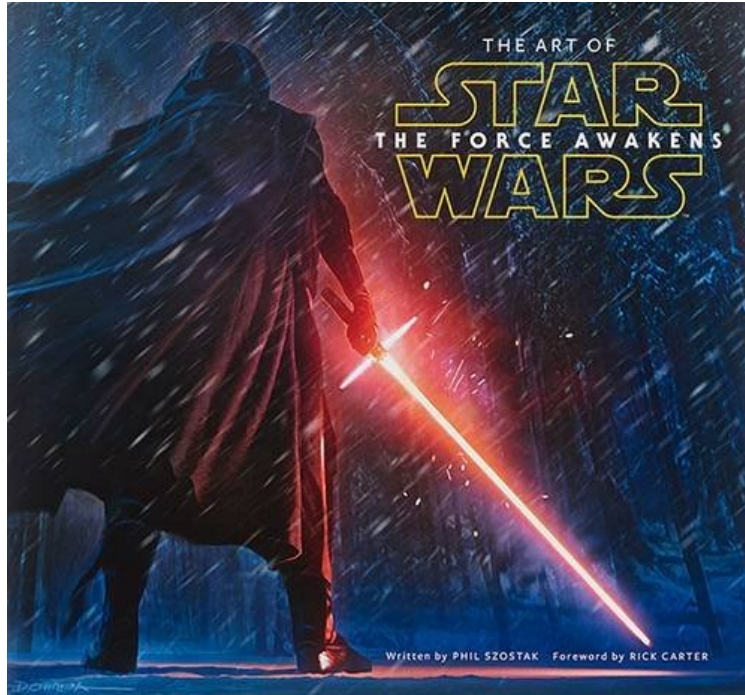


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## The Art of Star Wars: The Force Awakens

*Phil Szostak*

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#19508 in Books Szostak Phil 2015-12-18 2015-12-18 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.37 x .87 x 11.311, 3.70 #File Name: 1419717804256 pages The Art of Star Wars The Force Awakens | File size: 51.Mb

**Phil Szostak : The Art of Star Wars: The Force Awakens** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Star Wars: The Force Awakens:

86 of 91 people found the following review helpful. The force is strong with this one By Hollowitz This is an amazing art book that would please any star wars fan. Its loaded with content and the pictures look beautiful and cover lots of different things from the new movie. Throughout the book there are brief comments talking about the art teams journey designing everything as well as comments on some of the pictures. Also the book is laid out in a timeline format so that as you go through the book you get to see how the art team was progressing and when they made everything (For example on page 20 in the top left corner it says January 2013 and then on page 54 its dated April 2013). Also each picture has a title and the artists name next to it. The book itself is very nicely made. The slipcover has some great art on both the front and back and the book itself has a nice and thick hardcover featuring the Millennium Falcon. The contents are: Foreword- is 4 pages and basically just talks about the book and the new movie and what they hoped to achieve with it. Introduction- is 2 pages and just talks about how they had to make the new film just as good if not better than the previous films and a few things they wanted to do with the new film. Whos Who- This is 2 pages and lists the names of all the artists and designers. "Guided Imagery" Concept Phase- This is 70 pages and is just the art and designers throwing out sketches and art that they might later use. You get to see some ideas of how Rey, Finn and other new characters might look as well as a weird version of the AT-AT. There are revisions of Han Solo and Princess Leia, lots of battle scenes and beautiful scenery. There are vehicle concepts, some new storm trooper ideas, lots of different characters, the new Death Star, Junk Yards of ships and stuff, Sith lords, New space ships, and just lots more. The art is quite detailed and looks awesome. Pre Production- Is 102 pages and is where they

finally got certain things approved by J. J. Abrams like hangers, and troop transports. There's even a picture showing exactly how they get out of tie Fighters (I will post a picture of this for you). Like the rest of the book the art is stunning and captures the Star Wars Universe perfectly. You get to see sketches, blueprints, models, lots of concept art and artwork. There's lots of locations, fallen walkers, burning tie fighters, loads of characters and vehicles, and so much more.

**Production-** Is 52 pages and is art that shows various scenes from the movie. Also the commentary here talks about the production and things such as Harrison Ford getting hurt and other things about making the film. One of my favorite pictures is the X-wings flying right above the water and waters flying everywhere (I'll post a picture).

**Post Production-** Is 6 pages and I guess is art that they might use for the next movie which according to this book is called *Star Wars Anthology: Rogue One* which is set for release in December of 2016 (I'll post a picture proving this). "Who is Luke Skywalker?" Is only a page and talks about the force.

Overall this book was loaded with content and really is an excellent companion to the new film. The art was very nice and covered a lot from the Star Wars universe. Its just really cool to see various versions of things and how they look compared to the final result as well as see the progress the art team made. This was definitely worth every penny and if you or someone you know is a Star Wars fan then get this you wont be disappointed.

