# Arch Inc.

#### About us

Arch Inc. is an anime planning and production company.

We were co-founded in October 2017.

#### **Our Vision:**

We aim to serve as the "gate" through which all, whether insiders or outsiders, can explore new opportunities and generate new values in the anime industry.

## Nao HIRASAWA (Founder & CEO)



- 20 years of experience in the anime business
- Became an anime producer after overseeing anime-related legal affairs for 7 years
- Has a strong track record in producing collaborations between anime and other sectors







## In his business career, he has ...

#### Worked for 5 anime companies



04/2001 -10/2005 Bandai Visual (Anime physical media company)



PRODUCTION C 02/2006 -06/2014
Production I.G (Anime production studio)



07/2014 -09/2017 Ultra Super Pictures (Anime planning company)

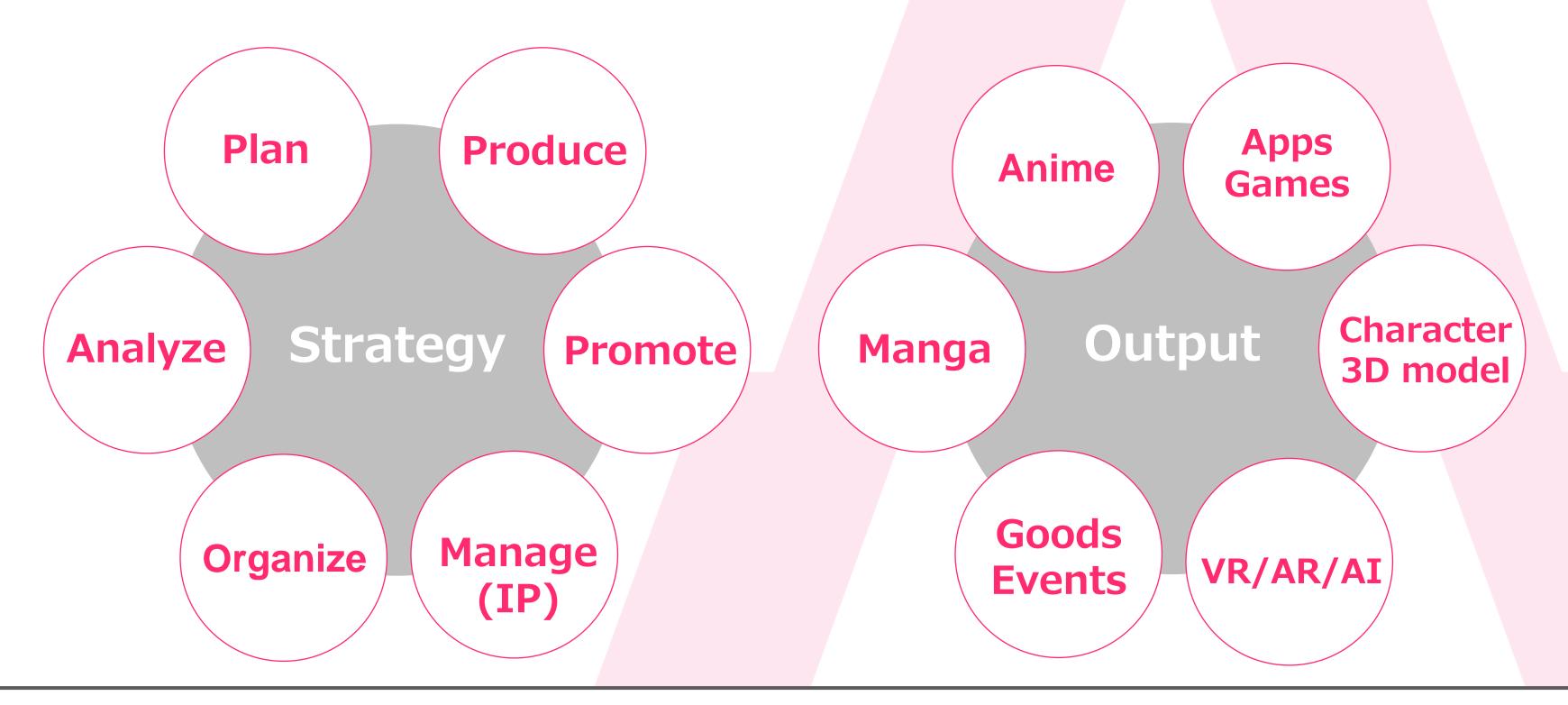


10/2017 - present Arch Inc. (Anime planning and production company)



