Overview of the Japanese Anime Production Workflow
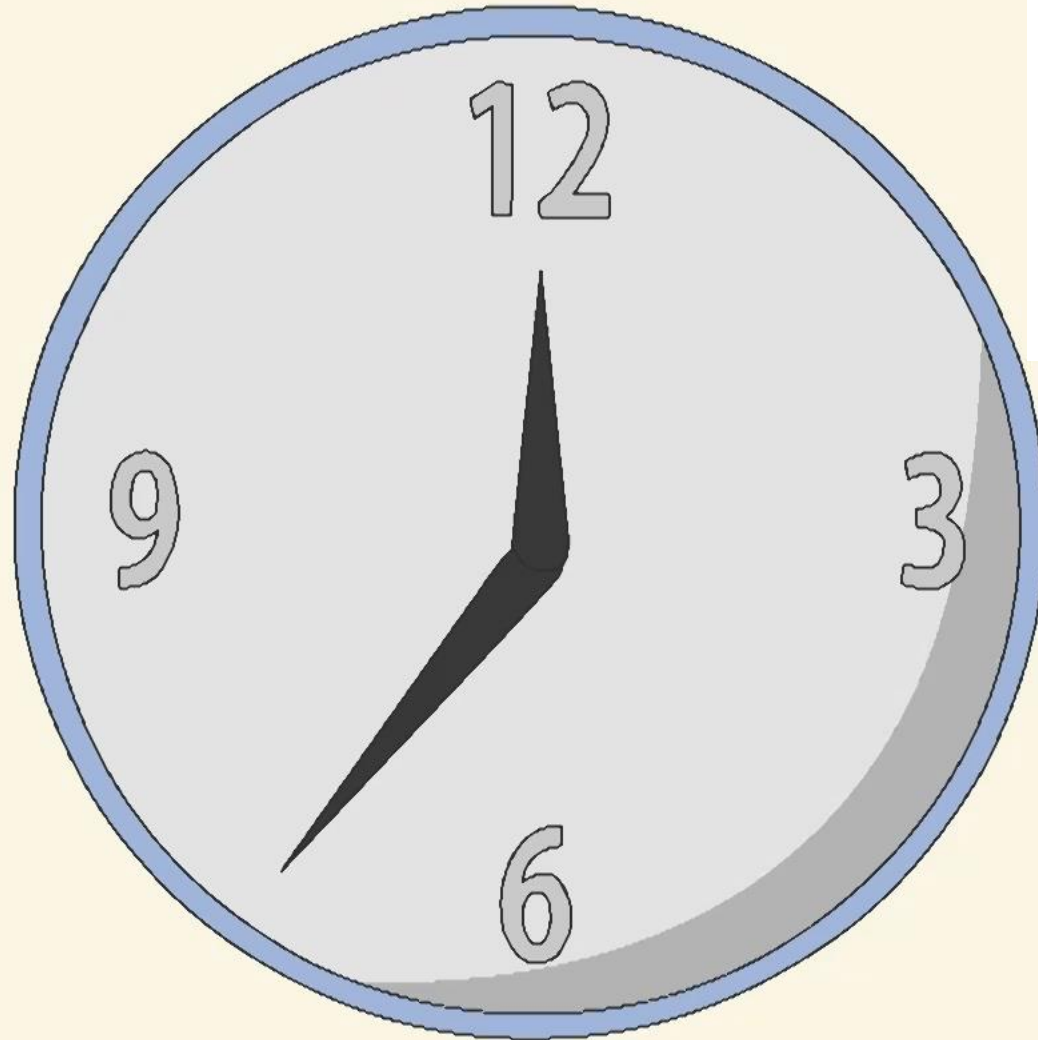
Akinobu Maejima

OLM Digital, Inc.

プロット

起
12PM.仕事休憩を取るオルマ君。本を読む。
**承**
本の世界に入ってしまう。鎧兜を着ている。
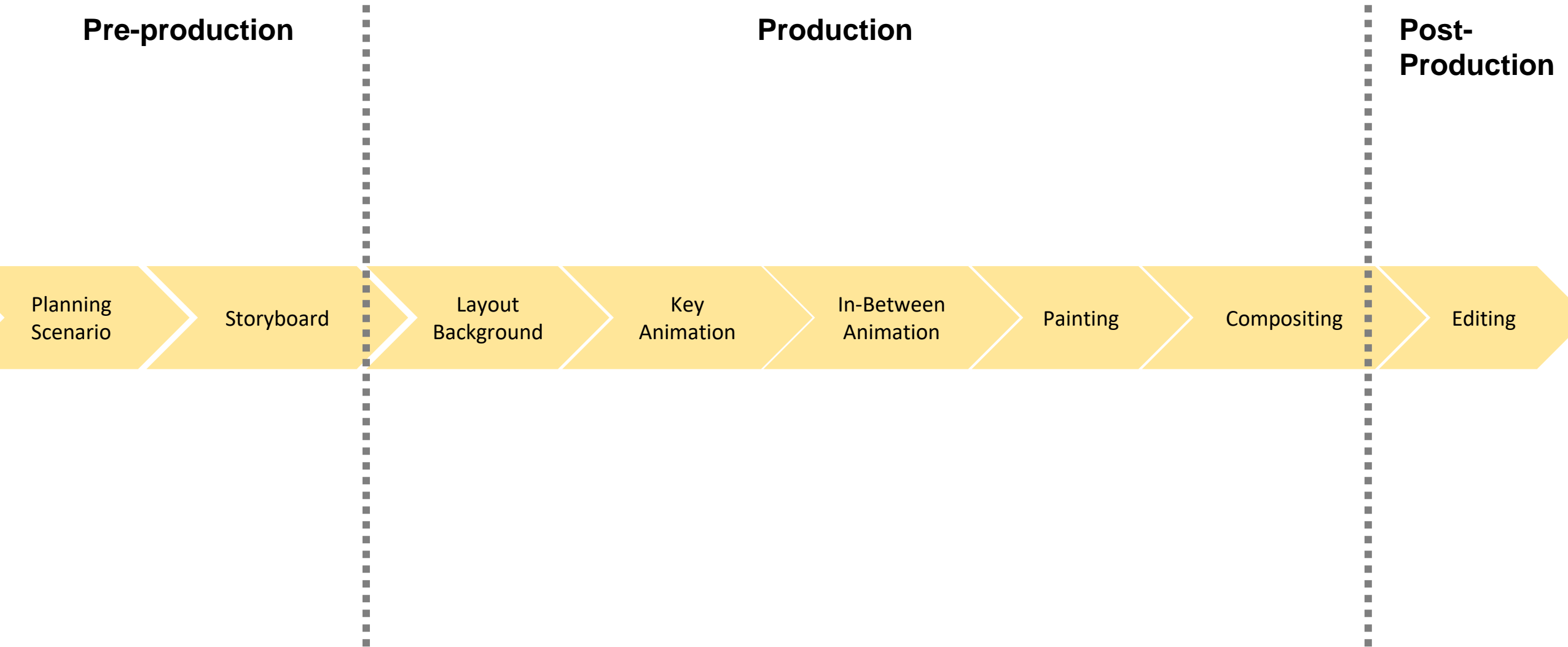**転**

