The Artistic Creation of Twenty Adobe Illustrator® Experts

Illustrator MASTERS

EDITED BY

AGOSTO

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Foreword

Before I worked at Adobe, I used to create illustrations and diagrams using a technical pen, triangles, T-square and French curves. I hated the days when my ink pen clogged or the triangle slipped thus smearing the lines. Then twelve years ago I started working at Adobe and my job was to show off the beautiful quality of PostScript artwork and type. This was difficult because I had to program my graphics by writing PostScript code. A year later the first version of Adobe Illustrator came out and I haven't touched an ink pen since.

A common misconception among people new to digital graphics is that computers make the illustration process so easy and automatic that *anyone* can become an illustrator. As a matter of fact, when designers and illustrators began to think about using computers in their work many became concerned that their jobs might become obsolete. They feared that because these digital tools had so many automated features, any person with little or no formal art training could call themselves an illustrator and make money.

This has been a common fear whenever a new tool or technology is adopted by professionals. But the truth is that while a new technology or machine might automate a certain design task, it can never replace the creativity, emotion and experience that artists bring to their work. No software program can make intelligent design decisions, choose just the right color combinations or generate concepts and ideas. This is the domain of the professionally trained and talented artist.

This book contains the work of several of the world's most talented and experienced digital illustrators. Not only have these people mastered the digital tools of today's graphic professional, but they have also proved themselves as superb illustrators no matter what tools they use. Truly great artists are masters of composition, color, content and the media. The illustrators highlighted in this book are truly masters of digital illustration.

Luanne Seymour Cohen

Creative Director
Adobe Systems Incorporated

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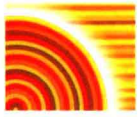
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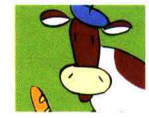
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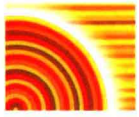
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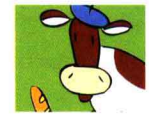
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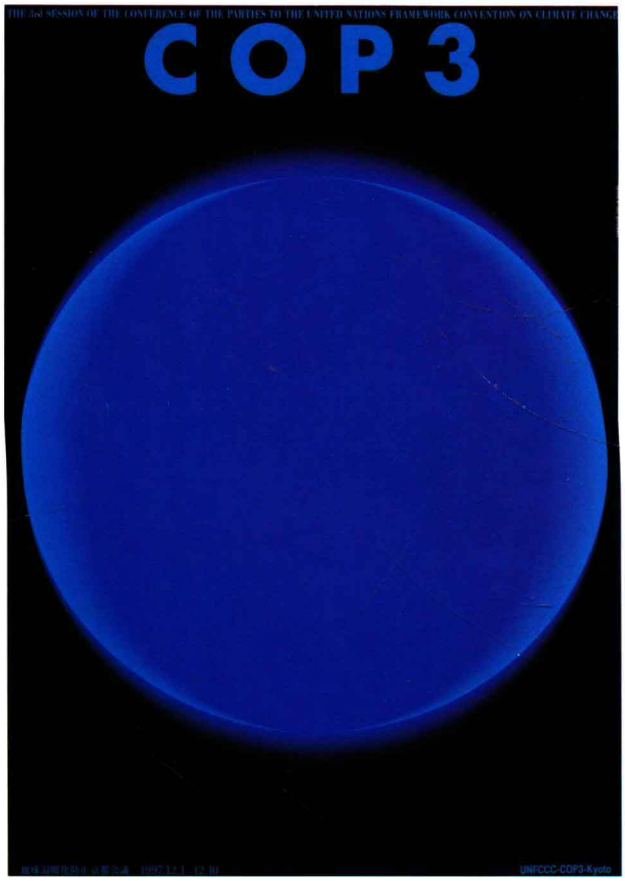
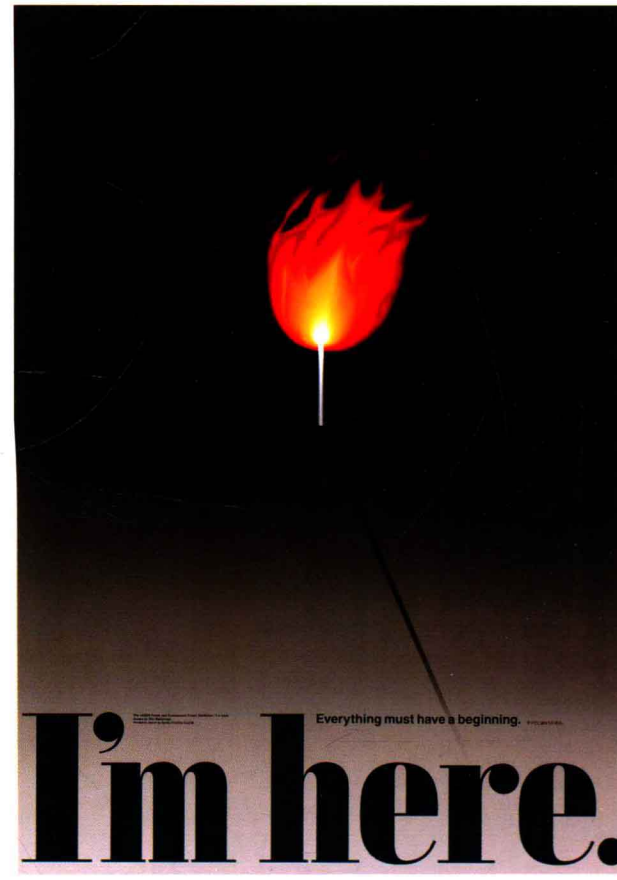
Shin Matsunaga

