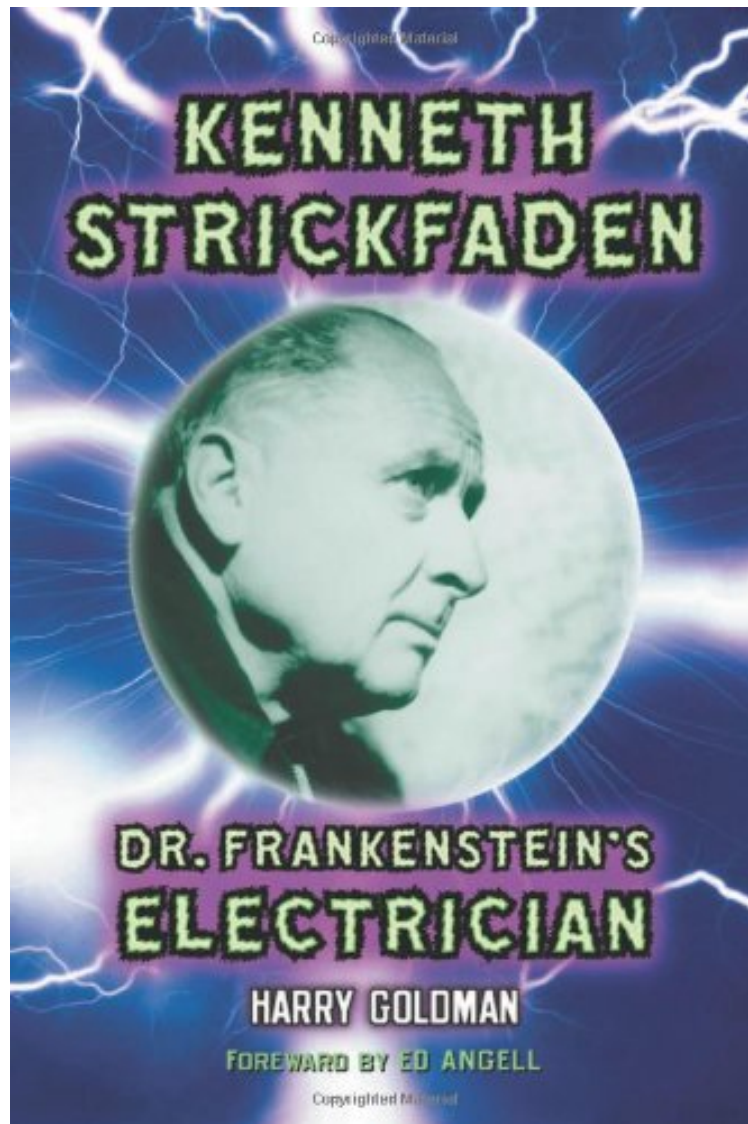


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Kenneth Strickfaden, Dr. Frankenstein's Electrician

Harry Goldman

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Harry Goldman : Kenneth Strickfaden, Dr. Frankenstein's Electrician before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kenneth Strickfaden, Dr. Frankenstein's Electrician:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A compelling biographyBy GrizzlyAs a sci-fi buff growing up and watching those sci-fi movies I always wondered where those awesome special electrical effects came from. In those days special effects (FX) were not computer generated but in fact done live. This book answers the question of where these electrical FX came from. A compelling as well as fascinating read, making you want to revisit those films again

and head to the rental store just to see those FX once again.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I knew Mr. Strickfaden and wanted my family to ...By Schon GrossI knew Mr. Strickfaden and wanted my family to learn about the very dear man I knew as a child. His creations continue to inspire all...including my husband's Halloween display this year.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Tesla Coils Create the MovieBy Michael NelsonHarry Goldman did an excellent job on reporting on Ken Strickfadens life and achievements. He also proved that nothing comes close to real sparks for a movie. Reccomend this book for movie buffs, Nikola Tesla fans, and historians!

Kenneth Strickfaden, innovative genius of illusionary special effects from silent films to the age of television, set the standard for Hollywood's mad scientists. Strickfaden created the science fiction apparatus in more than 100 motion picture films and television programs, from 1931's *Frankenstein* to the *Wizard of Oz* and *The Mask of Fu Manchu* to television's *The Munsters*. The skilled technician, known around Hollywood's back lots as Mr. Electric, once doubled for Boris Karloff in a dangerous scene and was nearly electrocuted. From his birth in 1896 to his death in 1984, Strickfaden's life was filled with adventure. He spent his early years working the amusement parks on both coasts, served overseas as a Marine during World War I, took a 1919 cross-country trip in a dilapidated Model T, and favored risky pursuits like automobile and speedboat racing. He worked as an aeronautical mechanic, constructing airplanes for an historic around-the-world flight. A science teacher at heart, he gave 1,500 traveling science demonstration lectures across the U.S. and Canada. Besides covering Strickfaden's entire personal and professional life, this book discusses how later films show his influence. It reveals the fate of his collection of equipment, and is richly illustrated with numerous rare and previously unpublished photographs. Appendices provide a selection of notes, doodles, and scribbles from Strickfaden's notebooks, informal sketches, correspondence, documents, a chronology of his film and television contributions, a bibliography, a film index, and a complete subject index.

"WOW...long overdue book!"--Little Shoppe of Horrors; "well researched"--Serial Report; "intriguing"--Spice; "Goldman's biography is an homage to Strickfaden's significant contributions to the film industry"--Ithaca College Quarterly; "thorough...essential" --Monsters from the Vault.About the AuthorThe late Harry Goldman was a retired science teacher. He founded the Tesla Coil Builders' Association and edited and published the TCBA News for 20 years. His work appeared in *Filmfax*, *Radio Today*, *American West* and numerous other publications. He lived in Queensbury, New York.