デッドラインドラゴンと戦うことになり立ち向かう。
結

夢から覚める。寝過ごして締め切りギリギリになっていた。

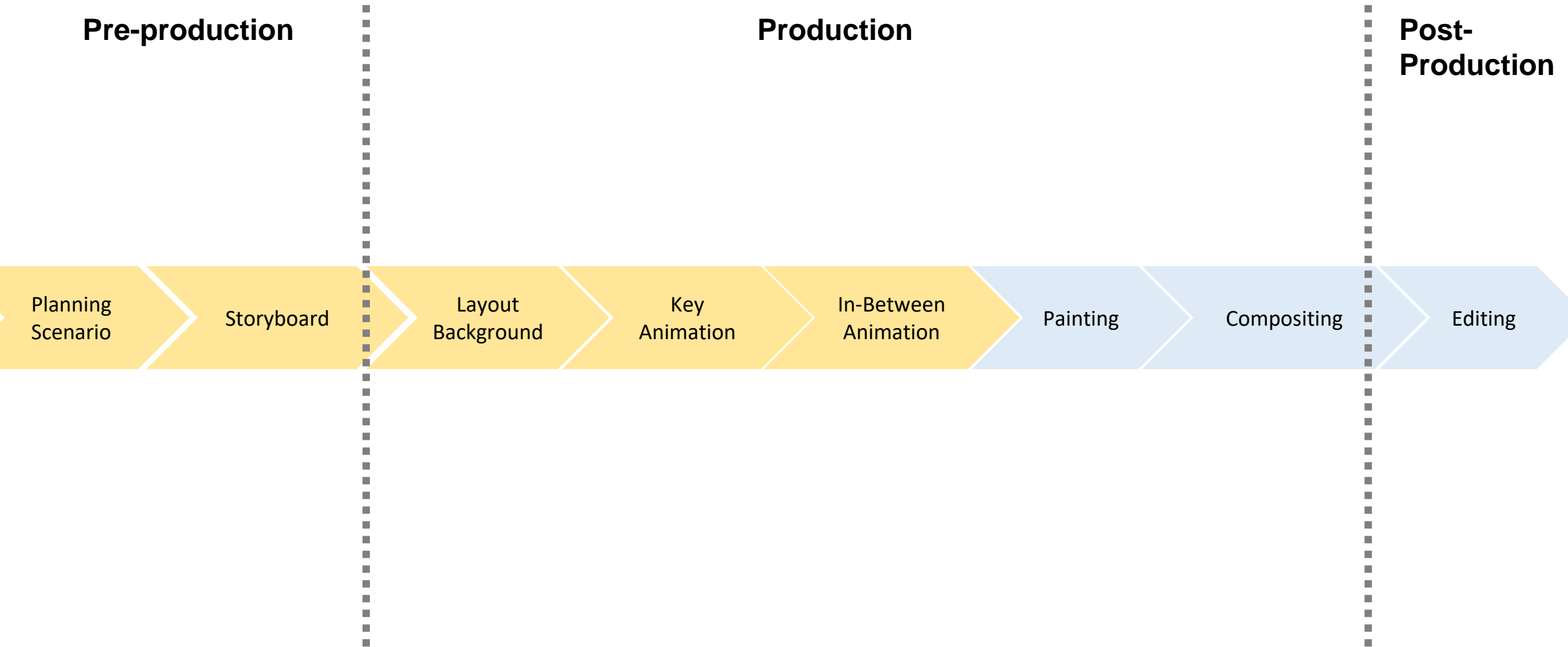# Traditional workflow: All in Analog

- Standard of production set 60 year ago
  - Atom Boy (Osamu Tezuka)
  - Short time, efficient production
    - Flat colors
    - Uniform color lines
    - On 2s – on 3s
- Still using paper
  - Time sheets
  - Shot envelopes
  - Layout/Key animation
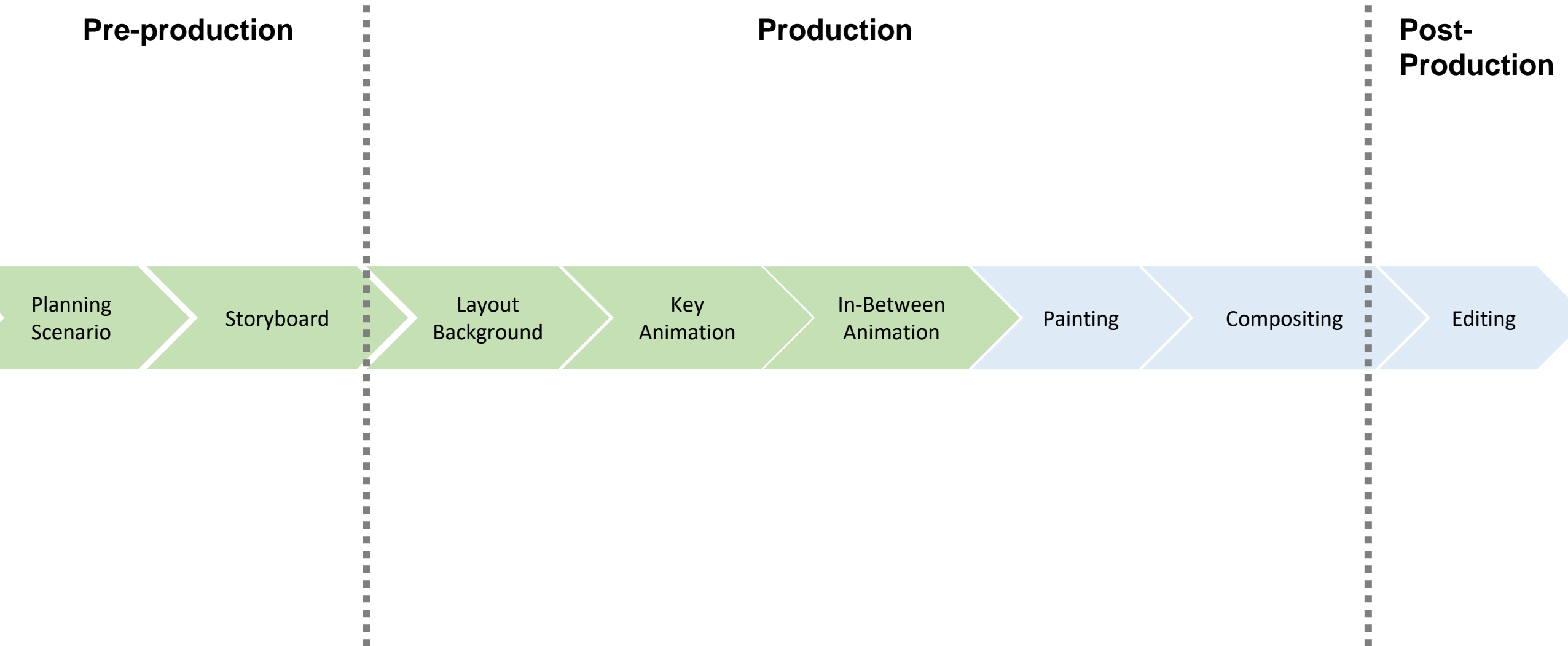- 2D hand drawing is freedom!

