

COSEPLAY

Issue 4 • Oct. 2004 • Cosplay at the Metreon Festival of Anime





Chocolate Misu from the anime version of Sorceress Hunters.

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Metreon Festival of Anime 2004

Held in early October, the fourth edition of this annual event was a small, one-day con with a strong cosplayer turnout.

The anime track was held at the Action Theater on the second floor. This is a very large theater with a large screen and decent seating, so it was a pretty good place to show anime. There were no fansubs shown and all titles were already licensed and for the most part available or soon available on DVD from Bandai, one of the show's sponsors.



Among the titles shown was Please Twins, Gundam Seed and Ghost in the Shell.

The Action Theater was also where the only panel, on the Gundam F91 movie and all things Gundam, was held. It was an interesting and informative panel for those who are really into Gundam, perhaps a little too detail-oriented for those with only a passing familiarity with the series.

A red Zak Mobile Suit, Char Aznable's Red Comet, I presume, from Gundam.



Third Runner up in
the costume
Contest, Miaka No
Baka as Lacus Clyne
from Gundam Seed.



Instead of using the Action Theater for the cosplay contest, cosplayers lined up in two rows down the second floor walkway. One at a time they walked in front of the judges tables and into the area near the escalators where the spectators gathered around. It was very crowded and anyone not in the front row had a hard time seeing. There were no skits, just walk-ons. The contest moved quickly and the judges made their picks in a very short time.

There were a number of very nice costumes. Miaka No Baka was the third runner up for her excellent Lacus Clyne from Gundam Seed. A cosplayer who I haven't seen before was awarded second runner up for her very pretty Beldandy from Oh, My Goddess. Pegasus Maiden's typically intricate and well-made Myoubi from Alichino was first runner up. The winner was Chris with his Transformer Smokescreen. Chris wasn't the only person doing a large mech, but his had working lights and—in a most impressive display of cosplay engineering—actually transformed into a car right “on stage”. This was very cool and definitely deserved to win. I don't always agree with the masquerade judges, but I thought these four cosplayers were the best at this show and the judges made the right choices here.

The competition was surprisingly stiff for such a small con. There were several who didn't win, or even complete, who I felt had really first-rate costumes.

Most of the cosplayers seemed to be the regulars who turn out for many of the local conventions. Many of these had new outfits or ones that haven't been seen at other local shows.

In the early afternoon the cosplayers paraded over to the nearby Zeum Children's Museum for a group shot. Afterwards many of the cosplayers took advantage of being next door to Yerba Buena Gardens for some outdoor photo shoots. The waterfall was a particular favorite.

There was a television crew taping for a while that used cosplayers for background crowd scenes and interviewed a number of them.

This was a hang out and relax and talk to your friends convention and was quite fun, if sometimes crowded.

The convention ended with a showing of the Gundam F-99 movie. This was held at one of the Lowes theaters and was well-attended.

Second Runner up in the costume contest, Beldandy from Ah, My Goddess.



Second Runner Up in the costume contest, Pegaus Maiden as Myoubi of the Alichinos from the Alichino manga.



Winner of the contest was Chris as Transformer Smokescreen.

Not only do the eyes and the headlights light up, but also there are neon tubes on the wings that light up as well.

With a few quick twists, the top comes off and converts to the front end of the car while the back end is created from the boots.

Lights are run off of batteries strapped to his back.

A very impressive costume that was a crowd favorite.





Final Fantasy/Kingdom Hearts continues to be popular among cosplayers.

Above: Members of Con Artist Cosplay including a Moomba from Final Fantasy being restrained by Squal and Laguna from the same series.

Left: Yuffie from Kingdom Hearts.

Right: Locke from Final Fantasy 6.





Above and Right: Sephiroth from Kingdom Hearts.

Above Right: Cloud from Kingdom Hearts.



Cosplayers gather in front of the Zeum for a group photo shoot.

Our featured cosplayer this issue is Pegaus Maiden, a local Bay Area cosplayer known for her intricate and detailed costumes. The photos were taken at the Metreon and at the nearby Yerba Buena Gardens.







