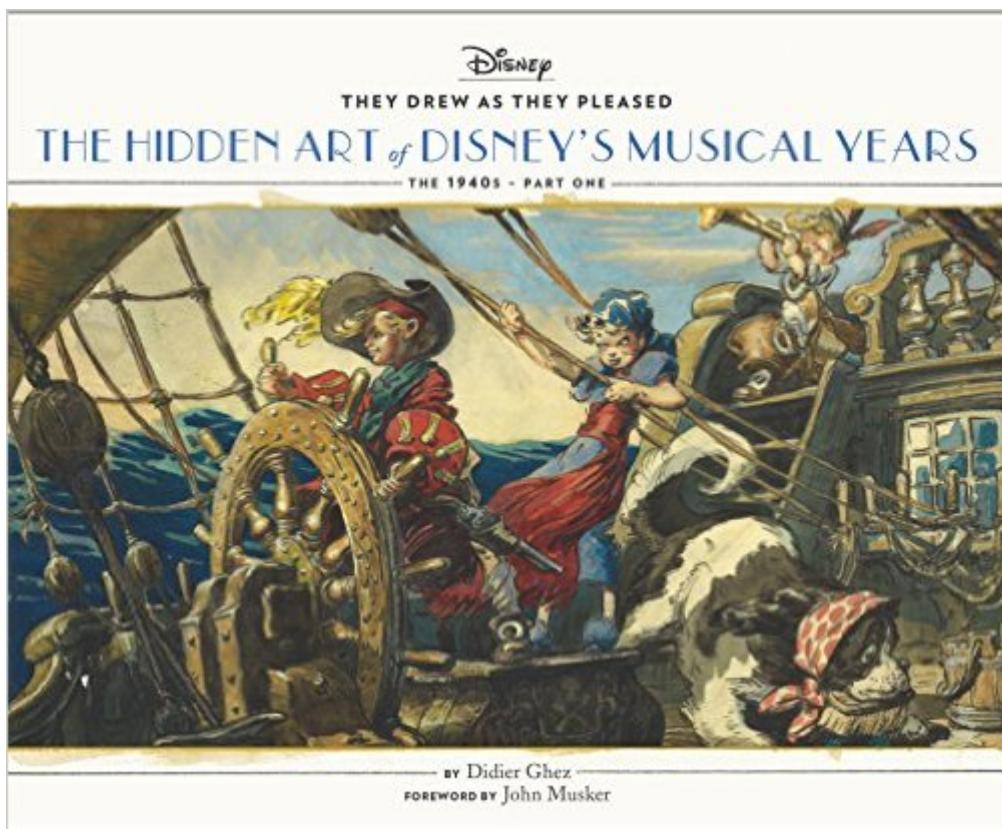


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# They Drew As They Pleased: The Hidden Art Of Disney's Musical Years (The 1940s - Part One)



## Synopsis

The 1940s ushered in an era of musical experimentation and innovation at the Walt Disney Studios. Artists from all over the world flocked to California to be part of the magic, and their groundbreaking styles influenced such classics as *Dumbo* and *Bambi* as well as shaped the masterpieces that followed such as *Alice in Wonderland* and *Peter Pan*. For this volume, author Didier Ghez has unearthed hundreds of enchanting images—“from early sketches to polished concepts for iconic features” by five exceptional artists who shaped the style of the Studio’s animation during this period of unbridled creativity. With evocative descriptions and excerpts from the artists’ journals and autobiographies, this magnificent collection offers a rare look at the visionaries who breathed life into some of the most beloved films of our time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book magnificently showcases the work of several Disney story artists and contains some of the most beautiful artwork I have ever seen from the studio, most of which I had never seen in any other publication. The text is lively and informative, not only giving insight into the artists’ lives, but also insight into the creative process at the Disney studio in the 1940s.

Absolutely stunning book filled with incredible artwork and reference photographs - most of which have never been seen by human eyes for up to 70 years. Didier has put painstaking effort into this volume of the series, finding hidden artworks that were either thought long forgotten or were never

known to have existed. The book focuses on four artists in particular (Rhetta Scott, Kay Neilson, Silvia Holland, David Hall) and provides hundreds of unpublished images, alongside detailed biographies on each of the artists, drawing from Didier's own meetings with the artists' friends and families as well as rarely seen documentation. Amongst the highlights in this book are previously unpublished concept art for *Fantasia* (Neilson and Holland) including for the never-realised *Ride of the Valkyries* segment, David Hall's concept artwork for *Alice in Wonderland* (a far cry from the Mary Blair illustrations we're so used to seeing) and artwork for Walt's abandoned and largely-unknown *Little Mermaid* project from the early-1940s. A spectacular book from an incredibly passionate man who is shaping up to be one of the most important Disney historians of all time. This book is an absolute must for any Disney, animation or art lover.

Didier Ghez has once again provided us with a book full of rarely seen concept art. This time he covers the early 1940's. Concept artists covered are Walt Scott, Kay Neilson, Sylvia Holland, Retta Scott, and David Hall. Like the previous entry, most of this art has not been published before although some has previously surfaced on auction websites. There's also more biographical information on these artists that was previously unavailable, especially for David Hall, whose art is the richest in this volume. This series continues to complement John Canemaker's "Before the Animation Begins" (hopefully that will be brought back in print for current and future Disney enthusiasts to enjoy). Definitely one of the must haves for 2016. Looking forward to Volume 3, which Mr. Ghez said will be on the Character Model Department.

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