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The Invisible Art: The Legends of Movie Matte Painting

By Mark Cotta Vaz, Craig Barron

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Now available in paperback, *The Invisible Art* provides an unprecedented retrospective of matte art painting -- the unsung hero in the fast-paced world of cinematic visual effects. Until recently, matte-painting techniques were closely guarded secrets kept locked up on studio lots. *The Invisible Art* flings open the gates to reveal the finest representations of matte paintings from rare examples seen in epics such as *Gone with the Wind* and *Citizen Kane* to prove that the brush is mightier than the computer, as seen in such blockbusters as *Star Wars* and *Titanic*. Lavishly illustrated, the book's tremendous scope unveils a century's worth of fascinating stories, legendary personalities, and cunning movie craft from the first pioneering "glass shots" to the dawn of digital technology. Including a foreword by George Lucas, *The Invisible Art* conjures a never-before-told story of film wizardry.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Mark Cotta Vaz recently completed his 19th book, a biography of Merian C. Cooper, creator of King Kong which is scheduled to be published by Random House in 2005. Vaz's books on movie history include Industrial Light + Magic: Into the Digital Realm, which

Craig Barron has been an innovator in the cinematic technique of matte painting for the last two decades, playing a key role in the effects for films from The Empire Strikes Back to The Last Samurai. A veteran of George Lucas's effects company, Industrial Light + Magic, Barron now heads Matte World Digital. He is currently creating the visual effects for an Imax film on the Universe for professor Stephen Hawking. Barron lives in Marin County, California.

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