



French manga Radiant adapted in anime series in Japan by NHK

After being **the first French hardcover manga to be published in Japan in 2015 by EuroManga**, *Radiant* has now been chosen by Japan's public broadcasting group **NHK** to be **adapted as an anime**. Quite an accomplishment for the author, **Tony Valente**, and the French publisher, **Ankama Éditions**.

Roubaix, January 31, 2018: Back to its roots in the Land of the Rising Sun. Thirty-five years after **The Mysterious Cities of Gold**, **NHK** is going to turn **a French manga into an anime**. "It's a never expected dream to see my universe adapted in anime in Japan.," said **Tony Valente**, creator of the manga *Radiant*.

The anime will be broadcasted from **October 2018** on **NHK**.



The series ***Radiant***, whose eighth volume was published in December, is once again carrying the colors of the French touch high in mangas' native land. Indeed, ***Radiant*** caught the **NHK's** eye as it was searching for a manga to adapt as an *anime*! "We are extremely

proud to have found writers as talented as Tony and to be with him during this incredible project.” said **Anthony Roux, CEO of Ankama.**

NHK's decision confirms the Japanese public's interest in Tony Valente's work, as *Radiant* already holds the emblematic honor of being **the first French hardcover manga to be published in Japan by EuroManga**, consecrated by some of the best mangakas in Japan. “An impressive shonen manga made in France!” **Yusuke Murata**, the illustrator of *One Punch Man*. “This work is surprisingly reminiscent of Japanese mangas. However, it also has typically European traits, with a story that has an ever so slightly bitter taste.” **Hiro Mashima**, author of *Fairy Tail*.

Radiant, an Ongoing Success

The series, published by Ankama Éditions in the Ankama Mangas collection, has been a marked by success since its birth in 2013: awarded the prize for **best manga-style graphic novel of 2014** by the magazine *Animeland*; named **best manga by Canal BD – J'aime lire Max in 2015**; winner of the **Daruma** prize for best international manga at Japan Expo 2016; and the selection of volume 7 (published in July 2017) for **the youth prize at the 2018 Angoulême International Comics Festival**.

Against a backdrop of a coming-of-age quest, *Radiant* echoes the many references that have inspired the author, whether European fairy tales, the Inquisition or political events, not to mention elements of his own life, and of course Japanese mangas, *One Piece* in particular.

Tony Valente

Born in Toulouse in 1984, Tony Valente's graphic novel debut came in 2004 with *The Four Princes of Ganahan*, published by **Delcourt** (illustrations and color, based on a story by Raphaël Drommelschlager). He then wrote a solo series, *Hana Attori* (Soleil, 2008-2010), before starting *S.P.E.E.D. Angels*, also published by Soleil in 2012; the planned trilogy ended with Volume 2 (2013), but it was an opportunity to work with writer Didier Tarquin, author of the *Lanfeust* series of which he was a fan. He then continued on with *Radiant*, for which he had initially planned to write and illustrate three volumes. But the public had a different idea...

About NHK

NHK, Nippon Hoso Kyokai (Japan Broadcasting Corporation), is Japan's only public broadcaster.

As a public broadcaster funded by fees received from TV viewers, NHK delivers a wide range of impartial, high-quality programs, both at home and abroad.

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About the Ankama group

Ankama is an independent company that creates, publishes and distributes works of entertainment worldwide. From video games to board games, from animations to mangas, it controls the production chain of its creations from A to Z. Known for its MMORPGs and the animated series *DOFUS* and *WAKFU*, part of a vast universe called the Krosmoz, it achieved its first full-length feature film in 2016, *DOFUS – Book I: Julith*. Ankama has many strings to its bow, including: the board game *Krosmaster Arena*, its figurines and its online version; the video games *Tactile Wars*, *King Tongue*, and *DOFUS Pogo*, on smartphone and tablet; but also mangas and graphic

novels such as *Mutafukaz*, *Maliki*, *City Hall*, *Radiant*, and *Freaks' Squeele*. Indeed, since 2004, the Ankama teams have been applying the principles of transmedia and creating universes developed through several stories and in several formats, thereby offering their communities of players, readers and spectators a full and immersive narrative experience across all popular platforms. At Ankama, every story is unique, but they are all interconnected.

To get an idea of what's going on at Ankama, take a look at: *DOFUS Touch*, the tablet and smartphone version of *DOFUS*, released in late 2016; *Krosmaga*, a collectible card game combining combat and strategy; and season 3 of the animated series *WAKFU* airing on France 4 in September 2017 and NETFLIX France at the end of the year (and worldwide in 2018)

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