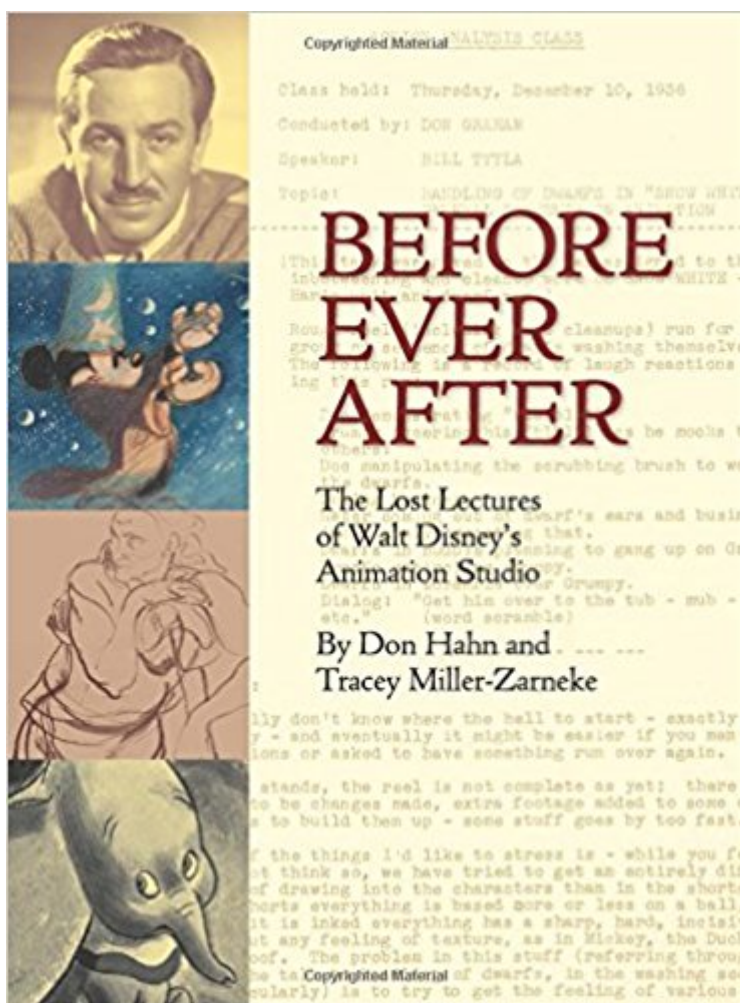


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# Before Ever After: The Lost Lectures Of Walt Disney's Animation Studio (Disney Editions Deluxe)



## Synopsis

Before Ever After is a treasury of rare and unpublished lecture notes, photographs and drawings which reflect the culture of learning that Walt Disney curated to raise the level of his artists in preparation for their first feature: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Walt hand-picked instructors from the renowned Chouinard Art Institute to hold classes on action and drawing. He screened films for study. He brought in talent from Architect Frank Lloyd Wright to choreographer George Balanchine to humorist Alexander Woollcott to teach and inspire his team. The result is a stunning collection of transcripts and history which not only lay the artistic foundation for the animated art form, but also give us an intimate look inside the walls of Walt Disney's studio during a seminal and profoundly creative moment in time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Walt Disney built a cartoon studio and an empire on the shoulders of Mickey Mouse, but to make the leap from shorts to feature films, he knew his artists had raise the bar. At first Disney himself drove artists to nearby Chouinard Art Institute for classes, then expanded that educational effort by building his own in-house training program like no other before or since. Before Ever After is a compilation of rare and previously unpublished lecture notes from that extraordinary training effort. Among others, Frank Lloyd Wright who spoke about his philosophy on art and design, Alexander Woollcott about humor and entertainment, Yale color theorist Faber Birren on color

theory, Disney Legends Art Babbit, Fred Moore, and Bill Tytla gave live critiques of their animation and artist Don Graham lectured extensively on composition, drawing and fine art. Now some eighty years later, these lost lectures are presented with text and context, richly illustrated to show the brilliance of Walt's plan to raise the level of his artists to invent the modern animated

Don Hahn is a writer/producer/director whose credits include the worldwide phenomenon *The Lion King*, the classic *Beauty and the Beast*, the first animated film nominated for a Best Picture Oscar and *Maleficent* starring Angelina Jolie. Don's books on animation, art and creativity include the best seller *Brain Storm*, the acclaimed *Drawn To Life: The Complete Works of Walt Stanchfield* and the much anticipated *Before Ever After: The Lost Lectures of Disney's Animation Studio*. Tracey Miller-Zarneke has become a key figure in the world of animation, way beyond her credited roles on the feature films such as *Chicken Little* and *The Emperor's New Groove*. She has authored eight books on the art of animation including *The Art of Kung Fu Panda*, *The Art of Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs* and *The Art of Planes*. Tracey served as editorial advisor on the landmark textbooks *Producing Animation* and *Directing Animation*. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Women in Animation

I saw this book in Disney World and I waited to buy it on for less. I was studying animation as part of my master's degree program, so this was a perfect supplement to my graduate work. The book is a little bit hard to read, because a lot of the pages are literally copies of notes circulated at Disney. However, the sheer amount of information and insight into Disney's animation theories and techniques included in the book is amazing. While this is a great look at the inside of the studio, it's not a "the making of" book. Instead, the lectures in the book focus more on writer and animator techniques such as character development, editing, etc. There are rules in here that perhaps aren't directly tied to a production, but talk about various movie production elements. I would recommend this book for serious animation students, artists, and anyone who is interested in the inner workings of Walt Disney Studios. It's important to note that the book is historical, focuses only on the films made during Walt Disney's lifetime, and doesn't contain any information on modern Disney movies.

This is an absolute treasure. The writing puts you back in time and you can appreciate the subtlety of every lecture. The wisdom, insights, and philosophy in the formative early Disney years is something we need to return to. Just a magnificent book.

There have been some fantastic Disney history books this year, but this one is really up there with the best, why? It is both instructional and an historic account. First up, the book documents Disney's legendary art training program of the 1930s when Walt brought top artists, art critics and art teachers of the day into the studio to educate his artists and improve their skills. Transcripts of lectures were made for distribution, many today fetching hundreds of dollars today at auction. Don has had them scanned in high detail here, so you are actually reading the unedited notes. Along with the notes we get photos and drawings that put these note into perspective alongside the projects that were in the works at the time. For animation students this book is an asset, here is where all our knowledge of modern animation comes from. Buy it, devour it. There is so much here, and it is brought to you by a modern Disney legend.

Amazing insight into the work and training process of the classical era Disney animators! In the form of facsimiles of the real memos, lectures and meetings notes, you can almost hear the voices of the legendary animators and feel the atmosphere of the studios, as they are primary documents. Highly recommended for teachers and students of animation, historians, and Disney fans!

Walt Disney said, "It all started with a mouse". Well, maybe so, but this book lets you in on what it took to keep it going after the "mouse" thing. As with all things "Disney", this book is fascinating even if you can't draw. I see it more as a history book on Disney than a how-to book. Includes great art from the early days. A must-have for any Disney fan.

I found it very interesting and informative. Also introduced many animators, that were unknown to me before, and gave a short biography on them

Awesome book! A lot of original drawings and typed lectures are beautifully scanned and put in this book.

Excellent! Husband is a Graphic Artists and devours all of Disney's books. He loved this one too. Shipping was great as well, delivered very fast.

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