



Movie magic

Two Disney favorites celebrate their platinum anniversaries with a collectible set

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COSTCO CONNECTION

The book plus Blu-ray disc and original movie poster packages for *Cinderella* and *Alice in Wonderland* (Item 1600962) will be available in mid-November in most Costco warehouses.

To celebrate the 70th and 71st anniversaries of the animated films *Alice in Wonderland* and *Cinderella*, respectively, Daniel Kothenschulte, an editor at publisher Taschen, joined forces with folks at Disney to offer a package with a Blu-ray disc and an original movie poster inside books dedicated to each masterpiece.

Through essays and curated images, both books reveal how these multigenerational fan favorites came to life. Masterful animation cel setups provide highly detailed illustrations of famous scenes, while rare pictures taken by Disney photographers bring an insider's view of the studio's creative process.

Says Kothenschulte, "Both were exciting subjects to research, because Walt [Disney] developed ideas for these films from the 1930s on. I learned that three important female artists left their marks on [*Cinderella*]; they were close friends. Bianca Majolie developed an early script and drew some lovely concepts; Mary Blair, the groundbreaking colorist, had a tremendous influence on the look of the film (just as she had on *Alice*); and Retta Scott created a beautiful picture book to come out with the film in the shape of a puppet theater."

Cinderella features essays by award-winning author, historian, filmmaker, educator and musician Mindy Johnson, while Disney writer, broadcaster and animation specialist Brian Sibley contributed essays for *Alice in Wonderland*. Both books have a special additional chapter on the history of Burbank Studios written by Kothenschulte.

"When I was young my greatest wish was there could be books like this that could give me an idea of how Disney films were made and could provide me with an insight to all the rich and wonderful production art. There were a few, but no way as complete as these that we have made," Kothenschulte tells the *Connection*. "Today, hand-drawn animation is almost a lost art. To my understanding, today there is only one studio in the world that can do something like it, which is Studio Ghibli in Japan.

"What I wanted to show is that everything about classic Disney films is made by hand and from the heart. With *Cinderella* and *Alice*, I wanted everyone to get access to beautiful art that Mary Blair and her peers created." ■