



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2015

**Aniplex to Release Hit Anime Series *Sword Art Online II* on Blu-ray and DVD**

**S W O R D   A R T   O N L I N E   I I**



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SANTA MONICA, CA (April 3, 2015) – Recently at their panel at Sakura Con (Seattle, WA), Aniplex of America Inc. announced their release plans for the hit anime series *Sword Art Online II*. The series will be released in 4 volumes per format in Limited Edition Blu-ray Box Sets and Standard Edition Blu-rays and DVDs. The First Volume will be available on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Release date and information about the other volumes will be announced on a later date. Pre-orders for the first volume start today and will be available for purchase in the US, Canada.

The Limited Edition Vol. 1 Blu-ray Box will come with tons of bonus materials including the Original Soundtrack CD vol. 1, a deluxe 24 page booklet as well as an exclusive collectible Weiss Schwarz card from Bushiroad (while supplies last). In addition, bonus contents on each Blu-ray discs will include audio commentary by Creators and Japanese cast, Special Animation “Sword Art offline II”, and more. The packaging will also feature illustrations by abec (Original Character Design), and clear BD Cases with double-sided Japanese cover design. Both Blu-rays and DVD will have Japanese and English

dialog, English subtitles as well as Spanish subtitles. Limited Edition Box Sets will be available while supplies last.

***Sword Art Online II*** is currently part of the Toonami™ late Saturday night line-up, featuring an all-star English dub cast including Bryce Papenbrook (*Blue Exorcist, DURARARA!!*) playing Kirito, Cherami Leigh (*Blue Exorcist, Baccano!*) as Asuna, Cassandra Lee Morris (*Madoka Magica, Blue Exorcist*) as Leafa, Sarah Anne Williams (*Madoka Magica, KILL la KILL*) as Lisbeth, Christine Marie Cabanos (*Madoka Magica, KILL la KILL*) as Silica, Kirk Thornton (*Blue Exorcist*) as Klein and Stephanie Sheh (*Blue Exorcist, KILL la KILL*) as Yui. Michelle Ruff (*GURREN LAGANN, DURARARA!!*) will be joining the star-studded cast as Sinon in the sequel.



***Sword Art Online II Limited Edition Blu-ray Box Set I*** features:

- 2 Blu-ray Discs + Soundtrack CD
- Video: 16:9 widescreen
- Audio: Japanese & English dialogue
- Subtitles: English and Spanish
- Episodes 1-7 (175 min.)
- Audio Commentary by Creators and Japanese Cast
- Special Animation “Sword Art Offline II” (English Subtitled)
- Original Web Previews
- 1<sup>st</sup> Season Textless Opening

<Exclusive Bonus Materials and Special Packaging>

- Original Soundtrack CD Vol. 1
- Deluxe 24-page booklet
- Exclusive Weiss Schwarz Collectible Card (while supplies last)
- Package illustrated by abec (Original Character Design)
- Clear BD cases with double-sided wraps

**Sword Art Online II Standard Edition Blu-ray Vol.1 features:**

- 2-Blu-ray disc set
- Video: 16:9 widescreen
- Audio: Japanese & English dialogue
- Subtitles: English and Spanish
- Episodes 1-7 (175 min.)
- Audio Commentary by Creators and Japanese Cast
- Special Animation “Sword Art Offline II” (English Subtitled)
- Original Web Previews
- 1<sup>st</sup> Season Textless Opening

**Sword Art Online II Standard Edition DVD Vol.1 features:**

- 2-DVD disc set
- Video: 16:9 widescreen
- Audio: Japanese & English dialogue
- Subtitles: English and Spanish
- Episodes 1-7 (175 min.)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Season Textless Opening

All *Sword Art Online II* Releases can be pre-ordered and purchased at:

Right Stuf: <http://www.rightstuf.com/>

Official Retailers: <http://AniplexUSA.com/retailers>

Product number and UPC bar code

Title	Street Date	SKU #	UPC	SRP	Store price
Sword Art Online II Limited Edition Blu-ray Box Set 1	June 30	AOA-6401L	856137005711	\$114.98	\$89.98
Sword Art Online II Standard Edition Blu-ray Vol. 1	June 30	AOA-6401B	856137005759	\$79.98	\$69.98
Sword Art Online II Standard Edition DVD Vol. 1	June 30	AOA-6401D	856137005797	\$49.98	\$39.98

**About *Sword Art Online II***

1 year after the SAO incident, Kirito is approached by Seijirou Kikuoka from Japan’s Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Department “VR Division” with a rather peculiar request. That was an investigation on the “Death Gun” incident that occurred in the gun and steel filled VRMMO called Gun Gale Online (GGO). “Players who are shot by a mysterious avatar with a jet black gun lose their lives even in the real world...” Failing to turn down Kikuoka’s bizarre request, Kirito logs in to GGO even though he is not completely convinced that the virtual world could physically affect the real world.

