

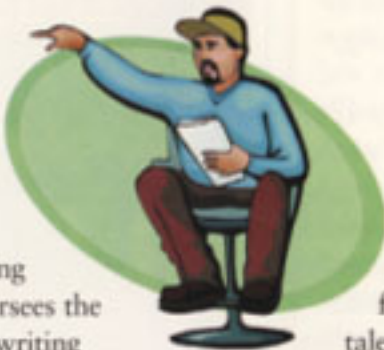


# 'BEHIND THE SCENES'

BY HEATHER M. HOPKINS

**H**ave you ever watched film credits roll up the screen and wondered why it took so many people to make a movie? Here's a who's who of people "behind the scenes" of Hollywood:

The **PRODUCER** is the head decision maker in the filmmaking process. He or she oversees the budget, as well as the writing and directing of a film. After filming is complete, the producer supervises the editing, music, and distribution of a film.



The **CASTING DIRECTOR** chooses, or "casts," the actors in a film. He or she works with talent agents to find specific actor types, such as tall Asian girls who can rollerblade. The casting director organizes auditions and, together with the director, hires the actors for a film.

The **DIRECTOR** is in charge of the creative "vision" of a film. The director auditions actors, approves costumes and sets, and oversees everything from the camera angles to how an actor plays a part. The director works with the producer, editor, and music composer after filming is complete.

The **CINEMATOGRAPHER**, or "cinema photographer," is in charge of the actual filming of a movie. By adjusting the lighting, camera angles, lenses, and type of film, the cinematographer helps bring to life the director's vision.



The **COSTUME DESIGNER** is in charge of the clothing and accessories actors wear in a film. He or she researches fashion from different periods in history, makes drawings and patterns of costumes, shops for fabrics, and oversees the dyeing, sewing, and construction of costumes.



The **SET DESIGNER** creates the set, or the constructed location where a movie is filmed. After making sketches and models of the scene, he or she then manages the construction of each set, including the buildings and furnishings appropriate to the period.

A **STUNTPERSON** performs dangerous and difficult feats in place of the actors. He or she trains for many years before jumping from planes or tumbling out of windows as safely as possible. Stuntpeople often rely on special-effects artists to enhance the reality of their stunts.



The **SPECIAL-EFFECTS ARTIST** uses computer animation and intricate models to create images that are too difficult for designers and stuntpeople to produce. The artist brings to life unusual creatures, constructs complex new worlds, and even creates unseasonal weather, such as snow in the summer by using potato flakes.



The **MAKEUP ARTIST** transforms actors using latex (a type of rubber that can enhance or create facial features), wigs, powders, and paints. A talented makeup artist can dramatically change an actor's appearance, transforming someone to look 50 years older, or like an alien from Mars.



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