

(Ebook pdf) The Art of Film Magic: 20 Years of Weta

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Weta

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#705666 in Books Weta 2014-10-28 2014-10-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 12.75 x 10.00 x 2.001, 7.36 #File Name: 0062297856464 pages The Art of Film Magic 20 Years of Weta | File size: 50.Mb

Weta : The Art of Film Magic: 20 Years of Weta before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Film Magic: 20 Years of Weta:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Archive of Movie Magic By JMM[[VIDEOID:efc8f04e2f2301f3fc59409d23a3ee57]] Weta has done so much amazing work over the years, and this book is a celebration of the company's history and its contribution to the movies. This book is actually two volumes - one for Weta Digital (computer effects and animation) and one for Weta Workshop (practical effects, models, props, etc). I tend to find the Weta Workshop book a bit more exciting, because everything is actually made - whether it is Iron Man's suit, Wikus' gun in "District 9", or thousands of different swords for films like "The Hobbit" and "The Last Samurai". They do a lot of great work on various creature features, specializing in animatronics and prosthetics. The designs are so great and fan enthusiasm is so high that Weta has actually been able to produce various prop replicas, which are sold on their website and often sell out. But equally impressive (and perhaps more complex) are the innovations that Weta Digital is making on the virtual side of things. In particular, their pioneering of performance capture with movies like "Lord of the Rings", "The Adventures of Tintin", and "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" is nothing short of a game-changer in filmmaking. This company has brought to life almost every one of the most impressive CGI characters you can think of - whether it is King Kong, Gollum, or Smaug the dragon. The company has pushed the effects industry forward in a number of ways -- digital lighting and light scattering; tissues and textures; improvements in the stereo (3D) pipeline; etc. These books are absolutely worth owning. The text is rich with detail and insightful information. One of my favorite things is that scattered throughout the book are quotes and

experiences from a bunch of different people - it's great to hear about the films directly from the artists/craftsmen who work on them. Emphasis is placed on the fact that Weta constantly goes into uncharted territory and each production has various challenges that had to be overcome in order for the project to be successful. The Weta Workshop book has a foreword by Peter Jackson and an introduction by Richard Taylor. The Weta Digital book has an intro by Joe Letteri. But of course, the most important aspect of these books are the imagery. For Weta Workshop: behind the scenes at the workshop, building sets, prop molds, actors in the makeup chair, models and miniatures, etc. For Weta Digital: on set w/ green screen, the mo-cap stage, visual effects progressions, digital models, etc. Images are abundant and range from very small to nearly full-page; most of them are very high-resolution and clear (though there are some behind the scenes photos that are not as sharp, but it's worth a look anyway). Finally, at the end of both books is a timeline/filmography, where you can see the totality of the company's work thus far. If there is one thing I'd like to see more of, it's concept art. These books tend to feature the finished product more than anything else, but I am also interested in seeing first concepts (even if they were unused) from early in the process. While the books have plenty of imagery and photographs, it is a bit sparse on concept artwork. Fortunately, there are separately available art books available for movies like *The Hobbit*, *District 9*, and others (most of which do feature a lot of concept art). If you are a fan of Weta, creative filmmaking, or just movies in general, then this book is worthy of your time (especially if you are curious about the process). The price tag is higher than I usually pay for movie art books; but as a collector I can say this is easily one of the nicest books on my shelf. For more reviews of Film TV related books, visit [MovieArtBook\(dot\)com](http://MovieArtBook.com)

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Perfect for Film Fans
By Lauren Freeman
It is a beautiful book and well worth it as a film fan. The books give a great overview of Weta and Weta Digital's growth as a company and it is exciting to see their progression through the years. Be aware that as the book covers such a wide span of time and projects you get more of a surface view of than a really in depth detailed account of every step of the process. However it is still filled with great anecdotes and facts that make it enjoyable to peruse.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Well worth the read - and the money!
By Kindle Customer
My husband ordered this as he's always been a big movie buff, with emphasis on special effects. His favorite character is, of course, Kong, and he has much respect for Peter King and the people at WETA. He is very knowledgeable about this subject, as he is often a guest on Movie Night on a local talk show, so he poured over this book and gave it an A rating. Well worth every penny, and more

This deluxe slipcased two-volume set is an insider's tour of twenty years of film-making magic at Weta Workshop and Weta Digital, the creative companies behind such celebrated films as *The Lord of the Rings*, *Avatar*, *The Avengers*, *King Kong*, *District 9* and *The Hobbit*. Brimming with never-before-published content, including concept designs, sketches, making of and behind-the-scenes imagery, along with interview material from cast and crew members, it is a stunning look at how the costumes, creatures and characters, weaponry, and visual effects are created for some of the world's most iconic films. A director will have a vision in their head of the kind of movie they want to create but they always need great teams to realise that vision. This is what Weta Workshop and Weta Digital do. Based in Wellington, New Zealand, these two companies, founded by Peter Jackson, Jamie Selkirk, Tania Rodger and Richard Taylor have been an integral part of some of the most ground-breaking and acclaimed movies of all time.

About the Author
Weta Workshop is a multi-award winning conceptual design and physical manufacturing facility based out of Wellington, New Zealand, servicing the world's entertainment and wider creative industries. Weta Workshop is also a multi-disciplinary facility, with crew members expert in a diverse range of disciplines all housed under the one roof. These services include conceptual design and the manufacturing of weapons, armor and chainmail, specialist props, custom vehicles, specialty costumes, miniatures and models, special makeup and prosthetics, and public art installations or displays. The team at Weta enjoys engaging in projects holistically, from preliminary technical analysis and conceptual design through to manufacture across all departments and the final delivery of product and crew to set, anywhere in the world. Drawing on more than twenty years of filmmaking experience, five-time Oscar-winning design and special effects supervisor Richard Taylor is intimately involved in all projects from concept through to delivery. Best known for the company's design and effects work on award-winning film projects, including *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *King Kong*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *Avatar*, *District 9*, and *The Adventures of Tintin*, Weta Workshop is not limited to film and television, offering services to creative industries worldwide