©OLM Asia SDN BHD

Traditional workflow: All in Analog

Pre-production　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Production**　　　　　　　　　　　　**Post-Production**
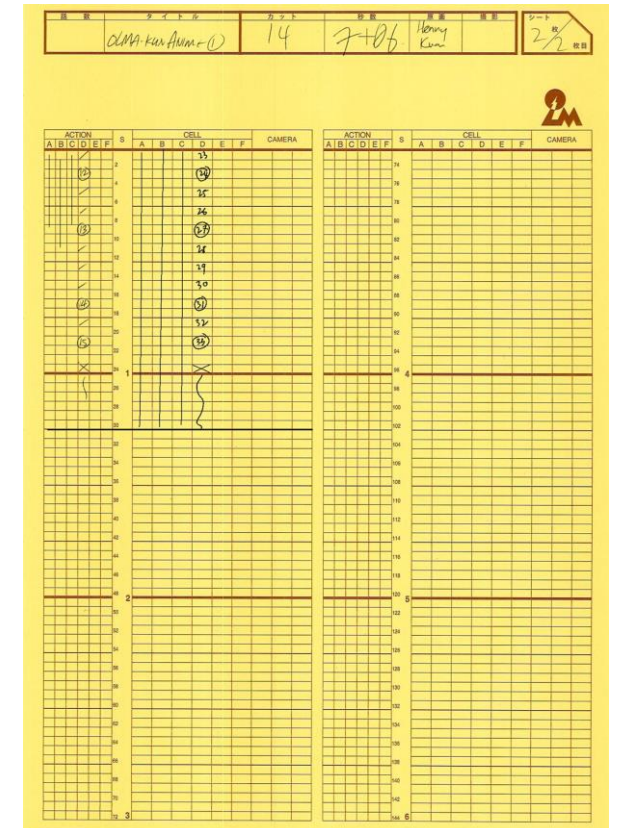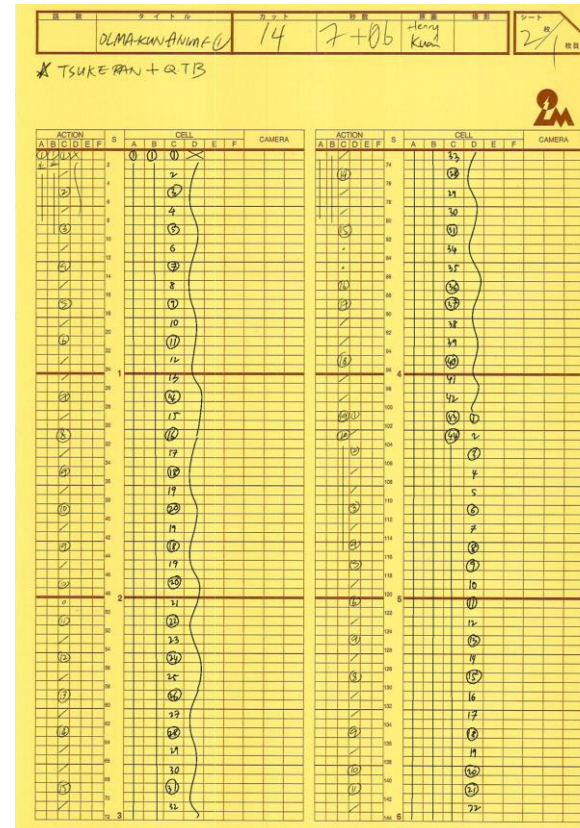
| Planning Scenario | Storyboard | Layout Background | Key Animation | In-Between Animation | Painting | Compositing | Editing |