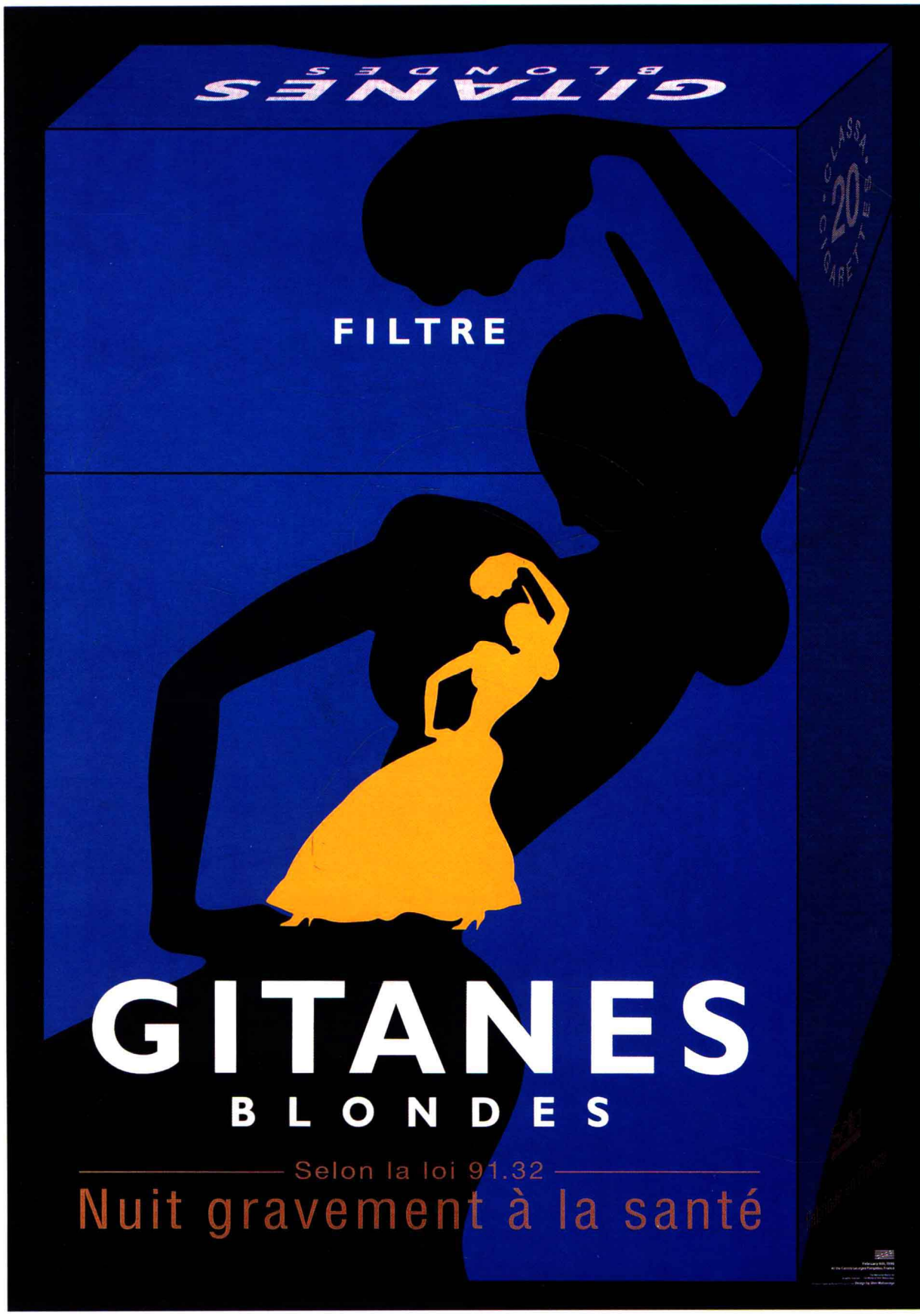
One of the preeminent graphic designers in Japan, Shin Matsunaga graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1964. He began his career working in the advertising division of Japanese cosmetics manufacturer Shiseido Co. Ltd. and in 1971 established Shin Matsunaga Design Inc. He has received numerous prizes and awards for his work including the 41st Japanese Education Minister's Art Encouragement Prize for Freshman, the Mainichi Design Award in Japan and the Gold Medal and Honorary Award at the 12th International Biennale in Warsaw. Matsunaga's design work is part of the Museum of Modern Art's collection in New York City and can be seen at thirty-eight other museums around the world. A member of the Alliance Graphique Internationale, his clients have included Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, the Sezon Museum of Art, French cigarette maker SEITA, and fashion designer Issey Miyake.



COP 3
Kyoto Environmental Committee: Poster design for '97 exhibition
Software: Illustrator



I'm Here. "Everything Must Have A Beginning."
Japan Graphic Designers Association Inc.: Poster design for peace/environmental awareness campaign
Software: Illustrator



Gitanes Blondes
SEITA, Paris: Poster design for new cigarette package
Software: Illustrator

Metal Freaks "Toughness" (from a two-part series)
Original work
Software: Illustrator

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