This biographical dictionary provides a valuable resource to the often overlooked genre of science fiction and fantasy art. Artists included in the volume are primarily twentieth century commercial illustrators in the science fiction and fantasy publishing industry. Considering the ephemeral nature of the paperback, the primary vehicle for much of the work presented in this text, the depth of research and documentation is remarkable with artist entries numbering over 350.

The strength of a reference collection is often found in volumes such as this, that is, those that succeed at providing a surprising source that answers the question, or fill in the biography on a lesser known artist. The extensive bibliographic citations of works published for each artist’s listing will certainly be useful to collectors, dealers, and enthusiasts, while the thorough biographical entries will aid researchers and historians of the genre.

Entries are expertly written, with a tight focus on significant details that relate to the artists’ work and life. The insights are at times revelatory as they are ordinary, whether it is one artist’s visit as a youth to the Philippines or another’s employment as a technical illustrator at an engineering firm. Dates are included where available, with sources listed for each entry.

While several reference texts exist that discuss the history of science fiction art and literature, only one previously published reference book from 1988 focuses specifically on artists and illustrators. This text, *Biographical Dictionary of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists*, by Robert Weinberg, is useful, though the age of the volume necessitated this current publication. Author Jane Frank acknowledges the previous volume in the introduction.

A table of abbreviations and a brief explanation on how to use the book precede the text. The author and aforementioned guest author Robert Weinberg provide a pair of historical overviews to the genre and industry tracing its nascent beginning through the twentieth century, describing in detail the genres eventual rise and fall. A set of five appendices provide listings for winners of the most prestigious awards in the field. The note prior specifies the importance of these awards in determining the leading artists working in the field, and the point is salient. A general index follows the appendices, listing artists, authors, publishers, titles, and subjects. As a reference librarian in a museum library, the only deficiency in the volume this reviewer finds is the lack of select artist signatures. Such an inclusion might have increased the usefulness of this text to collectors, dealers, and enthusiasts. As the volume is a biographical dictionary, it is not illustrated, with the exception of a single striking image on the cover, taken from the April 1939 issue of *Amazing Stories*.

With high quality paper, glossy hard cover, and stitched illustrated case binding, this volume will long be a valuable part of any reference collection or personal library.

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