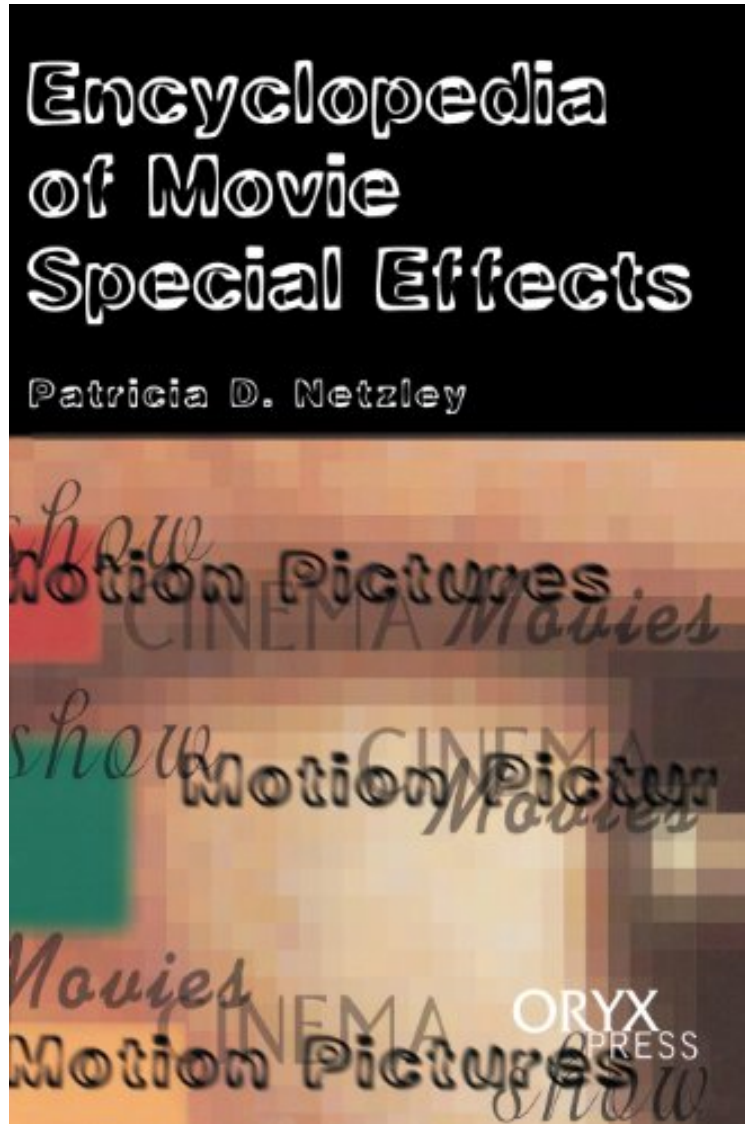


[E-BOOK] Encyclopedia Of Movie Special Effects:

Encyclopedia Of Movie Special Effects:

Patricia D. Netzley

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#2307284 in Books Greenwood 1999-12-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.00 x .75 x 7.011, 1.94
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Patricia D. Netzley : Encyclopedia Of Movie Special Effects: before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia Of Movie Special Effects::

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Encyclopedia of Special Effects By M V Teevan Great subject matter. Great idea. I take my hat off to anyone who has put a book like this together. Unfortunately, the most cursory review shows many factual inaccuracies, and argualby painful omissions. The book is very much slanted to the cotemporary works, although special effects have been around for 100 years. The preface indicates that beyond 30 or 40 years back accurate information is hard to find; All the more reason that the information that is there be accurate.