Traditional workflow: Hybrid of Analog and Digital

Pre-production

Production

Post-Production

Planning Scenario

Storyboard

Layout Background

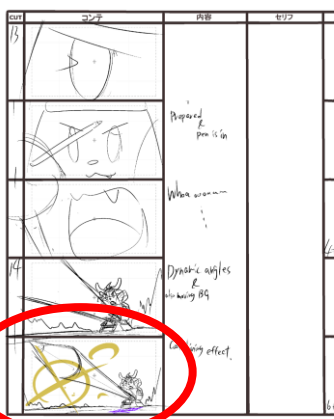Key Animation

In-Between Animation

Painting

Compositing

Editing

Current workflow: Hybrid of Analog and Digital

Pre-production

Production

Post-Production

Planning Scenario

Storyboard

Layout Background

Key Animation

In-Between Animation

Painting

Compositing

Editing

Layout

storyboard

Background

©OLM Asia SDN BHD
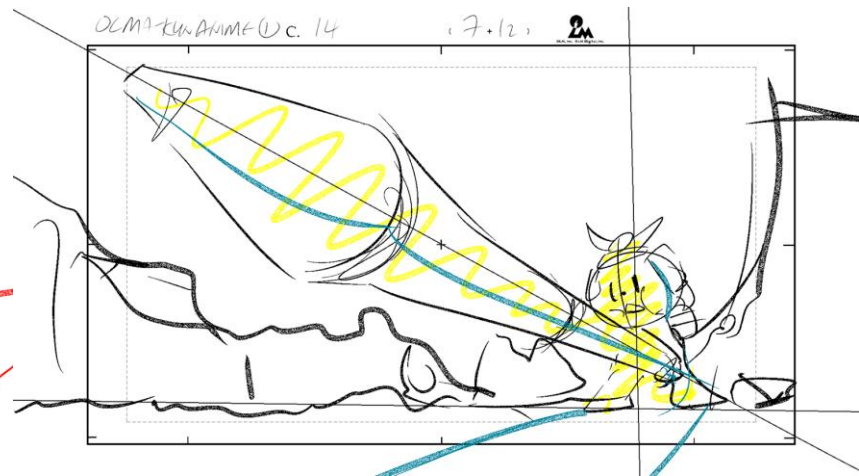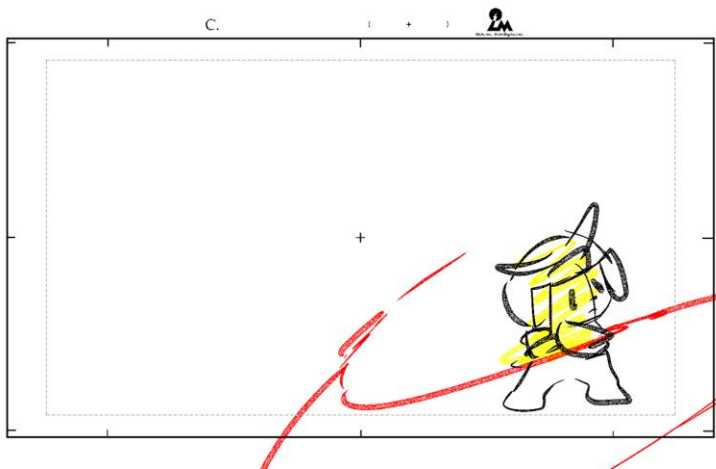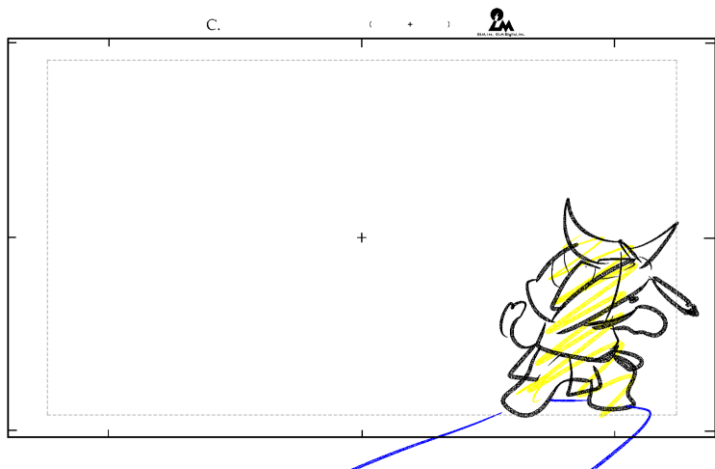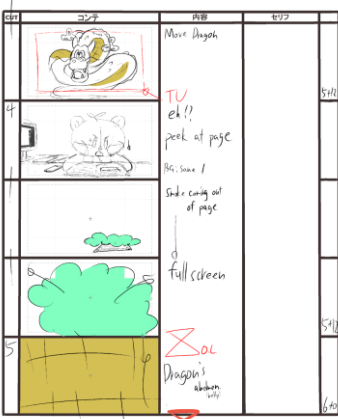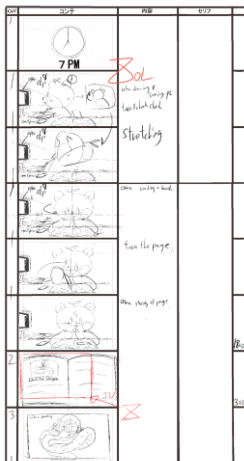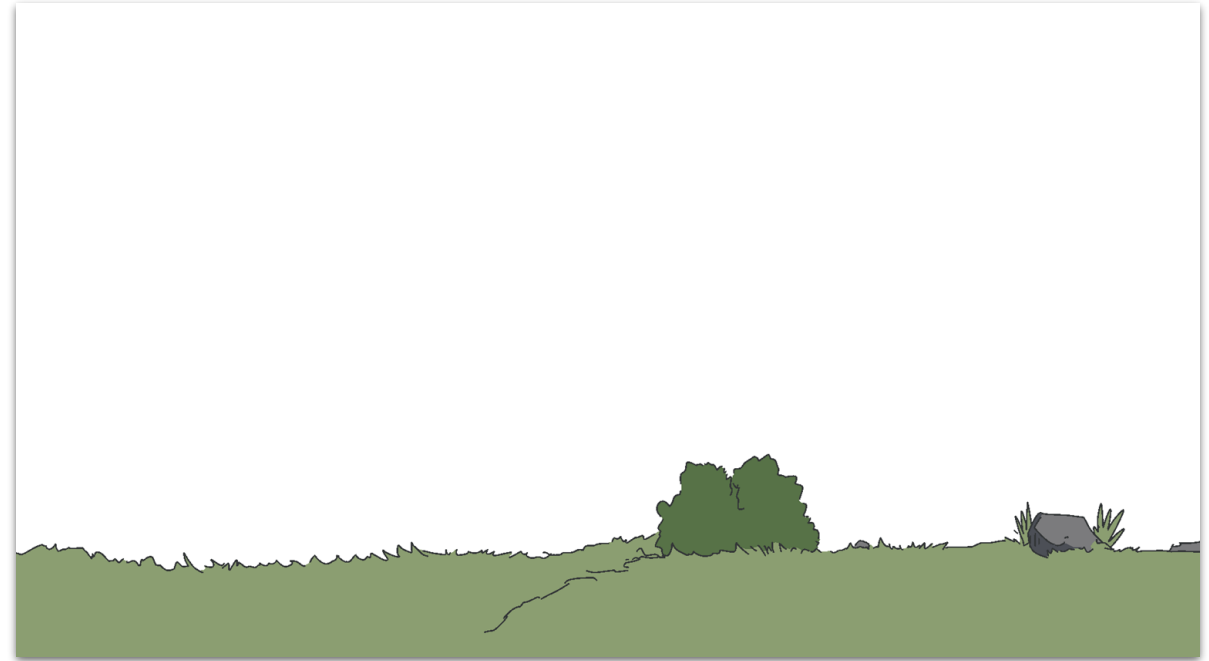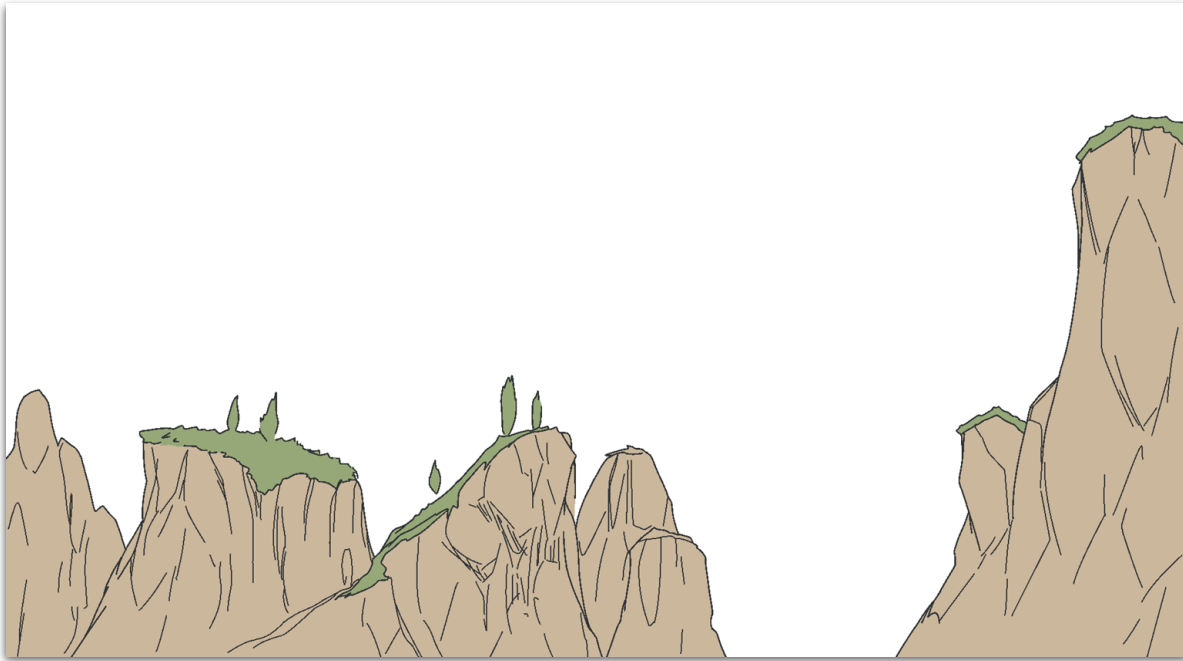
Key Animation: rough sketching
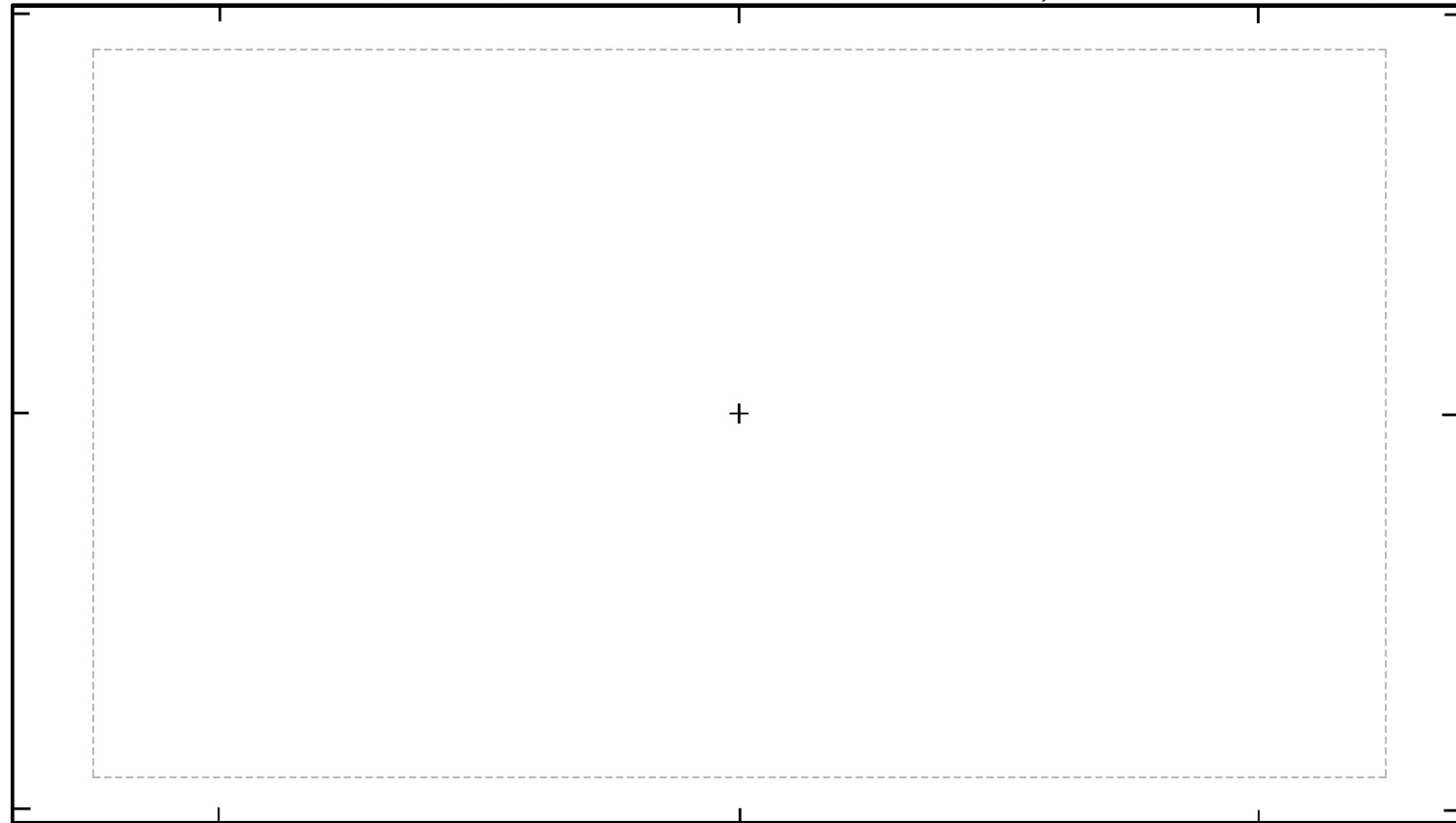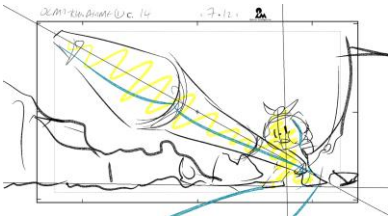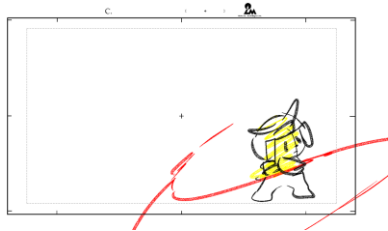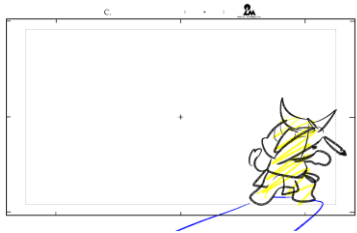
Key Animation: cleanup

