

Illustration Now!—Volume 2
By Julius Wiedemann
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The follow-up to *Illustration Now!*—Volume 1, this does pretty much exactly what the first volume did, although, according to the blurb on the cover, it's even more exciting (it isn't immediately apparent why). This door-stopper of a book features 150 illustrators from twenty-five different countries, and, as you can imagine, there's something here for everyone, even the most hard-nosed illustration-phobe. Those looking for some sort of underlying trend will be disappointed; the only real conclusion that you can draw from this book about the current state of illustration is that pretty much anything goes. A bit more editing might ultimately have made for a more satisfying experience as the dodgy stuff (of which there is unfortunately plenty) tends to leap out at you more than the good stuff. Flicking through this book is a bit like the visual equivalent of channel-hopping when you first get Sky—it's fun for the first fifteen minutes, then the novelty wears off and you switch back to BBC2.