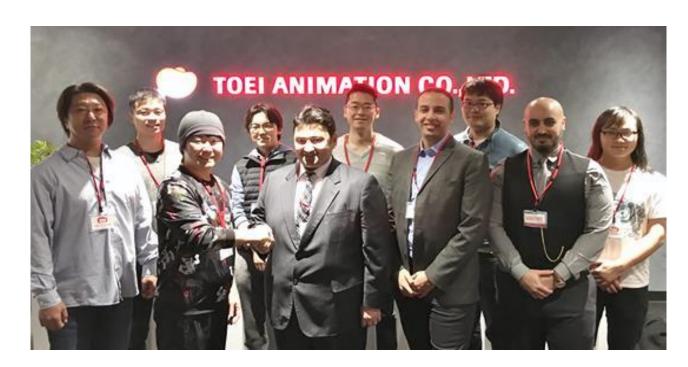
04/2019 - present Graphinica, Inc. (Anime production studio)

# Our business (1) Supporting B2C entertainment companies



Providing end-to-end support, from planning strategy to execution and output.

#### Supporting cultivation of new business partners in and beyond Japan



Theatrical anime with Saudi Arabia



YouTube anime with an app company



**Original anime series with China** 



Commercial anime with a department store

#### Monster Strike The Movie: Sora no Kanata

- Supported planning Produced advertisements Managed copyrights Oversaw merchandising
- Debuted at #1 in the first week for both audience and box office



#### Handled the digital promotion of Jujutsu Kaisen (manga)

Launch campaigns for volumes three and zero (Nov 2018-)

Anime Trailer popular illustrator

Collaboration with popular illustrators Twitter account



Handled the digital promotion of *Jujutsu Kaisen* (manga)

Launch campaigns for volumes three and zero (Nov 2018-)

 25,000 new Twitter followers in 2 weeks after launch

• 400,000 trailer views for the three videos in total (YouTube)

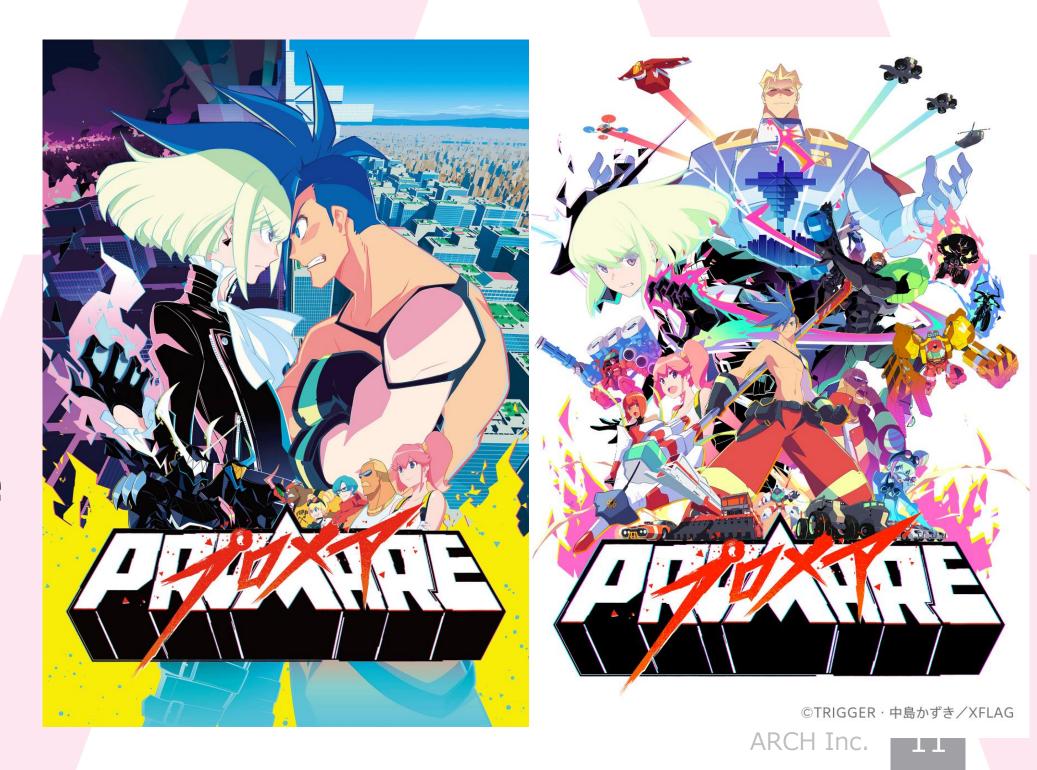
→ <u>Twitter promotion continued</u> <u>into Volume 4</u>