OLMA-KUN ANIME ① C. 14   (7+12)
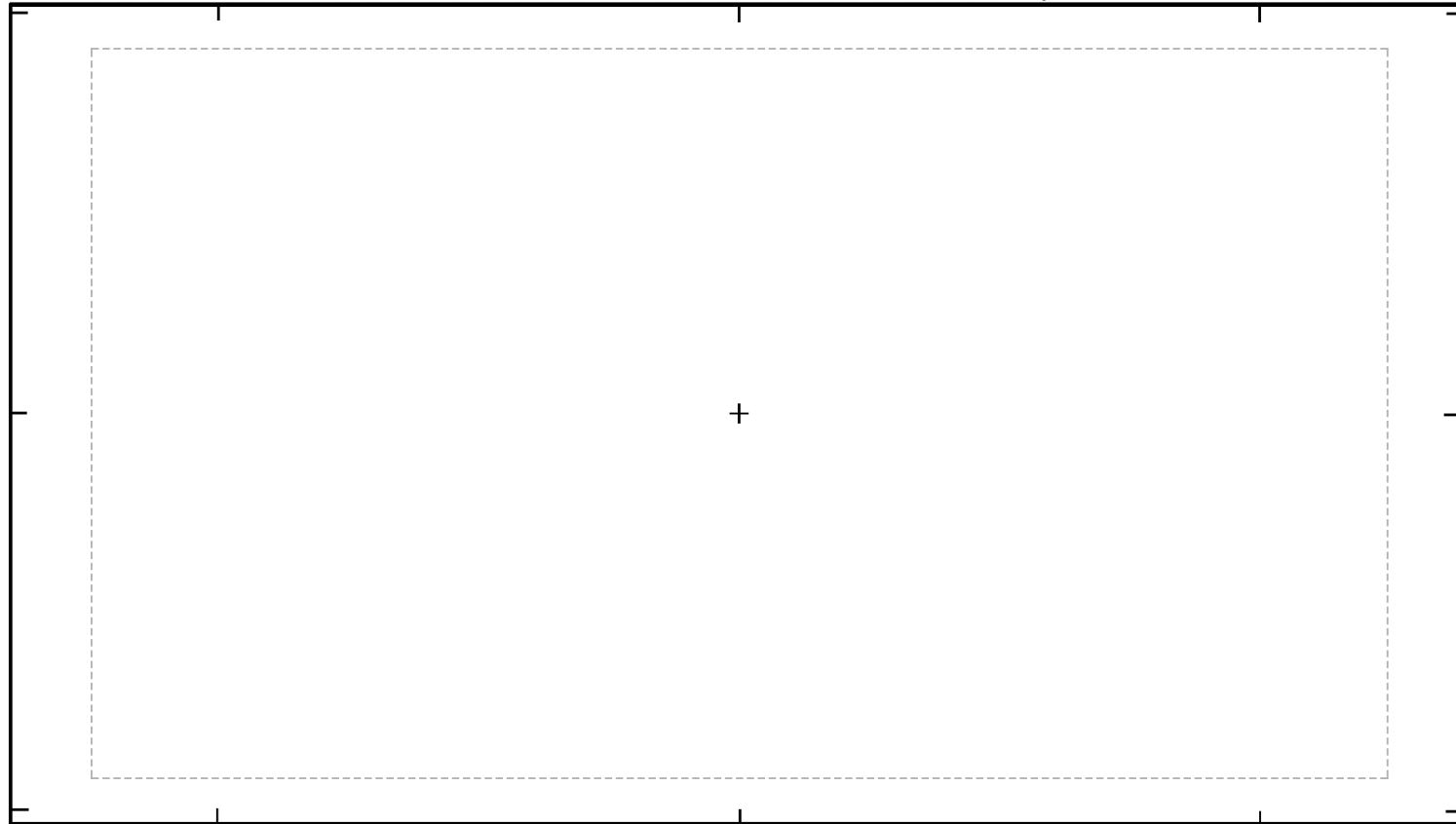
In-Between Animation

