



PRESS RELEASE  
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## Have you ever wondered who was Spirited Away, why Howl's castle moves, or struggled to tell Akira apart from Astro Boy?

Let *The Rough Guide to Anime* bring you up to speed with the colourful and dynamic world of Japanese animation. Discover artists such as Osamu Tezuka and marvel at the work of Oscar-winning director Hayao Miyazaki, who brought the magical stories of *Princess Mononoke* and *My Neighbour Totoro* to the big screen.

From a behind the scenes peek at the production process to the lowdown on conventions and cosplay, this new guide offers a comprehensive overview of one of the most exciting mediums of entertainment in today's popular culture.

Find out about the resurgence of the 'short anime', flying high after the 2009 Oscar win by Kunio Kato for his *La Maison en Petits Cubes*, or the controversy surrounding fansubs. From the evolution of mecha\* to the latest Miyazaki offering out this summer, you'll be an otaku\*\* in no time.

Author Simon Richmond is a journalist, writer and photographer. An anime junkie, he is also co-author of the award winning Rough Guide to Japan.

Don't know where to start? Check out Simon's Top 10 anime...

1. Akira (1988)
2. Astro Boy (1963)
3. Ghost in the Shell (1995)
4. Jin-Roh (1999)
5. Only Yesterday (1991)
6. My Neighbour Totoro (1988)
7. Neon Genesis Evangelion (1995)
8. Mind Game (2004)
9. Wings of Honneamise (1987)
10. Tokyo Godfathers (2003)

The book includes:

- The **stories** behind anime legends like Hello Kitty, Astro Boy and Char Aznable.
- The canon of **50 must-see anime** from *Akira* to *Whisper of the Heart*.
- A **glossary** of terminology and an exploration of anime's main **themes**, styles and concerns.

### **Notes for Editors:**

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### **For review copies, giveaways, or interviews or extract requests:**

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\*The depiction of robot technology in anime

\*\*An obsessive fan of anime and manga