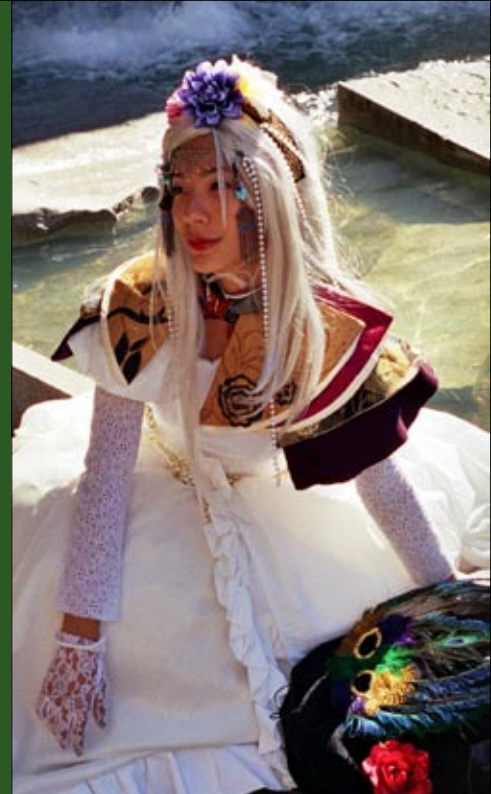


Pegaus Maiden's rendition of Myobi of the Alichinos won Masquade Prestige Award at Ani-Magic in early October and was making its Bay Area convention debut.





Pegasus Maiden said she likes to pick obscure characters to cosplay because she can be more creative.



Pegasus Maiden even created custom shoes to go with the outfit.







Arial from the series Card Captor Sakura.



Nandobaka's version of Roger Smith from the series The Big O.



Above: The Red Comet from Gundam mixed it up with Transformer Smokescreen from Transformers.



Left: Original creations.

Right: An old-school mecha.





Far
Left:
A
Sailor
Scout
from
Sailor
Moon.

Left:
Two
Final
Fantasy
Charac-
ters.

Right:
Trunks
from
Dragon
Ball GT.





Left: Edward Elric from Full Metal Alchemist as portrayed by Haanyan Faery.

Right: Sasuke from Naruto.



Below Left: Edward Elric from Full Metal Alchemist and Freya from Chobits.

Lower Right: Lt. Maria Ross and Edward Alric, both from Full Metal Alchemist.





The character Blue from Wolf's Rain.

Brandon Heat and Asagi Mika, both from the anime of Gungrave.





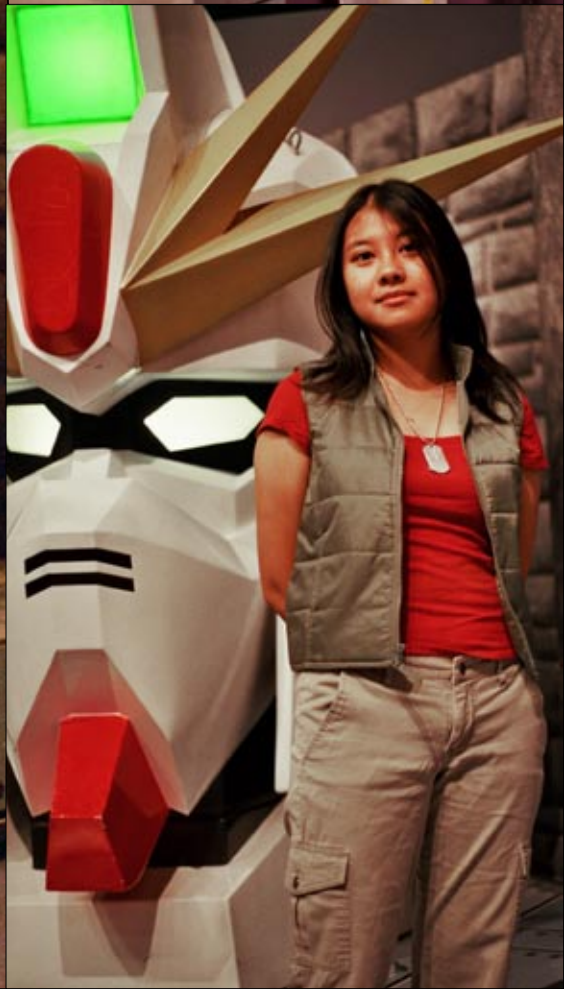
From the Matrix, Trinity and two Neos.

Dr. Noe as Agent Smith from the Matrix.



Below: Lacus Clyne from Gundam Seed by Miaka No Baka.

Left: two members of Cal-Animage Alpha. Top is another Lacus Clyne, Bottom is Cagalli, both characters from Gundam Seed.





Standing with the to-scale Gundam head at the Bandai store are members of Cal-Animage Alpha. From Left: Milly, Shin and Athrun, all characters from Gundam Seed or Gundam Seed Destiny. Below: Cagalli, Athrun, Lacus, Milly and Shin.





Above: a trio from Harry Potter. Below: L to R: A character from Prince of Tennis, two from Battle Royal.





Above Left: Original outfits: Cyborg Pariah & Cyborganizer who are connected to Davis's Pirates of the Pentagon.

Left: An EGL take on Alice in Wonderland.

Right: An original Elegant Gothic Lolita outfit.





An original EGL with bell and wings



Right: A male version of an EGL outfit.



