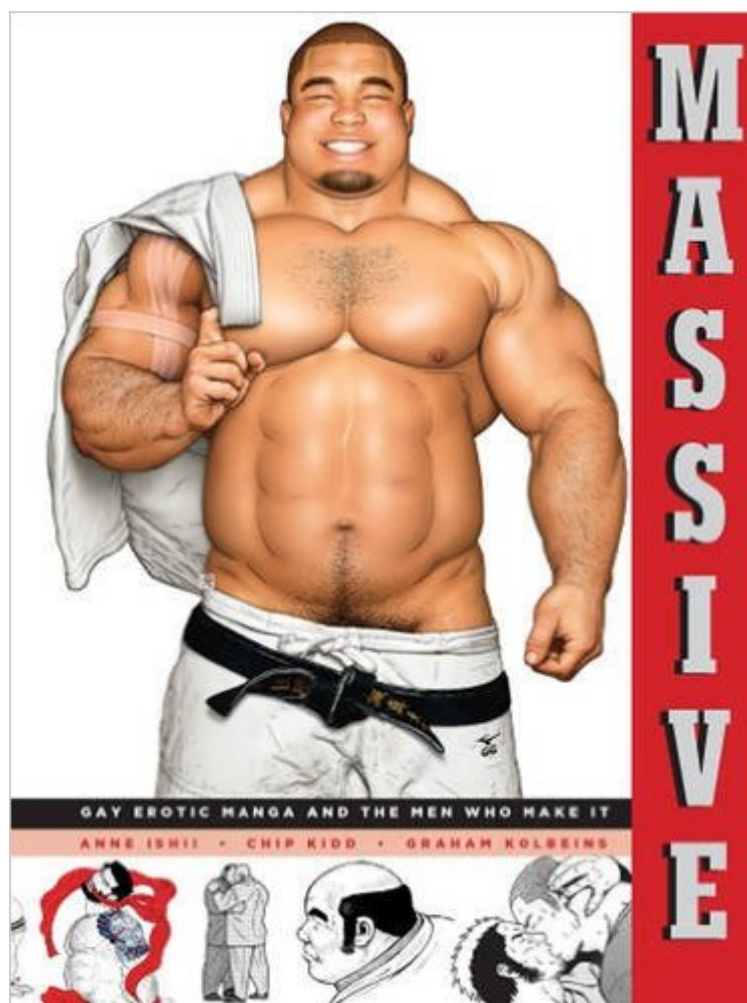


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Massive: Gay Japanese Manga And The Men Who Make It



Synopsis

This is a groundbreaking manga (Japanese comics) anthology by and about gay men, put together by an award-winning team. Big, burly, lascivious, and soft around the edges: welcome to the hypermasculine world of Japanese gay manga. Massive: Gay Erotic Manga and the Men Who Make It is the first English-language anthology of its kind: an in-depth introduction to nine of the most exciting comic artists making work for a gay male audience in Japan. Jiraiya, Seizoh Ebisubashi, and Kazuhide Ichikawa are three of the irresistibly seductive, internationally renowned artists featured in Massive, as well as Gengoroh Tagame, the subject of The Passion of Gengoroh Tagame: Master of Gay Erotic Manga. Get to know each of these artists intimately, through candid interviews, photography, context-providing essays, illustrations, and manga. Massive also includes the groundbreaking, titillating work of gay manga luminaries Takeshi Matsu, Fumi Miyabi, Inu Yoshi, Gai Mizuki, and comic essayist Kumada Poohsuke. Partial color

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Customer Reviews

Massive is an incredible accomplishment in making gay manga more visible in the West. It's erotic, definitely, and the stories titillate, but what surprised me was how much I enjoyed learning about the artists themselves. There are fascinating interviews with some of the greatest names in gay manga (and yes, I've started using 'gay manga' instead of 'bara,' thanks to what I've learned by reading Massive), all of whom hold different perspectives but share a love for their art form. Absolutely worth the asking price. I can't wait to see what Ishii and the Massive team put out next. And for what it's

worth, Jiraiya's my favorite of the bunch-- 'Caveman Guu' contains that perfect blend of playfulness and full-on sexiness that works for me in all the right ways.

