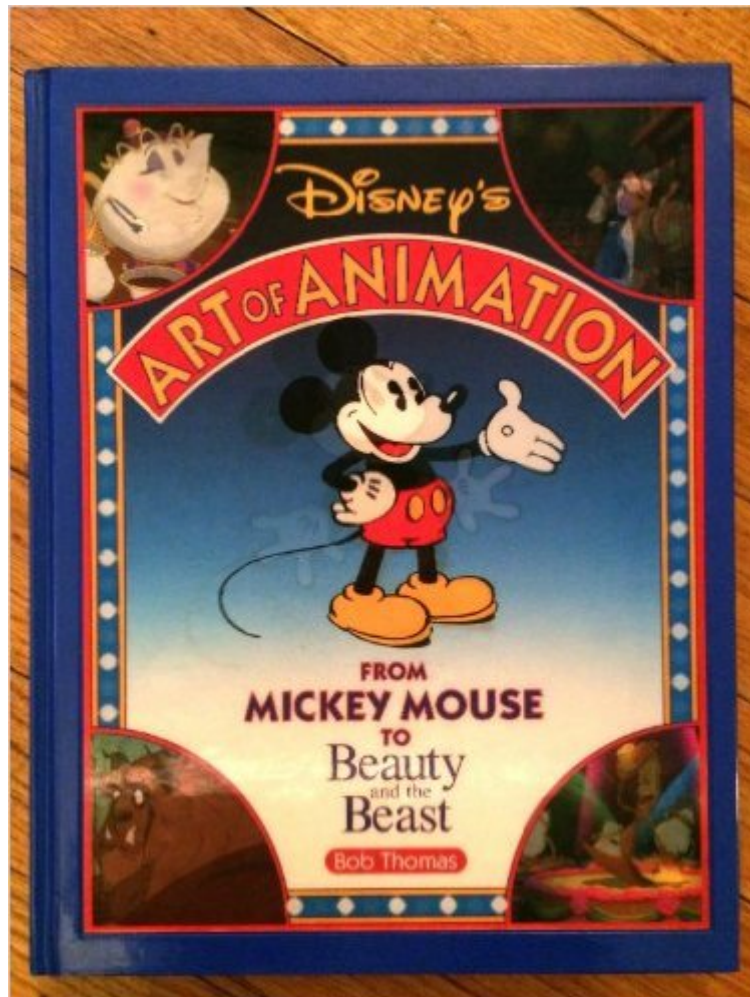


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Disney's Art Of Animation #1: From Mickey Mouse, To Beauty And The Beast



Synopsis

HC, By Bob Thomas. Published in November of 1991. Hardbound, 8 1/2-in. x 11-in., 208 pages, full color. Cover price \$39.95.

Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion; Revised edition (September 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1562829971

ISBN-13: 978-1562829971

Product Dimensions: 11.1 x 8.7 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

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Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

In Disney's Art of Animation, Thomas explains the birth of the Walt Disney co., from a handful of people meeting in a home, to the huge Disney phenomenon we know today. The first half of the book explains the formative years of Disney, from before Mickey's time. This book looks into facts about the films themselves from an outside view. It keeps its eye on the whole company as it struggled along through the 30's, 40's, and even 50's. It talks about pre-Snow White cartoons and all of the full length feature films from Snow White to 1990's Rescues Down Under. The last half Explains the process of creating a modern animated film from the standpoint of many of the people who had an influence creating the only Disney Picture to be nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards - Beauty and the Beast. Thomas explains how each aspect of the film is created and consolidated into one final, breathtaking work. An excellent book for anyone interested in animation and, not to mention, a Disney fan's wish come true.

I picked up this edition of the book specifically because it was recommended on a "list of books for aspiring animators." It is a delightfully light introduction to the history of Disney animation, including some key animating tidbits. Examples of things I picked up: Animations were in color before live

films. Disney monopolized colored cartoons for three years through a deal with Technicolor. Disney encouraged animators to use bright colors because they were paying so much for the use! Animators learned to desaturate the backgrounds to keep the brightly colored characters from disappearing into them. Did you know that Disney didn't "invent" the animation industry so much as he beat out the competition in New York? That Disney was a real bootstrapper who had many early false starts and spent a lot of time borrowing and repaying money? Did you know that the Black Cauldron was terrible because it's what happens when you leave a bunch of animators alone without project management?? This book rocks. The first half is history, the second half is a process walkthrough using Beauty of the Beast, and I cannot think of a better example of animation to use.

What if the seven dwarfs had been Deafy, Wheezy, Baldy, Nifty, Swift, Lazy, and Burpy? Believe it or not, these are actual names animators considered for the dwarfs in Snow White. This fun fact and a wealth of other information can be found in Bob Thomas's comprehensive journey into the world of Disney animation. The first half of the book is a history of Disney animation starting with Oswald the Rabbit, Mickey's predecessor, and going all the way through 1990's The Rescuers Down Under. The second half of the book is a detailed look into the making of the Disney classic Beauty and the Beast. This book is filled with beautiful pictures and sketches from all of the Disney animated films through Beauty and the Beast. Any Disney lover will be intrigued and entertained

Following in the path of Disney, I love this book, and the others in the series.

Great book with a lot of interesting pic's of Disney animation. The second half of the book about the development of the Beauty and the Beast was great.

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