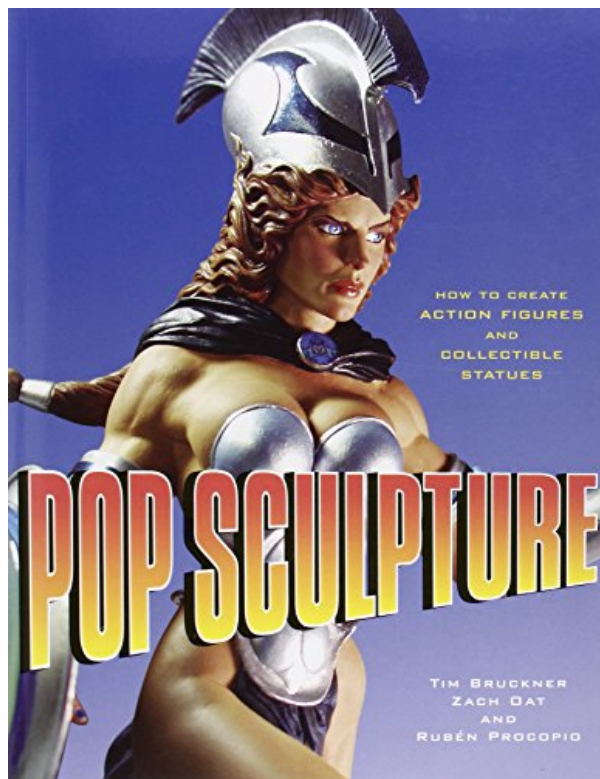
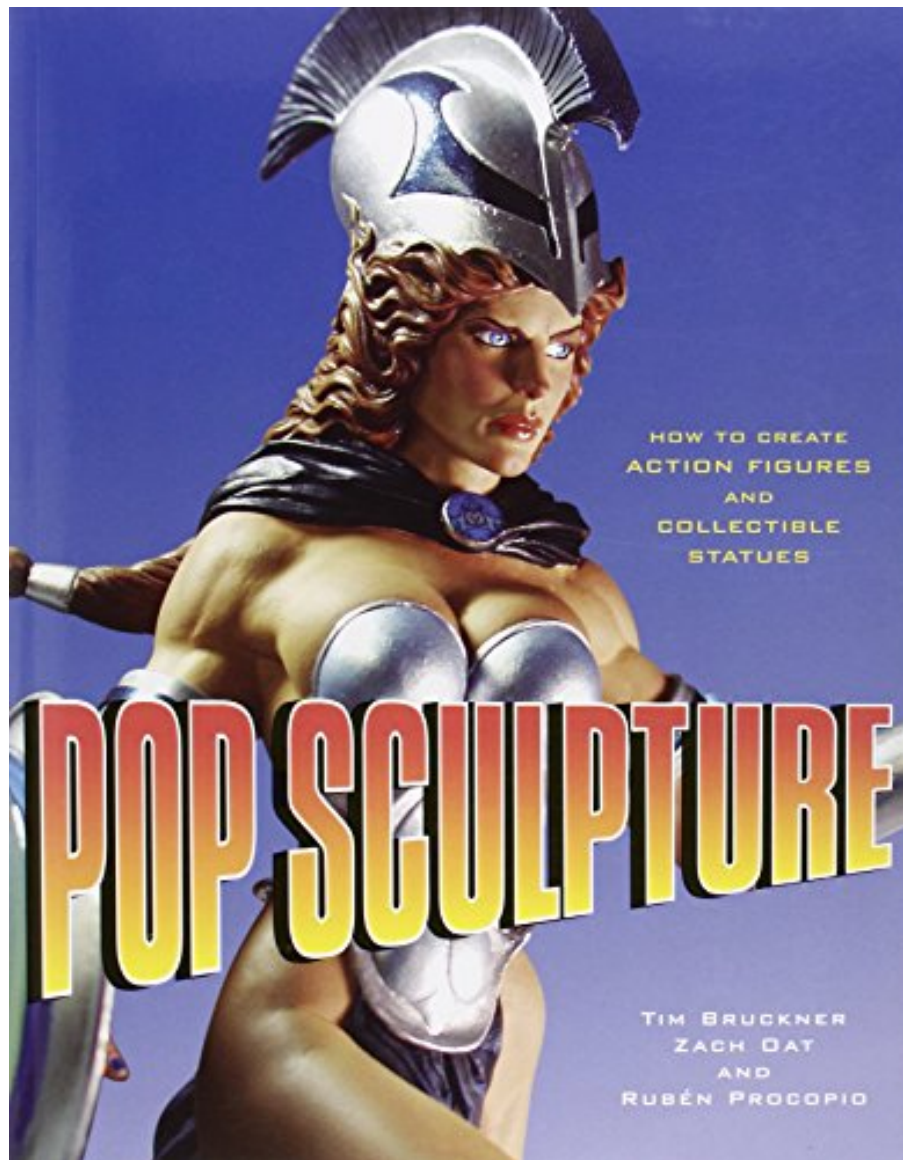


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## About the Author

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ZACH OAT is the editor of TelevisionwithoutPity.com, a popular TV and movie criticism website. He is former editor of ToyFare magazine and was the original “toy wrangler” for Robot Chicken on Cartoon Network’s Adult Swim.

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# **POP SCULPTURE: HOW TO CREATE ACTION FIGURES AND COLLECTIBLE STATUES BY TIM BRUCKNER, RUBEN PROCOPIO, ZACH OAT PDF**

Sculpt toys and collectibles with modern-day tools, techniques and applications used by today's top industry professionals

Ever since a 12-inch G.I. Joe took toy soldiers to a whole new level by giving them the ability to pose via moveable parts, as well as interchangeable clothing and accessories, the business of creating pop sculpture icons for the mass market was off and running. Superheroes came next, followed by TV show and movie characters, most notably those from Star Wars. Today, action figures exist for sports stars, rock stars, even presidents.

