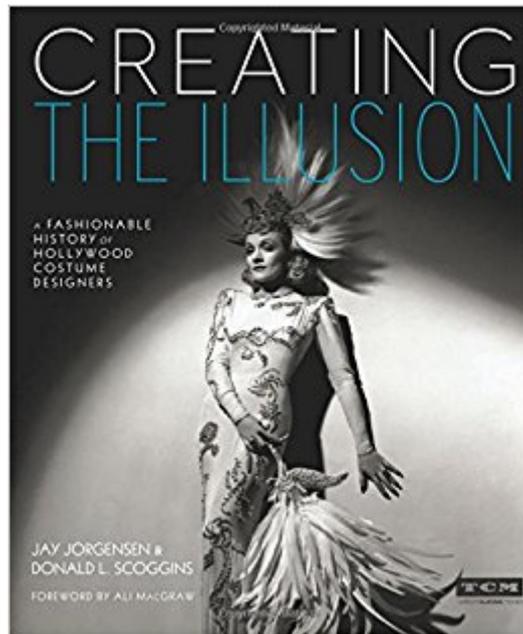


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# Creating The Illusion (Turner Classic Movies): A Fashionable History Of Hollywood Costume Designers



## Synopsis

Marilyn Monroe made history by standing over a subway grating in a white pleated halter dress designed by William Travilla. Hubert de Givenchy immortalized the Little Black Dress with a single opening scene in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. A red nylon jacket signaled to audiences that James Dean was a Rebel Without a Cause. For more than a century, costume designers have left indelible impressions on moviegoers' minds. Yet until now, so little has been known about the designers themselves and their work to complement and enrich stories through fashion. *Creating the Illusion* presents the history of fashion on film, showcasing not only classic moments from film favorites, but a host of untold stories about the creative talent working behind the scenes to dress the stars from the silent era to the present day. Among the book's sixty-five designer profiles are Clare West, Howard Greer, Adrian, Walter Plunkett, Travis Banton, Irene, Edith Head, Cecil Beaton, Bob Mackie, and Colleen Atwood. The designers' stories are set against the backdrop of Hollywood: how they collaborated with great movie stars and filmmakers; how they maneuvered within the studio system; and how they came to design clothing that remains iconic decades after its first appearance. The array of films discussed and showcased through photos spans more than one hundred years, from draping Rudolph Valentino in exotic 'sheik' dress to the legendary costuming of *Gone with the Wind*, Alfred Hitchcock thrillers, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Reservoir Dogs*, and beyond. This gloriously illustrated volume includes candid photos of the designers at work, portraits and wardrobe tests of stars in costume, and designer sketches. Drawing from archival material and dozens of new interviews with award-winning designers, authors Jay Jorgensen and Donald L. Scoggins offer a highly informative, lavish, and entertaining history of Hollywood costume design. About TCM: Turner Classic Movies is the definitive resource for the greatest movies of all time. It engages, entertains, and enlightens to show how the entire spectrum of classic movies, movie history, and movie-making touches us all and influences how we think and live today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm in heaven right now and not much could improve it | I have been waiting for a book like this for years and I could not be more impressed! It is beautifully designed and laid-out. Fascinating to read and perfectly comprehensive on the designers showcased, with the right amount of text for each. Over and above the fact that it is an essential reference book, it lets you connect to the human side of these designers that you've admired for years, yet knew so little of. These stories vanish as we do but it's good to know that someone took great care to save what he could find over the years, so he could share them with us in such a beautiful package. You will LOVE this book!

This is a pretty amazing book. The research on the early designers, Clare West and Lucia "Mother" Coulter alone would make this worth securing a copy. The photographs are very well selected to accompany the text. I appreciate that the authors went the distance on the early designers and did so well on choosing modern designers. Some great information on designers like Travis Banton and Howard Greer as well. This is an essential book for those who are interested in the topic of film fashion. Kudos.

I love Hollywood and I love movie fashion. This incredible book is a gold mine for anyone who enjoys the magic and glamour of old or new Hollywood. Starting with the silent movie era, Jorgensen and Scoggins follow every major and minor designer and illustrate their amazing creations up through the present time. The photos are sumptuous and the text enlightening and always entertaining. This book is classy in every way and a must for every cinema lover's library. Reading this book made me aware more the ever of the tremendous importance of costume to a movie's success and the brilliant work of these talented designers that the movie studios were lucky enough to put under contract. These costumes are works of art and have been so under appreciated. Hats off to Jay Jorgensen and Donald Scoggins for giving us this magnificent tome.

I have always loved movies but had no idea how incredibly important costumes were until I read this

book. This is a fascinating look behind the curtain, so to speak, at the history of the costumes and their creators. I was spellbound by the stunning photographs that wrap the text so artfully in this book. Pictures that have never been seen gathered from archives and private collectors enhance the storyline as you move through the decades. Bravo to Mr. Jorgensen for this massively important and brilliantly executed endeavor!

This book is wonderfully researched and full of great photos. It gives very interesting background on all these Hollywood costume designers, both well known and more obscure. I found it a fascinating read and a terrific addition to my collection of film history books. It's the perfect holiday gift for any classic movie buff.

I finished reading "Creating the Illusion" - every word, last night. Being compelled to read page by page, attests to the Authors' fine writing, and illustrated with grand photos, most of which I'd never seen before, makes it not only beautiful, but important. The factual aspects of life histories, combined with quotations, interviews, and historical facts about the movies costumed, illuminates the designers' lives credibly. Most importantly, although I've loved many aspects of film - especially costume, it has changed my perspective forever. It is the book I wanted to read (without knowing it). My only disappointment is that it ended. I want more..... text, photos, the next 3 volumes.....

A fabulous book filled with interesting stories of Hollywood's finest designers. Photos are outstanding! A MUST for movie goers who are interested in the designers who dressed the beautiful stars of the golden age.

I love this book. It fills in the details of my sketchy knowledge of a Hollywood long gone. This book is rich in photos and text. It is a great addition to the library of anyone interested in film, costume, fashion and more.

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