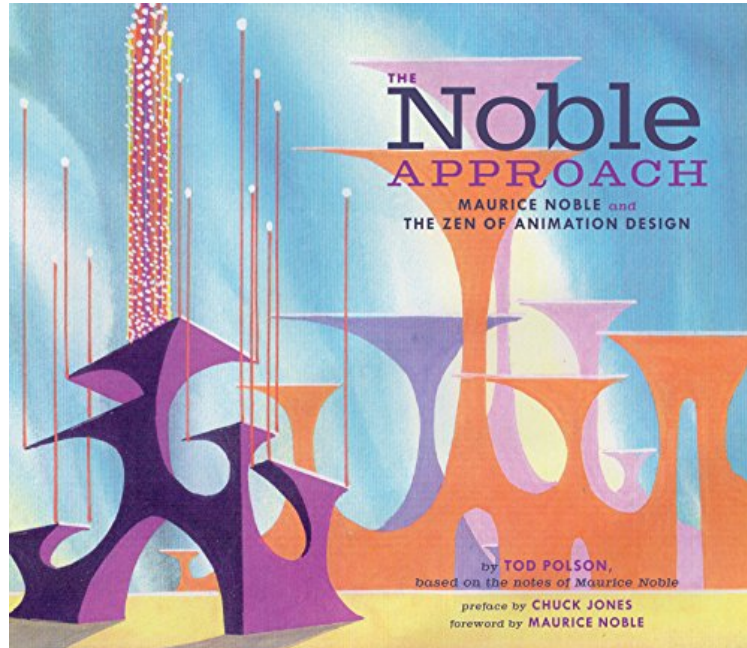


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# The Noble Approach: Maurice Noble and the Zen of Animation Design

Tod Polson

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**Tod Polson : The Noble Approach: Maurice Noble and the Zen of Animation Design** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Noble Approach: Maurice Noble and the Zen of Animation Design:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Good book for those into animation and design  
By Parka[[VIDEOID:mo2IKTQCAW23DW5]]The Noble Approach is a book that's part biography and part animation design tips featuring the late great Maurice Noble. As a kid, I would watch the Warner Bros cartoons and never think about things like art and design. They are good which is why people watch them. Well, in this book, you'll go behind the scenes and look at the person who has a hand at creating some of these animated productions, and understand his design philosophies. Author Tod Polson who has apprenticed under Noble has done a good job with the biography detailing the designer's life and career right from the start. It's an inspiring tale of someone who has gone through a tumultuous period, with the need to support his family while still young, going through various career changes, having the ups and downs with co-workers, while still maintaining the passion to put out good design for animation and screen. The biography is about a third of the book. The rest are his philosophies on design. It's on how he handles story beats, story elements, using reference, contrast, simplifying elements, colour theory, perspective, layout, and more. The text and the illustrated examples are insightful. It's a collection of design principles he has learned and compiled over the 60 years he spent in the industry. It's a good book for those into animation and design, or into traditional animation design. (There are more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my profile for the link.)  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This should be in your library.  
By daniel Schier One of the best animation books I have. I've collected many animation books. This one is at the top of the heap. There's plenty of great art examples in this book from one of - if not the best animation designers of all time. Much of the art is in raw form to illustrate

points - it's not just a series of pretty pictures. And you get to hear his perspective on design for animation and read insights into the business that are just as pertinent today - even more so, because today many talented young designers are clueless about the ideas Maurice expresses and would benefit greatly from them. In addition, it's an easy read: It's broken into subjects and the authors don't get too philosophical. Most of the material is clear, concise and helpful to anyone working in animation. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A must have book on the best layout artist!

By Customer  
Maurice Noble was the biggest influence on me in my decision to enter the animation arena. Maurice created most of the layouts (the backgrounds) for Chuck Jones during the classic Warner Bros. cartoons era. As a kid, I would specifically look for Maurice's and Chuck's names to appear in the credits, because I knew it was going to be a great cartoon. I now have a wonderful companion book to Frank Ollie's "The Illusion of Life" as a valuable learning guide to study the masters of animation.

This extraordinary volume examines the life and animation philosophy of Maurice Noble, the noted American animation background artist and layout designer whose contributions to the industry span more than 60 years and include such cartoon classics as Duck Dodgers in the 24<sup>th</sup> Century, What's Opera, Doc?, and The Road Runner Show. Revered throughout the animation world, his work serves as a foundation and reference point for the current generation of animators, story artists, and designers. Written by Noble's longtime friend and colleague Tod Polson and based on the draft manuscript Noble worked on in the years before his death, this illuminating book passes on his approach to animation design from concept to final frame, illustrated with sketches and stunning original artwork spanning the full breadth of his career.

" an exquisitely designed art book...The Noble Approach: Maurice Noble and the Zen of Animation Design is a truly essential book that belongs in every animator's and animation fan's library." - AnimationWorld  
Holiday Gift Guide Pick - Ain't It Cool News  
Holiday Gift Guide Pick - Entertainment Weekly  
"one of the best animation books of the year...a fantastic look at the master artist's inspiring work process, providing a rich collection of artwork, notes, lovely anecdotes and valuable lessons about creating timeless toons." - Animation Magazine  
"The Noble Approach: Maurice Noble and the Zen of Animation Design ranks among the most unique and delightful animation books in recent memory. It goes without saying that the book's well-balanced mix of technical tips and anecdotal advice makes it a must-buy title for professional artists and students, but it should also appeal to fans of classic of animation who will surely gain a renewed appreciation for the Chuck Jones canon." - Cartoon Brew  
"I've used the term "must-have" before - but I compel every one of you reading this site and this review to order this book immediately. You will not regret it." - Cartoon Research  
About the Author  
Tod Polson first studied design at Otis/Parsons, and animation at CalArts before apprenticing under pioneering animation designer Maurice Noble. Since then, he has worked extensively as a filmmaker, designer, and teacher. He lives in Wyoming.