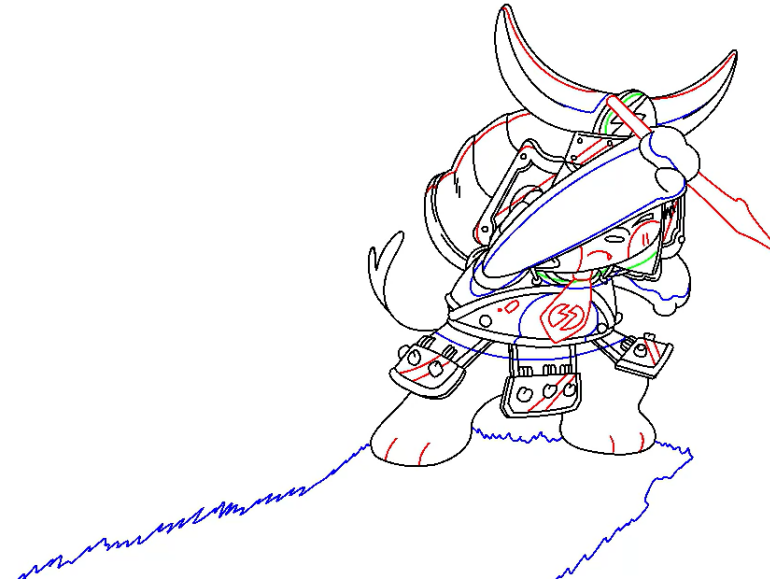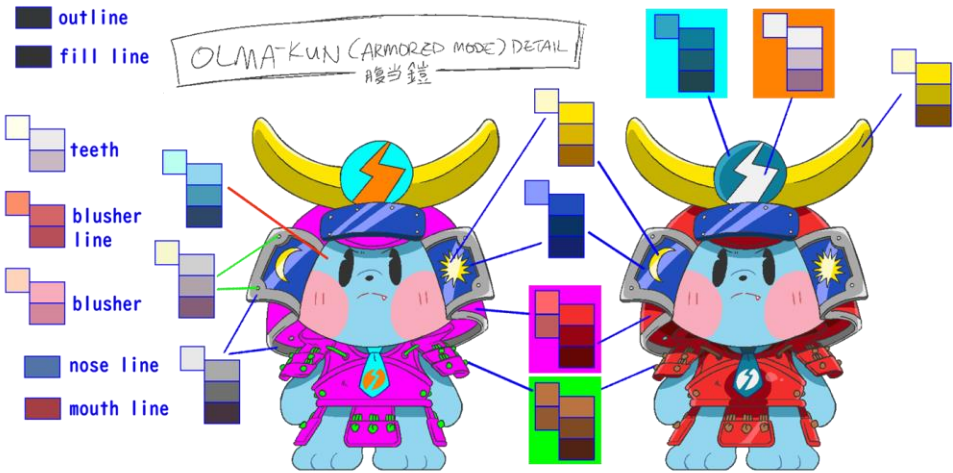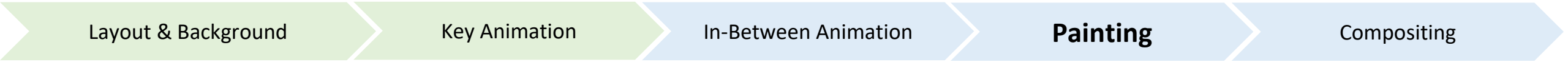# Painting

