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The Art of Frozen

Charles Solomon

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Charles Solomon : The Art of Frozen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Frozen:

170 of 175 people found the following review helpful. Cool artbookBy Parka[[VIDEOID:mo3LER7GK5APTC8]]Disney's Frozen is quite a visual contrast from the previous warm and lively Tangled.First thing you should know is there are spoilers in the book. They appear in the form of storyboards as well as concept art for the finale sequence. So if you intend to watch the film, I suggest you read the book after the film.This is a nice artbook. 160 pages. Hardcover. The concept art consist of storyboards, character designs, environment designs, props and motifs. There are also wonderful photos from the research road trip in Norway.The environment paintings are wonderful, especially those by production designer David Womersley, Jim Finn, Lisa Keane and James Finch. Some are really scenic, such as the setting of a castle by the lake in the valley, or the aurora beyond the mountains. The designs for the town houses are also beautiful, actually quite close to the research photos which are great to begin with.Character designs are for the main ones, Anna and Elsa, of course, and also Kristoff the ice harvester, Olaf the snowman, Hans and other miscellaneous characters. They look good, very Disney-like as compared to Pixar. They look like they can be from the same universe as Tangled. Anna and Elsa kind of look like Rapunzel from Tangled except for the very different costumes and hairstyle.There are more than 10 pages devoted to storyboards. While good, personally I would have prefer more character and environment art.The commentary is an enjoyable read that focuses on the story and storytelling. It really gives insight into the characters and film design, on how and why they are designed the way they are, and how they have changed from the story pitching stage to the final CG production.It's a cool artbook worth checking out for fans of the movie.(There are more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my profile for the link.)87 of 94 people found the following review helpful. Not exactly what I expected, but still a really good book.By Michele MolineSo, it kind of pains me to not give this 4 or 5 stars since I

adore Frozen. But I really just couldn't go higher than 3. Alright, so, this isn't going to be a review based on the movie (which was excellent, but I'm sure if you're looking at this book, you're a fan of the film). This book is more about the environment, backdrops, and color choices as well as commentary from the people who worked on the movie. So if you're really interested in learning about the inspirations behind the film and learning about the castles, interiors of buildings, and Elsa's ice castle, this is a perfect book. However, I was on the other end of the spectrum. I got this book because I wanted to learn more about the character designs and see concept art for costuming and characters. I also wanted to see pictures of the finished models. Overall... I really was just hoping for more pages on the characters and costume breakdowns. Unfortunately, there's more concept art of characters floating around on the internet than there actually are in the book. For instance, the pencil drawings of Elsa's different expressions. I was greatly disappointed there were only 2 of those drawings in this book. And there wasn't a costume breakdown on Elsa's ice dress. And there was only a single picture of her coronation gown, which was really sad as I would have liked to see a breakdown of it. So if you're hoping this book is heavy on character art, it's not. You're a bit better off just pulling images from Google. Okay, despite all that... the concepts behind the environments and buildings are amazing. I really enjoyed looking over the interior designs and hearing about the color choices and being able to see all the little details. So if that's something you're more interested in, this book would be absolutely perfect. And even though I was disappointed at the lack of character-related stuff, I still really liked this book. It's beautiful and there's a lot of insight as to what went into the movie. Any Disney fan, Frozen fan, artbook fan, or animation fan will be happy to have this book in their collection.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More about the layout

By Corey J. Bramlett

I like all the art books. We even used this to make a Halloween costume, or at least the starts of one. For us, the Art of books are just good to have along with the movie. If you have ever wondered something about a movie or why something was done, these books might shed the light on it.

Frozen is a great book. From taking real life to cartoon. storyboards that walk through parts of the film (if they would add voice to the book of the person walking through the sequence you would be there in that room feeling like you were a part of the pitch). Designs and designs of the characters. For me this is like walking through the animation studio area in Florida only you have it to take home. These books make you want to take a tour of animation in California, or really any animation studio. I have gone through animation tutorials with Jin Kim on YouTube. But you really have to see his designs on the trolls (page 116) just to see what is shown for character creations. All of them unique and have personality in their one shots. Contrast those with Bill Schwab's on the next page and you get a feel of how far the range is in creating. Personally I think I would have liked the trolls with either design, but the one used was great also. Mr. Kim and Mr. Schwab's designs makes you want to see cartoons just based on trolls. Flip the page and you are on design layouts done by James Finch (I'm dropping their names so you can hopefully search out some of their work). That is a great part of these books is that under every picture is the artist's name and the medium they used even in the preface and forward sections. You get the preface by John Lasseter which is like walking through Animation history by itself. Forward by Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee in which you get a sense of the excitement and then the realization of how big a story can be. Now for Charles Solomon, how must have one of the best jobs in the world if not stress full. Let me elaborate, an animation historian which means he has seen some art work that none of us will probably ever get to see. He writes into this book bringing about the history of where this movie came from so it becomes more of a documentary. He gets quotes, and artwork and shapes them all together into a book. And does it with a good flow. (from the history, to some story boards, and then through each of the pieces as they shape to become a movie). For example, right after the forward we go into the prolog. A family affair. We get a portrait by Cory Loftis which gives you such a presense of the family. The father standing tall and impressive all decked out. Mother in a chair poised but with a smile with a blue dress with green trim almost to say if we could have meet her more in the movie she would have been a pointer to both Anna and Elsa personalities. A really young Anna wide eyed and curious and Elsa posed like a thinker and the older child that has to be good. Then to Claire Keane with a drawing of Elsa and Anna on a bench in the snow. It's an early design and the detail seems more of a setup to a scene, but also if you were to take a picture of two kids on a bench during a family walk this is probably what you would get. And might be exactly what happened to get this design. Go then to the quote by Chris Williams that gives you an insight into story boarding. Of just how much animators and designers throw themselves into this work. Then into the story of how this came to be. To go into the art work more, Claire Keane's design on the next page to me is as awesome compared to the first image we come across. It is still earlier in design work, but you can get a feel from the first picture of the bench to how she aged the characters into their teen years. Elsa looks down right scary, like she could be cold hearted and unconcerned about those around her. Go to the next page and it looks like Bill Schwab took those designs and add a little more detail to the two. Elsa could have been ruthless looking at these images. Start reading the paragraphs again and you find how right on these artists were. "Elsa was going to be the complete antagonist," Explains director Jennifer Lee. "They kept calling her the 'villain'..." And it goes into how they changed her to not be a villain, but just made some bad choices. You can get how making this movie is almost like making 20 plus movies by the time they are done. There is humor in there, such as from John Ripa "I come in every Monday, 'I hope I get a comedy sequence!' And they say, 'Here-the character has died!'" The character design portion I will admit is not as full as in Tangled, but there is still a lot of good stuff in there. A nice image from Jean Gillmore showing the