Has introductions of about 20+ Japanese gay erotica artists with samples and segments of their work. Many are new to me and I am an instant fan. Will be visiting their fan sites and buying more of their work. This anthology is HUGE. Lots of hot action art. And getting to know more about each artist is a new window into their work. Buy recommendation!

First, if you are already into this form of Japanese erotic story telling, it is a beautiful collection of varied styles that explores the intricacies of the individual characters and the narratives of their unique identities that the word "gay" simply can't completely encompass. It showcases a number of major artists of the form, engages in a very strong scholarly examination of the genre, features wonderful introductions/interviews with each artist (outlining everything from their personal stories, their understanding of their sexuality within a sexual community, and a very lucid study of their aesthetics), virtually censorship free (very rare for gay visual eroticism coming from Japan, the liberty of which is largely due to the support and appreciation shown by the editors to the artists and the artistic merit of their work), includes a very brief but thoroughly researched history of male same-sex desire in Japan (from far back in the country's past to the present day), and contains content that just wonderfully hot. For anyone not familiar with this art style but interested in becoming more acquainted with it on an extensively large number of levels, this collection of what is usually called in "Bara" in English is without question the best place you could start. As mentioned before, one of the great elements of this volume is how it is both an assemblage of different approaches to a particular genre of homo-eroticism through sampling so many talents and also a fine work of scholarship. I'm using the term "bara" for convenience's sake, but the term's usefulness in describing this art style (which I will say focuses on larger men, ranging from men with more-to-love type figures to hyper-muscled types and much more). The artists featured are in so many ways taste makers who gave articulations to desires that certainly existed but were/are not given much attention in many cultures because of cultural preoccupations with certain bodily "ideals." One way you can tell the editors knew what they were doing is by looking at the reverence that is shown to Gengoroh Tagame, who is the central figure behind this art movement and also the inspiration for the historical and aesthetic study that structures the analytical sections (Tagame is also a first-class historian of sexuality). It's hot, smart, a great introduction for the curious, and an invaluable volume for fans and advocates of this very diverse and bodily affirming style of illustrated sexual

expression. Just to be clear, this is a great collection of very sexy short manga narratives. That alone, aside from all of the other wonderful things this great book achieves, makes owning the text a very seductive and raw investment.

I'm so happy to see gay manga start making its way to U.S. audiences. This book is a great primer, providing an introduction to a variety of artists, each with their own style and vision. Previously, non-Japanese speakers have only been able to access this material through fan sites, which don't compensate the artists and provide a poor quality product. This book is a refreshing contrast, which has quality printing, stellar translations, and artist introductions that really give you a better understanding of where this is coming from.

While I enjoyed the manga, the best parts were the bios on the artists. The manga seemed to be a bit choppy and not as cohesive as maybe it should have been. This book has become more of a reference for me as I ferret out other artists featured here... I've ordered books by some of the artists and also found a retail site selling t-shirts and other items from the same artists. If you're new to gay Manga, this book is a perfectly good place to start. Just don't stop there... find works by the other artists and support their work.

This book is amazing. Definitely a must have for anyone who is interested in this style of art. It is well composed and edited. It is a great combination of information about the artists, the history of this genre, and samples of the artists' works. It definitely leaves me craving more and I'm excited for any of Massive's future endeavors.

Great buy and a must have for all the Bara lovers. As the title says it, this is about Massive guys. It's a compilation of Bara Manga artists. Great for Gay Manga readers, really sexy too!

The artwork is often impressive, but the stories that work with the artwork make this compilation of various manga artists compelling and, yeah, very sexy. We need a lot more of this material available in English, with the artist's input and cooperation like this book. My fave is Seizoh Ebisubashi.

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