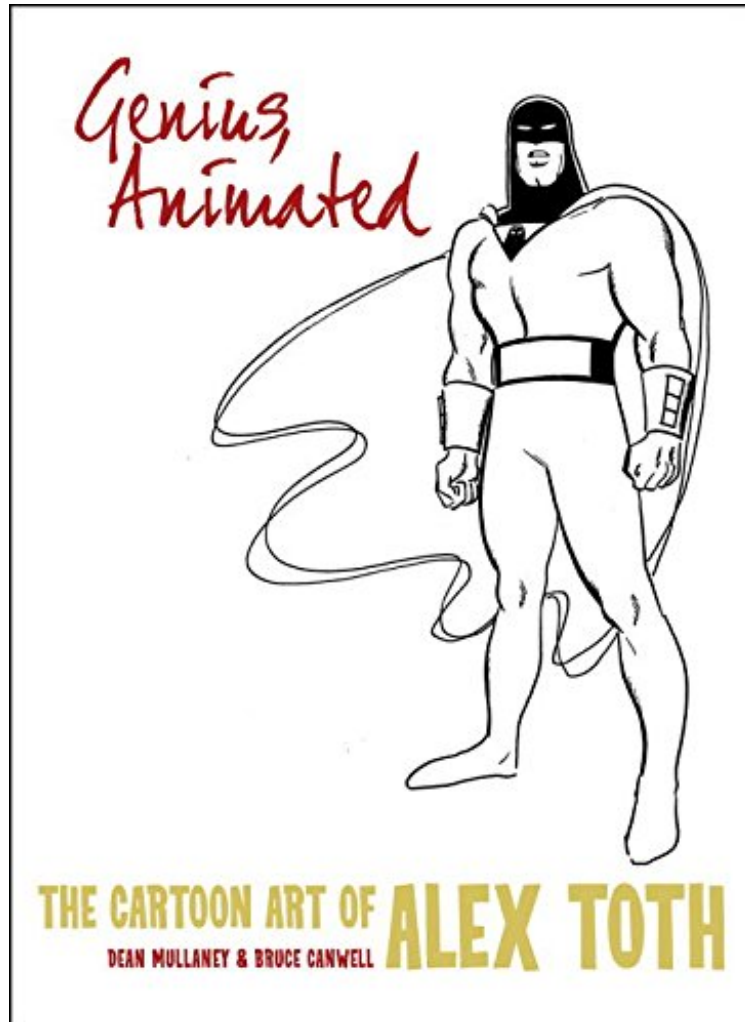


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Genius, Animated: The Cartoon Art of Alex Toth

Dean Mullaney, Bruce Canwell

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Dean Mullaney, Bruce Canwell : Genius, Animated: The Cartoon Art of Alex Toth before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Genius, Animated: The Cartoon Art of Alex Toth:

25 of 27 people found the following review helpful. GREAT PICTURE ART BOOK!!! BUT WHERE IS MY SLIPCASE ! WHAT, I HAVE TO WAIT FOR LATE OCT 2014!?!?By Jonhayashi1[[VIDEOID:moR81WVERQJW7Z]]Well after a LONG WAIT I finally have all 3 Alex Toth Genius Books!! After GENIUS ILLUSTRATED had so many delays before I got it at Barnes and Noble I am glad that GENIUS ANIMATED had less delay problems, but it was STILL hard to wait! I was so glad to get the email telling me that the book shipped out on May 21, 2014 and was thrilled to get it on the 23rd!! But wait a minute, there is no slipcase!! After a LONG wait to get all 3 books I was told by one of the authors on the .com website that when you order the 3rd book you would get the slipcase! I,m hoping that the cases will eventually be sent to the buyers of the 3rd