#### PROMARE

Co-produce
 Produced advertisements

05/2019 in theatre
 Passed the ¥1.9bn mark
 at the Japanese box office



#### The Journey

(Anime film with financing from a subsidiary of the foundation established by Crown Prince Mohammed of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

- Produce Fully realised client needs by:
  - \* Establishing a studio for their exclusive use
  - \* Selecting suitable creators
  - \* Streamlining the production flow
- May 2019:
   Teaser released at Cannes Film Festival
- June 2021: Theatrical release started with Saudi Arabia

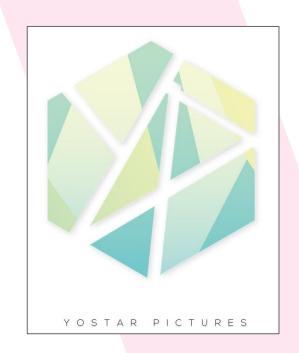


#### Supported the establishment of Yostar Pictures

#### Matching

Introduced Yostar (mobile game company) to ex-TRIGGER producers and creators. Matched Yostar's need for their own anime studio with ex-TRIGGER producers & creators who were looking for a new home to make innovative anime.

- Investment & management
   Co-founded and invested in the studio
- Team building
   Provided advice on hiring and production flow design





# Our business (2) Supporting anime production studios

Providing support to anime studios as they plan and produce their projects

Facilitating creative workflows at anime studios by supporting:

Development: Designing concepts for anime titles

Contract work: Fundraising and negotiations

Creation: Communicating with production committees

Promotion: Specifying required materials and timelines

Merchandising: Specifying and supervising materials

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R&D: Highlighting and developing tools that support creators

#### Jun KATO (Technical advisor)



PhD in Information Science and Technology (The Univ. of Tokyo, '14)

Received many international academic awards for his achievements in proposing interactive user interfaces and integrated development environments for creators.

Currently works for the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) as a senior researcher. Prior to holding his current position, he was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and also worked for Microsoft Research and Adobe as a research intern. Joined Arch in 2018 as a technical advisor (while concurrently working for AIST).





#### Our R&D

# Providing the anime sector with the latest academic developments in digital animation creation

Computer Science sub-fields covered by Arch Research members (representative academic services by the members follow):

#### **Human-Computer Interaction**



#### **ACM IUI**

'18-19: Program Committee '18: SC Committee



#### **ACM CHI**

'17, '20-21: Associate Chair '21: SRC Chair



#### **ACM UIST**

'14, '17-19: Program Committee
'13: Publicity Co-chair, '16: SV Chair

#### **Computer Graphics**



#### **ACM SIGGRAPH Asia**

'18: Real-Time Live! Committee '21: Real-Time Live! Chair

# Empowering anime creators with novel creativity support tools backed by ethnographic study and cutting-edge computer science

Representative awards, publications, and presentations:







- Arch Research (Eds.), Animation Technology {2020 Spring, 2019 Autumn, 2019 Spring}
- J. Kato, IPSJ/ACM Award for Early Career Contributions to Global Research, Mar. '21
- J. Kato, R. Mihara, K. Murata, K. Hara, N. Hirasawa, ISID 2021 Best Poster Award, Mar. '21.
- J. Kato, R. Mihara, N. Hirasawa, Past, Present, and Future of Storyboarding in Japanese Animation, SAS (Society for Animation Studies) '21 Online, Jun. '21.

#### Our R&D

#### **Griffith: A Web-based Tool for Authoring Anime Storyboards**

- Under active in-house development with the cooperation of Director Kazuya Murata
- Griffith primarily aims at creativity support of directors
   and storyboard artists
- It also implements multi-layered user interfaces to help a variety of users including the producer, animator and all the other people in the production pipeline.