Kirito wanders in an unfamiliar world in order to gain any clues about the “Death Gun.” Then, a female sniper named Sinon who owns a gigantic “Hecate II” rifle extends Kirito a helping hand. With Sinon’s help, Kirito decides to enter the “Bullet of Bullets,” a large tournament to choose the most powerful

gunner within the realm of GGO, in hopes to become the target of the “Death Gun” and make direct contact with the mysterious avatar.

For details on *Sword Art Online II*, please visit:

[www.SwordArt-OnlineUSA.com](http://www.SwordArt-OnlineUSA.com)

[www.Facebook.com/SwordArtOnlineUSA](http://www.Facebook.com/SwordArtOnlineUSA)

## **STAFF**

Original Story: Reki Kawahara (Dengeki Bunko / ASCII MEDIA WORKS)  
Original Illustration & Character Design Concept: abec  
Director: Tomohiko Ito  
Character Design: Shingo Adachi  
Sub Character Design: Yu Yamashita  
Chief Animation Director: Shingo Adachi, Yu Yamashita  
Action Animation Director: Ryuta Yanagi, Tetsuya Takeuchi  
Gun Animation Director: Satoshi Mori, Yu Aoki  
Main Animator: Kengo Matsumoto  
Monster Design: Ryuta Yanagi  
Prop Design: Shinobu Tsuneki, Takahiro Ishimoto, Harumi Takagi  
Art Director: Yusuke Takeda, Takayuki Nagashima  
Art Setting: Yoshinori Shiozawa  
Conceptual Art: Sotaro Hori (CyDesignation)  
Color Design: Kazuko Nakajima  
CGI Director: Ryuta Undo  
Director of Photography: Atsushi Usuda, Gaku Hirooka  
Editing: Shigeru Nishiyama  
Sound Director: Yoshikazu Iwanami  
Effects: Yasuyuki Konno  
Sound Production: Dax Production  
Music: Yuki Kajiura  
Project Supervising: GENCO  
Animation Production: A-1 Picutres  
Produced by: SAO II Project

## **CAST (Japanese/English)**

Kirito: Yoshitsugu Matsuoka / Bryce Papenbrook  
Sinon: Miyuki Sawashiro / Michelle Ruff  
Asuna: Haruka Tomatsu / Cherami Leigh  
Yui: Kanae Ito / Stephanie Sheh  
LEAFA: Ayana Taketatsu / Cassandra Lee Morris  
Silica: Rina Hidaka / Christine Marie Cabanos  
Lisbeth: Ayahi Takagaki / Sarah Anne Williams  
Agil: Hiroki Yasumoto / Patrick Seitz  
Klein: Hiroaki Hirata / Kirk Thornton  
Death Gun: ??? / ???

ADR Director: Alex von David

**About Aniplex of America Inc.**

Aniplex of America Inc. (Santa Monica, California) is a subsidiary of Aniplex Inc. (headquartered in Tokyo, Japan), a group of Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc. and a leading provider of anime content and music production and distribution in Japan. Aniplex of America has launched fan-favorite Blu-ray and DVD releases such as *Sword Art Online*, *KILL la KILL*, *Bakemonogatari*, *Durarara!!*, *Fate/zero*, *Puella Magi Madoka Magica*, *the Garden of sinners*, *Blue Exorcist*, *Anohana: The Movie*, *Silver Spoon*, *OREIMO 2*, *Blast of Tempest*, *Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic*, *Oreshura*, and *Vividred Operation*. The company's ever-growing line-up of shows includes our most recent titles *Sword Art Online II*, *ALDNOAH.ZERO*, *Persona4 the Golden ANIMATION*, *MEKAKUCITY ACTORS*, *The irregular at magic high school*, *Mushi-Shi Next Passage*, *Nanana's Buried Treasure*, *NISEKOI*, *World Conquest Zvezda Plot*, *Magi: The Kingdom of Magic*, and *Samurai Flamenco*.

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