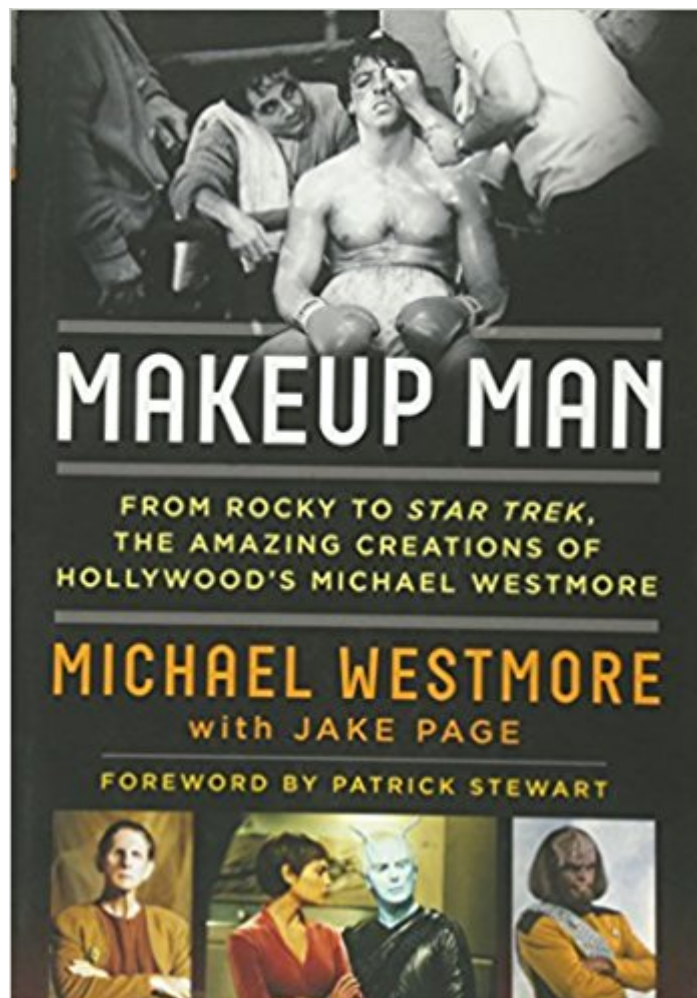




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# Makeup Man: From Rocky To Star Trek The Amazing Creations Of Hollywood's Michael Westmore



## Synopsis

Headline: A peek behind the Hollywood mask by one of its foremost makeup artists  
In Hollywood's heyday, almost every major studio had a Westmore heading up the makeup department. Since 1917, there has never been a time when Westmores weren't shaping the visages of stardom. For their century-long dedication to the art of makeup, the Westmores were honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2008. In this lively memoir, Michael Westmore not only regales us with tales of Hollywood's golden age, but also from his own career where he notably transformed Sylvester Stallone into Rocky Balboa and Robert DiNiro into Jake LaMotta, among many other makeup miracles. Westmore's talent as a makeup artist first became apparent when he created impenetrable disguises for Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis, Burt Lancaster, Robert Mitchum, and Frank Sinatra for the 1963 film *The List of Adrian Messenger*. He later went on to become the preferred makeup man for Bobby Darin and Elizabeth Taylor, and worked on such movies and TV shows as *The Munsters*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *Eleanor and Franklin*, *New York, New York*, *2010: A Space Odyssey*, and *Mask*, for which he won an academy award. The next phase of his career was to create hundreds of alien characters for over 600 episodes of *Star Trek* in all its iterations, from *The Next Generation* to *Enterprise*. Replete with anecdotes about Hollywood and its stars, from Bette Davis's preference for being made-up in the nude to Shelley Winters's habit of nipping from a little bottle while on the set, *Makeup Man* will satisfy any Hollywood fan's appetite for gossip or a behind-the-scenes look at how tinsel town's most iconic film characters were created. Academy Award-winning Michael Westmore has been making up the stars for over fifty years. He frequently appears on the SyFy channel show *Face Off* with his daughter McKenzie Westmore.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Readers will want to take a giant step back in time with Academy Award “winner Westmore’s amiable and intimate look at his family, a Hollywood makeup dynasty for four generations, and the stars they’ve been making look good since 1917. His own career began in 1961 with a Universal Studios apprenticeship, all the time being “watched like a hawk” by family elders. Readers of a certain age will lap up stories about Bobby Darin and Sandra Dee’s budding romance, Desi Arnaz’s (emergency) horsehair mustache, and Ernest Borgnine’s doomed marriage to Ethel Merman. As the book progresses, younger readers will recognize more names and productions, including Harrison Ford in Blade Runner and Sylvester Stallone (whose fight scene injuries Westmore created) in Rocky. Westmore dishes occasionally but usually has a nice word to say about his clients. He even shares Elizabeth Taylor’s chili recipe. Later sections concentrate on Westmore’s decades-long association with the Star Trek series. Tighter editing might have eliminated the book’s “Snippets,” a miscellaneous closing collection of reminiscences, but most of them are just as entertaining as the book proper.” (Publishers Weekly)