Only some examples of the incomplete or inaccurate info. Some examples;... "2001: A Space Odyssey" is described with the effects work supervised by Douglas Trumbull. True, but 3 other effects supervisors worked on the movie too and are pretty boldly listed in the end credits! All of the work by all 4 Supervisors is excellent and worthy of credit - (Wally Veevers, Con Pederson and Tom Howard)... "Silent Running" is described as the first extremely detailed spaceships on screen. Huh, "2001" (3 years previously) is the movie that changed people's perception for realistic looking spacecraft in the manner credited here to "Silent Running".... Premier visual effects maestro Ken Ralston has thus far received 5 Academy Awards for Best Visual Effects work, only three are listed even though the last one was in 1994.... The book describes the impressive miniatures used in Disney's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" as ranging from 18 to 22 inches in length. I believe this should read more like 22ft.... Speaking of "miniatures" the description given here is way too focused on motion control photography of spaceship type miniatures, only one facet of this work.... In a similar vein a master in the field of in-camera high speed miniature photography was Derek Meddings who won an Academy Award for "Superman". He worked on dozens of movies and is mentioned briefly in the entry on "Bond Movies". He receives no separate listing. Compare this to 'Ray Park', a talented stunt man / actor who's appeared in 3 EFX heavy movies in recent years and is given an entry of his own.... Front Projection and Rear Projection systems - popular techniques for compositing live action and effects work, are not listed as "processes".... Showscan - a large format, high-fidelity movie format - is not used in the "Back to the Future" ride at Universal as listed incorrectly here. The ride uses an Imax-based system. This is ironic as this ride was created by Douglas Trumbull, who invented the superior and comparable Showscan system; An interesting irony worthy of mention? I had to write in when I read other reviews posted here stating how this is "everything you ever need to know about Special Effects". Notably the book itself does not claim this, and makes several other disclaimers. This book is a good place to start if you are interested in the craft, but is not the definitive work by any means. 15 of 17 people found the following review helpful. A DISSAPPOINTING BOOK By Kenneth Vernon I was really looking forward to receiving 'The Encyclopedia of Movie Special Effects'. It's been a long time since a really good book on effects has been written (the last ones being the ILM books). The title of this book (and its price!) seemed to hint that this might be an excellent new book. When the book arrived I first thought that I had been sent the wrong one - the package seemed far too small. But the parcel did indeed contain the book I had ordered - much smaller than I had expected for a book with such a comprehensive sounding title (and large price tag). The book is arranged alphabetically and offers a curious mixture of entries - some about films, some about effects artists and some about effects techniques. The films chosen to be featured are an odd selection. Films such as the recent 'Mousehunt' are included whilst effects classics such as 'Gone with the Wind' (important for its Technicolor Matte Paintings) are not. The technical descriptions are rather confusing, miss out much important information, are incorrect in some cases, and completely ignore some relatively important processes (Sodium Vapor Travelling Mattes, for example) altogether. There is a smattering of black and white photographs. The writing itself feels as if it is written by some kid from high school (although the biography at the back of the book assures us that the author has written a number of other earnest but unrelated sounding titles). I feel that this book has been written by a jobbing author who has spent a few months researching an unknown subject and written about it without any real understanding. This is a pity as I feel the subject deserves better. 2 of 7 people found the following review helpful. An Invaluable Reference Guide of Special Effects By Clarence H Moyer The Encyclopedia of Movie Special Effects has all you'd ever want to know about filmmaking, special effects, and stuntwork. Everything from 1925's landmark "The Lost World" to 1999's "Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace" is included with great detail and frequent illustrations. It also includes biographies of the great film magicians like Alfred Hitchcock and Stan Winston. Each entry also includes various links to other publications for further reading, making it a great reference piece for the film geek in all of us. Plus, the index includes a listing of every makeup, special effects, and visual effects Oscar given, proving that this book is an invaluable addition to any true filmlover's collection.

