

Tomoyuki Shinki

by Hiroshi Imanaka



I am a trained architect. I was working for a company as an in-house designer and started to encounter artwork by people with developmental disabilities. I thought it would be interesting to invite one or two staff members with disabilities to my home to draw outside working hours. The workshops became very popular. My guests started to invite their friends and before long we couldn't all fit in my room. I realised that if we were going to continue, we needed a bigger space. So I created my own building, Atelier Incurve.

Tomoyuki Shinki was one of the people who originally came to my home. He was 7 back then - today he's 29 - and would draw small pictures of

animals. I had an Apple Mac at my house and Shinki began playing around with it, although he didn't really understand how to use it and certainly didn't read the manual. At that time, he was watching a lot of pro-wrestling. He loved sports like boxing and kick-boxing and he started drawing the fighters on the computer. The problem was that the colours on screen were not nearly as beautiful when they were printed out. So he started drawing pictures at home. At first he drew small pictures with colouring pencils and gradually his pictures just got bigger!

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