Color model

Support tool for Painting

Manual Coloring   SHIAGEDO   Manual Coloring
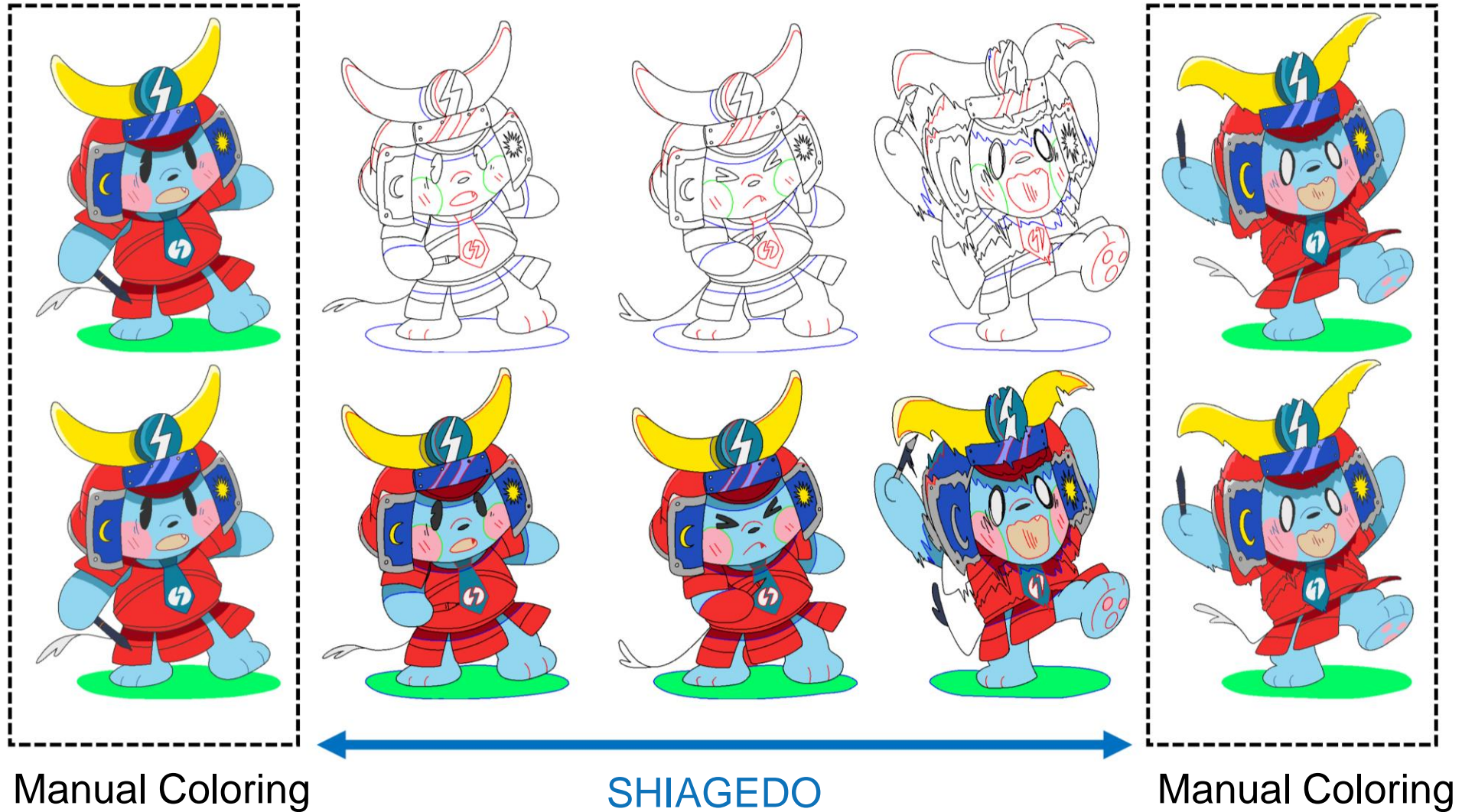
Maejima, et al. "Continual few-shot patch-based learning for anime-style colorization."
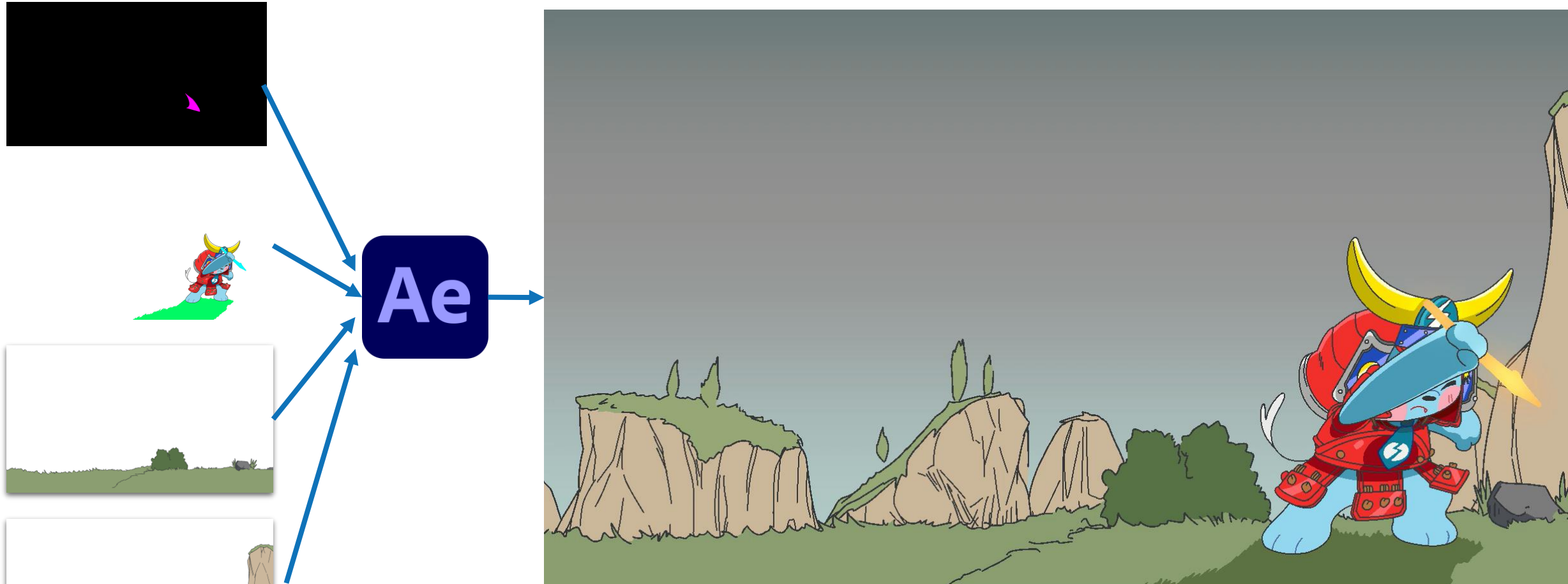*Computational Visual Media 10.4 (2024): 705-723.*

