloway will talk about the effect of the devastating earthquake in March on Japan, and how the Japanese people cope with disasters.

Unicorn Table Q&A

Saturday, 1pm - 2pm - Theatre

A chance to put your questions to fab pop duo Unicorn Table - and after the Q&A session, they'll also be signing goods for their fans!

Videogame Voiceover

Sunday, 11am - 12pm - Theatre

Come listen, enquire, and generally learn about the fastest growing section of the VO industry - with Matthew Mercer. Or you could just turn up to admire his hair, of course.

Violin Performance

Sunday, 1pm - 2pm - Student Union 1

Japanese culture fans are a talented bunch - and not just when it comes to cosplay! Get some culture into your Sunday afternoon with a live violin performance by Masa, accompanied by the vocal talents of Hollie and Daniel on guitar.



Vocaloids Panel

Friday, 7pm - 9pm - Conference

Join us for an introduction to the singing phenomenon that is Vocaloids, news, classic songs, crazy videos and even a quiz!

Voice Acting Q&A

Saturday, 2pm - 3pm - Theatre

Our voice acting guests - Matt Mercer, Michael Sinterniklaas and Stephanie Sheh - take your questions on the hectic world of voice acting.

Whose Line Is It Anime?

Saturday, 4pm - 5pm - Theatre

If you love anime, videogames, and TV quiz shows, then - come and watch us pitch two teams against one another in a quiz battle TO THE DEATH!

Yaoi Panel

Friday, 6pm - 8pm - Theatre

Oh! For the love of boys that love boys! This panel promises to be "completely decent" (...really?), and thus suitable for yaoi fans and non-fans alike. Audience participation encouraged!

Yuri, Yuri, Yuri!

Friday, 8pm - 10pm - Theatre

If yaoi is boys who love boys, then you can probably guess what yuri is... Join us after the yaoi panel for a look at the other side of the coin, as we appreciate the girls who love girls!

COSPLAY EVENTS

Cosplay is an increasingly important part of conventions in the UK - and with that in mind, we've once again put together a unique programme of cosplay events organised by veteran cosplayers!

COSPLAY HQ

Once again, Aya will have a room dedicated to cosplay. The Cosplay HQ is located in the Panorama Suite of the Rootes Building, and will be open at the following times:

Friday 12pm - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 10am - 6pm

All information you need concerning the cosplay events running over the weekend is here, along with the costume repair area, weapon drop-off and the Showcase Gallery. Other cosplay events running in this room are the photography area, the Charity Cosplay Bring & Buy (Sunday, 3pm-5pm) and the Cosplay Competition, including the UK EuroCosplay qualifier. We hope to see you there!

MASQUERADE

Aya's masquerade has a reputation for being one of the UK's most spectacular, with our full-size catwalk running through the massive Butterworth Hall!

If you are entering the masquerade, you **must** turn up at 1pm on Saturday for a brief rehearsal. You don't need to be in costume for this, and we'll keep it brief - but it's very important that you attend. *Cosplayers who do not attend the rehearsal may not be allowed to go on-stage at the masquerade!*

The masquerade itself is at 5pm on Saturday, and the Butterworth Hall will be open from 4.30pm - so that your friends can get the best seats in the house!

Beginner's Armour Making

Sunday, 10am - 11.30am - Studio

From planning to purchasing and creation, Pez shows you how to make lightweight, con-safe armour from foam, papier mache and thermoplastic.

Advanced Armour

Sunday, 1pm - 2pm - Cosplay HQ

If you've already made some armour and props and want to look into other techniques, Tab will cover working with foam and latex, and give a live demonstration of making PVC armour.

Convention Skits 101

Friday, 5.30pm - 7pm - Studio

Join Keith from Team Giblets as he presents a basic guide to skit writing, development and execution. Or possibly an hour and a half of incoherent ranting and bouts of gentle weeping. Who can say for sure?

Cosplay Chess

Sunday, 2pm - 4pm - Butterworth Hall

Checkmate! 32 players are pitted against each other in a human-sized game of cosplay chess. As bitter rivals and bizarre crossovers cross swords, only one king can survive!

Crossplay Face: Makeup for Beginners

Sunday, 2pm - 3pm - Cosplay HQ

If you want to change gender with your cosplay, this is the panel for you! We'll cover shading, contouring, creating eyebrows, eye make-up and perfect lips - allowing you to disguise your gender with ease.

Electronics Workshop

Saturday, 2pm - 4pm - Cosplay HQ

A beginner's guide to making stuff glow! Phil & Tab explain electronics basics covering LEDs and EL wire - then you'll build your own Battle Royale collar in their hands-on workshop session!

Fabric Guide

Friday, 5pm - 6pm - Cosplay HQ

Tab explains the many types of fabric, how they should be used, what they're called, and how to work with them. Ideal for both beginners and for veterans who want to broaden the range of fabrics they use!

