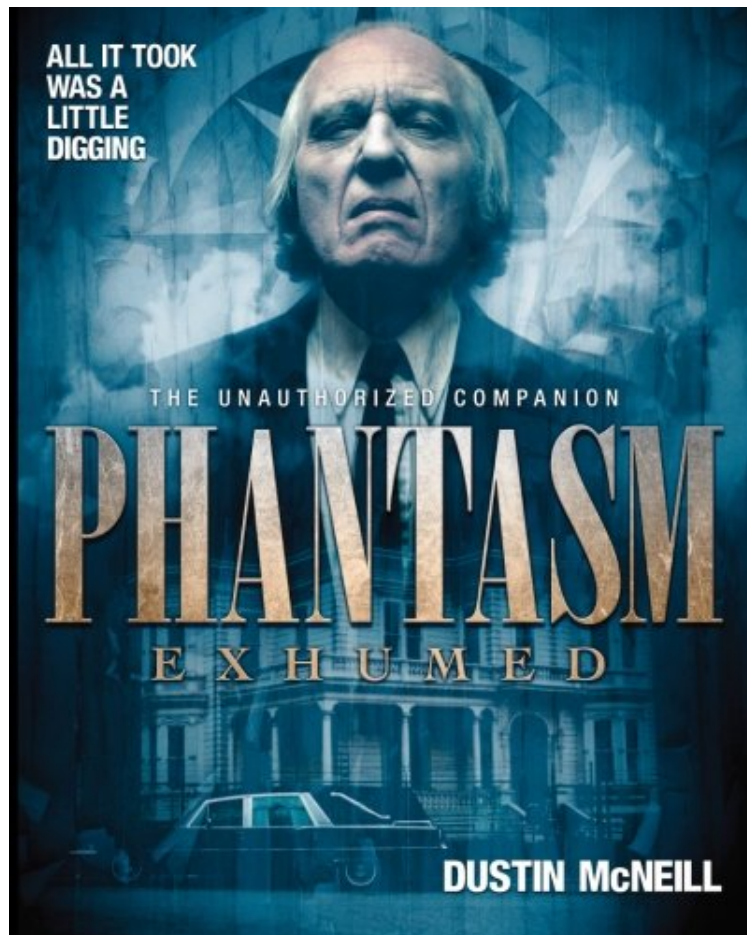


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## Phantasm Exhumed: The Unauthorized Companion

*Dustin McNeill*

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**Dustin McNeill : Phantasm Exhumed: The Unauthorized Companion** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Phantasm Exhumed: The Unauthorized Companion:

35 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Smells good, tastes sensational By Lawrence Rory Guy It's like a brimming over bowlful hot-battered popcorn fresh from the popper, a deeply gratifying entertainment with something to chuckle over, marvel at or cheer on every page. The fifty or sixty-odd interviewees obviously had a blast working on Coscarelli's films and their affectionate, often humorous reminiscences glow out from the paragraphs of Dustin McNeill's skillful prose. I've read the book all through but can't resist picking it up and re-reading again and again at random for fresh enjoyment.. If I do have one single objection,, it's that the 260 photos the book boasts of may include an excess of one tall, gaunt, scowling personage clad in black. . Of course, being an actor, he'd probably be the last to complain. 19 of 19 people found the following review helpful. I've been waiting for you...for a very long time! Wow, what a book. By Kindle Customer Finally, after 35 years, a book that goes behind the scenes from start to finish on the making of this unique horror franchise. Phantasm has grown to cult status since it first hit the silver sphere, er, screen

