

## LUCCA PRESENTS THE INTERNATIONAL COMICS MUSEUM AT EXPO 2025 OSAKA

THE **PEGASO D'ORO**, THE HIGHEST HONOR OF THE **REGION OF TUSCANY**, IS AWARDED TO **GO NAGAI** AUTHOR OF **"MAZINGER"** AND **"GOLDRAKE"**, BY EUGENIO GIANI, PRESIDENT OF TUSCANY IN OSAKA.

**06.25.2025:** Two major events for global comics culture, organized by Lucca Comics & Games, are scheduled during the Tuscany Region's dedicated week at EXPO 2025 Osaka, from July 14–19, 2025.

On July 14, legendary manga master Go Nagai — creator of iconic characters such as *Mazinger Z*, *UFO Robot Grendizer* (Goldrake), and *Devilman* — will receive the Pegaso d'Oro for Culture from the Tuscany Region. The award will be presented by President Eugenio Giani, who will also engage in a conversation with Nagai about the influence of Dante Alighieri on his work. Notably, Nagai's manga adaptation of *The Divine Comedy* is the only comic version featured in the world's largest collection of *Commedia* editions, housed at the Museo Casa di Dante in Florence. The meeting was made possible thanks to Lucca Comics & Games, partner of the Italian Pavilion at the EXPO 2025 Osaka.

During the Expo, Lucca Comics & Games will present the first renderings of the future International Comics Museum of Lucca. This innovative cultural institution will explore the language of comics through international popular culture, contemporary storytelling, and visual narrative.

As part of the "Tuscany. Endless Renaissance" showcase by the Italian Pavilion, Lucca Comics & Games will highlight the creative dialogue between Tuscany and Japan. This initiative honors both historical and modern artistic connections — from Dante and Puccini to Japanese masters such as Yoshitaka Amano, the acclaimed *Final Fantasy* visual artist. Amano's specially created posters will pay tribute to composer Giacomo Puccini in his centenary year.

On July 15, anime visionary Shoji Kawamori — creator of *Macross* and designer of an entire pavilion at EXPO — will join top Japanese companies in a roundtable focused on the role of Lucca Comics & Games in promoting Japanese creativity abroad.

President Eugenio Giani emphasized, "Tuscany's participation in the Osaka Expo will be a journey through the values that have characterized our territory for centuries: intuitive ability, wisdom derived from experience and deep attention to beauty understood as creative genius. In this spirit we wanted to pay homage to Go Nagai, a symbolic figure of Japanese culture. We will award the Pegasus of Culture to this brilliant author and screenwriter who was able to speak to the entire world with characters such as *Mazinger* and *Goldrake* and contribute to the knowledge of Dante thanks to the power of his narrative a testimony to the ability to reach people's hearts through the universal language of emotions. Go Nagai was able to speak to new generations and underline the power of a work of art such as *The Divine Comedy* that, through the centuries, continues to break down cultural and social barriers: a power that with his capacity for innovation Nagai has exalted, in a very personal style, ethics and imagination, remaining for this reason imprinted in the collective imagination".

In its 59-year history (the longest in the world for an event dedicated to comics, games and popular culture), the event has made the city of Lucca, Tuscany and Italy the European gateways for manga, anime, video games, games and music from the Land of the Rising Sun. The last edition was the occasion to award sensei Amano the title of Ambassador of the Italian Pavilion at Expo 2025 Osaka. The exhibition *Amano corpus Animae* produced by Lucca Comics & Games is currently in Rome at Palazzo Braschi (until 12 October 2025).

"The investiture of sensei Amano and Lucca Comics & Games by Ambassador Mario Vattani filled us with pride," said Emanuele Vietina, Director of Lucca Comics & Games. "It gives us the measure of the work that we have been doing for several generations in Lucca for Italian and international comics. It was the

occasion to bring three legends of visual culture to the Italian Pavilion and to launch from the Pavilion itself a legendary enterprise, that of the International Comics Museum.”

“President Eugenio Giani himself asked us to increase the international positioning of Lucca Comics & Games” said Nicola Lucchesi, president of Lucca Crea, “A challenge that we promptly took up as demonstrated by the worldwide echo of the exhibition "Amano Corpus Animae" which first opened in Milan and now in Rome, up to our participation in the Expo in Osaka. This is the demonstration that challenges are won together. However, I would like to make a special mention of the Lucca Crea team that has always faced them with enthusiasm, dedication, creativity and professionalism”.

“We are proud that our city is represented abroad by Lucca Comics & Games which, in addition to promoting culture and educational activities in our territory, once again takes the name of Lucca to the world, demonstrating that our city - rich in historical and naturalistic beauties - knows how to look at the art and entertainment of today and into the future.” said Mario Pardini, Mayor of the City of Lucca.

**We believe in #Community #Inclusion #Respect #Discovery #Gratitude**

**#LUCCACG25**

Stay tuned, subscribe to the Lucca Comics & Games newsletter  
**FB** and **IG** @luccacomicsandgames; **X** @LuccaCandG; **TT** @luccacg  
**Twitch** LuccaComicsAndGames; **YT** Lucca Comics & Games