



Up in Flames: The Art of Flame Painting

By Tim Phelps, Sam Radoff

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Flame painting first lit up the hot rod world more than 50 years ago—and it’s still burning strong. At the heart of the art are a handful of innovators who have pushed the tradition to ever-greater heights over the past half-century—and these are the artists profiled in this book. *Up in Flames* introduces readers to the flame painters who best represent the talent and inspiration that give this particular art form its power, and whose stories best illustrate the evolution of the flame job. Each profile features full-color illustrations and photographs, examples of an artist’s range, and the painter’s own thoughts on style, career, and craft—all framed by an introduction that traces the flame job from its infancy to today’s modern techniques and designs. Also included is a unique and comprehensive - over 5 pages - timeline of the history of flames and painting.

The profiled flame artists are:

Dave Bell, Don “The Egyptian” Boeke, Robert E. “Bobbo” Dunn, Pete “Hot Dog” Finlan, Craig Fraser, Jack “The Italian” Giachino, Cary Greenwood, Art Himsl, Keith Knecht, Herb “The Line Doctor” Martinez, Tommy “Itchy” Otis, Rory Pentecost, Rod Powell, “Yosemite” Sam Radoff, Dennis Ricklefs, George Roybal, Steve Vandemon, and Mike “Wet” Willey.

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Editorial Review

Review

Drive!,

December 2006

“Phelps’ book ... is the best book on the history of the aspect of rods and customs.”

Rod & Custom, January 2007

“We shouldn’t be telling you about this – not if we ever hope to publish another story about the history of flame painting – but Motorbooks recently released a great book by Tim Phelps, “Yosemite” Sam Radoff, and photographer Paul Westbrook that covers the story of flaming and ‘striping from its earliest days right until today.’ Grab a copy ... for everyone on your Christmas list and one copy for yourself.”

CruZin’ Magazine,

November/December 2006

“The 18 men profiled in this new book, Up in Flames, put the hot in hot rodding ... As I read, my sweat drops on the page.”

AutoArt Magazine, November/December 2006

“Each of the 18 profiles features full-color, on-location photography that highlights some of the artists’ greatest works ... framed by an introduction that traces custom flame painting from its infancy to today’s modern techniques and designs.”

About the Author

Tim Phelps is a professor and medical and scientific illustrator at Johns Hopkins University SOM. He has flamed over 600 miniature cars, and his writing has been featured in more than three dozen hot rod, toy, and art magazines and blogs. He is also author and artist of the nature mandala "Wonders" series "(Schiffer 2016). He lives in Towson, Maryland.

Sam Radoff, a flame painter and fine artist with four decades of experience, has won virtually every award in hot rod circles. He lives in Delaware, Ontario, Canada.

Paul Westbrook, originally from London, spent his formative years as an apprentice in advertising photography with a number of renowned English photographers before moving to Minneapolis. During his career, he has worked with Harley-Davidson, Ford, Michelin and Target.

Users Review

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