Compositing

Support tools for compositing

https://www.olm.co.jp/rd/categories/opentools

Hybrid workflow of 2D and 3DCG
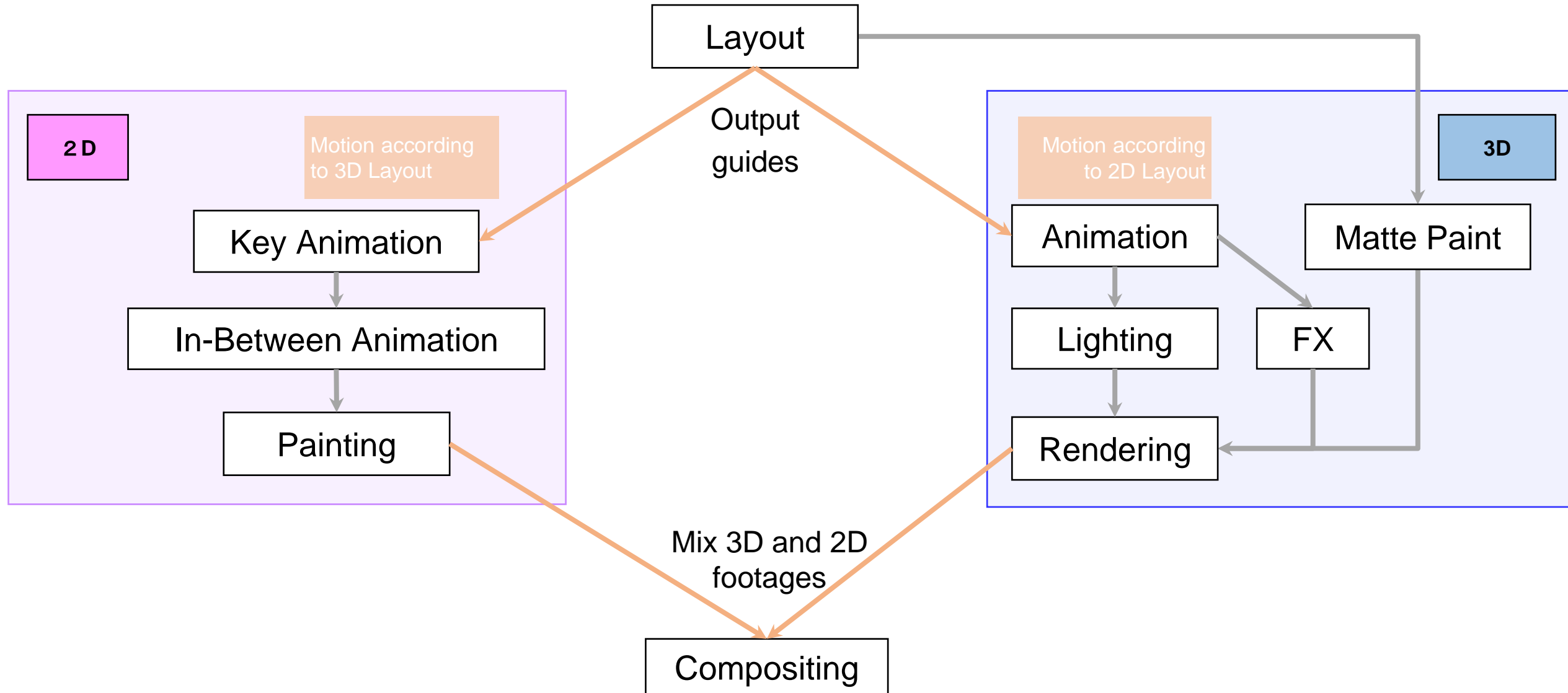
Example of the advantage of using 3DCG

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gzXmsj3VTo

Hybrid workflow of 2D and 3DCG
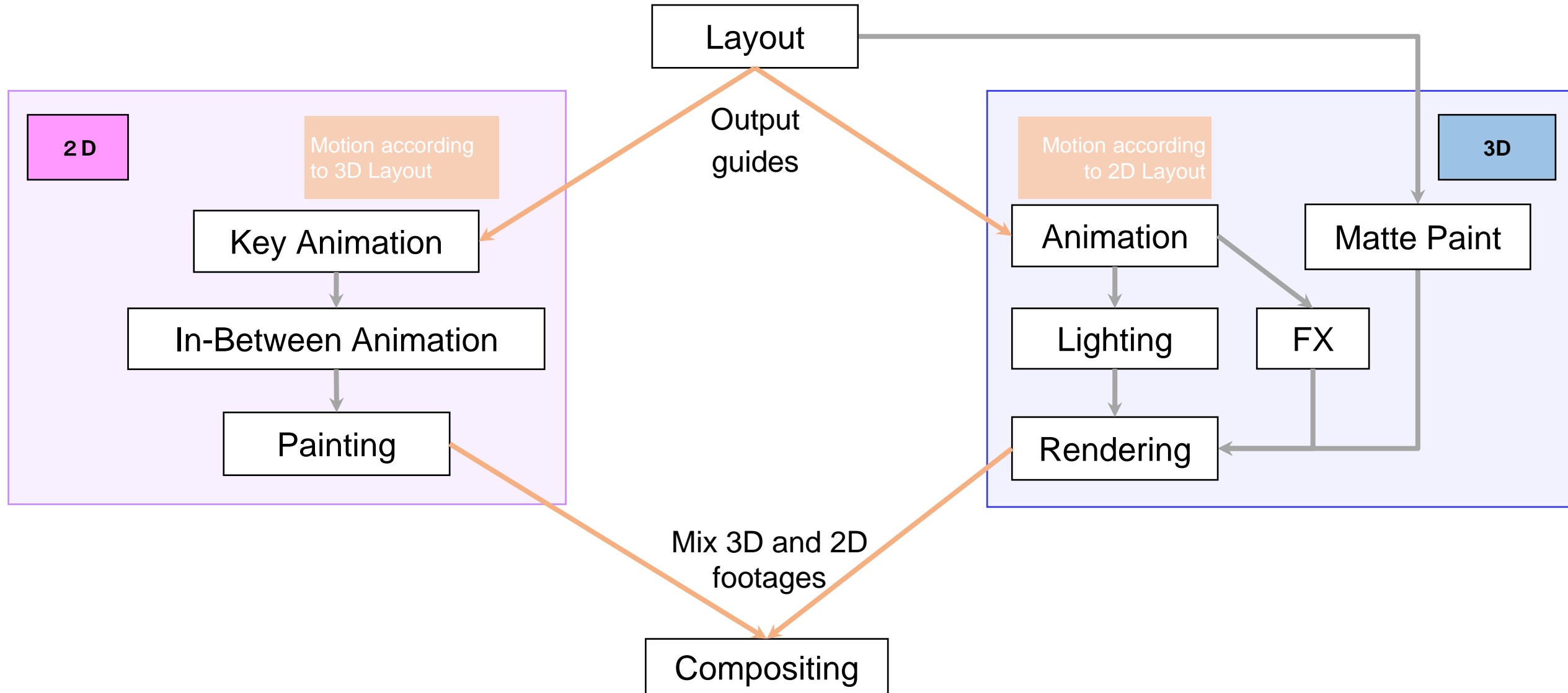
Supporting tool for archiving cel-look 3DCG

https://www.olm.co.jp/rd/categories/opentools

Conclusion

- Introduction of traditional production workflow for Japanese Anime

- Future

  - Move to fully digital workflow

  - With AI-based support tools

https://www.olm.co.jp/rd/categories/opentools