44 of 45 people found the following review helpful. Great but a bit different from other Star Wars artbooks

By Parka[[VIDEOID:7fcb7680babe33ef50d8958493d660ee]]Wow. This artbook is better than I expected, but it's also a bit different than the ones for Episodes I, II and III. The content is interestingly arranged in chronologically in order of the film production, so you can follow along as the art and concepts are developed from January 2013 to January 2015. You'll be able to see the early concepts for Rey and Finn who in the beginning are drawn like they are for some teen movie, and then much later on when it makes more sense to cover up Rey in survival gear-like clothing. So there's no specific section on character designs, environments or vehicles. Everything is just mixed together as and when they were being developed. It's an interesting approach that I'm not sure if it's good or bad.

The artworks are fantastic. Most of them are of scene paintings and environments. And these would be the highlight of the book. They are very detailed and beautiful. I think they capture the mood of the film well and the worlds created look really believable and beautiful. One good thing is the artworks feel like they are from Star Wars and not some first-person-shooter sci-fi video game. There's also insightful commentary from the art department. I'm surprised there aren't more character and creature designs though. For example, you won't get to see the different variations of suits for Poe, Rey, Finn, Kylo Ren or other characters for that matter. Most characters and aliens when they do appear are in the scene paintings. Maybe more will be included in the making-of book.

If you want to learn more about the characters, then get *Star Wars: The Force Awakens Visual Dictionary*. Or for vehicles, get *Star Wars: The Force Awakens Incredible Cross-Sections*. This artbook together with the two other books will make for a complete visual collection.

And because the book's arranged in chronological order by film production and not the storyline, it can be difficult to locate the information that you want. For example, Rey's art is scattered throughout.

Overall, it's not a big deal, at least to me. As a 256-page hardcover artbook, it's really worth the money. Highly recommended for the fans. (See more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my profile for the link.)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great designs, great environments: inspiring art from the first page to the last one!

By Nicolas Calderon EaderI am giving this book a 4.5/5 for one reason only: there is almost nothing related to the key players' character design i.e. Rey, Finn, Poe and Kylo Ren. Rey is the only character who gets some attention in this book, there is a few sketches here and there but not a clear development process on how they got the the final design. Same happens with Kylo Ren, the artists explore a lot of ideas but all of a sudden we see his mask at an almost approved stage and that's it. Now what I was really interested in, was learning about his lightsaber. When I saw the first close-up images I had this theory that Kylo Ren somehow got Vader's lightsaber and modified it. Take a close look at both them and you'll know what I mean. The only thing related to Ren's lightsaber is an early design that has nothing to do with what we see on-screen... too sad.

Now, Finn and Poe... we only get to see an image for each of them, Again, too sad. Well, now let's get to the cool stuff! The artwork is amazing!!! All those paintings are just fantastic, no wonder why these guys are industry pros. What I love about all these Art Books is that we get to learn a bit about their process; the inspiration (Ralph McQuarrie), the research, the anecdotes, all that artistic collaboration. There is a few paintings that just like the final shot, to me that's magic. I wish all of those environments, aliens, droids, made it into the movie but it never happens, there is a lot of cool ideas that could evolve into something else and be a part of Episode VIII or the animated series.

The book itself is well organized, the same way the movie was, from pre-production to post. The truth is I wanted to see more about post, like the matte paintings or full-res images from Maz Kanata and Snoke. Unfortunately, 2% of the book is dedicated to post while 75% is dedicated to pre-production and the remaining 23% to production.

I knew this book was going to be different, starting from the square-format (the same as Marvel cinematic Art Books). Don't get me wrong, this book is really great, a must-have for any Star Wars fan. Veterans like Ian McCaig, Erik Tiemmens, Doug Chiang and my favourite Ryan Church are back! They come from the prequel-era, they know what Star Wars is, but there is also new talent like Darren Gilford (*TRON Legacy*, *Oblivion*) who add some fresh ideas to the far far away galaxy. If you are a Star Wars fan, a movie-art-book fan or just a concept-art fan, then you should definitely get this book... seriously!

Step inside the Lucasfilm art departments for the creation of fantastical worlds, unforgettable characters, and unimaginable creatures. *The Art of Star Wars: The Force Awakens* will take you there, from the earliest gathering of artists and production designers at Lucasfilm headquarters in San Francisco to the fever pitch of production at Pinewood Studios to the conclusion of post-production at Industrial Light Magicall with unprecedented access. Exclusive interviews with the entire creative team impart fascinating insights in bringing director J. J. Abramss vision to life; unused blue sky concept art offers glimpses into roads not traveled. Bursting with hundreds of stunning works of art, including production paintings, concept sketches, storyboards, blueprints, and matte paintings, this visual feast will delight Star Wars fans and cineastes for decades to come. *The Art of Star Wars: The Force Awakens* is the definitive expression of how the latest chapter in the Star Wars saga was dreamed into being. **ALSO AVAILABLE FROM ABRAMS IN SPRING 2016: *The Making of Star Wars: The Force Awakens* by Mark Cotta Vaz. Forewords by J.J. Abrams and Kathleen Kennedy. ISBN: 978-1-4197-2022-2**