

Great creators of the world:

Sachiko Akinaga

Although there aren't many AFFOLs in Japan, there are some excellent builders that promote the LEGO® brand across the country and build great creations. Sachiko is a good example of a committed AFFOL and her work is well know around the world.

by HispaBrick Magazine®

pictures by Sachiko Akinaga

Name: Sachiko Akinaga

Age: 53

Nationality: Japan

HispaBrick Magazine®: What do you do normally?

Sachiko Akinaga: I am a freelance graphic designer and a brick artist. I make stuff with LEGO®, sometimes I hold LEGO® workshop events.

HBM: When did you first start building with LEGO®?

SA: I guess around the age of four.

HBM: When did you start posting your models online?

SA: It was Sept 9th 2001. That's when I started my website 'Let's LEGO®'. (<http://www.lets-brick.com/index2.html>)

HBM: Are there many AFFOLs (Adult Female Fans of LEGO®) in Japan?

SA: There are not many AFFOLs in Japan, so I hope that our numbers will increase!

HBM: You are doing a lot of activities across Japan. Could you explain how you establish those collaborations?

SA: I usually receive a request from a company that has accessed my website 'Let's LEGO®'. For that I show my work or my LEGO® events on my website as my achievements.

HBM: What is the added value of LEGO® for those collaborations?

SA: They expect the advertising effect due to the catchy impression of LEGO® models.

HBM: What is the last set you have purchased?

SA: It's the Friends set 41130 (Amusement Park Roller Coaster) which I bought for my niece. And then for myself, a BrickHeadz 'Anna & Olaf Building' (set 41618)! I made my sighead with this! (My Sighead model: http://www.lets-brick.com/eng/my/62sigfig/fra_e.html)





Copyright (C) 2011, Sachiko Akiyama - Let's LEGO

HBM: What is your favorite commercial LEGO® building theme?

SA: They are LEGO® City and LEGO® Creator. I've loved the city series since I was a kid, and Creator is very exciting!!

HBM: What is your favorite theme for building?

SA: It's animal models. And I like to build in my own style in any theme.

HBM: What is your favorite LEGO® element and why?

SA: I love the 'block effect' of LEGO® bricks. It has a fun look. Also high quality! And I like to be able to shape my imagining world with LEGO®.

HBM: Which part would you like LEGO® to produce?

SA: I would like to get a 1x1 panel.



HBM: How many hours do you spend building with LEGO®?

SA: When I am building something, I am building for about 10-14 hours a day.



Copyright (C) 2010 Sachiko Akiyama - Let's LEGO



HBM: Is it difficult in Japan to be a LEGO® fan?

SA: I guess it is easy !:D

HBM: What do your family/friends think about this hobby?

SA: They've said that playing with LEGO® is a really wonderful hobby ever since I was a kid. LEGO® is very creative hobby!

HBM: Do you draw or create pre-designs before you start building?

SA: It depends on the situation. When I make a commissioned work, I often paint or design before I start to build. but when I make something for me I usually don't draw or create pre-designs.

HBM: What is your preferred building technique?

SA: A simple building style that eliminates waste is the best for me.

HBM: If you had to choose one from among all your creations, which would you choose and why?

SA: I would choose 'The Animal Musicians' because It is my favorite model. I

like to build creations that make you feel happy when you see them. (The Animal Musicians: http://www.lets-brick.com/eng/my/33musicians/musicians_fra.htm)

HBM: What do you think about the use of non-official parts (stickers, modified parts, non-LEGO® elements...)?

SA: I don't care about their use. I sometimes make and use my own original stickers. For example, company logos etc... And I won't make any modified parts, but I won't oppose their use. It must be fun! On the use of non-LEGO® elements etc., I think that effective use can be a good thing! I have used blue acrylic boards for my aquarium model before. (Seaside Aquarium: http://www.lets-brick.com/eng/my/c1212_aquarium/fra_e.html)

HBM: How would you encourage other women / girls to build with LEGO®?

SA: First I'll show her my pretty LEGO® work and let her know the fun of LEGO®! And I will inform her that various cute products are on sale – Friends, Disney, etc... After that, I'd like to encourage her to try to build a cute product first.

#