#### Griffith Sketch: A Spin-off Project for Idea Sketch

- Pressure-sensitive brush on every pen-enabled
   Internet-connected devices (iPad and other tablets)
- Publicly available at <a href="https://gs.archinc.jp">https://gs.archinc.jp</a>

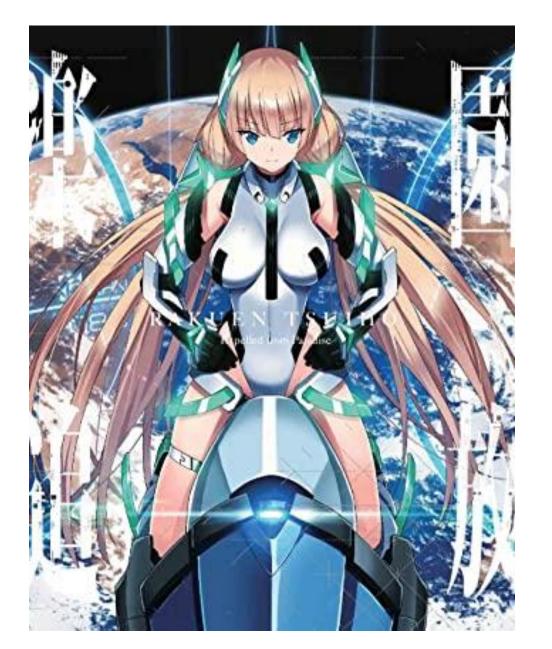


#### Providing support to anime studios as they plan and produce their projects

#### We are now supporting:



#### **Expelled from Paradise**



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Hello World



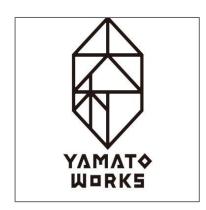
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SSSS. GRIDMAN



#### Providing support to anime studios as they plan and produce their projects

#### We are now supporting:

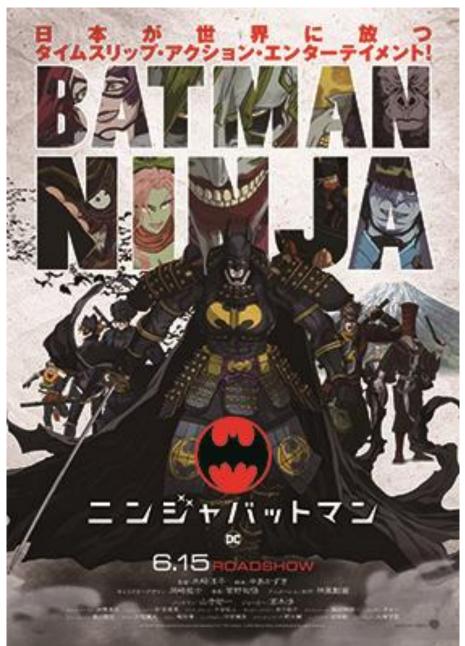


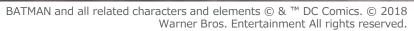
**BATMAN NINJA** 

**Tokyo Ghoul** 

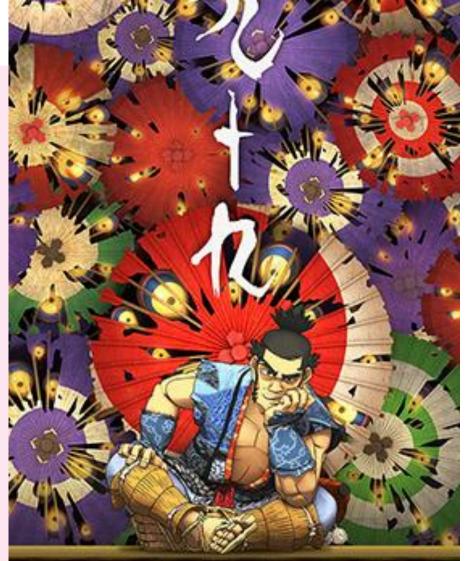
**POSSESSIONS** 

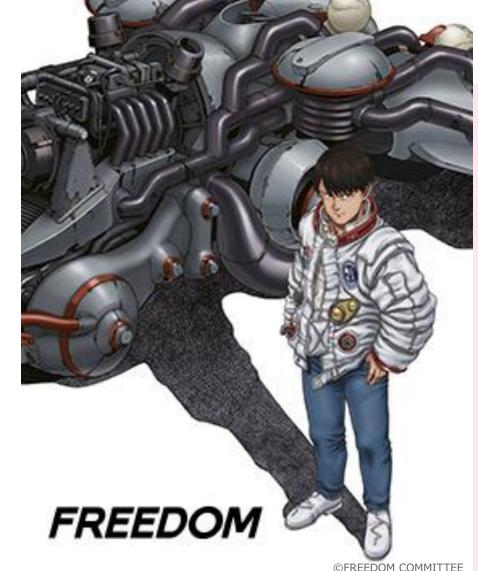
**FREEDOM** 











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## Thank you!