Fursuit Building

Friday, 3pm - 4pm - Cosplay HQ

Karen gives a general overview of fursuits and their creation, with a detailed look at her Rigaldo costume, which won 3rd place at EuroCosplay 2010.

Gore Make-Up and SFX

Saturday, 10am - 11am - Cosplay HQ

A workshop and demonstration on how horror make-up is done in the film industry and how this can be used for your next cosplay.

How to look good Nearly Naked

Saturday, 2pm - 3pm - Studio

Tired of your torso? Narked by knobby knees? Or just need to hide the wobbly bits? From knowing your body shape, deciding to go Bridget Jones or Brazilian, or the best stitches for your cosplay, this panel has helpful advice for the daring among us.

Make Up Tips and Tricks

Sunday, 11am - 12pm - Cosplay HQ

This panel will cover both male and female skin preparation through to basic make-up coverage - perfect for shoots, masquerades, or even for use in daily life! Then we'll go into more detail on eye make-up including using eyeliners, shadow blending, and fake eyelashes.

Mask Decoration

Sunday, 3pm - 5pm - Cosplay HQ

This is your chance to decorate a resin masquerade mask to take home. Paint, glitter, feathers and all manner of spangly bits can adorn your fox or cat.

Patterns for Beginners

Sunday, 10am - 11am - Cosplay HQ

Going over the basics of reading patterns, different brands, modifying those patterns for your own use and how to get started with making your own.

Posing Tips & Tricks

Friday, 2pm - 3.30pm - Studio

Ever despaired over cosplay pics that feel flat or boring? Nert from ManyLemons will show you how to avoid common mistakes and inspire better, more entertaining photoshoots.

Posing with Weapons: Hold it like you mean it

Saturday, 10am - 11am - Studio

This panel is focused on how to look good with your cosplay weapons. It's easy to beat the bejeezus out of each other, but tough to do it in style...

Prosthetics

Fri, 2pm - 3pm; Sat, 12pm - 1pm;
Sun, 12pm - 1pm - All in Cosplay HQ

Spread over three days, we'll demonstrate live the creation of a facial prosthetic, from initial sculpt to final application, with in-depth explanations.

Running Cosplay Events - A Mug's Game

Sunday, 1pm - 2pm - Studio

Ilpala and Granny Gertude of EuroCosplay fame are here to piss on your dreams of running cosplay events, weeding out all but the most masochistic of you - and hopefully dispensing good advice, too.

Sewing 101: Stitches and Simple Techniques

Sunday, 4pm - 5pm - Studio

Lex takes you through the basics of sewing and easy decorative techniques, with examples of usage.

Showcase: Skeksil by Xaerael

Friday, 6pm - 7pm - Cosplay HQ

Xaerael talks about his Skeksis costume, which will be seen at the EuroCosplay finals.

Skirts and Pleats

Saturday, 11am - 12pm - Cosplay HQ

Having trouble getting volume into your skirt? Don't know the difference between a box pleat and a knife pleat? Which are better, elastic or zips? Come along and all mysteries will be revealed!

Stage Performing: The Basics

Saturday, 12pm - 1pm - Studio

Worried about appearing on stage? This workshop will cover the very basics of stage performance - positioning, voice and posture.

Super Fun Extreme Iron Cosplay Happy Adventure Time Ex Alpha Gamma

Friday, 7pm - 8pm - Studio

Gather a team and take up a challenge like no other - assembling a costume in an hour using only a selection of random items! Feel the excitement - and the growing unease as you wonder if your host is drunk or actually suffering from a deep psychological issue! Cosplay like no one has ever Cosplayed before!

Taking Cosplay Further

Sunday, 3pm - 4pm - Studio

A panel on how Cosplay is becoming more mainstream, celebrating how it's being used by the video games world and special effects industry.

The Art of Puppets

Saturday, 3pm - 4pm - Studio

From traditional Bunraku theatre to Jim Henson, puppetry can enhance a costume or create a unique stage performance. We take you on a brief tour of the art and how to incorporate it into your costumes.

Wigs: Beginners

Sunday, 12pm - 1pm - Studio

A beginners' guide to selecting and styling wigs. Covering types of wigs, products, trimming, simple spiking and more.

Wigs: Advanced

Sunday, 2pm - 3pm - Studio

For those wanting to further their skills and try some of the trickier aspects of wig styling. Explore dyeing, cones, extreme spiking and other messy techniques!

Self-Employment and Working as a Commissioner

Saturday, 11am - 12pm - Studio

Tab, Karen and Pez explain how they became self-employed and how you can too. Advice on everything from setting up a business and filing tax returns, to dealing with awkward customers.