book soon! UPDATE: Good news and Bad news! I just pre-ordered the slipcase from IDW shop online, but I'll have to wait till Oct 2014 for the slipcase to ship out to my address! So after all the waiting to get all 3 books we'll have to wait a few more months for the slipcase that we were told would automatically come with the 3rd book!!! Oh well! So go to IDW store online to pre-order your Alex Toth Slipcase! It cost me \$20.00 for the case plus \$18.79 for ground shipping which totaled \$38.79. UPDATE: I have the slipcase at last!! After waiting until late Nov the slipcase was delivered to my house on Nov 26, 2014 just before Thanksgiving! It was originally supposed to come on the late Oct but was changed to Nov near the last week. The slipcase is a little snug but otherwise it's a fine slipcase! The black and white drawings by Toth look good on both sides of the case and Space Ghost is handsome on the binder! Is it worth the wait? Well, I wanted the complete set so I got it! I think my case is more attractive than the one that just has Alex Toth's self portrait! Anyway GENIUS ANIMATED is one cool artbook that completes the picture on Alex Toth's career or at least comes as close to it as any books can possibly do! One thing I like about this book is that it is proof positive that there was more to Hanna Barbera than SCOOBY DOO cartoons! I know SCOOBY has his fans, but to me those cartoons do not hold up and were HB's answer to Action for Children's Television! Starring bland teenagers and a silly dog they became a formula that HB studios would repeat ad nauseum over the years with such clones as GOOBER AND THE GHOST CHASERS, JABBERJAW (bland teenagers and a silly shark), SPEED BUGGY (bland teenagers and a silly talking car) and many more! Fortunately this book shows off artwork by Toth that mostly shows off my favorites of the 1960's action adventure cartoons by HB with great model sheets, colour marker early sketches, and storyboard sketches that show Toth's ability to visually take the script and depict it in great drawings with clear camera angles for the characters and great staging! Look at the story sketches for DINO BOY IN THE LOST VALLEY episode: The Sacrifice on pages 46 to 61! I just watched that cartoon again with the 1960s SPACE GHOST a few days ago! It has good suspense as caveman Ugh was tied up waiting to meet his fate at the hands of the high priest whose gold hawk statue would have run down the caveman if it were not for brave Dino boy! The cartoon with its threat of sacrifice on the altar, child endangerment and genuine menace would surely tick off Peggy Charren and her band of unmerciful censors! It's because of these people that SUPER FRIENDS in the 1970s is a bland superhero cartoon series! Notice that the title is SUPER "FRIENDS" not SUPER "HEROES"! The FRIENDS is there to assure parents that these super guys won't do any violence like punching the bad guys, nor will the villains strike back at our "friends"! Peggy Charren was one nemesis that the Super "friends" were NOT able to defeat! It was up to Bruce W. Timm to make the Justice League "heroic" in his JUSTICE LEAGUE cartoons in the 1990s! Toth's designs on the classic superheroes are great though! My favorites that I have on DVD from the sixties are the 1960s JONNY QUEST, SPACE GHOST AND DINO BOY, BIRDMAN AND THE GALAXY TRIO, MOBY DICK AND MIGHTY MIGHTOR, HERCULOIDS, SHAZZAN and YOUNG SAMSON! Check out Toth's drawing of the Black Widow villainess for the Space Ghost episode "The Web" on page 35 before it was inked! His character model designs are so dynamic and expressive that must have been inspiring for the animators! Toth preferred the thick to thin inking of the 1960s JONNY QUEST episodes over the later xerox outlines of later cartoons. See Toth's model sheets on JONNY QUEST on pages 18 to 21 for "The Quetong Missile Mystery"! The 1960s JONNY QUEST is full of action, dramatic tension and suspense, in other words EVERYTHING that Action for Children's Television HATES!! I'm glad my DVD RAM recorder is able to both play back and record the DVD-R format so I can playback the Warner Archive DVDs of these titles! Yeah Alex Toth made it tough on the clean up artists for the animation drawings! Look at pages 30 to 33 to see how refined the drawings of Jan and Jace look before cell paint was added! The pencil lines had to be clean for the xerox to make good looking copies onto the cells while hand inking would not trace any rough lines! Sometimes a shortcut can cause problems that the earlier way did not have. Colour sketches in marker by Toth of MOBY DICK with companions Tom and Tub show their playfulness and affection for their whale friend! Colour sketches of SHAZZAN along with black and white model sheets reveal a mean looking Shazzan before the final design shows him looking jolly and friendly! The model sheets with their descriptive details on the measurements of character height and props are just fascinating to look at! Both the model sheets of the "Khan of the North Wind" and "Forest of Fear" episodes of SHAZZAN are fun to look at especially after I watch the episodes. Bruce W. Timm said that he looked at many Alex Toth model sheets when he was coming up with the look for BATMAN the animated series. One can see why he looked at Toth for inspiration! Alex's colour sketches for THE HERCULOIDS on pages 97 to 101 are so cool one can wish that this colour marker look would reach the screen instead of the vinyl paint cell look! Not bad at all for a guy who admitted to having a colour blindness problem! I can relate to that since I have red green colour blindness that I have had to adapt to! Tundro, the many legged rhinoceros might not have made it to the screen if an armoured giant armadillo drawn by Toth was chosen to be with Zandor instead! Pages 108 to 109 show story sketches introducing the "Temple of Trax" episode of HERCULOIDS. These story sketches were drawn by his friend and colleague Doug Wildey who was the top designer of the 1960s JONNY QUEST! James Romberger, who wrote a critical, unflattering review of GENIUS ANIMATED, pointed that out. Both Doug Wildey and Alex Toth names are in the end credits of Ruby Spears' action adventure 1980-81 cartoon series THUNDARR THE BARBARIAN! Model sheets of THUNDARR by TOTH are on pages 292 to 294. So they had a long working relationship! While it would have been better if the authors pointed out that this storyboard was by Wildey and not Toth I'm still glad they included