back in 1979. The book covers director Don Coscarelli's early career with films like *Kenney Co*, leading up to the secluded retreat at Big Bear where he dreamed up the story of *Morningside* (Phantasm's early working title). There are plenty of never before seen behind the scene photos of the entire cast that spans all 5, yes I said 5 films. The book was delayed to include the latest information on the upcoming *Phantasm V-RaVager*. Angus Scrimm, who played the notorious villain The Tall Man, kept a diary during Phantasm's filming, and excerpts are included that shed light on the daily production triumphs and setbacks as well as some insecurities the actor faced. Most of the information is told by the people who were there at the time, so accuracy is spot on. A real treat is looking back at the different filming locations, from Mausoleums to "Hanging Trees" and set construction photos. One of Phantasm's biggest stars was not played by any actor, and isn't even human. Yes, I'm talking about the sinister Silver Spheres. At first thought, they sound like very simple Christmas ornaments thrown around, but the story of their creation, and evolution is very entertaining and insightful. The book reveals Coscarelli's skillful directing style and his eventual dislike for "Big Corporate" studios who hampered his vision of the series. One learns the micro-budget the cast and crew worked with on most of the films and how improvising and necessities lead to long delays, but a production that took its time and got it right to eventually give the franchise its likability it is come to be known for. The book also has biographies on all of the key actors in the series as well as some familiar faces of those "unlucky enough" to meet a grisly demise in the films. Very refreshing, well written and to the point, any fan, casual or die hard, will find this book "Fascinating" (sorry, I had to do it). A must read for horror fans. To quote the Tall Man, "Careful what you look for...you just might find it" 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. McNeill swings for the fence and Knocks one out of the park. By Motorworldmedia As a longtime Phantasm Phan since the first release in 1979 when I first saw Phantasm at the age of thirteen something about this film just got inside of me and has never left over the years. Reading Dustin McNeill's *Phantasm Exhumed* just transported me back through the space gate once again. What I took away from this paperback masterpiece is that passion lives on behind the scenes of the Phantasm Franchise. Dustin McNeill should be applauded on his never ending efforts to bring this to the Phans. Most mortals will never fully comprehend the endless work and dedication it took to assemble the group and information to make this book a reality. The entire cast and crew your contributions have been brought back to life from behind the Coscarelli Panavision camera. The extraordinary never before seen photos compliment McNeill's writing style and layout in a way that keeps the reader wanting more. The overall page design flows for easy reading and I must give praise for the remarkable creative concept that graces the stunning cover that is sure to stand the test of time. A very special kudos to Angus Scrimm, Kristen Deem, Guy Thorpe Mark Shostrom for documenting the entire experience which could never be told without your in-depth journals, on-set experiences and remarkable rare photography. Angus Scrimm's contributions span over three decades, ever so enlightening with hand written detailed accounts of real time experiences on and off set that indulge the reader to a new level of interest with-in the series from the Tall Man's personal perspective. Without the master creator of The Phantasm Series, Mr. Don Coscarelli none of this would be remotely possible. In closing the people that worked behind the scenes on and off screen in the Phantasm Films is what makes the real difference and this book is a tribute to all of them and the Phans of the franchise. From one Phan to another we have Dustin McNeill to thank tremendously for embarking on such a project that has become and will always be a piece of living and breathing Phantasm history. Your humble efforts are greatly appreciated. Job well done! This book is "The first ever book of extremely well documented Phantasm History and a must read and own for any Phantasm Phan or follower of the series". My advice to all Phantasm Phans is to secure your copy today this book will soon be a rare collectors item in the future.

A Story of Blood, Sweat Spheres! Ready your shovels for *Phantasm Exhumed*, the first book on the making of the Phantasm franchise. Featuring more than sixty new interviews with cast, crew, effects creators and studio executives, *Exhumed* takes readers behind the scenes of the franchise that catapulted the Tall Man into the annals of horror iconography. Trace Phantasm's history from forerunners *Jim the World's Greatest* and *Kenny Company* through to *Phantasm: Oblivion* and beyond. Contained within are the classic tales of Phantasm lore along with production stories never before told by the filmmakers. Careful what you look for... you just might find it within this book!

About the Author Dustin McNeill has been lurking behind the scenes of PHANTASM since 2007, the year in which he launched the popular PHANTASM ARCHIVES website. In 2008 he personally organized Michael Baldwin's return to the convention scene for several cast reunions. In 2009 he penned a widely acclaimed cover article for *HORRORHOUND* #17. This issue, containing his 30th Anniversary PHANTASM retrospective, quickly sold out all copies. McNeill has also designed official websites for PHANTASM veterans including co-star Bill Thornbury and talented SPFX creator Mark Shostrom. In 2012 McNeill helped coordinate supplemental features for *Scream Factory's PHANTASM II collector's edition Blu-Ray* release and served as an early consultant for *THE BALL IS BACK* documentary. *PHANTASM EXHUMED* is the culmination of half a decade of research and is Dustin McNeill's first book.