



The CG Story: From MIT to Andy's Room

By Tom Sito



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Without Computer Graphic Imaging (CGI or CG for short), the Titanic could not sink; the armies of Mordor could not march in Middle Earth. We would never have known the N'avi, Buzz Lightyear, or Shrek. Computer animation has revolutionized visual media and redefined the way we perceive and interact with the world.

Astoundingly, the multi-billion-dollar CG industry can be traced back to remarkably humble origins: two short sentences in a 1963 MIT technical report. As prominent animator Tom Sito explains in this entertaining and thorough history, the world owes a debt of gratitude to a generation of starched-shirt scientists, dope-smoking hippies, and insular math nerds who united to dream audacious dreams. It was this intrepid group who gradually coaxed cartoons out of huge mainframe computers and began a phenomenon.

The CG Story provides an accessible history of computer animation, focusing on the people behind the innovations: individuals like Ivan Sutherland, Dave Evans, Ed Catmull, Alan Kay, Jim Blinn, Alvy Ray Smith, Vibeke Sorenson, Jim Clark, and more. The result is a must-read account of the revolution that took the animation world from pencils to pixels.

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The CG Story: From MIT to Andy's Room By Tom Sito Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"A detailed account of the creation of the computer graphics industry...[The CG Story] is the most complete, organized and readable account of the formation of the CG industry I have seen...This is an excellent book." -- Peter Weishar, Dean of Film, Digital Media, and Performing Arts at Savannah College of Art and Design and author CGI: The Art of the 3D Computer Generated Image" --

About the Author

Former president of the Hollywood Animation Guild (1992--2001), Tom Sito is an animator and Professor of Practice in the School of Cinema Arts at the University of Southern California. His screen credits include Beauty and the Beast, Aladdin, Shrek, and The Lion King. In 1998, he was named as one of the most important people in animation by Animation Magazine. The author of Drawing the Line: The Untold Story of the Animation Unions from Bosko to Bart Simpson, he lives in Woodland Hills, California.

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