it in this book. Model sheets of THE THREE MUSKETEERS along with Toth story sketches on pages 133 to 141 show how detailed and informative Alex could be on the subject of fencing. HB animator Robert Alvarez said there just wasn't the time for all that fencing to be animated on a tight Saturday morning schedule! Not to mention the censorship of Action for Children's Television! So Alex Toth had a reason to be so angry and frustrated with the industry!! Finally the pages on Toth's presentation art on projects that never got off the ground in full colour marker are wondrous to behold! Such shows as AMAZON PATROL that looked like it combined DAKTARI with weird sci fi and ATTACK OF THE SPACE with an Errol Flyn like hero in outer space do stimulate the imagination! The funniest drawing has to be of a super hero called FARRAH FANTASTIC with Farrah Fawcett as the costumed heroine with REALLY BIG HAIR! Colour drawings of DIAL H FOR HEROES showing teenagers summoning super heroes from their wrist bands looks a lot more fun than any SCOOBY DOO episode! Other artwork reminds me of AMAZING STORIES sci fi covers! If only the networks showed more support for ideas like this! Sigh! I also like the colour presentation pictures by Toth of early renderings of the Butler family in THE VALLEY OF THE DINOSAURS! I can feel the appealing aspects of this family surviving in a prehistoric valley that appeared in the cartoon on my DVD-R discs! If you have ordered this cool book but not the earlier two I recommend you get the previous 2, GENIUS ISOLATED AND GENIUS ILLUSTRATED to get the complete story on Alex Toth! The last book makes the 2 previous books feel fully complete! Highly recommended! I just uploaded a video I made of this book to give a better idea of it's quality! I wish .com would allow for a larger file size than 100 MB! How about 120 MB?! 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. The trilogy is complete! By GuitarAnthony As a proud and lucky owner of the book Toth - In Black and White (especially now that it can't be found cheap), even though I loved the first two tomes dedicated to the master's history, I debated whether it would be worth getting this third volume which would probably be all his model sheets as the In Black and White book was. Well, let me tell you, it's MORE! Stuff in color, storyboards, stuff previous books didn't have. I'm amazed of how well put together this collection is. Two glaring omissions was the pages Toth did explaining how animation worked that appearing in the 1970's Super Friends comic but that may have been due to DC Comics/Warner Bros probably owning those but also, no Toth representation of Birdman! He's shown unmasked in a model sheet (which is funny as Birdman never took his mask off in the original cartoon or Harvey Birdman Attorney At Law) but nothing else. Toth was the go to guy for Hanna Barbera during the mid to late 60's action hero shows all the way up through the 80's. Obviously, he was the point man for the long running Super Friends cartoon. The three volumes covering his life and career do his memory justice. Well done. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Alex Toth is a Titan By Lanzman Alex Toth is like unto a god to me. If he'd done nothing other than Space Ghost I would bow at his feet. But the man left an amazing, inspiring legacy of sheer creative genius. Toth rivals Kirby or Eisner in terms of output and design ability, and this excellent book captures a good chunk of it in a visually impressive and easily appreciated format. Can't recommend it highly enough.

The Library of American Comics concludes its in-depth look at Alex Toth's life and art with Genius, Animated. This companion volume to 2011's award-winning Genius, Isolated and 2013's Genius, Illustrated zooms in to focus on Toth's groundbreaking contributions in the field of animation and features many rarely-seen or never-before-published pieces of art, much of it uncovered in the archives of Hanna-Barbera Studios! Featuring presentation illustrations for unsold series, character designs and storyboards for old favorites such as Space Ghost, SHAZZAN, and Superfriends, and work taken from both the beginning (Space Angel) and end (Bionic 6) of Toth's "Saturday kidvid" career, this oversized artbook features observations from animation professionals about his work, plus Alex's own commentary on the cartoon shows that shaped a generation. Genius, Animated is filled, cover-to-cover, with must-see material, making it essential reading for Toth-fans and animation enthusiasts alike. Winner of the 2015 Eisner Award for Best Book About Comics.

About the Author Born in New York City in 1928, Alex Toth attended what is now the School of Visual Arts and broke into the comic book field as a teenager. During his sixty-year professional career, he became known as the "artists' artist" he became very much like his great hero, Noel Sickles the guy all the others wanted to draw like. In the 1960s he entered the animation field and became equally well-known and respected for his groundbreaking designs for Space Ghost and The Herculoids, among other series.