

There is a type of artists for whom everything works perfectly. They do it all naturally. Shishi Yamazaki's universe was born in 1989, at that difficult moment when the baby's name has to be chosen, and her parents decide to call her Shiori. 'Shi' means 'poem' or 'song' in Japanese and 'Ori' means 'to knit'. A few years later, her classmates skipped 'Ori', giving her name a greater musicality. Since then, she has not ceased to knit songs.

Shishi graduated in Design from National University of Fine Arts and Music in Tokyo and she has become worldwide famous through the Internet thanks to her video *YA-NE-SEN a Go Go* about two years ago. In this video, she dances in each of the consecutive scenes in different areas in Tokyo, such as Yanaka, Nezu and Sendagi in Minato-ku. The images and movements she performs are signs of optimism and happiness. The soundtrack projects youth, playfulness and pranks. From a technical point of view, her animations are made with rotoscoping. That is to say, she has been previously shot. Thus, she creates silhouettes that move in a highly realistic way. In her Vimeo channel, we can enjoy several other different examples of about two-minutes length. They are brief actions, among which we can find her last video titled *YAMASUKI YAMAZAKI*, where she presents herself in a very informal and evocative attitude.

The brushstrokes of reality and freshness by this young woman from the outskirts of Tokyo have convinced important brands such as Prada, Panasonic, PARCO and Shiseido. Some of her videos are part of the most well-known brands' advertising campaigns. But her game of seduction does not conclude at this point, since in addition to having been awarded several prizes and won international compliments, she has just exhibited her projects *SHI SHI YAMAZAKI NO OMOSHIRO NAMA* in Harajuku Rocket (Tokyo, Japan) last September.

At the moment, she is in her studio, located in the typical Japanese urbanization from the 1940's, developing her new projects that will be released next March. And at the same time, she is still working in her *Daily Mask Project*, which she has been drawing daily since May 11th 2010. It is a personal diary she wants to carry on with for the rest of her life. In fact, she has defined herself as a mask designer. Sometimes she selects some of these and remakes them in leather to exhibit them on wall as a family tree in her exhibitions.

Shiori Yamazaki is a young woman in her twenties who is still living in her house with her family. She is a Japanese adolescent whose closer influences have been TV cartoons and mangabased anime (Tonde Burin, Kiko Chan Smile and Cardcaptor Sakura are some examples). She is a Hello Kitty's designs lover; she likes young actor Takuya Kimura and the ballad singer Mariya Takeuchi. She finds inspiration in past animation figures like the Czech film director Karel Zeman and Disney movies. She is an adolescent whose favourite food is sushi, eggs, milk and natto, a product made from soya.

Shishi grew up listening to her mother and grandmother's piano and singing lessons. Her imagination included images in movement accompanied by music since she was a little child. She can remember herself drawing since she had a conscience, imitating her father and older sisters. It all fits in.