



MOMO WANG

ANIMATION DIRECTOR

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Momo Wang is an animation and creative director for the entertainment studio Illumination, Inc. She directs short films and animated content for the company's blockbuster franchises including **Minions**, **Despicable Me**, **Sing**, and **The Grinch**.

Recently, Momo wrote and directed **Panglai**, an animated short film narrated by Scarlet Johansson and produced by Illumination / Universal Pictures. She is also an Inductee into the Asian Hall of Fame for her trailblazing art and creative work in the U.S. and China.

Growing up in Beijing Momo spent her childhood immersed in comics and animation. While earning her degree in fine arts at the Communication University of China, Beijing she created **Tuzki**, a lovable bunny character that has gone on to become one of the most recognized, branded characters worldwide.

She built and sold the **Tuzki** franchise to Time-Warner and relocated to Hong Kong to oversee the brand's growth. While at the company she was recruited into the Cartoon Network division as a Creative Director. Momo later moved to Los Angeles in 2011 to earn her MFA in Experimental Animation from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in 2014. She founded the **Momo Wang Scholarship** in 2020 to support international students attending CalArts.

Momo is the author of numerous cartoon, graphic novel and book series that have sold nearly one million copies worldwide. Titles include **Momo Who?**, **The Best of You is Yet to Come**, and **I, Tuzki, U?** which spent over one year on Best Seller lists across Asia. Her digital work, from emojis to stickers have been shared by billions of consumers worldwide.

Momo is an active collaborator with global brands including Apple, Gap, Vans, Tencent, and CryptoKitties on content and fashion projects. She has over one million followers across her social media channels. Her work and stories have been featured globally across major media outlets such as CNN, GQ, Elle, and The Financial Times.

Momo currently lives in Sunny Southern California and is working on her first animated feature film.

Honors & Achievements

- Inductee, Asian Hall of Fame.
- **Top 50 China's Most Influential People**, News Magazine China.
- **Momo's Dream Tour**, China nationwide exhibition featuring her work.
- **Best Graphic Novel**, China Book Industry Awards.
- **Best Mobile Games Design**, Asia Interactive Awards.
- Featured in **The Internet Age**, a China Central Television feature documentary on pioneering industry creators.
- Speaker and Judge at conferences including Lightbox Expo, China International Cartoon & Animation Festival, Shanghai Comic Convention and multiple film festivals.