From the earliest stop-motion photography in 1899's Cinderella to computer-generated wizardry in the latest Star Wars movie, special effects have thrilled movie audiences for more than a century. The Encyclopedia of Movie Special Effects is a 5-star fan favorite that explains the magic behind these cinematic devices. This A-to-Z encyclopedia unveils the latest techniques and gadgetry inside a comprehensive reference work about the history of special effects. Entries on computer techniques, movie secrets, and the geniuses who have brought the magic to the big screen make this single volume a Hollywood hit. This encyclopedia lists movies that either contributed significantly to the development of special effects or were Academy Award winners, and spotlights over 120 well-known experts whose techniques, developments, and special effects houses have contributed significantly to the movie industry:

From Library Journal An incredible treasury of f/x facts, this volume provides 366 entries on visual, mechanical, and makeup effects and techniques used in film and includes discussions of every movie to win an Oscar for special effects. Some attention is given to significant figures in the field, such as George Pal, but the focus is predominantly on films of the modern era, noting techniques and milestones without burdening the reader with technical jargon.

Netzley, the author of several reference books, including *Environmental Literature* (see the review below), adds useful appendixes on Academy Award winners and nominees, special-effects houses, and specialized magazines. With illustrations, cross references, and numerous secondary bibliographies throughout, this encyclopedia has a scope and quality that no other f/x reference work approaches. It should serve as a good companion to such specialized magazines as *Cinefex* and *Digital Magic*. Highly recommended for all film collections.-Anthony J. Adam, Prairie View AM Univ. Lib., Houston Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "The book is excellently produced and includes good monograph photographs. This is a fascinating browse, full of interest and information about how movie makers turn illusion into reality....A delightful book for the film buff and special effects tyro alike."-Reference s..."informational and easy-to-use....Recommended."-Book Report..."succinctly penned and genuinely interesting entries."-Reference s"[t]his resource is a good compliment to a diverse collection of 778s."-VOYA..."useful criteria for coverage. Recommended for any collection supporting film."-Choice"This encyclopedia is a useful addition to any general film collection."-Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin..."the information here is hard to find elsewhere in such detail. Consider this title for readers with a serious, but not professional interest."-School Library Journal"Well researched and highly readable, this reference work is recommended for academic and public libraries with film studies collections."-American Reference Books Annual"A unique resource detailing the developments and use of special effects in the American movie industry, this title is well indexed and illustrated with 366 entries."-American Libraries"An incredible treasury of f/x facts....this encyclopedia has a scope and quality that no other f/x reference work approaches....Highly recommended for all film collections."-Library Journal"this resource is a good compliment to a diverse collection of 778s."-VOYA?...informational and easy-to-use....Recommended.?-Book Report?...succinctly penned and genuinely interesting entries.?-Reference s?[t]his resource is a good compliment to a diverse collection of 778s.?-VOYA?...useful criteria for coverage. Recommended for any collection supporting film.?-Choice?This encyclopedia is a useful addition to any general film collection.?-Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin?...the information here is hard to find elsewhere in such detail. Consider this title for readers with a serious, but not professional interest.?-School Library Journal?Well researched and highly readable, this reference work is recommended for academic and public libraries with film studies collections.?-American Reference Books Annual?A unique resource detailing the developments and use of special effects in the American movie industry, this title is well indexed and illustrated with 366 entries.?-American Libraries?An incredible treasury of f/x facts....this encyclopedia has a scope and quality that no other f/x reference work approaches....Highly recommended for all film collections.?-Library Journal?The book is excellently produced and includes good monograph photographs. This is a fascinating browse, full of interest and information about how movie makers turn illusion into reality....A delightful book for the film buff and special effects tyro alike.?-Reference s,.. "informational and easy-to-use....Recommended."-Book Report,.. "succinctly penned and genuinely interesting entries."-Reference s,.. "useful criteria for coverage. Recommended for any collection supporting film."-Choice,.. "the information here is hard to find elsewhere in such detail. Consider this title for readers with a serious, but not professional interest."-School Library Journal

About the Author PATRICIA D. NETZLEY is a freelance writer who has published nonfiction for children, young adults, and adults. Her publications include *The Assassination of President Kennedy*, *The Importance of Queen Victoria*, *Mysterious Death of Butch Cassidy*, *Life During the Renaissance*.