flow of a cloak. I wouldn't mind having that as a poster in my office. The artist for snow and layout really are amazing. Me, I think snow = white. Draw a circle on a white sheet of paper call it snow. The movie shows how much they did with snow, but the book goes into how the trees are covered with snow. How they kept them in a cartoon world and how snow makes a tree sag. Page 94, Lisa Keene puts it all together for a scene in Frozen. On the next page there is a close up of a tree that has been frozen with ice. We get ice storms here that turn pine trees into ice circles. This scene here can give you a sense although more cartoony of what a forest of frozen trees is like. It really is one of the those sights living in an icy region to see. Just looking at this scene reminds me that I hate the cold, but am looking forward to some ice storms. And that is also to me what a good picture should do. Flip that pages some more and you have Kristoff. This book seems more about the clothing and the colors and getting the feel of Norway into the movie. Artist Minkyu Lee and Brittney Lee give you some renditions of design and clothing. It does make you think that Kristoff came from somewhere and he very well could have a brother or two out there. You have the design pages of Hans. In which they wanted us to like Hans and root for him without giving away his traits. And really if it wasn't for his words and actions in the movie Hans could have been good for Elsa. There are petitions out there to redeem Hans, so it would appear they pulled it off with people liking him. The book will go into different places, one is the ice palace. David Womersley gives us that ice palace on the mountain, and also the ice cottage in a tree. The ice place on the mountain shows off Tallek (Mr. Womersley's and Elsa's). But that cottage says I just want to be left alone, let me be. That would have change the whole song "let me be, let me be.." OK so on to the nit picking part of the book. 1. would have loved even more character development 2. would have loved the posters of Frozen (France has one of the best two part posters for Frozen) 3. The inside of the cover is plain. Not the part under the wrapper that has a great snowflake on it, but between the cover and pages is a design pattern more like wall paper. I own 5 other books like this and only Brave comes close to a cover like this. Finding Nemo is still my favorite which just depicted another scene 4. all the books I own needs an index of arts work. I enjoy flipping through the book, but if you want to compare all of an arts pieces in a book it would be nice to know what page they are on. Plus for the character reference. Now I am in the mood to watch the movie again, another benefit of the book.

In Walt Disney Animation Studios upcoming film, Frozen, the fearless optimist Anna sets off on an epic journey teaming up with rugged mountain man Kristoff to find her sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom of Arendelle in eternal winter. Encountering Everest-like conditions, Anna and Kristoff battle the elements in a race to save the kingdom. The Art of Frozen features concept art from the making of the film including character studies and sculptures, color scripts, storyboards, and more alongside interviews with the film's artists about the making of this comedy-adventure. Disney

"That The Art of Frozen is a visual treat goes without saying. There is the splendid art: the original sketches, concept paintings, storyboards, backgrounds, maquettes, and finished art; each piece identified to its artist. There are the photographs of mid-19th century Norwegian architecture and costumes used for art reference. There are the informative comments by the production staff. But more than most art-of books, The Art of Frozen describes the thinking that has made Frozen almost imperceptibly different from all of the other modern animated features. The Art of . movie books are usually for those who have seen the movie. The Art of Frozen is so insightful as to what makes a good animated theatrical feature that even if you have not seen Frozen...you should really study this book. Don't just read it; study it!" - Animation World Network Holiday Gift Guide Pick - Ain't It Cool News About the Author Charles Solomon is an animation historian and the author of several books, including The Art of Toy Story 3, Enchanted Drawings, and The Art and Making of Peanuts Animation. John Lasseter is Chief Creative Officer at Walt Disney and Pixar Animation Studios and Principal Creative Officer at Walt Disney Imagineering. Chris Buck directed the 2007 Oscar-nominated Surf's Up. His animation credits also include The Little Mermaid, The Rescuers Down Under, and Pocahontas. He is one of the directors of Frozen. Jennifer Lee joined the Walt Disney Animation Studios as a screenwriter in the Spring of 2011, and was a writer on Wreck-It Ralph. She is one of the directors of Frozen.