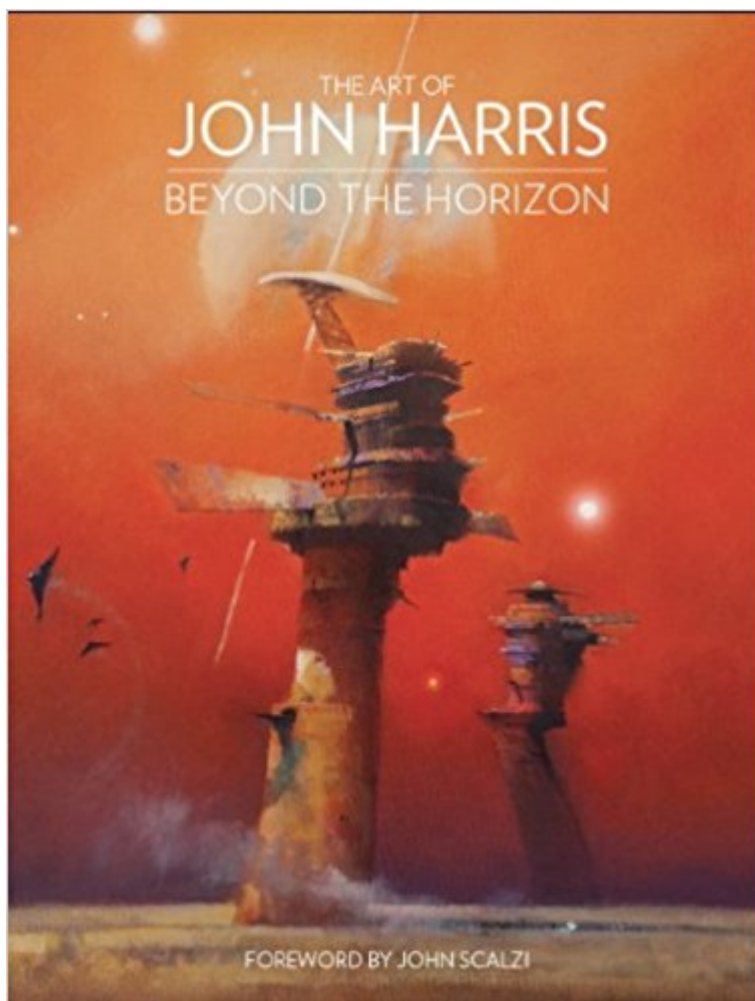


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# The Art Of John Harris: Beyond The Horizon



## Synopsis

World-renowned visionary artist John Harris' unique concept paintings capture the Universe on a massive scale, featuring everything from epic landscapes and towering cities to out-of-this-world science fiction vistas.Â This collection focuses on his wide variety of futuristic art, as well as his striking covers for a variety of esteemed SF authors, including Arthur C Clarke, John Scalzi, Ben Bova, Hal Clement, Jack McDevitt, Frederik Pohl, Orson Scott Card's Enders books and many more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"His absorbing vistas, immense in scale, have graced book covers aplenty, but now theyâ™re getting their own spotlight." - Barnes and Noble"Science-fiction fans, painters and artists looking to outer space and distant worlds for inspiration? Â Well then, make sure you check out The Art of John Harris: Beyond The Horizon." - Retrenders"His new book provides a fantastic primer for that long and varied career, along with some great insight into his process." - The VergeÂ "Since Harris' work is imaginative and painted in interesting ways, this work is worth adding to collections of illustration art fans and those of painters in general." - Art Contrarian"The striking paintings and illustrations of English artist John Harris imagine a brightly colored, haunting world beyond Earth and even beyond the stars." - Flavorwire"AA very handsome collection." - John Scalziâ™s WhateverÂ "This is the perfect collection to adorn the coffee table of any science fiction fan." - Geek Art Gallery"Do not miss this beautiful collection of timeless sci-fi artwork!" - Â MuggleNet"As John Harris has strongly influenced my imagination over the years, I am pleased to see his work

presented in a high quality volume at a price that everyone can enjoy." - SF Signal "Titan Books has released another fabulous art book of a contemporary science fiction artist. The Art of John Harris, Beyond The Horizon is as beautiful as the images contained in it." - Tor.com "Your favorite fantastical cover artist, even if you never realized it." - io9 "Breathtaking Paintings." - Paste "For those who need to get lost in epic science fictions scenes that will capture your wonderment. 10/10." - Adventures in Poor Taste "If you're looking for something to set your mind wandering and spark some inspiration, I highly recommend a trip Beyond the Horizon and take the kids, too." - Geek Dad "This is definitely something that you should be proud to display on coffee table... You'll spend hours thumbing through these pages." - Giant Freakin Robot "Fantastic Sci-Fi art shows you a beautiful, bewildering future." - Wired.com "Harris is one of the most recognizable figures in SF art. This book is beautiful!" - BuzzFeed Community

John Harris is a British painter and illustrator, best known for working in the science fiction genre. His extraordinary paintings have been used on book covers for many science fiction authors, including Isaac Asimov, Frederik Pohl, Ben Bova, Orson Scott Card and Jack Vance.