With today's blockbuster success of animated films, action figures and collectibles have become a behemoth industry—with a growing need for skilled artists who can bring these characters to life. So how do you get started?

The trio of veteran industry insiders who authored this book take you on an incredibly thorough journey that begins with drawing conceptual drafts and continues through rough sculpting and honing the final product. Along the way, you'll learn how to research your character, shape casts from a variety of materials including wax and resin, make accessories, articulate characters so that they are poseable, paint them, and ultimately convince an art director to buy and manufacture them. Whether you want to make small PVC toys, collectible statues, or larger high-end collectibles, Pop Sculpture offers step-by-step demos and words of wisdom from the pros.

- Sales Rank: #43110 in Books
- Published on: 2010-10-19
- Released on: 2010-10-19
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.96" h x .61" w x 8.53" l, 2.41 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

A valuable reference book, but not a complete text

By Treehugger

I greatly enjoyed this book and learned from it. I generally agree with the enthusiasm of other reviewers. The writing style is wonderfully entertaining, whether you are interested in becoming a sculptor or you just wish to learn about small sculptures and collectible action figures. The cartoons are priceless!! I especially liked the cartoon of Athena and her owl sitting in a waiting room.

I have several reservations:

1. From the text I could not understand how "pivot joints" and "ball joints" would hold a figure together. It appeared that articulated figures joined in this manner would easily fall apart. Probably this isn't true, but the process as explained is not completely clear and I would like much more detail.
2. There was not much material on sculpting with epoxy clays, which I see as very valuable and versatile material, less messy and demanding than wax or clay, usable both by hobbyists making or modifying a single character and by production modelers. I find such clays to be both cleaner, less expensive (for permanent pieces) and easier to work than the materials the book primarily focused on.
3. It would have been helpful if the book had included a comprehensive resource list, identifying many suppliers and providing web site links.
4. It would have been helpful if the book had included a bibliography of recommended further readings.
5. The book did not include a great deal of information on sculpting techniques. I suspect sculpting small parts accurately and in proportion will be difficult for many beginning sculptors. Such information is important.

Recommendations:

I suggest the Katherine Dewey book on "Lifelike figures in polymer clay" as a companion reference- Amazon apparently agrees.

I recommend the "Smooth-On" "Polytek" and "Alumilite" websites as rich sources for more information on modeling, molding, and casting with modern plastic materials. Look at the pictures, watch the viddies, and LEARN!! There is much more to RTV silicone molding than the present book book presented.

I am especially impressed by Smooth-On's epoxy modeling putties in various hardnesses and densities.

Also check out "Douglass & Sturgess" web site as a source of bulk sculpting wax and many other media and tools- they are happy to talk to you and answer your questions by telephone- and look up "Monster Clay" on the Internet as an inexpensive alternative to Castilene modeling products.

That said, immediately after reading this book I went to my friendly neighborhood comic shop (they also carry figures), and recommended they stock the book and display it prominently. Buy this book- then keep

sculpting and keep reading!!

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful.

Incredible book that could use a bit more editing

By Thomas Satcher

Wow, I have spent countless hours trying to learn as much as possible about this industry and trying to complete some good works. This book blows all of my knowledge out of the water. It should be noted that in order to really "follow along" with the project presented in the book you will need A LOT of supplies. pressure pot, compressor, wax pen, camping stove, rubber mold materials, resins, the list goes on but all of it is required to get the job done. A very daunting task indeed.

The book is very well written with lots of witty comments and animations. I have only had it for 2 days and am nearly done with it because I love to read it so much. It makes the process seem much easier than it is and encourages me to spend more time in the studio.

My only gripe would be that there is a lot of editing issues, missing words, odd image references etc but its no biggy. The pictures are as a whole very good with only a few blurry spots here and there. It is certainly a must buy for anyone interested in the industry of Toys.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

AWESOME!

By Andrea V. Paradiso

I had this book on my "Wish List", hesitating because these guys are so obviously WAY AHEAD of me and I will never, ever catch up. I just started polymer a year ago and found myself gravitating towards sculpture, which I've never done before, and moving pretty fast on acquiring skills. But there is so much to learn...just like anything else. So the book kept drawing me in until I bought it. And I was so glad I finally gave in. First of all, the book's quality is top notch. The photos are large so detail can be studied at leisure. The color quality is great. The techniques are completely comprehensive...down to earth, easy to understand with loads of photos on procedure. Second, the writing style is great. You are put at ease from the first. The tone is laid back and full of wry humor (just my kind) but it is obvious these guys are SERIOUS artists, aside from their credentials, and that they totally enjoy their work and admire it and each others as well. Third, I appreciate the fact that they let you know the kind of mistakes they themselves have made. They certainly do not put themselves on a pedestal and, in poking fun at themselves, make the student feel at ease about making his/her own. The sense of comradery is totally evident. And, as a woman, I appreciate that a woman is included in the group and given extreme honor as to her position in the field. Fourth, there are chapters on doing business as an artist and even photographing your own work. I bought several books on desk top photography, etc. and they are all good. But this one was sweet and simple and pulled it all together for me. Fifth, even though each of these artists works a different medium and I only am doing polymer right now, I garnered invaluable information just by skimming thru the first time I opened it. Last, this book has become my main textbook for sculpture so far. The more I look and read the more I find. I seriously recommend it for anyone that aspires to be a master at this craft. You will enjoy it tremendously.

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