Michael Westmore recently completed visual and oral recordings for the archives at the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, said to be the longest archival session the Academy has recorded. He is currently working on season #9 of Face Off. Jake Page is the author of over forty books of fiction and non-fiction, including natural history and Native American themes. Jake Page was the founding editor of Doubleday’s Natural History Press, as well as editorial director of Natural History magazine and science editor of Smithsonian magazine. He has written more than forty books on the natural sciences, zoological topics, and Native American affairs, as well as mystery fiction. He died in 2015.

Long anticipated recount of not only the work of the award winning Michael Westmore, but also a tribute to the achievements, ground breaking techniques and chronology of the Westmore family. An easy to read manuscript covering over 75 years of history. From behind the scenes musing and stories, to individual attention of projects, there is something for everyone within the pages.

Appliance sketches for turning Robert De Niro in Jake LaMonta, for example, clearly on the back side of the script, provide insight into the subtleties of Michael's work. Frankly, I just can't put this book down. I can't help smiling while reading the text, recounting memories about the wonderfully creative and dedicated people who make movie magic. Thank you Mr. Westmore!

This a great read for anyone who is familiar with the Westmore makeup dynasty and the history of Michael Westmore's life in the makeup business. Actually, he makes his life's work seem more like fun than business, and you will share in this fun from the 60's through the present when you read this highly entertaining book. Michael discusses his beginnings as an apprentice, then shows us the intricacies of making up such celebrities as Sylvester Stallone, Robert De Niro and a who's who of other famous celebrities. For the trekkies among us, you will be treated to an entire history of the series beginning with the Next Generation through to the Enterprise. This is a must read for anyone who values the history of motion pictures and television. Jerry Headley, English teacher

How could I not give this 5 stars?? In all seriousness, my dad did an incredible job at encompassing everything from start to finish of our family, their crazy start in Hollywood, the amazing inventions they created and innovations to makeup that every woman uses to this day to his own stories and experiences on and off set as a top artist to his craft! So beyond impressed with this book and such a great read! Dad, you made me proud!

While I've always been a fan of those behind the scenes, especially special effects and make up, my interests going back years, I found this book a bit dull. I expected way more photographs for one thing. And it's written a bit haphazardly to boot. All those years on star trek, for example and there's just a bare minimum of pictures. The writing is a bit on the dull side as well. In all just an ok book.

A great account of Westmore's life, filled with a lot a charming anecdotes from many Hollywood stars. The chapter dedicated to Stallone's Rocky is wonderful.

WONDERFUL.

Really enjoyed reading Mr. Westmore's accounts of early Hollywood and the people he's met thru his work! I mean, Sylvester Stallone showed up at his hotel room and gave him a Rolex! Just a fun read!

The Westmores are an amazing family, and I was so stoked to see that one of my behind the scenes heroes had a book coming out. Great read too.

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