

# Special Makeup Effects for Stage and Screen: Making and Applying Prosthetics

By Todd Debreceni



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In the world of film and theatre, character transformation takes a lot of work, skill, and creativity. Dedicated solely to SFX, this book will show you tips and techniques from a seasoned SFX makeup artist with years of film, TV, and theatrical experience. Not only will this book take you through the many genres that need a special effects makeup artist, like horror, fantasy, and sci-fi, but it will also tell you about the tools you will need, how to maintain your toolkit, how to take care of the actor's skin, and how to airbrush properly when HD is involved.

The author shows you how to sculpt and mold your own makeup prosethetics, focusing on how human anatomy relates to sculpture to create the most realistic effects. Case studies feature some of today's top makeup artists including Neill Gorton, Christopher Tucker, Miles Teves, Jordu Schell, Mark Alfrey, Matthew Mungle, Christien Tinsely, Vittorio Sodano, and Mark Gabarino.

Put your new techniques into practice right away and see how some of the looks from the book were achieved with the step-by-step tutorials on the must-have DVD.



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"I'm now insanely jealous of all the people who will learn from this book because this is the book I would have killed to have had when I was starting out...... IT'S NOT FAIR!!!" -Neill Gorton, BAFTA winner for Best Makeup and Hair Design Help (2005), nominee for Best Makeup and Hair Design *The Catherine Tate Show* (2007), *Royal Television Society* (UK) winner for Best Makeup Design *Help* (2005), and nominee for Best Makeup Design *Doctor Who* (2005, 2006)

"Among the most exhaustive and thorough tomes on the subject of special effects makeup there is, written with a likable and easy-to-understand style that is accessible to all ages." -Jordu Schell, Creature and Character Designer

"The techniques and education in this book are inspiring. Creating believable character make-ups on human faces is a challenging, rewarding art form."-Matthew W. Mungle, Oscar winner & BAFTA nominee for Best Makeup *Dracula* (1992), Oscar nominee for *Best Makeup Ghosts of Mississippi* (1996), and Oscar & BAFTA nominee for Best Makeup *Schindler's List* (1993)

"Crammed with cutting edge information on materials and techniques, formulas, suppliers, how-to's, and more, this is a book I wish I had when I first started!"- Christopher Tucker, BAFTA winner for Best Makeup Artist *Quest for Fire [La Guerre du feu]* (1981), BAFTA nominee for Best Special Visual Effects & Best Makeup Artist *The Company of Wolves* (1984), and Emmy nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Makeup for a Miniseries or Special *War and Remembrance* (1988).

#### From the Back Cover

In the world of film and theatre, character transformation takes a lot of work, skill, and creativity. Dedicated solely to special effects makeup, this book gives you tips and techniques from a seasoned artist with years of film, TV, and theatrical experience. **Special Effects Makeup for Stage and Screen** begins with a full discussion of how human anatomy relates to sculpture and continues to show you how various effects are achieved, and takes you through the many genres that need an SFX makeup artist.

This heavily illustrated, four-color book will show you how to: "Decide what kind of tools you ll need "Care for your actors skin "Create lifecasts and apply prosthetics "Create and sculpt special effects with makeup "Advice on how to create your own portfolio "Maintaining your toolkit "And most importantly, how to develop a character for the stage or the screen The accompanying DVD contains step-by-step tutorials, a gallery of illustrations from industry experts, and additional exclusive resources.

#### About the Author

Todd Debreceni has worked in the entertainment industry for nearly 30 years, and before starting his own small effects shop in Colorado did work for TBS, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros. and Disney. He is a past recipient of a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award and a Denver Post Ovation Award for Special Accomplishment in Makeup Effects. Today he is a working makeup effects artist, teacher and writer. He works internationally and regularly conducts workshops and classes in special makeup effects for film, television and theatre.

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