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Eric Nolen-Weathington

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Eric Nolen-Weathington : Modern Masters Volume 9: Mike Wieringo (v. 9) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Modern Masters Volume 9: Mike Wieringo (v. 9):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. He offered the best FF of the 2000s and then he was goneBy Stan FREDOMike WIERINGO died in 2008 at age 44, from a heart attack. This book was made just two years before that. It is an interview with WIERINGO conducted by Todd DEZAGO, with whom he co-authored TELLOS earlier in the 2000s. A "late-bloomer" by his own account, WIERINGO started relatively late in the comics industry but both TELLOS ("tell us") and his run on the FANTASTIC FOUR with author Mark WAID (arguably the best FF in years) made him a star. WIERINGO had still much to learn, much to do and so much offer when he died. His final words in the interview and the great port-folio at the end of this book gives hints to that. In my opinion, he was to be one of the comics industry few true stars of the 21th century. Only four stars for this book because I think friends interviewing friends don't always allow for real insight into an artist's path. Friends understandably just don't ask you some

questions.[...]1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. **ONE OF THE INDUSTRY'S MOST UNDERRATED TALENTS!**By Tim JansonMike Wieringo is one of those artists who sometimes seems overlooked when the talk turns to the top comic artists, but it is certainly company he deserves to be in as proven by being the subject of the latest edition of Modern Masters from TwoMorrows Publishing. The thing I love about Mike is that he's really worked hard to develop a unique style all his own. So many modern artists are quite polished, and yet have little personality to their work. They seem to have all been graduates of the same art school with the same techniques. This is where Wieringo really shines. He's melded a style that combines traditional cartoon art with elements of animation and Manga for a truly unique look.Mike's life and career in comics is told through a book long interview with Todd DeZago and along the way we get to see dozens of examples of Mike's work including published and unpublished work, some of it from when he was just 11 years old. It's really a great book for aspiring artists. I loved to draw comics quite a bit when I was younger but never felt I had the talent to go anywhere with it. Seeing Mike's early work I couldn't help but think, "I drew as well as that when I was 11!" This is a true testament to persevering and perfecting one's technique and skill. As we see Mike's work in high school when he was doing his own panel comic books and in college, you can see the steady progress he made as an artist.Mike grew up as an army brat and moved around quite a bit. He talks about how he never had time to make many friends and kept to himself a lot, working on his art. Luckily Mike's dad was a comic book fan and both his parents encouraged him in his goal to become a pro comic artist one day. Mike took a trip to the San Diego Con in 1991 and started showing off his portfolio. He got his break at DC doing several short stories for the Justice League Quarterly anthology title but would soon graduate into his first major job as artist on The Flash, working with writer Mark Waid.After his run on The Flash, Mike would go over to Marvel and work on Sensational Spider-Man with writer Todd DeZago. This is where I really took notice of his work for the first time. Mike and Tony talk candidly about this very tumultuous period at Marvel as they were going through their bankruptcy and soon had Sensational Spider-Man and other projects canceled. In fact you can see some fantastic unused pencils of Mike's from a She-Hulk Thing project.Mike would have an less than enjoyable run The Adventures of Superman before returning to Marvel again to work on the Fantastic Four where he would once again team with Mark Waid for a memorable run, again cut short by Marvel's inept management.The book concludes with a 32 page gallery of Mike's work. The gallery includes both finished pieces and pencil layouts. There's also an 8 page color section which includes my favorite piece in the book, Mike's rendering of Captain Marvel that would make C.C. Beck proud. TwoMorrows has made another great choice in their Modern Masters series.Reviewed by Tim Janson2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A career spanning book, with a great gallery of art throughout!By Dale L. NorvellThis book was my first "Modern Masters" volume, and I have to say that I really enjoyed it. It has a great interview spanning 'Ringo's perspective on his career, told in the chronological order of the books he worked on. It has his great uncolored artwork and sketches of various comic characters throughout, with a few colored pieces at the end of the book. It was sad though, reading about how he was determined to continue his creator-owned book Tellos, as this book was created before his unexpected passing. If you are a fan of Mike's work than you can't pass this up!I'll be getting other volumes of Modern Masters for sure now. Next up is Bruce Timm!

The latest volume of the Modern Masters series looks at the life and work of one of today's top comic-book artists, Mike Wieringo. Wieringo hit the comic book industry running, armed with a fresh, unique style all his own. Merging elements of manga with the power of the Marvel comics of his youth, he quickly became a fan-favorite. His work featuring Robin and Superman, Spider-Man and the X-Men not to mention the creator-owned world of Tellos has cemented him as one of the top artists in the business. And his recent run on Fantastic Four ranks among the best in the title's long and prestigious history. Now Todd DeZago and Eric Nolen-Weathington give you an inside look at the artist's life and career! This 120-page volume presents his most comprehensive, career-spanning interview to date, and is jam-packed with tons of rare and unpublished artwork, including an eight-page full color gallery. It's the ultimate look at the work of a true Modern Master: Mike Wieringo!