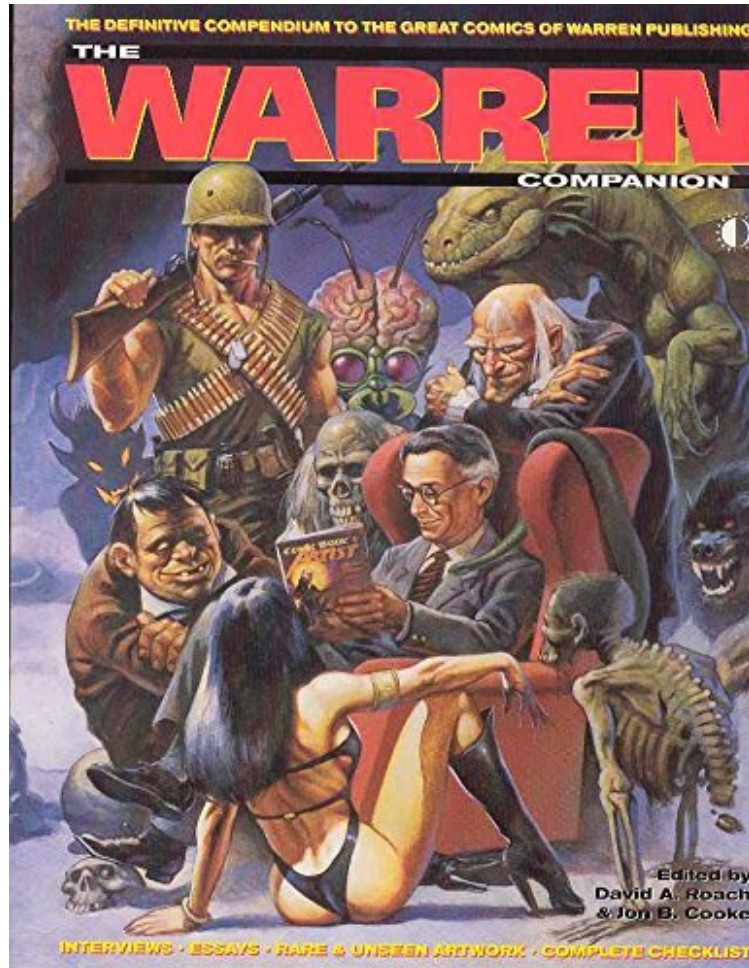


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## The Warren Companion

*Jon B. Cooke, David Roach*

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**Jon B. Cooke, David Roach : The Warren Companion** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Warren Companion:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The great Spanish artists all deserve a chapter respectively! By Sealed Fate A great read and well worth tracking down, even at slightly elevated after-market prices (I believe this is still out of print?). Though, it isn't definitive by a long shot - specifically, the essential contributions made by the Spanish artists are not given much of the "spotlight" which is unjust. Perhaps maybe in a later edition or volume? This is otherwise filled with great info photos and the Jim Warren interview is entertaining in and of itself. Again, well worth tracking down and hopefully one day the author will take on writing a revised edition that will put this very good book back into circulation. 9 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Were the Spanish artists a little too "French" for Americans? By Jolar70 This is a great and informative book if you loved the wonderful BW (and ink wash) magazine-format comics from Warren Publishing from the mid 60's thru the early 80's. Primarily "Creepy",

"Eerie", and "Vampirella". So why only 3 stars? Because, for some INSANE reason, the editors did a wonderful job collecting essays and interviews with many of the American writers, artists and collaborators at Warren, but gave only the most cursory of nods to the Spanish artists whose incredible and ground-breaking work almost entirely filled Warren's magazines from 1972 to the end of that decade. To be fair, there is quite a detailed and informative text-only article devoted to them, but relegated to the very final appendix of the book. Sadly this seems to follow suit with the perceptions that have ghettoized them as somehow second-class, or so homogeneous that one artist's work was indistinguishable from another. If you know their work, however, nothing could be further from the truth. The Spanish artists had mastered the art of BW composition in a way that equals the highest achievements in Film Noir or photography. These were serious commercial artists with an adult sensibility so above the next generation of 80's kids who learned to draw only from comic books, that it's hard to describe. And, like anything, as you become accustomed to a body of work, you begin to see how individual each creator's work was. How incomparable Fernando Fernandez was in his control of light and composition with the simplest of lines, how Ramon Torrents achieved almost puzzle-like effects as he framed his photorealistic figures within intricate and ornate Art Nouveau patterns, and of course the incredible women of "Vampirella's" signature artist Jose Gonzales, as well as the great Esteban Moroto, both of whom brought a distinct European sensuality to their subjects. And there were many others (such as Jose Bea, Felix Mas, and Luis Garcia) whose work, for me, often surpassed even our very best comic illustrators. Not to mention Enrich Torres and Manuel Sanjulian, who carried on in Frazetta's tradition of providing evocative cover paintings in league with the very best paperbacks and movie posters of the day. Unfortunately you'll see almost no examples of this in the book. For me, the levels of quality and creativity that the Spanish artists achieved in the first half of the 1970's has never really been equalled since. American comic book art has certainly improved since the 1980's, and there are some wonderful examples on the shelves every month, but the fact that the legacy of the Spanish artists has almost completely disappeared is very sad. So, THEN, to have a book explicitly about Warren comics that does not even integrate their efforts, or even provide more than a handful of examples, was a severe let-down. It seems like this book is out of print now. I only hope that the next one that attempts to tell the story of Warren comics will better recognize the impact and experimental achievements of the Spanish artists on the medium. Or maybe it's time to give them their own book!