John Harris was the cover artist for one of the first science fiction books I ever bought new; one of the old "Best of Trek" anthologies. I was delighted to find that painting reproduced here, in larger size and without the wear and tear of years. Due to its subject matter, it may be dismissed by those who are more interested in "traditional" subjects, those that prefer another variation on "The Bishops Garden", or those who collect the factory-produced pastoralism of Thomas Kinkaid. Harris's art, like science fiction itself, looks not to a fossilized past, but rather imagines terrors and wonders of what may come. The works in this book cover a range of years and covers for different authors, and reflect changes in Harris's own technique. There is a conspicuous lack of photoshop-ery, the originals being frequently oil on canvas and have a quality that CGI cannot yet seem to match. The book itself is oversized, the paper heavy and the images are usually full page. The images are of a style that is--to my mind--associated with the likes of Chris Foss, John Berkey, and Robert McCall. It is "painterly" in that the scenes are by no means photo-realistic, but every image can--if you take the time to examine it--pull you in with its depth and layers of detail, of stories to be told (regardless of whatever book they might have been commissioned for), of simple wide-eyed wonder. I don't often find or am so emotionally moved by imagery such as is in this collection, and very happy to have it near to hand.

The Art of John Harris - Beyond the Horizon - ( 0684 - Art - February 13, 2016) In 1959 I passed a newsstand window display every day on my paper route. Prominently displayed were that's months latest science fiction magazines. I was mesmerized by the cover artwork. Eventually I purchased some of those magazines and a life long interest in science and science-fiction was nurtured. What this has to do with "The Art of John Harris - Beyond the Horizon", was motivated by the foreword to this book by John Scalzi:"John's artwork is bookstore iconic - which is to say you can see it from across a bookstore, and when you see it you know what your going to get in the pages of that book: a damn fine read that takes you places you can't go any other way. People forget that cover art isn't just good art, it's also in a practical sense, a form of advertisement. It's also, in a very real way, a promise." Most of the images in this lavish, oversized book, all in glorious color I may add, were commissioned as cover art for science-fiction books. As a "promise" per John Scalzi the reproductions works for me - and I'm mesmerized again. Highly recommended.

I am not an artist. I'm an English teacher, and I love science fiction, and I love the art of John Harris - I could stare at his paintings for hours. Imagine my delight then, when last fall, my students and I were given the opportunity to interview John Harris about his career as a science fiction artist. For an hour we picked his brain about his upbringing, his inspiration, his techniques, and his relationships with publishers and writers. Harris told us about growing up in an English countryside littered with the rotting and rusting artifacts of World War II; he told us about how he draws on nature to create images; and he talked at length with us about two pieces in particular, Quiet Night and Cleaning the Ducts (both of which receive full spreads in this book). The conversation was fascinating and insightful, and, of course, left us all wanting more. Would you like more? Then I give you The Art of John Harris: Beyond the Horizon. While it's true that a lot of Harris's artwork can be seen on the internet, or indeed by walking up and down the SF/F aisles at Barnes and Noble, this beautiful and sturdy book provides a wealth of both his most popular artwork, and paintings that I have never seen before. In addition to the finished paintings, Harris has also included numerous pastels and sketches. These were my favorites, as, to my brain, the small colored sketches crackle with life and energy. But what this book provides, most importantly, is context. Harris explains over several pages that much of the work in this book is of a single world and culture, created in his head, just so he could paint it. As he explains, he imagines himself on a donkey, traveling into a world that humans have not seen before, and, rather than having the luxury of something as mundane as a camera, he paints what he sees as though he were going to return to humanity to show us for the first time exotic peoples, locations, architecture,

cultures, and myths that inhabit the dark ares on the map. I'm having a hard time doing this concept justice - it seems corny when I read my explanation, but trust me, the depth of knowledge that Harris has created to pull from rivals the imagination of any science fiction writer. Almost every reader of science fiction knows Harris's art and style, but, tragically, few readers know his name. Hopefully, this book will start to change that. The Art of John Harris: Beyond the Horizon is 150 pages of stunning paintings, sketches, and reflections pulled from over 40 years of work. Each vision that comes from the brain of John Harris is a masterpiece, and each image in this book personifies the awe, the grandeur and the mystery that made us all fall in love with science fiction in the first place.

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