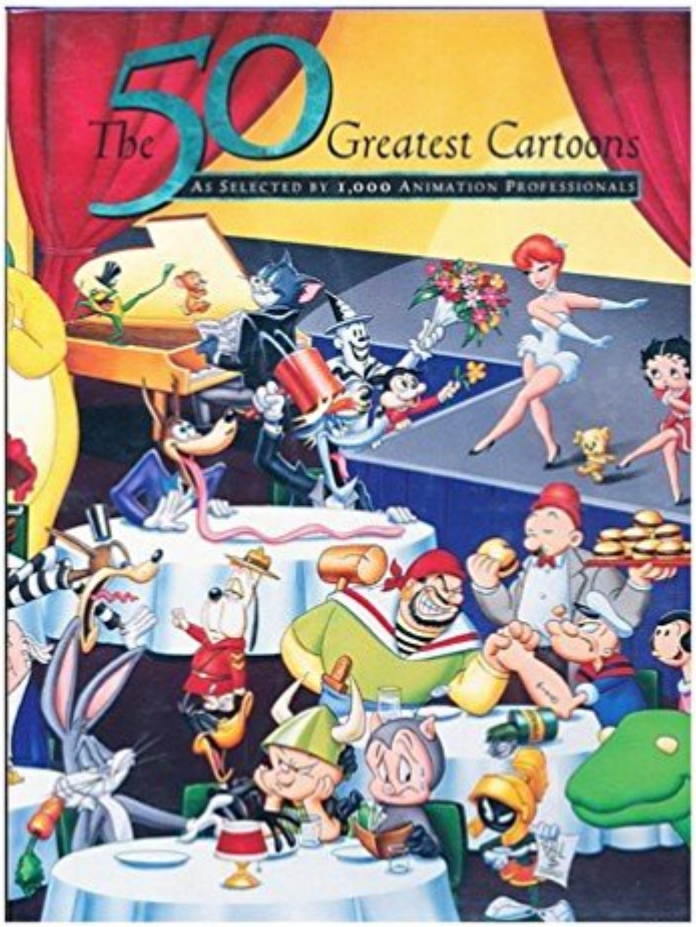
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The 50 Greatest Cartoons: As Selected By 1,000 Animation Professionals



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Synopsis

More than 300 illustrations showcase the 50 greatest animated cartoons of all time. Featuring such beloved characters as Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse, this treasury also includes biographical spotlights of illustrating pioneers such as Chuck Jones, plus a look at Disney, Warner Bros., and other great animation studios.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The 50 greatest animated cartoons, selected by a panel of more than 1,000 cartoon historians and animation professionals. Lavishly illustrated, intelligently written, filled with fascinating interviews, and a long-overdue acknowledgment of an overlooked art form. And what is the #1 choice of the experts? I guess you'll have to buy to book, huh, Doc?

This lovely book is a clear product of the animation renaissance, when a film like 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit', a series like 'Ren & Stimpy' and a television program like BBC's'Stay Tooned!' raised the interest in classic cartoons, their history and their makers. It's of course a matter of debate whether this book really features the 50 greatest cartoons (an appendix shows some other fine contenders that just didn't make it), but these are certainly 50 fine films.Unfortunately, the selection only includes cel animated films (and the pre-cel film 'Gertie the Dinosaur'), and thus does include 'The Man Who Planted Trees' (a film that is very far removed from the term 'cartoon'), but not the very cartoony Academy Award winner 'Creature Comforts', because that short is a stop motion film.

Surprisingly, some more modern shorts have been able to make the list, like NFB's 'The Big Snit' and 'The Cat Came Back'. Another surprise is that four of the top five cartoons are by Chuck Jones.All shorts get a synopsis, a review and some background information. Moreover, the book is richly illustrated, and certainly inviting to watch the shorts themselves. The book's big error, however, is that the shorts are ranked 1 to 50, instead of vice versa. To me, a list like this should be a countdown, but it isn't. Anyway, that shouldn't hold any animated cartoon lover from buying this book.

A wonderful collection of some of the greatest cartoons ever made.

Excellent and colorful reference book. Great Fun.

Good book

I absolutely love this book. It is an invaluable resource for the animation fan. The book takes 50 of the greatest short subject cartoons ever made and discusses why they are considered great. With each cartoon mentioned, the animation professionals responsible for the cartoon discuss the inspiration behind the cartoon's creation, how the cartoon came to be, problems the artists faced, etc.In the margins, there are articles which tell how characters in the cartoons named developed (such as Bugs Bunny, Mickey Mouse, Droopy, Tom and Jerry, Donald Duck and many more); some of the topics discussed are the character's inspiration, how the character evolved over the years, etc.One segment I found particularly interesting was a segment in the book dealing with controversial cartoons, such as the racially offensive "Coal Black and de Sebben Dwarfs" and "Der Fueher's Face". The book also addresses sexual imagery in the cartoons (!) and includes some information about the content of many cartoons during World War II and why some are considered unwatchable today.I couldn't recommend this book more highly to animation fans . .it covers every cartoon character/series imaginable, from the Looney Tunes to Disney to Woody Woodpecker, Betty Boop, and Tom and Jerry, and even includes an appendix listing some cartoons that didn't make the cut. (You will especially appreciate it if you are, like me, a Looney Tunes fan.)

Pros: Great selections (and runner ups), saw (and/or own) most of themCons: Must update to 100 (1900-present) or make sequel (including CGI and stop motion)

The author, Jerry Beck, is also the author of Looney Tunes and Merrie Melodies: A Complete Illustrated Guide to the Warner Bros, which helps explain the fact that more than a third of the list is from Warner Bros. While the stories behind the cartoons are interesting and most of the selections are excellent cartoons, there are also some questionable choices, such as #38 Bambi Meets Godzilla. I'll save you some time if you haven't seen it; an uncolored, unshaded Bambi eats grass for three minutes while Marv Newland credits himself for everything, then Godzilla's foot squashes the little deer. The end. It's funny but is that really the 38th greatest cartoon of all time material? If you're going to include stuff like that you're going to also have to include a lot of other stuff too. It's a good read if you're a Warner Bros. fan or don't mind the favoritism and more dubious choices like the aforementioned. Otherwise stay away.

They might as well have called this the greatest Warner bros cartoons beacuse they dominate over half the list. If there is a sequel, please include more shorts from the Disney Studio and I know any Disney fan will agree with me

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