Taschen, are you listening? Incidentally, I cringe when I see "New and Used" sellers on charging over \$200 for a book like this. I found mine, THIS year, at cover price, in an old comic book store. Keep an eye out for it. It's not worth \$200. but, even with its missing Spaniards, there's still a great amount of information here.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. "The Warren Companion (Hardcover) (Deluxe Edition) ... The Ultimate Book on this wonderful 20 Year Craze" By J. Lovins TwoMorrows Publishing presents "THE WARREN COMPANION" [Hardcover] [Deluxe Edition], edited by Welsh comics artists and historian David A. Roach and CBA editor Jon B. Cooke, this is the definitive and fully authorized book celebrating and examining the underrated Warren Publications, a must have for any serious comic book fan. Was quite young when the legendary horror movie magazine 'Famous Monsters of Filmland' hit the newsstands, Warren Publications suddenly took the comic world by storm. Six years later in 1965 CREEPY #1 stunned, delighted and terrified its young readers. They were filled with compelling tales of terror exquisitely illustrated by many of the best artists of the day. The magazine proved to be just the tip of the iceberg of horror. As Warren Publishing went on to produce some of the finest comic book stories in the history of the genre. In the pages of CREEPY, EERIE, VAMPIRELLA, BLAZING COMBAT, HELP!, THE SPIRIT, COMIX INTERNATIONAL, 1984, THE ROOK and many more, readers discovered extraordinary artists and writers coming together to create more extraordinary work. Sadly to say in 1983 the company suddenly disappeared from the planet. In 1999, Comic Book Artist magazine published the most comprehensive history of the oft-neglected company to date in its Eisner Award winning fourth issue. But, until now, the riveting story of Warren Publishing was incomplete. In addition to reprinting the contents of CBA #4, this volume contains many new interviews, features, articles, and the most comprehensive and exhaustive checklist ever compiled on Warren Publishing's incredible output. For product description and editorial review check this out on the site above my review. \* FEATURES INCLUDE \* 1. JAMES WARREN and his Empire of Horror 2. NEAL ADAMS takes aim on "ThrillKill" 3. "In Deep" with RICH CORBEN 4. BRUCE JONES 4. Bravo for adventurous ace artist ALEX TOTH 5. A "Spirited" conversation with WILL EISNER 6. The Muck Monster-maker BERNIE WRIGHTSON 7. AL WILLIAMSON reveals his "Success Story" 8. HARVEY KURTZMAN offers up some "Help!" 9. Lots of "Give and Take" with RUSS HEATH 10. The Weezy Way with LOUISE JONES SIMONSON 11. JIM STENSTRUM spins his Nuclear Hit Parade 12. The years of 1984 beyond with WILLIAM DUBAY 13. JOHN R. COCHRAN gets "Disenfranchised" 14. "Captain" FLO STEINBERG, A.M. (After Marvel) 15. DAN ADKINS is "Overworked" and underpaid 16. NICK CUTI's POW!-WOW with WALLY WOOD 17. Thumb's Up: ANNE T. MURPHY on ARCHIE's comics 18. ANGELO TORRES' "Howling Success" - and MORE! Highly recommend - if you love comics, adore horror, or just interested in the career of a true American original - with an inclusive most comprehensive detailed check list on the entire 20 year comic output of Warren Publications - complete with artist/writer cross reference and character /serial index - Great read for the over the top fan, who wanted to know everything about Warren Magazine Empire. Total Page: 288 Pages ~ TwoMorrows Publishing #ISBN-13: 978-1893905092 ~ (July 1, 2001)

The Warren Companion is the ultimate compendium to the great comics of Warren Publishing, examining all the titles including Creepy, Eerie, Vampirella, Blazing Combat, Help!, The Spirit, and many more! Including the most cross-indexed artist and writer listing, this tome also features a new painted cover by Alex Horley, reams of unpublished art, archival photos, examinations of Warren's competition, plus exhaustive details on Warren merchandise, conventions, top strips, most prolific contributors, foreign publications, and many other fascinating oddities! Also featuring new articles on Richard Corben, Frank Frazetta, Steve Ditko and others, and interviews with Bernie Wrightson, Jim Warren, Will Eisner, Neal Adams, Gene Colan and many more.