

E. A. SEEMANN HENSCHEL VERLAGSGRUPPE

HUMOROUS, VITAL, CONCEPTUAL: THE ILLUSTRATOR YEJI YUN



Yeji Yun in her studio, all photos in this post are by @Yeji Yun

The book "Von Ameise bis Wombat: Tierisch geniale Bautricks für unsere Zukunft" was written by Christiane Dorion. It was illustrated by the Korean illustrator Yeji Yun. She lives and works in Seoul. The book is about animals and their special abilities to build things. Yeji Yun has drawn all the animals, from the thorn devil to the puffer fish to the Venus flower sponge. She gives us an exclusive insight into her work.

COULD YOU PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF?

I work with international clients in various fields such as publications, posters and advertising. I am also interested in different changes in the world and I try to find out if I can convey an effective message to the world through my drawings.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ILLUSTRATION STYLE (IN THREE WORDS)?

Humorous, vital, conceptual and imaginative (sorry, it turned into four words!).

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Gone with the wind

DO YOU SPECIALISE IN A PARTICULAR SUBJECT?

Animals. Apart from that human rights, environmental issues, sports and music festivals.



Where the magic happens - Yeji's desk

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YOUR ILLUSTRATIONS ARE PUBLISHED IN BOOKS ALL OVER THE WORLD. DO YOU TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CULTURAL BACKGROUND OF THE READERS IN YOUR WORK?

I don't think of a particular culture when I paint pictures. I think that the most personal stories are universally understood.

A BASIC QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION/ASPECTS YOU NEED BEFORE YOU START DRAWING?

When it comes to working with clients, a project brief is the most important thing you can have. It serves as a compass to determine the direction of my work. For personal work, it is most important to know exactly the stories or feelings I want to tell.



Creative in all ways - in drawing and writing.

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VERLAGSGRUPPE**

WERE THERE ANIMALS IN THE BOOK THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW BEFORE AND HAD NEVER DRAWN?

Yes, there are a few animals I didn't know before, such as the praying mantis, the Venus flower sponge and the thorn devil. They were also difficult to draw!

WHICH ANIMAL MOTIF DO YOU LIKE BEST? AND WHICH ANIMAL SURPRISED YOU THE MOST WITH ITS ABILITIES?

I like drawing furry animals, so beavers and prairie dogs or the toucans were fun. The stickiness of the mussel surprised me, and that page is also one of my favourites in the book.

IF YOU WERE AN ANIMAL, WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE?

A platypus!

<https://www.instagram.com/seeouterspace/>

<https://www.seemann-henschel.de/produkt/von-ameise-bis-wombat-tierisch-geniale-bautricks-fuer-unsere-zukunft/>